

March 30, 1990

LB 688

do, and the question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please:

CLERK: 5 ayes, 19 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate does not cease. Senator Elmer, you're the only one left with time.

SENATOR ELMER: You know, we've been talking a lot in this bill about relationships that daughters have to their families and to their various relatives, and how these different people are at risk when they come from a dysfunctional or less than normal family relationship. I wonder if Senator Landis might answer a question for me.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis, would you respond, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Landis, we all know that many of these young women that are found...find themselves in this kind of a situation are from less than desirable backgrounds. Do you have any data or statistics that would show how many abortions of this type, that our basic question revolves around, might comprise?

SENATOR LANDIS: There are two parts to the answer. The first part to the answer is that it's undeniable that there is a larger number of poor women that use abortion as an option. For example, women making \$11,000 or less in the household, they represent about 15 percent of the population of women, they represent over 33 percent of the abortions among women.

SENATOR ELMER: Are these women of less than 18-years old and unmarried?

SENATOR LANDIS: No, although that's accumulative based on economics. With respect to age, about I think 30 percent of abortions are women in their teens. Let me just check that number, but I think that's right. What you may want is you may want to be able to get a single factor analysis for why women have abortions, and that you can't come up with, and I'll tell you why, because most women, when explaining their rationales for abortion, will give more than one reason. For age, 26 percent are teenagers.