

Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1970

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In the Matter of:

Docket No. 4

----- X
JOHN S. BOYLE, CHIEF JUDGE OF
THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK
COUNTY, ILLINOIS, et al.

Appellants

vs.

LAWRENCE LANDRY, et al.,

Appellees
----- X

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Date November 16, 1970

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C O N T E N T S

ARGUMENT OF

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Thomas Brannigan, Esq.,
on Behalf of Appellants

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Ellis F. Reid, Esq.,
On Behalf of Appellees

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
NOVEMBER TERM, 1970

JOHN S. BOYLE, CHIEF JUDGE OF
THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK
COUNTY, ILLINOIS, ET AL.,

Appellants

vs.

LAWRENCE LANDRY, ET AL.,

Appellees

No. 4

Washington, D.C.
Monday, November 16, 1970

The above-entitled matter came on for argument at
11:00 o'clock a.m.

BEFORE:

WARREN E. BURGER, Chief Justice
HUGO L. BLACK, Associate Justice
WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS, Associate Justice
JOHN M. HARLAN, Associate Justice
WILLIAM J. BRENNAN, Associate Justice
POTTER STEWART, Associate Justice
BYRON R. WHITE, Associate Justice
THURGOOD MARSHALL, Associate Justice
HENRY BLACKMUN, Associate Justice

APPEARANCES:

THOMAS E. BRANNIGAN, ESQ.
Assistant States' Attorney
Cook County
Chicago, Illinois
Counsel for Appellants

1 APPEARANCES (Continued)

2 ELLIS E. REID, ESQ.
3 Chicago, Illinois
4 Counsel for Appellees
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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: We will hear arguments next in No. 4, Boyle against Landry.

Mr. Brannigan, you may proceed whenever you're ready.

ARGUMENT OF THOMAS BRANNIGAN, ESQ.

ON BEHALF OF APPELLANTS

MR. BRANNIGAN: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it please the court. My name is Thomas Brannigan and I'm Assistant States Attorney in Cook County Illinois, and I represent the Appellants in this case.

I am the third Assistant States Attorney from Cook County to argue this case in Court, and I want to say that I hope that I can bring new insights into this appeal, but if I can't I want to let you know that we have brought new faces before the court, and I am at least pleased in that.

Q Are you resting on your predecessors' briefs?

A On the brief, yes. The statute that we're here concerned about is the Illinois Intimidation Statute. And not the entire statute but only a subsection of the statute which was held unconstitutional by a Three Judge Court and an injunction was issued enjoining the States Attorney from prosecuting anybody under this statute.

The statute provides that "a person commits intimidation when, with intent to cause another to perform or to omit the performance of any act, he communicates to another a threat

1 to perform without lawful authority any of the following acts."
2 Now all the other subsections were held constitutional, but
3 this one subsection "committ any criminal offense" was held
4 unconstitutional. The reasoning of the court was that this lan-
5 guage "commit any criminal offense" would include misdemea-
6 nors or any substantial offenses and near violations against
7 public order statutes only, and that it was therefore over-
8 broad and unconstitutional.

9 Now before I turn to the question of the finding of un-
10 constitutionality we have, as we have in all the cases, that
11 were set down with this case, the procedural question, and
12 that is the problem raised by what is now generally called the
13 Dombrowski-type complaint and this is the type of complaint
14 that was filed in the District Court below but we submit that
15 this is not a Dombrowski-type complaint, it's not a Zwickler,
16 because in those cases there was allegation and showing of
17 some prior activity by the state officials under the statute
18 which the court found unconstitutional.

19 In this case, nobody, none of the plaintiffs were charged
20 with a violation of this intimidation statute. Not any sec-
21 tion of it and not any subsection. The allegation that the
22 District Court felt was sufficient to bring the merits of this
23 statute to its attention was the allegation that there was a
24 threat to enforce this statute, and that the purpose of the
25 threatened enforcement was to harrass and to intimidate the

1 plaintiffs who were simply exercising First Amendment rights
2 in demonstrating, advocating for racial equality in Chicago.
3 But we submit that there is a big difference in this case and
4 in Dombrowski and in Zwickler because there was this course
5 of conduct that those plaintiffs could point to and say "This
6 is how we're being harrassed. This is what the state officials
7 are doing."

