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Present Abortion Law Causes Personal Grief

(Editor's Note: The following story is not family reading, but it is important reading. In the past three years, 13 states have repealed or rewritten old laws concerning abortions, and on April 21 a bill legalizing abortion anywhere in the United States was introduced in Congress.)

By TOM TIEDE

WASHINGTON (NEA)—Tall, solemn Norma Black is a painful statistic. A few months ago she was among the several million women in the nation who annually need or want an abortion. A few weeks ago she became one of the estimated one million who, out of sheer desperation, got one illegally.

It took half a day.
It cost $500.
It hurt a little.

And Norma chokes, even now remembering.

Black is not the girl's real name. Norma is. She refuses to be identified because of the risk of prosecution or persecution. Abortion is still against the law in most places. Even where it isn't, she says, "There are good Christians who would be willing to boil me in oil."

Norma is 23. Until recently, a secretary. And unmarried.

"I don't know who the father is," she said. "That sounds bad, I know, but not really. I've only dated a couple of guys seriously. Both of them offered to marry me, after I told them—but I couldn't do it. It was as much my fault as either of theirs. And I didn't love either one. So it was my problem."

At first, Norma Black wanted to see the problem through, as routinely as circumstances permitted. She wouldn't be the only unwed mother in history. There are hundreds of thousands of others each year. In her crowd, a fatherless child would be sympathetically accepted.

But then came complications.

"I had always had gall bladder trouble," she related. "But I never thought much about it until the doctor said it would cause real worries in pregnancy. I forget the exact reasons. He did say something about permanent damage and that sort of thing and it scared hell out of me. He wasn't too kind, anyway, because he thought I was just some tramp, and he just mumbled he'd do every thing he could.

"After that I had to tell my parents. They're divorced. My dad didn't say much and offered to help in any way. But my mother went out of her head. I told her by phone and she hung up. Then she called back and hung up again. Final-ly, she insisted, screaming into the phone, that I get a quick abortion."

By then, Norma Black was nine weeks pregnant, and two or three weeks unnerved by confusion, strain and fear. She asked her doctor about the possibility of abortion—"and for awhile I thought he'd toss me out of his office." She asked another doctor about it—"and it was completely impossible." She asked a third—"and like God was punishing me, he turned out to be a Catholic."

One evening, in her apartment, talking with a friend, Norma Black became hysterical. She says she doesn't really know why. "I'm not panicky or dumb. I've got three years of college and I've been around city life for a long time—but I don't know. At that time I would have tried anything."

The girl succeeded in convincing herself she must never have the baby. "I didn't hate it; I just didn't want it any more." She got the name and location of a well-known abortion consultation agency in New York City, and through it and other friends arranged for a speedy operation.

It happened in New York City, Manhattan. That's the only address Norma Black will give. She flew up by shuttle airplane for a 9:30 a.m. appointment.

She says the doctor's building was drab, but the office wasn't too bad. She feels the surgeon was reliable. She was told he was one of hundreds who do abortions as an illegal but, in their eyes, humanitarian adjunct to regular practice.

She filled out some forms, using her real name. "In case anything happened to me, I guess," she said. She was put in bed. Given a sedative. And went to sleep.

That's the story, said Norma Black.

Except:

"The doctor said it wouldn't hurt, but it did, afterwards. I slept for a few hours, and in the afternoon they asked if I wanted to stay the night. I didn't. I couldn't. I left and got a hotel room. That's about it, I guess. I came home the next day to nobody and nothing. And I cried like hell. That's about all you can do after something like that—just cry like hell."

(Newspaper Enterprise Assn.)

Mental Patient Families May Go to Hospital

By ALTON BLAKESLEE

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A new experiment in treating the mentally ill puts members of their families into the hospital with them.

And this seems to produce good results, two psychiatrists told the American Psychiatric Association.

Often the person who is put in the hospital is simply "carrying the symptoms of a disturbed family," and treatment needs to be aimed at the family, they explained.

