

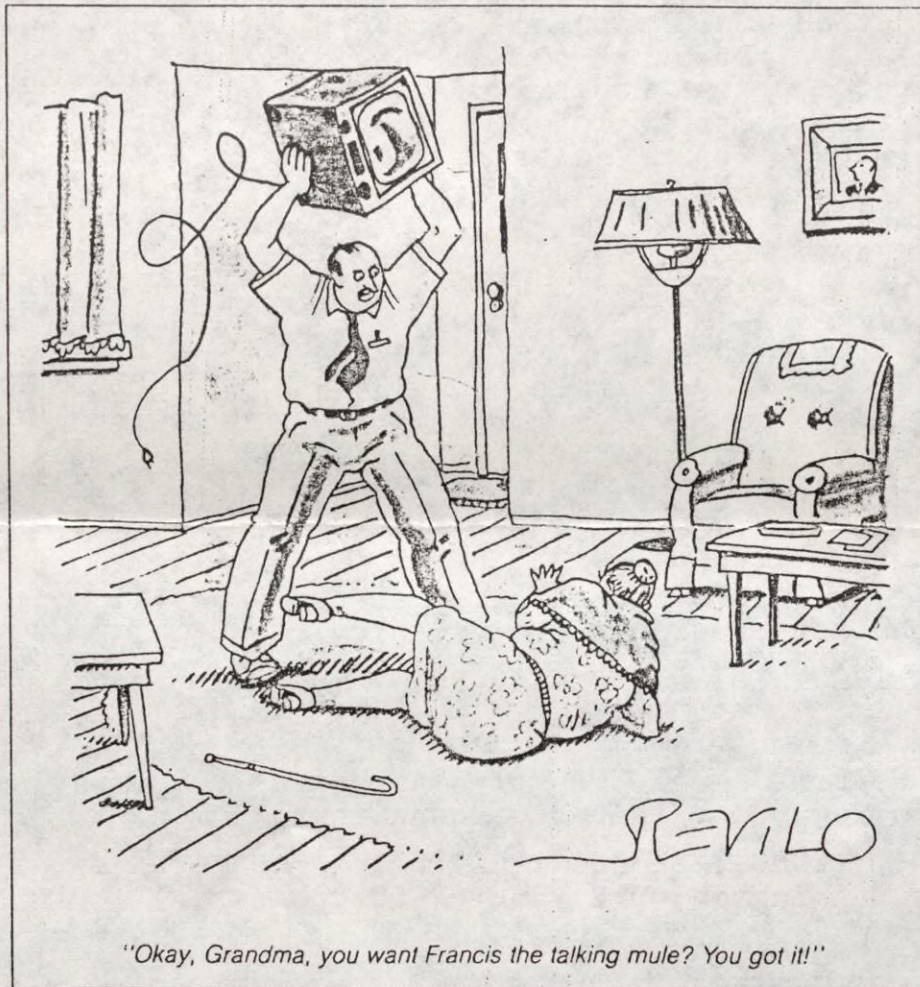


N.O.W. NEWS

National Organization for Women

VOL. IX NO. 5 May 1981

BAY AREA NOW



76 PENTHOUSE

January, 1981

Pornography and Violence Toward Women is the subject of a panel discussion at the program meeting of BA NOW. The panelists will be Marj Randal, Mary Moore and Rema Lou Brown. Marj is program coordinator. She asks that members bring copies of porn for the growing WRS library collection!!

May 7

7:30 PM

Uniting Church (Reseda and El Camino Real)

BAY AREA NOW POSITIONS/RESOURCE CONTACTS

COORDINATOR	Pat Kuhlmann	488-3278
Membership	Susan Lab	480-3356
Treasurer	Dorothy Howard	486-0752
Newsletter Editor	Rema Lou Brown	488-1896
Newsletter ads	Mary McFadin	332-5774
Telephone Tree	Barbara Pollock	486-8269
Publicity	Dana Kelly	488-4107
Task Force Liason	Marie Stimson	534-4724
Handicap Assistance	Cynthia Sutton	486-1426
Fundraising	Jean Bettencourt	538-1271
Medical Information	Jo Shannahan	488-0190
BANOW Library	Dorothy Howard	486-0752
Texas NOW State	Rema Lou Brown	488-1896
Council Delegates	Pat Kuhlmann	488-3278
ERA Action Team & Legislative Task Force	Jeanne Saletan	471-2862
Aluminum for ERA	Betty Yancey	337-1383
Lesbian Concerns	Phyllis Tucker	944-0033
Reproductive Rights		
Title IX	Twiss Butler	333-4764
Consciousness	Jane Markley	334-5057
Raising		
Rape & Abuse	Mary McFadin	332-5774

VIEWS AND OPINIONS
EXPRESSED IN THE
BANOW NEWSLETTER
ARE THOSE OF INDI-
VIDUAL AUTHORS AND
DO NOT NECESSARILY
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OR NATIONAL N.O.W.

BANOW WELCOMES
PHYSICALLY DIFFERENT
PERSONS. OUR MEET-
ING FACILITIES ARE
NOT ALWAYS BARRIER
FREE, BUT WE ARE
ACCESSIBLE AND WILL
BE PLEASED TO PROVIDE
MOBILITY ASSISTANCE.
GIVEN NOTICE, WE WILL
TRY TO PROVIDE AN
INTERPRETER FOR DEAF
PERSONS AND ANY
REQUIRED ASSISTANCE
FOR THE BLIND. CALL
CYNTHIA SUTTON AT
486-1426.

CONTACT REMINDERS

TEXAS NOW: 713-947-9678 contacts the state leadership (or the Houston or Bay Area chapters, also in the vicinity).

TEXAS LEGISLATIVE INFO: 1-800-252-9693

WOMEN U.S.A. HOTLINE: 1-800-221-4945 offers economic, social and political info regarding issues of concern to women.

WESTERN UNION: 1-800-325-5300 (Public Opinion Messages of 15 words cost \$3.50 to Washington, D.C. and \$2.00 to Austin)

REMEMBER--800 numbers are toll-free!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? JOIN NOW. Clip and mail to Dorothy Howard, 1529 Bonanza,
Houston, Texas 77062

___ I want to be a member of Bay Area NOW and National NOW (\$30)

___ I am already a member of National NOW and want to join the Bay Area Chapter (\$8)

___ I want to join NOW and can afford dues of \$ _____

___ I am not a NOW member but want to receive the newsletter for one year (\$5)

___ I am making a contribution of \$ _____ to NOW

___ I authorize my name and address to be printed on the NOW roster for members.

NAME _____ HOME PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ WORK PHONE _____

ZIP _____

[May 1981]

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1980

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Shock films seen as plague

By GENE SISKEL
Chicago Tribune

There is a plague upon the land, and if that sounds like a preamble to a fire-and-brimstone lecture, so be it. Because the plague in question is the most nauseating trend in films today — films that feature brutal attacks on young women.

