Planned Parenthood filed a complaint stating that the Parental Notification Act was unconstitutional. The New Hampshire law required doctors to delay a teenager's abortion until 48 hours after a parent was notified, but it lacked a medical emergency exception to protect the teenager's health.

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England (along with several other women's health centers) v. New Hampshire State Attorney General Kelly Ayotte

AYOTHE V. PLANNED

PARENTHOOD OF

Northern New England

(1994)

Can Planned Parenthood of Northern New England challenge the constitutionality of the Parental Notification Act in federal court before it is put into effect? Does the Parental Notification Prior to Abortion Act, through the judicial bypass procedure or other safeguards, adequately protect the health of minors seeking abortions?

Referred
back to lower
court with recommendation
to strike unless an emergency
exception is included.

Privacy: the right to

contraception and

abortion.

The lower courts struck down the law stating "undue burden." The decision, written by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, established a few main points: states have a right to require parental involvement when a teen wishes to terminate her pregnancy and states cannot restrict abortions when it is crucial to the health of the woman. However, the Court felt that invalidating the entire state law was not necessary, as long as it was not presenting an "undue burden" to teenagers.



The Pro-Choice Public Education Project

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