

CHOICE



UPHOLD
OUR RIGHT
to Reproductive Freedom

JOIN



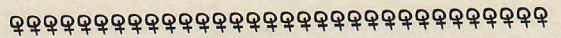
IN TAKING

ACTION

FOR

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

For more information or to get involved, please call the
National Organization for Women at (617) 232-1017.



REPROspective: EXPRESSIONS OF CHOICE

a multimedia exhibit celebrating women's reproductive rights
On display December 22, 1997 through January 24, 1998
Peace and Justice Gallery (565 Boylston Street), Copley Square

Exhibit includes works of art, photographs and narratives by local artists and activists, along with a historical chronology and information on current issues of abortion, contraception, fertility, and reproductive freedom.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1997

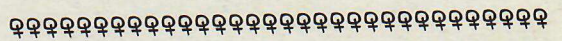
6:30-7:30 pm

Join us for a special Opening Night Reception
with contributing artists
Tickets \$25 & up

After 7:30 pm, the event is free and open to the public.

Exhibit schedule: Thursday and Friday, 4-8 pm;
Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm.

Stop by during First Night on December 31 from 4 - 10 pm.

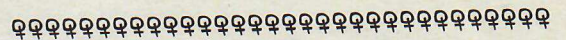


VIGIL AND MEMORIAL RALLY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1997

Remember Shannon Lowney & Lee Ann Nichols, who were murdered at women's health clinics by an anti-choice terrorist three years ago, by joining Massachusetts NOW in calling for an end to clinic violence and the continued defense of women's access to reproductive health care services.

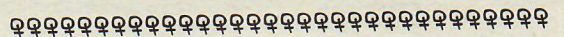
Candlelight Vigil and March 5:30 pm @ Government Center
Memorial Rally 6:00 pm @ State House



**25th ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE
COMMEMORATION**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1998

NOW teams up with Coalition for Choice for a celebration of the 25th Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* at Faneuil Hall for a program honoring 25 people who have worked tirelessly to defend a woman's right to choose. Watch for details.



Three Years After the Clinic Murders. . .

Defend Abortion Rights

Monday, December 30, 1997 in Boston!

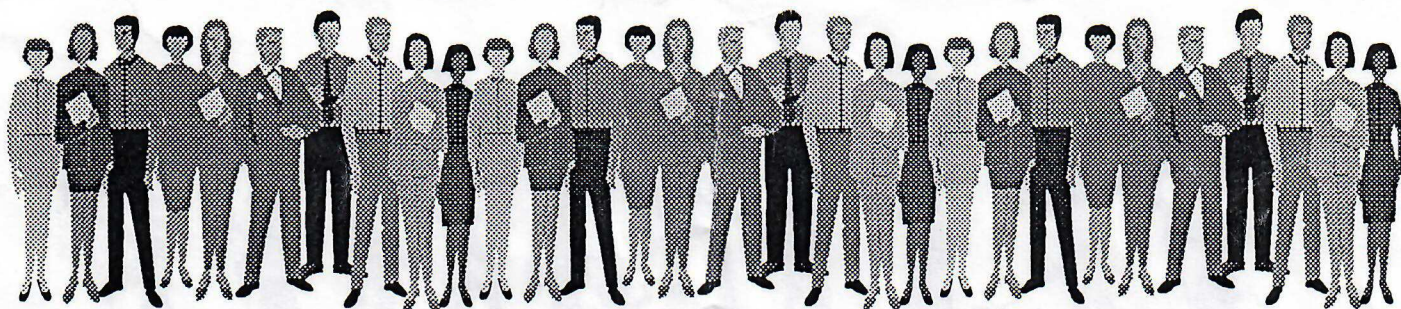
Three years ago, on December 30, 1994 a gunman burst into two Brookline women's health clinics. Two clinic workers, Shannon Lowney and Leann Nichols were murdered, and five others were wounded by a violent anti-choice activist.

