OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

## **OF THE**

## **UNITED STATES**

LIBRARY SUPREME COURT, U.S. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20543

CAPTION: JAYNE BRAY, et al., Petitioners

v. ALEXANDRIA WOMEN'S

HEALTH CLINIC, et al.,

CASE NO: 90-985

PLACE: Washington, D.C.

DATE: October 6, 1992

PAGES: 1-49

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES 1 2 - - - - - - - X JAYNE BRAY, et al., 3 : Petitioners 4 : 5 v. : No. 90-985 6 ALEXANDRIA WOMEN'S : 7 HEALTH CLINIC, et al. : 8 - X 9 Washington, D.C. Tuesday, October 6, 1992 10 11 The above-entitled matter came on for oral argument before the Supreme Court of the United States at 12 10:02 a.m. 13 **APPEARANCES:** 14 JAY ALAN SEKULOW, ESQ., Washington, D.C.; on behalf of the 15 16 Petitioners. JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., ESQ., Deputy Solicitor General, 17 Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; on behalf of 18 the United States, as amicus curiae, supporting the 19 Petitioners. 20 21 DEBORAH A. ELLIS, ESQ., New York, New York; on behalf of 22 the Respondents. 23 24 25 1 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(10:00 a.m.)
3	CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: We'll hear argument
4	first this morning in number 90-985, Jayne Bray versus
5	Alexandria Women's Health Clinic.
6	Mr. Sekulow.
7	ORAL REARGUMENT OF JAY ALAN SEKULOW
8	ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONERS
9	MR. SEKULOW: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
10	please the Court:
11	Through the misapplication of section 2 of the
12	Ku Klux Klan Act of 1871, the U.S. District Court for the
13	Eastern District of Virginia now monitors State trespass
14	action. It has been our position from the outset of this
15	litigation that this case should not be in Federal court.
16	The Fourth Circuit holding rests on two faulty
17	legal premises. First, an opposition to abortion
18	constitutes invidious discrimination against women, and
19	secondly, the district court further compounded its error
20	by misapplying this Court's jurisprudence with regard to
21	the constitutional right to interstate travel by finding
22	that petitioners' conduct would have an effect on
23	interstate travel and thereby purposely violating the
24	right to interstate travel.
25	The Fourth Circuit's position goes a long way in
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making 1985(3) the general Federal tort law that this Court has long counseled against. There is redress available, and that is in the Virginia Commonwealth courts. In fact, the circuit court in Norfolk, Virginia has issued injunctions which prohibits blockades and prohibit trespass activity.

7 The law does offer redress. This is not a case 8 where redress is unavailable. It is. State court 9 injunctions whose provisions mirror those of the Federal 10 court here in significant areas have been upheld in 11 numerous State courts on appeal.

12 This is a case of statutory construction and 13 statutory interpretation. The question presented is, does 14 section 2 of the Ku Klux Klan Act of 1871 cover the 15 petitioners' activities? Our position is that it does 16 not, and the Fourth Circuit is wrong and should be 17 reversed.

In order for there to be a violation of section 2 of the act, there must be established, as this Court held in Griffin, a class-based, invidiously discriminatory animus behind the conspirators' actions. Here, the class has been defined as women seeking abortion. Simply put, women seeking abortion is not a valid class.

A class should be defined by who people are, not something they would like to do or an activity they would

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like to engage in. Respondents' class theory converts any
 group seeking to engage in any activity or conduct into a
 class, again creating a general Federal tort law.

Both the district court and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals entered over a dozen specific findings of facts dealing with the motivation or purpose of the petitioners' activities; yet despite these specific factual findings, the lower court came to the illogical conclusion of law that opposition to abortion constitutes invidious class-based discrimination against women.

11 That proposition has already been rejected by 12 this Court in finding that classifications based on 13 pregnancies do not constitute, per se, violations of equal 14 protection and do not constitute invidious discrimination. 15 That was in Geduldig.

This is especially so here, since the record establishes clearly what motivates the petitioners' conduct, and that is their opposition to the activity of abortion. This is not a case where the petitioners are using their opposition of abortion as a pretext to some type of gender discrimination.

The petitioners did not engage in their conduct, or nor would have they engaged in their conduct because of its effect on women. It is because of their opposition to abortion that these petitioners are motivated.

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Petitioners simply do not engage in the type of activity
 and do not conduct their activities with the invidious
 discriminatory animus required by section 2 of the Ku Klux
 Klan Act of 1871.

As I said, there's redress available. This is not a case where redress has been unavailable. Petitioners have been the subject of State court injunctions in other parts of the country.

9 There's also an issue I think that's equally 10 important here, and that is the scope of the protections 11 under section 1985(3), which is section 2 of the act -- of 12 the Ku Klux Klan Act. There was a limiting amendment 13 drafted by Representative Willard. The purpose of it was 14 to mark a boundary with regard to the overall scope of the 15 act.

16 Concerned over possible creations of a general 17 Federal tort law, the drafters of the limiting amendment 18 required that there not just be a deprivation of a right, 19 but there be a deprivation of equality, of equal 20 privileges and immunities, or equal protection of the law. 21 Thus, for a denial to be actionable pursuant to

the act, to be a conspiratorial objective, the conspirators must seek to permit to some what they deny to others. Here, there's been no denial of equality. The scope of the petitioners' protest affects all involved in

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1 the abortion process.

As this Court recognized in Novotny, section 2 of the Ku Klux Klan Act itself is a remedial provision. It provides a remedy in damages. The rights, privileges, and immunities that it protects are to be found elsewhere.

6 Here, the respondents have asserted that 7 petitioners violated their constitutional right to 8 interstate travel. They base this assertion on the theory 9 that by simply being engaged in interstate travel and 10 having that right affected by petitioners' conduct, that 11 the petitioners thereby purposely violated the 12 respondents' constitutional right to interstate travel.

That theory of the respondents would turn any 13 14 potential automobile accident involving an out-of-State driver into an interstate travel claim, because it would 15 have an effect on interstate travel, and I would point out 16 that the Fourth Circuit in its findings of fact held that 17 petitioners' activities, if they were to have been engaged 18 19 in, would have had an effect on interstate travel. They did not ever find under a finding of fact that there was a 20 21 purposeful violation of interstate travel.

