

# Senate suspends counseling ban

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate passed a bill Sept. 12 to suspend a ban on abortion counseling at federally funded family planning clinics. One day earlier it approved a compromise measure requiring minors to notify their parents before having an abortion.

Both votes were part of the \$204 billion 1992 appropriations bill for the federal departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and Education.

The Senate followed the House's lead in suspending the ban on abortion counseling as part of the appropriations bill. The two votes would block federal enforcement of the ban on abortion counseling, which is part of federal Title X regulations.

Supporters of the ban say that the \$144 million the federal government spends on family planning should not be used in any way to encourage abortion.

Opponents of the ban say it constitutes a restriction on free speech and claim it prohibits doctors from practicing medicine as they see fit.

In mid-July, the Senate had voted to overturn the ban altogether, but that version of the appropriations bill has gone nowhere in the House. Moreover, President George Bush has indicated he will veto any measure to lift the ban.

The parental notification provision passed 92-8 on Sept. 11 and came in the form of an amendment to the appropriations bill. The amendment was sponsored by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan.

It would require those under 18 to notify a parent or guardian at least 48 hours before undergoing an abortion to be performed at a federally funded health-care institution. But the provision would make exceptions to this requirement if a doctor or counselor believed the minor was mature enough to make her own decision or that notification of her family would not be in her best interest.

In a 55-45 vote earlier that day, the Senate rejected a more restrictive parental notification requirement proposed by Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla. It would have made

exceptions only when the minor's life was in danger or in cases of incest, abuse or possible future abuse by her family.

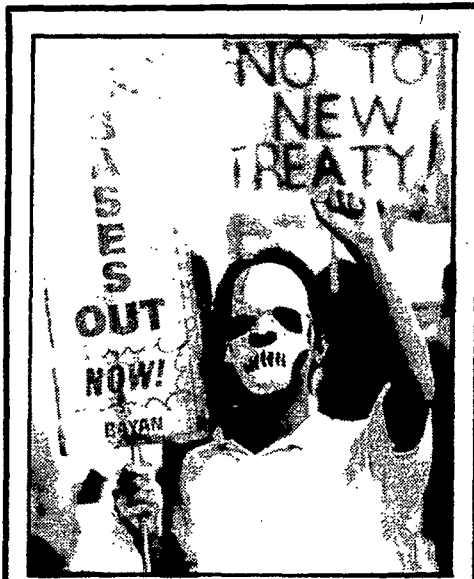
Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, a leading pro-life voice in the Senate, described the Kassebaum proposal as "a classic compromise."

"It basically pleases no one," Hatch said. "But it's better than having a political morass here."

The only senators who voted against the Kassebaum amendment were abortion-rights supporters.

Susan Smith, assistant legislative director of the National Right to Life Committee, said her organization opposed the Kassebaum amendment because it has "so many loopholes" that it would apply only in Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Texas and Vermont.

Douglas Johnson, the committee's legislative director, called the provision "a complete sham" that "will not require parental notification in any case."



AP/Wide World Photos  
**PROTESTING BASE — A student raises a clenched fist in protest during a demonstration in front of the U.S. embassy in Manila Sept. 9. The Philippine Senate Sept. 16 rejected a new 10-year lease for Subic Bay naval base by a 12-11 vote.**

# Pope calls on Yugoslavia to end 'this absurd conflict'

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — The Yugoslavian government must end the "tragic and absurd conflict" in the breakaway republic of Croatia, said Pope John Paul II as federal troops tightened their grip on major Croatian cities.

The pope's strong appeal was coupled with a renewed call for European intervention to halt "the unjust and cruel war."

"It is not with arms that disagreements among people are solved," he said Sept. 15 during his midday Angelus talk at the papal summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, 15 miles south of Rome.

The appeal came as fighting in Croatia intensified and prolonged efforts by 12 West European nations to negotiate a cease-fire continued.

"My thoughts especially go to our brothers and sisters in Croatia who are suffering terrible hours because of the war that is bloodying their homeland," the pope said.

"The church is close to them in this hour

of difficulty," he added.

"I plead again to those responsible for the Yugoslavian government to put an end to this tragic and absurd conflict," he said.

The pope asked the entire international community, especially Europe, to pressure for an end to the fighting.

European countries "cannot escape the responsibility they have in confronting this drama," he added.

