

that the psychological parent relationship is inhibited, it is threatened by excessive court regulation, and the Grandparents Visitation Rights Act in essence, in my mind, is such a threat. Secondly, visitation is one of those postdivorce relationships that parents have to put up with because the kid just can't be in two places at one time, and the child should go with the parent that is going to give the best possible homelife and situation to the child. But you know that noncustodial parent retains obligations, costs, child support. I'm wondering if the visitation rights, which are demanded by grandparents, would be accompanied by the same economic obligations that parents have when they lose the custody of their children. I'd like to ask Senator Lowell Johnson if he'd yield to a question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lowell Johnson, please.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Johnson, are you willing to have amended into this bill a provision that requires that the...that a grandparent who receives visitation rights will become economically obligated for the well-being of a child in just the same way as a noncustodial parent can, by court order, become economically obligated for the well-being of that child?

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: I do not think I would be.

SENATOR LANDIS: I didn't think so, and that is one of the reasons I think this bill is unfair. It grants visitation, but it doesn't drop the other shoe which is economic responsibility. You can't deny that what we are looking at here is a parent not a grandparent relationship.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: And a parent is unfortunately placed in the time, sometimes, of having to deal with visitation, but they always retain the obligation to be economically responsible for their children to the age of majority. That doesn't make a difference whether you are a father who doesn't have custody of a child, or a mother who doesn't have custody of a child. If the child has needs, the parent, by law, will have to be there. That is a heavy burden, and it is one that I think justifies the notion of visitation. But in