We *demand* full prosecution of those responsible for these crimes and justice for all those who are on the front line defending a women's right to choose. We *demand* an end to attacks and harassment that occur daily to women who exercise their right to an abortion and those providing health care services. Join us in standing up and speaking for our rights - our freedom - because **WE WON'T GO BACK!**

- **Candle-light Vigil and March** 5:30pm @ Government Center
- **Memorial Rally** 6:00pm @ State House

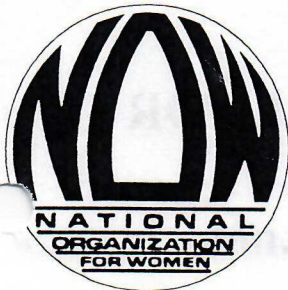
All locations are accessible by subway MBTA Lines.

Please call the NOW office for information on this and other events at (617) 782-9183. Join our next Reproductive Rights Task Force meeting on Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00pm, at 971 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston (MBTA Green B Line, Pleasant T-stop).





We mark this day as an attack on our physical access and legal right to reproductive health services. Each day women exercising their right to have an abortion as well as those providing health care services, face harassment and risk their safety. In it's last sessions, Congress almost outlawed a late term abortion procedure utilized in the most dire of circumstances. We demand an end to these attacks and that reproductive health care services be available to every woman regardless of economic status, race, age or geographical location.



From

REMEMBRANCE

to ACTION

Shannon Lowney and Lee Ann Nichols will never be forgotten. We join today in their memory and in tribute to the bravery of those who continue to risk their lives to ensure that women receive the reproductive health care they need and deserve.

These murders starkly remind us of the violent nature of other attacks on women's rights, from reproductive freedom to economic survival and civil rights. Attempts to outlaw abortion procedures coupled with cutbacks in food stamps, housing and welfare threaten a woman's very survival. Overturning of affirmative action policies and stripping of immigrant rights undermine our opportunities. Sexual harassment, rape, battering and other forms of violence destroy our lives and our communities. Homophobia robs us of our freedom to love.

Complacency is the enemy. Action is our only choice.

Become a member.

Get involved.

Give a donation.

Make a difference.

See calendar of events on the other side. For more information about NOW, volunteer opportunities or how you can help, please call the NOW office at 617-782-9183.

We Won't Go Back!!

©1992

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Rededicating Ourselves to the Fight for Reproductive Freedom

By Rosemary Candelario

The following speech was delivered on December 30, 1997 in Boston, at a candlelight vigil and rally in memory of Lee Ann Nichols and Shannon Lowney, abortion clinic staff members who were murdered in 1994 in Brookline, Massachusetts by anti-abortion activist John Salvi.

This is a time of looking back. Tonight we remember Lee Ann Nichols and Shannon Lowney and the five other people John Salvi shot in Brookline just three years ago today. In less than a month, we will commemorate the 25th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal in this country.

This is an important time for us, the pro-choice movement, as we remember and honor people and events from the past, including the people who fought so hard to put the decision of whether or not to continue a pregnancy into a woman's hands, and also the countless women who died from illegal abortions. And I know that the other doctors and escorts shot and murdered by the so-called pro-life movement are not far from our minds. In fact, we are constantly reminded that legal abortion, and those who defend and provide it, are under constant and increasing attack from people who are willing to use tactics ranging from blatant lies, to bombing and arson, to cold-blooded murder in defense of what they term "life."

In some ways we've accomplished a lot in the last 25 years. We've established a woman-centered model of comprehensive care in women's health clinics. We've invented new methods of early abortion and have fought for their availability. We have a new generation of health care providers dedicated to comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion. We have a generation of young women and men who have never known the horror of illegal abortion. I myself was little more than two years old when abortion was legalized in this country. So I don't

know first-hand the stories that I'm sure many of you in the audience could share with us about abortion before *Roe v. Wade*, but I can tell you stories about Massachusetts women I hear from almost every day at the Abortion Access Project, which illustrate how much we've lost over the last 25 years, and how far we still have to go.

