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LB 78

after a carefree sexual encounter, what would she make of a good mother of an unwanted child? I don't think that would be a good mother either. Why is it that more moral responsibility to give her birth to a child that she does not want or is in no position to raise responsibly, is that that she should be punished for having to go through nine months of pregnancy? Is pregnancy a punishment? What respect does that attitude have for life? And, as we...all of us know, it all goes back onto...

SENATOR WARNER: Time.

SENATOR NELSON: ...the woman and it...there are two people involved. Thanks.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Landis, followed by Senator Morrissey. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I have had my light on to talk about the question of whether or not the clinic is a hostile environment as Senator Lindsay characterized it in his opening on LB 78. I was giving you, at the last time we talked, the steps followed by the Women's Medical Center of Nebraska. We detailed the fact that there is an initial delay as the woman schedules an appointment. Upon coming in to the appointment, there is a wide variety of information that is exchanged. There is a special intake session in which the woman is counseled by an individual counselor and, in the event she shows a reluctance or an ambivalence, another counselor is brought in to recognize or continue to probe that reluctance. I left you at the point at which I indicated that the center has a strict policy that if the counselor is not fully satisfied with the patient's reasons for terminating the pregnancy or the ambivalence with which the patient is there, the patient will be asked to reevaluate the situation and to reconsider her options. The options which are raised on a regular basis include carrying the fetus to term, parenting and adoption. Now, at that point, I was interrupted by the end of time. I want to tell you that I'm not done with the protocol because it is so extensive. Following the intake session, the patients, as I was about to mention, go into a group counseling session. This is after the individual intake session. Here patients, as a group, are fully explained by the counselor: the procedures that will be followed. Instruments which will be used are shown and examined. A model of the uterus is used to explain how the procedure will take place. In