

HMH Social Studies

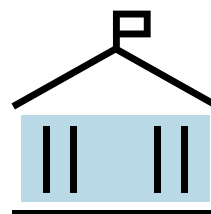
CASE:

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

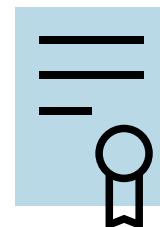
V. CASEY

DATE DECIDED 06/29/1992

In 1988 and 1989, Pennsylvania revised its abortion control laws to require that minors receive consent from a parent and that married women notify their husbands before having an abortion. The laws were challenged by several abortion clinics and physicians.



In a 5–4 decision, the Supreme Court upheld its previous ruling of *Roe v. Wade*—that women have the right to an abortion in the first trimester of pregnancy—but provided that a state may allow that minors must have the consent of one parent 24 hours before the procedure. The court struck down the part of the Pennsylvania laws that required married women to notify their husbands, saying that it could be an “undue burden” upon the woman.



IMPACT OF THE DECISION

The court ruled that although some minimal restrictions may be allowed, abortion is still a constitutional right for women in the United States.

QUESTIONS

1

Do you think the husband notification requirement places an “undue burden” on a woman? Why or why not?

2

How would you define “undue burden”?