Not only is the number of such films increasing dramatically, but the box-office response to these cheapie productions has been fabulous. Thus more attack films would appear to be on the way.

The most notorious of these films is *I Spit on Your Grave*, which became a *cause celebre* in Chicago this summer fol-

lowing a series of hostile critics' reviews and the decision by one theater owner to pull the film based on those reviews.

Last week Chicago television stations have been flooded with ads for *When a Stranger Calls*, a disgusting shocker about a dirty phone caller. Also scheduled for release later this month is *He Knows You're Alone*, a thriller about a maniac who stabs brides-to-be to death.

SHOCK FILMS have long been a staple of the movie industry, and women typically have been featured as the primary victims. And such films have been made by directors as prominent as Alfred Hitchcock, whose *Psycho* is the best of the bunch.

But whereas *Psycho* achieved its notoriety through an attack on a woman, it wasn't a movie about a man who attacks women. It was a film about surprises — the death of Janet Leigh, its top-billed star, one-third of the way through the film and the surprising psychosexual identity of its killer.

By comparison, today's crude shockers are primarily concerned with portraying women in perilous situations. Such films are designed to exploit the fears of women as well as any sadistic impulses of the male audiences. What many of these films boil down to is the opportunity for \$4 to watch a series of rapes.

What is even more obnoxious is that the women who are raped in these films typically are portrayed as independent or overtly sexual. To the degree that all movies tend to argue in favor of the behavior they present, the underlying message of these films is that today's liberated woman will be and should be punished.

And to the degree that all of these films are written, financed and directed by men, it is not extreme to suggest that these attack films represent some kind of response to the women's movement which has been brewing in the nation for the past decade.

TWO VERY successful recent movies have been the primary triggers for this trend in attacks on

women. In 1973, *The Last House on the Left*, a cheapie production, grossed tens of millions of dollars telling the sick story of two teen-age girls who hitchhike to a rock concert against their parents' warning and soon are attacked by slobbering rapists who force one girl to urinate upon herself before she is shot in the head and thrown into a ditch.

Another girl is chased through the woods by an attacker wielding a thick butcher's knife.

The other influential film has been the even more successful *Halloween*, an artfully made shocker about a killer who attacks three nubile and often-scantly clad babysitters. There is no reason, other than financial, for this technically superb film to include shots of the babysitters in various stages of undress.

Significantly, the killer in *Halloween* is a sexually frustrated young man, who initially "went crazy" after seeing his promiscuous sister making love to his boyfriend.

After *Halloween*, the deluge. Virtually every studio saw the box-office numbers on *Halloween* and sought out a carbon copy. *Friday the 13th* at Paramount. *Prom Night* at Avco-Embassy. *He Knows You're Alone* at MGM and United Artists. *Dressed to Kill* at Filmways. And the soon-to-be released *Terror Train* at

Twentieth Century-Fox, *Motel Hell* at United Artists and *The Howling* at Avco-Embassy.

"These films are very easy to make," says one major studio executive. "Their story-telling pattern is obvious; you don't need any costly production values, and you certainly don't need any expensive stars. In fact, big-name stars probably would hurt this kind of film."

In all of these films, the principal subjects of attack are young women, and in a majority of the films, the killers are sexually frustrated men. In *He Knows You're Alone*, for example, a maniac who was spurned by his bride-to-be tracks three teen-age girls. It's a film that is selling a violent response to sexual frustration.

In *Dressed to Kill*, which is being protested by women's groups, the murderer is a man with severe sexual problems.

THE BOTTOM line issue here is, are these films evil and, if so, what should be done about it? Are they evil?

I believe so. They pander to base instincts and present negative images of women.

What should be done? Any manner of protest short of censorship, it would seem. Critics are obliged to spot this trend and declare, in no uncertain terms, the content of such pictures.

And what do they think Seminitists have been telling the world for years!

Janet Fleming testimony, 1977 IWY Conference.

"Violence against women is a national extension of a society that is male supremacist in nature." Physical abuse is a natural extension of contempt. Wife beaters are not sick, they reflect the culture that nurtured them. Drugs, alcohol and unemployment are not causes, but can be triggers or crutches. Wife beating is built into the culture and into the legal system.

Is it time to redefine pornography? Is violence modern man's most powerful aphrodisiac? If so, then what is war to men? A real rouser?

Pornography: "1. originally, a description of prostitutes and their trade; hence, 2. writings, pictures, etc. intended to arouse sexual desire." Obscene: root meaning, filth. "1. Offensive to modesty or decency; lewd. 2. disgusting; filthy; repulsive." Obscenity: "1. the state or quality of being obscene. 2. something obscene, as language, conduct, a remark, an expression, an act, etc."

Pornography: Perpetuator Of Male-Domination Theme

By CAROL KRECK
Denver Post Staff Writer

Most pornography can be likened to instruction manuals.

According to author Andrea Dworkin, keynote speaker for the National Conference On Violence Against Women Thursday through Sunday on Denver's Auraria campus, "If you're a man and you want to learn how to have sex with a woman, you go to pornography to find out.

"What you will find out is that she wants to be raped, she likes force, she wants to be hit, she especially likes to be tied up in terribly painful positions, she enjoys being whipped, and if she really loves you, she won't mind dying for you."

TEACHING MEN that view of women, pornography perpetuates male power, and so perpetuates violence against women, she said in an interview prior to her arrival in Denver.

She said men have seven kinds of power.

"They have the power of self, which means they're allowed to have an identity.

Then, men have physical power, she said "over and against other people, particularly women. The ideology says men are stronger than women and therefore have a natural right to rule women."

Terror is the third kind of power, sustained in a culture which glorifies violence, creating an atmosphere in which women would be stupid not to be afraid of men, she said.

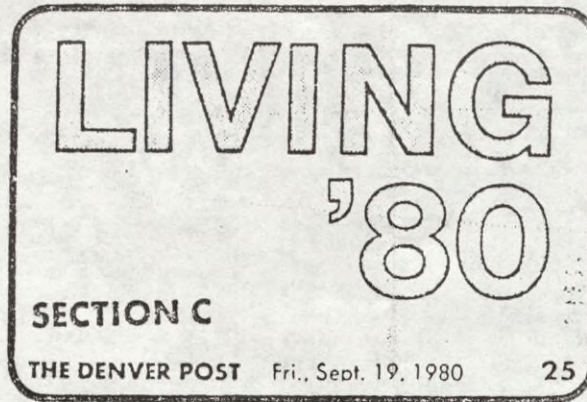
The fourth is the power of naming. Dworkin said men essentially control language, important because "Men name women: Men call women sluts or prudes; men say women are good or bad. With the power of terror and physical power, the power to name is the power to punish them for being what you say they are."

The fifth power is the power of owning, she said. Up to the 20th century, women had been chattel.

