



# Court permits abortion for 12yo Queensland girl for sake of mental, physical health

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**A Queensland court has granted a 12-year-old girl permission to have an abortion for the sake of her own mental and physical health.**

The girl and her parents went before the Supreme Court last week to seek permission to have the procedure.

In the judgment released on Tuesday, Justice Duncan McMeekan wrote it was clearly in the best of interest of the girl to administer drugs that would terminate the pregnancy.

The child, who was nine weeks' pregnant at the time of giving evidence told the court she was finding the pregnancy very emotionally stressful, had previously attempted suicide and did not think she could cope with raising a child.

A psychologist also told the court it was clear she had no idea about the process of pregnancy or the realistic demands of caring for a child.

Abortion is illegal in Queensland unless it is authorised, justified or excused by law.

The case was brought forward by the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service on behalf of the child.

**Topics:** courts-and-trials, abortion, child-health-and-behaviour, qld

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