8 Now for example, one of the subsections which was held
9 constitutional says that one of the threats made to a person
10 which would constitute intimidation would be to take action
11 as a public official against anyone or anything or withhold
12 official action or to cause such action or withholding. And
13 yet none of the plaintiffs were public officials, none of them
14 were capable of acting as public officials against anyone or
15 anything, and yet the court felt that under Dombrowski that
16 they could reach all these subsections and decide one after
17 another whether or not they were constitutional .

18 Now we of course realize that if this Court were to decide
19 that the District Court should not have reached this question
20 and there would be a reversal on grounds other than the
21 constitutionality of the statute that the judgement of the
22 court below would stand in fact in Illinois as the only decision
23 interpreting this subsection of the Illinois Intimidation Stat-
24 ute and that decision would be that it was unconstitutional. So
25 we would ask the Court that in this case it is our request that

1 if it be possible that the Court also reach the question
2 of the constitutionality of the statute.

3 Q On which you call the procedural question, that is
4 the threshold question of the propriety of the District Courts
5 action as it did it would follow. I should think perhaps that
6 this Court would vacate the District Court order. That would
7 vacate the opinion, wouldn't it?

8 A Yes it would, and --

9 Q That opinion would no longer be in the books because
10 you're not going to tear it out of the Federal Supplement
11 but anybody that Shepherdized it would see that it had been
12 vacated.

13 A That's true, Your Honor, but --

14 Q --your threshold point.

15 A That's true, Your Honor, but nevertheless that
16 determination would stand, we would ---

17 Q What would stand? My point is that it wouldn't stand.
18 Would it?

19 A Well, I mean that it would be a reversal on some
20 other ground, Your Honor,---

21 Q The judgement would be vacated, if you're correct
22 on your threshold point.

23 A That's true. Now, we feel so strongly about the
24 question of the constitutionality of this statute, Your Honor,
25 and we feel that the District Court was wrong in finding this

1 statute unconstitutional, and I would like to address myself
2 immediately to that and tell you why we feel so strongly
3 about it. I think that the first point that must be made about
4 this statute is that it is not a public order statute. It's
5 not designed to maintain public order, it's not designed as
6 a protection of the state, of the sovereignty, but it is
7 designed to protect an individual from threats and the District
8 Court in its opinion said that the term "threat" has a
9 sinister and well defined meaning in common parlance and in
10 the law.

11 It is the expression of the intention to inflict evil
12 or injury on another. It is more than a mere expression of
13 such an intent; it is a menace, especially any menace of such
14 a nature and extent as to unsettle the mind of a person on
15 whom it operates and to take away from his acts that free and
16 voluntary action which alone constitutes consent. That's the
17 kind of threat the District Court held is what is prohibited
18 by the statute. Now the Court said that the subsection A and
19 all the other subsections were not vague, they could be
20 understood but they were overbroad.

21 And they pointed out some examples. They said that this
22 statute would in effect make illegal threats by mothers to
23 block traffic, to cause a stop sign to be placed at an intersection
24 because it is a dangerous intersection, that it would
25 prohibit threats by persons who lived in a dangerous neighbor-

1 hood to threaten to carry arms because of the dangerous neigh-
2 borhood they lived in. Now I think that what the court there
3 does in that language is that it turns the focus from the
4 threat to the person to just advocacy of threatening in the
5 abstract and this statute does not prohibit people from stand-
6 ing up in the Civic Center in downtown Chicago and saying "We
7 are going to carry arms in our neighborhood because we live
8 in a bad neighborhood."

9 In other words, "We're going to commit a crime because
10 we live in a bad neighborhood." This statute has nothing to
11 do with that type of language, that type of advocacy. To the
12 same extent, the mothers who want to block traffic. They can
13 talk about it all they want, they can advocate it and this
14 statute does not prohibit that type of talking and speech.
15 What it does prohibit is threats directed toward somebody to
16 deprive that person of his free will and it's got to be that
17 type of sinister threat that freezes his free will and makes
18 him act in a way that he doesn't want to act.

19 And I think that the proof that the court misapplied the
20 First Amendment doctrines enunciated by this Court in strik-
21 ing this statute down is the statement in the brief that a
22 statement in the lower court opinion that what the public of-
23 ficials, that what the State of Illinois can do, is wait until
24 this threatened act, this minor little insignificant violation
25 of a public order statute, is carried out and then go ahead

1 and prosecute people for violating that law. But the fact of
2 the matter is that if the threat to the individual is suc-
3 cessful, that is "You do something or we will carry and bear
4 arms.", then, if the threat is successful and the person making
5 the threat has got his point home and has caused that individ-
6 idual to act in the way he wants him to act, he will not car-
7 ry out the threat, and so the situation doesn't arise where
8 the violation, the threatened act is ever carried out.

