

Morgentaler files another Supreme Court appeal

It's off to the Supreme Court of Canada once again for Dr. Henry Morgentaler following an Ontario Court of Appeal decision to set aside the 1984 jury acquittal of Morgentaler, Dr. Robert Scott and Dr. Leslie Smoling.

In the October 1 ruling, the five-judge appeal panel accepted arguments put forward on behalf of the Attorney-General and said that errors at the trial had been so fundamental that there had been no trial according to law. The Court also rejected all arguments directed by counsel for the doctors at showing the abortion law to be unconstitutional.

Meanwhile, Morgentaler has announced that he may have to close his Winnipeg Clinic. On October 21, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, which had suspended Morgentaler's licence to practice medicine in that province, denied his application for college approval of the clinic.

The college said that a licence could not be granted because the clinic procedures violate the Criminal Code of Canada. Morgentaler, who says it costs \$3,000 a month just to counsel women at the Winnipeg clinic and refer them to abortion clinics in North Dakota, Toronto and Montreal, will appeal the college's decision.

For the pro-choice movement, the most damaging aspect of the Ontario Court of Appeal's decision may have been its dismissal of the defence of necessity. The court held that the defence of necessity only applies in urgent situations of clear and imminent peril when compliance with the law is demonstrably impossible. The "state of emergency," which is required cannot, said the court, be the law itself; in this case section 251 of the Criminal Code.

The appeal Court also held that evidence regarding widespread lack of access to abortion was entirely irrelevant to a defence of necessity.

Finally, in dealing with the Ontario government's appeal of the jury acquittal, the Court was critical of lawyer Morris



Pro-choice supporters made their presence felt during massive anti-choice demo in September.

Manning for implicitly urging the jury to acquit the doctors because the abortion law is a bad law. This misstatement, it said, "was of such gravity as to place the whole trial in jeopardy."

The Court also dealt with a "cross-appeal" from the doctors on the constitutionality of section 251. While the Court ruled that the law is not unconstitutional, it made one statement that left choice supporters scratching their heads.

The Court of Appeal decided that whereas "life, liberty and security of the person" should not be limited to such matters as death and restraints on physical liberty, it should not be given the broad interpretation given to the right to liberty in the United States, which includes the right to abortion." Yet, the court said that the right to privacy would protect rights "deeply rooted in our traditions" such as the right to choose one's marriage partner and the decision whether or not to have children. (A summary of the 158-page judgement can be obtained by writing to the CARAL office).

Announcements from the Attorney General of Ontario, Ian Scott, and Metropolitan Toronto Police Chief Jack Marks

followed the Court's decision. Both men indicated that pending the appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada no new charges would be laid against the clinic and no other legal action to close the clinic would be attempted. Pro-choice supporters greeted these announcements with relief. Anti-choice activists, on the other hand,

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Sometimes we receive contributions from individuals or groups who feel they must remain anonymous. Two recent examples are set out in print here.

Dear Norma Scarborough:

Yes Norma, women of Canada definitely are entitled to "freedom of choice," otherwise our so-called "Charter of Rights" is sheer mockery and hypocrisy!

Enclosed please find my bank money order... (wish it could be ten times or even one hundred times this amount.)

Also, for the first time in my life... have I found it necessary to submit this contribution anonymously. Which I'm sure you agree is a darn shame.

However, because of the increasing sense of violence and retaliatory inclinations and tendencies presently raging in

Remembering illegal abortions – can you help?

In her book *Bronx Primitive* (Harper and Row, 1982), author Kate Simon tells the story of Dr. James, who the children only saw leaving their houses as they returned from school and whose visits left their mothers "resting" in bed.

After Simon became an adult, she discovered that Dr. James, a member of a famous intellectual family and a prosperous, well-known physician, had spent his retirement years as an abortionist to the poor immigrant women of the Bronx.

For these women, as Simon says, "...there was no sex information, no birth-control clinics, nothing but knitting needles, hat pins, lengths of wire, the drinking of noxious mixtures while they sat in scalding baths to prevent the birth of yet another child."

Some of these women died from the infections caused by these abortion methods. Dr. James devoted himself to saving the lives of poor women by performing safe abortions for them.

According to Simon, even the authorities knew what he was doing and mostly left him alone. Occasionally he would be

YOU TOLD US

our society, I feel I cannot make my contribution public. But we've got to win somehow. Best wishes and congratulations for your courageous stand...

Keep The Pressure On!

Sincerely,

(Name withheld for personal reasons)

Dear CARAL:

Please find a cheque enclosed. In light of recent funding threats our (women's) cen-

tre wishes its name to remain anonymous. arrested and a few phone calls would bring his colleagues flocking to court to protest and argue until he was released.

Several years before her death, Simon's mother confided that she had had 13 abortions and that her last child had been born because Dr. James thought another abortion would be too hazardous.

We know that many Canadian women have had illegal abortions. Some of you who responded to our supporters' survey last year told us you, or someone you knew, had had such an experience.

The Childbirth by Choice Trust has started a project to compile and publish Canadian women's stories about their illegal abortions. It is important that these stories be collected, particularly from older women, before they are lost to us. They are a significant part of our history and a reminder of the times we are fighting not to repeat.

Are you willing to share your story or that of someone close to you? Or have you had experience with illegal abortion in your professional capacity — as a nurse, doctor, social worker?

tre wishes its name to remain anonymous.

It is absolutely scandalous that anti-choice forces have been able to use intimidation and harassment to successfully frighten some of us into silence.

Public figures and in particular elected representatives are well aware of the fanaticism with which they may be hounded if they dare to be publicly pro-choice. Individuals in rural areas and small communities sometimes face the loss of business or social disapprobation. Given the constraints that some pro-choice supporters feel it is essential that those of us who can speak out continue to do so.

It is up to us to speak not only for ourselves but for those who fear reprisals if they express their views. We must not allow our voices to be silenced.

Can you help?

If you are interested and would like more information, please write to Leslie Pearl, Childbirth by Choice Trust, 344 Bloor Street West, Suite 306, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1W9 or call (416) 961-1507.

The stories will be published anonymously and confidentiality will be absolutely respected.

Pro-choice physicians

There are already a number of provincial organizations of pro-choice doctors, eg. Physicians for Choice, Winnipeg, and Doctors for Choice, Ontario. A number of physicians are interested in organizing a national network of pro-choice doctors. A January meeting is being planned. If you want to be involved in the planning, we would welcome your input. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please let us know.

Contact: Nikki Colodny, M.D. or Lucie Lemieux, M.D.
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Traduction française du bulletin

Si vous désirez recevoir la version française du bulletin, veuillez avertir le bureau national. Fournissez votre nom et adresse avec votre demande, s'il vous plait.

Legislators show a disrespect for juries

Once again an appeal court has set aside a jury's acquittal of Dr. Morgentaler. He has now been acquitted by juries on four separate occasions. The message is loud and clear both in these verdicts and in opinion polls — the abortion law is unjust. But rather than heed this message, Canadian governments choose to squander their resources on continued harassment of Dr. Morgentaler and his colleagues. Keep in mind that our law already permits abortion, although bureaucratic hurdles exist. The reason Dr. Morgentaler continues to be prosecuted is because he provides medically safe early abortions in a free-standing clinic rather than an approved or accredited hospital. In the United States most abortions are performed in clinics. Clinics have the edge over hospitals in terms of safety. They also provide a more supportive environment for women.

To those of us who work in the pro-choice movement, the facts about women's health care needs and how poorly they are served under our current law are clearly essential considerations in assessing Dr. Morgentaler's actions.

Chatelaine poll finds pro-choice readers in majority

A poll published in September by *Chatelaine* magazine shows that out of 394 readers surveyed, pro-choice supporters outnumber the anti-choice by a large majority.

While *Chatelaine* reported that a large number of readers stand somewhere in the middle, agreeing that grounds for abortion should include not only a life-threatening pregnancy but other reasons such as rape, the overwhelming majority view abortion as a personal decision.

Fifty-three per cent of respondents agreed that a woman should be able to obtain an abortion "on demand" and only 3% believed that abortion should never be allowed. Sixty-eight percent said they could imagine a situation that might lead them to have an abortion; sixty-six percent believed that a woman's partner should not have the legal right to prevent her from having an abortion. And fully sixty per cent believe that the law should allow free-standing clinics such as Dr. Morgentaler's.

Message from the President



Norma Scarborough

Obviously the jurors who heard the evidence at his trials also thought these were relevant matters. Quite clearly those juries believed that it was their duty to administer justice in the face of an unjust law. And just as clearly the appeal court disagrees.

