

a legal abortion, unless they were over 40 and their life was in danger. And Ceausescu wanted to prohibit a woman from making procreational decisions because he wanted the population of Romania to reach a certain level by a certain year. And the way you do that is to control women, under pain of criminal sanction, to do that which the state demands. If a pregnancy results or occurs, it must be carried to term. So there were women who attempted to give themselves abortions, and many of them died. And some people, the hardhearted people that they are, will say, well, that's good, serves them right. Not being a religious man, it's difficult for me to develop that much hardness in my heart. It's difficult for me to sear my conscience to that extent. Others had friends who would risk criminal sanction to assist them with an abortion. And, if the state found out, that person who assisted with the abortion was in serious trouble. Some young women attempted an abortion because they said once they began to hemorrhage they could come to the hospital, whereas without that occurring they would be barred from the hospital. So when the repressive Ceausescu's government fell, and people in America hailed this as an outbreak of freedom, you know what came with it?

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The right for women to have safe abortions performed by people who are trained and in an environment where their health would not be in danger. So when there is this attempt by certain groups to impose their particular persuasion on everybody throughout society, they are the "Ceausescuites" of America. But there will always be some who will rise to oppose them, or there will always be at least one as long as there is breath in my body. And I plan for that to be the case for a long time to come. I got an interesting letter from a man who is very much opposed to my position, and he said people ought to be treated the way they say that others ought to be treated, and, Chambers, since you are for abortion, you should have been aborted.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, what about himself?

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Landis, please, followed by Senator McFarland and Senator Dierks.