

practically unlimited power to do anything they want to in the black community. We, in my community, do not want a blanket statement made by the police and white politicians that all black youth are gang members, are drug pushers, are dangerous and, therefore, legitimate targets for police harassment. All of our children do not fit into that category. The vast majority of them do not fit into that category, and what is happening is that some youngsters who would not consider gangs are being driven into them by the police, because when they are harassed for doing nothing, there are gang members who will witness this, and they will tell them, you are out there by yourself; the police can do anything they want to to you. If you are with us, you have got some security. If they try to come against us, there will come a day when you will have some protection that you don't have now. You weren't doing anything and they are treating you like they treat a dope pusher. So if they are going to treat you the same, you may as well come ahead and join, and for lack of security being available, security against police harassment, some of the youngsters are driven into these gangs. When you have white people discussing this issue, the things that I am talking about are never brought up. If you have a group of white youngsters doing the same thing that is called gang activity in the black community, you know what they call it? They call it cruising. If you have large assemblages of white youngsters in West Omaha, damaging white people's property, business property, so much so that certain business people have given the police authority to make arrests there even when the business is closed and the operator is not there to make a complaint, that is not called gang activity. Dope is being sold there. That is not called gang activity, but anything that is comprised of a number of black youth is viewed as gang activity and it cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. Now to tie it to the bill, 592. It is a poorly aimed provision that pretends to deal with youth gangs and the peddling of drugs. Never do you see any statement by the chief of police,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...by any of these white politicians who are trying to exploit this issue about the white people in West Omaha who bankroll the drug traffic, the businessmen who bankroll drug traffic. Never! When you see the judge, whose example I have put in that handout, who will get hard on drugs by sending a pregnant woman to the women's reformatory or the