

**PETITION FOR CONSENT TO AN ABORTION OR FOR JUDICIAL CONSENT TO  
AN ABORTION (R.C. 2919.121).**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

If you are pregnant; unmarried, under 18 years old, and unemancipated; and want to have an abortion without the consent of your parents, you may ask a juvenile court for permission. The court will then decide whether you are sufficiently mature and well-enough informed to decide intelligently to have an abortion or whether an abortion is in your best interests. The attached form, called a petition, should be used to ask a court to let you have an abortion without the consent of your parents.

If you are under 18 and not married, you are "unemancipated" if any of the following apply:

1. You have not entered the armed services of the United States;
2. You do not have a job and support yourself;
3. You are under the care and control of your parent, guardian, of custodian.

By law, you do not have to pay a filing fee or any court costs. If you do not have a lawyer, the court will appoint one for you free of charge. The court also will appoint a guardian ad litem, who is a person responsible for protecting your interests. The court may appoint your lawyer to be your guardian ad litem.

The court is not allowed to tell your parent, guardian, or custodian that you are pregnant or that you want to have an abortion. The court must keep the petition and all other papers in your case confidential.

The petition must be filed in a juvenile court in the county where you reside or have a legal settlement or in any county that borders the county where you reside or have a legal settlement.

**HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM**

**Completing Statement #5:** Check one or both of the statements. If you check the first statement, the court will first consider if you are mature enough and well enough informed to intelligently decide whether to have an abortion. If the court does not find that you are sufficiently mature and well enough informed to make the decision, and you have checked the second statement, the court will then consider whether the abortion is in your best interest. If you are not sure which statement to check, you may check both and then discuss this with your lawyer.

**Completing Statement #6:** Check the statement that applies to you. If you have a lawyer, fill in the name, address, and telephone number of your lawyer.

**Completing the Top of Page 2:** The law requires that the statements in the petition be made under oath. part of form must be completed by you or someone who is assisting you (called a "next friend") in the presence of a person who is allowed to administer oaths, such as a notary public. After you or the person assisting you signs the petition, the person who administers oaths should sign the form.

**Completing the Bottom of Page 2:** Fill out the bottom of page 2 only if you do not have a lawyer. Provide any address and telephone number where you may be contacted about this matter. When the court appoints a lawyer for you, the lawyer will reach you at the address or telephone number you provide. You do not have to complete the bottom of page 2 until after the notary public signs on page 2.