

RAW FILE

MAKING-VISIBLE

ANGELA HUME

BRENDA CUMMINGS

LIZZIE CHADBOURNE

MAY 9, 2024

7-8:30 P.M. EST

>> Adriana Arizpe: ESTABLISHED IN THE MID 1980s. SHE ALSO COFOUNDED, ACCESS CALIFORNIA'S STATEWIDE ABORTION FUND AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT NETWORK. ABOUT LIZZIE -- ORGANIZES CLINIC DEFENSE WITH NYC FOR ABORTION RIGHTS. ALSO, A PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCHER AND FACILITATOR WHO FOCUSES ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, LGBTQ HEALTH, AND DISABILITY JUSTICE. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL OF YOU TO BE HERE WITH US TONIGHT. AND THE FLOOR IS YOURS. PLEASE USE IT AS YOU LIKE. WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> Angela: THANK YOU SO MUCH, ADRIANA AND ANNIE HAVING ME, BRENDA, LIZZY ON MAKING-VISIBLE. I AM REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS CONVERSATION. IT IS SO SPECIAL TO HAVE BOTH BRENDA CUMMINGS AND LIZZIE CHADBOURNE IN THE ROOM. I WILL GIVE

THEM PLENTY OF SPACE TO TALK ABOUT THEIR WORK, PAST,  
PRESENT. I WANT TO MAKE A FEW REMARKS. I AM GOING TO  
ACTUALLY READ A LITTLE BIT FOR YOU FROM MY HISTORICAL BOOK,  
CALLED, "DEEP CARE: THE RADICAL ACTIVISTS WHO PROVIDED  
ABORTIONS, DEFIED THE LAW, AND FOUGHT TO KEEP CLINICS  
OPEN." TRYING TO SHOW YOU THE BOOK SO IT COMES INTO FOCUS.  
MAYBE BECAUSE I HAVE BACKGROUND BLUR ON IT WILL NOT WORK.  
IT IS PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER, 2023, AK PRESS, OUT NOW. AND I  
HOPE THAT YOU WILL ALL -- CHECK IT OUT. IF -- WHAT WE SHARE  
TONIGHT IS INTERESTING AND INSPIRING FOR YOU. SO, I WANTED  
TO JUST -- SAY, THAT, ADRIANA'S INTRODUCTION TO THE GREEN  
BANDANNA SYMBOL, POLITICAL OBJECT IN LATIN AMERICA WAS  
MAKING ME THINK ABOUT HOW THE LATIN AMERICAN MOVEMENT FOR  
ABORTION RIGHTS SYNCES WITH THE AMERICAN REPRODUCTIVE  
JUSTICE MOVEMENT. WHICH IS ALSO A GLOBAL MOVEMENT, THE WAY  
IT IS SORT OF, FRAMED AND DISCUSSED IN THE AMERICAN  
CONTEXT. LIKE THE LATIN AMERICAN MOVEMENT, EMTPA SIZES  
THAT -- REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IS NOT JUST ABOUT THE RIGHT TO  
ACCESS ABORTION, RIGHT, ALSO ABOUT THE RIGHT TO, PARENT.  
AND TO ACCESS PARENTHOOD, TO BE ABLE TO RAISE CHILDREN IN A  
HEALTHY AND SAFE AND RESOURCED ENVIRONMENT. SO, I AM JUST  
APPRECIATING THE WAY IN WHICH THESE MOVEMENTS ACROSS

NATIONAL BORDERS ARE WORKING COLLABORATIVELY AND ALSO IN PARALLEL TO ARTICULATE THE BIGNESS OF REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE STRUGGLES. I ALSO WANT TO JUST SAY THAT I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THIS DEFINITION FOR PROTECTIVE PRESENCE THAT KATIE LONCKE OFFERS AND ADRIANA QUOTED, PROTECTIVE PRESENCE AS A POLITICAL ACTIVITY, OF STRATEGIC NONVIOLENT ACCOMPANIMENT, I WANTED TO ALSO NOTE THE CONCEPT ACCOMPANIMENT, IMPORTANT TO ABORTION DEFENDERS IN LATIN AMERICA. NETWORKS THAT WORK TO -- TO ENSURE ACCESS TO ABORTION WITH PILLS, ALL ACROSS LATIN AMERICA, CONCEIVE OF THEIR ORGANIZING WORK AS AN ACCOMPANIMENT, PROJECT, AND PROCESS A COMPANYING PEOPLE THROUGH THE PROCESS OF ACCESSING ABORTION WITH PILLS AND THEN, OBTAINING AN ABORTION WITH PILLS. AND IN THE UNITED STATES' CONTEXT -- PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DOING TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK SPREAD INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO ACCESS ABORTION WITH PILLS HAVE DRAWN ON THE INSIGHTS OF THE LATIN AMERICAN MOVEMENT AND HAVE STARTED TO INTEGRATE THE ACCOMPANIMENT MODEL. ACCOMPANIMENT IS THE BEAUTIFUL CONCEPT FOR THINKING CLINIC ESCORTING, CLINIC DEFENSE, AND ABORTION DEFENSE THAT ACTIVISTS HAVE DONE AND ARE DOING TODAY. THE DEFINITION CONTINUES THE PRIVILEGE AND PRESENCE OF OUTSIDERS, MEANS

PROTECTION FOR OTHERS. THAT IS ALSO BEAUTIFULLY  
ARTICULATED. ONE THING I AM ALSO THINKING ABOUT IS HOW  
HISTORICALLY IN CLINIC DEFENSE, MANY OF THOSE PEOPLE, MANY  
OF THE CLINIC DEFENDERS PUTTING THEIR BODIES ON THE FRONT  
LINE TO HELP PEOPLE GET INTO THE CLINIC DOORS, WERE -- THE  
SAME PEOPLE WHO HAD, HAD TO STRUGGLE TO ACCESS THE CLINIC  
DOORS THEMSELVES. RIGHT. SO, PEOPLE WERE -- PROTECTING  
OTHERS, BUT THOSE OTHERS WEREN'T REALLY OTHER, RIGHT? THEY  
WERE, THEIR OWN COMMUNITY. RIGHT?  
AND SO, A CONCEPT THAT I THINK A LOT ABOUT IN DEEP CARE IS  
THE CONCEPT OF COMMUNITY SELF DEFENSE WHICH IS IN SOME WAYS  
ANOTHER WAY OF TALKING ABOUT PROTECTIVE PRESENCE. THAT'S  
SOMETHING THAT WE CAN KIND OF EXPLORE AND WRESTLE WITH MORE  
TODAY. OKAY, SO I AM GOING TO READ FOR 10, 15 MINUTES,  
PROBABLY ABOUT MAX FROM THE BOOK TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE  
HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL CONTEXT FOR THIS CONVERSATION. I  
AM THE HISTORIAN. I WROTE A HISTORICAL BOOK. I WILL START  
BY GIVING YOU SOME OF THE HISTORY. AND THEN, I WILL INVITE  
BRENDA AND LIZZIE TO JUMP IN AND TO WORK, GOING TO HEAR  
FROM THEIR, PERSPECTIVES AS WELL. SO, I AM GOING TO READ  
THE FIRST COUPLE PARAGRAPHS OF THE PREFACE OF MY BOOK,  
"DEEP CARE" AND JUMP INTO CHAPTER 6 IN THE MIDDLE OF THE

BOOK. WHICH DISCUSSES THE EVOLUTION OF CLINIC DEFENSE IN THE LATE 1980s AND INTO THE 1990s AND BEYOND. SPECIFICALLY, AS IT EVOLVED OUT OF THE BAY AREA. SO, FIRST FROM THE PREFACE OF MY BOOK. THIS IS A STORY ABOUT REVOLUTIONARY DEEP CARE. COMMUNITY CARE THAT TRANSFORMS AND EMPOWERS US FROM THE INSIDE OUT THROUGH PROCESS. AND OVER TIME.

IT'S THE STORY OF AN INDEPENDENT ABORTION CLINIC, AN ABORTION UNDERGROUND, OR A SECRETIVE NETWORK AND A CLINIC DEFENSE COALITION THAT WERE ACTIVE DURING SOME OF THE YEARS THAT ABORTION WAS LEGAL IN ALL 50 UNITED STATES. THE CLINIC PRACTICED FEMINIST SEXUAL REPRO TUCK TIFF AND ABORTION HEALTH CARE. AND TAUGHT PEOPLE ABOUT BODY SOVEREIGNTY OR HOW TO HAVE POWER IN YOUR BODY AND IN YOUR LIFE. THE UNDERGROUND SELF-HELP MOVEMENT TOOK FROM THE CLINIC SUPPLIES AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HOW TO PROVIDE ABORTIONS AND SEEDED THEM THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY. THE CLINIC DEFENSE COALITION FOUGHT TO KEEP THE CLINIC OPEN AND DEFEND THE COMMUNITY AGAINST ANTIABORTION EXTREMISTS. I THINK OF THEM, THE CLINIC, THE UNDERGROUND, AND THE COALITION, AS A SINGLE RADICAL ABORTION DEFENSE MOVEMENT HISTORY. AND THE LESSONS THIS HISTORY HAS TO OFFER COULDN'T BE MORE URGENT TODAY. SO AGAIN, THAT WAS JUST A FEW PARAGRAPHS FROM THE VERY

BEGINNING OF THE BOOK TO GIVE YOU A SENSE OF THE SCOPE OF THIS HISTORY THAT I TELL.

