Charges dismissed against 43 rescuers in Louisville

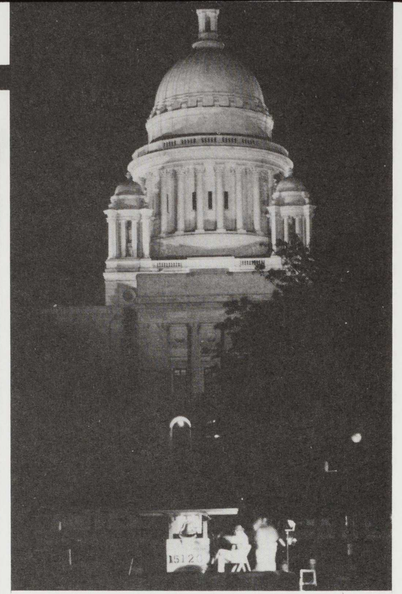
Louisville, KY — Criminal charges against 43 pro-life rescuers have been dismissed after the prosecutor failed to call the owner of the facility to testify on November 11. The charges of obstructing a public passageway stemmed from rescues on three separate occasions at the notorious Women's Health Services in Louisville.

Vincent F. Heuser, Jr., an attorney assisting the defendants, explained, "In the morning, the prosecutor was presenting her case well and the jury did not appear to favor us. She [the prosecutor] had been angry and aggressive all along. During jury selection, five of the potential jurors admitted to being so in favor of abortion that they already believed the defendants were guilty. Her first witness, a female police officer, did a good job on the stand. I thought she was well on her way to proving her side of the case.

"When we returned from a recess, the prosecutor seemed to be less confident and to be having some difficulty. She called three more police officers to the stand but they added nothing to the testimony. After presenting those witnesses, she wandered up to the judge and said, 'I think I have proven all I need to prove,' raising her voice as if to say, 'Haven't I, judge?' I was surprised when she then rested her case. She was definitely not up to her earlier performance."

Although the prosecutor had subpoenaed Ronachai Banchongmanie, M.D., the abortionist, to testify, she never called him to the stand. A local newspaper story reported that he had been awaiting the call on his pager and was upset to learn that the case was dismissed without his testimony. "The testimony of the owner was needed to show that the defendants had no legal right to be on the property, a fact that the prosecutor just didn't prove," Heuser said.

During recess just before the prosecution rested, a group of the defendants had been praying that the "pro-death forces would be confused" and the truth would prevail.



Late night volunteers continue ringing for the murdered children.

Lock and block rescuers sentenced to 10 days

by Cameron Gulden, staff writer

Milwaukee, WI — Two rescuers who participated in a car/lock and block rescue at a Milwaukee killing center last summer during the Short-Term Mission were recently sentenced to just 10 days in jail.

Mike Schmiedicke, who recently served two years in jail for rescuing preborn children from death, along with Rob Judge, returned to Milwaukee on December 2 for their trial, only to find that the date had been changed. A warrant had been issued for their arrest, since they had missed the pre-trial date because they were in jail in Houston. The two informed the judge that they would be unable to return at a later date and said they would plead "no contest."

"...SHE DIDN'T CONSIDER [THEM] TO BE CRIMINALS."

The prosecuting attorney, Stephanie Rothstein, vehemently asked that the two rescuers be sentenced to 30 days, with their attorney responding with a request for only 20 days. However, the judge miraculously decided on a sentence of 10 days. "The judge seemed to be very impressed with the fact that they had made an effort to come back to trial," said Monica Miller, who was at the rescue and trial. "She even said that she didn't consider Mike and Rob to be criminals." The two were also given credit for a day served last summer.

Though Schmiedicke and Judge were released on December 10, Miller is still facing charges allegedly stemming from the rescue. During the rescue, Schmiedicke began to have muscle spasms and asked to have his ankles removed from the Kryptonite lock they were locked to. Though Miller did not have the keys on her, she told the officer she would try to locate the person who did.

A week later, a warrant was issued for Miller's arrest. "They said I was 'acting in concert' with those who were breaking the injunction," said Miller, "but the people who did the rescue aren't even on the injunction."

Miller noted the absurdity of the charges. "It's ridiculous that I could get a year in jail and/or a $5,000 fine for just saying I'd look for a key," she said.