The sixth is money, "held to properly express masculinity."

The power of sex is the seventh power, which is "essentially expressed in conquest. "All of our words about romance and sex show that: conquest, possession, taking — 'He took her' — all the language of dominance and submission."

These are the facts of male supremacy. Dworkin said, and they are "most explicit, most unavoidably seen in pornography."



ESSENTIALLY, all pornography says "Women exist to be used for sex," she said. In pornography, "Women crave this kind of sexual usage; women say they don't want it, but in fact they do."

Nor is pornography deviant. The same values are expressed in society's other institutions, she said. "The battered woman is supposed to stay a loyal wife. The woman who is raped by her boyfriend is supposed to accept the abuse."

In romanticizations, women suffer for the sake of love, she said. In pornography, "It's simply that women suffer for the sake of sex."

Dworkin said there is "a tremendous body of information" demonstrating that men who use pornography are deeply influenced and affected by it, want to act out what they read or have seen, believe that women want to be victimized in these ways. "basically believe that rape is OK if you can get away with it."

Making pornography illegal isn't the solution, Ms. Dworkin said.

First, pornography is more than "suzzy magazines," she said. "For me, pornography is a way of valuing women. It's not 'Larry Flynt is and somebody else isn't because they are more high class.' Vogue magazine is absolutely one of the worst perpetrators of high-class pornography."

THE FUTURE doesn't look bright. "What we need is a broad range of programs in a country where we can't even get the Equal Rights Amendment passed." There are only three states in which a man doesn't have a right to rape his wife, she said;

in 15 states, a man has the right to rape a woman with whom he is cohabiting. Some of those statutes extending the right to rape are new, she said. "Things are getting worse, there is no doubt about it."

She asked how women could effect change when there are 28 million of them who are "being beaten day in and day out, when millions of women are forced to have babies and must find ways to care for them, when (they are) poor as a class, making 56 cents on the dollar that men make for comparable work.

"Is it any wonder women keep trying to find the way of least violence, rather than really trying to stop the violence against women altogether?"

There isn't one solution, she concluded, but there is one imperative. "And the imperative is that women take responsibility for what is done to women... because without that, there is nothing else we can do. It means not being passive and acquiescent to the assaults against women in one's own environment, whether they're in the form of pornography or the neighbor next door who's being beaten.

"I also think it very often happens that people are so overwhelmed by the magnitude of a problem that they think, 'I can't do everything; therefore, I will do nothing.' The important thing is to do something. One learns from doing and discovers possibilities."

DWORKIN SAID some women internalize the male view of themselves, and in their lives struggle to be what men want them to be.

While they are bewildered when acts of violence are committed against them, "it doesn't stop them from applying those values to other women. In other words, we may know we didn't want to be hit, but we don't know *she* didn't want to be hit. And that really divides us more than anything else."

Dworkin is a graduate of Bennington College and the author of "Woman Hating" (Dutton; \$4.95), "Our Blood" (Harper and Row; \$8) and a collection of short stories called "The New Woman's Broken Heart" (Frog In the Well; \$3).

File This Under Self-Evident:

"The Directors Guild of America has filed charges of sex discrimination against six movie studios, 11 television production companies and the three major commercial television networks.

The 20 cases, filed on February 25 with the California Fair Employment Practices Comm. and the federal EEOC, charge the 20 corps. with discrimination against women in hiring and promotions." Spokeswoman
Mar. 1981

Not to mention programming & portrayal!

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Auth © 1980 Philadelphia Inquirer

The Attack on Abortion

The Congress finds that present-day scientific evidence indicates a significant likelihood that actual human life exists from conception.

That simple assertion, at the heart of an anti-abortion bill introduced by Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina and Rep. Henry Hyde of Illinois, may trigger the most emotional debate on a social issue since Prohibition. By defining human life to include the earliest embryo, the bill would enable the states to ban all abortion as a form of murder—even in cases of rape and even if the pregnancy endangers the health of the mother-to-be. The bill would, in effect, make a legislative end run around the Supreme Court's 1973 decision allowing abortions and could permit anti-abortionists to avoid the more difficult task of passing a constitutional amendment banning abortion. The language of the Helms-Hyde bill is so sweeping that it would prevent all Federal courts, except the Supreme Court, from ruling on the constitutionality of the law. Both sides are gearing for battle, starting later this month when the Senate starts holding hearings. Says Democratic Rep. Don Edwards of California, an opponent of the bill: "I see nothing ahead but fire, controversy and animosity..."

The anti-abortion bill is just part of a far-reaching "social agenda" that conservatives are slowly beginning to press on Capitol Hill—from permitting prayer in public schools to eliminating all busing for school desegregation. As a result, the White House is worried that battles over social issues will endanger its top priority: the economic package of budget and tax cuts. "You start trying to shove some very di-

visive issues down people's throats," says one White House senior adviser, "and pretty soon you'll find people voting against you even on issues on which you agree."

Many conservatives are willing to let Congress deal with President Reagan's economic program before they press the fight for the social issues on the floor of the House and Senate. Helms, for one, is not likely to attach any anti-abortion riders to fiscal legislation—as long as Senate committees hold hearings on the abor-

Anti-abortion law is the first goal on the conservatives' new, wide-ranging social agenda.

tion bill, then send it to the floor as soon as the economic legislation has passed. But other conservatives believe that any delay will enable opponents to mobilize. Their fears were fanned last week when Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker told reporters he had general agreement of Republican senators to postpone social legislation until next year. Baker later said he had erred: only a handful of Republicans on a party steering committee had agreed to the delay. "There's no reason they can't hold hearings on these social matters," says Richard Viguerie, the New Right's kingpin of direct-mail fund raising. "There are 100 committees and subcommittees in Congress; they can't all be

meeting on the economy and El Salvador."

But once a bill gets to committee, it may not be so easy to keep off the floor. In the House, for instance, a "discharge petition" signed by 218 members could force a full House debate and vote in the midst of the battle over Reagan's economic package. Hyde says he has the votes: "There's no point messing with the subcommittee when we have a majority in the House."

If the Helms-Hyde bill is eventually enacted, the abortion issue would be thrust on the states, producing a checkerboard pattern of different laws. "Some states would be abortion mills, others so restrictive that a mother might be charged as an accessory to murder for bringing her daughter to the doctor after a rape," predicts Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, who opposes the bill even though he is against abortion. Others fear the return of a vast illegal market in abortions, and even the involvement of organized crime.

Birth Control: Some conservatives want to go even further—borrowing language from a constitutional amendment against abortion introduced by Rep. Robert Dornan of California. His proposal states that life begins when a sperm cell fertilizes an egg—rather than at conception, when the fertilized egg begins to grow and implants itself in the uterus. The distinction is crucial; some birth-control pills and intrauterine devices prevent conception, not fertilization. Under the Dornan rule, both these forms of birth control could be illegal. "This is the best opportunity to cut the throat of Planned Parenthood," boasts Paul Brown of the Life Amendment Political Action Committee (LAPAC). But even Hyde is opposed to the Dornan legislation. "A bill outlawing the Pill and the IUD will not pass, period," he says. "And I for one don't intend to try."

