

74 of them are married, you are going to come across that eventually in your family, and, fortunately, the parents were involved and they had the comfort to know that their parents not only knew what their decision was, but they knew what was going on, and gave the information to their children. In some cases, the parents were shocked and, like I say, embarrassed, but it is happening in every family, especially when you have a large family like myself. While virtually all teens are afraid to tell their parents about difficult situations or problems, it does not mean that the majority of parents are abusive and would respond violently to such revelations. I think that was brought up so many times during LB 769, abusive parents, and if I can recall the debates in '89 and '90, it would seem that many of you on the floor have put it into your mind that the majority of the parents in this state are abusive parents. On the contrary, even though many parents are disappointed and angry initially, most parents love their children and only want what is best for them. There are provisions in LB 425 that addresses those cases in which the pregnant girl may be in danger and would not like to inform their parents of their decision to have an abortion. Notification will not be required if, number one, the abortion is necessary to prevent the woman's death, and there is not enough time to provide the required notification. Number two, the abortion is authorized in writing by the person who is entitled to be notified, and, number three, the pregnant woman declares that she is the victim of sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse. LB 425, as did LB 769, also contains the judicial bypass which has provisions for a pregnant minor who elects not to notify one of her parents. Under this procedure, the court may allow the abortion without parental notice if it concludes that the minor is sufficiently mature to make the decision or that it is in her best interest not to notify a parent. For the first five years that the Minnesota law was in effect, the abortion rate among teenagers in that state dropped by over one-third, and I think that is very important, and I hope you are all listening, while the live birth rate increased by 38 percent. The total teenage pregnancy rate dropped by almost one-third. The fact that there was an overall reduction in teen pregnancy and birth, not just teen abortion, is a very impressive statistic. Nebraska currently makes no provisions for parental knowledge, reflection time, or discussion or consent regarding their child's abortion decisions. Without the advice and counsel of their parents, without the proper medical history, and that is so important, medical history. I think I passed out something this morning. I hope you read that. When