Pro-Lifers Flood Office of DA With Letters

From the Record-Searchlight, 9-29-90

Redding, CA—Anti-abortion activists have deluged the Shasta County district attorney's office with angry letters and gruesome post cards in protest of July's high profile Operation Rescue trial.

The flood of letters and pictures that depict mangled fetuses has been delivered to Jerry Benito, who prosecuted the case against the anti-abortion protesters.

Most letters, all but one of which came from outside Shasta County, express more than mere disappointment with the trial's outcome.

Shasta County Municipal Court Judge Gregory Caskey also has received letters, Benito said, but Caskey declined to comment because one of the defendants is appealing his conviction.

In the trial, the nine defendants were convicted of offenses that stemmed from a protest at a Redding abortion clinic.

The letters and cards "started within two weeks (of the trial's conclusion) and they've come in pretty consistently at two or three a day since then," said Benito. The trial ended July 24.

Letters and information from the trial fill a box in the corner of Benito's office—the type of storage problem usually generated only by lengthy felony cases.

Most suggest, as one letter does, "when you so display your lack of justice, your lack of common sense, honor and integrity, you betray public trust."

Of all the letters he has received since the end of the trial, not one is supportive of the verdict or the way the trial was handled.

"I got a lot of calls of encouragement before the trial, but nothing afterward," he said.

The early letters came from the area just south of Sacramento, and now are primarily from the Los Angeles area. "You can see how the news traveled south," Benito said. ■

OR and Terry Fined, Supporters Threatened

by Paul deParrie

Washington D.C.—Federal Judge Louis Oberdorfer ordered on October 3 that Operation Rescue, Randall Terry, and other named defendants had 30 days in which to pay a $5,000 contempt fine and $42,000 in attorney's fees. The order continued by adding that the money would be collected from "any person or organization which pays or assumes the bills, wages, fines, or any other monetary obligation incurred by Operation Rescue or its successor or Randall Terry."

In short, anyone who supports OR, Terry, or other defendants in any way will be subject to pay the fees levied against the organization and Terry.

"If a donor," said an Operation Rescue news release, "wishes to pay...Mr. Terry's personal phone bill, that donor would be liable for $47,000."

Another pro-life leader commented, "Currently, U.S. law prohibits obedience to God's command to rescue those being dragged to slaughter. Judge Oberdorfer's ruling now prohibits Christians from obeying God in giving to those in need." ■

Profile

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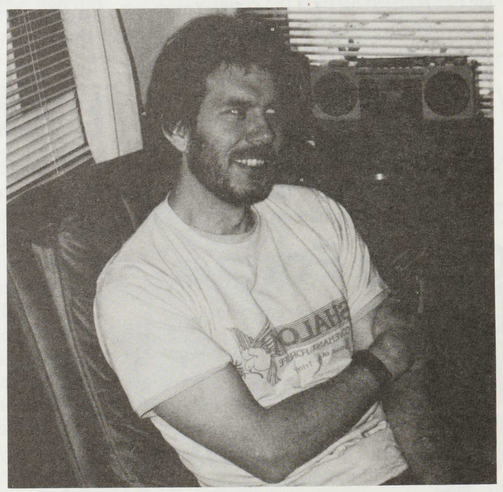
1988 with his first rescue in New York with Operation Rescue. He has rescued in Atlanta, Akron, Youngstown, Pittsburgh and many other places. He also spent 51 days in the Weeks Correctional Facility in Vermont.

Mike and Kevin are the first two abortion protesters in Allegheny County to receive state prison sentences. Mike drew a one to two year prison sentence for his conviction on charges of reckless endangerment, failure to disperse and obstruction of public highways. Kevin was convicted of the same charges and received a six months to two year prison sentence.



Kevin Cleary

The convictions stemmed from the June 17, 1989 rescue outside of Allegheny Reproductive Services in East Liberty (Pittsburgh) where Mike and Kevin, along with other rescuers, linked themselves to a car using bicycle locks.

Judge Joseph James asked Mike if he would refrain from protests that would lead to his arrest. Mike replied "No." Kevin also refused to promise to refrain from being arrested. Judge James asked Kevin, "You are willing to do this for your beliefs?" Kevin responded "Yes."

Mike was later sentenced to another two years for a different rescue. The judge has insisted that he serve the sentences consecutively rather than concurrently.

Mike still faces trial for a third rescue. ■

Brenda Kaddatz and son, Joshua John

"On January 28, 1989 I arrived at a local abortion clinic with intent to unburden myself of a crisis pregnancy. Members of Operation Rescue were present, blocking the clinic doors. Because of their intervention and kindness, my baby was given a stay of execution while I took additional time to reflect on my decision to abort. Though my friends told me I was too young to be a mother, I decided to complete my pregnancy. Operation Rescue provided me with a place to live and helped me get back on my feet.

