

LETTERS

Dear Mr. Tell:

As chairman and vice-chairman of Republicans for Henry M. Jackson for President we wish to commend you for printing Scoop's November 23, 1971 statement in the Senate of the United States. This statement for Israel and for the United States is an example of the leadership and the bravery that has led us to support Henry M. Jackson for President.

Edward Weinstein, Chairman
Republicans for Jackson for President

Martin Bienstock, Vice-Chairman
Republicans for Jackson for President

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Charleston Plaza Shopping Center

NEW YORK TIMES REFUSED TO PUBLISH THIS LETTER

The Editor
The NEW YORK TIMES
229 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036

Dear Editor:

A few years ago, our newspapers generally identified the race of a suspected criminal - but only if he were black. "John Jones, 25, a Negro, was arrested last night." If John Jones were white, his color was not considered significant.

Eventually the protests of the black community sensitized people to the prejudice involved. Although the facts were correctly reported, the double standard on race had created a link in the public mind between "Negro" and "criminal." White people were presumed innocent until proved guilty. But a black person was immediately suspect.

Is not the TIMES promoting a similar double standard on the abortion question? Catholics - and only Catholics - are given a religious test. An anti-abortion Catholic is presumed to act from religious bias; anyone else is presumed to act from valid motives.

I am a Catholic priest. I believe I oppose abortion for moral reasons - not religious reasons. The distinction is important, for moral reasons have always been considered a legitimate issue in a question of public policy (witness the widespread opposition to the Vietnam War on moral grounds).

All of us are influenced to some degree by religious background - as we are influenced by age, sex, geographical location, and many other factors. If the TIMES has any evidence that Catholics alone are unduly influenced by religion, would you please publish this evidence?

If there is no such evidence, would the TIMES re-examine its present news policy? By direct statement and by suggestion the paper, by actual count, has raised the Catholic issue on more than one-hundred-thirty occasions since January 1970. Here are only a few samples:

(1) On March 17, 1970, the TIMES announced that Senate Majority Leader Earl Brydges had scheduled the abortion debate for that day because it was St. Patrick's Day. The evidence? Senator Brydges is a Catholic. No other evidence.

(2) On June 8, 1970, Jane Brody of the TIMES reported that "in addition to Roman Catholic physicians who have refused to do abortions for religious reasons, a number of doctors who are not Catholic have refused without offering any reason." No evidence. Note the double standard - "Catholic" doctors have "religious" motives, but non-Catholic doctors can have other reasons.

(3) On January 4, 1971, the TIMES pub-

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lished an article by Lawrence Lader charging that Right-to-Life groups were "Catholic-based." No evidence. When the only incorporated Right-to-Life group in New York wrote a letter disputing that statement, the TIMES did not publish it. The public was allowed to read the charge but not the response.

(4) On April 5, April 9, April 10, April 11, and April 12, 1970, the TIMES printed stories on the "intense lobby" mounted by the Catholic Church in New York. No specifics, although reference was made to "parish priests" and "monsignors" - all unidentified. (Faceless and nameless conspirators are always more terrifying than people with known identities. By using generic terms like "those priests" or "those blacks" or "those Jews," one can attach a guilt-by-association label to a whole class. Furthermore, since no names are given, the charges can never be refuted.)

(5) In addition to New York, the TIMES raised the Catholic question in covering the abortion controversy in other states and countries. The following are some of the dates:

1970 - February 11 (Hawaii), March 13 (New Jersey), March 15 (Wisconsin), September 20 (Quebec)

1971 - January 21 (Texas), March 3 (Connecticut), April 11 (France), April 12 (Virginia)

(6) The most recent Catholic allusion occurred on July 25, 1971. In an article about the activities of twenty pro-abortion feminists in Italy, TIMES correspondent Marvine Howe made three religious references, including the following, which I quote directly:

"Murderers! a passing priest remarked fiercely."

The "passing priest" apparently walked by so quickly that the TIMES reporter could not obtain his name. Was he one of the faceless "parish priests" that did those terrible but unspecified things in New York the previous year?

Incidentally, the very week this latest story appeared, the TIMES refused to print an advertisement which raised questions about its use of the religious issue. The public was not allowed to read the ad, even though the anti-abortion group involved possessed the necessary funds.

Will my letter also be suppressed? Or will the TIMES, living up to the principles it recently expounded in connection with the Pentagon papers, respect the public's right to know?

Sincerely,
Rev. Paul G. Driscoll
Human Life Coordinator
Diocese of Rockville Centre
(New York, 11570)

Dear Brothers and Sisters - is greatly needed here.

Our relation with society at the moment isn't too great when you have to play the part of the oppressed. The opening and the keeping of man's unique mind must never be jeopardized. Old men freezing on young men's minds is dead. We ask your assistance in the production, to bring the news to us. For we are oppressed.

We're down for the change and it's coming down.

Jackson lives in our heads, Attica lives in our hearts.

Harold & Pete
Washington Correctional Center
P.O. Box 900
Shelton, Wash. 98584

P.S. Your news media

(EDITORS NOTE: Papers are on the way. Enjoy reading men and keep the faith, J.T.)

Dear Jack:

Enclosed please find check for my subscription. The family all enjoy the Las Vegas Israelite, especially Beverly Pollock, "Quoth the Maven." We love her. She sure is refreshing after looking through the Israelite with all the "Tzures" and "Kup Vatieg" in this world.

God should help us in the coming New Year that we should have peace in Israel and with all mankind.

With love to the Tell family

Harvey Tendler
(Miami Beach)

AMSTERDAM (WNS)--The existence of an Egyptian "underground" composed of "thousands of students and workers" as well as Egyptian Army and Air Force personnel was revealed here when an interview taped in Cairo by Arabic speaking Dutch TV newsman Hans Jansen was broadcast over Dutch television. An anonymous Egyptian, who described himself as a spokesman for the underground "National Front" said his group wanted peace with Israel and an Egypt free from Soviet domination.