

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the law was tightened to ban all abortions except if a woman's life was endangered. By this time, all contraceptives had been banned. Women were receiving gynecological checkups in their workplaces. Once a woman was found to be pregnant, "demographic command bodies" were called in to monitor her. Any miscarriages were investigated and alleged abortions were punished by prison terms for both the woman and the physician. Doctors at the Municipal Hospital say several of their colleagues served time. "The police were everywhere," said Dr. Alexander Anka, A-n-k-a. "Whenever we made a diagnosis, they would come and interrogate us. If we did an abortion for a woman we said was in danger of dying, they would be all over us."

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: For what?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body, I would like to address my comments to the 23 percent of the young women who will be most at risk if this kind of legislation is passed. There are about 400,000 unwed teenage girls seeking abortions and of those about 92,000, 23 percent, simply cannot inform their parents for fear of their own physical or psychic safety. I would like to com...or bring some comments to you from a letter that I received in the mail about what the experience of some of the judges who have heard some of these cases have said. The experience of Chief Justice Robert Stedman of the Massachusetts Supreme Court suggests that the plight of the 23 percent is real and present. After having approved 70 abortions over an eight-year period, he made the following observation. He says they, the girls, will give you an answer and the answer will often be, if I even discuss this with my parents, they will throw me out of the house. They would have nothing to do with me. They would never talk to me again. My father would kill me, things of that nature, almost as though they were fearful of discussing it with their parents. Another judge lends perspective to that of a justice from