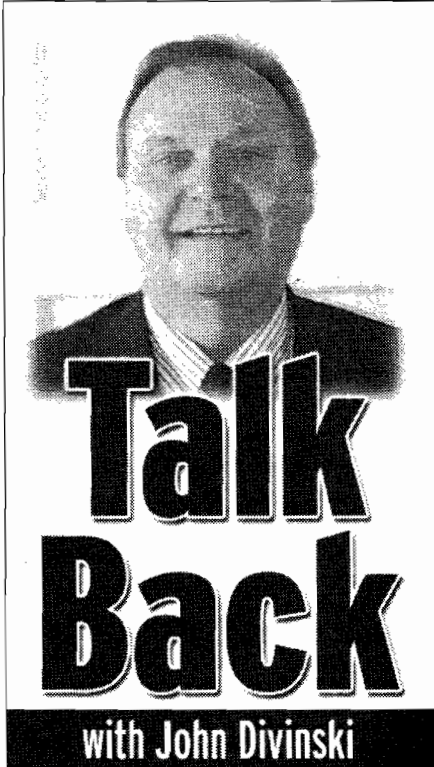


The Idea Should Have Been Aborted

It's Monday, July 7th, 2003 and volunteers with Show the Truth Canada, an anti-abortion group, show up in Cornwall to demonstrate. They do so with giant picture placards in colour showing aborted fetuses in various stages of development. It was shocking and it was wrong! There is a time and a place for that kind of material and it should be under controlled circumstances like a rally where only adults are attending. These

gross pictures were displayed in public for everyone to see, along Second Street by Cornwall General Hospital and again at Ninth Street and Brookdale Avenue, both "heavy traffic" areas. I happened to be traveling in the Ninth Street/Brookdale Avenue area, going to dinner as a matter of fact, when I was greeted by this display. I was shocked and disgusted - not because of the message these people were saying-but in the way they did it.



With all the "family" traffic going by, my first thought was, how will moms and dads explain to their children about these images. Pictures like that don't send home a message, they scare kids and make them cry and probably create nightmares. Moms and dads have enough problems trying to protect their kids, they don't need this kind of photographic onslaught.

Show the Truth Canada may have been "showing the truth" but to "tell you the truth," according to the feedback I received from conversations and e-mail, the group blew its credibility and probably created a huge backlash against them, rather than for them.

I couldn't believe that they were lined up in front of businesses, many of them eateries and weren't told to get lost. I saw some business owners come out and see what was going on, but I did not see any conversations between the two sides. If I had been in business there, I would have been on the phone to the police. These Show the Truth people, in their effort to get their message out, apparently didn't care much that their message might be associated with these businesses which could affect some trying to make an honest living.

Show the Truth Canada, thankfully is not a local group but obviously has local supporters. The arguments for and against abortion are as old as dirt but this was the first time this kind of guerrilla warfare tactic had been used by either side in such a public display, with no regard as to whom it might hurt, scare or even scar! Random shooting of abortion doctors excepted of course.

I don't know who the background organizers are, nor do I care to know, but they better go back to Public Relations 101. You will never win over the adults by traumatizing their children. Stay off our public streets and don't come back until you learn some manners and simple common sense!

On one other issue. For those who have said, "What are you going to say next," my answer is "nothing." I said what I had to say about the alleged pedophile issue. Everyone can take their best shots. I am sleeping at night knowing that, in my heart and in my mind, what I said was correct and is what I believe, and is what a lot of other people believe as well. End of story.

I'm John Divinski.