

We're talking here about a situation where an individual is sick. What Senators Wesely and Morrissey have tried to emphasize is that the Wesely amendment creates an opportunity for a choice to be made by the individual which could result in consequences if the wrong choice is made. If a person enters treatment by choice, then he or she is not denied the benefits. If the treatment is available and the person chooses not to enter, then the consequences follow, morality. And remember, I don't have any religion, I don't have a religious corpuscle in my body, not a religious atom, but I do know that morality is grounded on the necessity of having a choice available. If there is no choice involved in an action, there is no morality. A person is considered immoral when with the opportunity to make a choice between that which is good and that which is evil and the person has knowledge of the nature of the act and chooses the evil...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that act is considered immoral. If the person, through lack of knowledge or through coercion, makes a move in the only direction that is available, no morality attaches to that act. If we are going to treat people as though they've done that which is immoral and they have no choice, then we are being unreasonable. I think LB 315 with its present language relative to this issue of drug abuse, drug use, drug addiction is an immoral bill, and after we get through with all of the talking, I'm going to put a kill motion on it. If a junkie could say no to drugs, a junkie would say no and quit. Who wants to lose a job? Who wants to lose control of his or her life? Who wants to lose a family? Who wants to lose respect of others and self-respect? If all he had to do was say no, no would be said. It is a sickness. Junkies are sick.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time. Senator Ashford, followed by Senator McFarland.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Just briefly, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, may I ask Senator Wesely a question briefly?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mmmm, hmmm.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Senator Wesely, I...let me...is there a way of