

rape cases. We have said that if a young woman is below the age of 16 and if a man above the age of 19 has intercourse with her, then that man is guilty of statutory rape, and we have said that because we have concluded that 15 year olds, 14 year olds, 13 year olds, and 12 year olds and right on down, do not have the maturity, do not have the ability to judge the quality of their act and therefore when they are abused by an older male, then that man should be convicted of statutory rape. And it would seem to me that the age of 15 is an appropriate demarcation point for assuring... for assuring that that young person who has presented herself to a doctor must have...must have informed his or her...I am sorry, informed her parents of proposed abortion, and that is what my amendment would do. It just says very simply it applies to minors less than the age of 16. I want to talk one more time about the effect of unconstitutional legislation. Unconstitutional legislation costs this state bundles of money. This state right now has a judgment against it for \$70,000 for the attorneys' fees and court costs in conjunction with a challenge to LB 316. That's \$70,000 that we have to pay for having proposed, having moved through this body, having had the Governor sign and having had the Attorney General pass on, an unconstitutional piece of legislation. How much longer, how many more dollars do we want to continue to cost the State of Nebraska in advancing an unconstitutional bill? I happen to agree incidentally with a parental consultation requirement because I do believe very firmly in a family with a minor in it coming to grips with a decision about an abortion, and I intend to support a constitutional parental consultation amendment or statute. I did that in LB 316. I made somewhat similar arguments, as Senator Labeledz will recall, on LB 316 about the age...about the age, because I said you have got to be able to sift out the mature minor from the immature minor, and if you can't do that, you have an unconstitutional bill, and sure enough, the parental consultation section we have got on LB 316 is unconstitutional. Now I think...now I think very simply that this amendment will at least allow the Senator Labeledz amendment to be a constitutional amendment with respect to the parental consultation requirement.

SENATOR NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I want to make one more comment. As you know, I am a legal aid lawyer and I have been such for many years, but a number of years ago I saw a 16 year old girl who was in her ninth month of pregnancy