

them out and shoot them. Although, in England, when they tried hanging people for several hundred violations, including a child breaking a window in a shop, or somebody digging up turnips, or somebody killing a roe buck, England executed more people than any country in history, but crimes did not diminish. As a matter of fact, when England was hanging people...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for counterfeiting bank notes, have I had ten minutes already?

SENATOR HALL: Apologize, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, I understand.

SENATOR HALL: You have six minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. When...when they were executing people for counterfeiting bank notes the merchants and bankers went to Parliament and said, stop doing this, you're not helping us. What you have done is to create such a harsh punishment that rather than find people guilty, knowing they're going to receive a punishment out of all proportions to the offense, juries simply are not convicting. So by you imposing a death penalty on this crime, you have made it impossible to punish the crime. Nobody is convicted of counterfeiting bank notes, and the counterfeiting sword and the ones who counterfeited did it with impunity. The same thing with merchants whose goods were stolen. So the very categories of people whose interests were supposed to be served by very harsh punishments were the ones who had to ask Parliament to mitigate those punishments because they had an opposite effect. If more people would take the time to study history, just study the figures, the facts, the statistics of what already has happened when very harsh punishments were imposed, take away sociology, take away compassion, take away bleeding hearts and just see what was the impact when harsh punishments were annexed to certain offenses. Those offenses did not cease to be committed. There was no impact of the kind that the hangers and floggers wanted to achieve. What we are trying to do with this bill is to put policies in place according to which plans can be laid, long-range plans designed to get at the root of causes of crime, and to salvage as many people who come into the criminal justice system as we possibly can. That is a worthy and noble goal, in