

Moreover, conservatives ought to rethink the matter of awarding child support payments in the absence of legal marriage and, by the same token, visitation rights by unmarried fathers. Marriage ought to be the only ticket to future claims, whether those claims are for cash or for access to the children. Any other regime undermines the privileged status of marriage and further undermines the family." I know there are individuals who will come back and say that that's unrealistic, but it's something that I consider when we go into these areas. We're going after father who were never married to the mothers of these children, we're going after individuals and we're going after them with records that obviously from past performance are not very good, it's a lot of consideration. It sounds great on the surface that we're going to be getting money owed to these individuals and taking money away from taxpayer support from a lot of these programs that women and children are forced to go on when they don't have the money to pay for food and housing. But I hope people also realize that this is no solution to anything here, this is simply trying to get people by for another day in a system that's not working, and I'm not even sure that...I share some of Senator Dierks' misgivings on taking away professional licenses from individuals. If we do that erroneously we are just begging for lawsuits. I haven't checked to see how other states have fared with their systems and any problems that they've had with their systems, but I will before this bill gets through to the end. And I guess it is...it's another sad...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...sad moment in the State of Nebraska and the entire United States, our federal government is also discussing this, that we're talking about forcing people to pay, taking away their licenses for children that they have had out of wedlock again and refuse to support. So I guess that it's a much broader system and I hope we get to discuss all of the issues involved in this and that's why visitation is important, but in light of the fact that many of these fathers are...have never married the mothers, I'm not so sure we should consider it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I'm so tempted to respond to some of the things that