

March 6, 1984

LB 130

services. This bill does not regulate schools that are operated within approved schools, does not regulate preschools, for example, that are being conducted by a Catholic school. It does not, it simply addresses a modern time need. I want to talk, want to talk something I rarely ever talk about. I rarely ever talk about election issues but I'm going to talk about an election issue.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, excuse me. (Gavel.) There's entirely too much talking. Let's hold it down and listen to the speaker and I appreciate your sticking around till the end of the session this morning for you. Senator Johnson, excuse me.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: You and I both know that there is a gender gap in American society today and you and I both know, we all know that one of the reasons for that gender gap is because some men in our society have simply not wanted to recognize legitimate claims upon our communal interests of women and children and for that reason, some men in our society have repudiated virtually every effort, every undertaking, every step by women and children for their due and their recognition in our society. And if you do not believe in this body that child care is a children's issue and as always perceived as a woman's issue, then you are sadly mistaken. Child care is one of the dearest issues that women and children have in our times. And if you and I continue to fail to go, to have this state handle the child care issue in a way that's appropriate for our children and our families, we continue to perpetuate the terrible gender gap which terribly needs to be rectified in our times. Legislative Bill 130 is not a threat to anybody. It's not a threat to anybody. You've been contacted by some preschools, you know the same preschools that would have contacted you are licensed to the State of Iowa. The same regulations we're asking for here are in a place in the State of Iowa. Is there some reason why Nebraska is different from Iowa? You know the preschools are licensed in the State of Kansas. Is there some reason why Nebraska has to differ from Kansas? Do we continue to have a laissez faire attitude about what happens to our children? Are they the weakest link in our society so that we can continue to