Meanwhile, Catholic officials in Yugoslavia also asked for greater European measures to end the fighting in Croatia. The fighting has taken on ethnic dimensions, pitting Croats seeking independence against Serbian guerrillas living in Croatia but opposed to independence. The Serbian-led federal army is supporting the guerrillas.

Europe should "hurry up, should do things faster," said Bishop Josip Bozanic of Krk, in Croatia. "We live in Europe."

Interviewed in several Italian newspapers Sept. 14, the bishop blamed the

federal armed forces for prolonging the fighting.

"The armed forces, financed by all, are only at the service of the Serbs," he said.

"The armed forces seem to be following a precise plan. It is true that in every Croatian village, the first things being attacked are the church and the cemetery," said Bishop Bozanic.

"Up to Sept. 9, 54 churches and five monasteries have been attacked," he added. There are also 180,000 Croats who have fled zones bombed by Serbs, he said.

Bishop Bozanic said serious Serb-Croat problems began when the two ethnic groups became part of the same country, Yugoslavia, after World War I. Prior to that, Serbia and Croatia were part of separate empires.

There was an "artificial pacification" during the decades of communist rule but problems "now re-explode in the post-communist period," he said.

"If we returned being independent, we

could live together, communicate and cooperate. With independence we would be free and with equal rights," he said.

"The church does not stand on the front line" promoting independence, he said. "But it respects the choice of the people, who have pronounced themselves for independence."

"The church does not engage in politics and does not want to. But it can only be for democracy, freedom and the right of people to self-determination," he said.

Another call for European intervention came from the Slovenian bishops' Justice and Peace Commission. Slovenia declared independence from Yugoslavia in June, at the same time as Croatia.

"How many more people have to die so that Europe, so proud of its humanistic civilization, finally decides to take real and effective measures to impede the continuation of the fighting?" said a commission statement.

\$6.00

**SAINT MARTHA'S  
COOK BOOK**

**Patron Saint of Cooks  
and Housewives**

Compiled by  
Rev. Lawrence G. Lovasik,  
S.V.D.

SOUPS  
SALADS  
BREADS  
MEAT AND POULTRY  
SEAFOODS  
CASSEROLES  
DESSERTS  
CAKES  
PIES  
COOKIES

Address all orders to:

**Father Lawrence G.  
Lovasik, S.V.D.**  
211 West 7th Avenue  
Tarentum, PA 15084

(Add \$2.00 for postage)

**Call 723-8760**



Personalized to meet your needs:

- Companionship
- Senior sitting
- Shopping
- Meal Prep
- Respite Care
- Transportation
- Light Cleaning



**Reasonable Rates!  
Fully Insured. Bonded**

1100 Long Pond Rd. Suite 3

**Our 45th Anniversary**

**OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION**

You and your family are invited  
to attend our 45th Anniversary  
Celebration Open House.



- Tour the new wing.
- Meet the teachers.
- Enjoy cookies and punch.

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
100 Groton Parkway  
Sunday, September 29, 1991

**School of the Holy Childhood**

Take 390 to E. Henrietta, south to Hollybrook (across from Taco Bell),  
turn left on Hollybrook, bear right to stop sign at Groton Parkway.

**Ceremonies launch  
quincentenary year**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Religious services launching the U.S. Catholic observance of the fifth centenary of Columbus' arrival in the Americas were held in Catholic cathedrals throughout the United States on Sept. 14.


Although some may begin the observance on another date, some 140 of the 188 U.S. Catholic dioceses participated in the quincentenary observance, according to a press release issued by the Knights of Columbus.

The cathedral services in each diocese centered on presentation of handmade replicas of the cross used by Pope John Paul II to launch a decade of evangelization in the Americas.

The crosses — made by two New Mexican craftsmen at a cost of several hundred dollars each — were provided by the Knights of Columbus in a joint project with the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**INDIVIDUALS  
COUPLES  
FAMILIES**

- Pre-Marital
- Marital - Family
- Divorce - Separation
- Decisionmaking
- Budgeting



**SLIDING FEES**  
Marcia Fedyk, MS ED (Member AFM, NYSCDM)  
Mediation - Consultation  
1800 Hudson Ave. (Irondequoit)  
544-9440 (Leave Message) 544-8531 (After 5:30)