"Prior to my abortion appointment, I thought my baby was just a glob of tissue, but through education, I now know he was a human being. I look at Joshua now and realize that I came very close to killing my own child. If you are contemplating abortion, remember this: the life you are taking is not yours...it is that of a separate unique human being. And remember, also, that there are many pro-life people willing to help you." ■

Ministers Challenge Injunction, Restraint on Bible Passages Sparks Conflict

Reprint from Buffalo News, 10-1-90

Buffalo, NY—Project Rescue ministers September 30 challenged the limits of a federal court order and read a proverb from their pulpits in support of blocking abortion clinics.

The Rev. Paul H. Schenck, who said he was told in court that this could violate the injunction, read the proverb in New Covenant Tabernacle in the town of Tonawanda.

"The verse directs us to do all within our power to stop the slaughter of the innocents," he told several hundred listeners. Later, he added, "Now if I stand in contempt, then so be it."

The Rev. David Anderson, another minister named in a suit by the Pro-Choice Network of Western New York, also challenged U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara.

"Abortion is not the issue here today—it is free speech and the free exercise of religion," Anderson told 175 members of his Faith Fellowship Church of Alden meeting in the Lancaster Christian Community Center.

"What guarantee do we have that the next issue will not be our views on homosexuality, marriage, tithing, war, nuclear energy, salvation?" he said.

The Rev. Ted Cadwallader of Community Christian Church of North Tonawanda also defied the order on September 30. He, too, is named in the suit.

"I read Proverbs 24:11 and said I am continuing to support rescue, and I encouraged people to consider rescuing," he said after addressing 150 listeners. "The judge was very explicit that quoting this verse, even

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Boycott PP Supporters

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Nature Valley granola products, Fruit Corners, Fruit Rollups, Gorton's frozen fish products, restaurants (Red Lobster and Olive Garden). Write to: Dr. Reatha Clark King, President & Executive Director, General Mills Foundation, P.O. Box 1113, Minneapolis, MN 55440. Phone: (800) 328-6787 or (612) 540-2311.

Nationwide Insurance

Services include: various types of insurance. Write to: Ms. Deborah O. Slype, Community Services Manager, Nationwide Foundation, Nationwide Insurance Building, One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, OH 43216. Phone: (800) 882-2822 or (614) 249-4310.

Pillsbury

Products include: Pillsbury dessert and baking products, Totino's frozen pizza, Jeno's frozen foods, Green Giant vegetables, Haagen-Dazs ice cream, restaurants (Bennigan's and Steak & Ale). Write to: Ms. Carol B. Truesdell, Vice President, The Pillsbury Company, Pillsbury Center, Minneapolis, MN 55402. Phone: (800) 4466 or (612) 330-4966.

Prudential

Services include: various types of insurance, real estate, banking and other financial services (including Prudential-Bache Securities). Write to: Mrs. Elisa Puzzuolis, Program Officer, The Prudential Foundation, 751 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777. Phone: (201) 802-7355 or (201) 802-6000.

Warner Lambert

Products include: Parke-Davis pharmaceuticals (prescription & non-prescription), mouthwash (Listerine and Listermint), hemorrhoidal preparations (Anusol and Tucks), Efferdent denture cleanser, antacid (Rolaids and Remegel), skin lotion (Lubriderm and Caladryl), Myadec vitamins, Benylin cough syrup, cough tablets (Halls and Mediquell), Sinutab sinus remedy, E.P.T. (Early Pregnancy Test), gum (Trident, Dentyne, Bubbaloo and Freshen-up), breath mints (Certs, Vichy and Clorets), Schick razors and razor blades, candy (Grabs, Rascals, Junior Mints and Charleston Chew, Alpen Weiss, Sugar Babies, Sugar Daddy, PomPoms and Sparkies), Tetra fish food and fish care products, Capsugel gelatin capsules, Gelusil and Bactidol. Write to: Mr. Ronald E. Zier, Chairman, Warner Lambert Charitable Foundation, 201 Tabor Road, Morris Plains, NY 07950. Phone: (201) 540-2731. ■

Camille Rose by Any Other Name...

Camille Rose's grandmother is a rescuer. It was this fact that finally convinced the pregnant, 15-year-old mother to reveal her difficulty to the new grandmother. Naturally, as a rescuer, grandmother accepted the new child—and her own child—with open arms. ■