

Legislature, I am very sympathetic to Senator Warner's paradox and to Senator Warner's dilemma, and to the dilemma and paradox of the Appropriations Committee because that committee is put in the position by us of having to say no to worthy undertakings, good causes, and demonstrated need. By the same token it also says yes to worthy undertakings, good causes and demonstrated need. But it is very difficult for any committee, once it has collectively decided to say no, to then discover its fellows on the floor of the Legislature attempting to say yes. But in the end a budget document doesn't belong just to a committee or to a Legislature, but it really belongs to the people of the state. A budget document truly reflects the basic woof and the weave of the hopes and the aspirations of the people of a state because a budget document, in the end, should state, through the 49 representatives that prepare the same, what the people of the state think are the significant, important governmental issues. Thus a budget document will clearly address education. And a budget document will clearly address roads. And a budget document will address health, and it will address income transfer, and it will address agricultural issues such as the food processing center. A budget document tends to reflect the hopes and the aspirations of the people of a state. But when we look at our own budget document, and when we reflect on the small issue as to whether or not the State of Nebraska should put in as part of that vision and that dream a small amount of money for a women's commission, I think you and I would have to say, in all candor, and in all honesty, and in all fairness, that a commission in our state designed essentially to address those questions that seem to uniquely impinge upon the lives and the well-being of women are surely part of our own dream and vision of the future. I think, as my predecessors have said so well and so artfully, there are many issues in American society today and in Nebraska in particular that seem to uniquely impinge upon women, upon children, and upon families. And for this state not to have a presence in that arena would be for this state to cut away a responsible part of the dream and the vision that we all have. Now over the past years I, personally, have found great utility in the women's commission...in the Commission on the Status of Women. I have found that utility in dealing with a number of social issues that tend not to be well focused and easily addressed. But the commission has always been able to provide me useful information which I, in turn, have been able to provide this