

informed consent form. We do that in a hospital for any other type of surgery and I see no reason why we shouldn't do it on an abortion procedure and it should be done by a qualified person because at the same time we're talking about surgery in a hospital, we certainly don't get that information from the nurse's aide or from somebody that is not qualified to do so. So I ask you to reject Senator Marsh's amendment, and, Senator Wesely, you are correct. That bill that you do have in committee is probably very complicated, but we're talking about counseling, we're not talking about a surgical procedure in the bill that you have in that committee and I wasn't at the hearing. I don't know too much about it and I repeat again, perhaps what Senator Marsh is doing, it might be a good thing but it certainly does not belong in the statutes on the abortion procedure, in the criminal statutes especially. We're talking about women that are going there, have consented to the abortion. It may be 15, 20 minutes prior to the abortion. Let me tell you that we have talked to some people that have had abortions and they're now working with us and they tell us what goes on in the abortion clinic. They are pushed in. Before they are even counseled or talked to by anyone, including the doctor performing the abortion, they are given some Valium. By the time the doctor talks to them, they don't even know or understand what he is saying or can't even rationalize what is going to happen to them and they have told us that that is exactly what happens when they go into an abortion clinic for an abortion. Why can't they have some counseling by someone that is competent and explain to them what is going to happen, especially if we're talking about repeat abortions. I truly can't see any difference in this than you and I going into a hospital, and Senator Marsh said, going in for a tonsillectomy or a gall bladder operation. You do sign forms, you are informed as to what is going to happen, you are informed of the consequences. The family is informed as to whether you have a 50-50 chance to live or not. That is even explained to the patient. You have the opportunity at that point to say I don't want the surgery, I know the risk involved now, I don't want the surgery. Perhaps that's what behind all this. The consent form that they do know what they're going through, and even though they are 14, 15, 16 years old and they have not talked to their parents or anyone else, at least they know what type of procedure is going to be used, the consequences and the very important decision that they're making at that point that they have been informed