

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...so if we would recollect that, it gives us a road map and shows us exactly how to proceed in dealing with our children. We'll stop trying to scare them by telling them they're going to go to hell or go to prison, that means nothing because they look at us and see us doing things that we're not worried about that so that doesn't get anywhere. They're looking for honesty. Adults are too quick to say, well, they want tough love, they want discipline, they want you to slap them around, they want you to...you don't want to be slapped around. You didn't want to be slapped around then. That's the easy cop-out way for adults. If I can't explain it, then I'll slap them and say, do it because I told you to do it. We need to give our children time, we need to give them assistance and we need to show them the consideration that we wanted as children but didn't get. Now when I talk about this some more, I'm going to go back to my other way because I'm through trying to be reasonable and I'm going to become legislative.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Chambers, you are recognized to close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, I've grown so attached to this amendment that I regret having to end the discussion of it. There was a man, he was a galley slave. That's where they put these guys, in those days they didn't just take you by race, put them down in the bottom of a ship and they had these great big oars sticking out of a hole and they had to pull these oars to make the ship go and they had a guy who to make them feel good would stand up with a big hammer and he'd hit it on a piece of wood and every time he struck that wood, then the oars had to move and they had to move in unison. And this guy wound up being liberated. And if I can remember, he said something to the effect, my very chains and I grew friends, so much a long communion tends to make us what we are that I relinquish my chains with a mournful sigh. His chains even became his friends. We can accustom people, we can condition them to a degraded existence and cause them to feel they're entitled to nothing better than that. But when those of us who have strength, those of us who have knowledge use those things to mislead and take advantage of others who are weak and lacking in knowledge, we are venal, we are cruel and we are immoral. When we stand on this floor and try to indicate that somebody is better off hungry than with food, we're talking insanity. When we say that a program which will give a person assistance with