

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Do you think a person has a constitutional right to purchase, own and/or possess a firearm?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: I think they do.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you see a firearm as a means of self-defense? And, remember, by self-defense I mean where you are attacked, you're not the aggressor, you're not going out to use it against somebody, but to defend yourself, if your own life is threatened.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Well there's several forms of self-defense, Senator Chambers. You can use any form of self-defense.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think that a firearm is one means of self-defense?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: It is one means.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think that if a person is convicted of a crime, he or she should be deprived of...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...a means of self-defense?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: That depends on what kind of a crime they are convicted of.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Writing a bad check that was for an amount sufficient to put them in the penitentiary.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: I guess I've always been of the theory that if they're a convicted felon, that I think federal law states that they cannot own any firearm.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, we can govern that by state law. Do you think that there ought to be a state law to prevent such a person from owning a firearm?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: I have kind of mixed emotions about it, if they're convicted of one of these here minor crimes. But I guess I've always thought, like I said before, if they're a