# -Volume 7, Number 3 -- June 1992 pertarian News

### TAX HIKE CHALLENGE ucing the member of writern votes

On May 14 the California Supreme Court rejected the Libertarian Party's challenge to Proposition C, a halfcent sales tax increase passed by Los Angeles County voters in November 1990. Los Angeles Libertarians, led by former state chair John Vernon, had filed suit against the county because the tax measure passed with only 50.4% of the vote. Under Proposition 13, a two-thirds vote is required for such a tax hike. The money collected under Proposition C is for transportation programs such as Metro subway lines, carpool lanes on freeways and expanded bus service.

The court decision was a surprise, since in December the same justices struck down a similar tax hike passed by San Diego County voters for new jail construction. That measure, also challenged by Libertarians, passed with far less than a two-thirds majority. Libertarian Dick Rider is riding the crest of that anti-tax victory (an estimated \$1.6 billion in taxes saved) in his attempt to win a seat on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors June 2.

The Court of Appeals ruled in March that the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (the agency receiving the sales tax funds) was not bound by the twothirds requirement because the commission lacked power to levy property taxes and was not formed specifically to circumvent Proposition 13. This argument is logical only because the agency was created before Proposition 13 (passed in 1978). The San Diego tax, which the Court struck down, was to be collected by an agency created by the Board of Supervisors especially to get around the law. In its Los Angeles County decision, the Court may have been influenced by a more longstanding Los Angeles sales tax hike, in effect since 1980, that would have been also uncollectable if they ruled against the newer Proposition C.

Only Justice Ronald George wanted to consider the Libertarian appeal. The Supreme Court voted in a majority decision to uphold the Court of Appeals ruling. However, they refused to make the decision a precedent for other cases. This is good news, since a similar sales tax challenge by Orange County Libertarians is expected to be brought before the Supreme Court shortly. It's possible that any agency created after 1978 may have a difficult time receiving tax revenues without a two-thirds vote of the people, as the Supreme Court has ruled is required. Hopefully, the Los Angeles case was just an

anomaly. Unfortunately, it's the largest county -- with the highest amount of taxes collected -- in California. The Los Angeles sales tax now stands at 8 1/4 percent, an all-time high release their their their recibilisms are much prefer high

The local news coverage of this issue has been deplorable. In each article about the lawsuit, the Los Angeles Times and other papers have barely mentioned or have outright ignored the Libertarian Party plaintiffs. Our spokesmen have not been interviewed at all. However, the media has been quick to interview transportation officials about their delight in getting \$400 million of taxpayers' money each year in perpetuity. The articles are guilty of editorializing in the news pages as well. An example: | Proposition C is a vital part of the county's ambitious, 30-year transportation improvement plan."

Plaintiff John Vernon is considering further appeals. He speculates that the Supreme Court may hold a personal grudge against him for writing the November 1990 ballot argument against Proposition 150 (the County Courthouse Bond Act). Chief Justice Malcolm Lucas wrote the pro" argument for this act, but voters agreed with Vernon and other Libertarians and rejected Proposition 150 by a 74% to 26% landslide. teel out at support live ritweng to promisibe in

#### REST IN PEACE

paving \$3 for each Libertarian registration, despite our

May 4 was a tragic day for Libertarians. David Maxwell, 44, of San Jose, died in a car crash. Dave was a manager for First Interstate Bank and served as treasurer of the Libertarian Party of California in 1988-89. He also served as campaign treasurer for many LP candidates. This dedicated activist for liberty leaves his wife, Priscilla, and 12-year-old son, Brian. A trust fund has been set up for Brian. Please send your checks to Brian Maxwell, c/o Milpitas Host Lions Club, P. O. Box 360314, Milpitas, CA 95036.

That same day, Dean Anschultz, 54, died of heart failure at his office in Culver City. Dean had been production manager of California Libertarian News since December 1990. While Ted Brown writes the newsletter, Dean was the brains and talent behind the monthly publication's professional appearance. He will be sadly missed by Libertarians and by his wife Sue and other family members.



#### FROM THE CHAIR

Pat Wright

Due to our party's money crunch, the past two months or so have been among the most challenging of my chairmanship. Someone once told me that a healthy organization is one that is almost always just about out of

money. The logic is that such an organization has plans on how to spend the money, knows how to obtain results, and is active. Funding just seems to lag behind. On the other hand, an unhealthy organization doesn't have any plans or goals, and is surprised when its bank account slowly grows. "

Although this may be considered putting a spin on the matter, the truth is that these problems are much preferred to personality conflicts or infighting. You can feel confident that the leadership of the Libertarian Party of California has been working as a team to solve the problem.

