

of legislation, the court also found that the experience of going to court for judicial authorization subjected the minors to a great deal of stress and that some considered the court proceedings more difficult than the abortion itself. The court found that the two-parent notice requirement affected many minors living in single-parent homes who had notified the custodial parent and minors living in two-parent homes who voluntarily consulted with one parent. These minors either had to notify the second parent or go through the court bypass proceeding. The court found that either option was emotionally traumatic and interfered with the communication voluntarily initiated by the minor. The court noted that these instances were not uncommon and were supported by the fact that approximately 20 to 25 percent of minors who went to court were accompanied by or indicated that they had consulted with only one parent. Many of the judges who heard bypass petitions testified that they felt the procedure was traumatic for the minors and did little good. Dr. Hodgson, one of the plaintiffs testified that there was no benefit whatsoever to the law and the law had created nothing but problems, and the circuit court goes on and on and on and Judge Lay in his dissenting opinion emphasizes the problems. He states in his dissent, there is more than a little irony in the majority's assumption that the state promotes family integrity by forcing minor children to locate and inform noncustodial parents of their decision. Approximately 42 percent of all minors in Minnesota do not live with both biological parents. He goes on to say, far from promoting the integrity and independence of the family unit, the state is interfering in familial communications in a way that would be unimaginable in any other context. To justify this interference based on the purported rights of noncustodial parents is spacious. And then he goes on to say what I've said over and over and that is that the City of Akron case invalidates a 24-hour notice provision, invalidates a 24-hour notice provision and finds it to be unconstitutional. And I'm not going to sit here and speculate on what the United States Supreme Court is going to do with this case, but I would suggest to you that if you read the case and if you read the other decisions, it seems...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...highly unbelievable to me that the Supreme Court is going to uphold it under current law. We had an excellent opportunity to improve this bill by putting