

May 8, 1989

LB 769
LR 105

of the problem and that is getting her out of an incestuous relationship or providing her the help that she needs to correct what is, I think everybody would agree, a big social problem and that being the...the rape or the incest. I think by having a mechanism available, it...it has the possibility of providing that help rather than allowing the girl to have an abortion and putting her right back into an incestuous relationship.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Lindsay, I will not, at this point, try to persuade you or argue with you whether or not...or what reason a woman will use in order to get an abortion. I, personally, think that the trauma will be so great, the mental and psychological stress will be so great that under certain circumstances the child or the woman will use whatever means are available in order to accomplish the goal. It would be a very Machiavellian approach. The ends will justify the means. If the means are simply that I can lie and get my goal, which is the abortion, accomplished and free me of what I wanted to be freed of regardless of the moral situation, I suspect what will happen is that counsel will be made available to suggest that option to them, that if they do lie, then two things will happen, the abortion will occur and there will be no punishments. But without arguing about what the reasons a woman will use for the abortion, would you agree that under the scenario that I have given out...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...would you agree, Senator Lindsay, that if a child did lie and/or tell the truth, it makes no difference in this case, and an investigation proved to be that there was no truth to the declaration, that the abortion would be done, could be done and there would be no punishment regardless of whether your amendment is agreed to or not? Is that a fair assumption on that scenario?

SENATOR LINDSAY: I believe so, yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, then Senator Chambers, then Senator Crosby, is the order. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 105. Senator Nelson, please.