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Protect the Poor

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Enough with the finger-pointing each time a small child dies in the District because the child was born to parents who are poor ["Response Is Probed After Fire Kills Baby; D.C. Family's Power Had Been Cut Off," Metro, Sept. 27].

That's really what it boils down to.

We live in the capital of the greatest nation in history. Our resources and wealth are almost limitless. Yet, we allow children to die because they are poor.

Why can't the District prohibit companies from cutting off utilities in homes where children live? Why can't we spend money on the front end to prevent tragedies such as the death of Jonah Flores instead of spending it on the back end to bury him nicely?

In the early days of this country, poverty was viewed as the result of moral shortcomings on the part of the poor. But this baby's death points to the moral shortcomings of the rest of us.

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