AND I AM NOW GOING TO GO TO CHAPTER 6. WHICH IS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BOOK. BRINGS US INTO THE 1980s. BY THE MID 1980s, ABORTION INFRASTRUCTURE WAS STRONG IN THE UNITED STATES. ALMOST 90% OF ABORTIONS WERE PERFORMED AT STAND-ALONE CLINICS. BUT IT WAS GETTING HARDER TO BE A FEMINIST WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER. THE RIGHT, THAT ELECTED RONALD REAGAN, PRESIDENT IN 1981, WORKED THROUGHOUT THE 1970s TO RECRUIT AND FOLD FREE MARKET CONSERVATIVES AND WHITE CHRISTIANS INTO A SINGLE POWERFUL BASE. BY THE 1980s, THE RIGHT WAS SET TO FUEL A TERRORISTIC ANTIABORTION CAMPAIGN. HOW DID THE ANTIABORTION MOVEMENT BECOME SUCH A LEVIATHON? IN LATE 19th, 20th CENTURIES THE MOVEMENT MAINLY INCLUDED WHITE SUPREMACISTS WHO WITH REGARD TO DECLINING WHITE BIRTH RATES BELIEVED LEGALIZED ABORTION WOULD MEAN RACE SUICIDE FOR WHITE PROTESTANTS. LATER IN THE 60S, LEADING UP TO THE RULING ON ROEV. WADE, THE MOVEMENT BECAME A CATHOLIC ONE TOO. AFTER ROE, THE CHURCH INTENSIFIED CRUSADING AGAINST ABORTION AND OTHER CONSERVATIVE GROUPS JOINED IN INTERPRETING THE RULING AS REJECTION OF TRADITIONAL VALUES. NEWLY GALVANIZED, THESE AND RELIGIOUS

INTEREST GROUPS JOINED THE MOVEMENT. STARTING IN THE 70S, THE ANTIABORTION MOVEMENT BEGAN TO PUSH FOR LAWS THAT PROHIBITED PUBLIC FUNDING FOR ABORTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, REPUBLICAN POLITICIANS WERE ADVOCATING THAT THE GOVERNMENT DIVEST FROM FAMILIES BY SLASHING PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR WELFARE. FOR FURTHER RACIALIZING POVERTY. ANTIABORTION MOVEMENT AND REPUBLICANS CALL TOGETHER TO PASS THE HYDE AMENDMENT WHICH IN 1977 BANNED MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS FOR ABORTIONS. THE REPUBLICAN ANTIWELFARE CAMPAIGN WHICH AS THE HISTORIAN LAURA BRIGGS ARGUES MORE THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE THING USHERED IN THE NEOLIBERAL MOMENT HAD COME TO IMPLY ANTIABORTION STANCE. ONCE AGAIN, THE ANTIWELFARE CAMPAIGN HAD COME TO IMPLY, AN ANTIABORTION STANCE. TO BE ANTIWELFARE WAS TO BE ANTIABORTION AND VICE VERSA, IDEOLOGY REFLECTED IN THE WORDS OF POLITICIANS THEMSELVES.

SENATOR JESSE HELMS OF NORTH CAROLINA, HYDE AMENDMENT COSPONSOR, DECLARED THAT CONGRESS SHOULD NEVER COMPEL THE TAXPAYER TO FINANCE A FORM OF KILLING. THE IMPLIED EQUATION OF WELFARE AND ABORTION, AND THE IMPERATIVE TO REJECT BOTH, WOULD ANIMATE THE RIGHT FOR DECADES TO COME. IN 1978, AN EX-MONK, ANTIABORTION EXTREMIST, JOSEPH SHIDLER BEGAN SHOWING UP IN FRONT OF FORT WAYNE HEALTH ORGANIZATION IN

INDIANA, YELLING INTO A BULL HORN AT PATIENTS. SHIDLER, AND HARASSERS PHOTOGRAPHED PATIENCE. GRABBED THEM, BLOCKED THEM FROM THE CLINIC ENTRANCE. THE CLINIC WITH A LOCAL FEMINIST GROUP TRIED TO THWART HIM AND OTHERS FORMING DEFENSE LINES. TWO YEARS LATER, SHIDLER FOUNDED ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION, PRO-LIFE ACTION NETWORK VOWING TO STOP ABORTION BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY. IN RESPONSE, NOW, NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN BEGAN TRAINING CLINIC ESCORTS. VOLUNTEERS WHO WOULD ACCOMPANY PATIENTS AS THEY PASSED ANTIABORTION PROTESTERS IN DIFFERENT TOWNS AND CITIES. BY 1981, RIGHT TO LIFERS, HAD STARTED PICKETING IN FRONT OF, THE FEMINIST WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTERS IN CALIFORNIA. HARASSING PATIENTS AND HEALTH WORKERS.

IN RESPONSE, CLINIC ALLIES DEVELOPED TACTICS SUCH AS FORMING A HUMAN CHAIN, IN FRONT OF THE ENTRANCE AND RECRUITING CLINIC ESCORTS. THESE WERE THE EARLY DAYS, OF ESCORTING AND DEFENSE. BY, THE LATE 1983, THERE HAD BEEN, 20 PLUS BOMBINGS AND ARESONS OF CLINICS BY ANTIABORTION TERRORISTS NATIONWIDE. MOREOVER, PRO-LIFE ACTION NETWORK AND OTHER EXTREMISTS HAD STARTED INSTITUTING WHAT THEY CALLED SIDEWALK COUNSELING. A DIRECTOR OF A COLORADO ORGANIZATION CALLED SIDEWALK COUNSELORS FOR LIFE, PUBLISHED



A SIDEWALK COUNSELING WORKBOOK IN 1986 WHICH STATED IT WAS THE SIDEWALK COUNSELOR'S JOB TO "RESCUE THOSE PERSONS IMMINENTLY INVOLVED IN AN ABORTION DECISION" AND QUOTE, CANCEL A BABY'S APPOINTMENT FOR EXECUTION. THE WORKBOOK DESCRIBES CLINIC ESCORTS AS ABORTUARY STAFF AND ADVISES SIDEWALK COUNSELORS TO QUOTE, REMIND THE CLIENT THAT A NEW LIFE IS A MIRACLE AND THAT YOU CAN HELP MAKE HER HAPPY, HELP HER TO MAKE IT THE HAPPY OCCASION IT SHOULD BE. " AGRANDIZING THE ROLE OF THE SIDEWALK COUNSELOR AND CASTING THEM AS RIGHTEOUS ACTIVIST HEROES.

AND THEN IN 1986, THE EXTREMIST GROUP OPERATION RESCUE, WOULD SYSTEMATIZE TRAUMATIC ASSAULTS AT CLINIC DOORS OF WOMEN SEEKING ABORTION CARE. THAT'S A BIT OF HISTORY FOR YOU. AFTER OPERATION RESCUE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1986, THE ORGANIZATION WOULD CALL ON ITS MEMBERS TO DESCEND UPON ABORTION CLINICS SOMETIMES BY THE 100s TO BLOCK ACCESS TO CLINIC DOORS, HARASS PATIENTS AND, AND, ULTIMATELY SHUT DOWN THE CLINIC FOR THE DAY. AND SO, WHEN OPERATION RESCUE ARRIVED IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, ABORTION DEFENDERS BANDED TOGETHER TO EXECUTE AN UNPRECEDENTED STREET RESPONSE. A RESPONSE THAT WOULD REFLECT THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT ABORTION ACCESS WAS A CONDITION FOR EVERYONE'S FREEDOM

AND AUTONOMY AND THAT CLINIC DEFENSE WAS COMMUNITY SELF-DEFENSE. SO, WITH THAT HISTORY IN MIND, I AM GOING TO JUMP AHEAD A LITTLE BIT. AND READ -- FROM A SECTION THAT TELLS YOU A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE WORK THAT THE BAY AREA COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS DID, IN THE 1980s AND 1990s. THE SECTION IS CALLED, THE CLINIC IS OPEN. IT WAS HOT, HOT IN ALBUQUERQUE IN JUNE. A STANDING FAN PURRED ON ME AS I RUMMAGED AROUND IN CASS McMahon's ARCHIVE. I PICKED UP A VHS TAPE, AND, TEXT READ, WE DON'T WRITE LETTERS, BACORR, BAY AREA COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS. AN ORIGINAL AGNES AND JOE PRODUCTION, DEFENDERS INVOLVED IN BACORR, THE TRAINING VIDEO OPENS WITH TRACY CHAPMAN'S "TALK ABOUT A REVOLUTION." BACORR'S LOGO FLASHES ON THE SCREEN IN GRAINY PURPLE AND CLINIC DEFENDER, MARY ANN JANSON, HUSKEY VOICE PROVIDES THE VOICEOVER.

BAY AREA COALITION AGAINST OPERATION RESCUE IS A COALITION OF WOMEN AND MEN COMMITTED TO DEFENSE OF REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS. WE DEFEND LOCAL ABORTION CLINICS AGAINST ATTEMPTED BLOCKADES AND HARASSMENT BY OPERATION RESCUE. THE VIDEO SHOWS TECHNIQUES FOR ESCORTING CLIENTS PAST OPERATION RESCUE PICKETS. AND METHODS FOR SUCCESSFUL CLINIC DEFENSE. BACORR WOULD

DISTRIBUTE THE VIDEO TO ACTIVISTS AROUND THE BAY AREA AND OTHER CITIES TOO. THE VIDEO CUTS TO FOOTAGE OF A DEFENSE AT PREGNANCY CONSULTATION CENTER. THE CAMERA ZOOMS IN CLOSE TO CAPTURE THE FACES OF THE ANTIABORTION PROTESTERS. MOST OF WHOM ARE WHITE MEN. MARY ANN EXPLAINS, OPERATION RESCUE COMES TO CLINICS TO HARASS WOMEN. WE PUT OURSELVES BETWEEN WOMEN AND OPERATION RESCUE SIDEWALK COUNSELORS. PART OF ESCORTING INCLUDES VERBAL AND SOMETIMES PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION WITH OPERATION RESCUE. AND ALSO, MORE SUIT AND CREATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR DIVERTING THEIR ATTENTION FROM CLIENTS. THE NEXT SHOT SHOWS CASS McMahon IN AN ORANGE VEST WITH BACORR BANDANNA TIED AROUND HER HEAD. SHE RAISES HER VOICE, SHAKES HER FINGER AT ANTI, WOMEN ARE RESPONSIBLE BEINGS WHO MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON THINGS IN THEIR LIFE AND YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH. THEN THE VIDEO CUTS TO A YOUNG WOMAN SITTING IN THE GRASS IN FRONT OF PREGNANCY CONSULTATION CENTER ON THE COLD EARLY MORNING OF THE DEFENSE. EXPLAINING CLINIC ESCORTING AND CLINIC DEFENSE TO A GROUP OF NEW ESCORTS DEAFERS. SHE IS EXTREMELY WELL SPOKEN. SHE LOOKS DIRECTLY AT HER AUDIENCE, SMILES AND NODS WARMLY DURING PAUSES FOR EMPHASIS. SHE WEARS HER BACORR BANDANNA AROUND HER NECK AND HER NAME IS BRENDA CUMMINGS.

BRENDA RUNS IT DOWN FOR THE GROUP. AND NOW I AM GOING TO  
ACTUALLY --

JUST SHARE FROM THE TRAINING VIDEO ITSELF. ONE MOMENT.

