

planning that...I think it's a little vague in the fact that you're just saying that organized and planned instruction in these areas is, you know, going to go on, that you might not...that you have to have some kind...I would like to see more supervision over the fact that individual teachers are designing what they call death and dying part of the curriculum and that there is some oversight by someone as to what is going on in that classroom so that that teacher is not raising a lot of questions that she can't answer, and creating more problems than she is resolving through the process of dealing as a counselor in a role that I think should be left mainly to a counselor in this area. You know, the peripheral things that you talked about, that you summarized when you were talking about the whole death and dying area, I think should be dealt with in the classroom. I think it's a very good idea, but it goes a lot further than that, and we could be creating new problems is what I am concerned about. So what I would like to see is something that would be addressing this because most schools nowadays do have counselors. Is that correct? I know not all...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: ...but most.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct and it's even more at the elementary level than previously, so we're getting them at all levels now.

SENATOR SMITH: So that the teacher does not think of herself as the answer to every question, that in her teaching process with this issue that she does exactly those kinds of things you're talking about that she doesn't try to delve into it in the psychological manner and analyze, etcetera, that that's turned over perhaps to a counselor if this child has specific problems that's been evidenced through the...you know, surfaced in the process of the daily instruction.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Smith, I couldn't agree with you more. I think that we do need to be very, very sensitive in this area and I would have no problems if we could develop some kind of an amendment like that. I think counselors, in most cases, in most cases anyway, probably would be the best people to deal with this subject. I'm not sure how much you want to write that into the legislation or how much you want to leave that up to the individual school district. But I think that there could be