

# Transformation

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1995 Women's  
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Network Log

## Women's Watchcare Network Log

Linda Coyle

**E**ach year since 1989 the Women's Project has recorded the murders of Arkansas women and girls by men. Murders motivated by robbery or drug-related activity are not included in the annual log. This year's log recounts the murders of 55 women and girls, a 20% decrease compared to the 1994 log. The decrease evident in our data is consistent with the decrease in violent crime in Arkansas reported by the Arkansas Crime Information Center in the Annual Crime Summary for 1995. Violent crime (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) in Arkansas decreased 6% compared to 1994. The smaller decrease at the state level reflects the way the percentage was calculated, i.e., all murders, rapes, robberies, and assaults were included in the crime index whereas our data reflects only sexist murders of women.

### Murdered Women

In 1995, as in the previous six years, women in Arkansas were most at risk from people they knew. Thirty-two percent of the murdered women were killed by a husband or boy-

friend. Three and six tenths percent were killed by an ex-husband or ex-boyfriend. Relatives and acquaintances accounted for 10.9% and 9.1%, respectively, of the murders of women and girls. Thus, 56.3 percent of the murdered women and girls were killed by someone they knew and, unfortunately, that seems to be true at the national level also.

Consistent with previous data, the most frequent cause of death for the murdered women and girls was a wound from a handgun (27.3%), shotgun (12.7%), or other type of gun (5.5%). Therefore, a firearm was used in approximately 45.5% of the murders. Over the seven-year period of our data collection, the percent of murders in which a firearm was used has never been below 42% and reached a high of 62% in 1991.

One-fourth of the murdered women were between the ages of 20 and 29 years. The next most frequent age categories were 10 to 19 years (18.2%) and 30-39 years (18.2%). Hence, 61.8% of the murdered females in 1995 were between the ages of 10 and 39 years.

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When the age category of the victim is cross tabulated with the relationship of the perpetrator to the victim (for cases in which the perpetrator is known), substantially more of the women in the 20 to 39 years and 40 to 59 years categories were murdered by their husbands.

When considering only the cases in which the perpetrators are known, a cross tabulation of victim's race and relationship of the perpetrator to the victim reveals that a substantially greater number of white females were killed by their husbands.

### **Murdered Youth**

This year a new category was added to the log—the murders of youth (20 years and younger). We wondered if there might be a relationship between the murders of women and the murders of children and young people. Data collection for the new category did not begin until April 1995.

Thirty eight murders were logged in that nine-month period. The incidents naturally separate into two categories—murders resulting from street violence and deaths that occurred under circumstances not related to street violence.

Twenty seven young people from the ages of 12 to 20 years were murdered as the result of street violence. Eleven young people from the ages of newborn to 13 years died while the victim was in the presence of a caretaker (parent, guardian, babysitter) or responsible adult. Of those 11 deaths, eight occurred in circumstances of neglect or abuse. Five of those cases involved infants killed by their mothers' boyfriends who wanted the infants to stop crying.

### **Other Violence**

There are four incidents of racist violence described in the log. All four were reported in local

newspapers. The Arkansas Crime Information Center received from municipal and county law enforcement agencies reports of six 1995 hate crimes in which the motivation was identified as Anti-Black, Anti-Hispanic, Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander, and Anti-Multi-Racial Group.

Two incidents of anti-gay violence are recorded in our log. One other incident was reported to us but we were not able to get the victim's permission to include the assault in our published log.

This year's log contains no incidents of anti-religious group violence, e.g., anti-Catholic or anti-Semitic actions. However, two such incidents were reported to the Women's Project. They are not included in order to protect the victims and the victims' families from further hate activity.

It is important to remember that not all racist, ethnic, anti-religious group, or anti-gay violence is reported to the police, the media, or the Women's Project. Many other incidents may have occurred but were not reported. Victims often do not report such violence for fear of more violence against themselves or their families.

### **Other Activities in Arkansas**

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan held rallies in three Arkansas cities—El Dorado, Fort Smith, and Pine Bluff. There was not a large attendance at the rallies. Many citizens stayed away from the Klan site or attended counter-rallies scheduled for the same day as the KKK rallies. KKK stickers were placed on books at the Henderson State University library and recruitment stickers were placed on pay phones along U.S. Highway 70W near Hot Springs.

Local affiliates of national religious Right organizations were busy this year in Arkansas fighting Outcome Based Education in the public schools,

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opposing the Arkansas Governor's School, opposing the United Nations in general, fighting efforts to legalize gambling, opposing repeal of Arkansas' sodomy law, teaching members to lobby elected officials, opposing the use of a curriculum in early childhood programs that portrays positive images of diversity, and encouraging conservative candidates to run for local office.

### Final Words

It would be very easy to become depressed after reading the details contained in this 1995 Women's Watchcare Network Log. We must remind ourselves of ways in which Arkansans come together for the rights of all.

Once again, Flip Benham of Operation Rescue visited Little Rock to picket clinics, to picket the homes of physicians, and to boost the local anti-abortion movement. Once again, the Arkansas Coalition for Choice organized clinic defenders and pro-choice advocates to put a face and voice for pro-choice at each of the abortion-protest sites.

When the KKK held rallies around Arkansas, many citizens called for ways to show such groups that their intolerance is not accepted by the community. In some cases, counter-rallies were held to show support for inclusion of all people in the communities.

Several groups have formed to call for an end to the violence in our community. This year marked the first collection of hate crime data in Arkansas as mandated by the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, approved by the U.S. Congress in 1990. Six crimes were reported in Arkansas because victims requested that the incidents be investigated as hate crimes.

We see a growing awareness of hate activity in the number of requests we receive for information about hate groups and hate crime in Arkansas. Citizens in Arkansas are hosting house parties to view and discuss the video *Not in Our Town* to learn how we can say no to intolerance in our towns and in our state.

We also see the growing realization in our state that economic issues are key in the fight against violence and hate. It is most often economic issues that separate groups within a community. One way to work against violence is to work against the causes of poverty.

Arkansas needs a minimum wage that reflects the cost of living and allows a family to live above the poverty level. Affordable child care is necessary for families in which both parents must work and is absolutely essential for single-parent families. Economic development efforts in our community should reflect the diversity in the community.

In 1990, about 30% of Arkansans did not complete high school. Community literacy programs are needed to help citizens build basic skills and, thereby, improve their opportunities for employment. In this era of corporate downsizing and factory shutdowns, entrepreneurial training should be accessible to all, including women and people of color.

As we work to reduce hate and violence in our community through education and activism, we must also work on the economic factors that foster frustration, despair, and poverty. It is time for us to build the bridges in our community that are necessary for creating a safe and productive environment for all. ♦





# **The 1995 Women's Watchcare Network Log**

A documentation of sexist,  
racist, homophobic and religious  
violence, and the activities of the  
religious Right and organized  
hate groups in Arkansas

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# The Women's Watchcare Network

The Women's Watchcare Network, formed in 1989, is a statewide project made up of more than 200 volunteers who bring their hope for social justice into the work of clipping newspaper reports of violence, organizing community discussion groups, staffing data collection, and responding, often at considerable risk, to acts of violence against people of color, Jews, Catholics, women, lesbians and gay men.

## **The Women's Watchcare Network has five purposes:**

1. To monitor the activities of white supremacist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the activities of the religious Right, and individual acts of racist, religious, sexist and anti-lesbian/gay violence;
2. To organize community responses to this violence in an effort to end it and create a society where all people can live in wholeness and safety;
3. To work with communities to provide support for victims of biased violence;
4. To provide community education about the nature of biased violence and systemic oppression;
5. To work to change the institutions in this society that give us policies and values which create a climate fostering such violence.

## About the Women's Watchcare Network Log

The Women's Watchcare Network Log, published annually, is a documentation of sexist, racist, homophobic and religious violence, the activities of the religious Right, and the activities of organized hate groups in Arkansas.

Our log only contains information that we can verify by naming the source. We have chosen this method to avoid getting into the debate over the truthfulness of our information.

While this approach simplifies matters on one hand, it also means that if a victim of a hate crime is the source of information (rather than a published report in a newspaper) and does not wish for his or her name to be divulged at any time to any person, we are unable to use the information. This approach results in verifiable information but also means that there are many incidents of bias violence that then go unreported by us.

