

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.) ■

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