I will just give up the effort. When the public sees us as a Legislature continuing to pass bills into law saying each time that we are addressing a problem, yet after that law takes effect, the problem is aggravated, it begins to appear either that we don't know what we are doing, that we don't care what we are doing, or that the problems cannot be solved. mistake to let the public develop the notion that these problems cannot be solved or even properly addressed. I hear from people, as I am sure all of us do when we have discussions about the drug problem, that nothing at all can be done; that judges are bleeding hearts, prosecutors do too much plea bargaining, and the sentences that people are handed down are not long That could be said about any issue which has a high profile before the public, but if we would look at the whole area of criminalizing conduct, attaching punishments to that conduct, and then seeing whether or not that, indeed, addresses a problem, we could have a more systematic, orderly, logical process of legislating. It is not only in the area of crimes that the problems that I am talking about emerge, but that is the area I am concerned about because when a criminal law is enforced, it is always enforced with a vengeance on those whom a society deems to be unpopular or undesirable. So they have the law brought against them, not because of what they did, but because of who they are, what they are, or what they are In that instance, enforcement of the law perceived to be. becomes an excuse or a facade behind which injustice can be wreaked on people who are deemed not to be popular. People who suffer these things are not unaware of comments made about how the law should be ...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...enforced. If we, who have the brunt of these things done to us, can read in the newspapers, see on television all the stories and the statements made about equal justice, and yet the justice applied to us is not equal, is not even justice, then a bitterness develops toward the system, toward those who manage the system. The police are not deemed to be people whose job it is to enforce the law in order that there might be order, but rather occupying forces there to enforce their will and the will of a supposed ruling class on those people who are to be kept suppressed. So this is one of the reasons why all of these bills should be sent back to General File so that they can be discussed and amended as they should have been,...