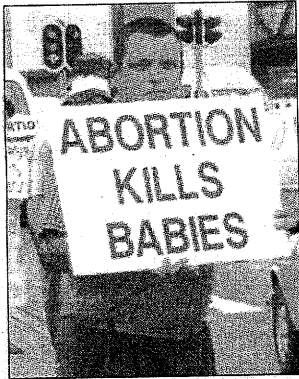


## COMMUNITY

# Abortion on Randburg's streets



**One of the protestors at the intersection of Jan Smuts Avenue and Bram Fischer Drive.**

### Jack Birch

Randburg CBD was targeted by Christians For Truth (CFT) on January 31, when scores of protestors gathered at the intersection of Jan Smuts Avenue and Bram Fischer Drive to protest abortion.

According to CFT spokesman, Gregory Pereira, the protest commemorates the twelfth anniversary of the legalisation of abortion in SA, and serves to question the right of taking the life of an unborn child. Pamphlets were handed out to cars and pedestrians, and the protestors drew

much attention.

"We have had these kinds of protests before, usually in Centurion, but today we chose this location as it is a busy intersection and we seek to reach as many people as possible," said event co-organiser, Dieter Claasen.

"People are really not aware of the the reality of abortion. It is a gruesome procedure. They say it's pain-free, but what about spiritual and emotional pain? And while economic reasons are often given, that opens up many other

dangerous questions - should we start killing the homeless too?"

Members of Doctors for Life (DFL) and the Christian Democratic Alliance were also on hand to support the protest. "Why can't we love them both?" said DFL spokesman, Johan Claasen. "Pro-abortion groups often make a big issue about women's rights, but we are concerned about the rights not only of the mother, but of the child also.

"The 800 000 abortions in SA have led to massive amounts of trauma, and many

women have testified about the problems they have experienced. Post abortion syndrome is a reality, and we don't even know about all the repercussions that people may face as a result of it. "For instance, I know of a woman who had an abortion, and afterwards she was subjected to a recurring nightmare of holding a child underwater, and each time she pulled it out it was screaming, endlessly.

"We love the mother and child, and say there are other options, like adoption. We provide counselling, and hope to one day change the law. But for today, even if we can just help one person make the right choice, we have succeeded."

**Seven Seas Fisheries**