

addition, the four commonplace complications which can occur in the case of abortion are reviewed. Those are infection, hemorrhage, perforation and the incomplete abortion. Patients are encouraged to ask questions so that they will have all of the information that they wish in which to value and judge the risk of the procedure and what they will be undergoing. The final topic of this session is an eye towards the future. It is birth control techniques. The group counseling session closes with a discussion of prevalent forms of contraceptions which are available and an attempt to get each patient to commit to the use of birth control in the future so that there will not be a reoccurrence of an unwanted pregnancy. Once the information has been discussed and the questions are answered, the counselor asks each patient to read the informed consent portion of her chart, to read it, and then and only then signing it. The patients then prepare for the operation, for the procedure by returning to the waiting room and making the appropriate change in garb. Once the patient is in the procedure room, the physician asks medical history questions again, ensures that the patient understands all of the counseling,...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...explains the procedure and complications and asks if she has considered all other options for her pregnancy. Following the operation, following the procedure, each patient receives verbal postoperative instructions and in the event they have indicated that oral contraceptives are a contraceptive of choice, they are given several months of oral contraceptives as birth control so that the process can be begun so that there is no recurrence. This is not a hostile atmosphere. It is one of professionalism, of serious, intensive counseling. It is one in which options to abortion are raised and considered, one in which the woman's intentions are measured by professional counselors.

SENATOR WARNER: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: In that sense, this is not a hostile environment needing a special level of regulation over and above everything else that's required in the medical field.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I