What's disheartening is giving up the goal of mailing to all of our registered Libertarian voters before the June primary. To those of you who contributed, thank you. Without your support we would have been in real trouble. The contributions that came in from Mark Hinkle's appeal totalled about \$5,000, with 20 people joining the monthly pledge program. Since our financial crisis started, more money has come in, which makes me feel a little better.

I now hope to mail to the registered Libertarians before the November election, when a number of complicated propositions will appear on the ballot. I will also ask our county and regional parties to help fund the mailing, so the burden doesn't fall entirely on the state party. My goal is still 6,000 dues-paid members by February 1993. Though the goal now seems more difficult, I believe it's still possible. I predict most of growth will occur in the last quarter of 1992.

One controversy has developed among LPC leaders. I was surprised that the executive committee voted to continue paying \$3 for each Libertarian registration, despite our money problems. The committee even voted to spend more than the budgeted amount. The conflict arises between those of us (particularly me) who believe in building membership, and those who believe in paying for voter registrations. Your comments are welcome and should be mailed to my home address (see page 7). I will then share them with executive committee members.

The months ahead promise even more work and opportunities for us. My goals are mailing out membership

solicitations, beginning a registration drive, and developing at least a modest television effort for our candidates. We can't do everything I would like, but I guarantee we will be a lot bigger at the end of 1992 than we were at the beginning.

#### LP LOSES WRITE-IN LAWSUIT

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appea Is has ruled 3-0 against the Libertarian Party of California in Lightfoot vs. Eu. The party had brought suit in federal court demanding that the state of California allow us to select candidates according to our own by-laws. The changes sought included reducing the number of write-in votes required to win the Libertarian primary, and providing that we could nominate candidates by convention if no one filed in the primary.

The judges states that there is no need to change the change the write-in rule, even though the law requires more people to write in a candidate's name than we have registered Libertarians in any district. They believe we can solve this problem by either registering more Libertarians or by opening up our primary to non-Libertarians (e.g. to those registered "decline-to-state.").

On the issue of conventions, the Court discussed the history of California's Progressive movement, which took party politics out of the hands of party professionals and into the hands of the people by virtue of direct primaries. The judges believe that the primaries make government more accessible and that there is no more compelling government interest than promoting this accessibility. An appeal to the full court is planned.

#### **NOTABLE QUOTES**

"We are not destroying democracy, but clearing the ground to build a new, more efficient democracy."

-- Alberto Fujimori, President of Peru, after suspending the country's constitution.

"I'm not as upset as everyone else is. Really, I've got to live somewhere. (In prison) I don't have to pay no rent."

--Ned Grubb, Logan County, West Virginia judge, after being convicted of bribery, conspiracy, witness tampering, obstruction of justice, racketeering, and mail fraud.

**FRANK AND ERNEST** 

by Bob Thaves



#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** REPORT

The Libertarian Party of California's state executive committee met on April 25 at the party office in West Los Angeles. roblems, which cut down on many muchneeded proposed projects. One positive item was the receipt of \$5,500 from the California Secretary of State's office -- their settlement for providing us with the wrong party's labels for a pre-election mailing in October 1990. about 5 percent in the last six weeks. Petitioners for the snack tax repeal initiative succeeded in registering several hundred new Libertarians.

The LPC is still paying bounties of \$3 per new registered Libertarian. While some thought the program to be too expensive, the majority responded that it's too expensive not to keep registering new LP voters. To participate in the bounty program, contact Bonnie Flickinger at (714)242-9789.

Chairman Pat Wright reported that membership cards have been sent out to all our members. A mailing was sent April 22 to the 5,000 most recently registered Libertarians urging them to join the party. Another mailing will soon be sent to people on our mailing list who are not registered to vote as Libertarians, urging them to do so and sending them an "Andre Marrou for President" bumper sticker.

The Committee voted to participate in Execuline's "affinity" long distance telephone service. LP members (and their friends) who sign up will not only have lower long distance rates, but 6 percent of their long distance charges will be sent each month to the LPC. Former treasurer Aaron Starr researched the program and predicts we could take in as much as \$16,000 per year. See the enclosed materials and sign up ASAP!