Drs. Gene M. Abroms and Carl H. Fellner of the University of Wisconsin told Monday of treating 100 patients, with whom 126 members of the families also were admitted to the hospital. The 126 included husbands, wives, parents, brothers and sisters of patients.

Diagnoses were made of the family members as well as the patients. Among the 126, half were considered to have personality disorders.

Thirty per cent of the patients had problems apparently related to marital or family disharmony. Others suffered from neuroses, schizophrenia or other ailments.

For about half of the 100 original patients, improvement of symptoms occurred within 24 hours of the family's admission, the psychiatrists said.

"The sheer force of the family's expressed concern, as well as their willingness concretely to shoulder responsibility for the disturbance and the treatment, seem crucial here," Abroms and Fellner said.

The 100 patients were hospitalized an average of 17 days, and the family members for about 10 days.

Helpful treatment really begins, the doctors said, when the patient and his family accept the idea that "the problem lies between all of them, not just within the 'patient.' Therapy proceeds when the family can sit down together and work out their family methods of relating."

It does no good to tell a family that the trouble "is really with all of them, but then let all but one of them go home," the doctors reported.

MOTTO CHANGED

COLUMBUS Ohio (UPI) — In October, 1969, the state of Ohio adopted a new motto — "With God All Things Are Possible."

Sable Hats Are Featured in Fall Collection

By ANN HENCKEN

NEW YORK (AP) — The fall collection by Bill Blass for Maurice Brentner has a rich, lush look—sable hats, beautifully tailored wools, gold boots, evening velvets and extravagant jewelry.

Prices range from about $20 to $2,500. Raincoats are less. So far, there's no hope of a bouquet collection from Blass.

"To me, it isn't valid. To achieve that look, you have to use the most expensive fabrics. You can't translate it," he said. Blass, who sat on a railing to narrate the show at the Plaza Hotel, said he most enjoyed doing the tailored day clothes. One dashing look was a country plaid cape over belted tunic and pants, tucked into over-the-knee boots by David Evins. Hats by Adolfo included bandage turbans and broad-brimmed felts.

Evening clothes ran the gamut from kimonos complete with Japanese wigs by Lope to split level mini-midi chiffons. A Persian print panne velvet was worn with red snakeskin boots and wild gold necklace by William de Lillo.

One particularly good series was in dark green: cape, middress trimmed in sable, coat, green satin blouse over green velvet skirt—over green boots.

At the end of the show there were "bravos" called through the hearty round of applause.

The new Molly Parnis boutique collection—$95-$250—included a rose purple broadcloth dress and shawl and a grey flannel slit-neck dress trimmed in black. The main idea was high cuts on midskirts and some low necklines for evening, like the low U-neck on a full-length black velvet dress.

TEAR DISPENSER — Officer in Los Angeles Sheriff's Department demonstrates a pepper fogger which is used in riot control. The device mixes and fires gas in huge clouds. Gas is used when other forms of persuasion have failed.

* * *

Industry Veto Of Officials Is Disclosed

By G. C. THELEN Jr.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Industry has been allowed to veto prospective members of at least two major government scientific advisory committees in the past five years, Secretary Robert H. Finch of Health, Education and Welfare has acknowledged.

Involved were veloes over positions the surgeon general's committee on smoking and health and the surgeon general's committee on behavioral effects of television violence, Finch said.

"In each case, members of the affected industries were given a long list of potential candidates for the committee and were invited to indicate any doubts they might have concerning the scientific impartiality of any of the individuals on that list," Finch said in a letter to Sen. Lee Metcalf, D-Mont.

"When the surgeon general selected members for service on these advisory committees, he did not select individuals to whom there were objections raised by members of the industry," he wrote. "The government was looking for individuals without a previous commitment to one side of the controversy or another."

Finch said the broadcasting industry objected to seven of 40 candidates for the television-violence committee. No indication was given of the number of smoking and health panelists vetoed by cigarette manufacturers.