Most anti-abortionists will probably support the Helms-Hyde bill. If it passes, it will almost certainly face a challenge in the Supreme Court. Some constitutional scholars doubt that Congress can sidestep the High Court's 1973 abortion ruling in the *Roe v. Wade* case. And they question a section of the Helms-Hyde bill that would remove state abortion laws from the jurisdiction of lower Federal courts. "All this does is direct the inferior courts to remain aloof until the Supreme Court rules," insists Hyde. But liberals fear the precedent of removing crucial controversies from the courts' purview. "Every year you'll have another issue to be treated in the same way," says Leahy. "This would grossly upset the balance between the branches of the Federal government," adds Democratic Rep. Robert Kastenmeier of Wisconsin.

Others worry that an attack on the Supreme Court will come next. In fact, Helms is planning to introduce an anti-busing constitutional amendment that expressly forbids the Supreme Court from considering it, and Rep. Philip Crane has already introduced a bill barring Supreme Court re-

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

view of anti-abortion legislation. Ironically, the Court trimmed its sails on the abortion issue only last week (page 83).

The looming battle over abortion presents something of a dilemma for the White House. Reagan himself remains deeply committed to conservative social goals, especially a ban on abortion, and said as much to a convention of conservative activists a fortnight ago. The far right is also an important part of his constituency, carefully cultivated by White House political coordinator Lyn Nofziger. "It's terribly important that the President not be seen as abandoning his views," explains one White House aide. But until the economic program clears Congress, says the staffer, "he's not going to push them avidly, either." Thus the plan is for Reagan to confine himself to encouraging statements and small gestures of support. When he goes much further, as he did in endorsing the Helms-Hyde bill last month, some aides tend to worry. "When the country's in shape economically," says another senior adviser, "then we can worry about this other kind of stuff."

"This stuff" includes much more than the fight against abortion. Advocates of

a constitutional amendment allowing prayer in public schools have improved their position this year with new language by Helms's aide Carl Anderson. It stipulates that the students themselves must create any such prayers. That might mean individual, silent devotion or a spoken prayer written by students—without interference from teachers or school officials. But committees in both the House and Senate are expected to delay action on school prayer until the abortion legislation is settled.

Family Protection: They will also postpone until later this year a proposed constitutional amendment to ban school busing for desegregation and another to require a balanced Federal budget. Utah's Sen. Orrin Hatch held hearings recently on the budget proposal, but agreed to suspend further action at the request of President Reagan. Even further back on the conservative agenda is the Family Protection Act proposed by Republican Sen. Paul Laxalt of Nevada. It would, among other things, restrict sex education and cut funds to schools that require teachers to join unions.

Liberals around the country are starting to mobilize against the right's social agenda. Eleanor Smeal, head of the National Organization for Women, says that NOW and like-minded groups must warn their con-

stituents about the consequences of the conservatives' social goals—especially the abortion legislation. "People are not going to give up birth control without a fight," Smeal says. Some liberals hope that right-wing divisions over tactics will ultimately cripple the anti-abortion campaign, but others see little choice but to organize grassroots political support the way the right has, with notable success, in recent years. "Organizing at the local level is the only way for us to go," says Karen Mulhauser of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), a "pro-choice" group.

But the balance of forces in the looming battle over social issues favors the conservatives. The anti-abortion National Right To Life organization boasts 10 million members (compared to 100,000 for NARAL), and the "pro-life" activists of LAPAC distributed \$100,000 to sympathetic candidates last year alone. "When it comes to the nitty-gritty," predicts anti-abortion leader Paul Brown, "we can deliver a vote." Unless the liberals can mount a bigger campaign around the country, the conservative tide so evident in economic policy may soon carry the social issues as well.

DAVID M. ALPERN with JOHN J. LINDSAY,
MARY LORD and HOWARD FINEMAN in
Washington and bureau reports

Legislative Report: Abortion

Texas: The April 7 Senate Jurisprudence Committee hearing in Austin was a successful holding action for us. Six bills that were designed to deny women legal and safe abortions were sent to a subcommittee, hopefully never to see the light of day again.

Needed from you: Letters of appreciation for their vote in the committee hearing to Senators Oscar Mauzy, chairman; Kent Caperton, Lloyd Doggett, Bob Glasgow and Ray Farabee mailed to P. O. Box 12068, Austin, Tx. 78711.

Sen. Glasgow and Caperton especially need letters from their districts so if you know anyone in Huntsville - Bryan, College Station area (Caperton) or Stephenville (Glasgow) contact them and ask them to write. These men are under fire for their positions!

Also needed from you!! Letters to Sen. Chet Brooks, chairman of the Senate Human Resources Committee, asking him to respect the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to void laws that prohibit legalized abortion and to save the tax-paying Texans money by not wasting the legislature's valuable limited time on this issue.

U.S.: Hearings are scheduled Ap. 23 & 24 and May 7 & 8 in the Senate Judiciary Committee (chaired by that good ol' boy, Strom Thurman) subcommittee chaired by Senator East. Information has it that the Ap. meeting will hear only scientific testimony as to when life begins--no testimony on abortion admissible. What is scientific? We understand that they denied the testimony of ob/gyns as unscientific. The May testimony will argue the constitutionality of the bill.

