

Private Members' Business

Fifty years ago some of today's *Playboy* magazines probably would have landed the publisher in jail. One hundred years ago they would have had their heads chopped off. We all know that in the criminal law we have gone from over 700 offences for which people would be killed by virtue of capital punishment. Canada has no offences on the civil side for which the state can impose capital punishment and we have just one in the military where capital punishment applies during active wars.

Our whole conception on a global basis is changing quite dramatically. Whenever Parliament draws a line, it is almost instantaneously out of touch with that infinite variety of relationships and attitudes that people display as we go from a rural society into an industrial society. Now we are moving into an even more complex type of society which people generally refer to as an information society. It is highly technological.

I think we should be careful. I very much appreciate the effort that my hon. friend has made. I am sure he will continue to push with this bill. I am sure he will put it on the list again and in one of the next sessions it will probably be drawn. Then members of Parliament will have to go through a very detailed process internally. We will have to listen to the witnesses who come to give their

perspective on the bill. We will have to consult with our riding associations and people in our riding. Then we will have to stand, be counted, and draw a line. That is the way the system works.

Madam Speaker, I see my time has expired and I thank you for the time.

Madam Deputy Speaker: The time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired.

[*Translation*]

Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), this item is dropped from the Order Paper.

At this point, I may remind hon. members that Mr. Nelson Mandela, Deputy President of the African National Congress, will address members of the House of Commons and the Senate, in the Commons Chamber, at eleven o'clock a.m. pursuant to order made Wednesday, June 13, 1990.

[*English*]

It being 3.00 p.m., the House stands adjourned until Monday next at 1.00 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 2.12 p.m.