

daughter wants to keep the baby, while the parents, out of concern for the girl's future, pressure...for the future, pressure her to have an abortion? Some parents beat or disown daughters who get pregnant. The Wall Street Journal quoted opponents of a notification law, saying that one man killed his daughter when he learned that she was pregnant with his child. As Justice O'Connor's questioning suggested, rigid rules drafted in state capitols, under pressure from groups who oppose abortion under any circumstances, simply don't allow for the many different situations that exist in families. Of course, parents should be ready to help a teenage son or daughter through a crisis. But families, where a loving, open relationship exists, don't need a law to make daughters seek the advice of their mothers and fathers. As for families where no such relationship exists, forced communication does not necessarily make things better for anyone. When we have a bill of the kind that is before us today where no exception is allowed for an 18-year-old or younger female who is not staying at home to have to go back to that situation from which she may have been expelled by her parents to seek their consent to have an abortion, and there are judges who are opposed to abortion also, and some have ruled and some of their hardhearted comments have been carried in nationally syndicated columns and in news columns carried by the wire services where, under no circumstances, would they consent to a young woman having an abortion because they don't believe it's right. So she can't go back to this home from whence she was expelled by parents who don't want her or a parent who does not want her, she goes to a judge and the judge is not willing to allow an abortion under any circumstances, so then she attempts an abortion on herself or finds somebody willing to do it. That, I think, is an unconscionable set of circumstances. Any law that would force a young woman into that set of circumstances is patently unjust. Hammurabi, who is known for the harshness of his code, did not have a provision such as that. If anything, there would probably be something in there to punish parents who do such terrible things to their children. But I still would expect Senator Labeledz to respond to my earlier remarks that she would be willing to send a young girl who is pregnant back into the kind of situation that we heard about described to us while considering various things through the Franklin Committee. It is difficult for me not to sympathize with young people, older people too, but we're talking about younger people, who are faced with a situation which is very traumatic, pressure packed and seems to offer no way out other than perhaps suicide. And