A 1977 Gallup poll showed that a

CARAL names six new directors

CARAL is pleased to welcome six new honorary directors to the organization. Their dedication and experience will be great assets.

Isabel LeBourdais writes: "Ever since my first (horror-story) abortion in 1929, I have been totally dedicated to the right of free choice and top quality care for every woman who becomes pregnant, whether she has an abortion or a beloved baby. To me, there is more cruelty in the anti-choice crusaders than real caring for life."

Maureen McTeer is a lawyer and, of course, former "first lady" of Canada. In a letter accepting an honorary directorship of CARAL, she writes: "I hope that my presence on your letterhead will serve as a positive signal for other practicing Roman Catholic women and men concerned about both the complexity of this sensitive issue and the right of a woman to choose whether or not to carry a pregnancy to term."

Lucie Pépin brings to CARAL her profile as Member of Parliament for Outremont. As a former president of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, she has a longstanding commitment to women's rights.

Myrna Phillips, a long-time activist for women's rights, was elected as Member of the Manitoba Legislature for Wolseley in 1981. Her past involvement in daycare served her well as Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Community Services and Corrections with responsibility for development and introduction of the Com-

majority of Canadians believe jurors should be told they have the right to follow their own conscience instead of strictly applying the law if this is necessary to reach a just result. Individuals who had served on juries were also surveyed, with the same findings.

The jury is an institution which has served in many cases to safeguard the individual from abuse of state power. While juries cannot make or repeal laws they are part of the process that shapes our laws.

Canadians do not believe that when they take their oaths as jurors they agree to act without conscience. Our legislators show a disrespect for juries when they fail to take seriously the four jury verdicts acquitting Dr. Morgentaler.

munity Child Day Care Standards Act and Regulations.

Rev. Christopher Raible has been Minister at the First Unitarian Congregation in Toronto since 1982. Reverend Raible has lectured and taught philosophy and comparative religion at several American universities and colleges, and has been cited by the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts for his work in defending religious freedoms and abortion rights.

The Very Reverend Dr. Lois Wilson, the first woman Moderator of the United Church of Canada (1980-82), has extensive experience in human rights, international affairs and peace concerns. Most recently, she won the 1985 Pearson Peace Medal for her outstanding contributions to international co-operation and understanding.

No tax deduction for fetus, court rules

A father cannot claim a fetus as a dependant when the fetus depends for its "very existence... on the life of the mother," the Federal Court of Canada ruled in October.

Mr. Justice F.U. Collier said a child must be born before the deduction can be claimed. He was ruling on a case brought by Ronald Adams of North Vancouver who claimed the \$460 child tax deduction on his income tax in 1978 — the year his wife conceived. The child was born in 1979.

PRO-CHOICE NEWS
is published by the
Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL)
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The purpose of CARAL is to ensure that no woman in Canada is denied access to safe legal abortion. Our aim is the repeal of all sections of the Criminal Code dealing with abortion, and the establishment of comprehensive contraceptive and abortion services, including appropriate counselling, across Canada.

Continued from page 1

vowed to picket the premier of the province, as well as the Attorney-General, at every opportunity to protest this decision. Premier Peterson has tried to explain to the anti-abortion lobby that no legal action against the province would be appropriate at this time.

Harassment and Violence at the Toronto Clinic

While clinic supporters were waiting for the Ontario Court of Appeal's decision, the anti-choice forces stepped up their harassment campaign on the streets.

The summer saw sit-ins, attempted citizens' arrests, physical violence, and a rally of anti-choicers who marched past the Harbord Street clinic in Toronto.

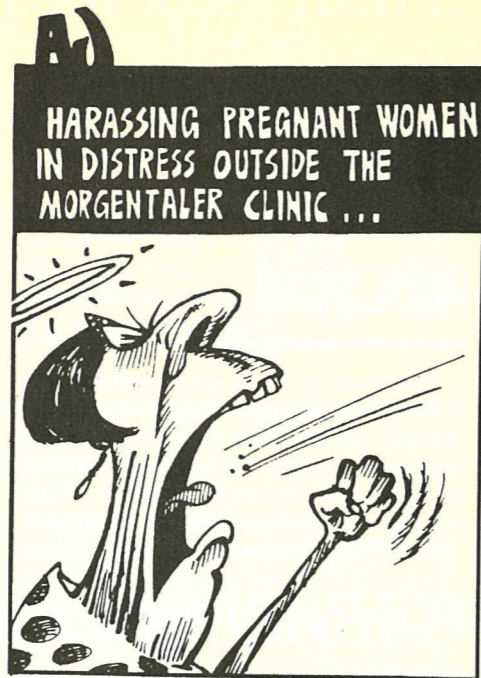
In late June, two men were charged after Dr. Robert Scott had his nose broken in a fight that erupted when demonstrators stopped four women trying to enter the clinic. The clinic staff and patients had been using the back door to avoid demonstrators out front. On this occasion, however, the entrance was blocked and the women were physically restrained from entering.

Within a week of that incident Rev. Ken Campbell attempted a citizen's arrest of two women leaving the clinic. Campbell, who is with the evangelical Renaissance Canada Group, has been associated with a variety of causes in the past decade including opposition of sex education in schools. Campbell operates out of the building next door to the clinic where he has established a "Christian Café" called The Way Inn. The cafe serves coffee and chocolates and sports a video machine which constantly plays the anti-choice propaganda film "The Silent Scream."

When police refused to recognize his citizen's arrest, Campbell tried again unsuccessfully the next day to arrest a doctor.

In response Metro Toronto Police Chief Jack Marks offered publicly to set up a meeting with Campbell in order to explain the law of citizen's arrest. The police would not act on Campbell's "arrests" because he had not actually witnessed any crime being committed.

About one month later, in late July, five anti-choicers were charged with trespassing after they stormed into the clinic for a sit-in and locked the rear gates used by patients. The five were reacting to the arrest a few days earlier of a man charged with causing a disturbance after talking to a woman he believed was entering the clinic for an abortion.



IT'S A TOUGH JOB, BUT SOME SAINTS
GOTTA DO IT...

Around the same time, however, Morgentaler held a private dinner meeting with six representatives of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, the first time he has met face-to-face with religious opponents.

While the church representatives would not comment on the meeting, Morgentaler told reporters that the fundamentalist church leaders wanted to divorce their church from the actions of Ken Campbell. He added that nobody changed his mind during the meeting, but nonetheless it was a positive step.

Ontario Attorney-General Asks Protestors to Respect Neighbourhood

Then in late August, Ontario Attorney-General Ian Scott met separately with Emmett Cardinal Carter, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Toronto, and CARAL President Norma Scarborough, asking them to call on their supporters to limit picketing at the clinic. In a follow-up letter to Scott, Scarborough pointed out that pro-choice groups had honoured a commitment made last January not to organize any demonstrations at the clinic during clinic hours. Carter agreed to ask anti-choicers to limit the number of pickets to five at any one time.

The next day, about 20 anti-choice demonstrators showed up at the clinic in defiance of the agreement.

"We're not bound by any wheeling and dealing between Carter and the pro-abor-

tionists," Toronto Right to Life president Laura McArthur told reporters. "We're out to prove the Attorney-General made a stupid statement and that's his problem."

One month later, on Saturday, September 21, anti-choice demonstrators arrived in buses from various parts of Ontario for a rally followed by a march past the clinic — and past sixty pro-choice supporters who stood silently on the street, wearing T-shirts with a coat-hanger emblem and the words "Never Again."

Pro-Choice Groups Complain About Judge's Remarks

Comments made the following Monday by Provincial Court Judge Arthur Meen have resulted in a complaint by CARAL, the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, and the Ontario Judicial Council.

In rendering his judgement at the trial of seven anti-choicers convicted of trespassing at the clinic last December, Meen twice referred to abortion as "murder" and said that the Morgentaler clinic was operating outside the law. Each trespasser received a token fine of \$20.

In their letter, the three organizations said the language used in the reasons for judgement "insults women who have chosen to terminate pregnancies under circumstances and for reasons that Judge Meen knows nothing about. It is also dangerously inflammatory."

The struggle to keep abortion clinics open in Toronto and Winnipeg has been a difficult one for the pro-choice movement over the last few months. But there is much that remains to be done, particularly in light of the Ontario Court of Appeal ruling.

That decision is currently under appeal. Funds are needed to continue the fight and to ensure that the constitutional issues as well as other matters can be fully addressed before the Supreme Court of Canada. There is also a risk that if the decision is not overruled by the Supreme Court of Canada, the jury at any subsequent trial of Dr. Morgentaler or others who take similar action to challenge the law will probably not be allowed to hear evidence showing that the present abortion law is unfair and unworkable. The pro-choice movement must ensure through widespread educational efforts that any future jurors are very aware of the inequities of section 251 and of the deplorable lack of access to medical services.