9 So we think that this demonstrates clearly that the Dist-
10 rict Court misapplied the doctrines enunciated by this Court
11 in the First Amendment and incorrectly came to the conclusion
12 that this statute was unconstitutional. Now we point out in
13 our brief that there are other statutes that are wider drawn,
14 the Federal Hobbs Act, for example, prohibits one from inter-
15 fering with commerce by extortion and this Court has upheld
16 that statute where there were threats simply to violate or
17 to breach a contract or to cause a strike which certainly are
18 broader than what this statute prohibits and that is the com-
19 mission of a crime.

20 Now it also may be argued that this subsection is really
21 surplusage because there are other acts, other types of acts,
22 that are enumerated in the other subsections and that we don't
23 really need this subsection. We think that it was a legitimate
24 exercise of the legislatures' judgement to include this sub-
25 section so that types of threats that the legislature could not

1 forsee which an injunctive person may devise to use to intim-
2 idate a person are also prohibited and that is, we think, suf-
3 ficient reason to defer to the legislative judgement here and
4 to approve this statute on constitutional grounds.

5 Now getting back to the procedural question, I must re-
6 stress that our point there is that if this Court is presently
7 considering a restatement of the Dombrowski case, or the doc-
8 trines that have emanated from it in the course of the cases
9 that have followed the Dombrowski case, we think that this
10 case, without getting into a whole restatement of that whole
11 question can simply be distinguished from Dombrowski and Zwick-
12 ler on the grounds that no one was charged with intimidation,
13 there was just a bare allegation in the complaint, that the
14 threat was made to use this statute, and there was no course
15 of conduct to which the plaintiffs could point that was any-
16 where near like what was present in Dombrowski and Zwickler,
17 and which this Court dwelled on extensively in both of those
18 opinions. By way of reaching the conclusion that the Federal
19 District Court had an obligation to make a determination of the
20 constitutionality of the statute---

21 Q You don't have any 2283 argument in your case, do
22 you?

23 A No we don't, because we don't have any prosecution.

24 Q What were the terms of the injunction? It just
25 enjoined any enforcement of this section of the statute in the

1 future, is that it? By the defendants.

2 A Yes, Your Honor, it's on the last page of the ap-
3 pendix, page 104.

4 Q Last page?

5 A Yes, Your Honor.

6 Q Page 104?

7 A Page 104, it's the last page in the appendix. "Here-
8 by ordered and adjudged and decreed that the defendants, their
9 employees, their servants and agents be hereby perpetually
10 enjoined and restrained from the enforcement of and the pro-
11 secution under..." These other statutes, Your Honor, that are
12 mentioned there, are other statutes which were held unconsti-
13 tutional.

14 Q They dropped out of the case.

15 A We have not appealed from them. The only section that
16 we appealed from is the Illinois Intimidation Statute which
17 is Chapter 38 section (12-6) (a) (3).

18 Q Yes, and that appears on page 3 of your opening
19 brief.

20 A That's right, Your Honor, and it's only that little
21 subsection---

22 Q I understand.

23 A That we're talking about.

24 Q Thank you, Mr. Brannigan. Proceed---

1 ARGUMENT OF ELLIS E. REID. ESQ.

2 ON BEHALF OF APPELLEES

3 MR. REID: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it please the court.
4 I'd like to begin my answering argument by some observations
5 in light of the fact that the matter has been argued twice
6 before and in light of the fact that there are four cases here,
7 which it is apparent that we're dealing with the cases that be-
8 gan with Dombrowski and Pfister, and the issue here is whether
9 or not in the case before Court we have standing to sue. I'd
10 like to point out that in Dombrowski, the Court said in its
11 opinion, and I'm quoting from its language because I think it's
12 important to the background of my argument, the assumption that
13 "The defense of a criminal prosecution will generally assure
14 ample vindication of constitutional rights is unfounded in
15 such cases..." and it cites Baggett vs. Bullitt, "...for the
16 threat of sanctions may deter almost as potentially as the
17 actual application of sanctions, because of the sensitive nat-
18 ure of constitutionally protected expressions, we have not
19 required that all of those subject to overbroad regulations
20 risk prosecution to test their rights."