Our position is that the Fourth Circuit and the district court greatly expanded this Court's jurisprudence with regard to interstate travel. First, this is not a case where the petitioners discriminated against in-State

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residence versus out-of-State residence concerning access
 to the abortion clinic. Respondents conceded this during
 the previous argument.

Secondly, this Court's cases in the plain 4 language of the statute itself require that for there to 5 be an interstate travel violation there has to be a 6 purposeful deprivation of the right. The purpose, as 7 found by the district court and affirmed by the Fourth 8 Circuit Court of Appeals here was that the petitioners 9 engaged in their activities in order to express their 10 opposition to abortion, not -- no findings of fact that 11 there was purposeful deprivations of the right to 12 13 interstate travel.

14 In fact, as I said, the trial court itself only 15 held that petitioners, if they were to have engaged in 16 their activities, would have had only an effect on 17 interstate travel. There is no finding that here there 18 was a purposeful action taken in deprivation of the right.

19 It is important to note again that in drafting 20 the legislation the 42nd Congress made the determination 21 in the concept of the limiting amendment that they were 22 going to look at the issue through the lens of motivation 23 and not impact. As I said, the language of itself, the 24 statute itself requires that there must be a purposeful 25 violation of the interstate travel right.

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The question in one sense would be, did the petitioners conduct their activities for the purpose of depriving respondents of their right to travel? The record below supports that they did not.

5 The trial court's detailed findings of fact 6 establishes what the animus and motivation of Jayne Bray 7 and the other petitioners -- yes, Justice Stevens.

8 QUESTION: May I just ask you one question? You 9 said that there was no district court finding with regard 10 to intent to interfere with travel. I have before me the 11 finding that petitioners engaged in this conspiracy for 12 the purpose, either directly or indirectly, of depriving 13 women seeking abortions and related medical and counseling 14 services of the right to travel.

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MR. SEKULOW: The court --

QUESTION: Isn't that a finding of fact?

MR. SEKULOW: No. That was a conclusion of law. 17 18 The finding of fact here states -- and it's on page 22(a) of the joint -- the petition's appendix -- states, rescue 19 demonstrations -- paragraph 28 specifically. Rescue 20 demonstrations, by blocking access to clinics, therefore 21 22 have the effect of obstructing and interfering with 23 interstate travel of these women. The test, however, is that there must be purposeful activity, that their aim 24 25 must have been not a mere consequence of it, which is

what the -- where the illogical conclusion of law took
 place here.

3 QUESTION: But the district judge did draw the 4 inference and stated in his conclusions of law that that 5 was the purpose.

6 MR. SEKULOW: Yes. However, our position is 7 that his -- that Judge Ellis, that the district court's 8 findings of fact clearly cut against that, Justice 9 Stevens, because his specific finding on right to travel 10 talks about effect, and there is a difference between 11 purpose and effect.

12 1985(3), section 2 of the Ku Klux Klan Act, 13 requires that there be a purposeful deprivation of the 14 right, not an impact, and that's what the motivation --15 the view of what the motivation has to be on. What is it 16 that motivated these petitioners? Here, it was clearly 17 their opposition to the activity of abortion.

18 Mr. Chief Justice, I'd like to reserve the rest19 of my time for rebuttal.

20 QUESTION: Very well, Mr. Sekulow. Mr. Roberts, 21 we'll hear from you.

22ORAL REARGUMENT OF JOHN ROBERTS, JR.23ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES AS AMICUS CURIAE24SUPPORTING THE PETITIONERS

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MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, and

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1 may it please the Court:

2 The United States appears in this case not to defend petitioners' tortious conduct, but to defend the 3 4 proper interpretation of section 1985(3). As this Court explained in Griffin, the language of that section 5 6 covering conspiracies whose purpose is to deprive people of equal protection or equal privileges and immunities, 7 8 means that the conspirators must be motivated by a, quote, 9 class-based invidiously discriminatory animus, end quote.

10 If a group of conspirators assault someone carrying a picket sign because they don't believe there 11 should be a First Amendment right to picket, they 12 13 certainly are guilty of a tort and they interfere with that individual's exercise of constitutionally protected 14 15 rights, but in no sense do they deprive him of equal protection or equal privileges and immunities simply 16 17 because they assault him and not everyone else.

But if the conspirators come upon a picketer and assault him because he's black and they don't believe that blacks should have equal First Amendment rights, then they satisfy the class-based invidiously discriminatory animus requirement.

That is not what is going on here. Petitioners do not interfere with respondents' rights because respondents are women. Petitioners do what they do

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because they're opposed to an activity, the activity of abortion. They target their conspirators not because of who they are, but because of what they are doing. Respondents now seem to recognize this. In their brief on reargument they say that this is, quote, unlike the usual section 1985(3) case, end quote.

But it is not a section 1985(3) case at all, and the reason is that section 1985(3) is not concerned simply with the deprivation of Federal rights, however fundamental, however important. It is concerned with the discriminatory deprivation of Federal rights, and petitioners are perfectly nondiscriminatory, nondiscriminating, in their opposition to abortion.

Respondents' answer to this argument is that only women can exercise the right to an abortion, and therefore petitioners' antiabortion activities have a discriminatory impact on women. People intend the natural consequences of their acts, and therefore respondents argue, you can infer from the discriminatory impact that petitioners have a discriminatory purpose.

A few examples will show that the logic of that doesn't hold up. Consider, for example, an Indian tribe with exclusive fishing rights in a particular river. A group of ecologists get together who are opposed to fishing in the river, because they think it disturbs the

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1 ecology. They interfere with the Indians' rights.

The impact of their conspiracy is on a particular Indian group, but it would be quite illogical to infer from that they have any animus against Indians. They're opposed to fishing in the river, not Indians, even though only Indians can fish in the river. Petitioners are opposed to abortion, not women, even though only women can exercise the right to an abortion.