It is also important that the pro-choice movement continue to raise the funds needed to litigate this matter.

I support you...

In this issue of Pro-Choice News we present the first in a series of excerpts from a booklet published by Catholics for a Free Choice. The booklet is entitled "I Support You But I Can't Sign My Name" and looks at "the experiences of Catholics confronted by the reproductive crises of others in their professional or private lives. Priest, teacher, nurse, doctor, friend — each was called upon to take a deeper look at church restrictions on abortion and birth control. Each was transformed by the process."

Catholics for a Free Choice is located at 2008 Seventeenth Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. Please write to them for information or a list of their publications.

Doctor — Attending to Reality

The Catholic doctor interviewed is a family practitioner in Minnesota who performs abortions.

I studied philosophy at Marquette University. When I entered medical school, I was very concerned with the way things *ought* to be. I was an idealist and I still am. But as a physician, I am obligated to deal with the problems created by an imperfect world. I have seen what reality is and, throughout my years in practice, my perspective has evolved.

I have no problems with the ethics of abortion. I recall that the great philosophers never concluded when life began. A physician who testified before a Senate hearing last year stated that life is a continuum; it is not a car that stops and starts. Birth and death are part of the continuum: fetal life is different from infant life, which in turn is different from child life — all the way down the line.

When I reflect upon my days as a resident at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, I realize how naive I was. During a 24-hour shift in pathologic obstetrics it was not unusual to have twenty patients in one night admitted with bleeding, infection and severe internal problems. Women would arrive in terrible pain and yet say nothing to the doctor about the cause. It never occurred to me then that I was seeing the results of illegal abortions. I wouldn't have recognized a criminal abortion if it came in with a flag.

...but I can't sign my name.

family. "I may never have one," she told him, "but I believe a woman can choose for herself."

This area is heavily Catholic and though I have not perceived any serious emotional problems with Catholic women and abortion, a few seem to have greater initial guilt feelings. Recently, I noticed on a patient history that a woman had written "Catholic" and then scratched it out. I asked her why she had tried to conceal her religion. "Do you think you are the only one?" I asked. When I told her that I was a Catholic physician, she did not know what to say. My next patient was also Catholic. When we were finished and the women were side-by-side resting, I went out and introduced them to each other. The second was a recent convert and readily admitted it. The first patient was surprised to be surrounded by Catholics, and seemed to feel much better about her abortion because of it. We keep statistics at the clinic; 22% of our patients are Catholic. That correlates with the local population.

The Catholic Church's viewpoint is impractical. You cannot ban birth control and come down on abortion as well. Anyone who is opposed to abortion should literally be beating the bushes to teach everyone about birth control methods. But the Catholic Church is not doing that. There is cruelty in its position.

I have never done anything illegal. If abortions were outlawed, I would have to return to caring for victims of illegal abortions. If a woman with vaginal bleeding were to arrive at the emergency room, however, I would recognize an illegal abortion. I would not discuss it. I would treat her without allowing her to incriminate herself. My colleagues have expressed their concern that we never again see what we witnessed in our training. Though I am the only one in the group practice who performs abortions, the other doctors are supportive of my work. When the picketing starts and the press descends on us, my colleagues and an administrator meet with the public. We are not intimidated.

Literature Available

Some of you have asked about the various publications available from the CARAL office. The following is a list of publications. For large orders, please contact us.

Freedom of Choice (also in French)
 Why Freedom of Choice?
 You Know Them As "Right to Life"
 Reproductive Rights (also in French)
 Abortion: A Question of Catholic Honesty
 Abortion in Law and History (also in French)
 Badgley Report Quotations
 Childbirth by Choice (also in French)
 Address by Jack London
 Beware the "Research Shows" Ploy
 Press Releases re: Gallup Poll, 1982
 How to be a Pro-Choice Activist
 One Woman's Story
 The Politics of Abortion
 Précis of "Medical Effects of Late Abortion and Mandatory Motherhood"
 Mental Health Consequences of Abortion and Refused Abortion
 Was Dred Scott a Fetus? — Reflections on a false analogy
 When Does Life Begin?
 Why Free-Standing Clinics? Why Now?
 Facts on Abortion (also in French)
 Anti-Abortion Violence on the Rise
 Abortion & the Holocaust: A Deceitful Equation
 Life — Prolific or Humane
 Clearing Away the Fog on Conception

Also Available

Pro-Choice on Abortion — Sticker
 CARAL — Childbirth by Choice
 Poster with logo
 T-Shirts, Choice Now (M,L,XL)

French Translation of Newsletter

If you would like to have a French translation sent with your PRO-CHOICE NEWS, please let the CARAL office know. Be sure to include your name and address with your request.

Q: Should women be able to get abortions for reasons of convenience?

A: As with many of the questions that are put to supporters of choice, this one barely conceals assumptions and suggestions that must be addressed in an answer.

Firstly, the question implies that abortion should only be available if the reasons given by a woman meet a standard that others have set. We would reject this approach. In other words, you may not agree with a woman's decision, or you may feel that in the same set of circumstances you would have chosen otherwise, but that is not the issue. The issue is whether you would respect a woman's choice and provide her with a safe and humane environment in which to exercise it, or whether you would condemn her to desperate measures.

Secondly, there is a manifest lack of understanding about the actual reasons that motivate women to choose abortion.

These reasons vary with the women who seek abortion but there is one common thread. That is the individual woman's conviction that she cannot fulfill the responsibilities of a mother at that time in her life. It may be because she would be a single parent, or because she is poor, or because she has committed herself to a career that requires all of her energy, or because she simply does not want a child. Whatever the reason, it will be one which arises out of the unique circumstances of her life.

YOU ASKED US

To regard a woman's choice as merely "convenient" or "selfish" is to overlook the importance of making childbearing decisions personally. The evidence does not suggest that women seek abortion for trivial reasons. Those who help women clarify their feelings about unwanted pregnancy know that abortion is taken seriously.

The real issue here is not what limitations should be placed on a woman's right to seek abortion, but rather what possible right a government or church can have to force her to bear a child against her will. Our legislators have recognized that where a woman's life or health is at stake, she should be able to obtain an abortion.

The next step is recognition that each woman should be able to judge the question for herself. Forcing a woman to continue an unwanted pregnancy will obviously be detrimental to her health and her life.

Finally, and equally important, children have the right to be welcomed into a world where they will be loved and nurtured.

Video & slide-tape show

CARAL National has a nine-minute presentation which includes 99 slides and a 35mm carousel slide tray and a sound-track on cassette. The tape has both audible and inaudible signals for use in automatic advance AV cassette recorders or manually with any cassette recorder. A 35mm Kodak carousel type projector and a cassette tape recorder are required for viewing.

Available on VHS is *Abortion: Stories from North and South*, and *A Response to the Silent Scream*. Any one of these programs can be rented from the CARAL office for \$10 plus postage and insurance. They are available for two-week periods or by special arrangement.

Order by form below or call us at (416) 961-1507.

Name of Group or Individual

Program requested

Address where program to be sent

Name and telephone number of contact person

Date Needed

Date to be returned

Equality rights report avoids abortion issue

The Parliamentary Committee on Equality Rights has completed its report, following hearings at which several CARAL Chapters and CARAL National made representations about the abortion law. The Committee responded as follows:

The Committee received representations from many individuals and organizations critical of the abortion provisions in the *Criminal Code* (section 251). Some urged the repeal or relaxation of these provisions while others wanted them strengthened to limit the availability of abortion. Both groups relied on section 15 of the *Charter*.

Those who take the pro-choice position argued that the Code discriminates against women by singling out a particular medical procedure, which happens to be carried out on women alone, for regulation. They also argued that the Code is unequal in its geographic application because of discrepancies in the hospital policies and procedures that determine whether and to what extent legal abortions are available in a particular area of the country.

On the other hand, those who take the pro-life position advanced the argument that the legal protection offered by section 15 should extend to the unborn. They argued, among other things, that the present law discriminates, on the basis of age, against the unborn and, on the basis of sex, against fathers of the unborn, who have no right to participate in the decision to terminate a pregnancy.

We do not doubt that equality considerations are relevant to the abortion issue. However, if Parliament is to reconsider the abortion provisions of the *Criminal Code* it will have to take account of other factors as well. It will be obvious even to the casual observer of Canadian society that the subject of abortion is one on which there are deeply felt and clearly divided views. Indeed that division of views is reflected among the members of the Committee.

