



**WILLIAM J. SCOTT**

ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
500 SOUTH SECOND STREET  
SPRINGFIELD  
62706



March 23, 1973

FILE NO. S-552  
CHILDREN:  
Majority

Honorable Basil G. Greanias  
State's Attorney  
Macon County  
307 County Building  
Decatur, Illinois 62523

Dear Mr. Greanias:

I have your request for my opinion as follows:

"I would appreciate an advisory opinion from you regarding the interpretation of the above matter. The act reads that a doctor may provide birth control services and information to certain minors. I would appreciate your definition of minor. Is the age under 21 or under 18? This would especially come into play in Part 4 of the Act, which states that a doctor can provide such information to a minor who has the consent of his parent. Could a person who is 19 years old obtain such information without the consent of the parent? This same reasoning would apply to the other sections of the Act."

"AN ACT to authorize medical doctors to supervise and control the rendering of birth control services to certain minors" about which you ask, provides in toto as follows:

"Birth control services and information may be rendered by doctors licensed in Illinois to practice medicine in all of its branches to any minor:

"1. who is married; or

"2. who is a parent; or

"3. who is pregnant; or

"4. who has the consent of his parent or legal guardian; or

"5. as to whom the failure to provide such services would create a serious health hazard; or

"6. who is referred for such services by a physician, clergyman or a planned parenthood agency." Ill. Rev. Stat. 1971, ch. 91, par. 10.7

The question of age of majority for the purposes of said Act is resolved by sec. 131 of the Probate Act, which provides as follows:

"Persons of the age of 18 shall be considered of legal age for all purposes, except that of the Illinois Uniform Gifts to Minors Act, and until this age is attained, they shall be considered minors." Ill. Rev. Stat. 1971, ch. 3, par. 131

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It is my opinion that a person who is under the age of eighteen years is a minor within the meaning of "AN ACT to authorize medical doctors to supervise and control the rendering of birth control services to certain minors." Said Act does not apply to persons of the age of eighteen years or more.

Very truly yours,

A T T O R N E Y G E N E R A L