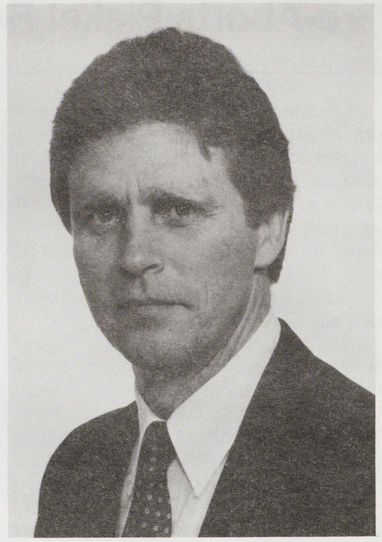
# Blood Money

*by Thomas Strohbar*

Blood Money: that is the money immorally made by companies directly involved in the abortion industry, or corporate money given to America's best known abortion "provider," Planned Parenthood. Unfortunately, it may be your money. Without your knowing it, the blood could be on your hands!

If you own stock in, or purchase products from, any of 50 publicly traded companies, you are either profiting from abortion or helping fund Planned Parenthood and other pro-abortion groups. Until now, other than boycotting the products of these companies, there was little you could do. This strategy depended on them selling a retail product or service.

Now, you can do something that gives



Thomas Strohbar

you tremendous power and leverage. You can become, or threaten to become (anyone can do this), a nominal shareholder of one or more of these corporations. As a shareholder, you have something that no one else has—a legal claim on the corporation and, more importantly, its Board of Directors. Whether you own one share or one million shares, your claim is the same, and every company knows and fears it. Huge corporations have lost great sums in suits and related legal costs over the actions of a small shareholder. I know, I've done it!

In a nutshell, here's how it works. The Board of Directors of corporations have a fiduciary responsibility to shareholders to do everything they can to maximize shareholder value through prudent investment. Although the directive is clear, what constitutes its proper fulfillment is a gray area. Giving money away is questionable; and giving it to controversial, political groups could be seen as a breach of a corporation's fiduciary responsibility.

By giving money away to "pro-choice" groups without shareholder consent, corporations are creating bad will. And of course, these gifts are supposed to create good will. Pillsbury, for example, admitted receiving 5,000 negative letters over their contributions to Planned Parenthood. This is clearly bad will, and any prudent Board of Directors would avoid any activity that is known to produce this kind of reaction.

Good will is intangible, but 5,000 letters and consumer boycotts are quite tangible. They affect the bottom line—the reason a corporation exists. Board members who

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# Atlanta

## What Is Happening?

Rescue efforts in Atlanta have added a final element: we are not going away. The church and this nation will discover in Atlanta that this country is not big enough for both the church and publicly protected child killing. Christian, you must choose to speak and stand against child killing, or defend child killing by your silence. Will you stand with us?

## What Opportunity Does It Give You?

### Why Atlanta?

We, along with many others, have left behind family, friends, jobs—all we hold dear. Why? Because as members of the church of Jesus Christ, we came to see that the price of our personal prosperity was to abandon the children to their butchers—the abortionists. We believe that somehow, somewhere, we must stop purchasing our freedom with their blood.

We are gathering in Atlanta to raise a standard in the nation of what the church does when faced with human sacrifice: call forth and support those who will risk everything to stop it.

Our sacrifice is an opportunity for you, as part of the church, to help us make Atlanta too small to contain *both* Christians and public child killing.

You have a unique place in this effort. God bless you.

### What you can do

**A** Pray for revival, reformation, renewal and awakening in the church so that God can bring transformation to the American culture.

**B** Stand with us in Atlanta. By making one (1) telephone call or sending one letter each week to:

Solicitor General James Webb
State Court of Fulton County
160 Pryor Street SW / Room 53
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 730-4800

Mayor Maynard Jackson
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
Atlanta, GA 30335
(404) 330-6021

**C** If God is calling you to a full time commitment to take a stand here in Atlanta with us—pray first—then contact this number to receive additional information: (404) 421-9552

**D** Support the prisoners and their families with a financial gift through the **Prisoner Relief Fund.** Gifts are not tax-deductible.

**E** If God has placed a special burden on your heart for Atlanta, then you may want to be kept updated through our monthly newsletter.

**Prisoners Of Christ (P.O.C.)**
1033 Franklin Road, Suite 297 • Marietta, GA 30067
(404) 421-9552



# Church files suit over the serving of court papers

*Reprint from The Virginian-Pilot, 6-12-90*

Photo: Andy Dart

Police cars are used to block parking lot exits during the June 1989 invasion of New Creation Community Church Sunday services.

