

because the other day, when I was driving to Omaha, picking my tooth, and a piece of the toothpick broke out and it lodged in my throat. Now I would like to amend this bill to put a toothpick belt...require a toothpick to have a belt, which you must attach to your finger so that if the toothpick breaks and you'd have to attach it at several points along the toothpick, so wherever the toothpick broke you'd be sure that that part could be removed from your throat. You ought to look out for people like me. I'm not going to die because I'm not wearing a seat belt, Senator Morehead, I've driven hundreds of thousands of miles on this highway. My little Honda right now, which I got in 1978, has 235,000 miles on it and I've never worn the seat belt one time. But using a toothpick I had an accident, and you don't seem concerned about that, in fact you are laughing. You are laughing at me. We have to draw a line some place when we talk about forcing people to do what certain other people want them to do. Social experimentation, or social engineering may be advisable if we are in the area of say sex education for children in elementary schools.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Maybe there should be a requirement that such things be taught. But when it comes to how an adult or a person licensed to drive a car is going to be attired, it is ridiculous of government to intrude into that situation. They say that some people hit the windshield when they drive, so they ought to have to wear helmets in the car, they ought to have to wear iron shoes, they ought to have to wear iron armor on their legs, on their whole body. But even beyond that, the only reason for this is that the automobiles will have to be equipped with state of the art safety devices and some people don't want that. So here is my question, and somebody may have asked it already, but I wasn't here, Senator Morehead, if somebody is in a car equipped with air bags, are they required to wear their safety belts, under this bill?

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Yes, Senator Chambers, and that really doesn't harm anything because air bags do not work 100 percent of the time, unless they are additionally worn with lap belts. That is the very worst fallacy about feeling you are protected with air bags. They must also be combined with lap belts.