

death row--Randy Reeves, a Native American; Ryan is the cult killer. I categorized them in this way. There are four black men, one Native American, 7 white. Nine of them committed these murders before 1986; six were in Douglas County, two Lancaster, one Sarpy, one Hall, one Richardson and one in Cherry. Four of them, I think I'm correct on this, killed women. One of them killed two little boys. The point I'm making about these statistics is that in some ways, of course, it goes...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...along with our population ratios from Douglas County and from black to white. And when you look at all of those men and notice that each one of them is in some stage of appeal, then I will come back the next time I speak, Senator Chambers, or maybe you will touch on it when you speak, I'd like someone today to bring out so the constituency who is watching and listening understands the appeal procedure because I get lots of calls about that particular thing--the cost and why do we allow this and why don't you just execute them the day after they're sentenced or do something and stop the appeals. I have sympathy for that. I think probably you do, too, in many ways. So if you or someone else will speak to that, I will appreciate it. I will turn my light on again. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, I rise to oppose this amendment. I don't feel that this amendment could be carried out because the State Board of Pardons does have that power, and they get this power by our Constitution. Under Article IV, Section 13 of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, the Board of Pardons has the authority to reduce or excuse any criminal penalty imposed upon an individual by the courts of the state. So that says it pretty plain. That says it in black and white that the Board of Pardons does have this power. That power would be clearly applicable to the sentence of life imprisonment without possibility of parole. So that means even though we would pass a bill here saying life imprisonment without parole still could be reduced by the Board of Pardons. So I believe that we want to reject this amendment and I'm going to vote against it. Of course, I'm against repealing of the death penalty. I feel that we need to keep it in our state. Remember, some years ago South Dakota repealed their death penalty. Well, they brought it in now and they have