

*Criminal Code*

Mr. Speaker, that is one of the favourite arguments of those who do not agree with us, who say we express the opinion of Catholic theologians and of members of the clergy and that our position therefore has no legal or medical value. We often come back to this argument as we would very much like it to be taken seriously.

When, everyday, at the opening of the sitting of the house, Your Honour says the prayers asking God to protect Her Majesty the Queen, her husband, Prince Charles, Princess Ann, I do not think this disgraces the house in any way. On the contrary, I think all hon. members are glad thus to state their Christian principles.

In the same way, when, by chance, the policy we are promoting agrees with the teachings of the Catholic church and of all the other Christian churches, there is no reason to feel upset. It simply proves that, from every aspect, we are right.

And I go on quoting Dr. Walsh:

Here I am talking on psychological grounds. In other words, it has been our experience that, whatever the patient's moral viewpoint, abortion is, in fact, psychologically harmful. Therefore, many psychiatrists who accept this viewpoint would be reluctant to recommend abortion.

Such is the conclusion reached by Dr. Walsh.

Mr. Speaker, in the light of this evidence, it is easy to understand how important it is for the doctors, the psychiatrists and all those who might be requested to perform therapeutic abortions, to be in possession of all the necessary information on the condition of the patient.

How could we not feel shocked when we think of the incredible number of hon. members who close their ears to such statements? Fortunately, there are still, on the opposition side, free people who are not afraid of calling upon the whole country to witness the war they are waging for the sake of principles which are so important and so essential to the honour of the country. Besides, if she becomes pregnant the very young girl, who sees everything through rose-coloured spectacles, and for when nothing is more beautiful than love, is not mature enough to feel the seriousness of the problem; she is still malleable and she often falls a prey to common prejudices. Should not parents or guardians lend a helping hand?

Mr. Speaker, all of us have met with situations of that kind. It is quite normal for parents to intervene when their children find

themselves in a predicament. Of course, we eliminate—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I regret to have to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

**Mr. Matte:** Mr. Speaker, I would like—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member asks the house to allow him to carry on with his remarks.

• (3:50 p.m.)

[*English*]

Does the house agree to allow the hon. member to pursue his remarks beyond the allotted time?

**Some hon. Members:** No.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Speaker:** There is no unanimous consent.

**Mr. Matte:** Mr. Speaker, I have nearly finished—

**Mr. Speaker:** Unfortunately, the house did not agree.

**Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac):** Mr. Speaker, I regret that we cannot get the unanimous consent of the house so that the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) may carry on with his very serious remarks.

I would like to express my views, as a father, on this fair amendment to the omnibus bill. This proposed amendment suggests a reform which I think is quite justifiable. The members of the Ralliement Cr ditiste closely examine the remarks of hon. members on this amendment moved by the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise) which is before us. We agree with this amendment to the effect that the words "a female person who, being pregnant" be replaced by the words "a female person who is married or of the full age of twenty-one years, or a female person who is under the full age of twenty-one years, with the written consent of her parents or guardian."

Mr. Speaker, this amendment is logical and I commend the hon. member for Abitibi for moving it, because it forces us to think seriously of the fact that this house sometimes passes legislation, making light of parental authority.

Mr. Speaker, whoever has children is in a position to consider this problem in its true perspective. I agree with the hon. member for