A contract was signed between the LPC and thee Libertarian Party of Los Angeles County (LPLAC) for LPLAC to take over the servicing of the 800 number LPLAC's office manager Don inquiry phone line. Meyer has been answering hundreds of calls per month in the West Los Angeles offices graciously donated to the party by Randall Young.

Committee members voted to oppose Propositions 152 and 153 on the June 2 ballot. These are school bonds and higher education bonds respectively.

The committee voted to support Proposition 154, which would defer payment of reassessed mobile home property taxes for low income owners.

The next meeting will be Saturday, August 8th, in Long Beach.

#### LP CANDIDATE GETS TAXPAYERS' **REACTION IN SURVEY**

By John P. McCready

On April 15, as Libertarians protested the mandatory "voluntary compliance" with the federal income tax at the Terminal Annex post office in Los Angeles, I conducted a random survey of taxpayers who drove up to drop off their tax forms at the last minute. The question was, "If you had the choice, what would you rather be doing with the money you have to give to the government tonight?"

Of the seventy responses I obtained, 66 were nongovernment oriented, such as buying a house (9 people), spending it on their own kids (5 people), and food, vacation, health care, savings and "myself" (3 responses each). On the negative side, 12 people said they had "no idea" what they would do with their money. With this attitude, do you think they care what the government is going to do with it?

Three others said they would give the money to the government, and one would actually give it to the U. S. Post Office! I was heartened, however, by the man who said he would pay me.

For a more detailed copy of the survey, call John McCready at (310)693-7575 (John McCready is the LP's candidate in the 58thAssemblyDistrict.)

#### "FEAR" SPREADS **ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

Forfeiture Endangers American Rights (FEAR) is a new organization formed in reaction to overzealous forfeiture laws where government agencies like the DEA seize private property from people who have not been convicted of any crimes. Founded in New Jersey, FEAR is forming chapters in California, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Nevada, Tennessee. Vermont, and Washington, DC. For more information. contact FEAR, c/o John Paff, P. O. Box 5424, Somerset, NJ 08873, (908) 572-0207.

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#### FROM THE EDITOR

Ted Brown

I felt a cold chill inside when I learned that Robert Alton Harris had been executed in San Quentin's gas chamber. Never before had I lived anywhere where the state had taken a life in my name (and the names of all

the "People" of California). The feeling was distinctly unpleasant.

When I was growing up. My mother, from a hardscrabble Pennsylvania coal-mining town, was adamantly in favor of it, while my father, son of liberal New Yorkers, was just as adamantly opposed. I always agreed with my mother --until recently. I still believe death is a legitimate punishment for taking another life (except in self-defense), but I have a very big problem with the government being allowed to kill people.

The Libertarian Party has taken no official position on the death penalty. It takes two-thirds to amend the platform, and it seems like Libertarians are split about 50/50 on the issue. In 1982 I convinced a majority of our state convention delegates to vote for a plank approving of the death penalty—with the provision the sentence must be carried out by the victim's families. Now I am glad this plank didn't win the necessary two-thirds vote. I now believe that death is too final a punishment. And the sanction of the state would still be necessary for families to legally perform the executions.

It is fundamental in libertarian thought that governments should have no rights outside of those individuals have. For example, individuals aren't allowed to steal, so we oppose government theft (taxation). Individuals are forbidden to enslave other people, so we oppose government-sponsored slavery (conscription and national service). In the same vein, if individuals are not permitted to kill others, then how can we approve of governments killing condemned murderers? Indeed, how can we approve of governments killing citizens of other nations in war?

Libertarians have long called for a justice system based on restitution to the victim. If someone steals, his sentence must include paying back what he stole. A murderer can pay monetary restitution to the victim's family if he can work (or write his memoirs). This is especially important if the victim was the main wage earner in a family. The main result of Robert Alton Harris' execution on his teenage victims' families was to give them the finality and revenge they had long sought. But no matter what happened to Harris, the two boys he killed are still dead.