Last summer I spent about four weeks helping a woman arrange for an abortion. When she first called me, she was five or six weeks pregnant, and very scared. She hinted that the pregnancy was the result of acquaintance rape, but wouldn't elaborate. She had been homeless for a while and had only recently gotten an apartment. She was on disability, but most of her check went to paying her rent, so she didn't have the money for an abortion. She thought she was eligible for MassHealth [state Medicaid], but didn't have it, and didn't know how to get it. She had had one previous abortion which was covered by free care, but she was resistant to return to that hospital because of some poor treatment she had received there in the past. She had gone to the Salvation Army looking for help, but soon realized that they were anti-choice. Compounding all of these issues was the fact that when she had the previous abortion the doctor told her she had a heart condition which could make carrying a pregnancy to term dangerous to her health. Since she did not have a primary care physician, or insurance, she had never followed up on the condition, which seemed to go away after her abortion. Eventually, we got her on MassHealth and got her scheduled for a procedure at a local hospital, since she couldn't be seen at a clinic due to her heart condition, but it meant weeks of agony and fear for her health.

One young woman, fearing she was pregnant, wrote an email to me after learning about the Massachusetts parental consent law on our website.



Memorial rally for Shannon Lowney and Lee Ann Nichols, Boston State House December 30, 1997. Sponsored by Massachusetts NOW.

She wrote, "Are there ways to get around this law? Money is not an issue, nor is transportation. If there are no options short of telling my parents, is it true that a punch in the abdomen can be effective?"

A doctor I work with has shared many shocking stories with me, like the story of a woman with a wanted pregnancy whose uterus became infected. The Catholic hospital she was at refused to do an abortion, and instead put her in an ambulance and sent her to a hospital in another community. By the time my colleague saw her, the condition had become life-threatening. These stories touch and shock us, and there are many, many more. But we must not view them as merely individual stories. In the 1990s, I've heard many people say that abortion is personal, not political. But we must remember that basic feminist tenet that says the personal is political. That means we must stand up for every woman's right to abortion, with no compromises: young women, low-income women, women of color, women living in the 84 percent of U.S. counties with no abortion provider, women who need late abortions—no matter the reason!, women in the military, women—including federal employees—whose insurance doesn't cover abortion, women on Medicaid in other states, undocumented women. . .

the list goes on and on. And we also can't stop at abortion rights. We must continue to demand reproductive rights for all women, including non-coercive contraception, pre-natal care, comprehensive health care, a living wage, a safe home . . . After all, that's what being pro-choice is all about: defending the right of every woman to choose for herself what to do with her body and her life, and making sure that she has the resources to carry out her decisions.

There remains so much to be done. Sometimes it feels like all that's happening is the constant chipping away of our rights, and that we're just running in place. Well, we can't let these setbacks wear us down, or worse yet, splinter us. We must let each setback make us stronger, more determined. On this day of remembrance, I want us to begin looking forward. I want us to reclaim our rights and re-dedicate ourselves to winning new ones—ones which we only dream about today—over the next 25 years, and beyond.

Rosemary Candelario is the coordinator of the Abortion Access Project, a grassroots coalition dedicated to making abortion truly accessible. The project is coordinated by the Reproductive Rights Network of Massachusetts (R2N2).

NOW charges police bias

Clinic demonstrators
allege unfairness
by lieutenant

By Michele Netto
TAB STAFF WRITER

Several pro-choice demonstrators, including members of the National Organization for Women, recently charged that they have been treated unfairly by a Brookline police lieutenant on detail outside Brookline reproductive clinics.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts sent a letter to Brookline Police Chief Daniel O'Leary on Jan. 6 to notify him of the complaints, according to ACLU attorney Sarah Wunsch. A copy of the letter was also sent to Brookline Selectmen Chairwoman Ronny Sydney.

For the past six months, Wunsch said she has received complaints from several pro-choice demonstrators who have claimed Brookline Lt. William McDermott has treated them unfairly. Their main complaint centers around a comment McDermott allegedly made in which he said, "You people are the problem. If you get knocked down here that's your problem."