9 Another example. Suppose a group of men and 10 women get together who are opposed to the draft and they interfere with registration. The direct impact of their 11 12 conspiracy will be felt only by men, since only men are 13 eligible for the draft. But, again, it would be quite wrong to infer from that impact that the conspirators have 14 any animus against men. They're opposed to the draft, not 15 men, even though only men are eligible for the draft. 16

17 This Court has, in fact, already rejected respondents' logic in the Geduldig case. There Justice 18 Stewart, writing for the Court 3 years after he wrote for 19 the Court in Griffin, explained that classifications based 20 on pregnancy are not the same as gender discrimination, 21 22 even though only women can become pregnant. Accepting respondents' argument that activities in opposition to 23 24 abortion are the same as gender discrimination, because only women can have abortions, would require overruling 25

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1 the rationale of Geduldig.

The decision below should be reversed for an 2 independent reason, the reason that petitioners did not 3 act with the purpose of interfering with respondents' 4 right to interstate travel. This is respondents' logic. 5 One, petitioners' purpose is to block access to abortion 6 7 clinics. Two, some of those seeking access to the 8 abortion clinics come from out of State. Three. 9 petitioners know this. And four, therefore petitioners' 10 purpose is to interfere with people from out of State getting access to the abortion clinics. 11

12 That confuses purpose, which is what the statute 13 requires in plain terms, with incidental effect, which is 14 insufficient under the statute. For example, under 15 respondents' logic, consider a typical picket line. The 16 union's purpose is to keep the customers out of a 17 particular establishment. Some of the customers are 18 black. The union knows this.

Under respondents' logic, you would say that the union's purpose is to keep out black customers, but that's an inaccurate statement of their purpose, just as it is an inaccurate statement of petitioners' purpose to say that they keep people from --they want to keep people from out of State from gaining access to the abortion clinics. Last year respondents' counsel said it would be

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silly -- his word, silly -- to argue that the petitioners care whether the people come from out of State or not. But if the people don't -- if the petitioners don't care whether the people are from out of State or not, you cannot say that their purpose is to keep out of Staters from obtaining access to the abortion clinic.

7 This Court's decisions on the right to travel 8 recognize this distinction. The Court has found that 9 right implicated only when there has been discrimination 10 between residents, on the one hand and nonresidents or 11 newcomers on the other, as in Shapiro against Thompson, or 12 Dunn v. Blumstein.

13 QUESTION: Mr. Roberts, was there discrimination 14 in the Griffin case?

MR. ROBERTS: The allegations were that the --15 part of the motivation of the conspirators were to keep 16 out of State civil rights workers from traveling on the 17 interstate highways. The Court did not articulate in that 18 19 case what would satisfy a claim under the right to travel. It indicated a number of points that were open to the 20 21 plaintiffs to prove on remand, and then said this evidence and other evidence might suffice to show a right to 22 23 travel.

24 So it may be that they would have made a 25 discrimination claim in that case -- in that case, making

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it to be like the Guest case, where the specific
 allegation was that there was a right to interfere with
 interstate travel as such.

Both because there is no class-based invidiously discriminatory animus in this case, and because petitioners did not interfere with the purpose of interfering with the right to travel, the decision below should be reversed.

9 Thank you.

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QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Roberts.

11 QUESTION: Counsel, may I just ask one question? 12 Did the municipality here of Alexandria, or any State 13 officials, make a submission to the district court that 14 their own law enforcement authorities were being 15 overwhelmed?

MR. ROBERTS: There is an amicus brief before this Court from the Falls Church community saying that their resources were inadequate to deal with this particular predicament.

20 QUESTION: Did the Falls Church municipality 21 make any request of the Governor of the State of Virginia 22 for assistance?

23 MR. ROBERTS: I'm not aware that there was any
24 such -- such request.

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QUESTION: And did the Governor make any

assistance -- request to the Attorney General of the 1 2 United States for assistance? MR. ROBERTS: I'm not aware. This was done, of 3 4 course, in an injunctive capacity, so there wasn't a particular incident to respond to. So there wouldn't have 5 been any of those sorts of requests. 6 The ability, of course, of the Federal 7 Government to respond to such a situation is dealt with 8 under section 3 of the act, entirely independent of the 9 10 section before the Court today. 11 Thank you. QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Roberts. Ms. Ellis, 12 we'll hear now from you. 13 ORAL REARGUMENT OF DEBORAH A. ELLIS 14 ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENTS 15 MS. ELLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, and 16 may it please the Court: 17 Like the black students in Little Rock in 1957 18 who faced angry mobs as they walked up to the entrance of 19 integrated schools, the women in this case, many of whom 20 came from other States to Falls Church, Virginia, faced 21 22 angry, intimidating mobs who physically obstructed their 23 freedom of movement, blocking streets, parking lots, 24 entrances, and exits. 25 This case presents the Court with an issue that 17

arises infrequently but is vitally important: whether
 Federal law -- Federal law prohibits a mob from nullifying
 the constitutional rights of a class.

Section 1985(3) was enacted, as Representative Shellabarger explained in 1871, to provide a remedy against conspirators who trampled into dust the newly acquired political rights of the freedmen. This Court's section 1985(3) jurisprudence has strived both to give effect to congressional intent and to avoid making the statute into a Federal tort law.

Far from being mere torts, the acts of petitioners here are part of a nationwide systematic conspiracy to use force to deny women in America the equal protection of the laws, to do precisely what Congress sought to prevent in enacting section 1985(3).

All of the four elements that this Court has required to make out a section 1985(3) claim were proved here --

19 QUESTION: Excuse me. Suppose the same thing 20 were done to prevent unionization? I mean, suppose you 21 have a right-to-work group that nationwide seeks to 22 prevent unionization? Would -- that would fit the 23 description you've just given. Would that be covered by 24 this statute?

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MS. ELLIS: Well, Your Honor, in Scott this

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Court held that that kind of class-based animus is not
 cognizable under 1985(3).

3 QUESTION: Well, then what you've just said is 4 not enough for a violation of 1985(3). The mere fact that 5 your --

6 MS. ELLIS: I'm sorry, Your Honor, in this 7 Court --

8 QUESTION: In organized fashion you seek to 9 prevent people from exercising a constitutional right 10 is -- is not alone enough.

