

know, we have a precedent. We have said that liquor stores have to be so far from churches and schools. We have said where the crime takes place determines the severity of the crime. Arson in an open field is a lesser punishment than arson in an occupied building or an unoccupied building, the arsonist certainly doesn't know whether it is occupied or unoccupied unless they specifically plan it that way. And when you talk about confusing, that is good. We want drug dealers to be confused and we want them to just stay away from those places where our children congregate and people all across Nebraska want that same ability that we have in Omaha because we have more access to federal courts. It is still federal law across this whole nation, and 34 states have adopted that for their state because they want that ability to send a message to drug abusers that we don't want you even where our kids are.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, I must say, again, that Senator Pirsch's original bill, 976, is of little value in doing anything, and when she began to read the comments of Sheriff Roth, I think it soaked in at the time she was reading it what he said in a way that it didn't when I was reading it, because when you visually behold something, it has a greater impact than when somebody is droning on about it. But I handed out some other articles in a packet, and the last page deals with some of the things I am talking about in terms of the disparate treatment which is what these bills will do. Senator Pirsch, there is more drug use in white high and junior high schools than in the black community. Channel 7 did a three-day report and they talked to the white kids at these schools in Omaha, talking about the amount of drug use and how they are not bothered by the police. So, if the drug-free school zones are to be effective, why don't they go into those white schools and arrest those white kids? Why don't they do it? Because they don't know whose kids they are, or they know whose kids they are, and they are not going to do it. And one of the articles I have here that I handed out to you was in USA TODAY, December 20th of '89, and the headline, Drug Arrests Rate Higher For Blacks, and some people will say that is because black people are more involved in drugs, but here is what the article says. Blacks are being arrested in the USA's drug wars at a rate far out of proportion to their drug use, according to a USA TODAY study of FBI data. The FBI data, I emphasize demonstrates that black people are being arrested out of all