

# NEWS RELEASE

From Congressman Joe Moakley, 9th District, Massachusetts

For Immediate Release  
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## MOAKLEY BLASTS TED TURNER FOR SLUR AGAINST ITALIANS

Congressman Joe Moakley (D-Mass.) joined with several other Members of Congress in demanding a "public apology" from Ted Turner, President of the Turner Broadcasting System, for a negative comment he made about Italians.

In an interview on the CBS news program "60 Minutes," Turner stated: "Italians, Italians, imagine the Italians at war. I mean what a joke. They didn't belong in the last war; they were sorry they were in it. They were glad to get out of it, you know. They would rather be in crime and just making some wine, having a good time..."

Moakley called Turner's comment "thoughtless and disrespectful." "It conveys an attitude of insensitivity to the Italian American community which endures enough problems with its image on both network and cable television."

Moakley sent a telegram to Turner, expressing his outrage at Turner's comments. The Massachusetts Congressman also joined U.S. Rep. Mario Biaggi (D-NY) and several other Members in sending a letter to Turner asking that he issue a public apology to the Italian American community. The letter also urges that the apology be issued "in a forum which would be visible to the same millions who have watched that particular '60 Minutes' program."

Moakley added, "As the head of a national broadcasting firm, Mr. Turner should be ashamed of his slur against Italians. An apology is the very least he should provide."

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*Joe - I sent this to the Post Gazette w/ a picture*