21 For free expression of transcendent value to all society
22 and not merely to those exercising their rights might be the
23 loser. We have fashioned this exception to the usual rules
24 governing standards, and it says see United States vs. Rands,
25 because of the danger of tolerating in the area of First Amend-

1 ment freedoms the existence of a penal statute susceptible to
2 a sweeping and improper application..." cited NAACP vs Putnam,
3 "...if the rule were otherwise, the contours of regulation
4 would have to be hammered out case by case and tested only by
5 those hardy enough to risk criminal prosecution to determine
6 the proper scope of regulation."

7 Now it is with that in mind, Your Honors, that I further
8 point out to the Court the language in Golden vs Zwickler
9 as follows: "The difference between an abstract question and
10 a controversy contemplated by the Declaratory Judgement Act
11 is necessarily one of degree and it would be difficult, if
12 it would be possible, to fashion a precise test for determin-
13 ing every case whether there is such a controversy." Basically
14 the question in each case is whether the facts alleged under
15 all the circumstances show that there is a substantial con-
16 troversy between parties having adverse legal interests of
17 sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of
18 a declaratory judgement, citing Maryland Casualty Company
19 vs. Pacific Oil.

20 Now, Your Honors, with those two cases in mind, I address
21 your attention to what has been characterized as a Dombrowski-
22 type complaint and I want to say, Your Honors, as it has come
23 out here, the particular injunction involved here, as can
24 be seen from page 104 of the appendix, did not only deal with
25 Chapter 38 section (12-6) of the Illinois penal code, it dealt

1 with Chapter 38 section (25-1) (a) (2), Chapter 38 section
2 (12-6) (a) (3), and also, Your Honors, which this injunction
3 did not deal with but another one issued by a single judge,
4 Judge Wilk, dealt with two ordinances of the City of Chicago.
5 Now the background of this case is a --. In 1967, there were
6 a series of arrests and we'd like to point out to Your Honors
7 the facts involved in this particular case.

8 We have alleged, Your Honors, in the record, I'll give
9 you the page number for each particular circumstance, but
10 starting with page 12 and paragraph 27 of our complaint, we
11 deal there with a mass arrest situation that occurred on the
12 first day of August, 1967. And certain plaintiffs were arrested
13 and charged as the complaint states with four violations of
14 law, under Illinois law, two statutes, and two ordinances.
15 They were charged with the mob-action statute, the resisting
16 arrest statute, the disorderly conduct ordinance, and the
17 resisting arrest ordinance. Now on the fourteenth day of Sep-
18 tember, 1967, there was another incident where there was a
19 mass arrest situation. I might back up and say that the first
20 incident was colloquially called the "Big Jim" incident, be-
21 cause there, a Negro had been shot by a white man, and people
22 had gathered to peacefully, and I emphasize peacefully, protest
23 against this unlawful shooting of Julius Woods, a Negro citizen.

24 Now in the incident which occurred on September 14, 1967,
25 it occurred at Forty-third Street in Chicago, Forty-third and

1 Langley and there was a gathering there for the peaceful and
2 lawful demonstration to protest against the unlawful attack
3 and brutal beating of an eighteen-year-old Negro woman who
4 resided in the community by police officers.

5 The other incident is the incident of May 21, 1967, and
6 there was a gathering at Fifty-first Street and South Park
7 Avenue, in the City of Chicago, to peacefully protest for a re-
8 dress of grievances in that they wanted to rename Washington
9 Park to a name that they felt would be more relevant in loca-
10 tion and character to a predominant number of Negro residents
11 who resided in the vicinity of that park. There was another
12 mass arrest in that situation.

13 On August 23rd, 1967, there was a gathering at One Hun-
14 dred Eleventh Street in the City of Chicago to protest and to
15 inquire with respect to the unlawful shooting of another Negro
16 youth and resident of that community.

17 On August 4, 1967, there was a gathering, peacefully, at
18 a playground to protest that there are not sufficient play-
19 grounds located in certain sections of the City of Chicago.
20 Particularly, this one was at 3501 South Wallace Street in
21 Chicago, and the protest was against the lack and absence of
22 adequate playground facilities in the black community.

