

April 3, 1990

start a dialogue sort of in line with what Senator Crosby is talking about, talking with each other. I know Senator Lindsay and I were trying to talk about the abortion issue on Friday to see if there was any meeting of the minds on parental notification. I enjoyed that conversation because we were talking about constitutional issues, we were talking about the extent of constitutional boundaries. The issues came up with Senator Landis the other day when we were talking about that bill concerning granting...public grants, or state grants to public agencies, and the abortion issue came up there and how far could we go in stating that abortions could not be discussed or contraception could not be discussed? I guess my point in getting up now, and I would say one other thing, and that is that as far as I'm concerned I think that keeping guns away...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...from people who are intent upon doing harm to themselves and others is also a pro-life issue, it's an issue that at least I've been totally convinced that, talking to people around the state and that there are people who go into a gun store, buy a gun, and shoot themselves or others right away. That's a life or death issue, as I see it. Other people say well what you're really doing is taking my rights away, my rights to go out and hunt and my rights to go out and have target practice, and those have nothing to do with each other. But we're tangled in this web of generalization and overgeneralization on extremely complex issues. It's upsetting, and it's unfortunate, and...

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR ASHFORD: But I hope that, again, I would just say in conclusion I think Senator Crosby is setting the right tone and hopefully we can live by that tone as we go forward. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please, followed by Senator Nelson and then Senator Schmit.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I want to repeat something again. I don't see what's being done as evil or immoral. I didn't say that. And the only reason I'm saying it, Senator Lynch had mentioned me by name, and then some of these comments, but...and I don't know which ones were addressed to me, but I'm not condemning what they're doing here.