

Innocence means nothing. Holding people responsible for their conduct means nothing. If the one who is in the front seat is going to be required to wear the belt and doesn't wear it, then punish the one who doesn't wear the belt. Maybe I've made an improper assumption about Senator Horgan. Senator Horgan, let me ask you a question because I cannot presume and I apologize for being presumptuous that you would rear your children in the way that I reared mine. If you had two children and you knew one committed a violation of your rules and the other did not, would you punish the one who had not committed the violation and let the one who committed it go scott-free? Is that your philosophy.

SENATOR HORGAN: Senator Chambers, it would depend on the situation. If I had...if there was my rule in my house that you can't drive my car without wearing safety belts, and my daughter and my son went out and my daughter was driving and her brother refused to put the safety belt on and they both knew that the law was, the rule was you have to wear safety belts to drive this car, my daughter went ahead and drove the car, I would punish her.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Let's not put it where you can give a commercial for your bill, let's talk about something easier to grasp. Let's say that you have paintings and you say you don't want the children to put their hands on the paintings when they have syrup on their hands. And child A has very clean hands and does not put his hands on the picture; child B has syrupy hands and puts his hands on the picture, so you punish the clean-hand child who didn't put his hands on the picture and you let the sticky-fingered one go free. That's the way...that's your philosophy of child rearing?

SENATOR HORGAN: No, Senator, it's not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, why are you going to make it one where we're talking about the criminal law imposing a sanction on somebody innocent and letting the guilty one go? Why create a situation where somebody can even cause an innocent person to be punished?

SENATOR HORGAN: Because, Senator, somebody has...when we allow someone to go out in an automobile on our roads and highways, somebody's got to be responsible and the person responsible is the person driving that automobile. And it's important that...