

March 29, 1973

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Here is what I'm trying to, may I ask him another question, Senator Proud, if he will yield?

SENATOR PROUD: Please do.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Senator Marvel, now again the aim is to protect children and not to advocate any particular religion.

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now do you believe that there are people who are very sincere when they say that they hear voices and sometimes these voices tell them to go out and do bad things to other people, because God is upset about sinning?

SENATOR MARVEL: I, if you are asking me do I believe that people hear voices on behalf of religion to go out and perform evil deeds, the answer is no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You haven't ever heard of anybody being charged with a crime and they say God told them to do it?

SENATOR MARVEL: Oh yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's what I was, alright. -

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes I've heard this, but I don't, I don't believe that, I guess your question was do I believe this and the answer is no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No mine is, do you, have you heard of people making this claim?

SENATOR MARVEL: Oh, yes sir, I've heard of people making all kinds of claims on behalf of religious beliefs, yes sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, since, it would be difficult for us to go into a discussion of the merits of any particular religion, doesn't it seem like the legislature getting out into deep water, when we are going to pass legislation dealing with a subject that we cannot even intelligently discuss among ourselves?

SENATOR MARVEL: My basic premise Senator Chambers, is based upon statutes which recognize organized religions, and if we recognize organized religions, I assume that we recognize the practices of those religions, and if we recognize the practices of those religions, and we pass legislation which comes in conflict with those practices, therefore, we are in conflict with other sections of the statute, that is my basis.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you see this bill LB 207 as a type of protective legislation aimed at a specific category of citizens, namely children, and it's to protect them from abuse, regardless of the source, or regardless of who perpetrates it?

SENATOR MARVEL: As a general statement, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think that perhaps there is too much recognition of religious groups now in the statutes and perhaps some of that should be taken away instead of adding to it?

SENATOR MARVEL: No sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are you a religious man?

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes sir, I think I am.