23 Now I'd like to point out that in each and every one of
24 these particular arrests that took place in the summer of 1967,
25 all of the people who were arrested en masse the following

1 things happened. They were all charged with four identical
2 charges, mob-action, state resisting arrest, city ordinance
3 resisting arrest, and the city ordinance of disorderly con-
4 duct. In each and every instance, the people had bonds placed
5 against them ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 as is alleged in
6 the complaint.

7 Now, with this background, we then go into our allegations
8 which bring us to the intimidation statute. We have alleged
9 that there was, and I will point out the parts of the complaint
10 Paragraph 21 of the complaint, we allege the following: we al-
11 ledge that the defendants -- these being the Mayor of Chicago,
12 the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Chicago, the Sherriff
13 the ordinance enforcement placed in the Corporation Counsels
14 office and certain magistrates which are named as defendants
15 in the original complaint -- we allege that them, or some of
16 them, have met together on more than one occasion, they have
17 discussed, formulated, outlined and agreed to a detailed plan
18 or scheme of harassment, arrest, and detention, setting of ex-
19 horbitant and excessive bail, prosecutions, trials, convictions
20 fines, and imprisonment which detailed plan and program they
21 have agreed to direct against plaintiffs herein and other cit-
22 izens of the United States, members of the same class as these
23 plaintiffs, similiarly situated, solely for the purpose of det-
24 erring, hindering, preventing and depriving these plaintiffs
25 of their rights, privileges and immunities secured to them

1 by the Constitution and laws of the United States, and more
2 particularly, the First Amendment privileges of speech and
3 assembly.

4 Now the alleged in subparagraph A under 21, that the
5 defendants, James Conliss, who is the superintendant of Pol-
6 ice and Richard J. Elrod, who is in charge of ordinance enf-
7 orcement of the Corporation Counsel's Office as a result of
8 the above described meetings, and this is found in pages nine
9 and ten of the record among defendants and formulation of the
10 above described plan and scheme have been designated by their
11 superiors namely defendants Richard J. Daley and Raymond F.
12 Simon, respectively, to be principle persons to implement
13 and carry out the aforesaid plan of deterrance, hinderance and
14 prevention of exercise the plaintiffs First Amendment rights
15 of speech and assembly. By designating the occasions, places,
16 manner, and method of arrest, as well as the number of plain-
17 tiffs to be arrested, and by actual designation of particu-
18 lar places of detention, of particular plaintiffs, as distin-
19 quished from other persons arrested in the City of Chicago.

20 Then in subparagraph C of that same paragraph 21 found
21 on page 11, defendants Richard J. Elrod, and the defendant
22 John J. Stenos, acting through his subordinates as States
23 Attorney of Cook County, have threatened, and actually attempt-
24 ed to set in motion, unlawful prosecutions of the defendants,
25 of some of them, through application to these plaintiffs of

1 teem, through application to these plaintiffs of the aforesaid
2 statutes of the State of Illinois, and ordinances of the City
3 of Chicago.

4 Now, then, we go ahead and say, paragraph 25, found on
5 page 12, to resort to this plan or scheme the defendants have
6 attempted to threaten and continue to attempt to prosecute
7 the plaintiffs and all persons associated with them are working
8 in cooperation therewith under color and authority of certain
9 statutes, namely as set forth, Chapter 38, section (25) (a) (1)
10 and (2), Chapter 38 section (31-1), Chapter 38 section (12-2),
11 (12-4), and (12-6) which is the one that we're before Your
12 Honors on. And certain ordinances of the City of Chicago, to
13 wit, Chapter 193-1, and Chapter 11-33, said statutes and or-
14 dinances are set forth in an appendix marked exhibit and et
15 cetera.

16 Now, then, Your Honors,---

17 O. Mr. Reid, except for your conclusory statement on the
18 top of page 11 and perhaps elsewhere in your complaint that
19 these statutes are unconstitutional, the graviment of what
20 you've been saying to us is a conspiracy on the part of these
21 people to harrass your clients in Chicago and others similiarly
22 situated by abusing criminal statutes. And that could have been
23 just as true if these had been shoplifting statutes or grand
24 larceny statutes or anything else. If they're going to make
25 false charges against you and conspire to misuse statutes it

1 doesn't follow at all that the statutes are unconstitutional,
2 does it?

3 A. Well, Your Honor, we later allege in this complaint
4 that the statutes on their face were overbroad---

5 Q. You don't allege that---

6 A. We do---

7 Q. But all these wrongs that you've been talking about
8 could equally have taken place with respect to abusing perfect-
9 ly valid, concededly valid statutes such as grand larceny.

