

TALKING POINTS FOR PROP 4 - SARAH'S LAW

Current Law in California:

- CA law allows doctors to perform chemical and surgical abortions on girls of any age without a parent even being *notified*.
- Parents are required to be involved in all major decisions, including medical ones, of their minor child – except for abortion.
- In fact, children under 18 years can't get an aspirin from the school nurse, can't get a body piercing, can't go to a tanning salon, without parental *consent*.
- Minor children cannot go on a school field trip without parental permission, yet a stranger can take a girl from school for an abortion without a parent knowing.

Protecting the Health and Safety of Minor Girls:

- Thirty-five other states with notification laws prove pregnant teens do not seek so-called “back-alley abortions” or head to Mexico. When given the opportunity in court, *opposing groups could not identify a single case of danger or harm to minor girls*.
- A reflection period gives families an opportunity to help young girls understand their options. Parents can also provide the medical history of their daughter.
- Pregnant minors deserve to have the support of loved ones rather than strangers with a financially driven agenda at a facility that stands to profit from abortion.
- An informed parent can get prompt aftercare for hemorrhage, infection, and other possibly fatal complications that may result from the abortion. Doctors who treated Sarah in the hospital after her abortion reported that, had she received prompt medical care, she would still be alive today.
- Families are left to cope with the physical, emotional, and psychological aftermath of the abortion – even if they didn't know the abortion took place.
- Studies show notification laws result in a decline in teen pregnancies and STD's.

The Sexual Predator Connection:

- Well over 50% of pregnant California teens were impregnated by adult males.
- These men are sexual predators, who encourage or coerce young girls to have secret abortions, aided by abortion providers in their cover up evidence of statutory rape and sexual predation.
- Proponents have been unable to find evidence of any abortion provider in California in the past fifteen years having reported suspected sexual abuse of a minor resulting in prosecution of the perpetrator.
- Because families don't know, crimes go unreported, and sexual predators roam free.

The Bottom Line:

- Prop 4/Sarah's Law is common sense, mainstream, and non-partisan.
- The majority of California voters have indicated they want family notification.

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SARAH IS NOT THE ONLY GIRL WHO NEEDS PROP 4

- *Sarah was only 15 when she had a secret abortion. Within days a high fever set in. No one knew why or how seriously ill she was. By the time she was hospitalized and doctors determined she had a deadly infection from a torn cervix, it was too late. Sarah died. Had someone in her family known about the abortion, Sarah's life could have been saved.*
- *Planned Parenthood performed an abortion on a 14-year-old and then, at the request of the male predator who brought her in, gave her a shot of Depo-Provera so he could have sex with her again right away.*
- *Planned Parenthood failed to report the sexual abuse of a 13-year-old brought for an abortion by the 23-year-old who raped her. After the secret abortion, the same man impregnated her again, and she had a second abortion.*
- *A 12-year-old girl was given alcohol by an adult male who then raped her while she was unconscious. Weeks later, in order to protect her son, the perpetrator's mother took the girl to an abortion clinic and then dropped her off 30 miles from home. The police, notified by the girl's frantic mother that she was missing, finally located her. She was suffering severe post-abortion complications that could have led to her death had she not received prompt treatment.*
- *Forty-one-year-old Adam Gault lured a 14-year-old girl from her home with promises of drugs, alcohol, and freedom. Instead, she became his sex slave for a year, held captive in his house. When she became pregnant, Gault took her to Planned Parenthood for an abortion. Planned Parenthood did not report the crime.*

In a hearing August 8, 2008, Planned Parenthood failed to deny the facts in each case and they were all upheld by Superior Court Judge Michael Kinney. These stories will appear in the voter information.