

The New York Times

229 WEST 43 STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036

July 26, 1982

Mr. Douglas Johnson
Legislative Director
National Right to Life
Committee, Inc.
Suite 402
419 7th Street NW
Washington, DC 20004

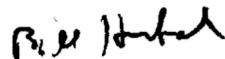
Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your letter of July 9.

After examining the substance of your point, our National News editor is promulgating a memorandum for our national desk and our Washington Bureau instructing our editors and reporters that brief references to the Supreme Court's 1973 decision on abortion should say simply that the Court legalized abortion. As you indicate, the phrase "in the first three months of pregnancy" might be incorrectly interpreted to mean that abortions in the last six months of pregnancy remain illegal.

Again, thank you for your interest and for taking the time to send us your thoughtful comment.

Sincerely,



William W. Humbach
Assistant to the
Executive Editor

WWH/gs