"I heard it enough that it raised some concerns for us about the conduct of the police out there," said Wunsch. "The pro-choicers have the right to express their beliefs peacefully."

Lt. McDermott said he could not comment on the allegations because

NOW, page 13

Clinic demonstrators allege unfair treatment by Brookline lieutenant

NOW, from page 1

the matter was being turned over to Brookline's town counsel. But O'Leary said McDermott will continue to remain on duty at the clinics when there are large demonstrations.

"Lt. McDermott has been our liaison with pro-life, pro-choice and the clinic people for a good number of years. He's always acted right down the line," said O'Leary. "Whatever we've said to one side, we've said to the other."

In addition to concerns that McDermott allegedly made an inappropriate comment to pro-choice demonstrators, Wunsch said demonstrators were also told they could not have their signs with them. If that is true, police could be violating their First Amendment rights, said Wunsch.

But O'Leary said there have been concerns from police and passersby that the signs from both demonstrating groups are obstructing the public way. O'Leary said he is working with town counsel to better manage the protesters' signs by not allowing them to be propped up on the sidewalk or against parking meters.

"We have a situation at 1297 Beacon St. that is a congested, high-traffic area. Lt. McDermott is not favoring one side over the other. We're just trying to provide for public safety. We understand there is a right to hold these signs, but there isn't the right to block everything with them," said O'Leary.

Although NOW President Toni Troop did not hear McDermott's alleged comment to pro-choice demonstrators, she said she and others have had concerns with his actions on past occasions and that this was the straw that broke the camel's back.

"I've witnessed some problems over a period of time that need to be addressed," he said. "I thought at times there were not always the best reactions to situations. To say there's no problems is just flat out wrong."

Although Troop said pending legislation to create a 25-foot buffer zone around the clinics can help access, it won't change the climate of confrontation between demonstrator groups and with the police.

"The specific charges and alle-

gations of misconduct and unfairness by Lt. McDermott do deserve to be heard through the appropriate channels," Troop said. "We would hope Brookline takes these concerns seriously and be willing to hear from those who have brought these concerns forward and take whatever steps are necessary to ensure protesters on whatever sides of the issue are treated fairly and not baited or antagonized in any way by police."

"To say something that invites conflict and that says the anti-choice people won't be held accountable is absolutely inexcusable and unacceptable," Troop said. "We are very concerned about the treatment that the pro-choice activists have received in front of the clinics recently as well as in years past. Some members of the police are incredibly antagonistic towards the pro-choice members, while acting with a great deal of familiarity and ease with the pro-life demonstrators."

While some NOW members do demonstrate in front of the clinic regularly, Troop said they only go out in large groups when Operation Rescue demonstrates on the second Saturday of each month in large prayer groups. NOW members are there largely to ensure patients have safe access to the clinic, she said.

Sydney said she has talked to Troop about the concerns and went to a demonstration in Coolidge Corner on a recent Saturday to observe the interaction between demonstrators and police, but McDermott was not there.

"I've worked with Lt. McDermott for a long time at the clinics," said Sydney. "I've always felt he's really on top of things and has all the background on both sides of the issue. I was surprised to see his name in the letter."

State Rep. John Businger (D-Brookline) said he too has monitored the clinics over the years and has seen police responding slowly to confrontations or even ignore concerns, such as the double-parking of large buses by members of Operation Rescue.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
FOUNDATION OF MASSACHUSETTS
99 CHAUNCY STREET, SUITE 310, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02111

Sarah R. Wunsch
Staff Attorney

COPY

(617) 482-3170
Fax (617) 451-0009

January 6, 1998

Daniel C. O'Leary, Chief
Brookline Police Department
350 Washington Street
Brookline, MA 02146

Dear Chief O'Leary:

I am writing because my office has been contacted repeatedly over the last six months by people concerned about the conduct of Lieutenant McDermott outside of the women's health clinics where abortions are performed in Brookline. His behavior seems to have changed over the years and he appears very friendly to the anti-abortion demonstrators and hostile to the prochoice supporters.