The sources of information that we use for the log are all available to the public by reading newspapers, getting on mailings from groups that are being monitored, talking with police and prosecutors, and developing relationships with community volunteers.

The Women's Watchcare Network is not an undercover network. We operate the Watchcare Network with the assumption that our work is being monitored by others. ♦

All incidents are listed by the date of the first report to appear in the media. The newspaper cited most often is the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, which is listed as AD-G.

## SEXIST MURDERS OF WOMEN

We do not log cases of rape, incest, abduction, battering or terroristic threatening of women. We do not document murders of women where robbery or drugs were the precipitating factors.

This log addresses the murders of 55 Arkansas women and girls in 1995.

*Alexander, January 8*

**Tamera Putnam, 21**, was shot to death inside her mobile home. According to the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office, six to eight men surrounded her home before the shooting. Someone threw a concrete block through one of the windows. Putnam's boyfriend was in her home but was unhurt.

Elliot Mills, 25, and Eddie Walker, 20, are being held at the county jail in lieu of \$200,000 bonds each.

1/8-10: AD-G

*Brinkley, January 19*

**Zshmarcia Taylor, 17**, died from a gunshot wound to the head. Another teenager, Shanee Porter, 18, was shot in the arm during the same incident. The two teenagers, Taylor's aunt, a six-year-old, and a four-year-old were in the home of Taylor's aunt when shots were fired from outside. The shots entered the home through a window and struck the two teenagers who were innocent bystanders.

Michael Holbrook, 21, of Earle, and Jerry Holland, 32, of Brinkley, were arrested. Holbrook was charged with one count of capital murder, one count of first-degree battery, and three counts of aggravated assault. Bond was set at \$100,000. Holland was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. Holland's bond was set at \$25,000.

Holbrook and his sister were on their way to a hospital for treatment of injuries that Holbrook's sister suffered during a fight with Taylor's uncle earlier in the day when Holbrook stopped at Taylor's uncle's apartment and shot at it.

On October 30, Holbrook pleaded guilty to reduced charges of second-degree murder, first-degree battery, and aggravated assault. He was sentenced to 35 years in prison. Holbrook could also face an escape charge stemming from his September 9 jail break.

1/19-22, 11/2: *Monroe County Sun*; AD-G; *Evening Times*; *Times-Herald*; *Brinkley Argus*

*McGehee, January 25*

**Earnestine Haynes, 24**, died from a 12-gauge shotgun wound in the upper abdomen. She was shot while walking home from the Town and Country Restaurant where she had been involved earlier in an argument with Cedric Morgan, 34. Morgan left the establishment and went to his house where he retrieved a shotgun. He returned to the Town and Country and fired one round at the establishment. Morgan then left the Town and Country and encountered Haynes as she was walking home.

Haynes was taken to the McGehee Desha County Hospital where she later died. The body was sent to the Arkansas Crime Laboratory in Little Rock for autopsy. Morgan was charged with first-degree murder and is being held at the Regional Jail in Dermott pending bond or his appearance in Desha County Circuit Court.

1/25: *McGehee-Dermott Times-News*

*Little Rock, January 27*

**Helen Gentry, 54**, was found dead inside her house by her daughter. Gentry had one gunshot wound. Detectives are treating the death as a homicide. According to Lt. Mike Adams, the back door to the house had been forced open, suggesting a possible break-in. Gentry's body was sent to the state Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

1/27: AD-G

*Pine Bluff, January 27*

The body of **Melva Ruth Hampton, 35**, was found lying face-up on Rob Roy Lake Dick Road. First-degree murder charges were filed against Jason Grant Levine, 20, of Sherrill. He was released on a \$50,000 secured bond.

Levine is accused of shooting Hampton with a Ruger 9 mm pistol while they sat in his Ford Bronco. Levine admitted to police that he gave Hampton \$30 to purchase crack cocaine which they smoked in his vehicle. He said Hampton threatened him with a .22-caliber rifle after they had sexual intercourse.

Levine was convicted of second-degree murder and was sentenced to 15 years in prison. He was released on an appeal bond.

1/27-28, 2/1-2, 12/6, 12/9: *Pine Bluff Commercial*; AD-G

*Little Rock, February 5*

The body of **Morene Smith, 65**, was found lying face down in a bedroom of her home in Southwest Little Rock. The Pulaski County Sheriff's Office received an anonymous phone call from a male who said that there was a dead body at Smith's address.

Smith was shot in the head. There were signs of forced entry, therefore robbery was not ruled out. A neighbor

reported hearing a half dozen gunshots about 8 p.m.

Charles Conditt, 55, was arrested and charged with first-degree murder. He was Smith's boyfriend.

2/5-8: AD-G; Sun-Times

*Hot Springs, February 14*

The seminude bodies of **Ruby Britton**, 21, and **Jennifer Harper**, 17, were discovered inside an old warehouse by Danny Sullivan, whose company leases the warehouse as a storage facility. The preliminary autopsy reports indicated that the women had been strangled. Sexual assault was suspected but further forensic tests are required to determine if such an assault occurred.

In April, the Hot Springs Police Department announced that they had a suspect for the slayings but were awaiting test results from the state Crime Laboratory before making an arrest.

Britton had a two-and-one-half year-old son and Harper had a one-year-old child.

2/14-16, 4/13: AD-G; The Sentinel-Record

*Morillton, February 20*

**Angela "Angie" Streb**, 25, was shot in the head twice at close range with a small-caliber handgun. She was shot while walking from her house to a friend's house around 9 p.m. Streb was taken to the Conway County Hospital before being transported to University Medical Center in Little Rock. She died at approximately 12:30 a.m.

Morrillton police were notified by an area resident who heard two gunshots and noticed a car speeding from the scene. The Arkansas State Police and the Conway County Sheriff's Office may be asked to participate in the investigation.

2/20-22: Log Cabin Democrat; Conway County Petit Jean Country Headlight

*Blytheville, March 3*

The body of **Betty Wann**, 53, was found lying on the back steps of her home. Blytheville police were notified by Wann's neighbors that they heard gunshots outside of her home. Wann was shot once in the upper right side of the neck with a small-caliber handgun.

Max Wann, 52, the husband of the victim, was arrested and charged with first-degree murder. He was held in lieu of a \$100,000 bond.

3/3-4: Courier News; AD-G

*Lambrook, March 8*

**Rhonda Toney**, 23, was found dead in the living room of her home, which she shared with her boyfriend, Joe Vester Zigler Jr., 36. Zigler reported Toney's death to

Phillips County deputies at approximately 6:30 a.m. According to Zigler, the couple went to bed together around 10:30 p.m. He said he awoke the next morning and discovered Toney dead on the couch.

The state Medical Examiner's Office found that Toney died from massive internal bleeding which was the result of blunt trauma to the body. Zigler was arrested and charged with first-degree murder. Bond was set at \$100,000.

Witnesses told police that Toney and Zigler had argued on the day before her body was discovered. Phillips County Sheriff Kenneth Winfrey said that Zigler was extremely jealous of Toney and that theirs had been a stormy relationship. The couple had lived together for approximately three years. They had a two-year-old son and a six-month-old daughter. The son was at home at the time of the incident. The daughter had recently been placed in a foster home.

3/8: AD-G; The Daily World

*Bald Knob, March 11*

The body of **Kenyatta Haynes**, 18, was discovered partly submerged in a creek outside of Bald Knob. Haynes was found stripped from the waist down and with her wrists handcuffed. She died from multiple blows to the head from a shovel, strangulation and drowning.

James Derrick Grubbs, 17, and Donnie Ray Tempel, 18, were arrested on capital murder and kidnapping charges.

On September 26, Grubbs pleaded guilty to capital murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole. He admitted that "he hit her repeatedly in the head and neck with a shovel."

At a pretrial hearing on October 9, Tempel pleaded guilty to first-degree murder. He was sentenced to life in prison. According to Tempel's statement to police, Grubbs picked up Tempel after school. Grubbs had Haynes bound and tied in his truck. According to Temple, Grubbs said that he had raped Haynes and was taking her to "wash up." Grubbs later hit her with a shovel several times in the head and throat. The two teenagers placed rocks in Haynes' clothes to weigh her down and threw her into a creek.