Outside of libertarian theory, there are numerous reasons to abolish capital punishment. It is better for many guilty men to go free than for one innocent man to be executed. The recent release of two Los Angeles men after 17 years in prison for a murder they didn't commit brings this close to home. The May 18 cover story of TIME magazine is devoted to Roger Keith Coleman, a man convicted of a murder on shaky circumstantial evidence who ultimately died is

May 20 in Virginia's electric chair. In the quote that begins the story, TIME quotes Judge Learned Hand as saying in 1923: "Our procedure has been always haunted by the ghost of the innocent man convicted. It is an unreal dream."

Most convicted killers get legal counsel appointed by the government. It is well-known that you get what you pay for. These defendants often have very inadequate lawyers. When the mechanism of the state is arrayed against you, that's when you need, but when most can't afford, the best lawyer money can buy.

The cost of imprisonment is high. I used to agree with the argument that taxpavers shouldn't have to pay to keep these criminals behind bars for the rest of their lives. New statistics show that it's more expensive to sentence someone to death, due to the cost of all the appeals. Murderers who are sentenced to life without parole rarely appeal their sentences; they just go off to prison never to be heard from again. Even if it's costly, it's a better deal for taxpayers to impose this sentence. Though 75% of Californians support the death penalty, a majority switches to the position of supporting life without parole if they can be sure it really means "without parole." Most are sick and tired of the countless appeals that make justice laughable and the length of time it takes to execute someone diminishes the idea of capital punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Finally, of over 2,000 executions performed in the world in 1991, 1,859 of them were carried out by China and Iran. Does America want to keep company with fascist nation-states such as these? Most Western democracies have abolished capital punishment as barbaric. While I definitely don't want the United States to follow these socialistic countries on most policy issues, on this issue we certainly should.

It's better for all concerned to end the death penalty. The victim's family can rest assured that the killer is put away for decades. The prisoner kept alive is capable of working and paying some kind of restitution. Taxpayers are faced with reduced costs without the interminable, justice-shriveling appeals. All of us as human beings can uphold our view of the abhorrence of killing, no matter how inhuman or evil the murderer is.

Remember, felllow Libertarians, if the system can grind in motion to legally kill Robert Alton Harris, how far of a step is it in the future to use the well-oiled machine for killing other undesireables, perhaps political undesireables? Since we oppose the power of the omnipotent state, abolishing the death penalty will strike a fundamental blow against the state's most menacing and immoral power.

California Libertarian News is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained within do not necessarily represent official party positions unless indicated. Please send articles, local news, photos, letters and advertising copy to the editor: Ted Brown, 125 N. Allen Ave. #107, Pasadena, CA 91106

#### LIBERTARIANS NEED GRASS ROOTS INVOLVEMENT

by Neal Donner

Many local community or civic groups are open to anyone who wants to attend, with anyone present getting a vote. Libertarians, especially those with experience in parliamentary procedure (as practiced at LP conventions, for example), can swing a lot of weight at such gatherings.

Our attention has traditionally been focused on elections -- for President, for Congress, for state legislative seats and for nonpartisan local offices (where we have had our greatest successes). But if we want to actually affect the politics of our local community, the quickest route may be to attend the meetings of an appropriate civic group, get to know some of the people, and then push the Libertarian view whenever we have the chance. We can often find allies on particular questions, and our opponents will learn about our principles. Best of all, Libertarians can sometimes get the group, as a group, to take libertarian positions on some issues.

This has been my experience with attending a number of Venice-area Community Police Advisory Council meetings. These local groups have been formed around the city of Los Angeles in response to recommendations made by the Christopher Commission after the Rodney King beating (but before the riots). While they are intended as part of the "community-based policing" concept, providing ways for the community to get the ear of the LAPD, some of them have taken on a vigilante tinge.

Certain local homeowners want the groups to become enforcement arms for the LAPD -- to crack down on drug trafficking, prostitution, etc. in order to "clean up the streets" -- without making any distinctions between real and victimless crimes. Without going into detail, I will say only how surprisingly great the influence of two or three Libertarians can be in such a civic group. An occasional motion to suspend the rules, a well-timed nomination, a friendly amendment, a call for the orders of the day -- all those maneuvers we often witness at LP meetings (Robert's Rules of Order) -- suddenly can be put to use to partly enact a Libertarian agenda at the grass-roots level.

