

controversy and it's really taking the issue out of context, the context being the welfare of that child or fetus or the child when it's born. We also argue over the creation and the sustenance of life and when it forms and we cannot agree on that. And also the relationship with that family, the mother, the father, the children that are already born and living, we seem to forget that. I don't know how we possibly can. I just...you see these abused children, the ones that are beat up, the ones that are burnt with cigarettes, they're not wanted, and yet we seem to turn our back on that and we force that on that unwanted child the rest of their life. I cannot see anything anymore mean than that, just because we have to force our principles upon someone else. The very child that this conflict is supposedly rages, what is the additional sibling and the rest of the family relationship? What is the existing children in the family? We have to turn our back on that. What will be the new life or the acceptance of that child in that family, a family of five or six or seven children? What's going to happen there? Or would you trade this...this life of this mother for that unknown baby or that...that we really don't know what husband and wife would trade his wife for a new child. Tell me that. The furor over abortion has little to do with the welfare of the babies, born or unborn. If we did, we would spend more than a token amount of time on the welfare of the children in this country. And I'm not saying that the proponents of this bill do not. I know that Senator Lindsay has the bill for the homeless. Senator Labeledz does care about children and the abuse of children. And I see that every day in them so this sometimes is hard for me to believe that we should put such...such a high priority on a fetus and yet somewhat turn our backs on that unwanted child. It really bothers me. What's the responsibility about requiring a mother to complete a pregnancy, regardless of the health risk or the economic risk, or the family, or to bring another life into being? Is that not potentially destructive to the existing families? Of course, it is.

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR NELSON: Why are turning our backs on that? What if the mother is a single parent? Is there a clear, moral answer to these concerns? No, there is not. Each situation is different so I wonder why we, as legislators, are to dictate to that family what is apparently their private decision and what they feel that is best for them. Is it irresponsible, an abortion