

WHO ARE THE EXPERTS?

Today a panel of clergymen, doctors and other professional "experts" is picking apart the abortion law. They will tell us, in their usual daddy-knows-best manner, just how much control over our reproductive processes we should be allowed to have.

We say:

THE ONLY REAL EXPERTS ON
ABORTION ARE WOMEN!

Women who have known the pain, fear and socially-imposed guilt of an illegal abortion. Women who have seen their friends dead or in agony from a post-abortion infection. Women who have had children by the wrong man, at the wrong time, because no doctor would help them.

Any woman can tell you:

Abortion laws are sexist laws, made by *men* to punish women.

LET THE EXPERTS TESTIFY.
SUPPORT CONSTANCE COOK'S
BILL — REPEAL ALL ABORTION
LAWS.

Women's Liberation Movement

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON THE PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

HEARING ON POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THE ABORTION LAW

125 WORTH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1969

THERE WILL BE A 30 MINUTE BREAK FOR LUNCH AT APPROXIMATELY 1 P.M.

1. The Honorable Charles W. Froessel, Former Judge, New York State Court of Appeals, Dean of New York Law School and Chairman of the Governor's Commission on Abortion Reform
2. Frank J. Ayd, Jr., M. D., Psychiatrist, Baltimore, Maryland
3. Zad Leavy, Former Assistant District Attorney, Los Angeles County, California
4. Father Charles Carroll, Chaplain, University of California at Los Angeles
5. The Honorable Percy Sutton, President, Borough of Manhattan
6. Senator Wilfrid J. Ullrich, Member of the Indiana State Senate and Vice-Chairman of Committee to Study the Indiana Abortion Law
7. Irvin M. Cushner, M. D., Director of Center for Social Studies in Human Reproduction, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
8. John Noonan, Professor, University of California at Berkeley, School of Law
9. The Honorable Milton Helporn, M. D., Chief Medical Examiner, City of New York
10. Robert M. Byrn, Professor, Fordham University School of Law and Member of the Governor's Commission on Abortion Reform
11. Irwin F. Sclar, M. D., Psychiatrist, Boulder, Colorado
12. Jules Rivkind, M. D., Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, St. Vincent's Hospital, New York City
13. Louis Z. Cooper, M. D., Director of Rubella Birth Defect Evaluation Project, New York University Medical Center
14. Sister Mary Patricia, Director of Kennedy Child Study Center, New York City
15. Representative Kenneth B. Bays, Member of the Indiana State House of Representatives and Chairman of Committee to Study the Indiana Abortion Law

WOMEN BREAK UP ABORTION HEARING

Shouts for Repeal of Law
Force Panel to Move

By EDITH EVANS ASHURY

A group of angry women broke up a legislative hearing on abortion reform here yesterday, forcing it to move to another room and continue behind closed doors as the women continued to shout outside.

Charles W. Froessel, former judge of the State Court of Appeals, had just finished addressing the Joint Legislative Committee on the Problems of Public Health when a young woman in the audience stood up and shouted, "All right, now let's hear from some real experts—the women."

The white-haired Mr. Froessel and the committee members at a long table on the platform of the auditorium of the City Health Department, 125 Worth Street, stared over their microphones in amazement.

"Repeal the abortion law, instead of wasting more time talking about these stupid reforms," cried the young woman, who later identified herself as Mrs. Kathy Amatnick.

A dozen other women arose and began to shout at the members of the committee as its chairman, State Senator Norman Lent, Republican of Nassau County, sought to restore order.

Among the words that could be distinguished above the din were:

"Why are 14 men and only one woman on your list of speakers — and she a nun?"

An Unwanted Baby

"We've waited and waited while you have held one hearing



NO ENTRY: A police captain blocking a group of vocal women demonstrators trying to enter a closed session of a legislative committee hearing on abortion reform. Earlier, the women had disrupted a public hearing of the committee.

after another. Meanwhile, the baby I didn't want is 2 years old."

Mr. Froessel, who had just outlined for the committee recommendations of the Governor's Committee on Abortion Law Reform, went over to Mrs. Amatnick and tried to persuade her that "you're only hurting your own case."

"This doesn't get you anywhere," he said.

Senator Seymour Thaler, a Queens Democrat, called out from the platform:

"I am entirely in sympathy with these women, the law should be repealed, in my opinion. We have had enough hearings. You are quite right to be impatient."

Loud applause broke the pattern of the noise briefly, but the angry female voices continued to ring out.

Senator Thaler left his seat on the platform and went down into the audience, pleading:

"I am on your side. This is the legislative procedure. We have to get on. Anarchy is no substitute for the orderly procedure of law."

About a half hour after the noisy outbreak began, Senator Lent announced that the hearing would move to another room and continue as an executive session closed to the public except for the news media.

Publicity Called Aim

"What they really want is more publicity," shouted Mrs. Gloria Nelson as the committee left the platform. She is chairman of the League for Abortion Reform of Nassau County.

Assemblyman Albert H. Blumenthal, a Manhattan Democrat who has campaigned for abortion-law reform for two

years, tried vainly, on the way out, to pacify some of the angry women.

As he left the auditorium he commented: "They can't make me mad. We've been trying to get them to hearings for years."

Before the outburst began, Mr. Froessel told the committee that his commission had urged amendment of the law to permit legalized abortion where pregnancy endangered the physical or mental health of the mother, created substantial risk that the child would be grossly malformed or seriously abnormal mentally or physically, or if the pregnancy was the result of rape or incest.

In addition to these recommendations, which are in a bill already proposed by the Governor, Mr. Froessel urged that abortion be legalized where the woman already had four children and didn't want any more.

The state's abortion law, which has been unchanged for 86 years, allows abortions only when necessary to save the mother's life. Efforts to liberalize it were fought strenuously when Assemblyman Blumenthal and then Assemblyman Percy E. Sutton, now Manhattan Borough President, began them two years ago. However, Senator Lent, in his opening statement yesterday, said his committee recognized that the present law was "widely disregarded and infrequently enforced" and that there was public sentiment for reform.

485 Doctors to Be Drafted

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 (UPI)—The Department of Defense plans to draft 485