3/11-22, 4/5, 5/1-4, 9/27-28, 8/2, 10/10, 10/12: AD-G; The Daily Citizen; White County Record; Batesville Guard; Arkansas Times; Bald Knob Banner; White River Journal

*Camden, March 15*

The body of **Kathleen Cole**, 49, along with the bodies of her husband Raymond, 52, and her son Richard, 14, were found at their home. The Coles' daughter, who did not live with her parents, found the bodies when



she went to the house to check on her family.

According to authorities, Raymond Cole apparently shot his sleeping wife and son before killing himself. Each had a shotgun wound in the head. A 12-gauge shotgun was recovered. No motive was determined for the incident.

3/15-22: *Camden News*; AD-G; *The Ashley News Observer*

*Monticello, March 15*

Drew County sheriff's deputies found **Linda Lou Morgan**, 46, with her throat slashed and a stab wound just above the navel. Morgan's husband told the deputies that he and his wife had been fighting and that she had tried to cut him but he had cut her first.

The Morgans had a history of domestic disturbances.

Larry Morgan, 43, was arrested and held without bond on first-degree murder charges.

3/15: *Dumas Clarion*; AD-G

*Fayetteville, March 16*

The body of **Vera Virginia Gilmer**, 73, was discovered by her son after he kicked in the front door of her home. He notified Fayetteville police who found the body of Gilmer's husband, Robert Allyn Gilmer, 69, in the bathroom of the house.

There was no sign of a struggle. Both died of large-caliber gunshot wounds to the head.

After blood drops were discovered outside the Gilmers' house, Robert Gilmer Jr., 46, the Gilmers' son, became a suspect in the possible homicides.

3/16-17, 9/9: *Northwest Arkansas Times*; *Morning News of Northwest Arkansas*; AD-G

*Fordyce, March 18*

The body of **Daisy Mae Gallaher**, 66, of Magnet Cove, was found at the Tri-County Spillway. She had been shot in the back of the head with a 12-gauge shotgun. Buddy Landreth, 61, of Traskwood, was arrested and charged with capital murder. Landreth was Gallaher's former boyfriend.

Landreth allegedly went to Gallaher's residence and took her to the Tri-County Lake where he shot her.

3/18-22: AD-G; *Malvern Daily Record*; *Fordyce News-Advocate*

*Lake Village, March 21*

The body of **Gloria Regalado**, 42, was found in a rural area two miles south of Lake Village. She had been shot between the eyes and was bruised. A capital murder warrant was issued for Edward Sarabia Regalado, 52, the victim's husband.

Edward Regalado was participating in a work-release program in Monroe, Louisiana. Authorities believe that Gloria Regalado picked up her husband in Monroe and drove him to Lake Village.

The victim had retained an attorney to pursue a divorce. The couple had two sons, ages 14 and 16.

3/21-23: AD-G

*Pine Bluff, April 6*

**Melvina J. Cannon**, 49, was found dead in her apartment by an apartment manager. According to Coroner Havis Hester, the cause of death was multiple stab wounds to the chest. KARK (Channel 4), Little Rock, reported that there were more than 100 wounds on the body. Cannon's body was sent to the state Crime Laboratory in Little Rock. No arrests have been made.

4/6: AD-G; *Pine Bluff Commercial*

*Pine Bluff, April 6*

The decomposed body of **Beatrice Holt**, 89, was found by the Pine Bluff Police Department. The preliminary determination of cause of death was asphyxia from a blocked airway.

Floyd Ray Crawford, 46, was arrested and charged with first-degree murder. It is believed that Crawford bound and gagged Holt and sold everything in her house over a period of weeks. Crawford was either Holt's stepson or a stepson of her late husband. It is believed that Holt, a semi-invalid, took Crawford in to take care of her.

4/7, 4/19-27, 5/3-11, 10/12, 11/4-5, 12/16, 1/20/96: *The Daily Citizen*; AD-G; *Texarkana Gazette*; *White County Record*; *White River Journal*; *Beebe News*; *Bald Knob Banner*

*Searcy, April 7*

The body of **Carla Willmon Jones**, 20, was discovered in the trunk of her vehicle in a rural area west of Beebe. Jones, of Mount Pleasant, Texas, was a student at Harding University.

Mitchell Wade Skinner, 31, and Patric Dean Patterson, 25, both of Judsonia, were charged with capital murder. The two men are accused of abducting Willmon from the Searcy Wal-Mart SuperCenter at around 10 p.m.

In November, Patterson pleaded guilty to kidnapping and capital murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole. In January 1996, Skinner pleaded guilty to capital murder. He was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

4/7, 4/19-27, 5/3-11, 10/12, 11/4-5, 12/16, 1/20/96: *The Daily Citizen*; AD-G; *Texarkana Gazette*; *White County Record*; *White River Journal*; *Beebe News*; *Bald Knob Banner*

*Little Rock, April 13*

Two city utility workers found the body of **Lakesha Chandler**, 13, in a wooded area of Southwest Little Rock. Chandler was killed by a blow to the head. She was fully clothed and her feet were tied. No arrests have been made.

4/13-4/15: AD-G

*Bryant, April 20*

**Kimberly Pate**, 22, of Alexander, was shot to death about 10:25 p.m. when she was leaving a Little Caesars restaurant. Pate was shot five times in her chest and back. It is speculated that a .38-caliber or 9mm handgun was used. Pate had two children.

Jim Harris, an investigator with the Bryant Police Department, revealed that Pate and a man in a white 1994 Eagle Talon drove to Little Rock to have dinner.

Eight or nine witnesses claim to have heard gunshots shortly before Pate's body was found at the Little Caesars restaurant. About the same number of people say that they saw a dark-colored car leave the parking lot around that time.

An anonymous donor offered \$1,000 for information about the murder of Pate.

4/20-21, 6/1-2, 7/13, 9/29, 10/2, 10/6: AD-G; *Benton Courier*

*Van Buren County, April 22*

**Newborn baby Rowland** was placed in the family's trash-burning pit by her mother, Tracy Rowland, 17, of rural Van Buren County. Tracy Rowland gave birth about noon and has said that she thought the baby was dead. She then wrapped the newborn in towels around 12:30 p.m. and placed the baby in the fire, which was already burning in the pit.

When Rowland's parents arrived home around 4:30 p.m., they retrieved the baby from the fire and found her still alive. The infant was pronounced dead around 11:45 p.m. at the Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock.

Rowland told authorities that she was raped eight or nine months ago. The Van Buren County Sheriff's Office is investigating the reported rape. Tracy Rowland was sentenced to 20 years probation after she pleaded guilty to second-degree murder. She is required to have extensive psychiatric counseling.

4/22-25, 1/9/96: AD-G; *Log Cabin Democrat*

*Gillett, April 26*

**Nikki Raye Muse**, 16, was kidnapped, robbed, and murdered after leaving a McDonald's restaurant in Dumas. Muse was accompanied by a 17-year-old friend,

who was also kidnapped and robbed but who managed to escape and notify the police. Muse was strangled by hand.

Dumas police arrested Willie Davis, 19, and Willie Spencer, 16, both of Dumas. Davis was charged with capital murder, kidnapping, aggravated robbery and theft. He was held without bond. Spencer was charged as an adult with kidnapping, aggravated robbery and theft. He was held in lieu of \$50,000 bond.

4/26-27: *Dumas Clarion*; AD-G

*Little Rock, June 5*

**Marcell Young**, 17, **Malak Hussian**, 10, and their brother, Mustafa Hussian, 12, were fatally shot in the head by a gunman in their home as their mother struggled with another gunman.

Riley Dobi Noel, 23, a parolee, was arrested and charged with three counts of capital murder and one count of attempted capital murder. Noel is alleged to have shot the children with a .45-caliber pistol. Also charged with three counts each of capital murder and one count each of attempted capital murder were Curtis Lee Cochran, 19, Terry Lynn Carroll, 16, and Tracy Calloway, 25. All four were held without bond. At the July 17 arraignment, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Melody LaRue said that her office will seek the death penalty for all four suspects.