According to the reports I've received, last month, Lt. McDermott came up to prochoice supporters outside the Repro Clinic in Coolidge Corner and said something like: "You people are the problem. If you get knocked on your ass, that's your problem, you shouldn't be coming here." He has made these comments in the presence of some anti-abortion demonstrators who have been convicted of violating the injunction and charged with assault and battery. By making comments like this, especially in front of people who have shown a propensity to violate the law outside the clinics, the lieutenant has made the prochoice people feel very vulnerable and threatened. One person who was disturbed by these comments reported them to a Brookline police officer who was working a security detail.

Second, I have been told that Lt. McDermott has repeatedly told prochoice demonstrators they could not have their signs with them, even when the signs have simply been resting on their feet or held in their hands. These signs are important because they help identify supporters to women coming to the clinic for appointments. Obviously, there is also a first amendment right to peacefully hold a sign.

Third, there is the perception that the lieutenant has misrepresented the conduct of the prochoice people to clinic staff. One weekend in November, at the Repro Clinic, Lt. McDermott went inside the clinic. A few minutes later, the head of the clinic came outside, very angry, saying to the prochoice people, you're lying, you can't say you work for the

Daniel C. O'Leary, Chief
January 6, 1998
Page two

clinic. The perception here is that the Lieutenant was trying to create friction where none had existed.

It may be useful to have a meeting to air the concerns people have about Lt. McDermott's conduct at the clinics. There is, at the very least, a perception of unfairness in his dealings with the two sides on this issue, and some evidence that this rises to the level of a violation of rights. There is a first amendment right to peaceful expression of all ideas outside the clinics, but the lieutenant seems to wish the prochoice people would now go away and his conduct seems aimed at harassing them away.

I would appreciate your investigation of this matter, not just by talking to Lt. McDermott, but by interviewing people who have been subjected to his treatment. Police videotapes from outside the clinic should be reviewed to see if they have focused on the prochoice supporters, since there is also the perception that the police cameras have targeted them while largely ignoring the anti-abortion demonstrators.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sarah Wunsch

Sarah Wunsch

cc: Ronny Sydney, Chair
Board of Selectmen

The Power of Our Voices: A Northeast Young Feminist Summit

*a conference sponsored by the Northeast Region of
the National Organization for Women (NOW)*

February 27 - March 1, 1998

Royal Sonesta Hotel/Boston
Massachusetts

WHAT WE'RE DOING ...

Join us – young women and men from New York City to Portland, Maine and from small towns in Vermont to sea-side communities in Rhode Island – to talk about women's rights, girls' and young women's futures. Join in conversations about our diverse experiences, the barriers we face and changes we hope to create. Be part of crafting our agendas for women's – and girls' – rights. Be there.

HOW WE'RE DOING IT ...

Starting Friday evening with a cabaret featuring acoustic music, slam poetry, and comedy as well as an open mike, continuing Saturday through Sunday afternoon, the conference will provide forums to speak out and actions to join. It will include workshops about the issues facing us and the skills we need to address them, and sessions where we will hear from young women who are out there making a difference and women who have led the way – from NOW's National President Patricia Ireland to WNBA basketball players, Pulitzer-Prize winning journalists and elected officials.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED ...

We want you to be there. And we want you to spread the word. Bring a friend. Bring a delegation from your community. If you can get involved in organizing for the Summit, call your local NOW office, Greater Boston NOW at 617/232-1017 or e-mail us at massnow@gis.net.

YES, I want to be part of the Summit!

Send this form to: Greater Boston NOW, 214 Harvard Ave., Boston, MA 02134.

Name

Address

City State Zip

phone (day/eves) e-mail address

Enclosed please find:

\$ 25 – Conference registration (more if you can, and sliding scale for NOW members)

\$ 40 – Registration fee *and* NOW membership for 1 year

I am paying by check (circle) or credit card.

My card number is: _____ exp. date _____

For hotel reservations, call the Royal Sonesta Hotel/Boston directly at 617/491-3600. Special NOW rates are: \$ 108 per room (single, double or quad) for the first fifty rooms to be reserved, \$ 115 after that. *This rate is guaranteed to January 30, 1998.* For affordable housing options, call Greater Boston NOW at 617/232-1017 or e-mail at massnow@gis.net.

