

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Tyson, if you want to use just one designation to cover both sexes, would you be willing to substitute "she" every place there is a "he", "her" every place there is "him"?

SENATOR TYSON: No, I would not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. That makes my point. If one designation is to cover all, why doesn't he want to give up his designation and be subsumed into the female gender? Actually, it might improve his disposition a bit. I am never going to agree to the notion that a wrong long engaged in becomes a right. Brothers and sisters, a thief never acquires good title to that which is stolen by holding onto it for a long time. Yesterday's error should not be today's orthodoxy. Even courts, which follow the principle of stare decisis, or that which was decided a long time ago on basically these facts, should lead to a similar decision on similar facts forever. Courts even reverse their earlier decisions. And if courts, which move so slowly that the largest glacier in the world moves at jet-propelled speed by comparison, can change, certainly we should not be so hidebound and fearful of change that we will not reflect in our laws the maturing of this society, the sensitizing of this society, the civilizing of this society. What was all right in the days of Chaucer is not all right today, as far as I'm concerned, in some areas. So my colleagues may say that their world is like a morgue or one of those places where they mummify dead things. They never change. I would rather think of mine as in the nature of what may be a maternity ward where new things are born, new life is generated, changes occur, and a Legislature should help set the tone for society. We want to tell the educators what they ought to...ought to instill in our children. We want them to teach our children to think, to question, to be inquisitive, to be in awe of the wonders of nature. Then we, who are talking those things, say that in certain areas there should be no change whatsoever because change is painful.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Change is painful. I'm probably not getting this rhyme correct, but it was part of a poem, and it dealt with