

want to make is this that we are talking about young ladies who are at the very tender age in their life, who are required to make decisions that will profoundly affect them the rest of their life and affect the life of an unborn child. Now it is easy for us to stand on this floor at middle age or over the hill in some cases as perhaps some of us are and attempt to determine all of the various aspects of what might take place in that young lady's mind, but the one thing that I do not want to be responsible for is, as Senator Fowler has pointed out, that young lady saying that she...thinking to herself that she has no alternative but an abortion because of the financial problems that she would face. I find it unbelievable that on this floor we will stand here and we will bleed day after day after day about the impossibility of collecting the support for the child from the father. The religion that I happen to believe in proclaims that there is only one virgin birth and no conception takes place by only one person. But we have not found any of these people who have spoken against this kind of assistance who has called out for the father of the child to make any contribution. We have not found them who have said that the father has the responsibility. I sincerely believe that that responsibility exists and that that resource should be exhausted whenever possible, that we should not place that young child at the tender age of 13, 17, 18, 19, in the untenable position of having to make a decision that will affect its life, the life of its own....

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, one minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT:child at a time when most of us could not make that decision if we were called upon to do so. Remember also that most of these children do not have the luxury of uncles and aunts and mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, to lean upon. They have to make those decisions alone and they are a very lonely decision. And so I call upon you to oppose the Pirsch amendment, retain the Labeled language. I support the Labeled language vigorously and I support it notwithstanding the fact that I think that the cost of the program has been totally blown out of proportion. If we can ignore the millions and millions of dollars of unpaid child support, certainly we have a right and responsibility and an obligation to assist those people who find themselves in a position where they have no other resources. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President and Senators, Senator Labeled is trying very desperately right now to find a letter