IN GENERAL, WE EXPECT PICKETING. IF ANYTHING LIKE, MAY  
BE AS MANY AS 20 PICKETERS HERE A DAY. SOME OF THEM WILL  
STAY HERE, MAYBE, SOME OF THEM WILL STAY HERE ON BUSH  
STREET, BESIDES. AND MANY OF YOU WILL SPEND MUCH OF THE  
MORNING ON BUSH STREET WITH SIGNS. DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE NOT  
BEING USEFUL. YOU ARE BEING PART OF DEMONSTRATORS, POSITIVE  
REINFORCEMENT FROM THE CARS DRIVING BY. MUCH MORE  
IMPORTANTLY YOU ARE THE BACKUP FORCE. IF ANYTHING WERE TO  
HAPPEN. MORE PEOPLE ARE HARASSING FROM UP HERE. ON OCTAVIUS  
STREET WILL PULL PEOPLE FROM DEMONSTRATING TO HELP OUT. THE  
REASON WE DON'T HAVE EVERYONE UP THERE TO START OUT BECAUSE  
THAT'S WHERE MOST OF THE CONFLICT HAPPENED. IS THAT WE  
DON'T WANT TO OVERDO IT OR INTIMIDATE THE CLIENT. OKAY.  
AND -- YOU ALSO ARE AVAILABLE BY BEING DOWN HERE AS BEING  
THE FIRST PEOPLE THAT CAN GET TO THE DOOR WHERE THERE IS A  
BLOCKADE.

THE ROLES, OF THINGS THAT WILL HAPPEN OTHER THAN  
COUNTER DEMONSTRATING. THERE WILL BE SOME ONE AT THE DOOR.  
SHOULD BE THERE NOW. OR WILL BE SOON. CHECKING PEOPLE IN.

CHECKING CLIENTS IN. AS THEY GET THERE. THERE ARE PEOPLE IN EACH STAIRWAY, GENERALLY, BEING IN ORANGE VESTS, BEING OFFICIALLY WITH THE CLINIC, POSSIBLY FUNCTIONING DEPENDING ON WHAT IS HAPPENING AS, PEOPLE WHO WILL HELP EITHER FOCUS ON, KEEPING OR AWAY FROM A CLIENT OR WILL FOCUS ON, GOING UP TO A CLIENT, SAYING, PEOPLE IN THE ORANGE VESTS ARE WITH THE CLINIC. WOULD YOU HELP ME WITH THE CLINIC. YOU KNOW -- SO, THEY HAVE A SORT OF MIXED FUNCTION PEOPLE ON THE STAIRWAYS. THEY CAN DO ANYTHING. MOSTLY BEEN STANDING AROUND, BEING THIS IS OUR PROPERTY LINE. CAN'T COME UP HERE. STAY AWAY. THE OTHER TWO ROLES ARE WHAT I DESCRIBED. DIRECT CLIENT ELSE KORGT. SOUNDS LIKE YOU ALL, FIND IT'S FUNNY, BUT IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT. BUT A VERY SMALL JOB IN ONLY THAT ONE, WE DON'T WANT EVERYBODY GOING ON AT ONCE. WE WANT ONE PERSON, EXPLAINING WHO WE ARE. GETTING THE CLIENT WHO EVER IS WITH HER TO IDENTIFY THEIR PEOPLE HERE WHO CAN HELP THEM. THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE SCARED. OKAY. SO THE OR DOGGERS ARE PEOPLE WHO MOST OF THE PICKETERS, SOME OF THE PICKETERS WILL STAY ON OCTAVIUS STREET, CLIENTS COME IN.

THE PEOPLE WHO WALK ALONG THAT STREET ARE FOCUSED ON DIRECTLY HARASSING, DIRECTLY GOING UP TO CLIENTS. OUR JOB IS TO TRY TO ELIMINATE THAT OR, KEEP IT

FOCUSED ON US AND NOT ON THEM. AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. SO AS  
OR DOGGERS, YOU WILL FOR MOST PART BE WALKING AROUND ALL  
MORNING, WITH OUR OR. AND I WILL TRY TO PUT TWO TO ONE KIND  
OF THING. DEPENDING ON HOW THE ORs, END UP GROUPING,  
WALKING TOGETHER OR SEPARATELY. IF THAT OR TRIES TO ATTACK  
A CLIENT, YOUR JOB WILL BE TO PHYSICALLY IN BETWEEN THAT  
CLIENT AND THE OR. YOU WILL HAVE SIGNS, PROTEST SIGNS. LIKE  
THESE. AND, YOU KNOW, THIS MORNING --

(AUDIO/VIDEO ENDS)

COUNTER DEMONSTRATORS, ESCORTS, DOGGERS, THE VIDEO  
TAKES US TO AN ORGANIZING MEETING. ONE OF THE THINGS WE ARE  
TRYING TO DO IS ESTABLISH THAT WE CONTROL THE SITUATION,  
BRENDA TELLS THE GROUP. I WORK AS AN ESCORT. AT PCC, WE NO  
LONGER HAVE TO GET INTO SHOUTING MATCHES WITH OR THEY  
LEARNED THE BOUNDARIES. WE RARELY GET INTO A SITUATION  
WHERE WE HAVE TO SHOVE THEM. WE ARE DEFINING THE SITUATION.  
IN SOME SENSE, WE MIGHT BE RISKING ARREST. WE HAVE TO  
DECIDE FOR OR SELVES. AS THE A GROUP WHETHER IT IS WORTH  
IT. I THINK CONTROLLING THE SITUATION IS THE MOST IMPORTANT  
THING. THE VIDEO EXPLAINS BACORR MAKES A PLAN IN ADVANCE  
FOR EACH CLINIC ON A HIT DAY. THEY IDENTIFY WHICH ENTRANCES  
ARE MOST DEFENDABLE AND WHERE DEFENDERS SHOULD BE PLACED TO

HOLD THE DOORS. THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL CLINIC DEFENSE IS GETTING THERE FIRST, BRENDA ADDS. BEHIND HER IS CASS, LEANING IN WITH HER FOREARMS ON HER KNEES. KEEPING THE DOOR AND AREA OPEN, IF THERE ISN'T A CORRIDOR, DEFENDERS CAN FORCE ONE USING WEDGE FORMATION. THE VIDEO CUTS TO FOOTAGE FROM A DEFENSE WHERE POLICE ARE TRYING TO STOP BOTH ANTIS AND DEFENDERS FROM GETTING NEAR THE CLINIC'S DOOR. TOGETHER WE PUSHED PAST POLICE AND OR TO GET CLIENTS INTO THE CLINIC SAFELY. MARY ANN EXPLAINS IN VOICEOVER. DEFENDERS AND CLINICS SUDDENLY BREAK INTO A RUN FOR THE DOOR. RUN, RUN, BRENDA YELLS, WAITING FOR PEOPLE TO FOLLOW HER. THERE IS A TANGLE OF DEFENDERS, OR, POLICE. POLICE GRABBING AND YANKING PEOPLE AWAY FROM THE DOORS. BY EARLY, 1989, BACORR CAN COUNT ON 1,000 DEFENDERS TO SHOW UP WHEN THEY PUT OUT A CALL. PUB LUSHED A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AND SENT OUT MAILINGS TO LIP PEOPLE KEEP ENGAGED MARYANN EXPLAINS, BACORR ITS A MULTI ISSUE ORGANIZATION AND WORKED IN COALITION WITH OTHERS TO LINK UP THE ISSUES BETWEEN STRUGGLES FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, LESBIAN, GAY, LIBERATION AND END TO RACISM. WE SEE ATTACKS ON ABORTION RIGHTS AS ONLY ONE PART OF THE FAR RIGHT WING AGENDA.

THE VIDEOS SHOWS BACORR ON THE OFFENSIVE, MARCHING IN

THE STREETS. IN FRONT OF CHURCHES WITH CREATIVE PROPS. IN ONE SCENE, DEAFERS CARRY A SKELETON PUPPET, WEARING A POPE HAT, MARCH, HOLDING BOARDS SIDE BY SIDE, READ, CLINIC DEFENSE, BACORR, THE TRAINING VIDEO BEGINS TO WRAP UP WITH A SHOT OF DEFENDERS BURNING A PAPER-WRAPPED WIRE HANGER, CHANTING, NEVER AGAIN. THEN, LUCIFDA WILLIAMS UPBEAT, PASSIONATE KISSES COMES ON. LAST EIGHT MINUTES CONTAIN B ROLL OVERLAID WITH PUBLIC ENEMY'S FIGHT THE POWER. AT ONE POINT, THE CAMERA CAPTURES DEFENDERS MARCHING DEFIANTLY DOWN THE STREET IN DIRECTION OF THE CLINIC WITH A GIANT SIGN THAT READS THIS CLINIC IS OPEN. AND PEOPLE CHEER. I THOUGHT I COULD JUST SHOW YOU LIKE, 30 SECONDS OF THAT, REALLY, EXCELLENT MOMENT.

SO, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION WHILE I -- JUST SHARED FROM THE BOOK A LITTLE BIT. AND I WANT TO KIND OF SHIFT GEARS NOW. AND KIND OF INVITE BRENDA AND LIZZIE TO JUMP IN AND, I THINK IT WILL BE REALLY INTERESTING TO HEAR FROM BRENDA AND LIZZIE. ON THEIR OWN LIVED EXPERIENCES, DOING CLINIC DEFENSE, LEARNING LESSON THROUGH CLINIC DEFENSE. YOU KNOW, ON THE QUESTION OF WHAT COMMUNITY SELF-DEFENSE AND PROTECTIVE PRESENCE MEAN TO YOU. AS CONCEPTS, WITH WHICH TO KIND OF THINK OF POLITICAL WORK YOU



DID AND YOU DO. HOW DO THOSE CONCEPTS FEEL LIKE A FIT. HOW DO THEY RESONATE WITH YOUR EXPERIENCE. AND HOW, HOW -- YOU KNOW, DO YOU KIND OF WRESTLE WITH THEM CRITICALLY OR THINK ABOUT YOUR WORK IN A DIFFERENT WAY. ALSO, I WOULD LOVE, WHEN WE GET TO YOU, LIZZIE TO HEAR A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE WORK YOU ARE DOING ON THE GROUND IN NEW YORK CITY RIGHT NOW. RIGHT, I WAS SHARING ABOUT, CLINIC DEFENSE, HISS HISTORICALLY. CLINIC DEFENDERS CONTINUE TO ORGANIZE AND PUT THEIR BODIES ON THE LINE

WE CAN HEAR FROM LIZZIE, TOO WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE GROUND IN NEW YORK CITY. BUT, MAYBE, BRENDA, I WILL FIRST TURN TO YOU AND JUST INVITE YOU TO KIND OF JUMP IN.

