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this nation of ours, and if Senator Chambers is around I'd like to ask him a question. I think Senator Chambers could answer it. Senator Chambers are you...

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers is here. He's here. Will you respond, Senator Chambers?

SENATOR KEYES: There comes an age at which a person, a citizen of this state, is entitled to a trial by his peers, and should that age be the same as the one who is able to decide the issue? In other words, at what age does a person become subject to a trial by his peers and should that be the same as he's permitted to sit on a jury?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Keyes, it depends on the nature of the crime. Somebody as young as 16 maybe even 14 could go before a jury on a homicide charge.

SENATOR KEYES: They can?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR KEYES: I was wondering. I didn't know at what age a man was entitled to a jury by his peers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It depends on the charge and the way the prosecutor wants to handle the person. Senator George and I were considering whether or not an individual ought to be considered a minor for all purposes even being charged with a crime, but since that matter has not been resolved and the age can be low or high, up to 18 probably, then there is no way for me to say one age at which a person would be subject to a jury trial. But let me indicate this one thing. Some people might feel that a person who is young enough to commit a crime, which would bring him or her before a jury, others of that age may not be sufficiently mature to make judgments. Well I sit on committees with people who don't know the law any better than some of these youngsters they'd be talking about, and all you have to do is read the transcripts of hearings and all of us are considerably older than 19, so we need not talk about intelligence, education, judgment, or anything else, unless we want our own words to come back and condemn us and cause us not to participate in discussions of various issues on this floor. So I think all of those are beside the point. Juries are not selected on the basis of intelligence, but on the basis of being similarly situated to the one who is brought