

to ask you a question?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Well your time is up, but...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you mind me giving a vote in honor of your ten children?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Ernie, I don't make deals you know.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. (laughter.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, please.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I understand that Mrs. Schmit is now expecting the 11th, that's for Final Reading. This issue is not a Senator Hoagland issue, it's not a Senator Schmit issue, it's not a Senator Barrett issue or a Senator DeCamp issue. This issue has resorted or resulted it seemed to me in a fair amount of name calling along the way with newspapers referring to Senator Schmit and Senator DeCamp as making a lot of deals to get certain things done and then some remarks made on the floor about Senator Hoagland and so on and I don't think this issue should ever be seen really as an issue involving senator personalities. But I really do think in the end that the issue does involve a true question of sort of self-examination and lifestyle. When I was first elected to the Nebraska Legislature in 1978 a constituent of mine asked me if I would become involved in the bingo area because the bingo issues were of vital importance to some people in my legislative district. And again, I was totally unaware of the bingo issues. Bingo is not played in my church, but I took the time to meet the constituent's request by seeing how bingo is operated at Holy Name in Omaha and how bingo is operated at St. Bernard's at Omaha and how it was operated at the Benson American Legion Post and I began to immerse myself into the kind of the scruffiness of a gambling issue and what I learned along the way is an awful lot of good people gamble and enjoy it and have a good time and are not corrupted and do not find themselves on the road to sin and degradation, but that it's a pleasurable experience for them. And so I ended up saying in a kind of a waspish type of way, I said, wait a minute, far be it from me to judge the conduct of these individuals because these individuals are simply expending money in activities that are totally harmless to themselves. They