

the current welfare system's undermining of work, family," and that includes fathers, "and many other gifts of God is widely understood to be wrong. 'Two wrongs don't make a right' is the common sense/common grace counter to the notion of fighting the evil of abortion by embracing the evil of governmental welfare. Such an answer, however, is not going to satisfy pro-lifers who argue that welfare is the lesser of the two evils and thus justifiable. To answer the single-issue opponents of abortion, and there is no better issue to be single-issue about," and I agree with that, "we need to ask whether the current welfare system really does result in fewer abortions than would otherwise take place. I've been noting over the last five years that the recent expansions of abortion and welfare have a common basis; the culture of irresponsibility that emerged during the 1960s and took root during the 1970s. The parallel burgeoning of these two modern curses suggests a parallel cure; the recovery of responsibility, for which we probably need revival and reformation. As the National Review recently argued, and I cannot say it better, so here comes an extended quotation," from...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...the National Review. "the overall effect of welfare cash benefits to increase the number of abortions...is to increase the number of abortions by removing an economic disincentive to conception. The more pregnancies out of wedlock, the more abortions there will be--now and in the future. Girls born to single mothers, for instance, are twice as likely to engage in early sexual activity and thus to be candidates for abortion.' National Review pointed out that the economic arguments of pro-lifers opposed to welfare reform would have bizarre effects if applied generally. For example, we would have to fight 'any attempt to hold deadbeat dads...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...responsible for their children..."

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: I call the question. Am I the last, I hope.

SPEAKER WITHEM: It is not necessary. There are no other lights on that have not exhausted their speaking. Senator Pirsch, you