

those kind of bad parents but we have to force them to be subjected to the kind of brutality and violence that we know will await them, the very kind of brutality that may have put them in that position in the first place. I'm going to digress and go to Governor Cuomo because I have talked about him being threatened with the possibility of going to hell by a person in the church and he did write a response and I think he is entitled to have that, at least a portion of it, in the record along with the other. And I'm going to read excerpts from a Catholic Voice article dated March 23, 1990, page 9. It says, "New York Governor Mario Cuomo praised the Catholic bishops for promoting public attention to abortion but warned that when they appeared to try to 'influence' elections, adverse reactions are likely. 'I don't think there is any disagreement that the Catholic bishops of the country have done as much as any group to keep abortion from becoming a nonissue, something that does not demand and deserve our attention,' Cuomo wrote. 'For that, I believe they deserve our gratitude. But I don't think we can exempt them from the demands of prudence in the political arena.'" And I emphasize prudence. "'When the public perception is that they are not simply exercising their teaching role for Catholics, but trying to influence the outcome of an election, there will be publicity.' He cited the case of Bishop Leo T. Maher of San Diego." And I had discussed that with you. "'Bishop Maher, it seems to me, did not advance with that action the cause he espouses,' Cuomo wrote. He also said he agreed with a comment that Commonweal magazine had made in regard to criticism of him by Auxiliary Bishop Austin B. Vaughan of New York. The bishop in January said the governor 'seriously risked going to hell' and has a 'pro-death position' on abortion and he said he doubted Cuomo can be a 'good and faithful Catholic.' Commonweal said in a subsequent editorial that 'bishops have a responsibility to teach and even to enforce the moral law, but their office does not confer the power to read souls, or to make apodictic judgments about how a particular moral principle is to be translated into law and public policy.' The governor said that when New York State expanded the state medical care coverage for low-income people, 'abortion and some other services were at my insistence not included,' but he said he got little support for his stance from the bishops. 'I might add that it was not a popular decision, and that those, including the Catholic bishops for whom it assumably was popular, were publicly silent about it.'"

SENATOR LAMB PRESIDING