

religion, but I have a conscience, and it places a responsibility on me. And I cannot let this kind of bill go by without reminding you of the damnable conditions under which these players function. There are some people who say they don't have to play football, they do it voluntarily. Well, that's like in the old sweatshops when these mothers would have to work all these hours to take care of their children and the sweatshop operators would say they're here voluntarily, we don't put a gun on their head and make them come here. We don't put a chain around their neck and draw them here. They go into these ghettos and to these farm communities where there are depressed economies, and get these young men who are in financial distress and tell them, this is a sure fire path to the pros. And they have young women who talk to them, give them the idea that when you get to the campus, this is what's waiting for you. But then when you get there, you got to go hunting for the flesh yourself because then these women don't even want to be bothered with you. They trick them to these campuses. And some of these coaches, when they're out recruiting, have to degrade and demean themselves before teenage boys to try to trick them into coming to their university. And one coach said in an interview that he gave with U.S. News & World Report or Newsweek, after he had sat outside this kid's house all night to be the first one to his door in the morning, to beat these other sharks. He said when he's sitting in the kitchen, talking and looking at the conditions under which this kid lives and his family lives, and the lies that he knows he's telling, he asked himself, what in the world am I doing here? I'm worthy of something better than this. But it didn't make him leave. He had to land that fish because a coach has got to win. And anytime you're in a highly competitive enterprise, you do what the competition does or you're not going to meet the competition. They talk about how clean this program is at Nebraska. I know players who are being paid and you know what I tell them? You're not violating a statute of Nebraska, you're not violating any of the commandments that Moses brought down from Mount Sinai, not any moral law or statutory law. It's the stupid rule of the NCAA. All I want you to do is be careful and don't tell on the person who is paying you, then that person is available to help some other player. I know families who pay these players. I know people who provide vehicles for them, but I'll never tell, and I want people to do it. These players are entitled to it. Why should a band member be able to get these things and still be in band? Any other student can, and these players are not