Law doesn't deter Tiller

by Denise Billings

Wichita, KS - Sidewalk counselors present on the morning of December 21 intercepted a 16-year-old client of infamous late-term abortionist George Tiller. The teenager who arrived early was found waiting for abortuary staff to arrive, and agreed to meet with pro-life counselors at a local fast-food restaurant. The girl admitted to being 26 weeks pregnant and stated she had flown into Wichita from New York state.

George Tiller, targeted during an eight-week "Summer of Mercy" siege by Operation Rescue in 1991, was cited in the Wichita *Eagle* as having denied doing late-term abortions with the exception of "about a dozen or so" each year and only in cases of "severe deformity or threat to the life" of the mother. In September of 1991 Tiller stated he would support a restriction banning all third-trimester killing leaving intact the "right" only in the "hard cases" which would include deformity and threat to the mother's life.

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Third-trimester baby killer George Tiller. Tiller's clinic has its own crematorium.

Tiller's 16-year-old client was questioned about her reasons for seeking to have her child destroyed. She denied that she or her baby had ever been determined to be at medical risk by continuing the pregnancy. Despite offers of assistance from sidewalk counselors she refused to cancel the scheduled appointment.

A new law in effect in Kansas since July 1, 1992 contains both parental consent and viability clauses. Early on, local pro-life groups overwhelmingly opposed the legislation; however, moderate Governor Joan Finney, who ran on a prolife plank, signed the bill into law. Christian leader, Rev. David Lee expressed concern that the law was "full of loopholes." Among the provisions in the law is a loose definition for "viability." The law defines it as "that stage of gestation when, in the best medical judgment of the attending physician [abortionist], the fetus is capable of sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical means."

Donna Lippoldt, director of sidewalk counseling in Wichita, notified the district attorney's office and requested an investigation to ascertain whether or not the minor had parental consent and the "viability" of the 26-week baby killed at the Tiller mill despite the new law. Assistant DA Doug Roth responded to the complaint and dispatched police to the abortuary. Officers were given a copy of a document that allegedly contained a parent's signature.

Following the on-site investigation, as police were leaving, abortuary staff were seen driving away from the facility with the 16-year-old client lying down in the rear seat of the car. Sidewalk counselors alerted police and one officer proceeded to follow the car. The purpose of the 45-minute trip away from the facility is still unknown; however, Lippoldt stated she believed "they were going for a written referral from another doctor."

The new law states under the viability clause, "No person shall perform or induce an abortion when the fetus is viable unless such person is a physician and has a documented referral from another physician not financially associated with the physician performing or inducing the abortion and both physicians determine that: (1) The abortion is necessary to preserve the life of the pregnant woman; or (2) the fetus is affected by a severe or life- threatening deformity or abnormality." It is believed that a judicial bypass can be used to circumvent the "referral" requirement; however no bypass was requested or granted, according to judicial authorities.

Tiller's facility is known for its state-of-the-art crematorium and police were notified by Lippoldt that an order was needed to restrain Tiller from disposing of the remains as it was assumed that the child had been killed in utero, and that an induced delivery was planned. The DA's office acquired a restraining order that prevented the body from being burned and also required that a coroner be on hand during the delivery of the corpse. According to a local rescue leader, "pro-lifers and police were concerned that Tiller would switch bodies for a younger victim. As grisly as this is, we know from sources inside the facility that he determines the age of the babies by measuring their heads at a smaller point than that prescribed in a normal medical procedure. He is not above substituting bodies."

Prior to the actual restraining order being issued Wichita's new pro-abortion coroner, Ann Hyman, made a medical ruling in the case, "based on the testimony of several OB/GYNs." Her ruling stated, "Though a 26-week-old fetus is considered viable, it would require the aid of a ventilator which would constitute extraordinary means to sustain survival." A strong promoter of child-killing, Nola Foulston, who is in charge of the district attorney's office, stated in an interview, "No wrong-doing on the part of Dr. Tiller was discovered under the terms of the new law; therefore the case was closed."

Lippoldt, along with other pro-life leaders, contacted local obstetricians and obtained assurance that, in their opinion, the new law should have protected the baby. According to Dr. Richard Watson, a prominent OB/GYN in Wichita, Hyman's statement was "rubbish." In an interview, he indicated that, "ventilation is not extraordinary means. This baby was viable" under the new law. ■

Abortion's Older Victims *(cont. from page 5)*

a suction catheter into the wound and vacuums out the child's brain tissue(or, as Haskell puts it, "evacuates the skull contents"). With the suction tube still in place, the abortionist then pulls the corpse from the woman's body. He delivers the placenta with forceps, and scrapes the inside of the uterus with a sharp curette, then with a large-bore suction curette.

According to Haskell, the woman usually recovers quickly: on her feet in 30 minutes; out the door in two hours. Haskell claims a "low rate" of complications, although he does not provide specific numbers.

The Dallas conference, at which Haskell described the D&X technique, was entitled "Second Trimester Abortion: From Every Angle." Haskell's presentation included a 10-minute video of an actual D&X.

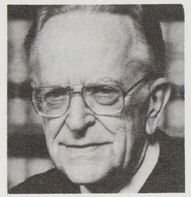
The next NAF conference is scheduled for April 24-27, 1993, in Washington, D.C.