- HCR 27 (Riley-Corpus Christi) Committee on Constitutional Amendments
A resolution petitioning Congress to call a Constitutional Convention to consider a "Right to Life" Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- SB 248 (Mengden-Houston) Jurisprudence Committee
HB 578 (Ceverha-Dallas) State Affairs Committee
M.D. cannot perform an abortion on a "pregnant child" without her written consent and consent of her parents or County Judge. Child may apply for consent in court. If court judges her mature, it shall grant consent. If not, it shall decide in her best interest. Violation a 2nd degree felony, 2-20 years + \$10,000.
- SB 249 (Mengden-Houston) Jurisprudence Committee
HB 455 (Delay-Simonton) State Affairs Committee
Prohibits state supported hospitals and clinics from performing abortions except to save the life of the "mother". SB 249 permits exception for rape or incest.
- SB 414 (Traeger-Seguin) Jurisprudence Committee
HB 762 (Green-Houston) State Affairs Committee
Requires M.D. performing abortion to report to local registrar: woman's date of birth, race, marital status, county and state of residence, date of last menstrual period, date and type of pregnancy test, number of previous pregnancies and abortions, method used in abortion, where it took place, indication of whether fetus was alive when removed from womb and what steps were taken to preserve its life, weight and crown rump of fetus, complications, indication of whether woman survived/cause of death, date of report and any other information pertinent to the nature, scope, methods and effects arising from the performance of the "abortional act". Failure to report is Class A misdemeanor (\$2000 and one year).
- SB 554 (Leedom-Dallas) Jurisprudence Committee
HB 794 (Cockerham-Monahans) Criminal Jurisprudence Committee
Prohibits any experimentation or research on any live fetus and any experimentation on a dead fetus without consent of mother and father over age 18. Prohibits abortion when all or part of reason was to use fetal remains for experimentation. Prohibits selling, transferring and distributing a fetus. Bill would not prohibit procedures for study of the fetus in the uterus IF, in the best medical judgment, fetus would not be jeopardized and IF the fetus was not to be "subject of a planned abortion." (The woman would be required to sign a statement that she was not planning an abortion.) Penalties would be 2nd degree felony (2-20 years and \$10,000).
- SB 742 (Santiesteban-El Paso) Human Resources Committee
HB 1385 (Leonard-Ft.Worth) State Affairs Committee
Requires physician to inform woman prior to the abortion of the possible detrimental physical and psychological effects; available alternatives to abortion; type of procedures and particular dangers associated with their use. Woman must sign a consent. Physician can designate a counselor. Offense is 2nd degree felony, 2-20 years and \$10,000.
- SB 636 (Leedom-Dallas) Human Resources Committee
HB 1158 (Messer-Belton) State Affairs
Physician may not perform an abortion on a married woman unless her husband has been informed and given an opportunity to consult with the woman. Physician may rely on woman's written statement that husband has had notice. A married woman commits an offense if she knowingly makes a false statement. A physician commits an offense if she/he performs an abortion without written consent. Offense is 2nd degree felony, 2-20 years and \$10,000.

(over)

- SB 646 (Ogg-Houston) Jurisprudence Committee
This bill amends the Texas Civil Statutes' wrongful death section relating to injuries inflicted upon unborn children by defining "person" in these statutes to include "unborn child at any stage of biological development from the time of fertilization throughout the pregnancy until its live birth."
- SB 652 (Ogg-Houston) Jurisprudence Committee
This bill amends the "murder" section of the Texas Penal Code to include an "abortional act" that causes the injury or death of a woman or her "viable unborn child". Viability is defined as being capable of living outside the womb with or without artificial life-support systems. Exceptions would include prevention of death or serious injury to the woman or fetus.
- SB 616 (Leedom -Dallas) Human Resources
HB 1245 (Ceverha-Dallas) State Affairs
This bill would require the physician to inform the woman 24 hours prior to the abortion of the stage of fetal development, available alternatives to abortion, type of procedure and possible detrimental physical and psychological effects. The woman must sign a consent form. Violation is 2nd degree felony.
- HB 922 (Cockerham-Monahans) State Affairs Committee
Requires that any "parent" who consents to an abortion be responsible for the burial or the "humane" disposition of the "unborn child". In addition, any person or organization could hold a memorial service for the "unborn child". Any person who knowingly fails or refuses to obey these rules commits a Class A misdemeanor.
- HB 782 (Green-Houston)
Similar to HB 762
- SB 246 (Mengden-Houston)
Similar to SB 248 except violation a Class B misdemeanor for failure to KEEP consent form for seven years.
- HB 293 (Berlanga-Corpus Christi) Judiciary Committee
Excludes abortion from family planning and from medical care for minors. A minor may obtain medical care in the following circumstances:
1. Serving in armed forces
 2. Is 16 years old, lives apart from parents and manages own finances (source of income is irrelevant)
 3. Consents to treatment of V.D.
 4. Is unmarried and pregnant and consents to treatment other than abortion, related to pregnancy
 5. Age 18 and wants to give blood
 6. Seeks treatment for drug use
 7. Seeks family planning services. Definition of "family planning services" excludes abortion.
- HB 1140 (Davis-Irving) State Affairs Committee
Texas Penal Code will require physician to swear that fetus is not viable. After 20th week of pregnancy, a second physician must be present to care for the fetus. Both doctors must use life-support equipment. Penalty a second degree felony.
- HB 1194 (Uher-Bay City) State Affairs Committee
Prohibits "abortional acts" in government-run hospitals except to save the life of the woman. Requires the Attorney General to appoint a guardian of the "unborn child" if any action is taken to challenge the constitutionality of any statute relating to abortion.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!!

[May 1981]

- May 7: BA NOW program meeting: Porn & Violence Against Women (1st Th.)
 - May 9: NOW Texas State Council meeting, Austin.
 - May 20: BA NOW business meeting. 7:30 PM 1529 Bonanza (3rd Wed.)
 - June 26-28: NOW Texas State Convention, Dallas. (See Ap. issue NOW NEWS)
- Deadline for June issue--May 20--come on, y'all--express yourself!!

KEEP AN EYE ON CHANNEL 13: Sunday, April 26, KTRK-TV will air a film, *Girl on the Edge of Town*, to begin a week of programs on adolescent pregnancy. If you missed it, tune in Mon., April 27 at 10 AM to Good Morning, Houston and to the newscasts at 5, 6 & 10. Saturday, May 2, at 11:30-1:00 their Public Affairs/Community Relations programs will focus on the issue. Sunday May 3, Turn On, 10-10:30 will have two adults who were teenage parents and at Noon Eyewitness Issues and Answers will have a discussion of the issue.

Twiss Butler and Rema Lou Brown were part of a group, a minority of 2, that previewed the film and suggested points for discussion. We suggested that the discussion cover the message that the film incorporated about women--not supposedly dealing with the specific subject of teenage pregnancy. Look in and look out! KTRK-TV, P.O. Box 13, Houston 77001 666-0713 Rema Lou Brown

MESSAGES : SENT and RECEIVED

"I don't give a damn if this is the only way you can get it up! Get me out of this!"

'Keep'em Ignorant Award' goes to anti-evolution Ark. lawmakers

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) — The Arkansas Women's Political Caucus gave the sponsors of a bill that requires the teaching of "creation-science" along with evolution its "Keep'em Ignorant Award" at the group's annual "Keep 'em Barefoot and Pregnant Awards" program.

of the Year Award" category. He was cited for:

- Sponsoring a resolution to ban a non-credit course at the University of Arkansas about homosexuality.
- Backing the "creation-science" bill.
- Backing a bill that would limit abortions.

State Sen. Jim Holtsted and State Rep. Cliff Hoofman, both Democrats from North Little Rock, shared the tongue-in-cheek award given in honor of "Scientistic Cretinism," the name the caucus gave the theory.

King, a minister, received his award with "Ayatollah Falwell Clusters." Television evangelist Jerry Falwell of Lynchburg, Va., is founder of Moral Majority, the conservative religious-political lobby organization. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the Shiite Moslem holy man, is the leader of Iran.

