

THE TIME TO FIGHT



On October 14 thousands of pro-choice supporters are rallying across the country. We are demanding that there be no new criminal law on abortion. It is hypocritical for the federal government to consider criminal regulation when it has so spectacularly failed to address the horribly unequal access to this vital health service. We know that :

■ The unnecessary and arbitrary time restrictions in the proposed law will endanger women's health;

■ Poor women, women of colour, young women and those from underserved areas will suffer the most from any restrictions in access.

Abortion is a matter of health policy, not criminal law. Every woman must be guaranteed free and equal access to birth control, abortion and all other needed reproductive health care in her own community. We are also demanding that both levels of government provide the community clinics and other resources required to meet this goal. There is no need for new legislation. The federal government must use the Canada Health Act to force provinces to provide the necessary services.

What next in the fight for Choice?

1. The federal government still threatens to bring in a restrictive criminal law on abortion, ignoring the needs of women and majority public opinion.

**When a new law is introduced into Parliament,
DEMONSTRATE**

5:30

the next day (24 hours after)

at Tory Party Headquarters, 121 Richmond St West

2. Come out to the Emergency Strategy Meeting on How to Fight the Recriminalization of Abortion:

Wednesday, Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m., 427 Bloor St. W.

♀CHOICE

JOIN the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics!

Here are some other ways you can get involved -

3. The Ontario government has introduced Bill 147, the Independent Health Facilities Act. It could severely hinder new community reproductive health care clinics being established and close down one of Toronto's existing abortion clinics. Be prepared to fight back if the Province moves against the Choice in Health Clinic. Call the clinic at 975-9300 on how to get involved in its defense.

4. Help DEFEND the Toronto clinics against the anti-choice vigilantes of 'Operation Rescue'. These bigots viciously harass clients and staff in an attempt to prevent women from exercising their freedom of choice. The anti-choice agenda is clear -- they want to impose their minority opinion on all -- by force.

- *get on our emergency phone lists if you can help defend the clinics.*
- *come out to the next community defense against 'Operation Rescue'.*

5. REMEMBER the upcoming 4th annual benefit for OCAC:

Wednesday Nov. 15, Lee's Palace

- REMEMBER to shop at the Toronto Women's Bookstore the week of OCTOBER 16. 10% of proceeds are being donated to OCAC. Wear your CHOICE buttons and t-shirts. Keep the Pro-Choice majority visible.

6. Get involved in the work of the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics:

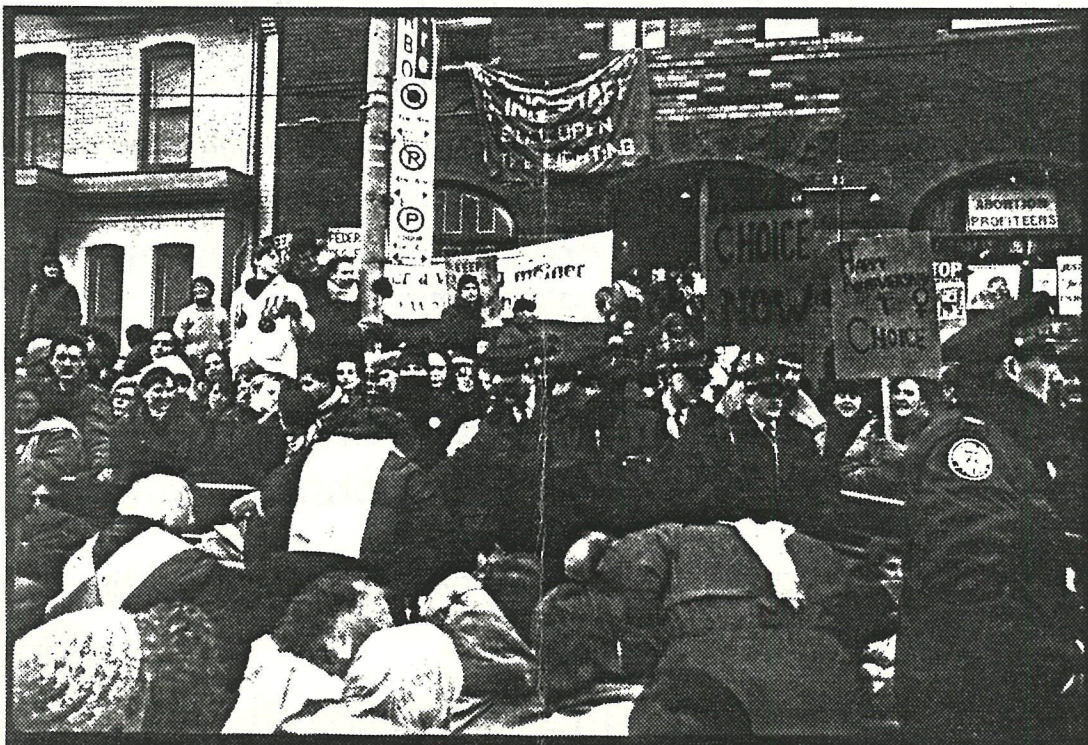
- come to our Tuesday night meetings -- every other week at 427 Bloor St West at 7:30. **NEXT MEETING DATES: October 24, November 7, November 21.**

- join one of the working committees that organize our many actions, build alliances with other groups and communities, prepare educational material, work with the media and raise our money.

- get an OCAC speaker to come to your union, university or community group.

- donate money if you can to help us continue to build the pro-choice movement. There are no tax-exempt churches funding our work.

With the introduction of legislation recriminalizing abortion, the pressure will be on for 'compromises' to be accepted. The pro-choice movement must stand up and say clearly, women seeking abortions are not criminals. We will not 'compromise' on ensuring full access to free abortion for any woman who wants that medical service. We are never going back to the backstreet. The struggle for choice is at a critical juncture. **JOIN US.**



Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics, P.O. Box 753, Stn. P, Toronto M5S 2Z1