Officers said that Noel shot the children as revenge against their sister, Yashica Young, who was not at home during the murders. Young was the mother of Cornelius Ganaway's child and was riding with Ganaway in his car when he was fatally shot nine days earlier. Ganaway's mother contended that Young "set up" her son's murder.

6/5-7, 6/9, 6/11, 6/14-15, 7/6, 7/10, 7/18-19, 7/25, 1/17/96: AD-G, *Arkansas Times*

*Bald Knob, June 8*

**Mary Elizabeth Phillips**, 35, of Bradford, was raped and apparently strangled to death at her place of employment. Phillips' daughter, Lacy, 11, was severely beaten. Deputies were contacted by Phillips' son, Jessie, who told them that his mother had not come home from work.

Jack Harold Jones, 30, of Bald Knob, was charged in White County Circuit Court with one count of capital murder and one count of rape. According to Arkansas State Police criminal investigator J. R. Howard, Jones admitted to state police officers that he raped and murdered Phillips. At his arraignment, Jones indicated that revenge might have been his motive. He claimed that his wife had been raped and that White County deputies "didn't do their job" in her case.

Jones pleaded not guilty and not guilty by reason of

mental defect/disease in his arraignment on June 16th. Jones was also charged with criminal attempt to commit capital murder for the beating of Lacy Phillips.

6/7-11, 6/14, 6/16-17, 7/28, 12/22, 3/1/96: AD-G; *White County Record*; *The Daily Citizen*; *Bald Knob Banner*

*Centerville, June 14*

**Debra Kay Holt**, 30, was shot to death by her ex-husband, Gurnia Eugene Holt, 30. Debra Holt and her boyfriend, Kevin W. Weaver, 29, went to borrow a lawnmower at the residence of Mark Gillespie, where Eugene Holt was staying. According to Weaver, Eugene Holt came out of the house and shot at their vehicle.

Authorities found a .264 magnum under a bed at the residence where the shooting occurred. According to Weaver, the Holts had been having problems concerning Eugene Holt's visitation with Debra Holt's seven-year-old son. An autopsy revealed that Holt was about 10 weeks pregnant at the time of her death.

Eugene Holt was charged with first-degree murder and second-degree battery. Bond was set at \$250,000.

6/14, 6/21: AD-G; *Yell County Record*; *Post-Dispatch*; *The Courier*; *The Atkins Chronicle*

*Benton, June 29*

**Carolyn King**, 29, was shot by her husband, Dave King, 41, with a sawed-off, single-shot 12-gauge shotgun. King then took his own life with the same weapon. The couple's three children—ages 6, 8, and 10—along with Dave King's two children from a previous marriage—ages 15 and 18—were at home during the shooting.

Benton police officers had responded to a domestic disturbance call from Carolyn King two nights before her death. Dave King was arrested at that time for public intoxication and was released after posting bond.

The couple were in the process of a separation.  
6/29: AD-G

*Little Rock, July 5*

The partially nude body of **Angela Hare**, 24, was found behind an abandoned house by police officers who were chasing a drug suspect. A shirt was bunched around her neck and a sock was tied to her right wrist.

Hare's death is suspected to be linked to a series of slayings of central Little Rock prostitutes dating back to March 1993. Four of the five murdered women were killed during summer months and also had histories of prostitution and drug arrests.

Police are awaiting results of an autopsy to determine the cause of Hare's death.

7/5-7: AD-G

*Bentonville, July 20*

Bentonville Police found **Donna Walker**, 27, dead when they arrived at the apartment of her boyfriend, Clifford Dean Crose. Crose's neighbor, Deborah Anderson, placed a 911 call to the police at Crose's request. According to Anderson, at the time the 911 call was placed Walker was having difficulty breathing and had a dried hard substance on her face. She was nude and partially covered with a sheet.

Walker's body was sent to the state medical examiner's office to determine the cause of her death.

7/20: *Bentonville Daily Record*

*Marion, August 3*

The husband of **Sheila Hardin**, 51, reported to police that his wife had been shot. Sheriff's deputies found her in a hallway of her home with several wounds from a large-caliber handgun. The body was sent to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

John Hardin III, the victim's husband, was held on charges of first-degree murder.

8/3: *Evening Times*

*Little Rock, August 7*

**Judith Canon**, 50, was fatally shot in the head. Her husband, Terry Ross Canon, 37, was arrested. He told police that his handgun went off accidentally when his wife grabbed his wrist during an argument. Police found a .357-caliber Magnum revolver in the apartment.

Terry Canon pleaded innocent during his arraignment and is being held without bond in the Pulaski County Jail.

8/7: AD-G

*Prescott, August 11*

The body of **Linda K. Williams**, 33, was found in a dry gravel pit near her home. She was apparently shot with a shotgun. Her husband, Herbert L. Williams, 39, was charged with one count of capital murder and one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm (a 20-gauge shotgun). Williams was ordered held without bond. If found guilty, Williams could receive the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole. Williams is scheduled for court on August 31 at the Nevada County Courthouse.

8/9, 8/11, 8/16: AD-G; *Nevada County Picayune*; *Texarkana Gazette*

*Van Buren, August 12*

**Ruth Pearl Henderson**, 74, was found dead in her home by her son, who went to her house because she failed to keep a dinner appointment. Henderson had wounds to her neck and head. Her body was sent to the

crime lab in Little Rock.

8/12, 8/26: *Argus-Courier*; AD-G

*Little Rock, August 15*

The nude body of **Reola England**, 40, was found stuffed under a vacant house. The cause of death was given as strangulation. It was estimated that England had been killed six to ten days before her body was discovered.

8/15, 8/17: AD-G

*Wynne, August 19*

The dead body of **Ruthie Mae Collins**, 30, was found in her bed by a man who was also sleeping in her house. Collins was apparently shot to death. Her body was sent to the state medical examiner for autopsy.

A suspect has been interviewed.

8/19: AD-G

*El Dorado, August 22*

The body of **Denise Eeds Biggers**, 22, was found at the railroad tracks at South Washington Street. Biggers had been bludgeoned with a piece of concrete. Her body was sent to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory.

Romario Waller, 18, was arrested on a warrant for first-degree murder. Bond was set at \$100,000.

According to Police Chief Don Tate, the murder seemed to involve a sex-for-drugs deal. No drugs were delivered. Biggers allegedly said that she had AIDS, which resulted in the violence. It is not known yet whether or not Biggers actually had AIDS.

8/22, 8/24, 8/26: AD-G

*Little Rock, August 22*

The nude body of **Tina Rocelle Dobbins**, 25, was found beside a deserted North Little Rock road. Dobbins had a gunshot wound in her back and marks on her back and arms that suggest she was dragged some distance beside a car.

Tina Dobbins lived at the same apartment complex in which Reola England once lived. England's body was found August 9th under an abandoned house in Little Rock. England's death is linked to the deaths of five other women because of the similarities in their deaths.

8/22, 9/2: AD-G

*Barton, August 26*

The body of **Katherine Harris** was found in her bedroom by Harris' mother. She had been beaten severely about the head and face. After an autopsy in Little Rock, it was revealed that Harris had also been strangled and stabbed.

Johnny Lee Taylor, 17, was arrested and charged with capital felony murder. Taylor was held without bond in the Phillips County Jail. The motive for the murder might have been robbery.

8/26: *Phillips County Progress*

*Alexander, September 5*

Pulaski County sheriff's deputies found **Ann Perry**, 24, in her home. She had been stabbed to death. Michael Andre Perry, 36, husband of Ann Perry was arrested on a charge of first-degree murder. Michael Perry had been released from the Pulaski County Jail and he was staying with his wife. He was held in jail in lieu of \$250,000 bond after he pleaded not guilty at his arraignment.

9/5-6: AD-G

*Searcy, September 11*

**Paula Jean DeLong**, 39, was shot to death in her home. She was shot once in the head with a small-caliber gun. Her husband, Elbert DeLong, 49, was arrested and held in the White County Jail on a \$500,000 bond. Elbert DeLong will be charged with first-degree murder. The body was sent to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory.

9/11: AD-G

*Enola, September 13*

The body of **Shawn Mitton May**, 28, was found in a field near Enola after police were notified where to look for it. According to Faulkner County Sheriff Bob Blankenship, Robert Harold May, 28, of Edgemont, told the Cleburne County sheriff's office that he killed his wife.

