

*Criminal Code*

relation of mine, had not been aborted she would not be dead. But, here again, I do not blame those who did it. The doctors acted according to their conscience.

• (4:00 p.m.)

But, all this means it is relative. I want to stop quoting these factual examples suggested by fatherly, motherly or brotherly love. It is only normal. But, let us stop all these comparisons because it would never end. We have cases where if nature had been left to take its course, it would have accomplished its work marvelously well. But nature was violated, was acted against, and death occurred.

I think that there is still the great doctor, as an old doctor in my area used to say. The great doctor is still good old nature.

Let us stop acting against nature in this parliament. Since this government came to power, the only pieces of legislation I have seen were against nature. Are we finally going to act like men and stop reversing the natural processes?

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that we must restrict ourselves to the matter being discussed, and deal with equations rather than with impressions. Let us discuss the problem of two lives or two healths, but let us not discuss one life and one probable health. It cannot be discussed.

We simply say that when the probable health of a person is involved, that such a term should not appear in the legislation on abortion, which is a murder, which is the murder of an innocent being or the murder of another person. But that we must choose between two lives, that is fine. The middle course between two lives? There is no middle course between life and probable health. And I want to draw the attention of the house and of the members to this point. It is more serious than the members of the other side might think, and even if they play politics, that is enough, because this is the crux of the matter. And I wish the people will pay them back in their own coin.

Mr. Speaker, without being a physician, a lawyer, one can be a head of family, human and logical; we can judge, of course. Are we going to be called idiots because we are neither physicians nor lawyers?

Mr. Speaker, as someone said in a letter I received yesterday, the world, with that type of professionals, will not often go very far.

Once again I urge all the members to study this amendment, to consider it seriously; this

[Mr. Gauthier.]

is no joke. We must consider the health of the mother, 100 per cent. We must protect her life 100 per cent, but it is different to say that we probably should also protect her probable health, that of the pregnant woman, when the word "health" cannot even be defined. I cannot see it. Does the word "health" apply to her social relations, her sports activities or social function? It has not been defined.

That is why I feel that certain groups of doctors, that I admit, will use this act with reservations; on the other hand, others may use it for financial purposes. We will have them, just as they can be found in every other country, the world being what it is.

In England, an attempt is being made to pass legislation designed to restrain abortions, because 20 years ago mistakes were made. We are plunging head first into the same errors which were made in the old countries and which they are now trying in every way to correct.

We need not go into the details of every other country but it seem to me it is often wise to study what went on in other countries in an attempt to avoid making the same errors and to do better than they did. History should serve that purpose, amongst others.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I ask sincerely and openly to those members who have a conscience, who are humane, who want above all the good of the Canadian people, to think of the life of the Canadian mother.

As the hon. member for Montmorency (Mr. Laflamme) said yesterday, we are going towards abortion on request. Canada will err in this as England did and other countries where they started with a small insignificant act. They are caught now and they are wondering how to get out that trap.

I think the best way to get out of it is not to get into it. I have full confidence in the medicine of sincere doctors. Doctors are like businessmen. In fact, they are businessmen. Some of them are honest, and some are crooked. The laws are not made for honest people. Laws must be made for crooks.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Gauthier:** I have always thought so.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, the doctors will think of the health of the mother, and seriously, but there might be 50 per cent of crooks among them, who will take advantage of the flexibility which is allowed.