

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, I thought that's what you meant, but I wanted to hear it from you so that I don't misstate what your goal is. There was a man, I think, Senator McKenzie, it may have been George Bernard Shaw who said, those who can do, those who cannot teach. And I say those who cannot teach, teach teachers. So you have a situation where they create schools and colleges of education which are designed to produce people who are going to preside over the classrooms and shape the minds of our youngsters. But many of the people who wind up as the instructors in these schools are retired school administrators. They couldn't cut the mustard in the discipline in which they were interested, and they could not teach because they weren't swift enough to do that, as slow as you can be and still teach, so they became a teacher of teachers. And who goes to the teachers colleges to become a teacher? Those who cannot cut the mustard in the discipline. So in these teachers colleges you have those least able to teach instructing those least able to learn, and the finished product is going to be standing in front of the classroom with our children, unable to teach them. We all know that a person never learns the totality of what a teacher is trying to present. So if you have somebody who is a teacher and maybe 50 to 60 percent qualified to teach, and you know from the beginning that the youngster is not going to learn all that is taught, they start with a deficit because the person teaching cannot teach the full 100 percent. So the student gets a percentage of that percentage, and we wind up where we are now. People are functionally illiterate, and it is not the fault of the student. When there were a lot more white immigrants coming to this country and they were not concerned about building walls, and dams, and dikes to keep them from coming across the ocean, or building snow walls and ice walls to keep them from coming from Canada, then they had people who came to this country who could not speak English. But that was never used in the schools as a reason for saying that the children cannot be taught how to speak English. Now they're saying if the parents are illiterate and cannot read, that's why the child cannot read and cannot be taught. It's not the parents' responsibility to teach the child, that's why we have a system of public education, and it's the responsibilities of these teachers to teach whoever comes to that classroom. And we have reached the point now where every excuse, every alibi that can be seized upon is, and our children do not learn. They learn other things, and in fact they learn until they come into the