Antismoking forces and critics of television violence were not given similar veto powers, HEW sources said. Furthermore, Finch's April 22 letter was the first public acknowledgement of the veto practice.

"As a general rule, HEW does not provide industry with an opportunity to review nominations for membership to an advisory committee affecting that industry," Finch wrote. "Nevertheless, there have been exceptions to the general policy when it is in the public interest."

The secretary said vetoes were provided "to protect the government from the charge of establishing a biased committee."

"It was probable in each case that the report of the advisory committee would contain substantial criticism of the industry," he said.

"In addition, since protection of the First Amendment rights of the television industry is so important, it was considered essential that the government be protected from any possible charge that it was intimidating the broadcasting industry," Finch wrote.

The smoking panel reviewed some 11,000 research reports and concluded in 1964 there was a causal link between cigarettes and lung cancer. The violence committee has yet to report.

Members of the 13-man television panel include Thomas Coffin, a vice president of the National Broadcasting Co., and Joseph Klapper, a special research director for the Columbia Broadcasting System.

FAST DECISION

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — After making 791 parachute jumps without injury, Henry Gabaldon of Albuquerque, president of the local parachute club, broke his leg in a jump. The veteran sky diver immediately announced that he was retiring from the sport.

Quiet Way To Quiet A Rioter

By GENE MICHALS
Copley News Service

LOS ANGELES—Use of tear gas as a law enforcement tool has been growing in the last decade, particularly in riot-control operations.

According to Los Angeles sheriff's officers, "It is often a major factor in crowd control tactics, particularly where officers are greatly outnumbered."

To insure that officers using the chemical weapons understand it, and also to fulfill new state legislation controlling the transportation and use of tear gas, a training class has been set up by the Sheriff's Department.

The instructor is Officer Robert Hawkins who described some of the history and philosophy behind tear gas.

Tear gas was developed in 1869 by a German chemist who found that heating the white, lush crystals of chloracetophenone caused a gas to form, and that the gas irritated any moist skin areas.

Since the eyes of animals are specialized forms of skin, and since most animals have tear ducts, this was the place where the gas had the greatest effect.

It caused such intense irritation during and shortly after exposure that the victim was temporarily blinded by tearing.

When the victim was removed to the open air, his recovery was rapid.

Tear gas was first used as a weapon in World War I, and shortly afterward it was developed as a law enforcement tool. The public accepts the use of tear gas because it has been proven to be a safe and humane weapon when properly used," said Hawkins.

He emphasized that proper use is important, adding that there have been two instances where the gas has resulted in permanent injury or death.

He said that in these cases the application of the gas exceeded common sense as well as the law.

In one case a New York man died because he was locked in a small room which had been filled with tear gas, Hawkins said.

The instructor pointed out that the purpose of the gas, in cases like this, is to drive the person out of the room, not to suffocate him.

In another instance an Arizona officer fired a tear gas projectile into the face of a man three feet away, causing permanent blindness.

There is a temptation, particularly in riot situations, to use the gas in excess quantity, as a punitive weapon, said Hawkins.

This is not the purpose of either weapons or law enforcement officers, the instructor said.

He noted that officers should use force only when other forms of persuasion fail, and only in the minimum amount necessary to accomplish the job.

"The officer's job is to control, not to punish," he said.

He said that in many situations, particularly riots, there are many innocent observers and passersby who may also be exposed to the gas.

When the gas is used by an officer it carries with it the moral obligation to give first aid to victims, said Hawkins.

Gas can be dispensed in a number of ways, depending on the situation.

Individual officers are usually armed with a small aerosol dispenser, which is intended to be a more humane substitute for the billy club.

Next in line are small pocket grenades, which burn or burst, giving off the irritant in the form of smoke or powder.

The big artillery includes shells or rockets charged with the base, and a new device known as a pepper-fogger.