>> Brenda Cummings: WELL, I AM ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM LIZZIE, HEARING HOW IT IS GOING NOW. IT WAS A TIME, IT WAS DEFINITELY A TIME BACK THEN. IT WAS A VERY POWERFUL MOMENT. WHEN YOU FIRST SHOWED ME THE VIDEO, I WAS, I WAS STRUCK BY HOW STRATEGIC I WAS IN THAT -- I HADN'T REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT AT THE TIME. I WAS JUST LIVING IT AND DOING IT. SO, I ALSO HAVE, WAS REALLY STRUCK BY THE INVITATION TO SPEAK ABOUT PROTECTIVE PRESENCE. SO MY FIRST REACTION IS --

AFTER DOING THE, AFTER WORKING WITH BAY AREA COALITION FOR

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS AND DOING CLINIC ESCORTING I FOUNDED,  
ABG REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE, IN LARGE PART AS AN EXTENSION OF  
THAT WORK. PART OF FOUNDING IT. BECAUSE WHAT I FELT LOOK  
WHEN WOMEN WOULD COME TO THE CLINICS AND BE ATTACKED IT WAS  
THAT THAT HARASSMENT AT THE DOOR WAS ADDING INSULT TO  
INJURY. IT HAS ALREADY BEEN HARDER THAN IT SHOULD BE TO  
EVEN GET TO THAT PLACE. LIKE SOMEBODY ALREADY HAD TO GO  
THROUGH WHAT EVER THEY HAVE HAD TO HAVE GONE THROUGH  
GETTING TRANSPORTATION, GETTING CHILD CARE, FIGURING OUT --  
WHO IS GOING TO SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR LIFE? FIGURING OUT  
WHAT THE RIGHT DECISION IS FOR THEM. AND, SO BY THE TIME  
THEY GET TO THE CLINIC DOOR, THEY HAVE SOMEBODY THINK THEY  
HAVE --

THAT THEY KNOW, THAT, WHAT YOU SHOULD BE DOING, AND CAN  
TELL YOU THAT IS JUST, JUST REALLY PISSED ME OFF. YOU KNOW?  
WHAT I WANTED TO DO WAS TO FIND MORE WAYS TO SAY I SEE YOU.  
WE SEE YOU. YOUR LIFE IS RAOEFPLT IT HAS VALUE  
IT HAS MEANING. YOU ARE RESPECTED. YOUR CONCERNS MATTER.  
AND, FOR ME CERTAINLY. AS SOMEBODY WHO NEEDED AN ABORTION.  
AND AS SOMEBODY WHO WAS A YOUNG SINGLE MOM THAT THE PERSON  
HANDING OUT THE --

VESTS IN THAT VIDEO IS MY SON. I WAS A YOUNG TEENAGE MOM. I

WAS THERE TO SAY --

THAT --

WOMEN ARE REAL, WE ARE WHOLE PEOPLE. NO ONE CAN SPEAK FOR US. NO ONE CAN BREATHE AND THINK AND DREAM AND DECIDE FOR US. HAD AN INTERACTION WITH AN ANTIABORTION PROTESTER AT ONE OF THE FIRST CLINIC DEFENSES I WAS AT. WHERE I, WE WERE -- OUTNUMBERED. WAS VERY EARLY IN THE DAYS, AND, BACORR DAYS. AND --

THIS, THIS LINE OF, LIKE, YOU KNOW, FOOTBALL SIZED MEN WAS --

WAS ATTACKING OUR LINE OF CLINIC DEFENDERS AT THE CLINIC. AND, WE WERE KIND OF, YOU KNOW LINKED ARMS AND STANDING IN A LINE. AND WE WERE, THERE WAS, THERE WAS NOT REALLY, SO MANY OF US. AS HE WAS PUSHING THROUGH ME AND OVER ME, I KIND OF JUMPED UP INTO HIS FACE. AND I WAS LIKE, YOU, YOU LOOK AT ME. YOU SEE ME. YOU LOOK AT ME. I AM A PERSON. YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT THIS -- THIS BABY THAT YOU WANT TO PROTECT. AND I AM A PERSON RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU. AND YOU ARE NOT --

TREATING ME --

LIKE A PERSON. SO --

THAT WAS A --FOR THAT'S A BIG PART OF WHAT I WAS, WHAT I

THINK THAT MOVEMENT WAS ABLE

IT WAS SAYING --

IS ABOUT. IS SAYING --

THAT WE SPEAK FOR OURSELVES. WOMEN SPEAK FOR OURSELVES. I

ALSO THINK THOUGH THAT --

MY CIRCUMSTANCES WERE COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT AND LOTS OF

WAYS. I HAD RUN-INS, CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE, FOUNDED

ACCESS WHEN I WAS GIVING PEOPLE RIDES TO THE CLINIC. YOU

KNOW, THEY WOULD SAY THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING ME. I

WOULD SAY --

SOMEBODY GAVE ME A RIDE WHEN I NEEDED ONE. I'D BE HAPPY TO

DO THIS FOR YOU. HOPEFULLY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HELP

SOMEBODY ELSE IN THE FUTURE. BUT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT

THINGS THAT I --

BUT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS THAT I KNEW BUT THAT I

REALLY, REALLY LEARNED. IN THE PROCESS OF DOING CLINIC

DEFENSE AND THEN ACCESS. IS THAT --

AS DIFFICULT AS I KIND -- AS I FELT MY OWN JOURNEY TO BE

ABOUT THIS. I GREW UP IN RURAL MAINE. I AM WHITE. AND I

WORKED IN LOW-INCOME JOBS BECAUSE I WANTED TO DO THINGS

THAT MATTERED. NOT BECAUSE I COULD ONLY GET A JOB AT

McDonald's. I HAD STUDENT DEPARTMENT LOANS TO LIVE ON.

INSTEAD OF WELFARE. AND DID I MENTION I WAS WHITE? I REALLY UNDERSTOOD PRIVILEGE IN A WAY --

HAVING THAT UNDERSTANDING WITH SOMEBODY ELSE. ONE OF THE THINGS WE DID AT ACCESS IS --

THEY WERE NOT A CASE, CLIENT, THEY WERE NOT A PATIENT. THEY WERE THE WOMEN THAT WE WORKED WITH. THAT'S REALLY HOW I THOUGHT OF PEOPLE I WORKED WITH. I FEEL LIKE WE HAVE TO STAND --

WE HAVE TO STAND WITH AS WELL AS STAND UP. STANDING WITH IS THE PROTECTIVE PRESENCE. I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE TO --

BE ABLE TO HELP YOU HERE. I, TODAY, MAYBE BEING PRIVILEGED MEANS --

EVEN IF YOU CAN'T LEGALLY DRIVE THROUGH CERTAIN TEXAS TOWNS, AT LEAST YOU CAN SPEND THE DAY GETTING TO THE CLINIC THAT IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TEXAS. IN MEXICO, NEW MEXICO, NOT ARIZONA ANYMORE. PRIVILEGE RIGHT NOW MIGHT MEAN YOU HAVE TO WAIT TO GET SEPTIC TO HAVE AN ABORTION, BUT YOU WOULD FLY TO DENVER OR FLY TO COLORADO. NOT HAVING PRIVILEGE NOW MEANS GETTING ARRESTED FOR HAVING A MISCARRIAGE. YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK ME SOMETHING. I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING MORE RIGHT NOW, I DON'T THINK. YOU HAVE SAID SO MUCH. AND SO MUCH TO RESPOND TO. ONE THING THAT YOU SPEAKS

TO PROTECTIVE PRESENCE. UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT COULD OR MIGHT  
MEAN. IS YOUR --

INSISTENCE THAT CLINIC DEFENSE PROTECTIVE PRESENCE, THIS  
THING THAT YOU DO WITH YOUR BODY, IT IS, NOT JUST ABOUT --  
IT IS ARECOGNITION. I SEE YOU. YOUR LIFE MATTERS. LIKE YOU  
ARE A REAL PERSON. NOT ONLY PROVIDING RECOGNITION BUT  
DEMANDING IT. LOOK AT ME. RIGHT. YOU ARE PROVIDING  
RECOGNITION AND DEMANDING IT. IN THE SAME MOMENT. RIGHT.  
THAT'S PROFOUND. A WAY OF CONSTITUTING SELF AND THAT WAY OF  
THE OTHER. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR JUST, ELABORATING A  
POSSIBLE --

WAY OF UNDERSTANDING PROTECTIVE PRESENCE AS A FORM OF  
RECOGNITION. LIZZIE, SO MUCH TO POTENTIALLY WORK WITH HERE.  
AGAIN THE ORIGINAL QUESTION WAS LIKE AN INVITATION TO  
SPEECH ABOUT YOUR OWN LIVED EXPERIENCE IN YOUR CASE LIKE,  
JUST GIVE US THE REPORT FROM -- FROM THE FRONT LINES,  
RIGHT. WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NYC, ABORTION RIGHTS, CLINIC  
DEFENSE IN THE CITY AND ANYTHING THAT YOU WANT TO SAY.  
ABOUT THESE WORDS THAT WE ARE USING TO TALK ABOUT THE  
ACTIVITY OF CLINIC DEFENSE. AND ANYTHING, YOU KNOW THAT YOU  
WANT TO SPEAK TO, THAT BRENDA HAS SAID. CAN YOU HEAR ME?  
ONE SECOND. SORRY, EVERYONE. THAT'S BETTER WE CAN HEAR YOU.

YEAH, I THINK WE CAN HEAR YOU.

>> Lizzie Chadbourne:OKAY. STILL GOING TO JUST, GET RID OF THE AIRPODS. I DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANIER USE. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING ME. I AM HONORED TO BE HERE WITH YOU BOTH. AND WITH EVERYONE IN THE SPACE. AND I THINK IT IS A GREAT PLACE TO BEGIN TO TALK ABOUT -- NEW YORK CITY FOR ABORTION RIGHTS WHICH IS THE GROUP THAT --

THAT ORGANIZED ORIGINALLY, WAS FORMED, AS A CLINIC DEFENSE GROUP. AND, NOW WE DO --

NOW WE DO VARIETY OF ABORTION SUPPORT AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE WORK. BUT --

THE HEART OF OUR WORK IS --

CLINIC DEFENSE. IT IS OFTEN SURPRISING TO PEOPLE THAT WE -- THAT WE NEED TO, DEFEND OUR CLINICS. AND NOT ONLY IN THIS DAY AND AGE, BUT IN -- NEW YORK CITY. ALSO --

WORTH NOTING THAT --

WE STARTED DOING CLINIC DEFENSE IN 2017. WHEN ROE V WADE WAS INTACT. AND NEW YORK CITY IS THOUGH A KIND OF CAPITAL OF ANTIABORTION VIOLENCE AND PRESENCE. I THINK IT IS REALLY INTERESTING TO THINK ABOUT HOW CLINIC DEFENSE IS PROTECTIVE PRESENCE WHEN IT IN THE FACE OF ANOTHER THREATENING PRESENCE. IN SEEING THAT CONNECTION TO --