Clinic guard allegedly assaults abortion protester

By TIM CORNELL

A security guard at the Repro Associates abortion clinic in Brookline was charged yesterday with assaulting an anti-abortion protester who was screaming at women going inside the clinic, police said.

Steven Parsons, a North Reading man whom police described being in his late 50s, will be arraigned today in Brookline District Court.

Members of Operation Rescue of Boston said Parsons had repeatedly accosted their protesters, described as "sidewalk counselors," as they stood outside the clinic at 1297 Beacon St.

To prove their point, one demonstrator videotaped Parsons as he made an alleged assault, according to Bill Cotter, president of the local Operation Rescue group.

Brookline police confirmed the arrest, but gave out little information.

"We're still investigating," said Brookline Lt. Gerald Hafferman. Parsons was charged and then released to appear in court this morning.

Operation Rescue activists said Brookline police had revoked Parsons' license to carry firearms, but Hafferman said he could not confirm that and added

Brookline police would be able to do so only if the permit was issued from Brookline.

The Repro clinic and Women's Health Services are two abortion facilities still in Brookline.

After being the target of John Salvi's bloody rampage in 1994, the Planned Parenthood and Pre-term clinics merged and moved to nearby Brighton. Police suspected the Repro clinic was on Salvi's list.

The clinics have been pocked with violence.

Four months after Salvi shot two abortion clinic workers dead and wounded five others, an anti-abortion demonstrator was charged with assaulting an abortion-rights demonstrator.

Last year, Terrence J. McManus, 48, of Worcester, was given a 26-month sentence for phoning in bomb threats to the Repro clinic.

State buys time to study water plant

Fleming, a spokesman for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Under the agreement, Coxe said, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, which serves communities in the Boston area, will have until the end of October to study whether the plant is needed to purify water.

"We believe, at the end of October, we will have a lot of data which will tell us whether or not we should build the plant," she said.

At the same time, under the agreement, the state will have to

continue planning for the plant and continue work on a major new tunnel that brings water into the Boston area.

"There are a lot of incentives for all of us to do good things," said Coxe, who is the chair of the MWRA board. "It keeps everybody, everybody on their toes."

John DeVillars, the regional chief of the EPA, said in December that he wanted the MWRA to build the plant in Marlboro. He threatened to sue if the state didn't move quickly.

But state officials immediately balked at paying so much for the new plant.

And acting Gov. Paul Cellucci recently flew to Washington to tell Carol Browner, the head of the EPA, the plant wasn't needed.

EPA officials were going to go ahead with their plan to sue the state, Coxe said, but one of the first documents filed in the case would be

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662	\$529/104
35*35*30"	\$529/104

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CASEMENT WINDOW

2-98

To BCAT Members: a few thoughts on escorting, Spring, 1998

SUGGESTION: We know we're at the clinic to facilitate the clients' access to the clinic entrance in the safest, quickest and least confrontational manner. If any escort engages in behavior that could be construed as confrontational, provocative, related to personal conflicts, aggressive or dangerous toward other escorts, antis, or any local authorities, that escort should remove her/his BCAT jacket, to make it clear that she/he is acting as an individual and that the behavior has no reflection on BCAT as a unit.

CLARIFICATION: BCAT is an entity which has no leader—all members have equal standing. Therefore, all escorts are responsible for their own behavior: no escort is "in charge". No escort has responsibility for any actions but her/his own. Escorts engaging in high-risk behaviors which take away from our purpose at the clinic should realize that they are essentially on their own when it comes to accountability.

FINAL THOUGHT: Any discussion generated by the above should be scheduled for a venue as far away as possible from the clinic.



