

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, you may use the rest of Senator Ashford's time which is approximately four minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and people have been generous in donating their time to me, and I was cautious to make sure that I would have a couple of times in the bank of my own. That is why I was going around getting the time, but at any rate, the issue that we are still looking at is LB 769. LB 688 is to be victimized and that is a foregone conclusion, but LB 769 does bring us back to the issue of compelling a young woman to go into an environment where she obviously does not choose, to reveal to a parent, to two parents, or to a guardian that she is pregnant and does not want to carry the pregnancy to term. As I stated earlier, I think this is a very serious well-thought-out decision that a young woman comes to, and if in the process of making that decision, she cannot find anybody sympathetic enough within the home to discuss it with, it is clear that she should not be compelled by the state to go into that unfriendly, hostile environment. There are many times when those of us who have children have come to the realization that our children will listen to others when they will not take counsel or advice from us. So the best thing that we can do in the broad scheme of things is consider this, and whenever somebody else's child comes to us, we advise them the way we would like ours to be advised by those adults that they might turn to. But when we have the impasse reached where the home environment is so unfriendly that a young woman faced with a traumatic experience and going through a very difficult situation is required to have another problem heaped on top of that which is not going to achieve a good, we should not, as a Legislature, create that situation, and if, in fact, it exists, any law we would enact should be designed to remove or rectify that. Now many times an abusive adult was abused as a child. Even though the children don't like it when they are being abused, that becomes the example for them of how adults are to deal with children. So when a situation arises which paralleled one in which they, as a child, were abused, the only thing that adult can fall back on is the experience that they had in that situation themselves. Even though they didn't like it at the time they went through it, that kind of treatment is so much ingrained in them that they replicate in their conduct toward their child the very abusive treatment that they suffered, and this is how these kinds of things feed on themselves, grow, and magnify into a situation that is what we have in this country today. The problem of a young woman not wanting or not feeling