

these laws, and that some groups recommend that young women wait it out and not tell their parents that they are pregnant until it is too late to get an abortion. It goes on to say that most young girls don't want an abortion but parental fear weakens them. Also, if they tell their parents early in the pregnancy, there is a good chance the parents will push for abortion. Therefore, it cannot be helpful to encourage that young woman to continue her normal daily life, school works, family life, and so forth, and delay telling her parents until she is ready. She's pregnant, not ill. This gives her time to grow accustomed to the idea of being pregnant and that of telling her parents. Also, most importantly, if she is quite far along in her pregnancy, her parents will be more likely to admit that it is a baby and not push for an abortion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: So I think this works both ways when we talk about parental notification. Sorry I drug on so long and didn't get to the end of my thoughts. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, I will yield the...my time to Senator Schimek and if she has time remaining, I will take the rest of it, otherwise I will punch my light on again.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. To get a pregnant teen away from her home to have her baby, one antiabortion center went so far as to give the teenager a letter to show her family, saying that she was selected to spend the spring semester of her high school freshman year on an overseas study program and pro-life activists urged the restriction of abortion through legislation like parental consent laws until they can stop the killing of unborn children altogether. The fact that states, themselves, are increasingly giving statutory recognition to minors' capacity to give informed consent to their own health care is further evidence that the real purpose of these laws is to stop abortion. They are not, as the proponents contend, meant to protect against improvident decision making by minors or to preserve the integrity of their family. And I go back to my own personal experience which involved a young woman who was a college mate of mine a number