10 A. That is true---

11 Q. Is that correct?

12 A. That is correct, Your Honor---

13 Q. These wrongs don't have anything to do necessarily
14 with the constitutionality of the statutes that you allege in
15 this complaint that these defendants were intending to abuse,
16 in order to harass your clients.

17 A. I beg to differ with Your Honor, but I think it does,
18 because I think that as said by this Court in Golden, you have
19 to take all of the facts and circumstances into account. This
20 is a unique case. This case may never happen again in a hun-
21 dred years, but what I'm saying is that you have to go back in
22 time, and I'm asking Your Honors to do this in your own minds'
23 eve, to 1967 in the summer in Chicago and ask yourself what was
24 happening to those people then. Why does this issue standing
25 apparently overlooked by the District Court. Why were there no

1 requirements of proof by the court?

2 And the answer is obvious -- the court well knew what was
3 happening in Chicago, and court well knew, and perhaps the
4 States' Attorney then conceded the point, that he didn't want
5 us to bring in our evidence of what the threat was and now they
6 get up here and get a clean shot at us by saying that the
7 threat is now a conclusion instead of a statement of fact. Your
8 Honor, I say that when we say we were threatened, I say that is
9 an allegation, a fact in our complaint. It is not a conclusion
10 of law. I am saying that you look at the totality of the cir-
11 cumstances to back up the total four corners of the complaint,
12 you say does this complaint state a cause of action upon which
13 relief can be granted?

14 And in the federal system, I understand we're not obligat-
15 ed to plead evidence, but to plead in simple language the
16 fact that there is a case or controversy upon which the Court
17 is asked to render a ruling, and I'm saying that when we stood
18 before that Three Judge Court there was in fact a sincere and
19 obvious case and controversy involving the mob-action statute,
20 involving the resisting arrest statute, involving ordinances of
21 the City of Chicago.

22 Now to give up on your appeal on those matters on the
23 merits and then to appeal on one issue and one issue alone and
24 to say " Ah Ha" nobody was ever charged with intimidation, the
25 therefore they had no standing, well, I'm saying that it would

1 he really an abuse of the courts to go back and then say "Well
2 now, arrest somebody and we'll now go back through this ar-
3 duous process to get at the intimidation statute which is ob-
4 viously on its face bad."

5 It would be just like a surgeon going into a man's ab-
6 dominal cavity and seeing a bad appendix when he's in there for
7 something else and closing up the man and then going back next
8 week and opening up the abdominal cavity to take out the bad
9 appendix. And that may even amount to medical malpractice, but
10 I'm saying it's a similar situation here. It's a question of
11 pendant jurisdiction. The court had before it an issue, it had
12 the jurisdiction of not only the parties but the subject matter
13 involving clearly the mob-action statute and clearly the other
14 matters that were before the court.

15 Now, what makes this case unique is that the court then
16 in the fact of pendant jurisdiction dealt with an obvious issue
17 and took care of all our ills at one time which I suggest to
18 the court is a better way to do it, then they come up and say
19 we walked in out of the street and we only attached section
20 12-6 and nobody ever threatened us, nobody was ever arrested,
21 there was no bond held, there was none of this background and
22 ask you to try this case in a vacuum. And I say that it cannot
23 be tried in a vacuum, it cannot be carried in a vacuum, but you
24 must understand that what the court did in my humble opinion,
25 was the only thing they could have done other than to have put

1 us to additional expense and to put the court to additional
2 time with additional burdens upon the court and upon this
3 Court.

4 Now that is really the graviment of my argument that this
5 case is unique and that our standing to sue stands on the issue
6 of pendant jurisdiction. We were properly in court, and the
7 court took care of all our ills and the court in fact saved it-
8 self some time because now I come to the argument which even
9 the States Attorney wants me to reach and that is that on the
10 face of this particular statute there is the question of wheth-
11 er or not it is in fact overbroad and vague. And I submit to
12 Your Honors that it was both, and the court in its opinion,
13 written by three judges, came to the conclusion that it was
14 both overbroad and vague.

