

the cases parents were told by their offspring that the young woman was pregnant. No one tells the story that this is the norm for parents, that dysfunctional families are the norm. They aren't. And it is also not the norm that parents are not told. The norm is that parents are told. We don't need a law to see to it that the majority of parents in this state understand and are told about the pregnancies of the daughters of the household. In the case of all of the affected women, it is about 55 percent. In the case of younger women, it gets up to 75 percent. Senator Horgan said how can government say I have no right to know what is happening in my children's life? That is not what the opposition says. The opposition doesn't say that. What the opposition says, generally, is that to create a law that forces the parents to know, whether they are parents who would otherwise be told, or parents who would otherwise be kept in the dark by a fearful daughter is going much beyond the proposition that Senator Horgan advances. Senator Crosby says this same argument in a different way. She says, she accuses the opponents to want to leave the daughters alone, that we want them to be alone, she asks rhetorically. We don't, and that is not an accurate characterization of the opponents whatsoever. And we are not afraid of parents as a general rule being involved. There are, however, in the case of Minnesota, clearly about 25 percent of the young women who do not want to tell their parents, who have, and by any rational account, good reasons not to tell their parents; dysfunctional families, abusive parents, the presence of incest, the presence of alcohol, all kinds of rationales that in those circumstances were compelling reasons for daughters not to tell their parents. I found an interesting point was made by Senator Chambers and Senator Schimek. Why isn't this bill, notification of the existence of pregnancy, if, in fact, we don't want daughters to be alone, shouldn't we notify of pregnancy? The need for assistance, the need for help would be there, wouldn't it? The need for counseling, the need for parental involvement would be there, would it not? Assistance, counseling, money, prenatal care, all of those things would be present as well, but that is not what the bill says. It is not really what the bill is about. The bill really doesn't aim...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...at counseling daughters. It is really not the goal of the bill. The real goal of the bill is to reduce the number of pregnancies, and that is what the bill is really