

thinks that it is all right to regulate guns, or if you have that other point of view that says, no, really guns ought not to be regulated because that is not the source of the problem, because we are going to fall into one of those two camps. As much as we'd like to argue about the niceties of one mechanism or another mechanism, you really, people are of two camps; yes, this is an appropriate thing to regulate, yes, it is an appropriate thing for government to get involved with; and, no, it is not. And I should declare myself as one of the former. I think that guns are an appropriate object for regulation by the state within reasonable limits. We do have a historical pattern of acknowledging the rights of individuals to hold, honor, keep, use firearms as part of hunting, as part of sportsmanship, and there is a line of argument that says they need to be part of that home militia that defends against tyranny. On the other hand, the Saturday night special, the semiautomatic weapons breed special kinds of abuses and it seems to me that government is entitled to regulate for the health, safety, and morals of its citizens behavior which is dangerous to others. So, if I have to choose, I guess you should know that I am prepared to legislate in favor of reasonable gun control, and the question is whether or not a bill is reasonable, and I think there has been an attempt to make this bill reasonable. Now I have got some very...I have got constituents of three different types that I can identify, and I am sure many more types than that, but I have got one type that says guns are bad, regulate them, outlaw them if you can. If you can't, regulate them like crazy because they are dangerous instruments that cause harm. Their availability is a scourge in society, do anything you want to guns, and, frankly, that is a large but relatively silent group of people. There is a second group of people and they are a smaller group but I think much more attuned to their interest and they say guns are not the source of problems. People are the source of problems, regulate people, don't regulate guns. You can't regulate guns without lapping over into what should be an expansive right of an individual.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: And I have a third group out there that says, and this is the smallest group of all, and it is the group that says I don't want regulation, I am not crazy about regulation. I don't think regulation has a great deal of chance of success. On the other hand, there are limited gains it can have. So long as it is reasonable and fair and carefully drawn, I can live