Reagan Library Topic Guide – Infanticide and Handicapped Infants

Reagan Library archival staff creates topic guides from textual material currently available for research use. Material cited in the topic guides come mostly from these collections:

White House Staff and Office Collections

White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) <u>Subject Files</u> White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) <u>Alphabetical Files</u>.

The folders and case files listed on these topic guides may still have withdrawn material due to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) restrictions. Most frequently withdrawn material includes national security classified material, personal privacy issues, protection of the President, etc.

INFANTICIDE RE: HANDICAPPED INFANTS

HISTORICAL NOTE

In the early 1980's, infanticide became a widely debated issue regarding possible euthanasia cases involving handicapped infants.

Two prominent cases highlighted the lack of standard procedures for treating seriously handicapped and ill newborn infants. In 1982, "Baby Doe" was born in Bloomington, Indiana with Down's syndrome. Baby Doe reportedly died after the parents chose to forgo standard medical treatment for the baby's birth defects.

Similarly, in New York City in 1983, "Baby Jane Doe" was born with spina bifida and it was believed surgical treatment would result in her living with permanent brain damage and other health concerns. The parents opted not to have the surgery. The Department of Health and Human Services ultimately referred the case to New York's Child Protective Services after it felt that surgery posed no extra risk to the child.

In both of these cases, the Department of Health and Human Services and Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop believed that the infants were being discriminated against due to their mental handicaps, resulting in their deaths. Dr. Koop began advocating for a law that would ensure standard practices and procedures for treating seriously ill and mentally handicapped newborns, even if it ran counter to the preferences of the parents. This led to passage of the Child Abuse Amendments of 1984 which established specific criteria and guidelines for the treatment of sick and disabled newborn infants. The amendment was passed in October 1984.

WHORM SUBJECT FILE

FI004 casefile 079117

HE001-05 casefiles 044463, 077191, 089177

SP776 casefile 073424

WE001 casefile 074660

WE001-01 casefiles 073408, 076775

<u>WE008</u> casefile 075556

WHITE HOUSE STAFF AND OFFICE FILES

CABINET AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF

Dunlop, Becky Norton: Files

Box 7

[Handicapped Infants – Infanticide Issues] (1)(2)

Infanticide (1)(2)

CHIEF OF STAFF, OFFICE OF

Cicconi, James W.: Files

Box 10 Infanticide

COMMUNICATIONS, OFFICE OF

Maseng, Mari: Files

Box 4

Fetal Research

CORRESPONDENCE, OFFICE OF

Hudson, Maureen: Files

Box 1

"Infant Doe" Hotline - Infanticide

Correspondence, Office of: Records

Box 16

AVH-270B – Thank-Yous for Supporters of Administration Intervention in Baby Doe Case in Stony Brook, New York

Box 33

P-47B – Abortion and Baby Doe Supreme Court Cases

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF

Fielding, Fred F.: Files

Box 23F

Baby Doe – Ed Meese Meeting 06/07/1983 (1)-(3)

COUNSELLOR TO THE PRESIDENT

Cribb, T. Kenneth, Jr.:Files

Box 4

Infanticide - HHS (Health and Human Services) Response

LIBRARY, WHITE HOUSE

Library, White House: Records

Box 126

101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) December-October 1986

101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) August-July 1986

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101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) June 1986
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) May-April 1986
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) September 1985
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) July-August 1985
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) June-May 1985
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) March-February 1985
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) January 1985
       101: Family Issues (Abortion, Infanticide, Planned Parenthood) December-November
              1984
POLICY DEVELOPMENT, OFFICE OF
Bauer, Gary L.: Files
       OA 16928
       [Infanticide: Baby Doe Bloomington, IN Case] (1)(2)
Carleson, Robert B.: Files
       OA 9594
       Handicapped (1)(2)
       Infanticide (1)-(5)
       [Infanticide] Bloomington Baby
Galebach, Stephen H.: Files
       OA 9105
       Handicapped Infanticide
       [Handicapped – Infanticide]
       Handicapped Infanticide - 1982 Galebach (1)-(4)
       Handicapped - Infanticide - HHS Investigations
       OA 9106
       Infanticide - Baby Jane Doe (1)-(4)
       Infanticide - Clippings [and Correspondence] November 1983 [April 1983-May 1984]
              (1)(2)
       Infanticide Correspondence I
       Infanticide – Drafts
       Infanticide - HHS Investigations (1)-(3)
       Infanticide – HHS Regulation January 1984 (1)-(4)
       Infanticide - Information Packet
       Infanticide Legislation - 1982 (1)(2)
       Infanticide - Memos (1)-(6)
       Infanticide - Memos 1982
       Infanticide - Monographs
       Infanticide - Oklahoma [Controversy re University of Oklahoma Health Services Center]
       Infanticide - Pleadings (1)-(7)
       Infanticide - Public Comment
       Infanticide – Statement at Press Conference 03/18/1983
       Infanticide - Working Group (1)-(4)
Svahn, John A. (Jack): Files
       Box 4
       [Infanticide, Fetal Experimentation, Abortion – 01/22/1983 – Briefing Book] (1)(2)
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Uhlmann, Michael: Files

OA 9440

Civil Rights: Baby Doe Regulations

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF

Baroody, Michael E.: Files

OA 11234

Baby Doe (1)-(5)

OA 10723

Infanticide Issue 1983 (1)-(4)

PUBLIC LIAISON, OFFICE OF

Anderson, Carl: Files

OA 16591

Infanticide

Bell, Mariam: Files

OA 17951

Fetal Experimentation

Blackwell, Morton

Box 2

Baby Jane Doe (1)

Baby Jane Doe (2)