

going to drive them into a position of underground, and I will quote one more time Senator Kelly's famous announcement to the "rag" over here on the Nebraska Campus: "I realize these young people are intelligent, they will find somewhere that this law won't necessarily solve it". And that is in quote, that is in writing, that is in print. I'll bet Senator Kelly will admit to you when he was a young man and the drinking age was 21 that some way or other he might have abused it. My doctor tells me that drinking too much coffee gives me high blood pressure. Excessive use of tobacco... and you know we do have a law on tobacco, no young person is supposed to be able to get a package of cigarettes until they are sixteen. Do we enforce it? We have got more teenagers smoking today than ever before in this nation. And yet the government subsidizes the tobacco growers, don't they. We here, we say we want to cut down the use of alcohol but we tax it to beat the devil and we use that money for some great purpose. Isn't that ironic, and isn't that a dichotomy that we the great ministers of law and justice and order are suddenly going to strike the wand and say, no longer in this state will we have teenagers who are going to lose their lives because of excessive drinking. We are going to solve that problem, mom and dad, and superintendent and administrator and teacher, and pastor. We are not going to solve it and you know it. But you know what, you have received a few letters. There are a few communities who have had some excessive problems with it and so we are going to cave in. I wasn't here when you lowered the age the first time, but it is like a yo-yo...it's up and down. But I think it is high time you say to the young adults of this state, we believe that when you arrive at an age of 18, probably you are far more intelligent...not probably, you are, you have better judgment than we did at the same time and the same place in our lifetime.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Marvel. I am sorry for the lecture, but I just can't believe that this body is going to suddenly cast the magic wand one more time and say, the problem is solved, because we now have put it back to an age which is a responsible age where you can now make a choice, because suddenly you have arrived at this great age of 20, and now you are responsible, there will be no longer an abuse. You know what I ought to do, Mr. Chairman, since I have my chance to give my last sermon on this subject, I should withdraw it but I am not. I think we ought to test it and see how many men and women here in this body believe that by raising the age the problem has been dissolved and we can wash