

WEST KOOTENAY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
307 Vernon Street
Nelson, B. C. V1L 4E3
Phone 352-9916

April 8, 1987

Dear

Following is a broadcast from KBS Mid-Day Report, March 12, 1987:

"Death threats continue to be delivered to Nelson Future Life Ass'n, Kevin Cutler reports: Nelson Future Life Anti-Abortion Association is receiving death threats in the mail. An Association Secretary, Gwen Cavanaugh, is starting to get very concerned. The anonymous letter is full of four letter words and threatening death to all pro-lifers, which we turned over to the Nelson City Police. Cavanaugh says there's no proof yet, but she believes that the recent vandalism and threats originate from lesbian groups in Nelson. Cavanaugh claims her life has been threatened by Co-ordinator of the Nelson Women's Centre, Carol Beauchamp. The secretary also suggests that the \$31,000 in federal money supplied to the Nelson Women's Centre through the West Kootenay Women's Association is not being spent in the best interests of women in the area and that lesbians appear to have a big influence on the Association."

At no time did anyone affiliated with the Nelson Women's Centre or its sponsoring body, the West Kootenay Women's Association, make threats against Cavanaugh or any other member of Nelson Future Life.

We are pursuing a libel suit against Cavanaugh and KBS on behalf of Carol and possibly the West Kootenay Women's Association as well. What we need now, of course, is money. We are planning a benefit soon but will need individual donations as well. We expect, if the suit goes to court, that the costs will be in the thousands.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to help us expose the unscrupulous tactics of Nelson Future Life and its sister organization (at least in this area), W.E.A.L. Women, please mail your cheque or drop it off at the Nelson Women's Centre, 307 Vernon Street, Nelson, B.C. V1L 4E3. Make your cheque out to: WKWA - Women's Defense Fund. All donators will receive a receipt for tax purposes. Any funds remaining when the suit is over will be available for the legal defense of other women in need.

We've taken on forces opposed to women's rights before and won. Help us to do it again!

Sincerely,

Deb Thomas for the WKWA