

symbolic and we spend a lot of time on it. Mr. President and fellow members, this is not symbolic, this is heavy. At least three or four major constitutional concepts are involved here, very heavy concepts. First of all, the legislation expands tremendously the concept in law, criminal law, being your brother's keeper, making subjective judgements yourself as to what other people's conduct should be. For example, let's take this front row of senators here. Among the six or seven of us we all had some different attitudes or opinions, including everybody else in here, on a fellow named Joe Soukup and as to whether he was abused by the state or not, whether he was treated improperly. Senator Kahle thought one way, Senator Chambers another, Johnny DeCamp another but that was a classic case of subjective judgments which is what this bill is all about as to what is proper or improper in treatment of another person. Now you say, well but yes, it is not going to cause us a problem. That will all be taken care of. Fine. What I am saying is you're moving into a huge new area constitutionally of saying we are implementing the be thy brother's keeper and use your own standards as to what they should live their lives and how they should be treated. Then you're upsetting another couple major constitutional concepts, freedom of religion which gets down as I said earlier to undoing the secrecy of the confessional. Now a lot of people consider that pretty fundamental. I mean, they would die for it and yet you are saying by a simple statute, a law, we're undoing that and we're saying, okay, priest, we don't care what you think you learned, you've got to come and report to the police if you learned something about child abuse or adult abuse. Finally, we're undoing the attorney-client privilege. Separation of powers involved there which has been pretty well developed for several hundred years and so this is not a small bill and it did justify a lot of debate and would justify a lot more. Like Senator Beutler, I was willing to venture into the area to begin to correct a problem, adult abuse, to the degree that it exists and...

SENATOR CLARK: You have two minutes left.

SENATOR DeCAMP: ...and to the degree we can do anything about it. Unfortunately we tried to make it so broad it just got out of hand and I hate to do this but I think it is the proper thing.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to point out what I consider to be one last problem and a very difficult one with the bill. They tell me in the lobby that there is no exemption from libel and slander law in this bill. If