

Feminist lawyer favors no reproduction laws

by H. J. Cummins

A Columbia Law School graduate speaking at the ASUN Time-Out Conference said she represented in court a woman who suffered a spontaneous abortion but was refused care by her long-time doctor because he said he was afraid others would think he'd given her a therapeutic abortion.

This concept of a woman's physical rights was discussed by Diane Schulder as she covered the gamut of women's legal rights in her Thursday afternoon talk entitled "Abortion: Women's Liberation and the Law."

SCHULDER SAID she sees the national priorities in women's legal rights as being repeal of all "reproductive" laws (prohibiting abortions and contraceptives); passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, unamended; awarding tax deductions to women who must hire babysitters when they work; and continuing the fight against job discrimination.

She said on the campus level, specifically the Law College, she would like to see more women students, recruitment of women professors and the introduction of a course "Women in the Law." She spoke at UNL's Law College later in the day.

Outlining what she sees as the legal situation for women, Schulder said "equal pay for equal work" does not exist, partially due to the so-called "protective laws" which actually work against women in many cases.

SHE SAID MARRIAGE now "prohibits women from having an identity and we just can't put up with it."

"The marriage and divorce laws require a total overhaul and re-analysis," Schulder said, feeling "til death do us part" may just not apply any more.

And of course "all types of reproductive laws should be wiped off the books," she said.

IN ONE OF the most heated question and answer periods of the conference, Schulder said she "questions the sincerity of people who



Diane Schulder... "If 60 per cent of the women in Nebraska want the law abolished, it should be abolished."

talk about the 'sanctity of life' in opposition to legalized abortions.

She asked if they're so concerned about the fetus, why suddenly, when the infant is born, do they stop their concern and send young men to war to kill women and children and possibly be killed themselves?

Schulder pointed to a recent survey in Nebraska that said 60 per cent of the women in Nebraska want the state's anti-abortion law abolished.

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Sarrel: counseling program helps Yale students

The founders of a Yale University Sex Counseling Program said Thursday "honesty really does pay off" as proved by records at their college, which show 18 times fewer pregnancies on their campus than other college campuses without such a service.

Phillip and Lorna Sarrel said in an address during the ASUN Time-Out Conference they try to provide "medical services plus someone to talk to" for Yale students.

Sarrel, a gynecologist, said that in the first year of the program 600 of the 800 women students came to their clinic, all voluntarily.

He said everything is done in the strictest confidence and pointed to contraception as the main issue they deal with.

Mrs. Sarrel a social worker, said they've discovered that there's very few "routine" requests for contraceptives so they approach students basically in two steps: first, "we must learn to know the couple," and secondly, "they must know each other."

The first is important, she said, because a person's sexuality "cannot be separated from everything else he or she does."

Sarrel said he sees their role also as providing information so students can put their own

sexuality "into perspective." He said students often feel something is sexually wrong with them when there really is not.

The couple have done studies on college campuses across the nation to provide the kind of information students need to compare themselves with others their age, Mrs. Sarrel said.

Contraceptives, abortions, and counseling services are made available through the clinic, although any kind of medical treatment is administered only after extensive examinations and with the understanding the student is obliged to return for follow-up check-ups.

Time-Out faces third challenge

Lancaster County Commissioners will consider a petition seeking a halt to the Time-Out Conference at their Tuesday meeting despite the fact that the conference will have concluded four days prior to their meeting.

The petition, filed Wednesday afternoon under provisions of the state's so-called "rock festival" law (LB 63 of the 1971 Legislature), asks the commissioners to seek an injunction halting the conference.

Seventy five county residents, signers of the petition, "protest the proposed public exhibition and gathering commonly described as the Time-Out Conference on Sexuality."

They contend the conference will "adversely affect the public health and welfare of those in attendance," in violation of the new law.

Specifically the petition noted that "minor children" would be present at the conference which is scheduled "to be (for) the promulgation, explanation and advocacy of unnatural relationships and acts between two members of the same sex."

The hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday at the commissioners' regular meeting

in the County-City Building.

Under provisions of the law, the commissioners will determine whether a public hearing should be held. Following a hearing they can then seek an injunction in Lancaster District Court halting the completed conference.

District Court Judge Herbert A. Ronin ruled Tuesday against a restraining order sought by two UNL students. Ronin said the

question of First Amendment freedom of speech liberties was directly in question.

This is just the second attempt to use the new law. UNL student Bev Eddy attempted to halt the Nebraska State Fair this past summer. Her petition request was turned down by the Commissioners.

The County Clerk's office reported the petition was delivered by an unidentified "young man."

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