**Chesapeake, VA**—A church known for its anti-abortion activism filed suit Monday against Norfolk and Chesapeake police and a women's clinic, alleging that officers interrupted a worship service a year ago to serve court papers.

The New Creation Community church, its pastor and 21 members said in the lawsuit that their constitutional rights to free speech, worship and assembly had been violated as well as state law.

On June 11, 1989, an off-duty Norfolk Police detective and two uniformed Chesapeake police officers entered the church at 1600 Elbow Road and served notices of a lawsuit filed by the Hillcrest Clinic in Norfolk.

The clinic was seeking to stop the church members and their pastor, J. Donald Varela, from blocking its entrances at 1600 E. Little Creek Road and harassing patients and employees. Varela is leader of the local Operation Rescue anti-abortion activist group.

Church members at the service said it was interrupted by the police. But Chesapeake police later said the service had ended before the court papers were served inside the church. Four days later, a Norfolk Circuit Court judge threw out the notices because they were served on a Sunday in violation of state law. But he issued a temporary injunction against Operation Rescue and others, prohibiting them from trespassing at the clinic.

New Creation's attorney, Gary C. Byler, said Monday that "this case has nothing to do with abortion but with sanctuary in a church."

The lawsuit, which seeks $359 million, alleges that New Creation Community was targeted for its particular religious beliefs.

"They would not walk into a synagogue or a Catholic church with a steeple on top," Byler said. "They picked on these people because they are evangelical Christians."

Named as defendants in the lawsuit were Norfolk Police Chief Henry P. Henson, Norfolk Police Detective Warren J. Zaccagnini, Chesapeake Police Sgt. H.L. Capps and an unidentified Chesapeake police officer. None could be reached for comment Monday.

Also named were Hillcrest Clinic; Linda S. Laibstain, its attorney; and others who New Creation said had conspired with the police. Clinic officials also could not be reached late Monday, and Laibstain did not return a reporter's phone call.

The 20-page lawsuit contends that the officers blocked the parking lot of the church during its afternoon worship service; restrained and demanded identification from members inside and outside the church, including two nursing mothers sitting in a parked van; and abruptly ended the worship service.

The lawsuit also said the church and its grounds were unconstitutionally searched and its members falsely imprisoned. It alleged that several state laws were violated by serving court papers on Sunday, blocking entry to and departure from a church, carrying handguns into church, disrupting a church service, searching without a warrant and having police officers participate in civil matters.

Zaccagnini, the Norfolk detective, was hired by Laibstain to serve the papers while off duty.

Byler said the lawsuit was intended to send a message to the authorities: "We're not going to allow police officers to interrupt church services ever again in this commonwealth." ■

## Blood Money

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persist in such irresponsible actions face class action damage suits that could reach into the millions of dollars, even though their contribution may "only" be $10,000.

For example, if a judge or jury could be convinced that as a result of the imprudent action of the Board of Directors of some corporation, the stock price dropped a mere 1/8 of a point, shareholders could be entitled to $125 million. Facing the prospect of such large damages, what sensible corporation would persist in this questionable activity?

I am not recommending taking direct legal action at this time. It is, at the very least, a time-consuming process. The possibility of legal action by shareholders or potential shareholders (this means you!) should be sufficient to sway many boards of directors. Prudent corporations should see the light.

Another thing anyone can do is to urge your prolife friends, your church or your university, to divest themselves of companies that profit from abortion or fund pro-abortion groups. They might retain a nominal number of shares for purposes outlined above, but they should sell the rest of the shares of these companies. This tactic was used to fight apartheid 10,000 miles away in South Africa and should be used to fight abortion here. More people die from abortion in our country daily than have died from politically motivated deaths in South Africa in twenty years. Abortion is the fundamental human rights issue of our time. Surely, it deserves even more of a response than was evoked by apartheid.

Selling shares is detrimental to a corporation and drives the price of the stock down. Corporations that persist in giving away shareholder money, knowing the deleterious effect such gifts may have on the price of the stock, expose themselves further.

It was once said, "The business of America is business." We can work so that the business of America isn't death.

*For more information on what companies are doing about this and what you or your group can do, please call me at Pro Vita Advisors, P.O. Box 292813, Dayton, OH 45429 (tel: 513/298-8125).* ■

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