For whom the bell tolls

Providence, RI — The intersection of Gaspee and Francis Streets in Providence lies at the foot of the red brick walkway which leads up Capitol Hill to the main entrance of the Rhode Island State House. A bustling traffic hub during working hours, the corner was quiet shortly before midnight on Sunday evening, October 11, as a flatbed truck rounded the curve by the Gaspee Street Amtrak station, and pulled over to the curb at the intersection. A 20-foot banner on the side of the truck proclaimed *"For Whom The Bell Tolls...114,000 Rhode Island children who have died from legalized ABORTION."* On the flatbed, a heavy cast iron bell hung from a wooden framework. On the stroke of midnight, the bell tolled, its vibrant tone reverberating among the buildings of Providence's nearby downtown business district. Five seconds later, the bell pealed again, and would continue to do so every five seconds around the clock, until it had rung 114,000 times, once for every child killed in Rhode Island's four abortuaries since the Supreme Court's ungodly 1973 decision legalizing abortion.

The "bell-ringing" was the first public pro-life event sponsored by the newly-organized Rhode Island Coalition for Life, an ad hoc association including representatives from 21 Rhode Island churches and organizations. Teams of Coalition members manned the bell station around the clock, regardless of weather, for 158 hours (almost a week).

The event had a dual objective, serving as a memorial for the innocent victims of abortion, and educating the public regarding the magnitude of abortion in the state, a statistic consistently downplayed by the abortion industry.

Brief says early feminists opposed abortion

Cites 19th-century feminists to make case

by Religious News Service

Chicago, IL -- A brief filed with the U.S. Supreme Court in a case involving demonstrations at abortion clinics cites 19th-century feminists who opposed abortion in an effort to show that such demonstrations do not undercut women's civil rights.

The case is based on charges that protesters who block access to abortion clinics are infringing on the civil rights of women as a class.

The brief, filed by Americans United for Life, argues that since women are among the protesters blocking abortion clinics, such actions cannot be considered discrimination against women or violations of women's civil rights.

The brief cites statements by Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Victoria Woodhull, all 19th-century feminists, to make its case.

Spokespersons for Americans United for Life discussed the brief at a Washington press conference following the hearing of oral arguments before the high court in the case of *Jayne Bray v. Alexandria Women's Health Clinic.*

Wendy E. Stone, a public affairs associate of Americans United for Life in Chicago, said at the press conference that "there is simply no basis for federal court jurisdiction in these cases."

SUSAN B. ANTHONY CALLED ABORTION "CHILD MURDER"...

Lower courts have ruled that women may seek relief against such protests under the Civil Rights Act of 1871. It was known as the Ku Klux Klan Act because it was intended to protect racial minorities against bigotry and violence.

According to Stone, the early feminist foremothers in the United States strongly opposed abortion at the time the Ku Klux Klan Act was passed.

The notion that opposition is discrimination, as was violation of black Americans' civil rights, "is insulting and preposterous," she said. "Those who engage in civil disobedience to rescue unborn children and their mothers from the horror of abortion care deeply about women and in many cases are themselves women."

She said early feminists had viewed abortion as "an abhorrent consequence of the oppression and disenfranchisement of women and denounced it in the strongest terms."

The brief, which was filed by Americans United for Life on behalf of Feminists for Life of America and the Professional Women's Network, cited several examples "of early feminists" opposition to abortion, including the following:

— Susan B. Anthony called abortion "child murder" in her newspaper, *The Revolution*, in 1869, and the newspaper refused to print "thinly disguised advertisements for patent medicine abortifacients."

— Elizabeth Cady Stanton wrote in 1873 that "when we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property to be disposed of as we see fit."

— Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to attempt to run for president of the United States, wrote in 1875 that "every woman knows that if she were free, she would never bear an unwished-for child, nor think of murdering one before its birth."

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Triple homicide charges pending

by Cathy Ramey

New York, NY — In September a dispute at a community block party in the Bronx left three persons dead, including a 1-pound-15-ounce girl delivered by Cesarean section after her mother was pronounced dead. Emergency Medical Technician Tony Dedivanovic stated, "She (the mother) was so critical. On the way to the hospital we determined she may be pregnant — she looked it — and then we had two lives to worry about."

Twenty-year-old Nicole Brown, a Jamaican immigrant in the second trimester of her pregnancy, was shot in the back by an unknown assailant as she argued with another woman outside of the Clay Avenue party. Paul Speid, 22, was also shot and was pronounced dead upon arrival at a local trauma center.

Another victim survived after being shot in the buttocks.

Lincoln Hospital staff reported that Brown was pronounced dead at 11:50 p.m., but the baby was not delivered alive until 12:19 a.m.

According to Norma Noriega, "The baby had a heartbeat, she was alive, but had no muscle response, no reflexes. The baby was resuscitated and given drugs. Everyone made an effort to have the baby survive. She was taken to the neonatal intensive care unit, and in spite of the efforts she was pronounced dead at 3 a.m."

Police report that they have not yet located a suspect in the killings, but consider the tiny girl a homicide victim.

Cause of death given for the Brown baby is "prematurity; maternal gunshot wound."