The Committee was chaired by M.P. Patrick Boyer, who is unabashedly anti-choice. Not long ago, when some members of the Tory Caucus met with representatives of REAL Women ("Realistic, Equal, Active for Life") Boyer is reported to have found himself "nodding

Boyer finds himself "nodding in agreement" with REAL women

in agreement" with about 80% of what they had to say. REAL Women is an anti-feminist, anti-choice organization.

It would be difficult to find any important social or political issue which does

not inspire "deeply felt and clearly divided views." But somehow it is suggested that this justifies avoidance of the real issues. Surely the obvious solution to the problem is to allow free choice on abortion!

Ottawa Update: Gormley bill dies at second reading, 'health' remains in section 251

On September 12, 1985, a private member's bill introduced by John Gormley, MP for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, received second reading. This Bill proposed that the word "health" be deleted from s.251 of the *Criminal Code*. The effect of such an amendment would be to limit the availability of abortions in Canadian hospitals to cases where a woman's life is endangered by the pregnancy.

Obviously this is a very restrictive approach and one which would virtually eliminate access to abortions in this country.

The Bill never got past second reading and a number of women rose to speak against it. Mary Collins (Capilano), Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam), and Suzanne Duplessis (Louis-Hébert) all opposed the bill. Ms Collins stated that access needs to be improved, not reduced, and that ultimately the issue of abortion should be removed from the *Criminal Code* to enable women to choose for themselves.

Ms Jewett quoted the following portion of the brief presented by CARAL President Norma Scarborough to the Parliamentary Committee on Equality Rights:

"Our law discriminates by limiting a

woman's right to control her fertility. A man suffers no such restrictions on his reproductive choice... Further, the law treats a medical procedure that pertains only to women in a way it treats no other medical procedure. Any man is free to decide on medical treatment in consultation with his physician, but a pregnant woman has no such freedom in making the abortion decision."

Ms Duplessis spoke as a devout Christian and Roman Catholic, consistent in opposing abortion, but nonetheless in favour of allowing it where a woman's health, physical or mental, is at stake.

Clearly the right to choose is one which finds support among women with various religious backgrounds and political affiliations. To see that reflected in our federal Parliament is heartening.

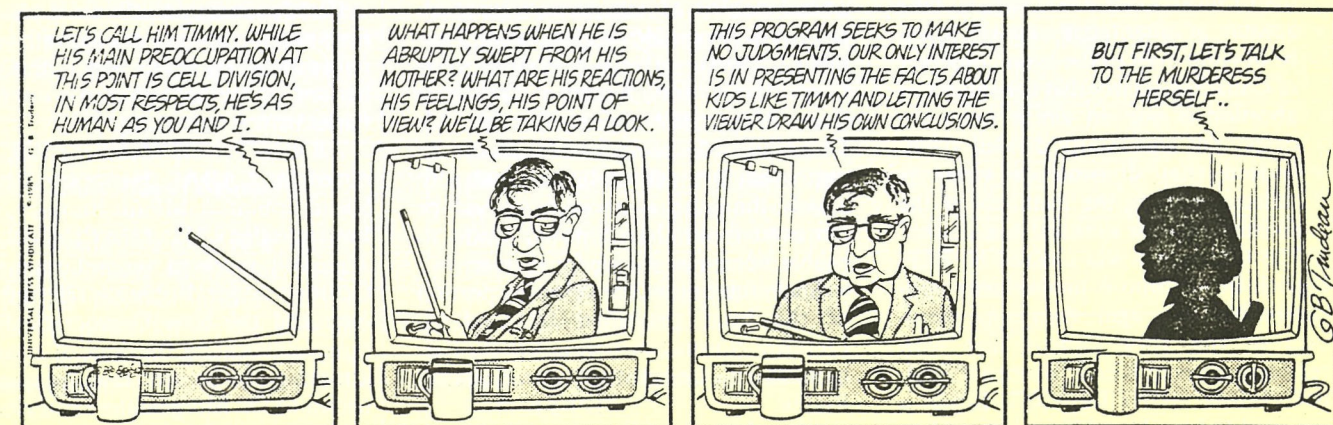
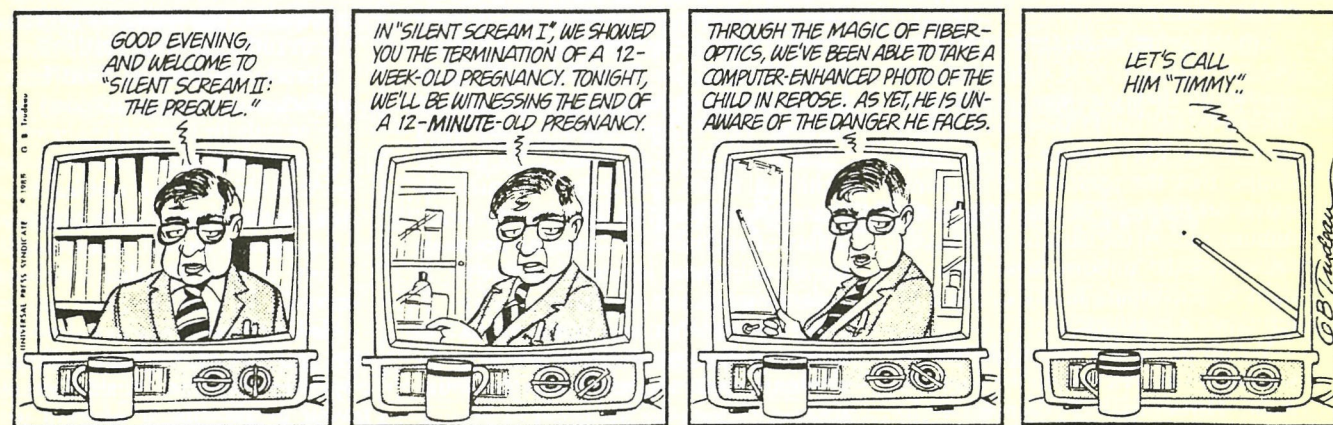
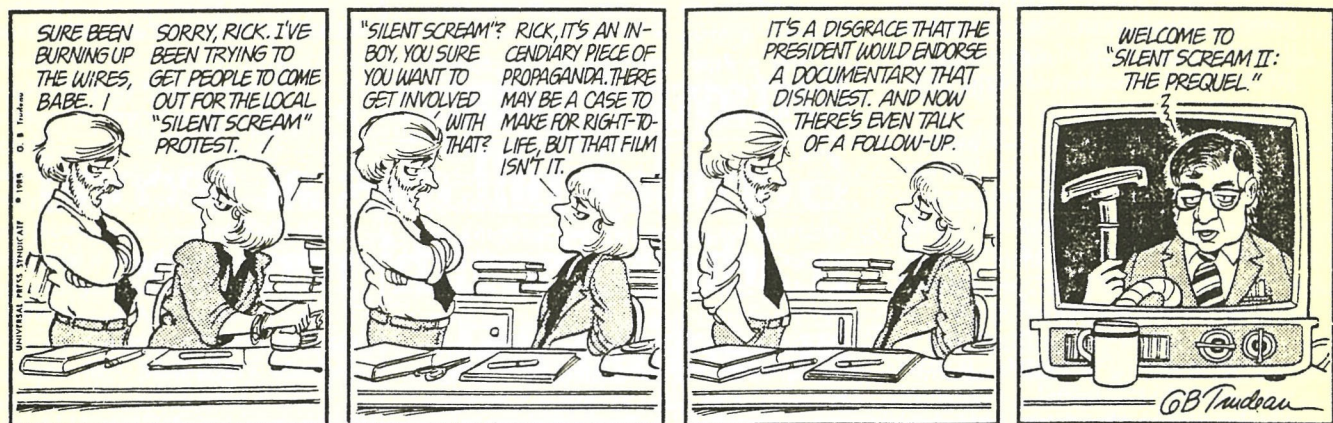
Another Private Member's Bill, introduced by CARAL Honorary Director, Svend Robinson, MP for Burnaby, would have repealed s.251 of the *Criminal Code*. This Bill received second reading on October 28. Mr. Robinson referred to his own and the New Democratic Party's policy advocating freedom of choice. In attacking the present law, he also paid tribute to Dr. Morgentaler's contributions to the struggle for choice.

SILENT SCREAM II

by Garry Trudeau

A series of six comic strips dealing with abortion resulted in the withdrawal of the often-controversial Doonesbury cartoon last May.

It was the first time in the cartoon's 15-year history that Universal Press Syndicate, the distributor, withheld the strip. The decision was reached mutually by Universal and Trudeau because the strips may have been considered controversial.

