

CENTER AGAINST FORCED ABORTION

Dear Police or other Government Official:

If you are receiving this letter, then you have probably received a report of a forced, coerced or unduly pressured abortion being threatened or about to occur. It is your duty under the law to prevent such an occurrence. You could be held civilly liable under §1983 for failing to perform your duty properly in this situation.

Under Arnold v. Escambia Board of Education, Alabama, a federal court of appeals has already found that the **constitutional** right to decide whether or not to have an abortion enunciated in *Roe v. Wade* includes the right for a woman to decide whether or not to have an abortion **or carry the baby to term**. That decision extends to minors under both the Arnold case and *Bellotti v. Baird*, 443 U.S. 622 (1979).

The Arnold case states: A government official who coerces "a minor to abort a child violates the minor's constitutionally protected freedom to choose whether to abort or bear her child." *Arnold v. Bd. of Ed. of Escambia County, Alabama,* 880 F. 2d 305 (11th. Cir. 1989) (*Reversed on other grounds.*)

What you may not know, but need to know, is that if you tell a minor that she has to do what her parents tell her to do, when they are forcing her to have an abortion, you are violating her constitutional right to make the decision for herself. You and your department may be held liable for such action. Please stop this forced abortion before death or severe trauma occurs. An involuntary forced abortion case is a potential criminal case such as homicide, child abuse, domestic partner violence, etc., depending on the specific facts and upon your state's criminal law. It is always a violation of her constitutional rights for which you could potentially be civilly liable if you help the forced abortion occur rather than protecting the pregnant victim.

Respectfully Submitted,

B. E. Paskerf.

Allan E. Parker, Jr. President

*Disclaimer: This letter is for general educational and information purposes and does not constitute specific legal advice. Situations and state laws vary and you should consult an attorney for specific legal advice.

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