

Jeff Goulding / Courier-Journal

# Rochester Native

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disruptive. "Counselors and various people, family members, tell them this is the solution ... What they don't know, and what these young women suffer with is that you still remember that your child would have been 12 or 14. Would it have been a girl or a boy? You don't realize that for two, three or four years. Maybe you have to get a lot older before you learn to live with that."

Among the ways that Several Sources supports mothers is with a scripture-based motherhood training program.

DiFiore takes an equally spiritual approach toward encouraging family planning. "If a girl really brings the Holy Spirit into her life to guide her in decision making, she'll think twice. And she'll look for a man who's going to be a good father to her child and a good husband to her.

"Love is a very powerful force," she

observed. "I have seen young women give life to a child and have that child become a catalyst of change for her, striving to be a better person for the sake of her daughter. Maybe it's the first thing in her life she feels she can trust."

DiFiore ran into trouble with Several Sources last year when she applied for a garage sale food permit. Officials of her town claimed that since more than one unrelated person was living with her, according to New Jersey state law she was illegally operating a boarding house. Last August 2, which happened to be her 37th birthday, fire officials with a warrant entered and searched her home and those of several of her volunteers.

Through the intercession of her state senator and hard work on her part, the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly are expected to pass an amendment this fall allowing up to six unrelated people to live in a home sponsored by a church or non-profit institution if either the owner or a paid staff member also occupies the home, and so long as the guests are not paying.

She's also battling the fine levied against her, despite its reduction to \$500. "I was not about to pay the fine and apply for the license, because a boarding house is not allowed ... in my residential zone," she explained.

Meanwhile, last March she was fired from her \$57,000-a-week job as personnel manager for DeGussa Corp. She claims that all the publicity she received prompted a company management campaign to "rid this troublemaker from their ranks" by trying to force her resignation. She believes she was fired only when that tactic failed.

DiFiore credits her ability to endure in her chosen mission to what she's learned from her guests. "When you try to teach somebody the word of the Lord, you can't help but learn something yourself," she remarked.

# Administration

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The administration claimed the information provision struck down in the Pennsylvania law "is identical to" a similar measure found unobjectionable in the high court's 1983 ruling on Akron, Ohio, abortion restrictions.

A third of the brief, however, attacked Roe vs. Wade itself.

The Justice Department described as "inherently unworkable" the decision's reliance on the trimester system to determine when in pregnancy a state can act. In part, it said, medical technology has changed the point of fetal "viability" and complicated the idea

intervene in abortion decisions only once the fetus reaches viability.

The Justice Department, while pointing out that the Constitution does not mention abortion, also noted that Roe vs. Wade cites the 14th Amendment, which applied federal "due process" standards to the states. However, at the time the 14th Amendment was ratified, strict anti-abortion laws prevailed in most of the states, the brief added.

Use of privacy to justify the right to an abortion, "far from being anchored in text, history or precedent, is an abrupt departure from the court's prior decisions."

The Supreme Court is to hear arguments on the Illinois and Pennsylvania cases sometime during its 1985-86 term.

# Neither Side Expects Court To Overturn Abortion Ruling

By Liz S. Armstrong

Washington (NC) — Neither pro- nor anti-abortion groups expect the Justice Department's July 15 plea to the Supreme Court to scrap its 1973 decision legalizing abortion to bring success.

While pleased by the Reagan administration's action, pro-lifers suggested the move only initiates a further skirmish in an ongoing battle to end abortion.

In a friend-of-the-court brief filed July 15, the Justice Department asked the high court to overturn its ruling, saying the abortion decision is cumbersome and confusing in application and does not work. The brief addressed issues raised by cases from Pennsylvania and Illinois involving attempts to control abortion within the limits of the 1973 decision.

Pro-life groups which filed briefs, including the U.S. Catholic Conference, public policy arm of the U.S. bishops, said that on a pragmatic basis they took a narrower approach and confined their arguments to the merits of the Illinois and Pennsylvania cases themselves.

Douglas Johnson, legislative director for the National Right to Life Committee, said that while his group welcomed the Reagan administration brief, the committee did not have "any expectation the justices of the current Supreme Court are prepared to abandon their abortion-on-demand doctrine."

He said the organization, in its own brief, supported the Pennsylvania statute. "If that law is upheld, it's a pro-life victory but it's not a major restriction on abortion."

"The point is that the administration is taking a principled position," Johnson added. He said the Supreme Court eventually will change its mind. "We're building here toward the future."

Edward R. Grant, executive director of Americans United for Life, the Chicago-based organization which is appealing the Illinois case to the Supreme Court, said he was surprised but pleased by the Justice Department's stance.

"They came up with that one all on their own," Grant said of the Justice Department attorneys. "It was their idea. It wasn't White House political" influence that prompted it, he added

"We're very pleased to have the support of the solicitor general's office," Grant said. "We're pleased they're committed to a reversal of Roe vs. Wade," the 1973 abortion legalization ruling.

Grant said Americans United for Life was not in a position to argue for reversal of the 1973 decision in its brief. It based its brief on the specifics of the disputed Illinois law, Grant noted.

Catholics for a Free Choice, a Washington-based organization which backs abortion rights, also discounted the possibility the administration's brief will convince the high court to overrule itself on abortion.

"I'm not terribly concerned about it from a judicial point of view," said Frances Kissling, executive director of Catholics for a Free Choice. "I don't think it will have a practical effect. I think it's essentially a public relations ploy."

# Right-To-Life Fast

Don Peters will conduct a four-day period of fasting and prayer at the base of Castle Street on Seneca Lake. The focus of the fast is raising the consciousness of area residents in regard to violence in society, specifically that of abortion and nuclear warfare. A pro-life activist, Peters serves as state committeeman for the Right to Life Party and coordinator of the Finger Lakes Chapter of

Pro-Lifers for Survival, and is a member of Pax Christi.

Daily discussions are scheduled at 4 p.m. with rosary recited at 7 p.m. On Tuesday, a special opening prayer will be held at 2 p.m. Donations will also be accepted and divided between African famine relief and the pro-life cause. All events are open to the public. For further information, call Peters at (315)539-8860.

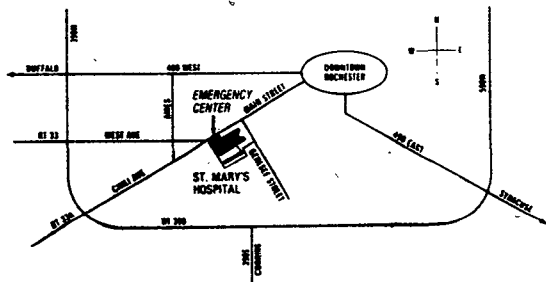
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