Publisher's Column:

Taking Exception With Exceptions

Andrew Burnett

This past month Utah passed what has been called the "toughest" anti-abortion legislation in America. On January 25 Gov. Norm Bangerter signed SB 23 into law.

While the pro-abortionists are screaming foul and threatening boycotts of the state the response from the pro-life community has been muted at best. And for good reason. While Utah's SB 23 might be the most restrictive anti-abortion legislation to pass since *Roe v. Wade*, it is far from being pro-life.

Even the National Right to Life Committee (which has long supported legislation with some exceptions for what appear to be political reasons) has come out in strong opposition to this law principally because they feel that the particular version of the legislation that passed and was signed into law contained exceptions which could be interpreted to allow abortions for the mental health of the mother.

In a recent statement released by NRLC concerning the Utah legislation, they commend those who fought for the stricter version of the legislation and warn that, "The intent of the new language was explicitly to include 'mental health' reasons for an abortion, and those who perform abortions have long openly claimed that having an 'unwanted child' would pose grave danger to a mother's mental health." NRLC goes on in their statement to say that they "will oppose passage of a bill like this in any other state."

While it is encouraging to see that NRLC is willing to draw the line on exceptions when it comes to allowing exceptions for mental health I think that they have only pushed the door closed slightly while still leaving the door open wide enough so that it can be driven through in a mid-sized sedan.

What I am saying is that I believe all of us (including myself and AFLM) who have supported legislation with exceptions need to re-examine our reasons and motives and repent of our support for legislation that compromises our belief that all children should be protected.

I am aware that many well-intended pro-lifers (including myself) have for reasons of political expediency supported

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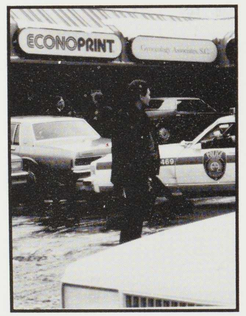
On the Cover:Rescuers block doors at Planned Parenthood abortuary in White Plains, New York. (Photo: Paul deParrie).



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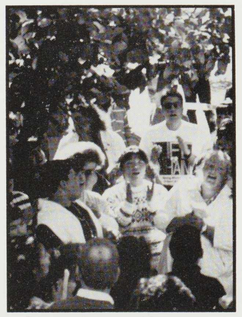

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Operation Goliath Polarizes Community—Saves Babies in National Effort

by Paul deParrie

Dobbs Ferry, NY—The village of Dobbs Ferry was rocked by rescue during the last week of January. The combined efforts of the local Operation Goliath, Bi-State Operation Rescue (BORN), and Operation Rescue National focused on the notorious death-camp of the Hungarian-born Dr. Stephen Kaali. For almost three-quarters of a year, Operation Goliath has targeted Kaali's mill with incessant pickets, leafletting, counseling, and rescues. The special, late-January effort drew participants from diverse groups across the country. These shared the vision of Pastor Skip Robokoff and Dan Brusstar to see an end to the killing in Dobbs Ferry. The controversial Operation Goliath, pitting the small pro-life community against the "Goliath" of the pro-abortion mentality, has split the quiet, upscale community where mothers come from several states for their abortions.

At the beginning of the week, 29 of the original 40 rescuers from a September 28 "Category Zero" rescue were still locked up in the Westchester County jail in Valhalla.

Abortionist Kaali taunts Pat Mahoney of Christian Action Center in Florida. (Photo: Paul deParrie)

Prior to the week-long series of rescues, the Lambs added 42 to the numbers in Valhalla as a result of rescues done on January 8 and 24 (see sidebar). Further turmoil in the community flared after the Lambs' incarceration when fellow members of the group mailed graphic postcards of aborted babies to residents surrounding Kaali's clinic.

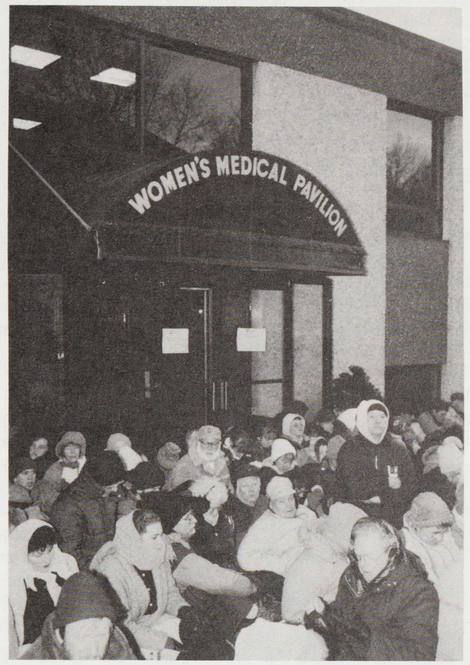
Early on the morning of January 29, 133 rescuers blocked the two entrances of the Women's Pavilion. Hired security guards for the clinic brought out dogs, one of whom bit rescuer George Brokate, of California. Brokate was treated at a nearby hospital and was released after paying $191 in medical bills.

One counter demonstrator, who appeared on each day of Goliath, wore fatigues and held the leash of a German Shepherd dog.

Police, however, were very professional and used stretchers to carry rescuers. Ninety were arrested while those at the front door were left in place. The clinic was closed for the day.

The following day, 150 appeared at Kaali's door. By noon, Kaali left the mill and rescuers moved 12 miles to the All Women's Health Clinic in White Plains.

At this clinic, two rescuers, one of whom had had four abortions, called out to abortion-bound mothers inside. "Your job won't love you," one said. "It won't be there on Christmas morning with you." Eight women were reported to have left the clinic before their abortions at the urging of the two women.



Rescuers brave sub-zero weather at back door to Kaali's clinic. (Photo: Paul deParrie)

White Plains police arrested 95 rescuers. When rescue leaders were asked why some were not following the agreement to supply names to police, the leaders said, "Those are the Philadelphia people. They're hardcore. We can't control them." Police then told the Philadelphia group that they would be held for their non-cooperation. Each was presented with a citation and told to follow the hallway and go through a door for booking. Once through the door, the Philadelphia rescuers found themselves outside. The other rescuers received no charges.

Thursday, January 31, began at 7 a.m. again at the entrances to the Dobbs Ferry clinic. A contingent of pro-aborts stood on the steps in front of the rescuers chanting, "Women's health care, under attack! What'd we do? ACT-UP! Fight back!"

Joseph Scheidler, of Chicago's Pro-Life Action League, stopped by to encourage the rescuers.

As it became apparent that there would be no arrests that day, rescue leaders slowly peeled off about half of the 140 rescuers and sent them again to White Plains. As they left the Dobbs Ferry site, a pro-lifer could be heard playing "Taps" on the trumpet outside the mill.

Eventually, White Plains police cleared the front door but a second wave of rescuers arrived and secured it again by crawling under barricades and horses. One clinic

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