15 Now here is the problem with that intimidation statute.
16 The problem is this. Whenever you take an intimidation stat-
17 ute or an extortion statute or what have you and you put it in
18 the pollicical arena as they have done here and the victim of
19 that alleged crime becomes a pollicician, either on the state
20 or local level, or the national level, then you have really set
21 the collision in motion of the right of our society to deal
22 with freedom of speech on an ordered liberty and the right of
23 the people to be free from threats so Your Honors, as you have
24 said in cases involving liable and slander, dealing with people
25 who are public figures.

1 Once you enter the public arena, you're not to be coddled
2 and protected because you are a public institution. And so I
3 say that you cannot say that these politicians are so ---
4 that we can't tell then directly or indirectly that unless
5 you redress our grievances we will do this and so.

6 Now this brings us to the area in the statute --- that
7 section which the court found to be overbroad says that we
8 will commit any crime, and this sends us back not only to the
9 criminal code, it sends us back to all regulatory legislation
10 which has a sanction of criminal punishment therein, it sends
11 us back to all the ordinances of the City of Chicago, which
12 may or may not be coddled, which have sanctions, and I submit
13 to you there is no way with regard to variance that you can
14 then determine when you've committed a crime and the sanction
15 in this particular section is five years in prison.

16 Now the crime that you may threaten to commit if it goes
17 to fruition may only be a fine of \$25 or maybe up to a year
18 in jail. Then to convert speech into a felony -- I mean this
19 is what we're really talking about here--- you're dealing
20 with politicians who say that now if I threaten a politician
21 I'm going to commit a crime that has a \$25 penalty, and now I
22 can get five years, well, obviously we were cheered by this and
23 it was a chilling effect of the threat of this that we had to
24 beat them to the courthouse. Now whether or not we were too
25 fast in getting to the courthouse first, I don't think Your

1 Honors have to reach that because we were properly in court
2 on the mob-action statute, and on all the other statutes that
3 the court dealt with, and I felt that, and I feel now, that the
4 court had a right and a duty, not only a right, but a duty,
5 to deal on the basis of pendant jurisdiction with this other
6 matter and there was an actual case and controversy based on
7 our allegations of meetings, threats and plans and also these
8 facts are somewhat important, the uniform charges on all these
9 people in all these incidents.

10 You see there were four charges on all these incidents
11 that went before, and it just doesn't happen that way generally
12 unless there is some concerted action. Everybody who was invol-
13 ved in this type of matter violates four charges each and
14 every time, and everybody although he may be a college stu-
15 dent with no prior record had a bond of \$10,000 set against him
16 and he stays in jail for ten days before he can make bond or
17 get ignored on a petition and therefore lose this time in
18 school.

19 So I'm saying that there was an actual case or contro-
20 versy, there were litigants who clearly represented the rights
21 of all the people that we sued on behalf of, and whether or
22 not no one was arrested because of one statute, that had been
23 threatened to be used in the future, you see we then get of
24 the horns of a dilemma of the 2283, the anti-injunction stat-
25 ute which says if they be through the court you cannot get an

1 omjunction, if you be gone to court you have no standing.

2 Now I submit, Your Honors, that this is a precarious and
3 it's a wrongful position that people were to be put in because,
4 as advocates of First Amendment freedoms, which is the
5 touchstone of our very democracy, if we are going to deny by
6 this dilemma the court system and the judicious use of the
7 court system because I recognize also that we cannot inundate
8 this Court with these types of cases, because then this Court
9 would have to cease to function because of the shuffling pap-
10 ers. But I submit that that is an apparent but unreal feeling
11 because first of all you have to run this gauntlet, you have to
12 go through a Three Judge Court which must be convened by a
13 single judge before he will even convene a Three Judge Court.

14 One of the judges sitting on that Three Judge Court is a
15 member of the Court of Appeals. Now these judges, at least the
16 majority of these three judges must then rule on the matter be-
17 fore the matter will get here as a matter of right. Now if the
18 matter is frivolous, and no three Judge Court is convened, then
19 we don't have a Matter of Right Appeal, here. We would then
20 have to go to the Court of Appeals.

21 If it was not frivolous and a Three Judge Court decided
22 the issue, then I submit to Your Honors that you have got a
23 screening device. You've got a Three Judge Court here which
24 is convened and then the matter is not frivolous and then Your
25 Honors have the duty to hear it because that carving out of

1 First Amendment freedoms that we're dealing with I cannot em-
2 phasize how important it is because if we cut off the valve
3 and say that you cannot get to this court in matters of free-
4 dom of speech or redress of grievances, peaceful assembly
5 and I'm not talking about anarchy and I'm not talking about
6 violence or anything like that.