State Rep. Jerry King, R-Greenwood, took solo honors in the "Yahoo FROM PAT KUHLMANN"

"Equality, hell! We'll teach you why its not safe for you to get off that pedestal."



"Mom said birds and bees, Maribel said whip cream and cellaphane. What's this crap about burns and bondage?"

Penthouse meets Pro-life? Quote from Mar. '81 issue: "What sort of birth control do you use?" he panted. And as he loosed himself within her ruby youth, she answered, "Prayer." Her responsibility - not his of course.



Comments by REMA -

PHOTOS FROM AD COPY reproduced as "No Comment" in MS.

Watch Out for S. 158

January 22, 1973: Supreme Court Rules a Woman's Right to Abortion Protected by 14th Amendment.

January 22, 1982: President Reagan Signs Into Law Legislation Banning Abortions, Outlawing IUD and Pill.

Impossible? Hardly. Improbable? Not really. Millions of American women believed that when the Supreme Court in 1973 established a right to privacy under the Fourteenth Amendment, which included the right to have an abortion, their freedom of choice was permanently protected. This is simply not so. In the present political climate of Washington, a woman's right to choose whether or not to be pregnant is in serious jeopardy and could well be rescinded.

A Constitutional amendment to ban all abortions—even in cases where the mother's life is endangered or in the cases of rape or incest—has long been the goal of the Right to Life movement and the newly powerful Moral Majority. A Constitutional amendment, however, requires a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress and ratification by three-fourths of the states. Members of the antiabortion movement admit they might not have enough votes for the amendment, but they are convinced they do have the votes to pass legislation which would, in effect, accomplish the same thing.

Last January, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, Senator Alphonse D'Amato of New York and Congressman Henry J. Hyde of Illinois introduced little noted but enormously significant legislation affecting all women of child-bearing age. Their bill—S.158—amends the United States Code, the controlling body of federal law, to state that human life begins at conception. In other words, a fetus is a person entitled to all rights under the law and cannot be aborted. This bill, currently in the Judiciary Committees of both the House and Senate, requires only a simple

majority of votes in both houses and the President's signature to make it the law of the land. President Reagan has already promised to sign such a measure.

Even more chilling, key proponents of S.158 argue its adoption should also ban the use of the IUD and the birth-control pill because, they claim, these contraceptives act after fertilization. Since it is generally believed that the main action of the birth-control pill is to prevent ovulation, this line of reasoning is not only illogical but outrageously misleading. The Pro-Life lobby actually considers the IUD and the Pill "abortifacients," which kill "preborn children." In an open letter to Congress dated February 3, 1981, Judie Brown, president of the American Life Lobby Inc. warned: "The birth-control pill, when acting as an agent that irritates the wall of the uterus, makes the environment hostile to a fertilized egg, and thus the BRAND NEW HUMAN BEING DIES! The IUD, acting as a device which prevents the fertilized egg from implanting on the wall of the uterus, KILLS A BRAND NEW HUMAN BEING!"

While legal scholars heatedly debate whether the Supreme Court would eventually uphold such legislation as the Helms-Hyde bill, the political complacency of millions of American women is hastening its passage. It is a tragic irony that the Reagan administration, which came to power pledging to get government "off our backs," wants to put it into our private lives—out of the board room, into the bedroom.

The Right to Life movement has been the most successful single-issue lobby in politics today, influencing individual members of Congress out of all proportion to their actual numbers. And while the National Abortion Rights Action League and other Pro-Choice groups may have the opinion of the majority of women on their side, they do not have their active support.

This is no time for women—the largest single group in America—to be passive and silent.

—Maureen Orth

We hope you will like and participate in this section, MESSAGES: SENT AND RECEIVED. The object is to reprint articles, pictures, cartoons, etc. that have a message to women—not necessarily the one sender intended the world to see—and messages from women about the world. Make up your own punch lines or add your own commentary. Short is best—space costs—but it may be worth it to save us all a few therapy bills. Bring yours to the business meeting (deadline for BA NOW NEWS). Make sure you have named the source for articles, photos et. al. and date of publication. Draw your own.



For Better or Worse

Is there a married woman who hasn't experienced this? Definition for Community Property--what's hers is community, what's his is his! Is Jynn female? If not, he's perceptive of her point of view--and his. If it's a question of money for household help and an Evinrude outboard motor--guess what the family does! The personal is political.

HYDE, HATCH, HELMS AND ALL HAVE OVARY ENVY!!!

HOUSTON CHRONICLE
AP. 11, 1981

[May 1981]

CONGRESSMAN RON PAUL REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT OF HUMAN LIFE BILL during a talk with NOW

members Yvonne Broach, Judy Blanchard and Jeanne Saletan on April 21. We visited him at his office by appointment and spent 20 minutes discussing the issue. We presented him with the results of two neighborhood surveys in the Houston area (one in his district in CLC) which showed that more than 5 times as many people are pro-choice as anti-choice on abortion. We also stressed religious points of view which differ from his and asked him to consider why legislators and courts in their wisdom had never before defined personhood before birth. Of course we did not change his mind but we hope that we created enough waves that he will recognize that his course on this issue will not have smooth sailing. Before leaving, we asked his aide for information on the Family Protection Act to be mailed to us.

The Human Life Bill and the Human Life Amendment are starting to move in Congress this month. First hearings have been scheduled for April 23-24 on "when life begins." Only "scientific arguments" will be heard. RON RAUL and JACK FIELDS are the only two Texas legislators who are sponsors of these bills. They need to hear from you. Also send messages to Senators Lloyd Bentsen and John Tower and your own congressperson.

Legislative Task-Force members Sandra DeVasier and Fran Kelley have written over 200 personal letters to Austin legislators on your authorizations.....they distributed the mail over a variety of bills we are supporting or opposing. Letters are little drops of water that can gather in a mighty stream and move legislators to vote our way. Please support your LTF members by writing your own letters as well (more than one letter can be sent by each person on each issue) and supply them with thanks, stamps, stationary and offers of help.

Dorothy Howard wrote an eloquent letter on why abortion choice is an important personal issue to her and she sent it selectively to some legislators. She wrote to every member of the house committees considering these bills and forwarded their replies to the LTF so we can evaluate their position and plan our lobbying strategy.

Rema Lou Brown and Jeanne Saletan were on the bus to Austin for Lobby Day on Reproductive Choice on April 7. We were even better organized this time with material to give to legislators, questions to ask them and evaluation sheets to be completed after each visit. On the first Lobby Day on March 9, we were joined by BANOW members Dorothy Howard, Mary McFaddin and daughter Penny and Marie Stimson. We heard excellent testimony from women this time, among them Rema Lou representing AAUW. There will be at least one more trip to Austin before the session ends on May 31st. Chances are it will coincide with an important vote. When we call you to join us, say YES! Trips are scheduled by Women's Lobby '81 Alliance. Alliance membership has grown to 16 member organizations. Our meetings are notorious for getting a lot of action planned in each session. Meetings on Mondays, bi-monthly at YWCA on Allen Parkway at 6:30PM. Open to all.

