

there, from there. We have heard in the last couple of years in the news over and over again the tragedies of death and injury to children because their parents simply act irresponsibly and these types of injuries are caused by many, many things, the incidents where...in Chicago comes to mind where children were left in their home while their parents went to Hawaii to spend a Christmas vacation. I obviously am concerned about children who are killed and maimed and injured by guns that are left negligently around the house and where children are able to get them and do injury to themselves or others. From our own experience in Omaha we've seen that in the last month a number of children, young adults, children have been killed by firearms. We also see in the newspapers on a pretty much weekly basis about other tragedies involving knives and other instrumentalities, but the tragedies in Omaha in the last month are just so incredible that it's certainly beyond anything that I've ever seen as a citizen of our city and it's...for example, on April 2 we had a 17-year-old who was accidentally shot in the lower back when he and a 14-year-old friend were handling a gun on 23rd and I Streets. We had a case of a 15-year-old who was shot in an alley on 20th and Castelar Streets. We had the case of the 11-year-old boy who was accidentally shot in the left shoulder with a shotgun that the boy and his friends found in the playground or on the street. Not all of these cases would be covered by this bill, but certainly there is one case, at least it happened in my city, that is the most glaring example that I have ever seen of irresponsible behavior by a parent or by an adult and that's the case where a gun was sold to a 15-year-old girl for \$60 I believe, and then she went out and shot her two sisters. So those are some of the incidents that occurred with firearms, but obviously those incidents are not solely the incidents I'm talking about in this amendment, do not solely relate to firearms and all of you can think back in your own histories, in your own towns, in your own counties and hear about the tragedies where parents and adults are simply terribly and irrefutably negligent and reckless in their responsibilities for their children. At the time of the hearing on the issue involving locking up your guns, and you remember we've debated that twice and God knows we're not going to debate it again now here in this body, but I will tell you that at that time many individuals came up to me and said if you would introduce a bill that applied across-the-board not only to firearms, but all kinds of reckless activities by parents that we would support that. And I spoke with Senator Hohenstein and had a conference with him and we discussed it and Senator Hohenstein offered to