

**The original documents are located in Box 35, folder “M. Mecklenburg Federal Positions” of the American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc., Records at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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# Federal officials reject pro-life leader for post

By MARY BADER PAPA  
Special to the National Catholic Reporter  
*Minneapolis*

FEDERAL OFFICIALS' REFUSAL to approve the appointment of a pro-life leader as a consultant to the government's new teenage pregnancy program indicates again how the politics of abortion has polarized this country's politics and its policy-makers.

Marjory Mecklenburg, president of American Citizens Concerned for Life, had been sought as a consultant by

the program's director since last December. Her appointment, however, apparently was vetoed by Dr. Julius Richmond, assistant secretary for health of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW).

A public relations spokesman for Richmond's office said that the office opposed hiring anyone who was the national leader of an interest group, although consultants reflecting a range of opinions on the abortion issue would be hired. He said Mecklenburg was informed of this two months ago.

*Continued on page 20)*

St. Paul Dispatch 2/9/79

# Mecklenburg may be pregnancy consultant

FEB 16 1979

Associated Press

Marjory Mecklenburg, a long-time abortion fighter from Minnesota, is being asked by the Carter administration to serve as a consultant to develop a manual for a prototype community health service for pregnant teen-agers.

Her appointment is subject to approval by Dr. Julius Richmond, assistant health secretary in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Marjory Mecklenburg, St. Paul, Minn.

*St Paul Pioneer Press 2/9/79*

# Abortion: bitterness with no middle ground

By Mary McGrory

Washington

Nellie Gray, head of March for Life, the anti-abortion group that marched on the Capitol, has drafted a "nice letter" to Ellie

statement condemning abortion as "the greatest violence afflicting our society today."

Smeal's idea was to bring together both sides of the increasingly ugly argument to discuss certain questions of possible agreement, such as the need for

League, this represents an effort to impose religious dogma (prolifers are predominantly Catholic) on the rest of society and could mean, if interpreted literally, that a pregnant woman and the doctor who performs an abortion could be prosecuted for

at the prospect that they will polarize the nation by depopulating the Congress of its enlightened members and replacing them with cavemen who vote right on "right to life." For them there is only one issue.

Their ferocity plainly un-



W Post 1/23/79

# Abortion Passions Rise on Both Sides

By B. D. Colen  
and Judy Mann

Washington Post Staff Writers

Chanting "Life, Life," and "No Compromise," an estimated 60,000 people marched down Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House to the Capitol yesterday in the sixth annual protest against the Supreme Court's 1973 decision legalizing abortion

responsibility to meet and begin a dialogue, although we know our respective positions on abortion itself will not change," she said.

The NOW invitation was sent out by telegram to some 19 organizations, including the March For Life, sponsors of yesterday's rally at the Capitol, and about 5 other major antiabortion groups

cross. Asked about the possible effects of the pictures on the general public, Father Bayusik said, "As far as I'm concerned, it tells the message as it is."

"This is my sixth march," said Diane Trombley, a member of Michigan Citizens for Life, who said some 200 people came from that state by plane and bus for the march. "We're obvi-

is 1,300,000 that are killed in their mothers' wombs.

"The unofficial total is closer to three million," said Dornan, "and that's a war! We are now asking for a moratorium on the death toll in that war raging across America before we will sit down at any peace table and negotiate the terms of what will be the parameters for the respect for life





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# TRENDS

St. Paul Pioneer Press

## Abortion views opposite but groups hope to talk

By MARLENE CIMONS  
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON—“We feel you have to stop screaming ‘murder’ at each other and start sitting down and talking,” said Arlie Scott, national vice president-action for the National Organization for Women.

To accomplish that, NOW plans to sponsor an unusual



“Although we know our respective positions on abortion itself will not change, we believe it is time for both sides to seek ways to lessen the need for abortion, to reduce the incidence

“They do not speak for everyone,” she said. “It’s clear that there are people who are interested in family planning and research into contraceptives and a way to discuss the alternatives and get to the root of the problem. Those who have not accepted the invitation are obviously not interested.”

Jefferson, the Boston surgeon who served three terms as presi-



# Foes of abortion taking over key federal positions

By Bill Peterson  
*Washington Post Service*

WASHINGTON — While the headlines have been going to budget cuts and El Salvador, anti-abortionists have quietly won several key positions in the Reagan administration and launched an effort to alter federal policy not just on abortion, but sex education, family planning and

would lobby for such an amendment in his present post. He also has said, "I don't think the federal government should be in the sex education business."

Congress has already moved in recent years to block federal funding of almost all abortions under Medicaid and other programs. Now pro-abortionists and family planning experts are worried Congress and a

the current attack for the way they expand the targets of the anti-abortion groups to birth control activities.

The first document is a "white paper" prepared by the Life Amendment Political Action Committee and the American Life Lobby which the groups say was given to Reagan and Stockman in a White House meeting Feb. 17.



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## A right-to-life pair

It should come as no surprise that President Ronald Reagan chose right-to-life advocates like Dr. C. Edward Koop and Marjory Mecklenburg to serve in the Department of Health and Human Services. After all, the President and department Secretary Richard Schweiker have both been outspoken in their opposition to

tion, and ACCL has pushed for humane public policy to make it easier for women to carry a pregnancy to term, including pregnancy disability benefits, increased AFDC benefits for pregnant women and better contraceptive research.

Opposition to Koop runs beyond his stand