The Alliance will be training speakers on Reproductive Rights starting April 30. We will use the excellent training kit developed by Texas NOW Reproductive Rights Task Force, Gloria Sprinkle and Charlotte Taft. Call now if you want to do it. J. Saletan 471-2862.

NOTICE TO LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE OF BANOW: Judy Blanchard, Martha Skeeters, Deborah Hill, Nora Mertz, Bonnie Huval, Sandra DeVasier, Fran Kelley, Victoria Franchetti. Please meet with Jeanne Saletan half hour before May program meeting.

BANOW Business Meeting

The Chapter Business Meeting was on April 15 at 7:30 p.m. at 1529 Bonanza. Attendees were Dorothy Howard, Jeanne Saletan, Pat Kuhlmann, Mary Skinner, Marj Randal, and Nora Mertz.

The Chapter needs a Chair for a Reproductive Rights Task Force. Pat has bought a resource action kit for the chapter.

During the month of June, there will be a major National fundraising and membership drive. The focus for this campaign will be economics. The Chapter will receive a \$10 rebate for each membership gained during the month of June. Pat has a kit which includes materials and a detailed guide for this action. People are needed to guide this project to success for BANOW.

The Texas NOW Council meets in Austin on May 9. Information from Phyllis Tucker, Pat Kuhlmann or Bonnie Huval.

Funding in the amount of \$150.00 was voted for the Legislative Task Force.

Bell Telephone failed to honor their contract to list NOW in three places in the White Pages of Houston Area phone books. An Attorney will be retained to deal with this situation. The fee will be limited to \$180.00 until we see if this action will be profitable. Data is being gathered in support of our stand. The other Houston NOW Chapters will be asked to aid in this action.

The Women Care self-help health group is appearing in Houston on or about May 5. Bay Area NOW voted to assist in funding their visit in the amount of \$200.00. More information will be forthcoming.

Submitted by Nora Mertz

ABORTIONS ILLEGAL?

If you think this won't happen you need to come hear Karen Mulhauser, the Executive Director of the National Abortion Rights Action League!

There are Constitutional Amendments outlawing abortions for any reason being heard in Congress this very week!

In the Texas Legislature, 20 bills have been introduced that would limit access to safe and legal abortions! All of these are being heard and voted on now!

Please come! Learn how you can help! Pro-Choice persons must stand up and be counted!

Speaker: KAREN MULHAUSER
Executive Director - N.A.R.A.L.
Place: The Home of Arthur and Sara Gochman
403 Westminister
Time: 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 28
Donation: \$5.00 - Cash Bar
Sponsor: T.A.R.A.L.

For more information, call: Helen Rosen 723-1826

Take Chimney Rock South off Memorial (between Antoine and Voss) then go right on Westminister. 403 is on the corner of Westminister and Farther Point.

ISSUE	BILL #	STATUS	COMMENTS
Displaced Homemakers Domestic Violence Combined DH and DV	SB 516/ SB 65 SB 220	Human Resources " 1113 "	NHS= no hearing scheduled (see HB 1334 and SB 1173 below)
Wiretapping	SB 120 HB 360	Jurisprudence Committee Criminal Jurisprudence	NHS Public hearing on 4/9 no action taken
Unemployment Comp.	SB 2	Passed both houses with amendments by Craig Washington	Signed by governor, effective immediately
Employment Discrimin- ation based on sexual preference	HB 283	Security and Sanctions	NHS (this bill considered dead, stop letters)
Rape * Passed by Senate; sent to Clements for signature.	HB 364	Passed House and passed out of senate Jurisprudence Com.	Up to Senate sponsor Ike Harris to put it on Intent Calendar for senate vote.*
Reproductive Choice ACTION ALERT!!	HB 578	Calendars Committee passed State Affairs	penalty reduced to Class A misdemeanor
	HB 1245	Calendars Committee passed State Affairs	same as above
	SB 248 SB 249	Jurisprudence Committee	hearing on 4/7 and referred to subcommittee
	HB 455	State Affairs	
	HB 762	State Affairs	hearing was on 4/8, results not reported yet
	HB 922 HB 1158 HB 1140-- HB 1194 HB 1385	State Affairs Committee Rep. Davis has put his priority number 46 on it.	considered on 3/31 no action taken
	HB 794	Criminal Jurisprudence	NHS
	SB 646 SB 414 SB 652	Jurisprudence Com.	hearing on 4/7 and referred back to subcommittee
	SB 636 SB 742	Human Resources Com.	Hearing held on 4/8, all referred back to full comm.
	SB 616	Human Resources Subcommittee hearing on 4/8	
Constitutional Conven- tion to pass HLA	HCR 27	Subcommittee on Civil Remedies	NHS

ACTION ALERT!!!

1. We are trying to keep HB 578 and HB 1245 bottled up in Calendars Committee. These are the first two anti-choice bills to advance this far. Send messages to Susan McBee (Chair), Ron Wilson and Lynn Nabers. Sample: "Thanks for your past support. Please try to avoid a floor vote on HB 578 and HB 1245." Consult your blue guide for House Calendars Committee.
2. Good news about Family Violence Program Fund!.....HB 1334, SB1173 (same bills) are new bill numbers assigned to redrawn proposals to provide funding for shelters by means of a liquor tax. Toby Myers, HAWC, testified last week. Send letters in support to your own legislators and to Governor Clements and Lt. Governor Bill Hobby.

CURRENT PROJECTS AT RIGHT TO LIFE

HOUSTON RIGHT TO LIFE - Educational

Speakers Bureau - Volunteers are shown how to give a slide presentation and pro-life talk that deals exclusively with the subject of abortion. The program is an honest, straightforward presentation of facts on fetal development, types of abortions and abortion complications, and possible moral/psychological implications. Houston Right to Life speakers give the presentation in a variety of places ranging from churches to universities.

TEXAS RIGHT TO LIFE OF HOUSTON - Legislative

CDAC (Congressional District Action Committee) - To have the pro-life movement organized on a grass roots level, Texas Right to Life of Houston has instigated the CDAC plan. Volunteers in this program set up a pro-life group in their church or civic club according to the guidelines offered by the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment. CDAC packets, brochures and materials are provided for the volunteer (Community Representative) and the other CDAC leaders in the group. Assistance is provided, as well, from other CDAC leaders and Texas Right to Lifers to help the group get underway. Activities in a CDAC include an on-going letter writing campaign to politicians, legislative alerts notifying the CDAC members of important votes pending in Washington and Austin, and voter registration.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION - Texas Right to Life of Houston cannot politically endorse any candidate but we ARE able to inform voters of their pro-life stand. To this end we have a voter identification program wherein ten volunteers as a team call a list of registered voters in a targeted precinct and determine whether or not each voter is pro-life. Those that are pro-life are then called shortly before election time and are informed of each candidate's stand on abortion, and encouraged to go vote. Volunteers in this program can either do the actual calling as a team member or can start a new team by finding ten people who would be willing to do the calling. Materials and suggestions are provided to show the team leaders and callers what to ask and how to handle the telephone calls.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH FREE TIME BUT WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING.....

