

Testimony in support of AB 427, The Coercive Abortion Prevention Act

September 13, 2007

My name is Janet Hurguy. I am here today to ask for your support of Assembly Bill 427.

Almost thirty-two years ago, I was 16 years old, in my junior year of high school and I became pregnant. I was told by my mother that I would have to go live in an unwed mother's home, I would not be allowed to go to my sister's graduation, to my boyfriend's graduation, I would not be able to celebrate my sister's birthday with her, and on and on. My mother used the things she knew was important to me against me.

My parents drove me from La Crosse to Madison to have the abortion. I remember going into that building. I remember the room they took me to. I remember the doctor and the nurse. I remember realizing that this was not the blob of tissue I was told it was. I realized that this, my baby, was real...but it was too late. I was not given the chance to say no. It was like no one cared about how I felt. It was all for them. Make others happy. It was over...for them but not for me. I've lived my own personal hell from that time on. My boyfriend? He never told his parents. My parents never told them. I decided last year to tell his mother because I was planning on speaking out about my abortion and to tell, the world if need be, that abortion is not the answer and I did not want her finding out from someone else. The day after I told her about the abortion, she had a heart attack. She is ok now but I tell you this so you realize that we should not be coerced into doing what we do not want.

It will be up to that abortion doctor to make absolutely sure the woman is told about all resources and if she definitely wants the abortion or not. I know the abortionist is able to tell whether the woman wants it on her own or if she is being coerced. If he/she is willing to do the procedure, they should be willing to take the responsibility of being sure the woman is informed of all her options.

Please, support Assembly Bill 427. Thank you