Bond was set at \$50,000. He is accused of stabbing Shawn May while her 19-month-old son sat in the back seat of the car in which they were all riding. The body was run over with the car and left in the field.

On October 2, 1995, Robert May pleaded "innocent" to the charge of first-degree murder.

9/13, 10/6: AD-G; *Log Cabin Democrat*; *Sun-Times*

*Berryville, September 30*

**Heidi Compton**, 25, died three weeks after suffering burns over 70 percent of her body. Compton's boyfriend, Bobby Dale Ohler, 28, was charged with capital murder. Ohler allegedly doused Compton with gasoline and ignited the fuel. He was held without bond.

Ohler was also charged with manufacturing methamphetamine. Compton and Ohler were awaiting trial on a May 20 charge of possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute.

9/30: AD-G

*Eureka Springs, October 4*

**Sloan Dillaha**, 32, was shot and killed by her estranged husband, **Bennett Dillaha**, 35, who then turned the handgun on himself. The couple's divorce was about to be finalized. The matter of custody of the Dillaha's son arose in an October 3 hearing. The decision was to be made in another hearing scheduled for 10 days later.

Bennett Dillaha had kicked in the door of his wife's apartment several days before the murder-suicide.

10/4, 10/12: *Daily Times; Times-Echo*

*Jonesboro, October 11*

The body of **Dora Burnett**, 31, was found in a bathtub at the rear of the house she rented. She died of smoke inhalation. Evidence was found that Burnett tried unsuccessfully to escape the fire that someone set at the front of the house. Jonesboro police are investigating the fire as arson and homicide.

10/11: *Sun*

*Rector, October 15*

The decomposed bodies of **Barbara A. Flick**, 34, **Andria Flick**, 11, and **David E. Flick**, 36, were found in their home. The Flicks were apparently shot to death with a .38-caliber gun several days before the bodies were found. All three victims were shot in the head.

Aaron Michael Hodge, 17, was charged with three counts of capital murder. Hodge is the son of Barbara Flick. He lived in a garage apartment of the family home and threw nightly parties at the house for nearly a week while the victims' bodies lay in other rooms of the house. Friends and neighbors reported that Hodge and his stepfather, David Flick, had had problems.

In Clay County Circuit Court, Hodge pleaded not guilty to the charges. A trial date has not yet been scheduled.

10/15, 10/16-18, 10/21, 10/25, 10/28: *Daily Press; AD-G; Clay County Democrat; Texarkana Gazette; Sun; Daily Record*

*Rector, October 15*

The decomposed body of **Andria Flick**, 11, was found along with the bodies of her mother, **Barbara A. Flick**, 34, and father, **David E. Flick**, 36.

Flick's half brother, Aaron Michael Hodge, 17, was charged with three counts of capital murder. For more details, see the entry for Barbara A. Flick (October 15).

10/16, 10/18: *AD-G, Clay County Democrat*

*Ashdown, October 16*

The body of **Misty Dawn Rowan**, 19, was found by

hunters. The victim was shot in the head with a .38-caliber handgun. Both of her hands were fractured.

Christina Surber, 24, was charged with first-degree murder. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 40 years in the Arkansas Department of Correction.

10/16, 1/12/96: *Texarkana Gazette*

*Rogers, November 1*

The body of **Ernestine W. Andregg**, 50, was found in her kitchen by a friend of the family, William Ochoa. Andregg suffered multiple stab wounds on her torso. Her body was sent to the Arkansas Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

The Rogers Police Department and the Arkansas State Police are investigating the crime. There were no signs of forced entry. Police have no suspects and have not yet identified the type of weapon used in the slaying.

11/1-2, 11/6: *AD-G; The Morning News of Northwest Arkansas; Daily Record*

*Fayetteville, November 9*

**Lucille Tunnell**, 80, was found, naked from the waist down, lying in a roadside ditch near Westville, Oklahoma. Tunnell had been badly beaten and died in the hospital.

James Richard Toan, 17, Tunnell's stepgrandson, was charged with capital murder, rape, kidnapping, battery and theft. Police believe that Toan beat Tunnell at their home and then drove her in the family van, which he stole, to Oklahoma where he dumped her in the ditch. Toan pleaded innocent to the charges. Trial has been scheduled for March 26, 1996

11/9, 12/1, 12/6: *AD-G*

*Monticello, November 23*

Drew County deputies found the body of **Barbara Gardner**, 35, in the home she shared with her fiancé, Randy Lloyd. She had been shot in the face with a .410 shotgun. Gardner's seven-year-old daughter was found tied to a bed in another room and she had been raped.

Clay Lloyd, 13, son of Randy Lloyd, was charged in Drew County juvenile court with capital murder, rape, and kidnapping. On the day of the murder, Clay told a girl on his school bus what he was going to do.

11/23-24, 12/3, 12/8: *AD-G; Arkansas Times*

*England, December 16*

**Maryetta Kearney**, 91, was stabbed to death by her 19-year-old grandson, Jeremiah Kearney Jr., who stabbed her once in the heart. He confessed that he stabbed his grandmother and that she was possessed by

a demon. Kearney was held at the Lonoke County Jail without bail. He may be charged with first-degree murder.

12/16: AD-G

*Sherwood, December 18*

**Norma Smith**, 47, was shot by her husband, Joe Smith, 47, who subsequently killed himself. The bodies were found by police who checked on the couple at the request of the Smiths' daughter. A large-caliber revolver was found at the scene.

12/18: AD-G

*Little Rock, January 14, 1996*

**Lashaunna Henry**, 18, was fatally shot in the head by Darrell Robinson, 19. The couple was arguing about the care of their child when Robinson shot Henry twice with a .38-caliber pistol. Robinson then killed himself with the pistol. The incident occurred on November 29, 1995.

1/14/96: AD-G

## RACIST VIOLENCE

*Malvern, January 12*

A possible pipe bomb was found underneath the home of Clark and Amber Cooper, a racially-mixed couple in Malvern. A telephone repairman discovered the device. Malvern Police Chief Richard Taft said his office was "examining the possibility that this is a hate crime."

The Coopers' one-year-old child and a nine-month-old child, whom Mrs. Cooper was baby-sitting, were in the house when the device was discovered.

1/12: *Malvern Daily Record*

*Hermitage, August 29*

Michael Miller, 31, was arrested August 13 for delivery of cocaine. According to police, Miller sold an ounce of cocaine to an undercover agent on two occasions. At a bond reduction hearing, police stated that Miller uses "terrorist tactics" to keep people from speaking or testifying against him. To some community members, Miller is the drug kingpin of the town.

Miller's wife, Traci, thinks that her husband's problem with the police stems from

racist feelings about the Millers' marriage. She said that it was "...pure retaliation because I'm white and he's black."

According to Traci Miller, police searched her house without a warrant. She also said that someone had shot their dog. In addition, Traci Miller said that someone

called her father to warn her to keep her "mouth shut."

8/29: AD-G

*Fayetteville, September 5*

The Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at the University of Arkansas recently had a statue of a black figure with a name tag reading "Sambo" in front of the fraternity house. On August 17, a black law professor, Carlton Bailey, went to the house to photograph the statue. According to Bailey, students who were inside the house yelled "the 'n word'". In addition, as Bailey was walking away from the house, someone threw a chair out of the window at him. Bailey filed complaints with university administrators.

Both the fraternity's president and faculty advisor have apologized to Bailey. Richard Jason Durham, the fraternity's vice president for recruiting, said that the statue has been destroyed. On behalf of the fraternity, he apologized to anyone who was offended. Durham indicated that he doubted the fraternity would be disciplined over the incident.

On September 8, an ad hoc administrative hearing board of the All-University Judicial Review Board barred the fraternity for two years from displaying insignia, recruiting new members, participating in the Interfraternity Council, and participating in campus activities as a group. The fraternity filed an appeal on September 13. Chancellor Dan Ferritor upheld the judicial board's decision.

In addition, on September 6, the Sigma Phi Epsilon National Fraternity suspended the charter of the Fayetteville chapter.

