

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 19, 2001 LB 598

woman named Eve. So what does Eve do? She does what women have always done, to hear man tell it, she disobeyed God. How did she disobey God? Well, this serpent came up and said, how you doing, Eve? She said, I'm doing fine. He said, not as fine as you could be doing. And the serpent was a male, by the way. So she said, what are you trying to tell me? You know that tree that God told you don't eat from? She said, yeah. Well, you eat it and you'll be smart, that's why he doesn't want you to eat it, he doesn't want you to know anything; he wants you to be dumb. That's what churches teach now, they tell women don't go to school, don't learn anything, you get out of your position, you're not supposed to be out here running the world, you're supposed to be pregnant, barefoot, staying at home, servicing a man's sexual appetites whenever he wants to engage in them, and be his fire extinguisher, and that's your role. And you read the Bible and you'll find that to be the case. So what was it that made the woman so demeaned, so low? She turned from God and listened to the serpent, because the serpent said he was showing her a better way. So she ate the forbidden fruit, whatever it was, some people said it was sex, it was not a fruit tree at all and the fruit certainly wasn't an apple. Nothing happened. So she took it to Adam; she said, this sure is good, take a bite. Adam bit, then his eyes came open and suddenly they knew they had done something wrong. That's preposterous, but that's the story, and some people believe it as though it's literally true. So when God...he didn't come; the voice of God was walking through the garden; the voice of God walking through the garden. Adam, where are you? Adam was hiding. Eve, where are you? Eve is hiding. Why are they hiding? Because they've done something wrong. And then God acts like he didn't know they were going to do wrong, and he made them to do wrong. So when God talks to Adam, what did you do this for? Adam said, well, the woman you gave me...shifting blame; he's a grown man but he's shifting blame. When he went to the woman he said, what have you done? She said, well, the serpent talked to me. You know the men construe that part of the myth? This shows woman's inclination to shift the blame for her misconduct and never assume it herself. That carries down today where a rape victim is considered to be the perpetrator and responsible for having been raped by some low-down rotten man.