

hands and the purses and the pockets of the people who are truly hurting. But when we take on an annual basis a quarter of a million dollars, or whatever it is, and we give the Welfare Department the ability to make grants in aid to private organizations who can put on such things as the Babylonian Adventure, the Cat and Mouse Game, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, because we want to deal with that awful subject of child abuse, we don't commit ourselves to the top priority with our finite dollar and the top priority is to make certain that the neediest, and those are our children, that the neediest have our assistance. See, I think that that has been one of the real ailments, one of the real ailments of American society has been the willingness of middle class people to use dollars to kind of provide counseling and advice and assistance and so on to the poorest of the poor, and what the poorest of the poor need is some money. They need some money so that they can have a decent shelter, so that they can have good food, good nourishment, clean clothes, and a hopeful tomorrow, and our priorities are mixed up but we take an LB 333 and we say, well, we will put some money in to allow grants to local nonprofit organizations to have various and sundry programs designed to curb child abuse when at the same time we really shirk our responsibility for direct aid to the needy. Now I am not speaking out of anger. I am not speaking out of annoyance. I am speaking though what I think to be the truth and the truth is is that cold hard cash to the poor is far more significant in curbing child abuse and child neglect than grants in aid over a long period of time...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...to nonprofit organizations designed to provide various and sundry programs dealing with the hard issue of child abuse. I think that the Children's Trust Fund concept of 333 should be removed from this bill. I also tell you that in light you ought to also consider what is happening to our budget. You know that within the next two weeks we will be making budget cuts. Because of that, this is no time for us to put forward a program which essentially is not a hard dollar carefully targeted program.

PRESIDENT: I cut you short there because I didn't give you your full ten. If you need some more, go ahead.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, I will speak again probably but