

should not impose its will in these kinds of arrangements at the local level and, in fact, that's why I oppose this, strongly opposed it to begin with and will continue to strongly oppose it and the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, if the only kind of incident that I was concerned about when I talk about racism is the kind that Senator Lynch mentions then I wouldn't accuse the police of racism, but the PERF report, Senator Lynch, established the existence of racism. They talked about the racial slurs that the officers spoke in their presence, knowing that they were under observation. I mentioned to you the racist remarks made by the police officer on the radio to a black 911 operator so if you cannot see the difference between the examples I've given and what you gave then I think it's impossible for us to discuss that aspect of the issue. But, regardless of what the senators say and do on this floor trying to carry out the desires of the Omaha Police Union, the fact remains the same that experience does mean something. Nobody on this floor would say that because one of these rookies had gone through police training school that immediately upon graduation he or she should have the same opportunity to apply to be a captain as somebody who had the experience, or a sergeant, or even a corporal. They know the significance of experience and I presume Senator Lynch was in the military also and when you first come into the military you don't have the chance to be a sergeant. You're a recruit. And when you are on the firing range, they have people who know how to deal with weapons be...you're what they call a coach and show you how to use the weaponry, the positions to get into and which target to shoot at. In Omaha and other large cities that have police departments, they have in Omaha, it's called specifically, the Field Training Officer Program where you pair an experienced officer with an inexperienced officer. If you listen to what people on this floor are saying, they know nothing, not only about police work but about any kind of job where you learn more about the job as a result of being on it. In Senator Lynch's profession, plumbing, I think they have what they call apprentices and then they, in barbering, you're an apprentice barber. Then, after you've been there a certain amount of time, you become a master barber. What do these terms mean? Why do they have them? Only when it comes to public safety as it pertains to the black community does any...does