MS. ELLIS: I'm sorry, I misspoke, Your Honor. In Scott, this Court recognized that animus against union activities or economic classes are not sufficient to form a class under 1985(3). Here --

15 QUESTION: Yet that is a right, the right to 16 organize.

17 MS. ELLIS: Okay, assuming that this Court has 18 held that antiunion animus is sufficient to form a class, 19 then I do believe that blocking people from an activity 20 that only that group can engage in does suffice to prove class-based animus, especially when the right they seek to 21 22 block is a constitutional right of a class, an important constitutional right that only that class has, and 23 especially as in this case, when this Court recently 24 25 recognized in Planned Parenthood v. Casey that that right

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1 is necessary in order for that class to be equal citizens.

2 In this case, the two elements of the conspiracy -- of section 1985(3) are not at issue, the 3 4 conspiracy and the act in furtherance of the conspiracy. 5 Although there's no dispute about those elements, I would 6 like to note that the mob characteristics of this case are 7 particularly important. Congress enacted section 1985(3), called the Ku Klux Klan Act, because it understood that 8 9 mobs could deprive individuals of rights in a way that single -- single individuals cannot. 10

11 The petitioners here, who operate systematically 12 in large groups nationwide, are a much closer analog to 13 the Ku Klux Klan than the two conspirators that this Court 14 recognized could violate section 1985(3) in Griffin, for 15 example.

Because there's no dispute about the conspiracy in the act, I will focus on the other two elements, that the conspiracy be motivated by class-based animus, and here, that the independent right, the right to travel, be violated.

To begin with class-based animus, we must first show that women are a protected class, and indeed, neither the petitioners nor the Solicitor General dispute that women are a class under 1985(3). The broad text and legislative history of section 1985(3) dictate that

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1 conclusion.

2 Instead, petitioners and the Government argue 3 that here only a subset of women are affected. That 4 subset distinction is false. Discrimination usually occurs against the subset of a class that is exercising 5 6 its rights. For example, those who blocked African-American citizens from entering integrated schools 7 targeted only some citizens but demonstrated invidious 8 9 racial animus against an entire class.

10 The requirement of class-based animus was 11 created by this Court in Griffin v. Breckenridge in order 12 to prevent section 1985(3) from becoming a Federal tort 13 law. Animus should not be confused with personal malice 14 or hostility, especially because much of discrimination 15 against women throughout history has been benign.

More specifically, womens' reproductive capacity has served as the benign rationale to deny women a host of equal opportunities, as this Court has recognized many times, most recently in Johnson Controls and in Casey.

20 Respondents admit that there are two kinds of 21 class-based animus. In most situations, the conspirators 22 deny to the class a right that is available to all, but 23 here there is class-based animus for a different reason: 24 because petitioners engaged in unlawful behavior that 25 denies a right that is available only to the class.

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1 This case is a particularly strong example of 2 class-based animus, as I was saying before, because a 3 right blocked here has been judicially recognized to be 4 indispensable for the equality of the class. If equal 5 protection of the law means anything, it must encompass 6 knowing behavior to take away a liberty right that only 7 the protected class has.

8 In Casey, this Court recognized that abortion is 9 a unique act, and that women must have control over their 10 reproductive lives in order to be equal and autonomous 11 citizens.

12 QUESTION: What -- let me go back to that 13 statement, that it must cover an effort to take away a 14 right that only the protected class has.

15 What do you do with the hypothetical that 16 Mr. Roberts gave us of an Indian tribe that has only -- has exclusive fishing rights and ecologists seek 17 to stop the fishing? That fits exactly the description 18 you've just given us. This is the only class that has the 19 20 rights, and you're seeking to prevent those rights from 21 being exercised. How -- are you saying that, indeed, in Mr. Roberts' example, that would be a violation of this 22 23 statute?

24 MS. ELLIS: I think that would show class-based 25 animus --

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QUESTION: It would.

MS. ELLIS: If -- yes, Your Honor, although I 2 don't think that a ruling in this case would need to reach 3 that precise conclusion, because in this case we're only 4 asking the Court to recognize that class-based animus is 5 present when a constitutional right is taken away. So --6 7 QUESTION: But it seems to me you're fighting the hypothetical. The hypothetical is, ecologists want to 8 9 protect fish. They don't care who's fishing. 10 MS. ELLIS: Uh-huh. If QUESTION: So you changed the hypothetical. 11 12 you stick with the hypothetical, then what's your answer? 13 MS. ELLIS: I'm sorry, Your Honor, I didn't mean 14 to change the hypothetical. I do agree that --15 QUESTION: I mean, because there's just -- it's common sense, we know there's no animus against Indians, 16 17 so what result in that case? MS. ELLIS: They are depriving Indians of a 18 right that only that class has. Class-based animus would 19 20 be present. 21 This Court has not required personal malice or 22 hostility. For example, the segregationists were blocking the entrance to an integrated school, and doing that 23 because they opposed the activity of integration, not 24 because they opposed blacks as a class. I believe this 25

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1 Court would find class-based animus.

2 QUESTION: Well, that's -- it seems to me, that 3 definition of animus is a legal fiction.

MS. ELLIS: I do not believe so, Your Honor. I believe that if a class has -- if there's a constitutional right that only that class has, that that must violate equal protection to take away that right.

8 Now, of course, in the fishing hypothetical, the 9 class there is not exercising a constitutional right. 10 They're exercising only an activity that that class wishes 11 to engage in. This Court does not need to go that far in 12 answering this case.

13 This case presents the question of a class such 14 as women or African-American citizens trying to get into 15 an integrated school exercising a fund -- an important 16 constitutional right, and in this particular case, a 17 constitutional right that the joint opinion in Casey 18 recognized is crucial for women to be equal and autonomous 19 citizens.

20 QUESTION: Of course, the school case is on the 21 other end of the spectrum because there it was clear that 22 there was an animus against people by reason of their 23 race, an animus, a hostility.

24 MS. ELLIS: No, Your Honor, many segregationists 25 say that they oppose not the black race, but they oppose

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the activity of integration, and even if they said that they loved the class but opposed -- physically obstructed the entrance of black children into Central High in Little Rock, I believe this Court should find class-based animus there, as it should here. I believe that taking away a right that only that class has must violate the animus requirement for section 1985(3).

8 The Solicitor General relies on Geduldig to 9 argue that no class-based animus exists. Geduldig was 10 decided in 1974 when this Court's gender-based equal 11 protection standard was still evolving.