7 I'm talking about legitimate peaceful First Amendment
8 rights that we all suggest are tribulations. Then everybody
9 will then say well, if I cannot use the courts, what is my next
10 remedy? And the next remedy may then well be that we have to
11 all become revolutionaries as they did in 1776 and overthrow
12 the entire government because the courts, if they don't give
13 you a remedy, a speedy remedy, an open remedy, one that you
14 can count and rely on as advocates and lawyers, then I suggest
15 what do you tell your clients when they say the doors have been
16 closed, let us take to the streets?

17 And it's with that in mind that I say to you you have a
18 duty in *Dombrowski*, I must say when I read the opinion I felt
19 that it was a long time coming but I'm saying you have no right
20 in light of what's happening today to turn back the clock with
21 respect to *Dombrowski*. You have a duty to open that door wi-
22 der. Thank you very much.

23 O. Thank you Mr. Reid. Mr. Brannigan, you have approx-
24 imately four minutes.

1 FURTHER ARGUMENT BY THOMAS SPANNIGAN, ESQ.

2 ON BEHALF OF APPELLANTS

3 A. Thank you, Your Honor. It's been suggested that the
4 question the standing of the plaintiffs to raise this consti-
5 tutional objection to the Illinois Intimidation Statute, this
6 subsection ought to be sustained on pendant jurisdiction. And
7 I think I disagree with that. I don't think it's called for.

8 First of all, Dombrowski and Zwicker were, as the Court
9 said, extraordinary cases. Nobody here has been charged with
10 a violation of this intimidation statute. Nobody has been
11 charged with a violation of this subsection. I think to take
12 an extraordinary step like was taken in Dombrowski, that alone
13 I think as the court recognized in the opinion that it was tak-
14 ing a significant new step. To say now that we can drag in all
15 sorts of challenges to state statutes on the concept of pen-
16 dant jurisdiction, I just think it's uncalled for.

17 I think that this would create a monster that the court
18 would never be able to control if it incorporates the challeng-
19 es to statutes whether they be used or not, or whether they ev-
20 er had been used against the plaintiffs in a complaint drawn
21 like the complaint in the Lower Court, and so we want an adju-
22 dication of all these statutes whether or not they are consti-
23 tutional. I think that that's a step that this Court shouldn't
24 take.

25 Now so far as what was going on in Chicago in 1967, Mr.

1 Reid has been talking about a lot of things here that I don't
2 know if they occurred or not, but they put us in a bad light.
3 The fact remains, however, that one fact that the Court can
4 take notice of, is an appeal to the United States Court of
5 Appeals for the Seventh Circuit which was decided on February
6 5, 1970 in Cause #17346 entitled Boyle vs Landry. This was
7 another aspect of this case where the Court decided that cer-
8 tain sections challenged in this action were constitutional.
9 It remanded the case to the single Judge Court and said not you
10 determine whether or not they're being applied unconstitution-
11 ally and there were hearings held and witnesses brought in,
12 the people who had been arrested, and they said "We were peace-
13 fully demonstrating. We weren't doing anything, and the police
14 came along and charged us with violations of all these statutes
15 which the Three Judge Court had just held were constitutional,
16 and we weren't doing anything except exercising our First
17 Amendment rights, and we were being charged with these things."
18 And the single judge said that shows---we didn't offer any ev-
19 idence whatsoever.

20 We said that the courts would submit to the bar of 2283.
21 The court was conducting probable cause hearings and when they
22 says there was no probable cause for the arrest that indicates
23 that this is a bad face prosecution and therefore they enjoined
24 us from prosecuting even under these valid constitutional stat-
25 utes.

1 The United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh
2 Circuit reversed that. But they also said that there was no
3 finding even though that court was open, the District Court
4 was open, to present all the sort of evidence what was going
5 on, these allegations of conspiracy and so on.

6 There is no finding in the District Court that there was
7 no expectation of convictions or that the sole motive of the
8 prosecution was to discourage the exercise of civil rights.
9 They had their opportunity to prove this gigantic conspiracy
10 and they didn't prove it.

11 I submit that the opinion of the Three Judge Court should
12 be reversed.

13 O. Thank you Mr. Brannigan, Thank you, Mr. Reid.
14 Your case is submitted.

15 (Whereupon at 11:50 o'clock a.m. argument in the above-
16 entitled matter was concluded.)