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law? Are people being justly treated, similar people, similar circumstances? Is it fair? Is it even-handed? Is it as this body said it should be in 1978? The cases I'm going to be discussing in this and subsequent opportunities to speak are all set forth as a portion of State v. Palmer, a decision of the Nebraska Supreme Court, in 1986. They're a part of the Chief Justice's concurring opinion. The first case I would bring...I'm bringing to your attention, only cases in which there was no death penalty sentence, please keep that in mind. State v. Nokes. I hope I'm pronouncing that correctly. Defendant and his wife had entered into an adulterous relationship with the daughter of the victims. The relationship became estranged, and the difficulty led to verbal and physical altercations between the defendant and the victims. The victims became aware of the situation and thought the defendant was blackmailing their daughter. Defendant and his wife went to the victims' residence to settle the misunderstanding. Defendant took a gun with him. Later the four went to the victim's...defendant's home and down to the basement. While in the basement, defendant shot and killed the father of the daughter involved in the relationship. When the mother screamed and tried to run up the stairs, the defendant shot her in the back. Defendant and his wife then dismembered the bodies, wrapped the pieces in butcher paper, and later disposed of the bodies in a nearby lake. Life in prison. State v. Simpson, 1978. I'm trying to do this by excerpting. The defendant and his sister, and his sister's child were hitchhiking and were picked up by the victim. They had formed a plan whereby they would get the driver to stop the car and the defendant's sister would pull a gun and rob him. They stopped the car, but nothing happened. As they got back on the road, defendant's sister pulled the gun and told the driver to keep his hands on the wheel and stop the car. The driver turned to disarm her, and she shot him in the back. The victim was paralyzed, so they dragged him from the car into a barrow pit, off the interstate, and took his billfold. The defendant fired two more shots to the head of the victim. The defendant was 20 years old. Life in prison.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: There's a case, the name of which does not