12 Geduldig differs dramatically from this case, 13 because there the Court was asked to interpret the 14 Constitution to provide mandatory benefits.

As recognized by Chief Justice Rehnquist in the 16 1977 Nashville Gas Company v. Satty decision, Geduldig by 17 its own terms is limited to cases dealing with the 18 distribution of benefits, not the imposition of burdens.

Here, women are asking for statutory protection from the complete denial of their rights, and they are not seeking any monetary or other benefits.

As this Court recently reaffirmed in Casey, the denial of womens' reproductive rights denies women the ability to control their destiny.

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Turning to the right to travel, the independent

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right violated here, the right to travel here was violated
 in the most blatant way possible -- by actual, physical
 obstruction of movement.

Griffin is the only other case where this Court has addressed the right to travel under section 1985(3). The facts here track the unanimous decision of Griffin in three important ways, and in one way this case is much stronger than Griffin.

9 First, in both cases the defendants physically 10 obstructed travel, although not at a State border. Here, 11 in Griffin, there was a single episode of obstruction of 12 travel on a public highway. Here, there was a pattern of 13 blockades at a clinic in Falls Church, Virginia, less than 14 10 miles from the D.C. and Maryland borders.

The court below found that petitioners engaged in the conspiracy, as Justice Stevens noted before, for the purpose, either directly or indirectly, of depriving women of the right to travel.

Second, in Griffin the Court remanded to determine if there had been actual or intended interstate travel. And here there was a factual finding by the Court that a substantial number of respondents, in fact, engaged in interstate travel.

As the Griffin case came to this Court, there was very little evidence of interstate travel. In fact,

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the Solicitor General's brief in that case, which was
filed on behalf of those people who had been deprived of
their rights, noted in footnote 6 that they believed there
had been no allegations of interference with interstate
travel. That is why this Court, in Griffin, allowed the
plaintiffs on remand to elect -- to prove some connection
with interstate travel in a variety of ways.

8 QUESTION: Ms. Ellis, just out of curiosity 9 because I don't remember, which side did the Solicitor 10 General take in the Griffin case?

11 MS. ELLIS: The Solicitor General, in that case, 12 took the side of the black plaintiffs who had been beaten 13 up.

14 QUESTION: So they asked for an expansive 15 interpretation of the statute.

MS. ELLIS: They did, Your Honor. And they said in that case that equal protection of the laws should be interpreted broadly to -- even if interstate travel wasn't violated, that because the plaintiffs there had been beaten up, their equal protection of the laws had been violated.

Third, in both Griffin and this case, the defendants blocked the travel, not because they cared about the travel per se, as we had said last time, but because they wanted to stop the activities the plaintiffs

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were traveling for. In Griffin it was civil rights
 activities, and here it was to exercise the right to
 privacy.

So this case tracks Griffin in the three ways of physical obstruction, actual interstate travel, and the fact that in both cases the people were traveling in order to exercise other constitutional rights.

8 Significantly, however, this case is stronger 9 than Griffin because in Griffin there were only two 10 conspirators, and here there was a mob. And as I've 11 mentioned before, Congress was particularly concerned, in 12 enacting section 1985(3), about the fact that mobs could 13 deprive individuals of equal protection of the law in a 14 way that a sole person cannot.

15 Nonetheless, the Solicitor General insists that 16 respondents are opening a Pandora's box because, he argues, there's no showing that petitioners purposefully 17 18 interfered with respondents' right to travel. Well here, 19 of course, petitioners did physically block respondents' 20 right to travel. There can be no more blatant obstruction of the right of travel. In this Court's -- in most of 21 this Court's other travel cases, such as Shapiro v. 22 Thompson, there is no direct interference with the right 23 24 to travel. Only in Griffin and in this case was there physical obstruction. 25

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The petitioners -- the Solicitor General's argument can be accepted only if this Court takes an unnaturally narrow view of the right to travel under section 1985(3) so that it is only violated when the defendants block only interstate travelers, and when they block them with the sole purpose to prevent crossing straight -- State lines.

8 That was not the case in the unanimous decision 9 of Griffin v. Breckenridge, and yet this Court held the 10 right to travel could be violated. This case is on all 11 fours with Griffin.

12 QUESTION: Griffin, of course, involved 13 unquestioned discrimination against -- an animus against a 14 class, blacks, right? I mean that was just not an issue 15 at all -- at all in Griffin.

MS. ELLIS: It was not an issue, Your Honor, because they inferred the animus from the fact that they beat them up. There was -- in Griffin in note 10, the Court said that animus should not be confused with scienter.

21 QUESTION: Well that's right, but they --22 MS. ELLIS: And that also should not --23 QUESTION: The purpose here was discrimination 24 against blacks, the purpose in Griffin.

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MS. ELLIS: That was -- that purpose was

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1 inferred from the fact that they beat them up. 2 OUESTION: And that's a part of it. MS. ELLIS: They did not say that they hated 3 blacks. 4 5 QUESTION: Well that's -- that's a big issue 6 here. 7 MS. ELLIS: That's right, Your Honor. QUESTION: Whether it is, indeed, a class of 8 9 women that is the object of the activity, or whether a 10 class of those seeking or assisting in abortion. MS. ELLIS: Your Honor --11 OUESTION: So I -- you know, I think that's a 12 big difference between the two cases. 13 MS. ELLIS: Your Honor, there is no doubt that 14 15 petitioners' purpose is to stop the activity of abortion. 16 Abortion is a constitutional right of a class of women. 17 That is the same as petitioners' -- if petitioners' were trying to block an integrated school, trying to block an 18 activity that is a constitutional right of black citizens. 19 20 In doing that, they would also block other 21 people coming into the school; they would block the 22 teachers and block parents, custodians, just as here petitioners block others coming into the abortion clinic. 23 24 Nevertheless, it is clear that the animus is directed 25 towards women.

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1 QUESTION: That's not the proper analog. It 2 seems to me the proper analog is blocking everybody from 3 going into the school, and then saying in blocking 4 everybody you're also blocking blacks.