9/5, 9/7, 9/9-12, 9/16, 9/28, 12/13 : AD-G, *The Morning News*

*Berryville, December 5*

A fight that occurred in April in the parking lot of a Berryville convenience store has resulted in the assertion by lawyers for the defendants that they cannot get a fair trial in the town. Nine Hispanic immigrants were accused of beating up three white men. Attorneys want to transfer the trials to Eureka Springs.

Public defender Robert Rogers filed affidavits signed by John Spurlin, a local dentist, and the Rev. Mark Lenneville indicating that racial tension had been rising in Berryville. Deputy Prosecutor Kenny Elser filed affidavits signed by 28 residents who contend that the immigrants can get a fair verdict from local jurors.

Two of the men who were beaten, Kurt Howard and Shannon Evans, who authorities say started the incident, were charged with misdemeanor harassment.

They each were fined \$400 and sentenced to 30 and 40 hours of community service. A jail sentence of 180 days was suspended on the condition of one year of good behavior.

The defendants face felony charges of aggravated riot, punishable by up to six years in prison and fines as high as \$10,000. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Kenny Elser said that the Hispanics received felony charges because they were the ones who showed up with weapons.

12/5, 12/7, 12/13, 12/15: *Harrison Daily Times*; *Boone County Headlight*; AD-G; *The Morning News of Northwest Arkansas*

## GAY AND LESBIAN VIOLENCE

*Wrightsville, January 24*

A 21-year-old Wrightsville man was robbed and forced to perform a sexual act by a man who first forced him behind a nearby house and threatened to kill him.

1/24: AD-G

*Blytheville, April 3*

Doug Richmond, 42, was kicked to death while in the city jail's "drunk tank." Charles Lee Whitfield, 28, was charged with first-degree murder in Blytheville Municipal Court and is being held without bond.

Richmond was arrested for public intoxication on Friday evening; Whitfield was arrested on the same charge on Saturday morning. The men were in a cell with three other men who alerted officers about the attack. According to Chief of Police Ralph Hill, Whitfield was "making homosexual comments" toward Richmond and kicking him in the head and face with his bare feet when a corrections officer entered the cell and stopped the attack. Richmond died about an hour later at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Blytheville.

4/3: *Courier News*

## RELIGIOUS MINORITY VIOLENCE

There was one incident of violence against members of a religious minority in Arkansas. The victims requested that the incident not be publicized for fear of more violent attacks.

## HATE GROUP ACTIVITY

In this section we document the activities of white supremacist groups as well as individuals and groups whose message is racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, or anti-gay.

### Knights of the Ku Klux Klan

*Pine Bluff, May 21*

Approximately 20 people attended a KKK rally on the steps of the Jefferson County Courthouse. An approximately equal number of police and news media representatives also were present at the rally.

Thomas Robb of Zinc, director of the Klan, said, "Integration does not work." He also said that the rally's purpose was to "highlight the frustration Americans feel" with a "conservative Congress that is ignoring the problem of illegal aliens."

Robb announced that there will be a grand opening celebration for the new Klan headquarters in Zinc during the Labor Day weekend.

5/21: AD-G; *Pine Bluff Commercial*; *Pine Bluff News*

*El Dorado, June 11*

A crowd of about 160 people attended the Ku Klux Klan rally on the steps of the Union County Courthouse. Law enforcement officers, in uniform and in plain clothes, attended. Some African-Americans, about 20, attended in order to hear what the Klan had to say.

Thomas Robb, national director of the KKK, remarked that "there are obnoxious minorities putting pressure on government officials from Washington on down." He also stated that "White people founded this country. White people built this country. White people are this country."

Tee shirts and hats were sold by the Klan before the rally. El Dorado police videotaped the rally as a record for court in case any incidents occurred.

6/11, 6/13, 6/17: *El Dorado News Times*; *News-Times*

*Hot Springs, June 28*

Ku Klux Klan recruitment stickers were placed on pay telephones along U.S. Highway 70 West. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company removed the stickers and has said that they will prosecute anyone caught replacing the stickers. The stickers were business-card sized with "KKK" printed in red on a white background. They bore the message "We are bringing a message of hope and deliverance to America. Join the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan today! Your White Children are quickly becoming America's new minority." A telephone number was given

as well as a Harrison address to obtain information for a \$2 fee.

Thomas Robb, national director of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, stated that the KKK has no organized recruiting effort in Hot Springs. He said that 15,000 to 20,000 similar stickers are sold each month to people across the nation. Robb would not reveal any Klan representatives in the Hot Springs area because he said that only about 5 representatives were authorized to talk to the media at the national level.

6/28: *The Sentinel-Record*

*Fort Smith, July 9*

Approximately 10 Ku Klux Klan members attended a rally at the Sebastian County Courthouse. There were a total of about 80 people at the rally including police officers.

Nathan Robb, son of Thomas Robb, and his wife, Anna Robb, delivered speeches. Nathan Robb said "All they (African-Americans) want is someone to feel sorry for them because they've been held back 400 years." He also stated that "We're pro-white, pro-Christian, and pro-family." Anna Robb remarked that "America doesn't belong to the faggots infesting our country."

A group of about 15 people protested the Klan's statements.

7/9: *Times Record*

*Fort Smith, July 9*

A rally, titled "Celebrating God's Love For All People," was held in Harry Kelley Park from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. as a protest against hate groups, specifically the Ku Klux Klan. The rally occurred at the same time as the KKK rally on the courthouse steps.

Presentations were given by 10 local churches. Singers and musicians performed and Fort Smith Mayor Ray Baker addressed the group.

7/9: *Times Record*

*Arkadelphia, September*

Library staff at Henderson State University discovered that someone had affixed adhesive stickers to almost 600 books in the organization's collection. The stickers contained a recruiting message for the Ku Klux Klan. Some stickers included a 900 telephone number. The discovery occurred on June 13. Plain-clothes police and staff increased security patrols. On June 26, campus security arrested a man in the third-floor stacks. Charges are pending against the man since mid-August.

September: *American Libraries*

## Tony Alamo and the Holy Alamo Christian Church

Tony Alamo, who changed his name from Bernie Lazar Hoffman, writes and distributes anti-Catholic and anti-Semitic tracts throughout Arkansas. He is currently serving a six-year prison sentence for unpaid taxes. In California, Alamo has been accused of felony child abuse for his part in the beating of a follower's 11-year-old son.

Alamo's followers distributed fliers in four Arkansas cities—Fort Smith, Little Rock (twice), North Little Rock, and Sherwood. In all cities, fliers were placed under vehicle windshield wipers of unattended cars.

2/11, 3/19, 7/1, 9/6, 12/30: *Witness statements and copies of flier*

*Fort Smith, February 15*

U.S. District Judge Jimm L. Hendren ruled that the sale of property belonging to Tony Alamo, 60, may proceed. Alamo's property was seized by the Internal Revenue Service in 1990 in an attempt to recover the unpaid tax liability of the Holy Alamo Church. The property consists of jackets, rhinestones, stereo speakers, auto equipment, and camera flash units and is valued at \$56,000. The property has been stored at a cost of \$450 per month.

The IRS will hold a two-day auction. Hendren ruled that proceeds from the auction must be held in an interest-bearing account until it can be determined who has a valid lien on the money and which liens have priority.

In 1994, Alamo, whose real name is Bernie Lazar Hoffman, was sentenced to six years in prison and fined \$210,000 on tax evasion charges. The IRS has made approximately \$84,000 from previous auctions of Alamo merchandise. The next auction will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

2/15, 7/13: *AD-G*

*Fort Smith, May 13*

Three members of the Twentieth Century Holiness Tabernacle Church, founded by Tony Alamo, filed suit against Fort Smith and Van Buren city officials as well as the Sebastian County and Crawford County sheriffs and prosecutors. Larry Willis, Sally Demoulin, and Steve Johnson, all of Fort Smith, filed the suit.

The lawsuit contends that the Fort Smith and Van Buren ordinances against placing handbills on unattended vehicles restrict the religious expression of



Alamo's followers. The lawsuit requests damages from both cities for violation of civil rights, illegal arrests and detention, and for religious persecution. Also sought is retribution for the costs of fines, court appearances, attorney fees and bail for arrests made because of the ordinances.

Both cities' ordinances forbid the placement of hand-bills on vehicles unless the vehicle occupant is willing to accept them. Fines up to \$500 can be levied against offenders.