AND IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT PRESENCE IS SIGNIFICANT.  
THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE, ANTIABORTION PEOPLE THAT  
ORGANIZE AT CLINICS ACROSS THE CITY. MAINLY PLANNED  
PARENTHOODS, BUT OTHER CLINICS AS WELL. AND THEY STAND  
OUTSIDE, THEY HAVE A FAKE ESCORT, WHO WEARS THE SAME TYPE  
OF VEST, THE PLANNED PARENTHOOD ESCORTS WEAR. THEY APPROACH  
PEOPLE THEY THINK ARE PATIENTS. ALL OF THE RESEARCH THAT  
HAD BEEN DONE ON ANTIABORTION PRESENCE SHOWS THAT IT IS  
SIGNIFICANTLY A PROBLEM NOT ONLY IN THE SENSE THAT IT IS --  
IMPACTS MENTAL HEALTH. BUT IT CAN BE ENOUGH TO BE SO  
THREATENING AS TO LET -- SOMEONE, FEEL THAT THEY HAVE TO --  
EITHER NOT GO -- FORWARD WITH, A DECISION THEY HAVE MADE.  
FOR THEMSELVES. BECAUSE THEY DON'T FEEL SAFE. AND NEW YORK  
CITY FOR ABORTION RIGHTS, MANY OF US HAVE HAD ABORTIONS IN  
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK CITY CLINICS. AND IT WAS --  
NOT ONLY --  
THOSE EXPERIENCES OUTSIDE --  
THOSE, THE CLINICS THAT -- THAT DROVE US TO --  
ORGANIZE AROUND KHREUPBIC DEFENSE, AND --  
AND --  
JUST RESIST THAT, THROUGH PRESENT, THROUGH COMMUNITY BASED  
SHOW OF SUPPORT, IN A VERY --



IN A WAY THAT RECOGNIZED THE --  
THE SENSITIVITY AROUND BEING OUTSIDE OF THE HEALTH CARE  
CLINIC IN A CITY. AND --  
IN WAYS THAT --  
RESPONDED TO, WERE KIND OF IN CONVERSATION WITH THE CLINIC  
WORKERS. CLINIC DEFENSE IS SOMEWHAT CONTROVERSIAL IN SOME  
WAYS BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT -- SOME, SOME --  
GENERALLY HIGHER UP PEOPLE WHO WERE LESS IN THE CLINIC HAVE  
THE SENSE THAT IT -- JUST CAUSES CHAOS. OR THAT IT BRINGS  
DISORDER. AND WE ALWAYS RESPOND. WE HAVE HAD MANY, MANY,  
MANY, CONVERSATIONS OVER THE YEARS WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE  
THOSE PERSPECTIVES. OUR PERSPECTIVE IS THAT WE ARE NOT  
BRINGING ANYTHING. THEY'RE BRINGING THREATENING IMAGERY,  
THREATENING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE, --  
AND WE ARE --  
WE ARE PROVIDING AN ALTERNATE RESISTANCE THROUGH BEING  
THERE. THAT ACTUALLY MAKES IT -- A LESS -- IT MAKES IT MORE  
COMFORTABLE FOR PATIENTS. THAT IS THE WHOLE REASON WE ARE  
THERE. WE ARE -- WE ARE GENERALLY, PATIENTS OURSELVES.  
AND -- BOTH AT, AT, AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD FOR -- ABORTIONS,  
AND FOR OTHER HEALTH CARE. AND -- I THINK --  
JUST TO GIVE YOU A MORE OF A SENSE OF WHAT -- PHYSICALLY

LOOKS LIKE. THE ABORTION, ANTIABORTION GROUPS. GENERALLY,  
ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE CLINIC. WE STAND IN FRONT OF  
THEM WITH RAINBOW UMBRELLAS. AND WITH A SIGN THAT, VERY  
CLEARLY STATES -- HUMAN -- ABORTION IS A HUMAN RIGHT. AND  
THERE IS, EVEN --

I THINK IT IS SO INTERESTING TO THINK ABOUT OUR PRESENCE AS  
BEING -- PROTECTIVE. AND ALL OF IT INTENTION, THE INTENTION  
THAT WE HAVE GIVEN AND THOUGHT, AND, EXPERIMENTS THAT WE  
HAVE DONE OVER THE YEARS. WHAT WORKED, DIDN'T WORK,  
LEARNING FROM GROUPS AND CERTAINLY HISTORICAL CLINIC  
DEFENSE. IT'S BEEN, IT'S FRUSTRATING TO HEAR THE IDEA THAT  
IT'S THAT PATIENTS ONE OF THE OTHER ARGUMENTS THAT IS MADE  
THAT PATIENTS WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL THAT WE AREN'T ALSO  
ANTIABORTION PROTESTERS. AND IT'S JUST THE SAME ARGUMENT  
THAT, THAT, THAT CONSERVATIVES THE ANTIABORTION PEOPLE ARE  
USING TO ARGUE THAT THE PEOPLE CAN'T MAKE THE DECISION TO  
HAVE THE ABORTION IN THE FIRST PLACE. SO, I NEED TO, THERE  
IS A PACKAGE THAT JUST ARRIVED FOR ME. WOULD YOU, MIND --  
JUST PAUSING, TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE FOR JUST ONE  
SECOND. I'M SO SORRY.

>> Angela Hume: GO FOR IT, LIZZIE, NO PROBLEM. YOU KNOW,  
AND I WILL SAY THIS AGAIN WHEN LIZZY RETURNS. I AM

WONDERING HOW IT IS FOR YOU. TO KIND OF HEAR, LIZZY TALK ABOUT CLINIC DEFENSE. HAPPENING RIGHT NOW. WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE. ON THE GROUND IN NEW YORK CITY. AND WHAT, MOBILIZED ACTIVISTS TO DO THIS WORK. TO PUT THEIR BODIES OUT THERE, CLINIC DEFENDERS. I'M WONDERING WHAT IT IS LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT TACTICS, RIGHT. AND IN SOME WAYS CLINIC DEFENSE HAPPENING IN NEW YORK IS PRETTY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT CLINIC DEFENSE LOOKS LIKE IN THE '80S, YEAR 90s. NOW WE HAVE, PIECE OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION MAKE IT A CRIME TO EXTRACT SOMEONE'S ACCESS TO A CLINIC. THE FACE ACT, FREEDOM OF ACCESS TO CLINIC ENTRANCES ACT. UNLIKE IN THE 80S AND VERY EARLY 90S. WHEN ANTIABORTION EXTREMISTS WOULD -- BLOCKADE ENTRANCES. GET VERY, VERY CLOSE TO PEOPLE AND DOORS. THAT'S NO LONGER LEGAL. IN FACT, IT IS A FEDERAL CRIME TO DO THAT. SO -- CLINIC DEFENSE, NECESSARILY, LOOKS A LITTLE DIFFERENT TODAY. LIZZIE AS YOU WERE GONE, WE WERE JUST, SPECULATING LIKE, JUST ASKING THE QUESTION OF WHAT IT MUST BE LIKE FOR BRENDA TO JUST HEAR YOU TALK ABOUT CLINIC DEFENSE TODAY. TO NOTICE PARALLELS. AND WAYS IN WHICH IT LOOKS DIFFERENT TODAY. MAYBE A GOOD MOMENT FOR BRENDA IF YOU WANT TO JUST SPEAK, COMMENT OR SPEAK, BACK AT ALL TO ANYTHING THAT

LIZZIE SHARED AND THEN WE CAN, SEND IT BACK TO YOU.

>> I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO, I WAS REALLY STRUCK BY THE WAY YOU SPOKE ABOUT THIS. LIZZIE. AND HOW SIMILAR IT IS. AND THE SAME --

AND, IDENTIFYING. THAT YOU WERE, THAT YOU WERE HERE.

BOTH -- FOR THE WOMEN WHO, THE PATIENTS COMING IN, WOMEN COMING IN. AND -- AND THAT YOU WERE, THE WOMEN WHO WERE COMING IN. AND THAT --

SORT OF THE SENSE OF -- INDIGNATION THAT SOMEONE WASN'T -- WHETHER IT BE THE CLINIC OR THE POLICE OR WHO EVER. NOT -- NOT HEARING THAT THIS IS --

THIS IS OUR EXPERIENCE. YOU KNOW? THIS IS OUR EXPERIENCE. I AM VERY GLAD YOU ARE STILL DOING THIS WORK.

>> IT'S SO EXCITING TO BE IN CONVERSATION WITH YOU. I WAS TRAINED ORIGINALLY AS A CLINIC ESCORT IN, WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL. IN OAKLAND. AND THE TRAINING THAT I -- ACTUALLY ATTENDED. IS, QUOTED IN -- DEEP CARE. JUST COMPLETE COINCIDENCE. AND IT JUST MAKES ME --

FEEL -- SO, SO GROUNDED. WHEN I KNOW THAT THIS IS -- THERE IS, SO MUCH --

A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK THIS IS ALL NEW. AND IT IS REALLY NOT. AT ALL. ALTHOUGH --

ALTHOUGH THE DECISION HAS MADE THINGS WORSE, THINGS WERE  
ALREADY BAD. AND SO MUCH OF THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE  
WAS, DURING --

DURING A PERIOD PEOPLE DON'T THINK THERE WAS A PROBLEM  
BECAUSE OF ROE V WADE, AND JUST THE FACT THAT CLINIC  
DEFENSE REALLY GETS AT THE HEART OF THE FACT THAT, ABORTION  
BEING --

LEGAL DOESN'T MEAN IT IS ACCESSIBLE. WORK OF ABORTION  
FUNDS, AND ACCESS BEING CRUCIAL IN ACTUALLY ALLOWING PEOPLE  
TO, TO HAVE THE FREEDOM TO, TO ACCESS WHAT, WHAT THEY NEED.  
AND YEAH.

>> THINK ABOUT WHAT IT IS LIKE -- THINK ABOUT THIS.

THINKING WHAT IS IT LOOK TO KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT THING TO DO  
IS?

AND NOT BE ABLE TO DO IT. WHAT IS IT LIKE TO --

KNOW YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THE CHILDREN YOU HAVE. AND  
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY WAY TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. BECAUSE YOU  
FOUND YOURSELF PREGNANT AGAIN. THAT TEARS ME UP. THAT'S NOT  
THE WAY ANYBODY'S LIFE SHOULD BE.

