

SENATOR ELMER: I see. You know many of our taxpayers, especially in nether Nebraska, have a distaste for seeing their taxpayers funds used for this purpose. I think that's being addressed and talked about in many respects. I feel abortion is a poor method of birth control. There needs to be mitigating circumstances that take care of some of these problems. It seems that a mitigation is necessary to provide an offsetting balance, if we're going to restrict abortions further. It's necessary to provide information about how to prevent the pregnancies in the first place. It's necessary to give some education to people so that they understand the gravity of what they're about to do. It doesn't seem that we can work that out too well, given the type of scenario we're working with here. Perhaps Senator Chambers could answer a question for me. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: Would you agree that if we further restrict abortions in the state that there should be an offset or mitigating action on the other side of that issue in some respect?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You mean if such a restrictive law were to be passed.

SENATOR ELMER: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: There should be.

SENATOR ELMER: What side of...what type of mitigation or offsetting method of statute or rule could you suggest that might be some sort of mitigation for that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In the schools we could require sex education, we could have instruction about contraception, we could do what is done in one of the abortion bills that has already been put on the books, that when these young women are approaching the issue of whether or not they'll have an abortion, they are informed that there are other agencies that can teach them and explain to them how to avoid unwanted pregnancies, let that information be given to them before they get pregnant. But so far the attitude in the Legislature has been that you don't even allow that kind of instruction and