

relationship will be interfered with because the grandparent is an interloper. The grandparent is a hostile party. The grandparent is an alien to the family relationship, and is trying to use the coercive power of the state to inject himself or herself into a situation where he or she is not wanted by the parent who have, based on the law, the responsibility to rear the child or the children in question. There is nothing in this bill that says once a grandparent begins this intermeddling it must continue, that once the child, let's presume the best...the best can happen that imaginably can happen, that the interloper forces his or her way into the family unit, forces the granting of visitation rights. Maybe there is a judge who likes the grandparent and dislikes the parent. There have been a lot of bad judicial decisions and especially in the area of domestic relations. But in any case you have the visitation occurring. The grandfather takes the grandchild fishing. Little kid loves to fish. Grandpa sits the little kid on his lap while he sits on a stump, smokes his old corncob pipe, excuse me, Mr. Clerk, smokes his old corncob pipe and regales the youngster with all the kind of stories that we older people tell that are not true but the children, even if they know they are true, act like they believe us. The child really likes old grandpa. Then grandpa gets tired. Grandchild calls and wants to see grandpa, then grandpa says, I've reared my children, I don't feel up to it now. And all these people, who suddenly pretended so much concern for the child, lose it when, as Senator Landis pointed out, there are some obligations attached to it. The child is not a plaything. The child is not a toy. The child has feelings. The child has a spirit which is assaulted at every turn in this society, whether by television, people on the street who may want to abuse the child, yes, grandparents who have abused grandchildren, and we are going to inject into a volatile situation the coercive power of the state to compel parents to allow an interloper into this relationship. I think that is a terrible thing to do and it ought not be done. If what Senator Lynch talked about earlier this morning is an existing situation in a family, you don't need this law. Senator Lynch is talking about the extended family where grandparents live with their children. The grandchild learns to respect these older people because of the relationship of love and affection. Love is not built simply on a biological connection. There have to be mutually shared, enjoyed experiences at a minimum. If there is a person, who is hostile to this child's parents,