

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, Senator Bernice Labeledz, I hope you are listening. Senator Labeledz is so sensitive about the things that I say that she attributes to me words that I didn't speak. Senator Labeledz, not once did I say Catholic today except just now. Oh, she is claiming...because I said Jesus, she thinks I am talking about Catholic. Jesus just doesn't belong to the Catholics. There are Baptists, there are Methodists, there are Episcopalians who will kill you because you said that, and Lutherans, too. Jesus belongs to everybody. He is not Catholic. Even Peter that they call Rocky, he is not Catholic, I don't think. But anyway, Senator Labeledz, when I am giving these kind of presentations I'm...she gave me some candy and she wants it back, I am including all, all of the religious associations and assemblages that use gambling. That is why I said these churches. I am including all of them and I really mean every word that I said. Now if it is unnecessary to be concerned about what an unbeliever says, then just disregard what I am saying and don't be offended. But the fact is there are other instances when people say that gambling is not a social good, that it is not desirable, that it does not advance any of the legitimate interests of a society. Yet when we see those institutions whose job it is to help elevate society engaging in it, there is inconsistency, Senator Hall, based on the way I look at it. But here is what I believe, if there is going to be gambling allowed by the state, there should be gambling for everybody, period. That failing, there should be gambling for nobody. What we are doing here is what they do in the rackets, Senator Langford, and these young whippersnappers don't use the term "rackets" anymore, they talk about the mob or gangsters and so forth. We who go way back, we still use the real words. We are talking about the rackets and what the...what we are doing here is cutting up territory just like they did in the rackets. The churches and the schools can have the bingo and the lotteries and the pickle cards, and Ak-Sar-Ben, the big shots, have the race tracks and all that goes with them. We are cutting up the territory like the racketeers, but the common gambling that requires some intelligence and allows you to study and increase your chances of winning is the only kind of gambling that is made illegal in the State of Nebraska, and I am talking about sports betting. Sports betting. Gambling that the clergy collar agrees with we can have, gambling that the teacher collar agrees with we can have, but if it comes to the blue collar or the no collar gambling, that is illegal. There are more blue collars and no collars in this world than there are clergy