

it does not prevent a lawyer from doing this, Senator Johnson. It only says there is a process, that we have some guarantees, and you know and I don't have to repeat to you the number of horror stories that can be related in regards to this issue, the stories about baby selling, the stories about pressure of a young mother who may have changed her mind towards the latter days of the pregnancy or just before the pregnancy, so I don't understand the great opposition by attorneys to this provision since attorneys can still be part of the process. The only difference is now they will have to be regulated, that mothers, that parents, stepparents, spouses, brothers and sisters, half brothers are still in there so we really have not stricken parents as you alluded to before. Parents still may provide for private placement. I think that this bill...that this has to be better understood and I think that because of some of the provisions, some of the things that you said, Senator Johnson, that there is a misconception in this are. Can you answer those questions?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell, do you have a question to pose to Senator Johnson?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, I would like to ask him if the statements I just made are not true?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, Senator Johnson, do you yield?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, I do, Senator Marvel. Now the statements that you just made are not true. This is your bill, Senator Newell. I am reading your bill. You read it. I am reading Section 23, subsection (2). A parent may directly place his or her child for adoption or otherwise with a person or persons bearing one of the following relationships to such parent. Okay, the parent can put his child with his own parent. The parent can put his child with his stepparent. The parent can put his child with his spouse. The parent can put his child with his brother, his sister, his half brother or his half sister and I specifically said that when I discussed my amendment, Senator Newell, but it doesn't say the parent can put his child with his uncle, his aunt, his cousin, his friend, his relative or anybody else. That is the answer.

SENATOR NEWELL: All right, I would like to address that myself. The situation is, in fact, that there can be those... that there are those exceptions.

SENATOR JOHNSON: And I said as much.