

TELEVANGELIST SUMMARIES
December 1988

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Abortion

TY BRAGG, 700 Club cohost

"Every great political change that's taken place in America has been preceded by a great social upheaval. The Civil Rights movement is our most recent example. Well today, marches and demonstrations and nonviolent civil disobedience is taking place once again and many are comparing the activities of the pro-life movement with the struggle of civil rights and wondering if pro-lifers could achieve the same dramatic results."

SAM WALKER, 700 Club cohost

"The pro-life movement is drawing attention to many parallels between what it's doing and the Civil Rights movement of the 50's and 60's and some civil rights activists don't like it."

JOSEPH LOWRY, president, Southern Christian Leadership Conf.

"The anti-abortionists seem only interested in life before it gets here. We've not seen them active in the movement against hunger, which violates the sacredness of life or homelessness..."

WALKER

"But both movements did spring forth from churches. Clergymen make up the majority of local leadership and the same kinds of demonstrations, marches and sit-ins take place all characterized, as was in the civil rights movement, by prayers and hymn singings...The same tactics of passive resistance used by the civil rights movement such as going limp while arrested are being employed by the growing rescue movement which aims at placing bodies between the abortionist and his victim by having people sit down and block the entrance to abortion clinics...Both the civil rights movement then and the pro-life movement today appeal to our founding documents as the basis for their nonviolent civil disobedience. The pro-lifers cite the right to life mentioned in the Declaration of Independence. They are treated as lawbreakers as were the civil rights activists who claimed, as pro-lifers do today, to be following a higher law and opposing unjust ones...Both movements have suffered retribution for their nonviolent actions both from police and from outside groups violently opposed to their efforts. The civil rights movement of course, was set upon by the Ku Klux Klan, and here members of the Workers World Party a communist group [physically] removed pro-lifers from the entrance of a Michigan abortion clinic before police could intervene. But on an even deeper level of similarity, both blacks and the unborn have in their legal histories, cases in which each were defined as nonpersons. For blacks it was Dred Scott v. Sanford...similarly, the decision legalizing abortion, Roe v. Wade...Thus, like blacks in the last century, they have no rights."

LOWRY

"In the civil rights movement, we weren't talking about hypothesis, we were talking about real live human beings who walked the face of the earth."

WALKER

"The pro abortion movement can't afford for a comparison between the pro-life and civil rights movements to become established in the public mind. If pro-lifers are today's civil rights marchers, then their opposition can be equated with the forces of white bigotry that opposed Martin Luther King, the NOW becomes the KKK and Mayor Andrew Young becomes Bull Conner. That's why opposition to this comparison is fierce and why the pro-life movement is pushing it."

A PASTOR'S STUDY 12-27-88

Abortion

JERRY FALWELL

"...It is a two-pronged attack. We've got to legislatively and judicially stop the killing, from the political perspective. We have also, in the name of Christ, got to provide the alternatives. They've got to have enough homes, enough adoptive families, enough maternity centers, providing education, medical help at no cost to the girls. And we also beyond all of that, have got to have a teaching, preaching ministry in our churches, homes and I would add, in our schools to bring educationally an end to the promiscuity. You know it's so ridiculous that here's National Education Association, here's NOW, here's Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood putting what they call health clinics, sex clinics really, in the public schools. And the idea being that if we pass out condoms and birth control pills, we'll stop this in the junior and senior high schools. That's like passing out cookbooks in a fat farm. You would have to be an abortionist to be that stupid. What we need to do, what we must do is somehow educationally teach as we were a generation ago, in the home, the church, the school from all the authority figures for these children, it's wrong, don't do it. Then we've got to legislatively make it impossible to do it and then we've got to provide for those who do slip through."

CORAL RIDGE MINISTRIES 12-27-88

Last Temptation of Christ/Discrimination Against Christians

JAMES KENNEDY

"...Sensitivity has...become the mark of a man of decency in modern American life. A sensitive man does not repeat ethnic jokes. He does not abide insults to any minority. He monitors his rhetoric, lest he inadvertently gives offense. James Watt and Earl Butz were driven from their cabinet positions for violating this taboo. Jimmy the Greek was fired from CBS for showing insensitivity in his postprandial musings about the natural superiority of black athletes. But Christians are the one group who's sensitivities can be trampled in the mud. And all under the guise that they're defending the Constitution and the freedom of speech. What a vicious attack this is upon Jesus Christ..."