

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, I have a question to ask Senator Chambers, please.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Senator Chambers, I've had a few calls, and the concern on some of my schools are...is that this will be a separate course. And I told them that it's to be an integrated type of curriculum. Am I correct on that statement?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, you are. And I think the legislative record will show it, and Senator Beutler, I believe, added an amendment that said no additional classes have to be established or hours that a teacher has to spend, or something to that effect, to make it clear that this is not requiring...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Um-huh.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...what the person had asked you.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, thank you very much. I've given...I've thought a lot about this on how we develop our attitudes. In fact I had a constituent call this morning, she says, I don't want you to teach my grandchildren any attitudes. Well, I'm not going to ask Senator Chambers whether we're going to teach attitudes, I know that's what the program is for. And I certainly would approve of that. But how do we become sensitized to problems like this? Those people that grow up out in the hinterlands of Nebraska, it's a...it's very difficult. And I think the only way that it's going to happen, I'm not sure that the process that Senator Chambers is using is going to really have it happen. I think in a way he's maybe using the wrong approach. I think it probably ought to start with the teachers. Now, I have found out that any new tea...any teacher that has a...renews their teaching certificate must have a course in multicultural education, and that every school district must have a statement on multicultural education. Now that doesn't mean that they're going to teach an integrated program. But how do we become sensitized? There are some people that never become sensitized. Usually, if you're in a community of all Caucasians, you'll probably never become sensitized to multicultural, or different cultures, different religions and so forth. I know in my own...that's the type of