

If you are in the group who just cannot accept the idea of hanging, of being put to death for a murder, then as part of your experience in life I think you should visit with a family of a victim who has been kidnapped and murdered, or raped and murdered. It is a strange thing that in our society we seem to be very conscious of the person accused of such a crime. There are those who would have you believe that there is not adequate opportunity for the accused to prove his innocence. Some shrink away from the idea of hanging. Others will take the over-simplistic view that we are indeed barbarians if we would hang a person judged guilty of murder.

● (2050)

I have yet to hear one of those who stand for abolition discuss the family of the victim of the crime, those who are left behind to try to make a new life from one shattered by such an emotional experience.

My riding is one of the fastest growing in Canada. It is a riding of great mobility and we have had some murders in the past few years. I have personal friends whose daughter was murdered. I know the anguish they suffered, I know the months of rehabilitation, and I know the empty feeling they have when they look at you and say "Why, why was it our daughter"? They suffered invasion of their privacy by the press, some of them looking for cheap sensationalism that they might use for a headline.

When the guilty person was brought to trial and found guilty on a lesser charge in front of the courts, he was sentenced to the lesser crime and given ten years. After the sentence the police in their systematic way put together the facts and they found that this murder was similar to three others that had been committed in Montreal. They confronted this man with them and he confessed to them. He was brought to court again and was given ten years for each of the murders. He committed four and he was given ten years to run concurrently. Ten years for four murders. I find that hard to take.

I spoke earlier today on a notice of motion and the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman) in his usual style took many of my words out of context in the same style as people who oppose capital punishment for kidnapping and murder and rape and murder will take out of context the sentence meted out to the man who murdered four times. They will say, after this man has served four, five or seven years or whatever the Parole Board gives, that he has paid his debt to society and should go free. All the rehabilitation groups will say he can soon be made useful in society again.

What about the victim's parents? I do not see any rush of people trying to get them into the mainstream of life again. I have heard of no groups trying to rehabilitate the survivors of a murder victim. I have heard the sanctimonious statements of abolitionists, but not one word has been uttered on behalf of the survivors of a murder victim.

I know of a policeman killed in the line of duty, or murdered in the line of duty, whichever way you put it. He left a wife and family. I have heard some abolitionists say his family will be looked after by the police benevolent society. That is a pretty tough case for a kid who wants his father.

Capital Punishment

We know of cases where the taxpayer has paid for weekend accommodation with all the trimmings for hardened criminals when some rehabilitation officer felt the prisoner needed a change of scene. It is no consolation to the survivors of the murder victim to know a person accused of the murder of their wife or daughter or son is enjoying rehabilitation.

A kidnapping itself is a heinous crime, although kidnapping and murder is worse. But rape that ends in murder is probably the worst crime of all. I do not know of any crime that angers men more than rape that ends with murder. Rape in itself is bad enough, but rape and murder is committed by people who are little more than animals. I can find no room in my heart for them. I can find no compassion for them.

If they commit the crime and are found guilty after all the numerous avenues of appeal available to them, they find no sympathy in me. I myself have seen victims of rape and murder, and I say to an abolitionist I would like him to look in the face of a person dead of rape and murder and tell me if he really has any compassion for the person who committed the crime.

Pick up your weekend paper and read a story that was in my paper last week of a little girl enticed into a car by a man and never seen again. It takes little imagination to realize what happened. The parents and family of that victim suffered beyond belief. I have a constituent who recently lost her young child due to an act of murder. I have talked to her many times and cannot find words to console her. Can someone find the words to bring her back into social contact? She has no chance of living a normal life again.

Which of you abolitionists has the courage to face the people left behind? They are victims equally with the person murdered. They never come back. There is a sadness to them that you cannot imagine, an empty feeling that you no doubt will never experience unless, God forbid, you lose one of your own.

The crimes of kidnapping and murder and rape and murder are beyond the imagination of the average man. Anyone who kidnaps and murders, plans it. He planned one or the other act. Anyone who rapes and murders in my mind is little more than an animal, and I have no compassion for him at all, I cannot condone either act, Mr. Speaker, and therefore I support the amendment put forth by the hon. member for Louis-Hébert (Mrs. Morin).

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I spoke at some length at second reading so I do not want to spend much time at this stage and I will make some remarks on third reading. But I do want to deal with the amendment put forward by the hon. member for Louis-Hébert (Mrs. Morin). The hon. member has expressed great concern for those who have been raped and murdered or kidnapped and murdered, and I am in full accord with her in expressing that concern.

I think, quite contrary to the views just expressed by the hon. member for Halton-Wentworth (Mr. Kempling), that we do have great concern for the victims of murder and their families. I have said it time and time again. I do not know where he has been but if he cares to read the speech that I gave on second reading as well as those of