>> I THINK WHEN YOU WERE SPEAK, ALSO THINKING ABOUT ANOTHER  
SIMILARITY IN OUR EXPERIENCES IS I HAD IN SOME WAYS --

VERY CLOSE TO MY IDEAL ABORTION. BECAUSE OF THE PRIVILEGES

THAT I HAD. AND YET, ALSO --

I HAD --

THERE WERE SO MANY ASPECTS OF IT THAT WERE TERRIBLE. BUT IT DIDN'T NEED TO BE THAT WAY. JUST MADE ME FEEL THERE WAS JUST PUT IN PERSPECTIVE. THINGS. LIKE I SAID. I HAD BEEN DOING. SORRY, THE LIGHT IS GETTING SWITCHED AROUND. I HAD BEEN IN A POSITION THAT HAD ALLOWED ME TO SEE FOR THE FIRST TIME. REALLY, FIRSTHAND. AND HOW, HAVING HAD AN ABORTION, CHANGED MY ABORTION SUPPORT. GIVING. IN A LOT OF WAYS. AND ONE WAY IS JUST THE --

THE WAYS IN WHICH I CAN JUST, REALLY TAP INTO THE FEELING OF HAVING OF BEING PREGNANT AND NOT WANTING TO BE. AND BEING --

SO --

IT JUST, ALWAYS COMES UP. IT IS ALWAYS EMOTIONAL FOR ME. SUPPORTING PEOPLE. AND I THINK, YOU KNOW IT IS SO --

THERE ARE SO MANY, THREADS BEING TIED TOGETHER IN THIS CONVERSATION THAT ARE AMAZING. AND STARTING WITH --

THE CONVERSATION ABOUT --

ACCOMPANIMENT. IN LATIN AMERICA. AND IN THE UNITED STATES.

IT IS REALLY -- WE ARE LEARNING FROM IN PARTICULAR,

MEXICAN, ARGENTINAIAN WILL WHINE HAVE BEEN ABSOLUTELY SO

BRAVE AND SO --

HAVE COME UP WITH INCREDIBLE SYSTEMS THAT --

THAT WE ARE NOW JUST REALLY ABLE TO TAP INTO. I WILL SAY THAT IN THE UNITED STATES, SOUTHERN -- THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES, HAS IN GENERAL, I MEAN THERE IS, THERE IS OTHER -- STATES TOO. OUTSIDE OF -- WHAT'S THE SOUTH. THAT ARE VERY RESTRICTIVE WHEN IT COMES TO ABORTION AND HAVE BEEN FOR A LONG TIME. BUT IN THOSE STATES --

THAT'S WHEN, THAT'S WHERE THE MOST --

ACTIVISM, CARE, COMMUNITY NETWORKS HAVE DEVELOPED. AND -- NOW --

WE ARE, WE ARE SEEING -- THAT -- PEOPLE ARE FINDING OUT THAT THIS IS A REALLY A PROBLEM. AND IT'S, IT IS SO BEAUTIFUL TO SEE PEOPLE COMING INTO THE MOVEMENT AND FINDING OUT THAT -- THAT THESE PEOPLE HAVE, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DOING THIS FOR A LONG TIME. AND THAT THEY HAVE SO MUCH KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T. AND -- I THINK --

BRENDA WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT --

ONE OF THESE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PAST AND, AND THE PRESENT IS THAT, THE CRIMINALIZATION PIECE ABOUT PEOPLE WHO EVEN ACCESS PILLS ON THEIR OWN. THE BIGGEST RISK IS

CRIMINALIZATION. IT'S EXTREMELY SAFE. AND VERY EFFECTIVE.

SELF MANAGE ABORTIONS WITH PILLS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

INCLUDING IN PLACE -- AND HAVE BEEN FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.

WHAT I WANTED TO COMMENT ON IS ALSO THAT I AM AN ABORTION

DULA AND THAT IS --

YOU KNOW, A TERM THAT SOME OF YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD OR SOME

OF YOU MIGHT NOT. BUT IT COMES FROM THE -- FROM THE BIRTH

DULA. AND --

IT'S --

IT'S A --

IT'S SO CLOSELY CAPTURES --

PROTECTIVE PRESENCE ASPECT. THAT'S WHAT WE ARE, NOT MEDICAL

PROFESSIONALS. IN FACT, PART OF OUR FREEDOM COMES FROM THE

FACT THAT WE ARE NOT MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS. WE ARE NOT

AFRAID OF THE STATE TAKING AWAY OUR LICENSE IF WE DO

SOMETHING THAT THE STATE DOESN'T LIKE. WE STILL HAVE TO

CONSIDER CRIMINALIZATION. BUT ALSO -- TAKING -- TAKING

REALLY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF --

THE PROTECTIONS THAT DO EXIST IN THE STATE THAT I AM IN. IN

NEW YORK. AND RECOGNIZING THE PRIVILEGE THAT I HAVE MEANS

THAT --

MY MAIN CONCERN IS JUST PROTECTING THE PATIENTS THAT I



HELP. NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE. BEING AWARE THAT I AM AT A  
MUCH LOWER RISK OF CRIMINALIZATION THAN THEY ARE. AND  
HAVING -- THAT --

I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE IDEA OF OUTSIDERS BEING  
PROTECTIVE. AND HOW -- IT IS, YOU ARE AN OUTSIDER BUT YOU  
ARE ALSO, YOU ARE AN INFORMED OUTSIDER. YOU ARE, YOU ARE --  
ABLE TO RESPOND IN A WAY THAT IS ALSO RESPECTING --  
THE PERSON WHO YOU ARE, YOU ARE PROTECTING. AND WHAT THEY  
NEED. NOT WHAT YOU THINK THEY NEED. AND THAT IS -- THE  
WHOLE POINT OF ABORTION DULA WORK.

>> YES, I WOULD SOMETIMES ON THE PHONE AT ACCESS I'M NOT A  
PARTICULARLY SPIRITUAL PERSON IN MANY WAYS. I'M NOT A  
CHURCH GOING PERSON. BUT THERE WERE TIMES IN HAVING  
CONVERSATIONS WITH THEM WHERE I WOULD SORT OF FEEL LIKE I  
WAS HAVING AN OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE. I WAS JUST --  
I'M LISTENING SO HARD. TO WHAT --  
WHAT PERSON I AM TALKING TO NEEDS. THAT I AM CHANNELING  
SOMETHING ELSE. YOU KNOW? I AM CHANNELING SOME OTHER --  
SOURCE OF WISDOM SOMEWHERE. I DON'T KNOW HOW IT WORKS. A  
VERY PROFOUND FEELING.

>> IT IS. AND --

I MEAN IT IS INTERESTING TOO TO THINK ABOUT THE CONNECTIONS

BETWEEN --

THE WORK OF BEING AN ABORTION DULA AN HAVING A KIND OF  
ONE-ON-ONE --

RELATIONSHIP WITH SOMEONE. AND DOING CLINIC DEFENSE. IN A  
GROUP. OR EVEN IN, ALSO, SELF-HELP GROUPS. WHICH IS -- THE  
TERM FOR SELF TUSH MANAGE IN -- IN THE SPECIFIC CONTEXT OF  
KIND OF COMMUNAL GROUP THAT ANGELA CAN REALLY TELL YOU A  
LOT MORE ABOUT. AND IF YOU READ DEEP CARE YOU WILL BE AN  
EXPERT TOO. BECAUSE --

YOU KNOW, THAT, THAT GROUP WITNESSING --

IS SO POWERFUL. AND OBVIOUSLY, THERE IS STILL THAT  
WITNESSING. STILL THAT PROTECTIVE PRESENCE. BEING AN  
ABORTION DULA WHO, WE SUPPORT, VIRTUAL LOW. OVER TEXT. OVER  
VIDEO. OVER, OVER --

AND THEN ALSO IN CLINIC. WHEN POSSIBLE. AND THE, THE  
PRESENCE OF BEING THERE --

AT, AT --

IN A VERY PUBLIC WAY, I THINK, ALSO HAS --

I THINK THIS OTHER ASPECT OF --

THE POLITICAL WORK OF BEING OUT THERE. AND EVEN JUST  
SHOWING PASSERS-BY, THAT THERE ARE --

PEOPLE WHO ARE -- PROTECTING THEM. AND THEY, THEY'RE NOT

NECESSARILY PATIENTS THEMSELVESABLE

THEY COULD BE ONE DAY. OR THEY WERE. AND --

THEY WALKED PAST. AND THEY KNOW -- THAT THEIR COMMUNITIES  
THERE FOR THEM. AND --

THAT IS ALSO WHY WE ARE THERE. WE ARE NOT, WE ARE THERE  
FOR, THE COMMUNITY OVERALL. AND --

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE DO I THINK IS, IS REALLY --

THAT, I WAS, GOING TO SPEAK TO YOU BEFORE. BEFORE THE  
PACKAGE GOT HERE. IS THAT ONE OF THE TACTICS THAT WE HAVE  
USED IS TO SLOW DOWN THE PROCESSION OF THE ANTIABORTION  
GROUP. BECAUSE THEY START AT THEIR, AT THE CHURCH. AND THEN  
WALK VERY SLOWLY IN A VERY PUBLIC WAY DOWN A MAIN STREET IN  
SOHO. WE HAVE ALWAYS EVER SINCE WE STARTED ORGANIZING PART  
OF OUR TACTIC HAS BEEN TO PHYSICALLY SLOW THEM DOWN WITH  
OUR BODIES. AND EVERY -- MINUTE THAT WE SLOW THEM DOWN THAT  
THEY WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THERE SOONER. EVEN, BECAUSE WE, THEY  
WANT TO GO SLOWLY. BUT THEY DON'T WANT TO MISS THEIR CHANCE  
TO, TO, HARASS PEOPLE. SO WE TRY TO MAKE THEM MISS CHAIR  
CHANCE. AND SOMETIMES WE HAVE DONE IT. SOMETIMES WE HAVE  
GOTTEN, THEY WILL GET THERE. AND THEN -- THE ESCORT WHO WE,  
WE, WORK WITH CLINIC ESCORTS TOO. AND, COORDINATE WITH  
THEM. THEY WILL TELL US, WE HAVE, WE ARE DONE. THEY'RE ALL

