

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 29, 1999 LB 476

influencing the opinion of the court in their favor will lead to expected punishments that are too large for the wealthy. Furthermore, Lott argues that allowing wealthy people to do what, on first glance, may seem like subverting the legal system, can be efficient. Lott contends that a certain amount of crime is actually good for society. In Lott's view, the benefit of a crime to a criminal can outweigh the harm that a crime inflicts on society. Such crimes, according to Lott, should not be prevented or, as Lott puts it, quote, a nation's wealth is maximized if a crime is not deterred when the benefit to the criminal of a particular crime is greater than the total social costs of that crime. So, if you're wealthy, you ought to be able to purchase the ability to not be held accountable for your crime. Now, with regard to aviation safety, where he was writing in the "Regulatory Quest for Safety at Any Cost", he thinks Federal Aviation Administration inspectors are busybody bureaucrats looking over the shoulders of the airline industry. He scolds Ralph Nader, whom he labels as a "preregulation" fear monger, for wanting the flying public to travel in bomb-resistant planes. Heaven forbid that we should have the ability to travel in bomb resistant planes. He also labels global warming, ozone depletion, and the needs for wetlands preservation environmental myths. He dismisses any idea that the toxic chemical, dioxin, might represent a hazard to human health, despite the fact that the substance is rated as a probable human carcinogen. Lott states that, quote, the worst thing people can expect from dioxin is a bad rash, unquote. He, further, urges Americans to stop worrying so much about the environment, characterizing health and human...and safety concerns about pesticides as scare stories. Now, with regard to smoking on airplanes, he opposes regulation of smoking on airplanes with the rationale, quote, to force airlines to ban smoking on all flights, thus, makes smokers worse off by a greater amount than it benefits nonsmokers. He's never sat behind someone who was smoking, apparently. He has pretty much a documented track record of advocating a very extreme anti-consumer, anti-public safety ideology, and the fact that he says arming the populace with concealed weapons will reduce crime probably is just an additional point to a very extreme anti-consumer, anti...anti...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.