Radcliffe

The Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College · 34 Concord Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138 · www.radcliffe.edu/bunting

For information about this or other events at The Bunting Institute, please call 617.495.8212

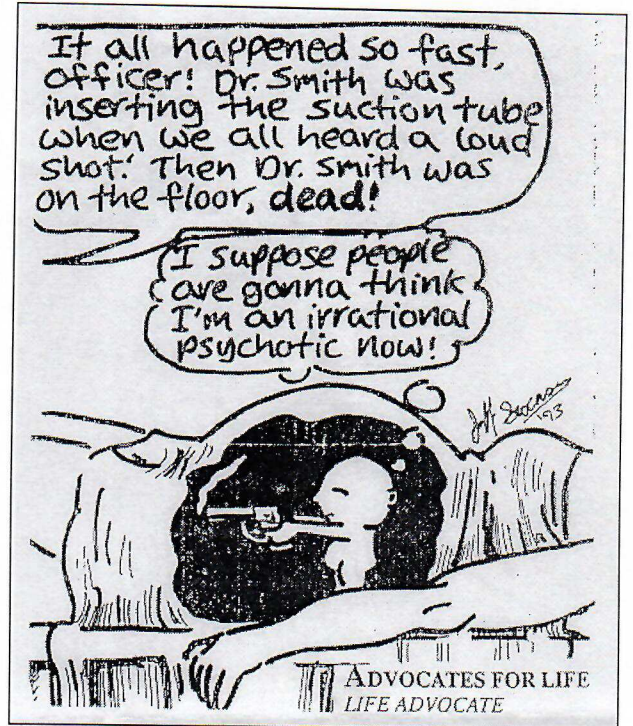
1998-99 Colloquia Series

Killing for Life: Questioning Pro-life Politics

Carol Mason,
Frieda L. Miller Fellow

Despite the increased use of lethal force to articulate the pro-life cause, no one has questioned in-depth the contradiction of killing for life in the continental United States. What can life mean if it is not the opposite of death? How has the protection of the unborn become a justification for killing instead of an argument *against* killing through abortion? Is there a difference between right-to-life organizations and pro-life organizations? How are legal strategies for a pro-life America augmented by illegal campaigns? What compels pro-lifers to kill, and what is their vision of "a pro-life America?"

Carol Mason will pose these questions in her colloquium and discuss her project, which defies trends in examining the abortion debate. Most analyses situate abortion in the context of the civil rights movement, the women's liberation movement, the sexual revolution, the gay rights movement, the evangelical movement, the ascendance of right-wing politicians in Washington. *Killing for Life* augments these histories by examining other elements that influence the abortion debate, especially the pro-life side: the ideological restructuring



Poster found taped to a telephone pole, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1995

and political realignment of organized white supremacists, the mobilization of farmers and factory workers into militia, the resurgence of scientific creationism, and both Protestant and Catholic apocalypticism that is amplified by—but not attributable to or limited to—the advent of the year 2000.

To outline the project's poststructuralist assumptions, political aims, and trajectory of argument, Mason will read from the narrative introduction of her forthcoming book *Killing for Life*.

Mason is the 1998–99 Freida L. Miller Fellow at the Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College.

March 17, 1999 • 4:00 pm • 34 Concord Ave. • Cambridge

Bunting Institute

Brookline Clinic Access Team
Agenda

1. Who is BCAT? Who is in BCAT?

- a. Mission Statement.
- b. Official Membership Policy.

2. Who is BCAT Contact?

- a. Telephone, voice mail contact.
- b. Web page, email.
- c. Fliers, what should they say?

3. What are BCAT's policies for it's members?

- a. Appropriate and inappropriate behavior.
- b. Disagreements.

4. What should BCAT members wear?

- a. A pinny.
- b. T-shirt.
- c. Coats, and the distribution of.

5. Formation of a speakers bureau.

- a. Who speaks.
- b. About what.

6. Collection of BCAT history.

- a. Who, what where.

7. Fundraising.

- a. Should we do it.
- b. How should we do it.
- c. What do we do with the money.
- d. Should we become an official non-profit organization.

8. Officers.

- a. Do we need them?
- b. Volunteers?

Open floor for other questions.

Arrangement for follow up meeting within 2 months.