IN. THERE ARE NO MORE ABORTION PATIENTS TOO TODAY. IT IS STILL IMPORTANT FOR US TO BE THERE AGAIN FOR THE COMMUNITY PRESENCE. AND ALSO EVEN JUST TO -- SHOW THESE PEOPLE THAT WE ARE, THAT WE ARE AROUND. AND THAT THEY'RE NOT BEING UNOPPOSED. A HUGE REASON TO BE THERE. THERE IS SO MUCH POLITICAL POWER THAT THESE PEOPLE HAVE. NOT JUST -- NATIONALLY, I MEAN, BY THESE PEOPLE, I MEAN, ANTIABORTION GROUPS. THE ONE -- THAT WE -- DEFEND AGAINST IS -- CATHOLIC. BUT -- THERE ARE, IT -- LARGELY CHRISTIAN. GROUPS. ACROSS THE -- ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF CHRISTIANITY. THAT DO -- THAT ARE VERY ORGANIZED OBVIOUSLY. AND THEY, THEY ARE, EXTREMELY WELL FUNDED. AND THEY HAVE SO MUCH KIND OF MOMENTUM THAT BEING THERE IS LIKE A STOP. IT'S LIKE -- NO, ACTUALLY. IT IS GENUINELY, ESPECIALLY, WHEN, NOT, NOT ONLY WHEN WE COVER THEM UP, BUT ESPECIALLY WHEN WE TRY 99 PHYSICALLY SLOW THEM DOWN. WHICH IS ACTUALLY GOTTEN MUCH HARDER NOW WE CAN'T REALLY DO IT. BECAUSE THE NYPD HAVE PUT UP METAL BARRICADE AS LONG THE SIDES OF THE SIDEWALK. AND THEY DO THAT OVERNIGHT. KNOWING THIS IS GOING TO HAPPEN. I WILL SAY THAT SPEAKING OF PROTECTIVE PRESENCE, THEY PROVIDE A PROTECTIVE

PRESENCE TO THE ANTIABORTION PEOPLE. WHO HAVE A PERMIT.  
GIVEN TO THEM BY, BY NEW YORK CITY. BY THE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT TO DO THIS PROCESSION EVERY MONTH. THE BIGGEST  
ONE IS IN MANHATTAN, THEY DO THEM ALL OVER THE CITY. SO  
THEY --

THE COPS ACTUALLY ARE BETWEEN US. SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN  
DOING THE BARRICADES. AND I THINK --

I THINK THAT SPEAKS TO THEM HAVING SO MUCH POWER. THEY DO.  
THEY HAVE SO MUCH SUPPORT. AND SO MANY PEOPLE AGREE WITH  
THEM. AND HOUSES OF GOVERNMENT. BUT THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO  
AGREE WITH US. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ABORTION WHOSE  
ALSO -- YOU KNOW, ARE, YOU KNOW NOT, I WILL SAY IT IS NOT A  
CUT AND DRIED SITUATION. THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE ABORTION WHOSE, WOULD CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE  
ANTIABORTION. AND THOSE WHO HAVE ABORTIONS AND SEE IT AS A  
POLITICAL CALLING AND COMMUNITY CARE CALLING. AND WHAT YOU  
DIDN'T HAVE.

>> LIZZIE. THANK YOU SO MUCH. EVERYONE. SORRY FOR JUMPING  
IN. THIS IS A GREAT MOMENT. YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT  
COMMUNITY, ABOUT THE CALLING, ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS THAT  
INVOLVE OTHER PEOPLE THAT I THINK MAYBE IT IS A GOOD TIME  
TO OPEN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE PEOPLE WHO IS HERE AND

MAYBE ASK SOME QUESTIONS. BECAUSE WE ARE THE KPAOUPB TEE THAT SUPPORT YOU. I THINK SOME OF THE QUESTIONS -- WE HAVE, ONE QUESTION RIGHT NOW. MAYBE WE CAN OPEN THE MIKE AFTER, AFTER, THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> THANK YOU, ADRIANA. THANK YOU ALL, SO, SO, SO, SO MUCH. I FEEL I COULD HIS TINE YOU FOREVER. I AM ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO WISHIZE HAD AN ABORTION DULA, WHEN I WENT THROUGH IT. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO WONDERFUL. SOMEONE GAVE ME THEIR QUESTION. THEY COULDN'T GET IT IN THE CHAT. BUT THEY SHARED IT WITH ME. THEY SAID WOULD YOU KINDLY THANK ALL. THANK YOU. AND ASK, ASK THEM HOW DO THEY MAKE SURE THEY'RE PHYSICALLY SAFE WHEN PROTECTING AGAINST BIGGER ANTAGONISTS IF THEIR GROUP IS SMALLER? I WILL WONDER IF BRENDA, YOU WOULD WANT TO SPEAK TO -- TO THE HISTORICALLY HOW YOU ALL IN THE '80S AND 90S WOULD DEAL WITH THAT PARTICULAR TYPE OF CHALLENGE. THEN LIZZIE IF YOU WANT TO BRIEFLY SPEAK TO, KIND OF HOW YOU ALL, APPROACHED TIGHT DAY.

>> WE DID TRAININGS. SO WE WOULD PRACTICE. AND WE -- WE INVENTED DEFENSE BOARDS WHICH WERE SORT OF A WAY TO PUT ANOTHER BARRIER BETWEEN US AND THE ANTIABORTION PEOPLE AT A CLINIC. THAT'S LESS RELEVANT USUALLY TODAY IN TERMS OF

ALTHOUGH I WAS READING ABOUT THE RED ROSE PEOPLE. I WOULD  
LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT THAT. LIZZIE, THE, SO WE DID  
TRAINING, WE PRACTICED. WE DEVELOPED BARRIERS THAT, HELPED  
GIVE US SOME EXTRA -- LAYER BETWEEN US AND ANTIABORTION  
PEOPLE. AND WE, WE WORKED HARD AT LOOKING OUT FOR EACH  
OTHER. WORKED HARD AT --

TRYING TO TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER. TRYING TO TAKE CARE OF  
EACH OTHER.

>> I WILL SAY IT IS NOT EASY WORK. ACTUALLY I STOPPED  
CLINIC ESCORTING AFTER I HAD STARTED ACCESS. BECAUSE I WENT  
TO A CLINIC IN OAKLAND AND --

THERE WAS AN ANTIABORTION PERSON THERE. THERE WAS A PERSON  
GETTING OUT OF THE CAR. AND --

TO GO INTO THE CLINIC. AND I ENDED UP --

BASICALLY KNOCKING THE ANTIABORTION WOMAN OVER. AND --

WE WERE BOTH ON, BOTH ON THE GROUND. BOTH MEN GETTING OUT OF  
THE CAR. GOING Y'ALL ARE CRAZY. YOU BOTH ARE CRAZY. AND I  
FELT LIKE --

I WASN'T ABLE TO NOT TAKE IT PERSONALLY. ANYMORE. LIKE I  
JUST TOOK, I WAS SO PERSONALLY OFFENDED ON BEHALF OF THE  
PERSON IN THE CAR. THAT I -- THAT I WASN'T IN, I WASN'T  
ABLE TO BE STRATEGIC. I WASN'T ABLE TO BE IN CONTROL.

OR NOT TAKE THAT RISK. I FELT LOOK I HAD TO STEP BACK FROM THAT TYPE OF WORK. BECAUSE I WAS, I JUST -- IT WASN'T SOMETHING THAT I COULD DO. ANY MORE WITHOUT -- JUST BEING TOO INVESTED IN IT. SO IT ISN'T EASY WORK. IS ALL I AM SAYING. LIZZIE.

>> YEAH, I THINK IT'S, IT'S INTERESTING BECAUSE THE -- THE PRESENCE OF THE POLICE IN OUR SITUATION. MEANS THAT THE -- THE GREATEST RISK OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE FROM ANYBODY THAT WE FACE IS FROM THE POLICE.

>> YES.

>> AND IT'S REALLY BLATANT. I MEAN -- THEY'RE VERY, VERY AGGRESSIVE. AND WE ONCE CAUGHT ON VIDEO THAT THEY'RE, THE FAKE CLINIC ESCORT WHO IS VERY OBVIOUSLY WITH THE CHURCH. FELL ONE DAY. AND A COP STOPPED. AND HELPED HER UP. THEY HAVE NEVER, THEY WOULD NEVER HAPPEN. I MEAN, THEY'RE USUALLY PUSHING US OVER. I MEAN IT'S LIKE, NIGHT AND DAY. THE TYPE OF TREATMENT. THAT, WE RECEIVE. KEEP IN MIND THAT THEY -- ARE WILLING TO GO THROUGH THIS PERMIT PROCESS. TO GET, YOU KNOW, GET, GET THE POLICE ESCORT. THEY -- THEY ACTUALLY ASKED THEM TO PUT UP THE POLICE, THE, THE METAL BARRICADES. AND HAD BEEN BADGERING THE NYPD FOR



MONTHS BEFORE THEY FINALLY GAVE IN AND DID IT. IN TERMS OF  
KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE, I THINK. ONE THING IS KNOWING  
THAT --

I GUESS TWO THINGS COMING TO MIND. JUST KNOWING THAT  
EVERYONE HAS A PLACE IN THIS ROLE. AND NOT EVERYONE --  
NEEDS TO BE AT THE TOP. NEEDS TO BE AT THE FRONT. AND THERE  
ARE CERTAIN, YOU KNOW, I HAVE, I HAVE -- FELLOW CLINIC  
DEFENDERS WHO ARE VERY STRATEGIC ABOUT WHERE THEY ARE.  
BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT CITIZENS. BEING ARRESTED. WOULD BE A  
MUCH BIGGER RISK TO THEIR LIVELIHOOD THAN ANYONE ELSE. THAN  
OTHER PEOPLE. FOR ME I AM CHRONICALLY ILL. THERE ARE TIME  
WHEN IT WOULD BE --

JUST NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO PHYSICALLY BE THERE. MY ROLE IS  
TO HOLD PEOPLE'S ATTENTION IN CASE DAY WERE TO BE ARRESTED.  
AND THEN TO RESPOND --

RESPOND ACCORDINGLY. PEOPLE WHOSE WHOLE ROLE IS TO BE  
SAFETY PEOPLE. TO BE MARSHALS. TO BE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE  
LOOKING OUT FOR ANYBODY WHO NEEDS HELP OR LOOKS AND LIKE  
YOU SAID, LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER. I MEAN THAT IS --  
WHAT WE DO. I THINK --

IT'S --

AND THEN THE OTHER THING I WANTED TO MENTION IS --

IT'S HARD IF YOU ARE, IF YOU ARE IN A SMALL GROUP. I DON'T  
MEAN TO --

DISMISS HOW HARD THAT IS. AND YET ALSO, I THINK THAT THERE  
IS ALWAYS ROOM TO GO. THAT THERE ARE OTHER --FOR THERE  
MIGHT BE ORGANIZATIONS IN YOUR AREA WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED  
IN JOINING FORCES AND THAT KIND OF THING. WE HAVE A REALLY  
STRONG COALITION OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT WE WORK WITH. AND WE  
SHOW UP TO THEM. WE SHOW UP FOR THEM. THEY SHOW UP FOR US.  
IT GOES BEYOND JUST ABORTION. IT GOES TO JUSTICE ISSUES OF  
ALL TYPES. IT IS SO HEART WARMING FOR ME AS SOMEBODY WHO IS  
REALLY INVESTED --

