

around the world. We need not resort to force but should rather look to the rule of law in achieving dignity and justice and equality of all men. We believe that in this recommended language of the minority report we can again give that leadership to this State and this nation in these perilous times.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions of the minority spokesman?

Delegate Boileau?

DELEGATE BOILEAU: When the minority went over the wording of this amendment, was there a reason why the word "religion" was chosen rather than the more inclusive and broader term "creed"?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: No, I think that "religion" is the word used in the draft. If I am not mistaken, there was no decision to substitute the word "religion" for "creed" because it, in fact, does mean the same.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Boileau.

DELEGATE BOILEAU: I do not think it means the same, but rather than enter into a debate, I will hold off until later.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further questions of the minority spokesman?

Delegate Beachley.

DELEGATE BEACHLEY: Delegate Mitchell, at the seminar of Goucher College, a question was asked concerning this particular paragraph of Judge George L. Russell, Jr. of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore as to why in the draft proposal there had the word "sex" was not used. He said "sex", of course, was eliminated because the paragraph began "No person". Now, did you have the same reason for eliminating that word, or did you have a different reason?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: Well, Delegate Beachley, as you remember in our Committee deliberations, there were several proposals to include sex. As far as I am concerned, I am opposed to all kinds of discrimination and some of the new state constitutions do include the word sex. But there were only three women in our Committee and these women were not all agreed on it, and we did not find enough agreement among the men to get a minority. I would suggest that I believe discrimination against women is a problem. Although we

are the majority in this State, I think if you will look around us, you will see that we are a minority here.

I believe the minority report shows that Hawaii has that protection. Alaska has a non-discrimination clause in its new Constitution but does not include "sex". Michigan, Connecticut, and New Jersey do not include it. But for those who would like to test the will of the Convention, I would suggest an amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions?

Delegate White?

DELEGATE WHITE: Delegate Mitchell, would you agree to have the word "sex" included without going to a formal amendment, or do you feel that you could do that?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: I do not want to lose the anti-discrimination clause if there is disagreement among the majority of the Convention about sex. (*Laughter.*)

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Delegate Mitchell, I concur with the proposition contained in your amendment. I am having some difficulty in my own mind though, deciding whether or not it should be in the Constitution because of interpretation.

Would you be kind enough to tell me, specifically, just what it proposes to do?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: I think by its inclusion and its language sets the position and the commitment of this State to the abolition of discrimination because of race, religion, or national origin. This is very important. I think in every Constitution the symbols of commitment by the State certainly in the area of human rights must be clear. That is the purpose of a bill of rights.

We were given the volume on salient issues of constitutional reform to read when we were at our session at Goucher College. In it is an article on civil liberties. The author points out that it is important in the area of civil liberties that we reassess the problems at the time the constitution is written in the area of human rights and put in there the concepts which are needed to reinforce the protection of the rights of the citizens in this area. That is why I think it is important.

And I want to say again, this amendment is very important from a standpoint