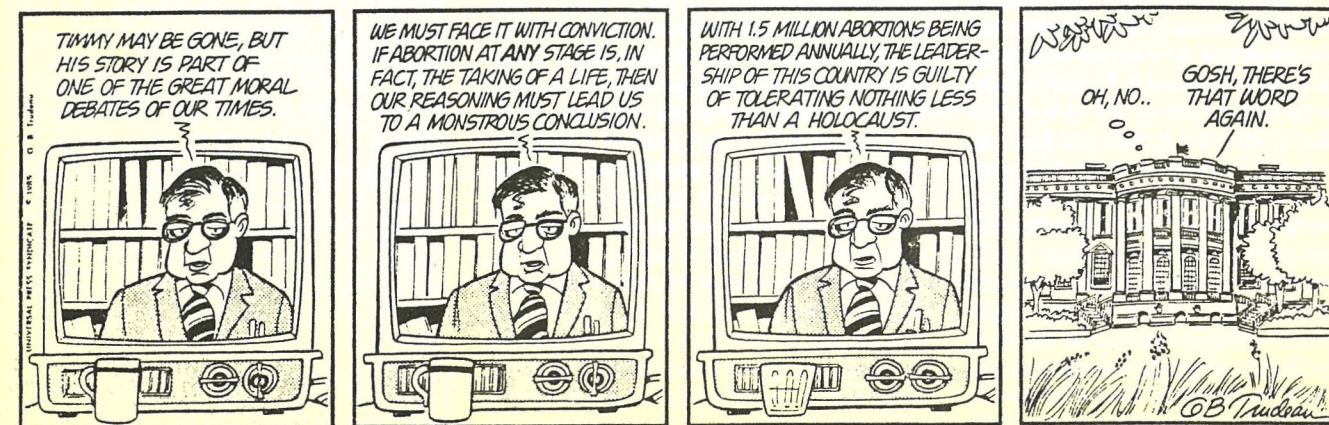
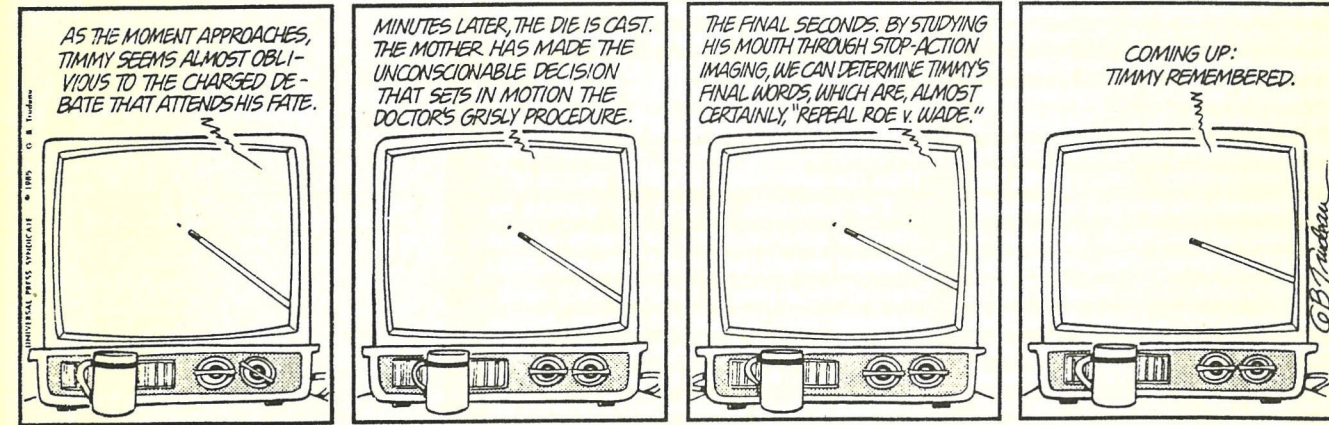
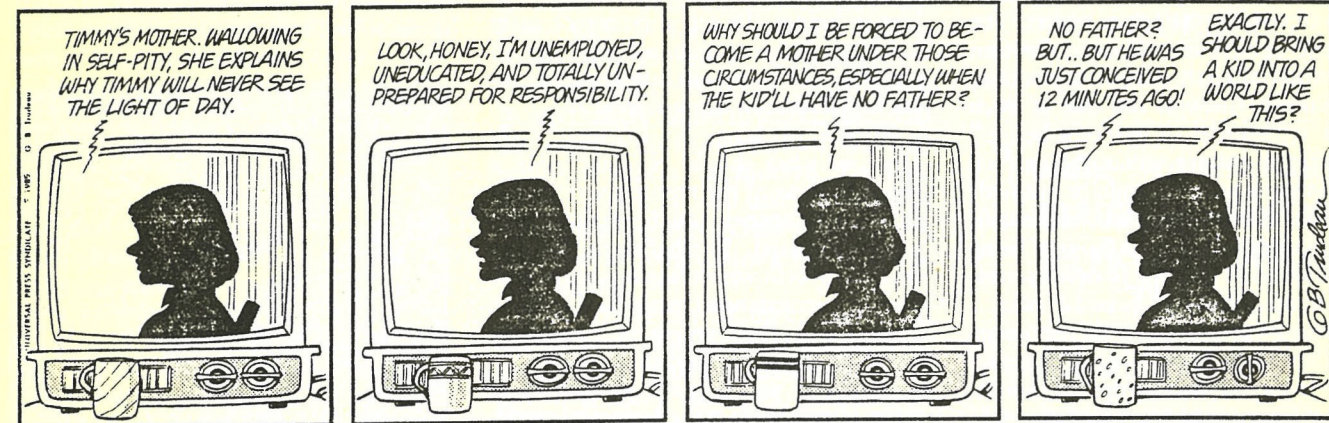


THE PREQUEL

They satirized the movie *The Silent Scream*, controversial in its own right and endorsed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

We are pleased to reprint the comics here.

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Human life as we know it never "begins"

Clearing away the fog on conception

This article first appeared in *The Globe & Mail*, April 16, 1985, and is reprinted with the permission of the author, J. Stan Rowe, professor of ecology at the University of Saskatchewan.

Society is polarized on the question of whose rights are paramount once conception has taken place — those of the conceived or those of the conceivers. Pro-choice advocates emphasize the rights of women to control their own bodies. The opponents of birth control, or of abortion as a method of birth control, make their views known through the use of such phrases as "murder of innocent beings" and "war on unborn babies." Can such words, imputing sin and guilt, be justified? It all depends on socially acceptable definitions: the definition of a human being and definition of the time in development when a human being can be said to exist.

To clear away one source of confusion, human life as we know it never "begins." All life is an extension from the remote past, an inheritance from ancestral life, flowing to the present from origins lost in time, passed along from cell to cell by replication.

Modern biological studies show that every living cell contains the genetic material to be totipotent; that is, it contains the potential for development into a total organism, a complete adult, given the right environment. Note that the environment is equally as creative as the cell.

Both dead and living cells are sloughed off from our bodies daily; is each of the living ones a person? The potential is there — it awaits only the right nurturing environment that one day soon some dextrous tissue-culture biologist will discover. When that breakthrough of dubious value is made, when every living cell of human origin can be encouraged to divide and differentiate in test tube or uterus, will all such cells be pronounced human? Common sense will surely say no.

Similarly with the sperm and egg cells that are being mixed all around the world. Are they and the zygotes they sometimes form human beings? Opinions differ, but the consensus is that they are not.

To become a recognizable human with a capacity for experience requires development in form and function to the stage where a degree of independence from the immediate maternal environment is exhibited. Evidence of society's good sense in

acknowledging this requirement is the fact that although there are at least as many miscarriages (spontaneous abortions) as live births yearly in North America, they are neither tabulated as human deaths nor investigated as possible murders.

The difference between potential and actual is basic to any discourse on conception control and birth control. Acorns are not oaks, tadpoles are not frogs, sperm-egg zygotes and early fetuses are not human beings. To call a zygote or early fetus "an innocent human being" or "an unborn child" makes as little sense as calling it "an unborn octogenarian."

Misuse of language in such ways obscures what should be clear: only a small fraction of the reproductive potential of any species can be realized and accommodated. Furthermore, for the fraction of cells whose fate it is to become human, an extended period of organic change and development in a receptive environment is fundamental.

Living as we do in the artificiality of cities, alienated from the biological world, it is easy to forget that seed mortality — the death of fused sexual cells — is normal for all life forms. Whether under certain conditions we should assist the process is a moral question that ought to transcend the pros and cons of people-centred controversy, taking account of much more than the latent capabilities of the "seed."

The potentials of cells are elicited by creative environments to which ethical concern should be directed. The actualization of good people involves their development in several enveloping environments — the woman, the society, the living world. For healthy humans to be produced, these environments must want them and be ready to accommodate them in healthy ways.

