

bill entirely I think. It doesn't have anything to do with the content of the curriculum in our schools. It doesn't say you have to teach children about such and such, such and such, such and such. What it says is the teachers that are teaching must have competencies in dealing with people who come from different backgrounds. In other words, to use three very crass examples, perhaps, this doesn't say you have to teach about black history. What it says is we want our teachers to know how to deal with situations when one student of one race uses a derogatory racial term to call...to refer to another group. It doesn't say we have to teach about the Mexican-American culture. It says we want teachers that are sensitive when children put on a play that is based on racial stereotypes, that the teacher can handle that sort of situation and recognize that that is something that probably should not go on. We are not going to teach about...dictating that we teach about Native American cultures, but that the teachers ought to have some sensitivity that they have Native American students in their classroom. Traditional Thanksgiving celebrations, traditional Columbus Day celebrations may not excite those Native Americans quite to the degree that they excite us. That is what we are talking about is competencies of teachers to deal with these. The next thing we get into, Senator Crosby gave an excellent speech on General File talking about some of the most cruel sorts of human treatment, one person to another, is based on religious stereotypes, religious sorts of discrimination, and I can recall some of these from my past experience. I came from one of the whitest communities. There were no minorities, whatsoever, in my community, one of the most Protestant communities. We had three churches in our community. We had a Methodist Church, a Reorganized Church of Latter-Day Saints, and a very, very small minority people were Catholic, very small minority. Ash Wednesday would roll around, the Catholic students were excused, they would go to their services, and they would come back with the ash on their forehead. It was not treated by, I have got to admit, by a number of my fellow students, was not treated as something we should understand as part of their religious cultures. Those students tended to be ostracized, made fun of. I am not proud of that fact, but that is the type of thing that has gone on. When I first started to teach school in Papillion, Nebraska, we were talking about the Mid-East situation. I asked students, is there anybody in here that happens to be Jewish? To a student they laughed, they thought that was funny that a teacher would ask, is there a Jewish student in this classroom,...