And if it's legislative office one of us wishes to pursue — after all, one in 38 of our LPC dues-paid members are running for partisan offices this year — civic groups are where we can find allies, and finally, supporters. Rather than creating a lot of new problems, the Los Angeles riot has forced people to wake up and see the ones that were already there. It has shaken up peoples' ideas — and proved that "something has got to be done." If Libertarians do not help to define what has to be done,



Burned out mini-mall at Venice and Western in central Los Angeles (photo by Ted Brown)

## JURY SHORT-CHANGED IN RODNEY KING TRIAL?

There are indications that jurors in the trial of the Los Angeles police officers accused of beating Rodney King were improperly instructed by the judge, according to Don Doig, national coordinator of the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA). Doig says that instead of telling the jurors they may judge the law itself, the judge told them that they had to follow the law as it was explained it to them. This prevented the jury, some of whom thought the police officers were guilty, from voting according to consciences. For instance, the jurors could have rejected the "all or nothing" strategy of the prosecution, and found the officers guilty of lesser charges than the limited number that were offered.

The result of the jury's ruling has been murder, rioting and looting in Los Angeles and cities across the country. The people know that injustice has been done, and they are angry. We would not suggest that violence is a proper response to judicial injustice, but this could all have been avoided had judge fully informed the jurors of their responsibilities, said Doig.

The law in question specified that the jurors must put themselves in the position of the police in excessive force cases, and if there is any reasonable doubt about how much force is necessary to subdue the suspect, then according to the law, jurors must vote "not guilty." Furthermore, what the jurors believe to be "reasonable force" is not relevant -- they have to go by what the police say is reasonable.

But in fact, Doig said, under the constitution, and according to the traditional role of the jury, jurors not only have the right, but the responsibility to judge the law according to the dictates of their consciences. This power of the jury is the only effective enforcement mechanism retained by the people to ensure that the Bill of Rights is not trampled on by government officials, including the police.

For more information about fully informed juries, contact FIJA, P. O. Box 59, Helmville, MT 59843, phone (406)793-5550.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Grindle Defends Coalition-Building

#### Editor:

Only by misinterpretation could Clark Marley infer that the LP could be led into a merger with the Peace and Freedom or Green Parties (Letters, May CL News). Relax, Clark. There's no threat to the source of your ideological identity.

Liberty is such a powerful human value that you needn't fear that working in coalitions for the Fully Informed Jury Act (FIJA) would lead to a shift in the LP's ethics in order to achieve short-term political success. So there's no reason to suspect that such methods of activism might not be for ethical reasons, but from motives of ego aggrandizement. But since Clark's response never addressed what I wrote about different ways that we can implement liberty, perhaps he should tell us how he proposes we succeed in dismantling statism? Quoting Martin Luther King, Jr.'s advice for finite disappointment or infinite hope" isn't going to do that job. But expanding our support base will.

Randall Grindle Lower Lake, CA

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

- \* The U.S. Supreme Court has strengthened the power of federal prosecutors to seek criminal indictments, ruling they need not tell grand jurors of evidence that a suspect is innocent. Justice Antonin Scalia stated that the grand jury is "an accusatory body" obliged to hear "only the prosecutor's side." He overruled the federal judges who have stated that concealing evidence that could exonerate the suspect amounts to "prosecutorial misconduct." This means that if the feds are out to get you, even if they know you are innocent and can win at trial, they can give slanted evidence to a grand jury, get an indictment, and force you to spend a fortune to defend yourself. The four justices who dissented from this travesty were John Paul Stevens, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harry Blackmun and Clarence Thomas.
- \* Some good news: some 203 years after it was proposed by James Madison, the 27th Amendment has been added to the U. S. Constitution: "No law, varying the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives, shall take effect until an election of Representatives has intervened." This was the original 1st Amendment, but three-fourths of the states didn't ratify it, and it lay dormant until now. It was able to be revived since there was no time limit on its ratification. 40 states have now taken the plunge and added a most necessary reform.
  - \* Connecticutt Governor Lowell Weicker, who was hanged in effigy after instituting the state's first individual income tax, has been named winner of the 1992 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. The JFK Library Foundation said it honored Weicker for his ability to take a "principled stand for unpopular positions" to boost his

state's sagging economy in 1991. The "statesman" will receive a silver lantern and a \$25,000 stipend.

