

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

April 12, 1999 LB 356

when it was brought out, I took it. I said, now there's less disparity in size between me and you and you and that kid; now take the paddle from me. You see who has the paddles, don't you? I got some from Horace Mann, and this one was from Kellom Elementary School. I don't go in places and just grab somebody around the throat. That's not my way. But I give them the opportunity to grab me by the throat if they're so courageous that they're going to brutalize women or children or somebody who is weak. What does that have to do with what we're talking about here? It brings into focus, I hope for some of you, the actual life that young black children have to face. And if young white children wind up in some of those settings in those schools, they may face the same kind of thing, but that wouldn't happen in white schools, because brutality is not considered a teaching tool. You don't find the white cops doing in white communities what they do to black people. Believe me, I didn't just winnow these articles that I handed out to you today from a large mass I have which included them shooting...4 cops shooting 41 times at an unarmed white man. Fifteen feet from him, and they thought he had a gun. The articles I didn't bring you was where a 12-year-old black kid had a candy bar and a cop thought it was a gun and killed him, because he thought it was a gun. Do you think I could get away with that? Do you think I could shoot somebody with a candy bar and say I thought it was a gun and they would exonerate me like they do these cops? If you have four kids in Omaha, four young men, and they were known as a gang, as I deem many of the police to be, because the police wear their uniforms, you know, their gang attire, they have their signals, they have their terminology, they are armed and dangerous. And they have the mobbing, packing instinct, and when I say "packing" I mean like wolves, jackals and hyenas. Four cops can shoot an unarmed black man and they get indicted for second degree murder or manslaughter. Let four of these guys who are called gang members catch somebody in the foyer of a building and they blaze away 41 times and hit him 19 times. You think they're going to be charged with second degree murder? Or would they be held up as an example of why we need harsher laws against gang violence and...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...murder? We confront that. There is no