

of their personal and family life to strangers. Finally, minors are left feeling guilty and ashamed about their lifestyle and the decision to terminate their pregnancy. Some minors are so upset by the bypass proceeding that they consider it more difficult than the medical procedure itself. Indeed, the anxiety resulting from the bypass proceeding may linger until the time of the medical procedure and thus render the latter more difficult than necessary. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Landis. Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, back to the religious question, from the...again from the Parkridge Report from Chicago. They asked the question, is abortion exclusively a religious issue? Their comment is no, the justification or prohibition of abortion does not depend only on religious convictions. In addition to being a religious issue, abortion is also a moral issue, that is a matter of right or wrong behavior from a human perspective. Even if one were not to accept the religious arguments, one would still have to address the moral issues and arguments. Abortion, of course, is also a legal issue and many would claim a public health issue. But if people have really dug in religiously, why talk at all? Why not just vote and live with the consequences? Some days it's, like today, it's very tempting to think that way. On many levels, the abortion issue will be settled politically, whether out of conviction or in response to polls or on the basis of which constituency can most help or hurt a political figure. Most legislators, however, have their own religious views on the issue and even if they have no choice but to vote yes or no on a specific policy, they know how little that vote satisfies. And that's something I face with a lot of my constituents. But it is unwise and unfair to leave concerned citizens unheard or to distort what they say in good conscience. Even if what one then does is not pleasing to all, it cannot be...it simply cannot be pleasing to all because that's the way politics works. And I have a lot of good conscious people in my district concerned about my position on this issue and a lot of them are getting very active. And it would be simpler for me to simply just let it come to the vote. But, as I said earlier, some things that have happened today that just won't allow me to do it. The Parkridge Center goes on to ask the question, has religion anything to say that can be said nonreligiously? Very few people will tell you to vote this way or that because they have had a private revelation from God or are on intimate terms with