5 MS. ELLIS: I agree with that, Your Honor, that 6 is a proper analog.

7 QUESTION: And you think that that would be a 8 violation --

9 MS. ELLIS: I think --

10 QUESTION: If you said we don't want anybody to 11 go to school?

MS. ELLIS: I think if the segregationists in Little Rock said that our object is to block anyone from going into this integrated school because the school is integrated, yes, Your Honor, I think that is class-based animus. In fact, I think many segregationists did try to do that. They didn't want anyone going into those integrated schools.

19QUESTION: Yes, because the school is20integrated.

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MS. ELLIS: That's right.

22 QUESTION: But not because they don't want 23 people to go to school.

MS. ELLIS: That's right. And here they're blocking because they don't --

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1 QUESTION: The assertion here is that they're 2 blocking because they don't want people to provide or 3 receive abortions.

MS. ELLIS: That's right, Your Honor. And it's exactly parallel. There they did not want the class to exercise their constitutional right to an integrated education. Here, they do not want the class to exercise their constitutional right to an abortion.

9 QUESTION: In the one case it's because of race. 10 In this case it remains to be established whether it's 11 because of sex.

MS. ELLIS: Well, Your Honor, I think that the problem is it's always difficult to define -- to divine the actual malice or animosity that is motivating someone. That's why the Court said in Griffin that the class-based animus requirement should not be confused with a requirement of personal hostility.

We do not know what was in the heart of the segregationists. All we know is that they tried to block a constitutional right that that class has. Similarly, we do not know what is in the heart of petitioners, but we do know that they have a conceded purpose to block women from exercising a constitutional right.

24 While we believe that the violation of the right 25 to travel is clearly sufficient to justify the injunction

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below, there are three other ways this injunction can be
 sustained.

3 First, respondents made a privacy claim which 4 was not ruled on the court -- ruled on by the courts 5 below.

Second, section 1985(3) jurisdiction is also
sustained by petitioners' avowed purpose to hinder and
prevent local authorities from enforcing the law, in
violation of the second clause of section 1985(3), a claim
which is proved below, but not fully briefed.

At this point, I would like to answer Justice 11 12 Kennedy's question that you posed to opposing counsel. In 13 this case, Your Honor, trial testimony has shown that 14 between the time the complaint was filed and the time of 15 the trial, that a blockade occurred at a Maryland clinic. 16 And at that clinic the police could not guarantee safe 17 passage to the patients who tried to get into the clinic, 18 even though they had called on all the resources of the 19 county and the State police.

20 QUESTION: Did you say the issue of interference 21 was raised below?

MS. ELLIS: Of hindrance? The issue of hindrance, Your Honor, was proved below, but it was not fully briefed.

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QUESTION: And it wasn't -- and it wasn't in the

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1 complaint, was it?

MS. ELLIS: No, Your Honor. The complaint is 2 alleged, though, a violation of section 1985(3) generally. 3 QUESTION: Yes, yes. And you say it was -- you 4 5 say it was litigated below? 6 MS. ELLIS: I'm sorry. It was proved below. 7 The evidence showed a hindrance of the State police, of 8 the local police. 9 QUESTION: But there were no findings of the 10 district court with that -- in that respect. MS. ELLIS: Well, the findings -- there were 11 12 findings, not specifically directed towards a hindrance claim, but there findings --13 14 QUESTION: And there was no -- but there was no 15 conclusion of law that the second clause was violated. 16 MS. ELLIS: That's right. QUESTION: And it was not addressed in the court 17 18 of appeals. MS. ELLIS: No, it wasn't, Your Honor. However, 19 20 Your Honor, we do believe that under rule 15(b), the pleadings, of course, are amended to conform with the 21 22 evidence, and that this question, should the Court choose 23 to reach it, is fairly subsumed within the Fourth Circ -- question here, which was was the jurisdiction of 24 the Federal court substantial enough to justify the 25 34

1 injunction.

2 QUESTION: You want us to find that there was a 3 purpose of hindrance?

MS. ELLIS: I think, Your Honor, the more appropriate case -- the more appropriate course in this instance would be to remand for full briefing on hindrance. But I do believe there is evidence in the record, should the Court want to address that question.

9 Finally, even if none of the section 1985(3)
10 claims ultimately prevail on their merits --

QUESTION: What if we -- what if we reject your claims other than the hindrance claim, we just don't say anything about it? Let's assume we just don't say anything about hindrance, but otherwise you lose, is the case over?

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MS. ELLIS: Your Honor --

17 QUESTION: I suppose -- I suppose the mandate 18 would say, is remanded for further proceedings consistent 19 with what we held.

20 MS. ELLIS: I think at the minimum the case 21 should be remanded for briefing -- I'm sorry, for a 22 decision on the privacy claim, which was alleged and 23 briefed, but never addressed by either of the courts 24 below. Here --

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QUESTION: Oh, I thought it was addressed by the

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1 district court.

2 MS. ELLIS: No, Your Honor, the court decided not to reach that claim. It discussed it --3 QUESTION: It thought it was problematic, I 4 5 quess. 6 MS. ELLIS: It did say it was problematic, but 7 it decided not to adjudicate --OUESTION: Well, what about the hindrance claim? 8 MS. ELLIS: Pardon? 9 QUESTION: What about the hindrance claim? You 10 say that the proper thing to do would be to remand on 11 12 that. MS. ELLIS: Mm-hum, I believe so, Your Honor, 13 and I believe in any case that there is enough -- that the 14 hindrance and the privacy claims are substantial enough so 15 that jurisdiction exists and the injunction could be 16 sustained on the pending State law claims which the Court 17 found to be violated. 18 QUESTION: If the basis for our rejection of 19 your other claims is the lack of -- in our view the lack 20 of having established animus, then the hindrance claim is 21 22 over as well. 23 MS. ELLIS: Your Honor, we have reconsidered our 24 position on that. 25 QUESTION: Oh, you have reconsidered your 36

1 position on that.

2 MS. ELLIS: We have reconsidered our position on 3 that.

4 QUESTION: Last time, you said it would have 5 been over as well.

MS. ELLIS: That's right, we did, Your Honor, and on reflection we have reconsidered our position on that. We believe that there are strong reasons that class-based animus should not be required for the hindrance claim because the class-based animus requirement was created by this Court in Griffin out of concern for not Federalizing section 1985(3) into a tort law.

