

to be better, get an education and they ask me, why? And what am I going to tell them? They ask me, Ernie, can you get me the job? Can you pay my mother's rent? Can you keep her utilities turned on? And some of them have the opportunity to accompany their mothers to these doctors' offices and because they get Medicaid they are told, well, we take our paying customers first so you just wait until we get through with anybody here who is going to pay now, as though the money they get through Medicaid is not money. The incessant insults, the degradation, the constant stamping of a people with a badge of inferiority may be accepted by the older people and the weaker people, but there is a spirit in some people no matter how old they get and especially in the young who feel a need to strike back. And when that day comes I understand why they strike back, better than anybody else, so how can I, in conscience, tell them, don't do it? And then we'll see resolutions popping up in here when we come back in session, maybe the Governor will call us into special session to give the state patrol more power, to give the National Guard more power, always the oppressiveness and the suppression can get support on this floor, but a positive program to solve a problem, to prevent a problem will be laughed at here. I know the contempt that people in this Legislature have for me and mine. I know it and I've known it for the 19 years that I've been here. I'd have to be a fool not to know it, I'd have to be blind not to see it and I'd have to be deaf not to hear it. We give Senator Elmer money to keep alive a school in his area that the economists and even the educators tell us cannot be justified, but we give it, and so on down the line, much money for Lincoln, much money for the farmers. So, at this point, I tell you to do whatever you want to do because the bill, if you pass it, is not going to make that much difference. This is not a back-breaking bill for the people in my community. It's just a dodge and an excuse for those who have a responsibility to address the problem to not do so. This symbol becomes the substantive program that will never be put in place, and I'm not going to ask the Legislature to do anything. If a scholarship bill that I'm trying to get out of here comes up, I'll ask for the Legislature to fund that but on anything else, nothing. I'll go to Omaha and I'll see what I can do but don't let this Legislature talk in the future about being concerned with the solution of problems that a people are not themselves in a position to solve alone. We'll take our little and do much with it. You will never see me crawl in here, you will never hear me cry in here, you will never see me beg because it is not my nature to beg and I want every young black