

October 1, 2015

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The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Re: Limits on Sexual Interactions of Minors

Dear Governor Nikki R. Haley

According to South Carolina law, individuals as young as 14 years old are able to consent to have sex with a partner who is 18 years old or younger. In my opinion, I think that is too young. This is a big reason of why teenage pregnancy happens in South Carolina. If we can make a law that states that the legal age of teenage sex should be 18. This is when people are adults, graduating high school, and thinking about their future life seriously. You should be more strict on stores that sell condoms to underage users. This will prohibit minors from having the ability to purchase condoms and making them frightened to have sex with their partner.

This law will hopefully stop teenage pregnancy, and help teenagers focus on more important things such as their education, future life goals, or finding a job. In 2010, a study found that almost 10.5k teenagers got pregnant. Only 4,763 of those teenagers gave birth. That means that almost 6k of them had an abortion or lost a baby due to miscarriage. Things like this wouldn't happen if teenage pregnancy rates were lowered due to the legal age of having sex at 14. If a

teenage girl gets pregnant, the parents or the police will eventually find out. The parents will be disappointed in the child, and both families will have to go to court to settle out what will happen with the new child. This law will help the rate of abortion to drop. Families tend to be separated by young parents getting divorced or parents not being mature enough to raise a child and possibly causing the child to have to be moved in with a close relative. A study found that over 5 million parents are divorced in the U.S. and children is in one of the top ten reasons for it.

I ask of you to make a law that stops the selling of condoms to minors, and make the legal age of having sexual intercourse with one that is their own or similar age up to 18. It will make a difference South Carolina and hopefully spread to other states. This will eventually help the US as a whole to become a better country overall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brady Wastler". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and connected.

Brady Wastler