

are required to do by law as every other person would be required to do is a situation where a state requirement collides with conscience and that particular issue takes many forms. If an individual, because of a belief in what he or she considers a higher law, whether it is a law handed down by a higher power or whatever you call it, a law of one's church or religion or whatever kind of society issues such directives that bind the conscience or an individual's personal outlook on life which might be defined as individual conscience, that person makes a determination that what the state requires cannot be obeyed because it will be a violation of the requirement of conscience. But once the state enacts a requirement the person who chooses to violate or disregard that requirement has a price to pay. What the Legislature does is determines which people abiding by their conscience will have a price to pay and which people abiding by their conscience will not have a price to pay. If you belong to a whoop-de-do type religion which is called Fundamentalist, the kind by the way that I was reared in, but as Paul said, "When I was a child, I thought as a child and I understood as a child but when I became a man I put away childish things." I left it but if you belong to one of those types of groups you are not too popular so you must pay the price of adhering to your conscience and your convictions by going to jail, by being deprived of your freedom, but if you belong to one of the more orthodox or respectable religions and the degree of respectability for religion depends on who belongs to it and supports it, if you belong to one of the more respectable religions, you can disregard certain requirements that other people are required to adhere to with impunity. So we have a preacher sitting in jail right now in Nebraska because his conscience tells him certain things about one particular problem and I don't think the issue of what that particular problem is makes any difference at all now. We are talking about when the conscience prohibits a person from complying with what the state requires. I think when a person is prepared to go to jail for a belief it is difficult to say that person is jiving and not really believing as he declares. So either the state should respect everybody's conscience, everybody's religious conviction and exempt everybody from every state requirement that violates conscience or hold everybody's feet to the fire. Now I can speak like this because I have no religion that I am trying to uphold or any religion that I am trying to put down. Were it left to me we wouldn't have any religious disputes because we might not have any religion. But the fact is that we do have them and they lead people down different paths. I do give this to the people who claim genuinely to believe in a higher power. There is no way that I or anybody else...