Those same concerns do not exist with the hindrance claim, and we would say that this is more like Kush v. Rutledge, the case where this Court found no requirement of class-based animus for section 1985(2), and in Kush this Court also emphasized that in Griffin the Court was only addressing the clause of section 1985(3) --

19 QUESTION: Well, it may be -- even if you're 20 right, there might still be a question of whether the 21 protestors have the purpose of overwhelming city -- city 22 police.

MS. ELLIS: That's right, Your Honor, but that was proved at trial. There was actually evidence in the record showing that one of their exhibits asked to have

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thousands of -- 1,000 or 1,500 people come because when that many people come there are too many people for the police to arrest --

4 QUESTION: Well, there may be evidence in the 5 record to support a finding, but the finding hasn't been 6 made.

MS. ELLIS: Well, Your Honor, in footnote 4 of the district court's opinion, the court talked about how the activities of petitioners overwhelmed the Falls Church police department and talked about a specific example.

11 QUESTION: That's the effect. There's no 12 difference between purpose and effect. I mean, that's a 13 common theme throughout your argument. The footnote 14 you're referring to said that the effect was to overwhelm, 15 but we're talking here about purpose. The statute 16 requires that it be the purpose, doesn't it?

17 MS. ELLIS: Right, and there is evidence --18 QUESTION: And there's no finding on that, is 19 there?

MS. ELLIS: There's no finding on that. There is evidence in the record, though, to support that finding.

For the little children in Little Rock, this Court said in Cooper v. Aaron that the vitality of constitutional principles cannot be allowed to yield

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1 simply because of disagreement with them. Congress 2 enacted section 1985(3) so that the mob no more than the 3 State could nullify constitutional rights. 4 Like the plaintiffs in Griffin, women here 5 invoke the core coverage of section 1985(3) so that they 6 may be able to exercise their constitutional rights under 7 the protection of the rule of law. 8 Thank you. 9 QUESTION: Just to clarify one thing in my own 10 mind, was the injunction entered here as a preliminary 11 injunction, or was it a final injunction? 12 MS. ELLIS: It was a permanent injunction that 13 expired at a definite time. It has since been extended on 14 five separate occasions and now is set to expire on 15 January 8, 1993. 16 But as initially entered it was a **OUESTION:** 17 final injunction. 18 MS. ELLIS: It was. The trial court 19 consolidated the hearing -- the final hearing with a preliminary hearing. 20 21 QUESTION: The question I have is, I don't quite 22 understand why you say that there's no danger with respect 23 to the hinder clause of turning this provision into a 24 general tort law and therefore we don't need to import the 25 animus requirement. Surely, any time anyone bribed a 39

policeman or conducted all sorts of activities that would impair law enforcement, wouldn't that be -- wouldn't that come under this provision?

MS. ELLIS: I think, Your Honor, it would have to be for the purpose of depriving an equal protection of the laws, and so I don't think bribing a policeman would come under --

8 QUESTION: Well, no, you're eliminating an 9 animus requirement.

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MS. ELLIS: Right.

11 QUESTION: You don't -- it doesn't have to be 12 class-based. All you have to do is try to stop a 13 policeman from protecting somebody else's rights, isn't 14 that right, so that would uniformly be covered.

MS. ELLIS: No, Your Honor, I think that hindrance should apply to acts that attempt to take away the equal protection of the laws by hindering the local authorities. It cannot just apply to bribing a policeman. The statute requires both --

20 QUESTION: Why not? You bribe him to do 21 something. That is, to deprive someone of activity that 22 he'd otherwise provide. I mean, that's the purpose of 23 bribing.

MS. ELLIS: That is clearly not what Congress was concerned about --

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QUESTION: Well, I'm sure that's true. MS. ELLIS: -- in enacting section 1985(3).

3 QUESTION: I'm sure that's true, but I don't see 4 how you avoid that without importing into the hindrance 5 clause the same class-based animus requirement that you 6 have imported into the other clause.

MS. ELLIS: I think the best way to avoid that 7 8 is to require that you be hindering the police for the 9 purpose of interfering with Federal constitutional rights, 10 just as this Court has required a violation of the 11 independent right under the first clause of 1985(3). I 12 think that you'd also want to make sure that it was for the purpose of interfering with Federal constitutional 13 rights, which I think is well-supported by the text of --14 QUESTION: Not State constitutional rights? How 15 16 can you eliminate State rights? Why do you limit the text just to Federal constitutional rights? 17 MS. ELLIS: Well, I think that either would be 18

19 an acceptable course for this Court.

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20 QUESTION: Do you think so?

MS. ELLIS: This Court has so far only specifically protected Federal constitutional rights under 1985(3). That, of course, is an open question.

24 QUESTION: Thank you, Ms. Ellis. Mr. Sekulow, 25 you have 11 minutes remaining.

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## REBUTTAL REARGUMENT OF JAY ALAN SEKULOW

## ON BEHALF OF PETITIONERS

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3 MR. SEKULOW: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice. 4 Briefly, first, reliance on Kush v. Rutledge with regard 5 to the hindrance claim is misplaced because the legislation requires, under the prevent and hinder clause, 6 the same word equal. The amendment process required equal 7 to be added. The word equal, in the statute, was where 8 the animus language derived from, and that clearly has to 9 be here. 10

I understand they're now trying to pull away from their previous admission on that point, but Kush v. Rutledge certainly doesn't point to that. In fact, Justice Stevens, in finding the claim could proceed under 1985(2) there noted that, specifically, the same language in 85(2) was not present in 85(3).

Secondly, the defendants or the petitioners' hearts were read, if you will, by the district court here, what their purpose was. The court stated -- the district court found it is undisputable that all defendants share a deep commitment to the goals of stopping the practice of abortion and reversing its legalization.

There is no animus against the class of women; it is an opposition to a specific activity. Secondly, to view animus in the way respondents have would be -- using

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an example, if, in fact, there was a disagreement or an opposition to affirmative action by a particular group, and that would -- if their view were to carry the day, would have an effect on affirmative action.

5 But to translate that effect into an invidious 6 discriminatory animus, that that now means that the group 7 that was gaining the benefit of the affirmative action 8 project is now the target of their animus, would be 9 incorrect unless it was some type of pretext for the 10 objection.

