

Criminal Code

According to the findings of various associations—I have the figures here—86 per cent of all divorces are due, it would seem, to our diabolical system, which prevents people from having decent housing. That is where the State should intervene, not in the citizen's private life. It ought to allow all citizens to freely achieve their goals and to live comfortably in this country abounding in resources and capable of feeding half the world. However, 20 per cent of our people are left starving and living in slums.

Many wives refuse to bear children because they would not know where to accommodate them. Children would crowd their homes. Besides, some have to work to support themselves or their family, to pay their rent and their debts. In the circumstances, they do not assume the part they should play in the community.

Experience shows that 86 per cent of the abortions are directly caused by lack of money at home. Education is the responsibility of families and society but at a certain age the individual becomes responsible for his actions and each considered decision remains the responsibility of the society, the family and the individual himself.

Most of the time, Mr. Speaker, criminals are what they are because they were ill-treated when they were young by their parents, their companions or their teachers. An infamous bill seeking to allow such indecent acts is against human nature and God's commands.

I should like, Mr. Speaker, to read a letter I have received. I have been snowed under with letters from my constituents these past few days, but I shall limit myself to the one which struck me most, and I quote:

In the context of life in society, here are the words I would flatly tell my own daughter with an itching to get an abortion.

I would start by trying to make her change her mind, by all possible means, and especially by removing first the causes of her decision.

I would finance adequately the period of her pregnancy, at the rate of at least \$3 per day, or \$90 per month. I would offer her \$1,000 at the birth of her child and after that, I would give her a monthly allowance of \$90 for herself and \$30 for her child to the age of 10, of \$60 from 10 to 20, and of \$90 from 21 years of age until the end of his schooling, or until he got regular employment in the community of adults.

It is in that area, Mr. Speaker, that the State must intervene. With the value of our production having reached \$68 billion last year and with this year's production reaching \$72 billion, while consumption will stand at

only \$40 billion with a surplus of from \$28 to \$30 billion in warehouses, on the shelves, it should be easy to offer something to our children, to Canadians generally.

The letter goes on and I quote:

If, after receiving all my moral support, my human and fatherly encouragement and for reasons known only to herself, she insists on having an abortion, I shall assist her to the best of my ability in obtaining for her the most modern and experienced methods used by our best obstetricians.

Mr. Speaker, such is the attitude of one father regarding his daughter if she happened to get in trouble some day. According to the letters I have received, this seems to be the general consensus. Most of my constituents use the same arguments when they ask me to speak up and voice their opinions about this infamous bill which at no time should have been submitted to this parliament.

And I quote again:

In the case in point, I feel this would be my duty as a humane father, and I would be confident of acting under Divine guidance and according to my enlightened conscience.

Mr. Speaker, this sums up the reasoning of a head of family.

Therefore, all abortions taking place in Canada are due to our damnable society—

Again, this is the same person speaking:

—which is guilty of failing to educate the people decently, of denying them their right to life, freedom and the enjoyment of their property. This damnable society is Canada. The government of Canada is responsible for depriving most citizens of their personal property as guaranteed by the Creator.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a member of parliament since 1962 and I have always advocated a better distribution of personal and family income. Since 1962, the Liberal and Conservative governments turn a deaf ear whenever they were asked to raise family allowances.

I see nothing but increases in capital gains and in the interests on the millions of bonds of the federal government. One can see the increase in taxes and contributions that reduce the income of small wage earners who cannot afford to rent decent houses for their children yet to be born.

I have always made my representations politely, but I am about to make them in a firmer and somewhat angry tone and I will protest more strongly, for society ought to do what is necessary at least.

Family allowances should be raised. If they were, and should the government