The maternal environment of the human race is the planet earth, now increasingly weakened from too much child-bearing and adult-support. Overpopulated and polluted, short on resources and with its restorative powers crippled, the planet lacks a healthcare plan and a corps of dedicated healers. From this perspective, the argument that every cell with the potential of becoming human should achieve that potential, regardless of whether it is wanted and whether its environment can handle it, may make humanistic sense but it is ecological folly.

Considering the problems on this planet, mandatory motherhood seems dubious. But the critical questions go far beyond proliferating humanity. Can an urbanized people take thought for the creative environments that nurture life on earth? Can people mobilize to take action on any but selfish individual and social themes?

How many are ready and willing to make the Pro-world choice?



ONTARIO

Parents can appeal catholic CAS decision to deny abortions to girls in their care

Ontario's new child welfare law, enacted October 1, gives pregnant girls in the care of the Catholic Children's Aid Society the right to make their own decisions, with their parents' consent, as to whether or not to have an abortion.

In situations where the society prevents an abortion, the courts will direct it to place the pregnant girl in the care of a non-sectarian CAS.

The new Child and Family Services Act replaced Ontario's Child Welfare Act, which had no provision for parents who have lost legal guardianship of their children to give consent for medical treatment.

Colin Maloney, executive director of the Metro Catholic CAS, says he is not displeased with the legislation. While the agency has a policy of opposing abortion, he said it should not be forced on pregnant girls in the society's care, noting that a "child has the right to take us to court."

"It's upsetting that the choice should be to kill something, but the moral choice should be a free one," he said.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Destruction of abortion equipment brings 18 months probation, restitution order

A County Court Judge has ordered Jim Demers to pay the Kootenay Lake District Hospital more than \$2,000 to cover the cost of abortion equipment he stole and destroyed. Demers was also sentenced to 18 months probation and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service.

At the trial in October, Demers told Judge John Cowan he did not consider his

act destructive because he took the equipment home and remodelled it into a book trolley which he returned to the hospital.

Judge Cowan ruled that defence attempts to cast doubt on the legality of abortions performed at the Nelson hospital were irrelevant. He also told Demers to stop using the term "killing" when referring to abortions.

The trial was controversial in Nelson where many anti-choice supporters did not support the destruction of equipment. Demers claimed that his actions influenced the medical community, however Dr. Nelson Ames, head of the hospital's therapeutic abortion committee, said there was "a lot of negative feeling towards Mr. Demers at the hospital."

Nelson Future Life, an anti-abortion group Demers helped to found, said it did not support civil disobedience, but that many members considered Demers' action "classy." It also said the timing of a mass mailing of full-color anti-abortion literature delivered during the trial was coincidental.

Nelson letter carriers, upset at having to distribute the unpackaged literature, ran a classified ad telling the public their union did not condone the leaflet, but that they were legally bound to deliver it.

Anti-choice transition house board forced to back down

The Quesnel Transition House board of directors backed down in September and withdrew a constitutional amendment to prevent women and teenage girls who were *considering* abortion from being accepted at the house.

Gina Hepp, a former vice-president of the transition house, sued the board when it passed the amendment illegally last February. Under the B.C. Societies Act, constitutional amendments made by extraordinary amendment can only be rescinded by the court. In September, the board backed down and agreed to withdraw the amendment.

Hepp is convinced the board won't try to do legally what it did illegally. While she says 65% of the 300 members of the transition house are "pro-life," Hepp told the Vancouver women's newspaper *Kinesis* that the "board has become cognizant of the division such an attempt would cause in the community. They would need 75%

of the membership to legally pass such an amendment and that support just isn't there."

Hepp has suffered repercussions for her own actions in a small town. "There are people who used to like me," she said, "and now they won't speak to me on the street. I feel sad that people act like that, they won't allow people to make up their own mind."

"Now, after all this, I'm pro-choice."

QUEBEC

Young women rally to maintain abortion services in Sainte-Thérèse

The women students' committee at Lionel-Groulx CEGEP and the Regroupement autonome des jeunes (RAJ) in the Montréal area have joined forces to protest a decision to end abortion services at the Sainte-Thérèse CLSC (community health centre).

Abortions were available at the CLSC for three years, until a decision by the Board of directors October 22. Pressure to stop providing abortions, menstrual extractions and morning-after pills began last February. The board decided in early May to continue services until September. On May 26, elections were held for the board and four anti-choice representatives were elected.

The Lionel-Groulx CEGEP women's committee is agitating for the restoration of service, with the support of students who met recently in a general assembly. Along with RAJ, they say they have the support of 125 community organizations in Québec, Canada and the United States.

RAJ spokesperson, Josée Chapdelaine, told reporters that the decision to stop abortions at the CLSC was taken by a small group of people who, despite appearances, represent only a small portion of the population. A survey conducted by the federation of CLSCs in 1983 showed that 80 per cent of Québeckers support free choice.

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Address

Your name (leave blank if you do not wish us to mention it)

Name of possible supporter:

Address

Your name (leave blank if you do not wish us to mention it)

Name of possible supporter:

Address

Your name (leave blank if you do not wish us to mention it)

If you would like to suggest more than three possible supporters, just send in the additional names on another sheet of paper.

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan court refuses intervenor status to all applicants

Earlier this year a private member's bill introduced in the Saskatchewan Legislature by anti-choice activist and MLA Gay Caswell was referred to the province's Court of Appeal. The bill was an attempt to place so many hurdles in the way of women seeking abortions that access would effectively be eliminated. Because the wording of the bill left its constitutional validity open to serious doubt, the Legislature voted to seek a ruling from the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal.

The Attorney-General arranged to have two lawyers independent of his department argue for and against the validity of the bill. But standing was also sought by the Saskatchewan Action Committee on the Status of Women (on behalf of a coalition of pro-choice groups opposing the bill), the Saskatchewan Pro-Life Association, and the Saskatchewan Medical Association which was concerned about the potential threat to the independence of doctors.

In late October, Chief Justice E.D. Bayda refused the intervenor applications saying "I am convinced that not one of the three parties would render sufficient assistance to the Court on the issues of constitutional law to warrant allowing their applications to intervene." He said that the strength of each group's submission lay in presenting facts regarding abortions and the impact of the bill, but the court would be restricted to issues of constitutional law.

In response, the members of the pro-choice coalition protested to the attorney-general's department that they had been misled to believe that there were grounds for an intervention application. The coalition has asked the Saskatchewan Attorney-General to pay their legal costs of \$4,750 in the unsuccessful application.

The hearing on Bill 53 was scheduled for December 19.



SPAIN

New abortion law protested from all sides

The situation resulting from Spain's new abortion law is not unlike a Peg Avriil cartoon that has appeared in women's newspapers for years: a clergyman and businessman tell each other, "Too much, too soon" while two women pronounce, "Too little, too late."

The new law legalizes abortion for the first time in Spanish history in cases of malformation of the fetus, rape or danger to the woman's life.

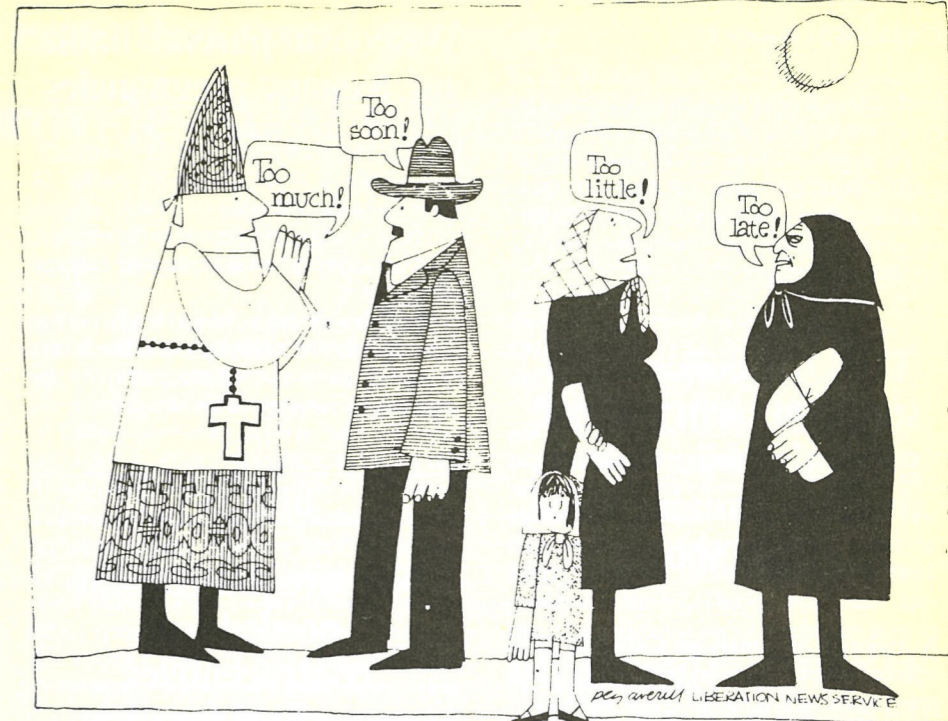
Spanish authorities decided in July to install a hotline providing women with information on abortion because of government fears that some doctors may withhold the facts. A poll of doctors showed only 12 per cent were willing to carry out abortions, while 40 to 80 per cent said they would sign a "conscientious objectors" list and refuse to perform the abortion.

