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they are going to close. And many (inaudible) these assumptions are in the view of the Chairman. And not to say anything away from Senator Raikes, but his words were, in my view. Well, I think we remember Senator Chambers saying the other day if we had economists, one end to the country to the other one, none of them would agree, and that's probably so. Economists deal with numbers. And we're not necessarily dealing with numbers here. We're dealing with our children. We're dealing with our future. Class I schools mean different things to different people. In the eastern part of the state they mean one thing. They mean the opportunity to learn in a different environment than maybe the larger school in that area. In our smaller communities, our small Class I schools mean entirely something else. So we cannot lump all the Class I schools together, saying they mean the same thing, because they certainly don't. Some children learn in different environments, and that parent knows best what the environment for that children is. If it's a smaller school, where they get more one-on-one attention, that's important to them. If it's a disciplinary problem, maybe...maybe it's a poverty issue. Maybe that child doesn't come with the designer jeans. Maybe that child has a speech defect and the other children are making fun of that child. That's not a learning environment that our child can be productive in. And let's face it, if that child does not get the learning environment and get the education that it needs, it will not necessarily be a productive student. It will not be a productive citizen. And as we look at our larger schools, and we're forcing our small schools to close, let's look at Columbine. I think if some of those parents had the opportunity to opt their children into another school, they certainly would have. We don't want a Columbine here in state of Nebraska. Not to say that it will happen. It can happen anywhere. But our parents had the reason to opt our children into various schools. Some of our parents home school. They have reasons to home school. That's the parents' choice.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR McDONALD: We have parents that opt their children into religious schools. That's their choice. We as parents want the best learning environment for our children, and that's what many