

SENATOR JENSEN: Murder, rape, and robbery.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What was the murder rate in Texas in 1994?

SENATOR JENSEN: I can't tell you that, it just says that it's lower than it was. It's the lowest since 1973, and certainly rates have risen since 1973 in Nebraska and across the nation also.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, it's funny though that when they're talking about the issue of the death penalty, Texas kills more people than anybody else in their execution chambers. But their murder rate continues to go up. So then somebody...you'd say those who are talking about the death penalty are probably lying about the murder rate and that this NCPA is correct?

SENATOR JENSEN: I really don't know. We could certainly get a copy of their analysis in detail.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's what I'd like to see. Thank you, Senator Jensen. Members of the Legislature, Senator Jensen is not full of "hooy," but the one who wrote that article and tries to give the impression that Texas has built its way out of a crime problem ought to talk to the people in Illinois and California and other states where they have spent untold hundreds of millions of dollars and haven't succeeded. And I defy Senator Jensen to find statistics and hard figures to back up what that outfit has said. I don't mean where they just say it but where they get us some documentation. And he could probably contact the Justice Department and find out what the rate of these kind of crimes are, what the rates are in Texas. But anyway, Senator Pedersen, I may not have much time, but let me ask you a question or two.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Pedersen, how many people at most are in this dorm at a given time?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: The T-Dorm, out at the NSP, right now is 222.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And this is in one building.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: This is one building, yes.