

*Criminal Code*

I wish to emphasize the fact that women deserve the highest respect and are of an extreme importance. In our modern world, men advocate the idea that women are beautiful and costly toys and that if one has money, one can look after them. But we forget that most of them give the best they have. We do not expect women to play a decisive role in modern history. Women are not only endowed with intelligence but most of all, with a kindness of heart that enables them to cure the hatreds of the modern selfish world.

Somebody has to undertake the task of building a just society, otherwise man will destroy himself on account of the problems he will have created. This is not a dream. It could be something real tomorrow. Abortion will not, as by magic, make men better and generous. If man really wishes to place himself above animals, to control his lower instincts and develop his highest ideals, the state must enact laws to enable him to place himself above animals.

Mr. Speaker, bills such as the one we are now discussing are unable to insure any real amount of protection to human beings, especially where women are concerned.

It is up to the state to promote morality so as to maintain, as far as possible, a well-balanced human personality. Such is the duty of the state.

According to the theory of evolution, which every new discovery of science seems to confirm, man, with all his greatness and his drawbacks is yet a far-from-perfect creature. This means man can improve. It also means, however, that the changes towards perfection have to follow the very, very slow rhythm of evolution, the rhythm of every living being. Man is probably unable to speed up the process. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, let us not be deceived by the hope that a moral law would make men better, less selfish, less hostile, more human, more brotherly. The state would be unwelcome to release our lower instincts; this would only result in allowing a great number of individuals to indulge in turpitude thus increasing corruption and destroying society.

The duty of the state is, by setting reasonable standards, to help man realize himself and to give him every moral, social, intellectual, practical and economical support in its power.

Every man should be given the means to find the key to his inner truth, to fulfil his

[Mr. Latulippe.]

destiny. Thus, instead of deteriorating, he would probably improve.

Deep down, man wants to be considered as a man. This claim is nothing else but his will to be, and to be himself. He wants to build up his own world, according to his own truth, to the way he feels life and happiness on earth should be. And this is a feeling one should respect.

That kingdom is sacred, that kingdom is man itself. To build up that man, right from the beginning all the energies latent in the world have concurred. That man in front of you is like nobody else. Indeed, he thinks, he loves, he hates in his own way; he believes and he hopes; he shakes and quivers. He is the sole master of this inner recess, burning and radiant, in all his nobility and dignity. Whoever penetrates into it, man, state, law, authority, commits a major, an unatoneable crime against man. All life must be exalted, protected, saved when it is in peril. There is no life, no matter how debased, no matter how low it has fallen, that does not hold within itself the resources of its own revival.

Life is not a state, it is a movement, it is action, it is a confrontation. Life is a continuous creation. It is in that creation that man seeks himself, finds himself and fulfils himself.

● (3:10 p.m.)

Mr. Speaker, if there are 3.4 billion people on earth, there are 3.4 billion different concepts of life and happiness. No power on earth can know a man, except that man himself. It would be ill-advised of the state to intervene in one's privacy and conception of life, before having fulfilled its proper role towards society. It falls to the state to ensure the national balance which will enable every individual to live without fear, without hardships, in a country overflowing with wealth, and guarantee him and his family three meals a day, a decent shelter which he can hope to own someday.

Mr. Speaker, I could say more on man's conception and his moral greatness, but I shall go on to another topic. Instead of trying to impose laws which are not its concern, laws which are not fitting and which encroach upon the rights of the individual, the state should assume its responsibilities. I therefore urge the state to fulfil its duty, and mind its own affairs.

Mr. Speaker, if we want to eliminate abortions, then let us take the necessary steps.