5/13, 5/16: *Times Record*; AD-G

## Other Activities of Individuals and Groups

*Tucker, April 12*

Richard Wayne Snell, 64, a white supremacist convicted of murdering two men, appealed to a clemency board to set aside his execution scheduled for April 19th. Snell was scheduled for execution six times in previous years. The Arkansas Supreme Court set aside execution dates scheduled in 1986, 1987, and 1988. Federal courts set aside executions scheduled in 1988 and 1989.

4/12: AD-G

*Fayetteville, April 29*

At an April meeting of the Militia of Washington County there were about 35 men and five women in attendance. The Militia meets weekly about 10 miles outside of Fayetteville. According to group leaders, the public is invited to attend meetings. Although a reporter was not allowed to witness the meeting itself, four members of the Militia discussed their involvement with the organization.

The Militia was founded by Wayne Fincher, a self-employed archery equipment producer from Elkins. Fincher has an eighth-grade education and said that he studied the U.S. Constitution and the Arkansas Constitution for two years before organizing the Militia.

The group doesn't engage in organized training activities but does hope to set up a shooting range for target practice.

One member said that the group wants to see "that we live by the Constitution that we have." The Militia has offered its assistance to local law enforcement officials in emergency situations. Baptist minister Jay Cole, Militia Chaplain, gave examples of emergencies in which the Militia might be called - if a civil war occurred or because of the violence he says is caused by the Northwest Arkansas immigration boom.

The group also claims to be a "watchdog" of govern-

ment. According to Fincher, the Militia exists to "protect your rights."

4/29: AD-G

*Little Rock, May 7*

Kerry Wayne Noble, former leader of the right-wing extremist group The Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord, wrote a commentary on right-wing extremist groups. He noted that the right-wing includes a variety of people, from "well-meaning tax protesters to church-going pro-lifers to gun-toting second-amendment activists to hate-spewing white supremacists."

Noble identified the one thing that he believes each person in the right-wing movement has in common—that they proceed from the false assumption that "the end-time apocalypse is to be the one of an evil empire..." and that "...the world will be totally socialistic, communistic and atheistic." He admonished those in the right wing to "stop the hate" and to "stop the killing."

5/7: AD-G

*Searcy, May 8*

An editorial addressed an article that was published in the *U.S. News and World Report* and which listed the beliefs of extremist organizations as identified by the Militia Institute, Klanwatch, and the Anti-Defamation League. Eleven beliefs were cited. The editorial charged that the watchdog groups which identified those "unfounded" extremist beliefs were exhibiting "paranoia."

5/8: *The Daily Citizen*

*Fort Smith, June 5*

A U.S. District Court jury decided that the Arkansas Educational Television Network (AETN) was not obligated to include Ralph Forbes, an independent candidate for the 3rd District congressional seat in a 1992 election, in the candidate debate televised in 1992.

Forbes, a former member of the American Nazi Party, contended in his lawsuit, initiated in October 1992, that, as a qualified candidate, he had a right to appear in the debate or to have equal time on AETN to express his views.

Defendants in the lawsuit included former Governor Bill Clinton, Susan Howarth, executive director for AETN, eight members of the AETN board of directors, and an AETN production manager. Forbes later added television stations KHBS and KHOG, ABC network affiliates in west and northwest Arkansas, as defendants because the stations only would air one of Forbes' campaign ads concerning abortion late at night.

In 1994, U.S. District Judge Franklin Waters dismissed

the lawsuit. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals at St. Louis reinstated Forbes' First Amendment claims against AETN. The opinion stated that a jury should decide whether or not AETN created a limited public forum when it sponsored the congressional debate. If so, then Forbes would have a First Amendment right to participate.

6/5-6/8: *AD-G; Times Record; Log Cabin Democrat*

*Little Rock, June 29*

U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright dismissed Ralph Forbes' lawsuit concerning his omission from the November 1994 ballot as an Independent Party of Arkansas candidate for attorney general. Wright said that Forbes had no standing to bring a case on behalf of a political party that did not claim him as a member.

She noted that Pulaski County Circuit Court Judge John Ward previously ruled against Forbes saying that Forbes' dispute seemed to be with the Independent Party of Arkansas, which refused to nominate him.

Forbes indicated that he will appeal Wright's ruling.

6/29: *AD-G*

*Center Point, August 28*

About 50 descendants and admirers of Robert G. Shaver gathered to pay tribute to the Civil War hero. A white stone was placed on Shaver's grave identifying him as colonel of the 7th Arkansas Infantry Regiment, Confederate States of America.

In addition to his Civil War participation, Shaver served as Howard County's first sheriff, became a general in the Arkansas militia, and organized and led the state's first chapter of the Ku Klux Klan.

8/28: *AD-G*

*Fayetteville, September 5*

A flier entitled "Affirmation of Support for President Clinton's Affirmative Action Policies" was found at the Fayetteville Post Office. The text of the flier indicates that the signer of the "Affirmation" is a Caucasian who believes that President Clinton should continue to encourage the hiring of "people of color" even though "they may have lower test scores on employment and academic tests" and "overall lower scholastic qualifications." Race/ethnic quotas and preference for females should also be supported. The document continues in its racist, sexist way by stating that President Clinton and Hillary will see to it that reverse discrimination will only be practiced against "bad white people" (and primarily white males), not "good white people."

9/5: Witness statement and copy of flier

*North Little Rock, September 8*

Fliers were left on doors at the Lakewood Apartments. On one side of the one-page flier is a discussion of the "Rapture," which included a description of the "Rapture," when it will occur (December 1999), who will be raptured, and what to do in case you miss the "Rapture." On the other side of the flier is a description of two modern systems for identification and tracking of animals. It is suggested that those methods will be employed by the AntiChrist to manage the new world order. Diagrams are given of bar coding with the number "666" on the forehead or right hand and injectable transponders implanted under the skin.

No indication of who is responsible for the flier printing and distribution is given on the flier.

9/8: Witness statement and copy of flier

*Cabot, October 20*

Students protested the Cabot High School policy that bans the Confederate flag as well as clothing that bears the flag or similar emblems. They also protested the school's disciplinary action taken in the case of seven students who, on a homecoming parade float, placed a Confederate flag near a noose from which was hanging the mascot of the Helena Cougars. Students said that their use of the Confederate flag is about "Southern heritage."

Not all of the protesters present at the rally were students. Terry Cagle, 27, announced he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan and began shouting "White Power!"

10/20, 10/23: *Evening Times; AD-G*

*Stuttgart, November 1*

An article in the "Opinions" section of the newspaper argued that hate speech does not have an impact that is measurable or "objectively verifiable." The article was attributed to The Freedom Forum. The Forum suggests that speech is different from action and is protected by the First Amendment. Speech should be provided with a "degree of immunity from social control that is not extended to physical conduct."

11/1: *Daily Leader*

## **POLICE BRUTALITY**

*Little Rock, January 10*

Sheila Wesson, 33, reported that two Little Rock police officers picked her up on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and drove her to a wooded area on Thibault Road. She said the officers, Chris Wane Garner, 22, and Eric Francis

Tinner, 24, beat her legs with a nightstick, told her to kneel, and sprayed her eyes with o.c. spray (a chemical irritant), and then left her. Wesson walked to a nearby house and phoned the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office.

An internal investigation revealed evidence supporting Wesson's claim. Police administrators said the officers violated 17 general orders and regulations in the incident. Garner and Tinner were fired on February 6th. A criminal investigation file on the incident was sent to the Pulaski County prosecutor's office for review.

The former officers were charged with felony kidnapping and third-degree battery, a misdemeanor. Tinner was also charged with terroristic threatening, a felony, for allegedly telling Wesson they would kill her if they saw her out again. The two men were released on individual \$5,000 bonds. Both of the men entered innocent pleas.

At a pretrial hearing, the two former officers were represented by Dale Adams, who requested that the case be dismissed or moved to Perry County. Adams contended that the two men could not get a fair trial in Pulaski County because of pretrial publicity. The request was denied by Circuit Judge John Langston. Garner and Tinner have rejected any possible offer of a plea bargain. Their trial was scheduled for August 5, 1995.

