

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Rogers.

SENATOR ROGERS: Mr. President, and members, Senator Chambers, I would like to ask you one question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR ROGERS: Senator Chambers, did you not have a bill a year or two ago that did away with the death penalty?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yeah, year after year, right, I brought it.

SENATOR ROGERS: Okay, thank you. In other words, my assessment is then that you are saying that it is okay for a murderer to go free, not take his life, but it is okay to kill a little defenseless baby. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, what Senator Rogers just did is to show the level at which their side conducts the discussion. He has chosen to phrase in his own terms the answer that I gave to him. He didn't ask me anything about defenseless babies. He didn't ask me anything about murderers going free. He asked me have I brought a bill on the death...to abolish the death penalty and I said yes. Do you see how much they manufacture out of next to nothing, and that answer is reflection more of him than it is of me. To make my argument, Senator Rogers, I don't have to misstate what somebody says. But when I am unequipped and unarmed to enter the fray, I ought to just sit down and shut up, rather than misstate what somebody has indicated. And I know Senator Rogers is irritated, he made it clear by what he said. Maybe what he said irritated me, except that he can't today. Senator Rogers, in your absence, I have been basking in so much brotherhood and sisterhood in this Chamber that even your kind of approach cannot destroy that, and I refuse to allow it to destroy it. I am going to whip and overcome you with kindness and forgiveness. These issues are going to continue to be discussed, and whatever level people choose to discuss it on is for them to decide, but I am going to continue to hammer away at the issues that I think are important and push for that which I think is justified in terms of action