The health ministry, however, was forced by the Spanish National Medical Association to abandon the plan for an objectors' list. The association's board advised doctors not to declare their personal views and to refuse each abortion case by case.

In August, the church joined the fray when a bishop excommunicated a 20-year-old woman and her doctors after she underwent an abortion. The woman travelled 320 kilometres from her home town to find doctors who were willing to perform the operation. Doctors in her home town had ruled that she was entitled to an abortion after she had suffered German measles, a disease which can cause fetal malformation. However, they refused to carry out the operation on the grounds of conscience.

Frustration with the new law and its opponents came to a head the first weekend in November when nearly 3,000 feminists gathered at a national convention in Barcelona and voted to do something "decisively courageous" to protest against the inadequacies of the law.

The next day, a group announced that they had taken two pregnant women into an adjoining conference room and that medical technicians had aborted both pregnancies. Two fetuses were presented in bottles and almost all the conventioners signed confessions of responsibility to create a showdown with Spanish



justice. The pregnancies did not meet any of the law's limitations, according to convention organizers.

The convention also demanded that doctors in public hospitals be compelled to perform abortions and that abortions be unlimited. Doctors in many public and private hospitals have said they are reluctant to perform even one abortion because their superiors have said if they do they will have to do all the abortions in the hospital.

Authorities had projected 25,000 abortions in the first year of the law, but the health ministry reported that only about 20 were recorded by early October.

UNITED STATES

Clinic Bombings bring 10 years in Baltimore, appeal to Cardinal in Philadelphia

A lay minister in Baltimore was sentenced to 10 years in prison for conspiring to bomb 10 clinics or offices of abortion supporters in three states and the District of Columbia.

Calling bombings of clinics "cowardly and vicious," a federal judge also ordered Michael Bray to pay more than \$43,000 in restitution.

Meanwhile, in Philadelphia, an abor-

tion clinic targeted for demonstrations appealed in September to Roman Catholic Cardinal John Krol to help reduce violence and harassment aimed at the clinic.

"We turn to you because violent opposition to abortion is increasing on both a national and local level," said the Northeast Women's Centre in a letter to Krol, who has been among active leaders in the anti-abortion movement in the United States. The centre, which earlier filed a federal lawsuit against Pro-Life Non-Violent Action Project, which broke in and damaged medical equipment, asked Krol to use his "position of moral leadership and trust...to publicly condemn" violent tactics.

Birth control ad too controversial for TV

The National Organization for Women has asked the Federal Communications Commission to investigate ABC and CBS for refusing to broadcast a public service announcement about avoiding unwanted pregnancy.

According to CBS, the network did not think a 30-second announcement was the place to discuss the issue, which is "controversial."

The announcement promotes a booklet which suggests that birth control includes

Continued on page 14

Continued from page 13

deciding not to have sex as well as use of birth control pills for young women and condoms for young men. In its complaint, NOW argued "the networks owe a special public interest duty because of their extraordinary emphasis on sexual themes in entertainment programming and its impact on teenagers."

U.S. Catholics reject stand on birth control, general public view on abortion remains same, polls show

A majority of American Catholics have rejected church bans on birth control and pre-marital sex, a recent study shows.

Author Rev. Andrew Greeley, who compiled the study from polls and opinion samples taken by varied organizations during the last two decades, said "there has been a drastic decline in Catholic acceptance of the official teaching of the institutional church. In 1963 over half the American Catholic population disapproved of both birth control and divorce. Now only little more than a tenth believe that remarriage after divorce is impossible and that birth control is wrong."

American public opinion on abortion, however, has changed little since 1972, according to recent polls by the National Opinion Research Centre.

The NORC has surveyed adults aged 18 and older 13 times since 1972. In 1985, 89 per cent believe that a pregnant woman should be able to get a legal abortion if her health would be seriously endangered by the pregnancy — a proportion two percentage points lower than the 1972-84 average. Seventy-nine per cent approve if there is a strong chance of a serious defect in the baby. If the woman became pregnant as a result of rape, 81 per cent approve.

The largest decline from the average — seven percentage points — was in cases where the family income is very low; 44 per cent in 1985 expressed approval for this reason. A similar proportion approve if the woman is not married and does not want to marry or if the woman is married and does not want more children. Thirty-seven per cent favour legal abortion for any reason.

Wisconsin parents liable for teenage pregnancies

Wisconsin parents will be held financially responsible if their daughters under 18 years old have babies.

The new state law, passed in November, is an attempt to battle unwanted teenage pregnancies.

Welfare agencies will be able to take the parents of both the mother and the father to court to make them pay for the expenses of raising the child.

BRITAIN

No parental consent needed for contraceptives prescribed for girls under 16

In a controversial October ruling, the House of Lords' Law Lords gave the go-ahead to British doctors to legally prescribe contraceptive pills to girls under 16, without parental consent.

By a 3-2 vote, the court said parents do not have absolute authority over their children.

The ruling overturned a lower court

decision last year that effectively banned doctors from offering contraceptive advice or treatment to underaged girls without their parents' knowledge. The case was started three years ago by Victoria Gillick, a mother of 10, who had opposed Department of Health and Social Security guidelines concerning contraceptive treatment for girls under 16, the legal age of consent in Britain.

Last year the Appeal Court ruled that the department's guidelines infringed on the parents' right to control how and where their children spend their time. In the most recent ruling, however, Lord Scarman of the Law Lords said the law had never treated parental rights as sovereign. "Parental rights are derived from parental duty and exist so long as they are needed for the protection of the person and property of the child," he wrote.

Gillick burst into tears upon hearing the verdict, calling the decision "a male charter to abuse and harm the young female population."

"If there are deaths from the pill now, if there is rampant disease among the young, if they have cervical cancer amongst the under-25's, if AIDS is now spread amongst that age group in the next five or 10 years, it won't be my fault," she said.

Her campaign had become a *cause celebre* among pro-life and conservative groups. Sex education has long been taught in Britain and abortion has been widely available since the late 1960's.



On the other side of the street ... the message — Never Again — came through loud and clear.

The issue that won't go away Big Evasion provides solid reference material

The Big Evasion
Abortion
The Issue That Won't Go Away
By Anne Collins, Lester & Orpen Dennys

(Review by Penny Kome
First published in *The Globe & Mail*,
June 1, 1985 and reprinted with
permission of the author)

The Big Evasion traces the development of abortion as a political controversy in Canada, in exhaustive but fascinating detail. Journalist Anne Collins presents research ranging from church doctrine to fetology, from writer Jonathan Schell to the Supreme Court of Canada. She climbs this mountain of information in the first person, engaging the reader with her skill and nimbleness as much as with her daring.

In Canada, all artificial forms of fertility control were technically illegal until the 1969 Criminal Code revisions which finally decriminalized "disseminating" information about contraception and permitted hospital-approved therapeutic abortions. As a compromise solution validating existing medical practices, the therapeutic abortion committee system protected doctors but satisfied almost nobody else.

In particular, the compromise did not satisfy the small but vocal group opposed to abortion under any circumstances, who are supported by some fundamentalist and Catholic churches (but not, as Collins shows, as a matter of official church policy). Nor did it satisfy the fledgling modern feminist movement, which asserted a woman's absolute right to control her reproductive life. Since 1970, newspaper headlines have frequently featured lobbying and legal challenges by both sides.

Two self-anointed martyrs have also emerged. Collins provides penetrating profiles of both Dr. Henry Morgentaler and former NDP MLA Joe Borowski, "boxers in opposite corners of the ring." This book offers a much-needed scorecard for keeping track of key players in the ongoing controversy, people such as

Norma Scarborough, president of the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League, and anti-abortion lawyer Gwen Landolt.

The Big Evasion painstakingly details the recent constitutional challenges to the current abortion law. As well, it reports conversations with dozens of people, including anti-abortionists and patients and staff at abortion clinics, to show the human faces behind the abstract debate.

