Holy Week rescues in L.A. close 3 clinics

Youth join as only 15 are arrested

by Jan Stoltenberg

Dozens block the southern California clinic where Mohammed Hamed kills children.

Bellflower, CA — During the fifth annual Holy Week Rescues, babies were saved as rescuers closed three clinics over the weekend. Young people joined adults in blocking doors in Bellflower and Huntington Park with only 15 arrested (see cover story, page 10).

On Friday, April 9, Bryan Longworth led a youth rescue with supporters from Youth for America International, Operation Rescue Youth, Survivors, Sanctuary Life and Kids and Teens for Life.

Rescuers arrived at the Trimed Women's Center in Bellflower where Dr. Robertson does late term abortions. They closed the clinic down for two and a half hours, which was during their peak times. Rescuers had the doors secured until the pro-abortion advocates arrived on the scene. When they began violently pushing and throwing rescuers out of their places, three were arrested for their violence. One of the rescuers was bitten by an abortion supporter.

Three rescuers, including a leader, were arrested and then released for allegedly sexually assaulting some pro-abortion women. surprisingly, Michael Monji—who is abortion clinic chain owner Dr. Ed Allred's second in command—came to the defense of the leader, telling the police officers he had been standing on the sidewalk across the street the whole time.

There were several women turned around and one baby confirmed saved.

A group of rescuers then went around the corner to another site, the office of OB/GYN Dr. Rha, who performs abortions. Once the doors were secured, the rest of the rescuers joined them. The office was inside an office building and the rescuers were singing quietly when the pro-abortion forces came bursting in yelling and chanting. The other business got angry at them, telling them to be quiet.

Jeff White (L) of Operation Rescue joins Youth for America's Bryan Longworth outside Dr. Rha's abortuary.

Dr. Rha arrived in his gold Mercedes, but never got out of his car and soon left, thus closing down the clinic for the day. The police came and said they were going to arrest rescuers and cleared the spectators out. Then police let the rescuers go back in and stay because the abortionist wasn't going to open. There was one saved baby from his clinic also. According to Planned Parenthood figures, when pro-lifers keep a clinic closed for the day, approximately 20% of the women never return for abortions.

At the end of the day Longworth said he was "disappointed" that there were only two clinics to choose from this time. Two years ago, when he was there last, the youth closed down three facilities in one day.

On Saturday, April 10, the caravan of rescuers went first to picket Dr. Rha's home, the abortionist at whose office they rescued the day before. Dr. Rha lives in Pallis Verdes Estates, an elite area overlooking the ocean where 12 other abortionists also live. It is in a city where they have an ordinance prohibiting the picketing of private residences. When Dr. Rha came out, rescuers surrounded his car trying to talk to him as he left.

Screaming pro-abort climbs atop rescuers as "clinic defense" forces attempt to open the clinic.

Meanwhile another group of rescuers went to Hamilton Family Planning Clinic in Huntington Park, closing it down. Shortly after they were joined by the caravan, the pro-abortion advocates and police arrived. The numbers were nearly equal, approximately 200 on both sides. One pro-abortion male, who had been arrested the day before for violence, hit a young boy in the neck, knocking him to the ground. Gabriel, who is approximately 10 years old, was in front of the door when he was attacked.

Although there were 50-75 risking arrest, only 15 were actually arrested. Some rescuers were tossed out of the way by police and pro-abortion supporters in what one observer said appeared to be "mass chaos."

The police were unnecessarily violent, especially to one rescuer—the same rescuer who had been bitten the day before. After he was arrested and lying face down on the ground, they sprayed mace in his face.

Among those arrested was one minor. Ave Marie Grumbine, a 17 year old whose parents are veteran sidewalk counselors and rescuers. Everyone was released by late afternoon without having to pay bail. All were charged with trespassing.

The pro-abortion male who was arrested for felony assault of a pro-lifer was also released after the ACLU paid his $5,300 bail.

The clinic remained closed all day. ■

Pro-lifer charged with stalking nurse at Mary Esther Clinic

Shalimar, FL — A pro-life activist who has been embroiled in confrontations with a nurse at the Mary Esther Abortion mill was arrested on April 19 and charged with stalking the facility's employee.

Jack Randy Hinesley, 33, of 2229 Peytania Circle, Navarre, was held without bond in the Okaloosa County jail. According to a Sheriff's Department report, Sandra Sheldon, a nurse at Family Planning of Fort Walton Beach, and her husband, Joe, say Hinesley has confronted them about Sheldon's involvement in killing children "repeatedly" during the past year.

The report lists these allegations, which represent violations of Florida's new stalking law:

- Hinesley held signs in front of Sheldon's car windshield as she tried to leave the U.S. Highway 98 mill.
- He would use flashbulbs with his camera, "blinding" Sheldon as she tried to exit the mill driveway.
- Last September 25, he followed her to a bank where he "accosted her and took her picture as she attempted to conduct business."
- Last October 9, Hinesley and Sheldon were both attending the Okaloosa County fair, where Sheldon claims Hinesley followed her and drew attention to her until she contacted security guards.
- During December, someone posted signs containing the pictures Hinesley had taken of Sheldon at the bank. "The signs referred to Sheldon as a murderer and were posted throughout her neighborhood," the report said.
- On March 11, he allegedly make "threatening hand gestures" toward Sheldon and her husband. Sheldon said previously that Hinesley pointed his index finger and thumb to resemble a gun and said, "bang, bang." It was the day after a Pensacola abortionist was shot and killed outside his office.

Sheldon declined comment and referred questions to her attorney, Michael Gates of Fort Walton Beach.

"Mr. Gates has been doing everything possible to provide for the safety of me and my family," she said.

Gates could not be reached.

In January, Sheldon filed a civil lawsuit against Hinesley for trespassing on abortuary property. The suit sought civil damages and an injunction to stop him from "harassing" her.

Circuit Judge Jere Tolton signed a temporary injunction in March, prompted when Hinesley allegedly provoked staff at the baby killing facility and Sheldon's husband with the gun-like hand gestures. ■

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