

April 8, 1991

LB 425

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So then while talking about these words, we are actually talking about beliefs, and we are not just dealing with words that have no real meaning?

SENATOR CROSBY: Well, that is probably true.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I am just doing...thank you, Senator Crosby. I just want Senator Crosby, and I would like others of us to recognize how intertwined everything is that we talk about with everything else. Some aspects of the problem may carry more weight than others, but all aspects of it have a bearing on all other aspects. And the reason I am doing this, the people who want to restrict a woman's right to make a decision or carry out a choice are so quick to say to those of us, who believe the woman should have that unfettered right to make the choice, that we are talking only about words that have no meaning. But then when we call them to book and say if they are merely words, then come on over here, then they acknowledge that we are not just talking about words, we are talking about fundamental beliefs. And because it is so difficult to be straightforward and forthright, even by people who generally are very honest, direct, and forthright, the issue is almost impossible to be discussed. Everything that is said will be done and said within a religious context. A person who has a strong religious belief would like to believe that if he or she set out being confronted by a problem, could deal with that problem strictly from the standpoint of reason and logic without their religion coming into play. They would go through a series of steps which they call reasoning, and when they've reached the end...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...of that system, they would be at the exact, same conclusion as their particular church or religion to the surprise of nobody. I think Senator Nelson realizes, as I do and the other 11 of us, that those who are against a woman having the right to make a choice will not agree to any changes. They want their religious views written into the law. They want their religious views to remain in the law, and this attitude should be a lesson to those who are opposed to a very sharp line of demarcation between church and state before they start condemning Muslims for talking about jihads, or religious wars. They need to consider what is happening in this country at the hands of people who want their religions written into the law so