

personal experience, obviously, but I can appreciate that what many women go through is a rather difficult and certainly life-altering experience. For those women who have a spouse, a partner, a life mate, those people have a much easier time. For those who are single and by themselves, it is a challenge. It's very difficult. Some of them may have been abandoned. Some of them may, and as we heard Senator Crosby state, less than 5 percent are actual teenagers under 19 years old. The majority are older and under some very trying circumstances, no less. I think that the support that we can provide to those women is important. I think that in one way or another we're going to be paying the price. There is a poster that Senator Day has in her office. It's a picture of a baby and it shows the baby's backside and the diaper, and on that diaper there's a bulls eye. And the caption under that reads, when it's budget-cutting time they always start with the easiest targets. This seems to be in that vein, the presumption of this legislation seems to be we can cut the budget and we can do it without hurting anybody. However, it seems to me that we are hurting people as we attempt to do this. I don't think that it's a way to stop people, to stop women from getting pregnant. I don't think that many of those women take the time to assess whether or not they're going to get paid for this child or not get paid for this child. If logic went into making that decision, we would have a very different situation and children would be born very differently. I don't think that's going to be the case. I think that when we're talking about what may seem to some to be a large amount of money, maybe we can put it in perspective. We're talking \$293 per month for basically three months to a woman who has never had a child, the last three months of her pregnancy. That would equate to less than \$900 total per woman. I don't know how many people would be affected by this. We're talking less than that for a woman who has currently had a child and is receiving assistance. For that woman, it would be a mere \$71, multiplied by three months. We're talking less than \$225 total. Now there are very few women that are going to go out and logically say, I'm going to get pregnant because I can make a whole \$220. That doesn't make a whole lot of sense. It doesn't make dollars either to these women. I think it's a small investment even though I do support that we need to help people to become independent and I do support welfare reform and I do support looking at the whole arena of how we give money. I think it has been rightly said...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.