(Note: Except where otherwise indicated, all quotes in this article are from "Dilation and Extraction for Late Second Trimester Abortion," by Martin Haskell, M.D. See sidebar, page 5, for full reference.)■

Blackmun court affirms Mississippi law

by Cathy Ramey

Washington, DC — Without dissent the high court refused to review a Mississippi law on December 8. The law requires a 24 hour waiting period and counseling on the development of the unborn child as well as risks to the mother. Previously, legislation on informed consent and an abortion ban following the 16th week of gestation were overturned, making this the first pro-life law to be upheld by the higher courts.



Justice Blackmun

Without review the law, which has been affirmed in a federal appeals court in the past, can now be fully implemented. An appeal before the Supreme Court may again be sought at a later date. Pro-abortion zealots have already indicated they will seek a further challenge based upon their interpretation that the law places "unconstitutional obstacles in the path" of women seeking to have an abortion.

While Rachel Pine, a well-paid legal advocate for the abortion industry, stated that constitutional rights must be "violated in order to [later] vindicate them," pro-lifers in the state are hailing the decision as "a major victory." Tom and Betty Hammond of the American Family Association (AFA) report a "real decrease in abortions because of the counseling" thus far.

According to a written interview with one Mississippi abortionist the additional counseling is seen as needless. His own technique includes assuring women that that "by seeking abortion services they have already demonstrated that they are informed of their options," and that he is only going through a review as he is "forced to by law." The interview account reports his estimates that "90% of the women don't want [to be informed of either their risks or the child's development]."

The counseling requirements include written information on options as well as prenatal growth, and while AFA and others are encouraged by the new law, the Hammonds voiced dissatisfaction with the brochure in use at the abortuaries. According to Tom Hammond, "it is as though the state went to the abortionist and asked for his input" on the material. Although the brochure gives week-by-week developmental information, there are no photos and viability is estimated at the seventh month.

Mississippi has only three facilities specializing in killing children. A second criticism of the options, risks, and prenatal development brochure is that most alternative options are not listed. A Birthright center 10 minutes from a Senatobia mill is not listed. In fact the closest pro-life resource listed is over 170 miles away from the abortuary. Betty Hammond indicated that local activists were uncertain if this is due to a failure on the part of local Crisis Pregnancy Centers to "push to get their numbers in" the brochure.

Christian activists offering options outside of Mississippi mills report, "women that are coming are more apt to talk to us now," because of the new law. Although their goal is to "see every child protected," sidewalk counselors are glad that even the limited restrictions were upheld.

A federal appeals panel, in upholding the law, noted that the waiting period and information requirements are nearly identical to Pennsylvania restrictions upheld by the US Supreme Court in June of 1992. Abortionists argued that already somewhat limited access [only three killing centers] to abortion services in Mississippi should have caused the court to consider the law as an undue burden in a state with "an unusually high proportion of impoverished women and children."

Baby-killer Thomas W. Tucker complained that the 24-hour waiting period would result in "increased expense, time, and travel," and would be "crushing for many of [his clients]." Pine stated that "after waiting a certain period of time, we can go into court again and show that large numbers of women have been forced against their will to carry their pregnancies to term because of this law."

However, Mississippi Attorney General Michael More successfully argued that states should not be subjected to continuous lawsuits challenging abortion legislation that is identical to that already ruled on by the Supreme Court.

The lack of dissent, even from Justice Harry Blackmun, who wrote the majority decision in *Roe vs. Wade,* has abortophiles concerned. So-called "abortion rights" lawyers fear that the unwillingness of the highest court in the country to review such cases will make it impossible to challenge abortion restrictions without serious financial loss to the industry.■

Milwaukee youth hit multiple locations

by Cameron Gulden

Milwaukee, WI -- On Saturday, December 19, 1992, Milwaukee youth gathered to protect preborn children. The day began with an early picket at the home of George Woodward — a man who is nearly 70 years old yet continues to kill.

Fliers with the killer's photo, name, address and phone number were distributed throughout the quiet, plush neighborhood, and the youth picketed with signs that read, "Blood money buys nice house," and "George Woodward — Brookfield's Jeffrey Dahmer."

Following the picket, the young pro-lifers traveled to the Metropolitan abortuary, which had been the site of a large rescue one month earlier. Upon arriving, the group discovered that the killing center was completely closed for the day. "God is raising up a generation that will be intolerant of child-killing," said Bryan Longworth, national director of Youth for America-Milwaukee.

The rescuers then went to the killing center of Paul Seamars, which had been the scene of massive rescues during the Short-Term Mission last summer. The killing center had pro-lifers and deathscorts standing on the sidewalk in front of it, but as soon as the deathscorts saw the youth walking toward the building, they ran and linked arms in front of the doors. Shortly thereafter, a car drove into the parking lot but quickly turned around and left.

After about half an hour, the same car returned. This time occupants got out of the car and headed toward the door. When mother and daughter neared the door, young rescuers ran to block doors to interpose on behalf of the baby. The rescuers were hit, pushed, and

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tackled by a crowd of deathscorts at the door, and a young mother was able to get through to have her baby murdered.

Among the rescuers were Laurel Foreman, daughter of Joseph Foreman, and Steve Rella, who has been arrested over 250 times for rescuing children. "If the adults won't come out to protect these children, we have to!" said Laurel.

After the couple was inside the building, rescuers left the doors (though the deathscorts continued to block it). Police arrived following the rescue attempt, but the youth had already left and were not arrested.■