For instance, in the school example that was 11 12 given if, in fact, desegregation -- the integration of the 13 school took place -- in the situation that was referred to 14 in Little Rock there, it was clear that the objection --15 the opposition was not to children going to school, it was the opposition of children going to school with black 16 17 children. The modus -- the motive, the animus in that 18 case clearly was the opposition to blacks going to the 19 schools.

I'd also state that our position is that Satty
certainly does not support the position on
discriminatory -- invidious discrimination, because Satty
was a title 7 case. This Court has required invidious
discriminatory animus. Clearly here the animus, as I
said, is to the opposition of abortion. The fact that it

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has an effect on women seriously mischaracterizes the
 nature of the dispute, and also, I think, mischaracterizes
 the nature of the issue presented to this Court.

This Court, in Casey, did not state that the 4 5 right to abortion was essential to equality. I think 6 that's important here. The fact that the -- this Court's 7 jurisprudence with regard to reproductive freedom has had an effect on women's ability to participate equally in the 8 9 Nation, in the social life of the country, does not become the legal equivalent of there now being an invidious 10 discriminatory animus. 11

And I think Casey, to the contrary, clearly does not support the proposition that opposition to abortion constitutes invidious discrimination against women.

First, throughout its abortion jurisprudence this Court has not found the right to exist under the equal protection clause, which would be the normal place to find restrictions being reviewed as invidiously discriminatory under the equal protection analysis. That's not what this Court has chose to do.

Secondly, I think significantly, that the Court's opinion in Casey points to the issue that opposition to an activity does not constitute invidious discrimination against women. Specifically in the joint opinion it is stated:

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1 Men and women of good conscience can disagree, 2 and we suppose some always shall disagree, about the 3 profound moral and spiritual implications of terminating a 4 pregnancy even in its earliest stage. Some of us, 5 referring to members of the Court, as individuals find 6 abortion offensive to our most basic principles of 7 morality.

8 If men and women of good conscience can 9 sincerely disagree over this issue, then how can 10 opposition to abortion constitute per se invidious 11 discrimination against women? It cannot.

The Court also recognized in Casey, specifically, that abortion is a unique act. And it said it is fraught with consequences for others, and included in those others was the life or potential life of the unborn child, the woman who undergoes the procedures, her family, and her spouse.

18 The Court further went on in Casey to recognize 19 that there is, and I'm going to quote again:

As with abortion, reasonable people have differences of opinion. One view is based on such reverence -- excuse me -- for the wonder of creation that any pregnancy ought to be welcome and carried to full term, no matter how difficult it will be to provide for the child and ensure its well-being.

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Another is that the inability to provide for the nurture and care of the infant is cruelty to the child and anguish to the parents. These are intimate views with intimate, infinite variations, and they are deep personal in character.

6 That -- those statements from the joint opinion 7 in Casey clearly, unequivocally, do not support the 8 proposition that opposition to abortion is the legal 9 equivalent, per se, invidious discrimination against 10 women. And I think, clearly, it cuts the other way. What 11 this Court recognized in Casey is that the issue of 12 abortion is one of profound national debate.

13 QUESTION: Of course, this case involves more14 than opposition to abortion.

MR. SEKULOW: I think not. Their opposition --QUESTION: But don't you think your clients did something more than just let -- let it be known that they were opposed to abortion? Didn't they try, specifically, to interfere with people who crossed a State line to get abortions? That's more than opposition.

21 MR. SEKULOW: First, that -- I think that's the 22 ultimate opposition to abortion, is interfering with 23 abortion as the animus, the activity of abortion. It is 24 their opposition, and it is unequivocal that that is their 25 opposition. They seek to deter women.

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And, of course, opposition is not for the purpose of keeping out of State people versus in State people. Clearly, that's not supported by this record, Justice Stevens.

But their opposition --

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6 QUESTION: Well, would it be supported if all of 7 the patients in the clinic came from out of State?

MR. SEKULOW: No, it would not. Because that is 8 9 not the purpose of their activity. Now if it was -- I 10 won't even speculate. But the truth here is that the 11 animus is -- as this Court recognized, that men and women 12 of good conscience will disagree on this issue -- these 13 petitioners obviously take the position, and are opposed 14 to the act, the conduct, as this Court said in Casey, of 15 abortion.

16 QUESTION: They're opposed to an act that only 17 members of the class can engage in.

18 MR. SEKULOW: They are -- precisely. And if 19 that's the case, which it is only --

20 QUESTION: Which is entirely unlike the Indian 21 example, because anybody can fish.

MR. SEKULOW: I don't think so. Because I think they're directly comparable. The fact that only women can exercise the right points to the fact that there cannot not be a denial of equality. And that is clearly required

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by the statute here. Plus the scope of the petitioners' 1 2 conduct is aimed at the entire process of abortion. It is 3 opposition to an activity of abortion. That's what is at 4 issue here, and everyone involved in that process. Thank you -- yes, Mr. Justice --5 OUESTION: But the State causes of action --6 7 MR. SEKULOW: There were claims here under 8 the -- under trespass and --9 QUESTION: Does the injunction rest on that? 10 MR. SEKULOW: Yes, there was independent 11 grounds, the court said, for the injunction under State 12 grounds. 13 QUESTION: So what would be do if we agree with 14 you about the injunction? 15 MR. SEKULOW: I think that this Court would remand it to the -- back to the Fourth Circuit for 16 17 determination whether there was sufficient subject matter 18 jurisdiction. Our position is that the right to travel 19 claim is so insubstantial not to confer it, but the issue 20 that the injunction rests upon, and upon which attorneys' fees were issued, was the claim under 42 USC section 21 22 1985(3), which is the lineal descendant of section 2 of 23 the Ku Klux Klan Act. 24 Thank you. 25 QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Sekulow. The case is 48

1 submitted.

2	(Whereupon, at 10:57 a.m., the case in the
3	above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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Alderson Reporting Company, Inc., hereby certifies that the attached pages represents an accurate transcription of electronic sound recording of the oral argument before the Supreme Court of The United States in the Matter of: Case No. 90–985 JAYNE BRAY, ET AL., Petitioners v. ALEXANDRIA WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC, ET AL.

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