The guns can fire a large charge at short range, or a shell for varying distance and accuracies up to 225 yards.

Vehicles that can't go faster than 25 miles an hour must display a special "slow moving" emblem in Texas.

Campaign-Style Telecast Seen For President

By WALTER MEARS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon is considering a campaign-style telecast to put the White House in closer communication with dissenting American youth.

And Vice President Spiro T. Agnew was quoted as saying he would like to explain, discuss and debate administration policy on college campuses, but feels there is no chance now for him to be heard.

These developments came up at the White House Monday as the governors of 43 states discussed with Nixon the problems of dissent and communication across the generation gap.

Agnew was said by a Democratic governor, Kenneth Curtis of Maine, to have remarked that "the rascals and the radicals" must be cleared off campuses if the government is to re-establish communications with students.

White House spokesmen said Agnew had told the governors he would like to appear on campuses himself, but faces the prospect of being shouted down by militants and not heard.

The governors spent nearly four hours with Nixon, Agnew and other top administration officials and got a briefing on U.S. operations in Cambodia.

HAIRCUTS ON CREDIT

WARREN, Mich. (AP) — A shave and a haircut may not be two bits anymore, but at least these days the customer can charge it at George Shaw's barbershop.

Manicures, bottles of hair tonic, even hairpieces can also be put on any of three national or by known credit cards.

"People charge clothing and other personal items, so why not personal hair grooming," says Shaw. How many times have you put off getting a haircut because pay day was still two days away?"

"The President said we're not seeking to commit any of you to support of this decision," said Gov. John A. Love of Colorado, the Republican who heads the National Governors Conference. But he said Nixon told the governors he was confident "it was the right decision, that it will soon be over . . . ."

Love said no governor spoke in opposition to Nixon's decision to invade Communist sanctuaries across the Cambodian border from South Vietnam.

The emphasis was on communication with the young and with the campus.

Gov. Francis Sargent, a Republican from Massachusetts, suggested a telethon appearance by the President.

"There was nothing finalized on it; it was only a suggestion and a matter of discussion," White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler said.

Ziegler quoted Nixon as saying he would be willing to undertake such a telecast if it could be worked out as a means of communication with college campuses.

Agnew's remarks were a matter of mere controversy, Gov. David F. Cargo, a Republican from New Mexico, quoted the vice president this way:

"He said that we have to re-establish authority over the campuses and that the anti-intellectual forces were in control and until they were removed there would be no way to carry on a dialogue with the students or faculty."

Cargo said that statement was made in the course of a heated exchange between Agnew and Democratic Gov. Frank Licht of Rhode Island. Licht said he had no heated discussion with anybody.

The Rhode Island governor said he gave a brief account of the situation on campuses in his state, reported th at moderate students there are still working through the democratic system, and said a means of communication must be established to keep them with the system.

"The vice president made a short statement of what has become known as the Agnew line," said Democratic Gov. Kenneth M. Curtis of Maine. "He said we could never establish contact with students until we clear the rascals and the radicals out."

Sammy Davis Weds Dance Troupe Leader

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Entertainer Sammy Davis Jr., has married Altavira Gore, the captain of his dancing troupe.

The ceremony was performed Monday evening by Common Pleas Judge Joseph Gold in his City Hall chambers. A small group of friends was in attendance. The bride, about 20, and groom, 44, were believed to have left for Chicago where Davis was due to open at the Mill Run Playhouse tonight.

Davis' interracial marriage in November 1960 to Swedish actress May Britt rocked Hollywood. She was given an uncontested divorce in December 1968. Miss Britt received custody of their daughter, Tracey, now 9, and two adopted sons, Mark, 9, and Jeff, 8.

Davis' first marriage, to the former Lorrey White, also ended in divorce.

A spokesman in Los Angeles said Davis and Miss Gore, both Negroes, would be wed in a Jewish ceremony in Los Angeles whenever his schedule permits. Davis converted to the Jewish religion about 10 years ago.

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