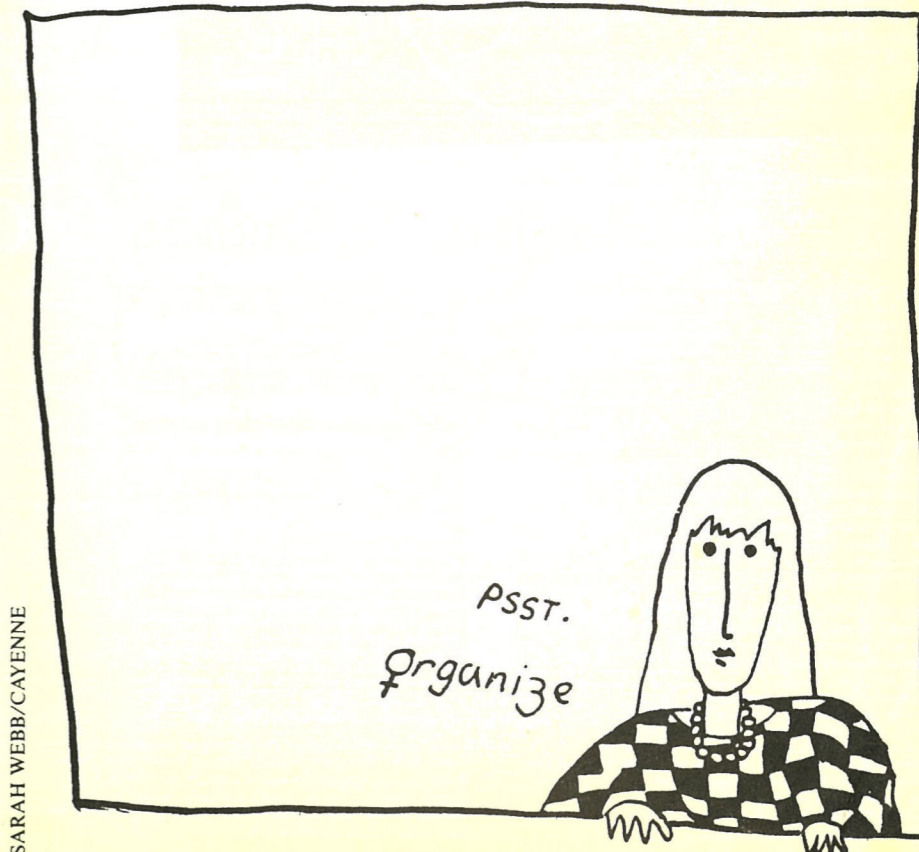
With all her balanced reporting, Collins seems in danger of losing her first-person point of view; but finally she does draw some conclusions. In examining the evidence presented at the Borowski hearing, she reviews fetology and concludes that "(Bernard) Nathanson's contention... that the only difference between a one-month embryo and a seventh-month fetus is mass and weight is not just a simplification but a direct misinterpretation of fetal development."

Similarly, although she presents some anti-abortion activists sympathetically,

Collins finally rejects their argument that abortion makes victims of women. "It views women as victims of circumstance, not as adults who might deal with difficult choices in a responsible way, and who should be allowed to accept the consequences of their own decisions."

If *The Big Evasion* is sometimes heavy going, it is because of the sheer amount of information (especially legal information) meticulously presented. It tells more about the "pro-life" movement than perhaps even that movement really wants to know. (Buyers should also check their copies carefully. The printer has misplaced a folio in some of the copies now in stores: pages 55-78 are omitted and pages 31-54 are repeated.)

The Big Evasion contains solid reference material, a few investigative gems, and a thoughtful analysis of a complex, emotional and often murky topic. Anne Collins has produced a very readable and informative guide to an issue that continues to dominate public affairs.



SARAH WEBB/CAYENNE

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Alberta Status of Women Action Committee, Edmonton, Alberta

British Columbia Teachers Federation, Vancouver

Calgary Birth Control Association, Calgary, Alta.

Calgary Status of Women Action Committee, Calgary, Alta.

Canadian Air Line Flight Attendants' Assoc., Vancouver, B.C.

Canadian Air Line Flight Attendants' Assoc., Mississauga, Ont.

Canadian Unitarian Council, Toronto, Ont.

Carleton University Women's Centre, Ottawa, Ont.

Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter, Red Deer, Alta.

Centre de santé des femmes, Sherbrooke, P.Q.

La clinique des femmes de l'Outaouais, Hull, P.Q.

Chilliwack Citizens for Choice, Sardis, B.C.

Citizens for Reproductive Rights, Moose Jaw, Sask.

C.I.L.S.C. Centre-Sud, Montréal, P.Q.

Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Winnipeg, Man.

Collectif féministe de Rouyn, Noranda pour la santé des femmes, Rouyn, P.Q.

Comité condition féminine, Montréal, P.Q.

Community Health Services, Saskatoon, Sask.

Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion, Vancouver, B.C.

Cranbrook Women's Health Network, Cranbrook, B.C.

Doctors for Choice, Toronto

Fédération du Québec pour le planning des naissances, Montréal, P.Q.

Fédération Québécoise des Infirmières et Infirmiers, Montréal, P.Q.

Herizons, The Manitoba Women's Newspaper, Winnipeg, Man.

Humanist Association of Canada

Kingston Action Committee on the Status of Women, Kingston, Ont.

Kingston Sexual Assault Centre, Kingston, Ont.

Labour Council of Metropolitan Toronto, Don Mills, Ont.

Lakeshore Unitarian Church, Pointe Claire, P.Q.

Les Editions du Remue-Ménage, Montréal, P.Q.

London Status of Women Action Group, London, Ont.

Manitoba Advisory Council on the Status of Women, Winnipeg, Man.

Maternal Health Society, B.C.

Montreal Health Press Inc., Montréal, P.Q.

National Action Committee, Status of Women, Toronto, Ont.

National Association of Women and the Law, Ottawa, Ont.

National Association of Women and the Law, P.E.I. Caucus, Charlotte-

town, P.E.I.

National Association of Women and the Law, University of Victoria,

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Nellie's Hostel, Toronto, Ont.

North Bay Women's Centre, North Bay, Ont.

North Shore Women's Centre, North Vancouver, B.C.

North Shore Association for Choice on Abortion, North Vancouver,

B.C.

Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics, Toronto, Ont.

Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres, Peterborough, Ont.

Ontario Committee on the Status of Women, Toronto, Ont.

Ontario New Democratic Party Women's Committee, Toronto, Ont.

Participation of Women Committee, N.D.P., Ottawa, Ont.

Personal Rights Association, Weyburn, Sask.

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Port Coquitlam Area Women's Centre, Port Coquitlam, B.C.

Prince Albert District Pro-Choice Coalition, Prince Albert, Sask.

Prince George Women's Resource Centre, Prince George, B.C.

Queen's Women's Centre, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.

Queen's Women's Law Caucus, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.

Rape Crisis Centre, Hamilton, Ont.

Regina Women's Committee Centre, Regina, Sask.

Richmond Women's Centre, Richmond, B.C.

Room of One's Own, Vancouver, B.C.

Saskatchewan Action Committee on the Status of Women, Regina,

Sask.

Saskatchewan Working Women, Saskatoon, Sask.

Saskatoon Abortion Rights Association, Saskatoon, Sask.

Saskatoon Women's Reproductive Rights Movement, Saskatoon, Sask.

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby Women's Centre, B.C.

Sudbury Women's Centre, Sudbury, Ont.

Timmins Sexual Assault Centre, Timmins, Ont.

Toronto Business & Professional Women's Club, Toronto, Ont.

University of Waterloo Birth Control Centre, Waterloo, Ont.

Vancouver Women's Health Collective, Vancouver, B.C.

Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre, Whitehorse, Yukon

Victoria Status of Women Action Group, Victoria, B.C.

West Kootenay Women's Association, Nelson, B.C.

Wellspring Women's Association, Whitehorse, Yukon

Women & the Law, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, Toronto

Women of Halton Action Movement, Ont.

Women's Centre, Student's Union, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute,

Toronto, Ont.

Women's Centre, University of Regina, Regina, Sask.

Women's Counselling, Referral and Education Centre, Toronto, Ont.

Women's Directorate, Saskatoon, Sask.

Women's Health Clinic, Winnipeg, Man.

Women's Issues Commission, University of Western Ontario, London,

Ont.

Women's Research and Resource Centre, Toronto, Ont.

Women's Resource Centre, St. John's, Nfld.

Young Women's Christian Assoc. of Canada (YWCA), Toronto, Ont.

YWCA of Metro Toronto, Toronto, Ont.

Yukon Status of Women's Council, Whitehorse, Yukon