ON A PERSONAL LEVEL AND PROFESSIONAL LEVEL. EVERY LEVEL IN  
ABORTION ACCESS. TO SEE PEOPLE WHO --

OTHERWISE, THEY'RE NOT NECESSARILY THAT --

INVOLVED. IN THE MOVEMENT. THEY STILL SHOW UP AT 8:00 A.M.  
ON A SATURDAY MORNING. TO BE THAT PRESENCE FOR THE PATIENTS  
AND THE OPPOSING PRESENCE FOR ANTIABORTION PEOPLE. AND --  
YEAH. I MEAN IT'S -- IT'S --

AND I LOOK TO MY OTHER POINT, JUST KNOWING -- HEARING  
YOUR --

YOUR EXPERIENCE, BRENDA. ABOUT KNOWING WHEN IT WASN'T THE  
RIGHT PLACE FOR YOU TO BE. AND --

I THINK THAT THAT'S SO --

JUST UNDERSTANDING THAT PEOPLE CAN STEP IN AND STEP OUT WHEN IT IS NEEDED. AND THERE IS ALWAYS GOING TO BE SOME ONE ELSE THERE. AN THAT'S SOMETHING THAT I REALLY TOOK AWAY FROM READING "DEEP CARE" AND SEEING THAT PLAY OUT IN SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. THAT IT DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO BE ME. I KNOW THERE IS GOING TO BE SOMEONE ELSE. AND I ALSO THAT MEANS THAT I KNOW IF -- YOU KNOW IF I NEED ANOTHER ABORTION. AND IT HAPPENS TO BE ON A SATURDAY MORNING, WHICH MOSTLY THEY ARE, THAT'S WHY THEY, THEY'RE THERE. THAT I AM GOING TO HAVE, COMMUNITY MEMBERS THERE FOR ME.

>> OKAY. THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> BRENDA. I WANTED TO JUST JUMP IN AT THIS MOMENT. AND JUST -- KIND OF DROP SOME THREADS THROUGH. ANNIE, DO YOU MIND IF I JUST, OFFER THAT, AND THEN WE COULD MAYBE HEAR ONE MORE QUESTION. OR ANY SORT OF CONCLUDING THOUGHTS FROM YOU ALL.

>> Annie Mahon: YEAH, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OPEN THE MIKE FOR ONE QUESTION. SO, IF MAYBE YOUR THREADS IS SHORT THEN WE HAVE TIME FOR ONE MORE OPENING. SOMEONE COULD SAY SOMETHING. GREAT. AWE THOUGHT WOULD BE GREAT. YEAH,

ABSOLUTELY.

>> I AM THINKING ABOUT PROTECTIVE PRESENCE AS --  
A FORM OF POLITICAL NONVIOLENCE. AND ADRIANA HAD BEEN  
THINKING ABOUT IT. IT'S INTERESTING. SOME OF THE CLINK  
DEFENDERS, I INTERVIEWED FOR MY BOOK WERE VERY, VERY --  
CLINIC DEFENSE WAS MILITANT. THIS WAS A FORM OF MILITANT  
COMMUNITY POLITICAL DEFENSE. WHEN WE THINK OF POLITICAL  
MILITANTS, WE DON'T NECESSARILY THINK OF NONVIOLENCE. YET,  
THE WAY THAT BRENDA AND LIZZIE ARE TALKING CLINIC DEFENSE.  
IN THE VALUES, TACTICS. AS CENTRAL, COMPLETELY FALL WITHIN  
THE REALM OF POLITICAL NONVIOLENCE. RIGHT, POLITICAL  
ACTIVITY. THAT IS POLITICAL AND IS NONVIOLENT. RIGHT. THE  
EMPHASIS ON, RECOGNITION AS A KIND OF ETHOS AND AS A  
TACTIC. RIGHT. THE EMPHASIS ON LISTENING. BRENDA, YOU SPOKE  
TO LISTENING. I AM LISTENING SO HARD. RIGHT? IN THAT MOMENT  
OF --  
PROVIDING DIRECT SUPPORT. TO SOME ONE, SEEKING ABORTION  
CARE. LIZZIE, YOU TALKED ABOUT HOW PART OF YOUR WORK CLINIC  
DEFENSE IN NEW YORK TODAY IS HELPING PEOPLE FEEL MORE  
COMFORTABLE IN THE PROCESS OF ACCESSING CARE, RIGHT? SO,  
HELPING PEOPLE --  
FEEL COMFORTABLE. IN THEIR BODIES. RIGHT? AS PART OF THE

WORK. OF CLINIC DEFENSE. YOU ALSO TALKED ABOUT SLOWING  
DOWN. RIGHT. LIKE -- PUTTING YOUR BODY IN A PLACE, SLOW  
DOWN THE ANTIABORTION PROGRESSION TOWARDS THE CLINIC,  
RIGHT. AND SO, INTERVENTIONS THAT ARE --  
NONVIOLENT. AND YET -- STRATEGIC. AND TACTICAL. AND THEN  
HAVE THIS ENTIRE ETHICS OF THEIR OWN. THIS, THIS, ETHICS OF  
SORT OF RECOGNITION. AND HARM RETICKETTION, TRULY, YOU  
KNOW? SO -- APPRECIATE SO MUCH JUST ALL OF THIS --  
POLITICAL AND THEORETICAL CLARITY THAT YOU BRING TO THIS  
DISCUSSION. I WONDER IF WE HAVE JUST TIME FOR MAYBE ONE  
MORE COMMENT OR QUESTION FROM THE GROUP?

>> YEAH, SOMEONE, I DON'T KNOW IF SOMEONE WANTS TO OPEN  
YOUR MIKE. AND ASK SOMETHING. OR MAKE A COMMENT. AND IF  
NOT, WE CAN -- CLOSE, CLOSE, START CLOSING. AS A  
MAKING-VISIBLE TEAM. WELL, I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU, IT WAS  
REALLY POWERFUL. IT IS AMAZING. AND IT IS EXACTLY WHAT IT,  
IN MAKING-VISIBLE WHAT YOU ARE SAYING. ANGELA, MAKING  
VISIBLE WHAT IS OUT THERE. MAKING VISIBLE THE PEOPLE WHO  
NEED TO BE SEEN. MAKING VISIBLE THE ISSUES THAT WE HAVE TO  
BE TALKING ABOUT. MAKING VISIBLE, THE SOCIAL INJUSTICES  
THAT ARE OUT THERE. AND MAKING VISIBLE THAT THERE ARE WAYS  
WE CAN HELP OTHERS. AND, THAT WE ARE PRESENCE, OUR PRESENCE

AND PRIVILEGE CAN BE SEEN ALSO AS A TOOL FOR OTHERS TO BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY AND BE PROTECTED. PROTECTING OTHERS. SO, THANK YOU SO MUCH. BECAUSE I THINK THIS IS LIKE THE -- PERFECT EXAMPLE --

OF THAT, OF HOW CAN WE NEED TO MAKE THIS VISIBLE. HOW, ALSO --

DON'T NEED --

THE RIGHTS THAT WE HAVE AT SOME POINT IN OUR LIFE IS NOT THE CORRECT WAY TO, TO -- TO DO IT. THAT'S WHY I HAVE SEEN THE MOVEMENT FROM --

MEXICO, WHICH IS --

THE ACCESS TO ABORTION IS SO NEW. STILL HAPPENING. DOESN'T MEAN IT WILL BE THERE FOREVER. WE HAVE TO BE AWARE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING. CONTINUE PARTICIPATING IN THIS AND ANY OTHER MOVEMENT THAT WE WILL KEEP, NO, THE SOCIETY MORE JUST. MORE SAFE FOR ALL. ANNIE?

>> ANNIE MAHON: YEAH, YOU SAID IT ALL. I MEAN, I LOVE THE WAY YOU WEAVE IN PROTECTIVE PRESENCE. IT REALLY IS INSPIRING. BECAUSE I THINK MOST PEOPLE ON THIS CALL ARE PRACTICING BUDDHISTS. AND REALLY WANT TO BE ABLE TO -- ACT IN WAYS THAT ARE PHONE VIOLENT. THAT ARE PROTECTING, BELOVED, YOU KNOW COMMUNITIES. SO, IT WAS BEAUTIFUL. AND

SO, MOVING TO HEAR HOW MUCH OF YOUR HEART IS INVESTED IN THIS. ALL THREE OF YOU. AND JUST -- I FEEL SO GRATEFUL. THAT YOU ARE OUT THERE. I KNOW I FEEL INSPIRED. I THINK OTHER PEOPLE DO HERE TOO, TO DO THIS PROTECTIVE PRESENCE IN WHATEVER WAY WE CAN. SO, THANK YOU SO, SO, SO MUCH. REALLY.

>> ANGELA: THANK YOU SO MUCH. ANNIE. ADRIANA, TO EVERYONE IN THE ROOM WHO JUST CAME TODAY TO BE HERE FOR THE, THE LIVE CONVERSATION. LIZZIE AND BRENDA, YOU ARE POWERFUL, GENEROUS PEOPLE. AMAZING, BRILLIANT, POLITICAL THINKERS AND ACTORS. I JUST, SUCH A PRIVILEGE TO BE IN THE CONVERSATION WITH YOU. AND TO HEAR YOU IN CONVERSATION WITH EACH OTHER. SO, I JUST -- SO MUCH GRATITUDE FOR EVERYTHING THAT YOU BROUGHT TO THIS CONVERSATION. THANK YOU SO MUCH AGAIN TO EVERYONE.

>> ADRIANA: THANK YOU, PLEASE --

>> RECORDING STOPPED.

>> ADRIANA: ANGELA, BRENDA, SHARE WHATEVER MATERIAL WILL BE HELPFUL, RESOURCES THAT WE CAN ALSO ADD TO OUR WEBSITE OF MAKING VISIBLE. AND THIS SESSION HAS BEEN RECORDED. SO, WE CAN SHARE IT. YOU CAN, SHARE IT. PLEASE, FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WERE HERE, WANT OTHERS TO HEAR THIS AMAZING VOICES, THAT WE HAVE TODAY, PLEASE DO IT. AND, CONTINUE --

PARTICIPATING WITH US. I HOPE THAT THIS SPACE HELPED YOU ALL TO HAVE A SPACE TO BE IN. TO TALK. THANK YOU ALL.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU. ALSO TO RACHEL HERE MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS PERSON. AND TO DON, WHO IS OUR CAPTIONER, LIVE CAPTIONER, WHO HAS BEEN DOING THIS FOR YEARS FOR US.

AND --

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE. SO MUCH LOVE.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH, EVERYONE.

>> THANK YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: APLEASE, GO AND --

AND READ THE BOOK. ANGELA'S BOOK. WE PUT THE LINK ON, ON THE CHAT. SO, EVERYONE KNOWS WHICH BOOK YOU ARE LOOKING FOR. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.