You can always join your parish CDAC and be a group member instead of a leader. You can send us your name and address and be put on our mailing list. You can send us a donation, always much needed and appreciated, to help us keep going. Contributions to Houston Right to Life are tax deductible. Contributions to Texas Right to Life are not, because they are used to help secure protection for the unborn through legislation.) You can speak out against abortion whenever the opportunity arises. You can keep informed by keeping an ear and eye attuned to pro-life news in the media. You can come in to the Right to Life office at Yoakum and Alabama, one or two hours per week to help with the filing and phone calls. And please, always keep us in your prayers.

(This page reprinted, courtesy of Women's Lobby '81 Alliance from packet sent to a high school student who asked for information for debate material.)

ABORTION ROULETTE

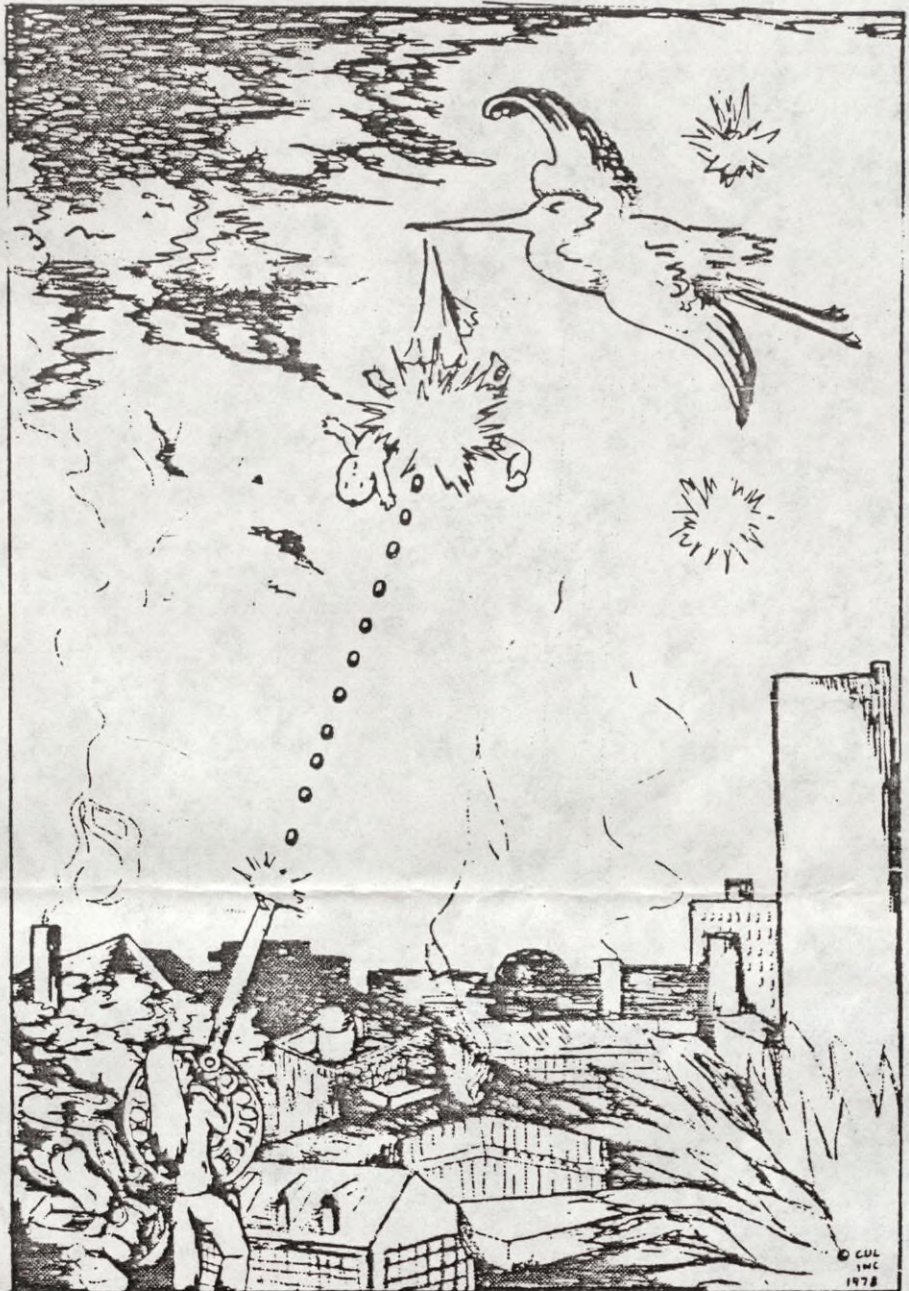
THE BIRTH CONTROL PILL KILLS BABIES

According to conserative estimates the pill and IUD may account for about 9 million un-noticed or "Silent" abortions yearly in the U.S.

The widely used and most effective artificial means of birth prevention, the birth control pill and the IUD (intrauterine device), are commonly but incorrectly known as contraceptives. These chemical and mechanical means of birth control are well known to have serious side effects for their users but few are aware of their abortifacient characteristics.

The IUD has no known means of preventing conception except the interruption of a pregnancy by the ABORTION of the developing baby either before or shortly after implantation in the womb. This abortifacient alone according to the known number of users accounts for three times more "silent" abortions than surgical abortions.

According to the Food and Drug Administration the "Pill" works in three ways (1) temporary sterilization by preventing ovulation (it is estimated that the low dosage pills now in use fail to suppress ovulation in 50% of the cycles), (2) contraception by interfering with the biological process which allows the transportation of the sperm to the ovum, (3) and ABORTION by altering the lining of the womb to prevent the implantation and continued existence of an already conceived child.



THE BIRTH CONTROL PILL KILLS BABIES

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING, the pro-life method of birth control, in recent studies shows equal effectiveness with the high dosage pill and surpasses the effectiveness of the IUD.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING is pro-life, effective, healthy, co-operative, and aesthetically and morally acceptable. Ask us for more information!

additional copies of this article are available from Catholics United for Life, Box 390, Coarsegold, Ca. 93614 25 for \$2.00—50 for \$3.00—100 for \$5.00

★ This deserves the "BAREFOOT AND PREGNANT" award. Is this the rhythm method revisited (What do ya call a woman who uses the rhythm method? Mother.) celibacy, vasectomy, hysterectomy, or "I've got a headache"? Article courtesy of Austin NOW.

1529 Bonanza
Houston, TX 77062

