

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

April 22, 2005 LR 8

deaf ear to her supplications, but of disengaging himself from her with such violent blows and kicks as to reduce her to the necessity of creeping out of his reach and mingling the groan of bodily suffering with the sob of a breaking heart? As she crawled away from the brutal man, I heard her sob out--and this shows how foolish we were--Oh Lord Jesus, how long, how long shall I suffer this way? I must have been then between five and six years old. I seem to see and hear my poor mother weeping now. This was one of my earliest observations of men, an experience which I only shared with thousands of my race. Now, there are white people who might take this for a joke. But there are white people who run a great risk when they do that around me.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: When we talk about this constitution, there are things that went on which ought not to have gone on under a constitution. As bad as it is, as much as it was ignored and violated, in 1954, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court, prodded by Thurgood Marshall, who wound up as a member of the U.S. Supreme Court, after being Solicitor General of the United States, ruled that segregation in the public schools violates the U.S. Constitution in that it denies equal protection of the law to what they called Negro children. It's not much that we have with which to work as black people. But we'll take what we can get, and...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...do the best we can with it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Sen...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'd ask for a call of the house.

SENATOR CUDABACK: There's been a request for a call of the house. All in favor of the house going under call vote aye; those opposed, nay. Record please, Mr. Clerk.