- \* In Eldorado County, anonyumous tipsters can now get \$100 for each drunk driver they turn in under a new highway safetyprogram. The program's founder, Sheldon Bissell of Calaveras County, said the message for drunk drivers is that "we'd rather scare them off the road than scrape them off." Said opponent Steve Presley, "If someone doesn't like me, they can report me as being drunk and the Highway Patrol can pull me over. We believe this program is unconstitutional. People have the right to face their accuser."
- \* Assemblyman John Burton (D-San Francisco) has proposed AJR 68, a rule to permit the governor to address a joint session of the Legislature only if he is sworn in under oath and therefore subject to criminal prosecution for perjury! Will any politician give a speech under such constraints?
- \* The Santa Cruz City Council has approved a "looks law" prohibiting employment or housing discrimination on the basis of appearance. The measure had been ridiculed by some who believed it would provide undue protection for people with unusual hairstyles, extreme tattoos, or other offputting features. In its final form, the wording of this coercive law was changed from "personal appearance" to "physical characteristics" to protect people who have disfiguring birth defects or burns. This attack on private ownership rights is sure to be challenged.
- \* Former State Senator Alan Robbinss (d-D-Van Nuys) was sentenced to five years in federal prison and a \$475,000 fine for using his Senate office as a racketeering operation to extort money from those who wanted favors from the legislature. He was also convicted of two felony counts of income tax evasion. His sentence could be reduced if he continues to provide helpful information to prosecutors. Robbins wore a hidden microphone for at least five months before his resignation in November.

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### ARE CHICAGO'S BUREAUCRATS WORSE THAN OURS?

Chicago, the Windy City, has been declared a Federal Disaster Area by President Bush. This will throw another \$1 BILLION log on the fire of bureaucratic incompetence. The problem? Over six months ago contractors were sinking piles in the Chicago River for a new bridge. The sketches supplied by the city didn't show an old freight tunnel under the river, so some of the piles were driven into the tunnel, thus puncturing it.

Disaster still could have been averted. The required inspections were not made, however, because the inspector couldn't find a parkingspace. Finally a local cable TV station discovered the puncture and reported in to the city in February.

A month later city bureaucrats inspected the tunnel and estimated that repairs would cost around \$10,000. It was let out to bid. The bids came back several times higher. Memos calling for immediate repairs sludged back and forth between city agencies, allowing more time to pass.

The river and the tunnel, not respectful of or perhaps even aware of bureaucratic procedures, finally got together on April 13 in what has been termed a "blowout." A portion of the tunnel gave way and 350 million gallons of river water burst in. This had the unpleasant side effect of flooding the multistory basements of over 300 buildings in downtown Chicago, threatening to undermine the foundations of many.

There were fish swimming in the lobbies of City Hall and the State of Illinois Building. So far the damage is estimated at \$1 billion. President Bush declared downtown Chicago a Federal Disaster Area, so Californians will be paying for it as well.

Several high-ranking bureaucrats lost their jobs as a result of these events, claiming that "since the tunnel had held for six months, it wasn't readily apparant that the threat was imminent..." You know the rest!

# POLITICAL PROPERTY SEIZURES PROPOSED

by John R. Graham

If two organizations oppose each other in lawful public protests, there is no legal way for the government to persecute either under current law and the First Amendment guarantees of the U. S. Constitution.

Senators Joseph Biden (D-Delaware), Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Dennis DeConcini (D-Arizona), and Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), with the approval of President Bush, would like to change that and have proposed bills to make dissent a reason to seize the assets of the dissenters.

Two bills, S-265 by Thurmond and S-266 by Biden, work together to take away rights away from any group that makes a protest which the government feels has the potential to become violent. For example, if an Operation Rescue group met at a church to pray, went to a member's house to pick up signs, got flyers from another member's office, and drove their cars to the scene of the protest ...

And a pro-choice group met at a coffee shop to organize a counterdemonstration, picked up signs at somebody's house, and got their flyers from a supporter's office ...

At the point of the demonstration, if there is any violence, or if anyone convinces anybody in either organization to partake in any "terrorist" or "violent" action, the church (used to pray in), the houses (where signs were picked up), the offices (where literature was printed), and all the cars used to transport people to the rallies, could be seized by the government as part of a "terrorist action organization."

The Pro-choice and pro-life groups listed as possible victims of seized property could just as easily beould be the NAACP, the KKK, MAPA, La Raza, Demokrats, Republicans, Libertarians, Populists, Greens, environmentalists, or any other activist group. Anybody's assets are up for grabs. To oppose these bills, write to Senators Alan Cranston and John Seymour at U. S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

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