Pickets Begin At Gresham PP

by Cher Corbin

In a shopping mall, located in the city of Gresham, where Division and E. Burnside cross, there is an office for Planned Parenthood. This office has gone unnoticed by most of Gresham for a number of months; its sign is very plain, saying no more than "Planned Parenthood," but their purpose for being there is also very plain.

Like all other Planned Parenthood offices, the Gresham branch gives pregnancy tests and provides birth control pills and devices. The location is ideal, as the office is surrounded by schools, "money on the hoof," so to speak; and they are a referral service, providing the Portland Metro area's abortion mills with a continual flow of "clientele."

The clinic was detected by pro-life activists whose focus had previously been the abortion mills in downtown Portland. So on December 8, 1990 at 9:30 a.m. what had started with two pro-life activists desiring to do God's will, became more than 20; the unsuspecting Planned Parenthood staff looked out their door to see all these picketers drawing attention to their office.

Obviously, God wanted the presence of the Planned Parenthood office and its purpose revealed. They had come to the otherwise sleepy town of Gresham, Oregon to seek out new victims, a fresh source of income. But what have they found instead? A protest waiting to happen. They found many outraged individuals and representatives of various pro-life interests, saying, "Not Here!"

Gresham's Planned Parenthood office is to be faced with monthly picketing, and they will find pro-life activists on the walkway, distributing literature that exposes the greatest evil in our nation. Picketing conducted on the main sidewalk area will serve the purpose of drawing the attention of passing motorists to Planned Parenthood.

Questions arose concerning the distribution of literature on the walkway within the mall itself, so close to Planned Parenthood's door. But according to Gresham police, this walkway, like any other sidewalk, is public domain. Therefore, no law exists that would hinder the distribution of flyers and other such materials. It is hoped that the Gresham Planned Parenthood office will have to leave Gresham, as visible protests will make the staff uncomfortable to the point of embarrassment.

We hope that, as the Lord leads, you will come join us in this monthly picketing of Planned Parenthood in Gresham. (Please see notice of the next picket below.) ■

Attention All Pro-lifers!

Announcing a brand new, exciting opportunity to help the pro-life cause by joining our regular, monthly picket of Planned Parenthood of Gresham held on the second Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at its location at the Hood Payless Plaza Shopping Center, 1575 N.E. Division St., Gresham.

The first picket of this new office of Planned Parenthood was held Saturday, December 8, and was very successful with around 30 participants.

The picket demonstration is held on the long, wide sidewalk which borders the mall on the Division St. side. If you bring your anti-abortion signs please bear in mind the presence of children and your Christian witness and use discretion in your choice. Also, we have here a golden opportunity to connect with the public so you may wish to bring left-over publications from Ballot Measure 8 or any other pro-life pamphlets to share.

Next Picket: Saturday, Jan. 12
Time: 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Place: Planned Parenthood Location:
1575 N.E. Division St.
Gresham, OR
Hood/Payless Shopping Mall

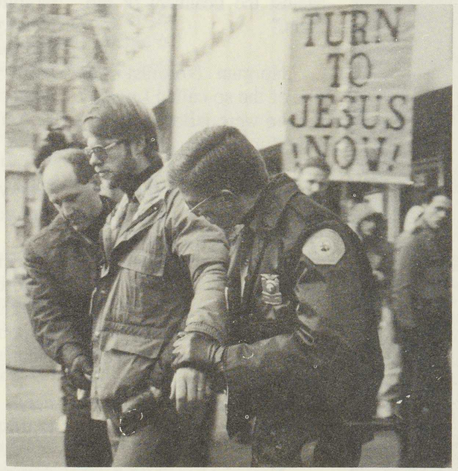
P.S. Please feel free to make copies of this announcement and hand them out to others or post them on church bulletin boards, etc. If you have any questions call Priscilla at 287-3167 or Cher at 661-1699. ■

Rescuers Block Downtown Women's Center

Portland, OR—Six rescuers braved biting cold temperatures and blocked the entrance to the Portland Medical Building on December 15. The ninth floor of the building houses the Downtown Women's Center which is one of Portland's three abortion clinics. The center specializes in second trimester abortions.

The six rescuers were supported by about 25 sidewalk counselors and prayer supporters.

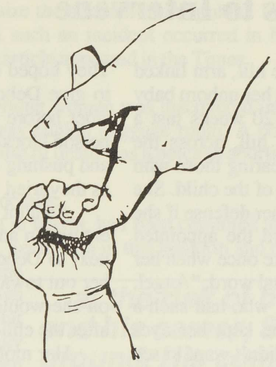
One policeman arrived shortly after the rescue began and requested their names telling them that they would be arrested if they remained in place by the time he returned. About an hour later, the officer returned with a dozen others and removed the rescuers from the doorway. For the first time in several years, Portland police did not immediately resort to pain-compliance holds before presenting the option for rescuers to walk.



Portland rescuer being taken to paddy wagon. (Photo: Paul deParrie)

Renewed complaints of police bias against pro-lifers surfaced again recently after an ACT/UP demonstration where, during rush hour, protesters blocked the Burnside Bridge into downtown Portland. Police used no pain-compliance and, despite a written policy to the contrary, carried the homosexual rights protesters away. Police also agreed to allow the protesters to block the bridge for a set amount of time before arrests would begin. Only three were later taken into custody. None were charged.

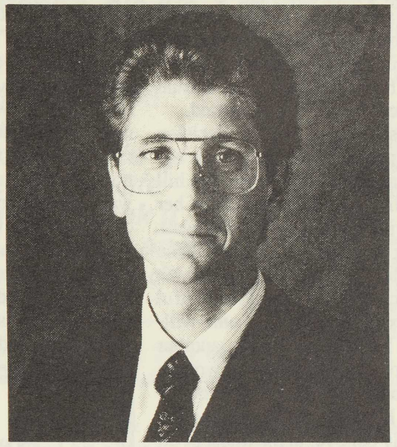
It is unknown whether the considerably less violent response of police was connected to a change of policy or the small number of rescuers at the doors. ■



Reach Out For Life Banquet

First Annual Advocates For Life Ministries Banquet

Special Speaker:
Randall Terry,
Founder of
Operation Rescue



Saturday, February 23, 1991..7:00pm

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The Monarch Hotel, 12566 SE 93rd,
(In Clackamas near the Clackamas Promenade)

❖

Special music by Elodie Williams

❖

IMPORTANT! ORDER TICKETS BEFORE FEBRUARY 15
Price $20 per person

❖

Please send me _____ Reach Out for Life Banquet Tickets. Enclosed is a check or money order for $_____.

Name:_____ Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____ Phone:_____

For Tickets, please write to: Tickets, c\o AFLM, P.O. Box 13656, Portland, OR 97213; Or call (503) 257-7023