On August 10th, Pulaski County Circuit Judge John Langston declared a mistrial when crime scene specialist Barbara Polite revealed that prints were found in the car that could have come from gloves (which Wesson reported wearing when she was allegedly assaulted). Neither the prosecutor nor the defense attorney had been told about the prints.

A new trial was scheduled for January 26, 1996.

1/10, 2/7, 3/9, 4/20, 7/23, 8/11-12, 8/15-8/16, 9/20, 1/25/96: AD-G; *Arkansas Times*

#### *Little Rock, March 16*

Sheila Wesson, who was allegedly kidnapped and beaten by two former Little Rock police officers, reported that police kicked her during a drug raid at her mother's home. She claimed the action was taken for revenge.

Police raided the house and found a few marijuana cigarettes and several rocks of crack cocaine. Sheila Wesson was released without charges, however, her mother, sister, and brother were charged with maintaining a drug house (felony). According to the police, Wesson collapsed during the raid and struck her head on a table.

3/16: AD-G

#### *Forrest City, March 20*

James Ludwig, 24, was cleared of any wrongdoing in the March 3rd shooting of Corey Williams, 15.

Williams and another juvenile were fighting in a parking lot. Ludwig pulled Williams away from the fight and identified himself as a police officer. Williams had a gun in his hand and was told by Ludwig to drop the weapon. Williams refused to drop the gun and, as he was turning around toward the officer, was shot once in the right shoulder by Ludwig.

The First Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney's Office ruled that Ludwig's actions were justified under the circumstances.

Ludwig was suspended with pay during the investigation by the Forrest City Police Department and the Arkansas State Police.

3/20: *Times-Herald*

#### *Bentonville, March 21*

George Alvis of Benton County filed a lawsuit in federal court claiming physical abuse by officers of the Rogers Police Department and deputy sheriffs of Benton County in 1991. Alvis was arrested in September 1991 by the Rogers Police Department and was held in the Benton County Jail. He received a life sentence for the murder of his wife, Twila Alvis. Alvis now claims that he did not commit the crime but confessed "out of fear for my life."

Benton County Sheriff Andy Lee and six "John Does" are named in the lawsuit. Alvis is requesting \$1.5 million for physical and mental cruelty and that criminal charges be brought against the officers who were involved.

3/21: *Benton County Daily Record*

#### *Stuttgart, April 14*

Officer Tommy Seay of the Stuttgart Police Department was fired because of racial slurs directed to two students at the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy. The Stuttgart Police Department was notified by the Training Academy that Seay had received two written reprimands for violating the rule, which protects individuals at the academy from sexual or racial harassment. The two incidents occurred on April 6th and April 11th.

After reviewing documents and interview information as well as listening to Seay, the Stuttgart Police Commission unanimously upheld Seay's termination.

4/14: *Stuttgart Daily Leader*

#### *Pine Bluff, May 2*

Pine Bluff police sprayed pepper spray above the crowd at the Broadmoor Cinema in an attempt to disperse a

crowd of approximately 300 people. According to police, the crowd was pushing at the theater's doors while waiting to get in to see the movie "Friday," starring rap artist Ice Cube. One officer reported that a crowd member attempted to take the officer's gun from its holster.

Parents of some teenagers who were affected by the spray contacted Police Chief Brad King, who asked the Arkansas State Police to assist in an investigation. A delegation from a local coalition of community activist groups indicated that it will request a meeting with Chief King to discuss the incident.

5/2-3: *Pine Bluff Commercial*; AD-G

*Little Rock, May 26*

Kevin Lee Murphy, assistant warden at the Arkansas Department of Correction Benton Unit, was indicted by a federal grand jury for allegedly beating a handcuffed female inmate. He was placed on administrative leave but will continue to: receive his salary; live in a state-owned house rent-free; have his utilities paid by the state; and continue to receive commissary items, meat, and produce worth about \$90 per month.

5/26: *Arkansas Times*

*Fort Smith, May 29*

In a letter to the editor of the *Times Record*, a woman from Crawford County charged that an officer who arrested her would not allow her to use the telephone to arrange for someone to pick up the three teenagers—ages 14, 15, and 16—who accompanied her. She also claimed that the officer refused to drive the teenagers home.

The officer allegedly took the woman with him and left the teenagers without knowing how they might get home. The arrested woman reported that she was not allowed to telephone her children until the next day.

5/29: *Times Record*

*Pine Bluff, June 10*

Pine Bluff Officer J. "Buddy" McGann was suspended for 20 days in connection with an incident in which Harold Jacks, 66, suffered a broken leg.

McGann and another officer, Dexter Bunting, accompanied a former girlfriend of Jacks along with her new husband to Jacks' house to retrieve some of her personal items.

When Jacks indicated that he did not want the couple on his property anymore, he was handcuffed. He allegedly made a remark to the police officers that they interpreted as a threat. A scuffle ensued in which all three men fell to the ground.

On appeal to the Civil Service Commission,

McGann's suspension was reduced to 15 days. Jacks filed a lawsuit in federal court against the city of Pine Bluff. Jacks claimed that his knee was fractured during a struggle with McGann. Jacks' daughter, Sharon Bates, claims that McGann struck her.

In October 1992, McGann was suspended for 30 days for striking a mental patient and for filing a false report. 6/10, 11/2: *Pine Bluff Commercial*; AD-G

*Marked Tree, June 29*

In a letter to the editor of the *Marked Tree Tribune*, Randy and Tina York of Payneway claimed that officers at the Marked Tree Police Department would not allow them to take Randy York's four-year-old daughter with them unless they had a car seat for the child. The Yorks later contacted the Arkansas State Police headquarters in Jonesboro and were told that car seats are required only for children three years old and younger.

When the couple returned to the Police Department with a car seat, an officer then allegedly told them that they could not take the girl unless the mother allowed it even though the visitation was stipulated in legal proceedings between the girl's divorced parents.

In their letter to the editor, the Yorks demanded a public apology from the officers.

6/29: *Marked Tree Tribune*

*Jonesboro, July 6*

Forest Lee Robinson Jr., 35, of Black Rock, died after being transported from the Lawrence County Jail at Walnut Ridge to St. Bernard's Regional Medical Center in Jonesboro. Jailers reported Robinson as unresponsive in his cell around 7 a.m. the day of his death. The cause of his death is unknown. Robinson's body was sent to the state Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

7/6: *Jonesboro Sun*

*Perryville, August 29*

The FBI and the prosecuting attorney's office of Pulaski County are investigating the seizure of property by the Perry County Sheriff's Office. The investigation was requested by Perry County Municipal Judge Michael Allison.

The investigation request stemmed from the seizure of a truck and about \$2,200 in cash on July 18th as part of a drug forfeiture. However, Perry County deputies found no drugs when the vehicle was searched. No drug charges were filed against Alfred Martinez, 28, and Gerardo Hernandez, 22, both from Phoenix, Arizona.

Allison questioned whether or not the sheriff's office had probable cause to stop the men or take their property.

He said it appeared that the men were stopped because they were Mexican or Hispanic. Allison claimed that his office had received rumors in the past that weapons, drugs, and money were being taken from detainees at the Perry County Sheriff's Office with no charges being filed.

8/29: AD-G

*Fort Smith, September 16*

A Fort Smith police officer has filed an appeal with the Fort Smith Civil Service Commission concerning disciplinary action taken against him in connection with a July 30 chase. One police officer was fired and five others were disciplined after the July 30 chase.

Officers returned to the area of a previous disturbance when they were notified that Charles Gough Sr., was headed to the house with a .45-caliber pistol. In the course of the officers' chase of Gough, shots were fired.

During the chase Patrolman Ricky Sisson fired three shots from a moving patrol car, which is not allowed except in extreme cases. He was suspended for 10 days. Gough drove into Oklahoma on the wrong side of the highway. Officers David Hunter, Kevin Sticher and David Chambers followed Gough into the wrong lane. Officer Hunter rammed Gough's car in the rear during the chase and was fired for endangering the lives of everyone. Sticher and Chambers each received three-day suspensions.

9/16, 10/6-7: *Southwest Times Record*; AD-G

*Little Rock, September 19*

Marvin Glenn Johnson, 28, was arrested by North Little Rock police on a misdemeanor charge on July 27th. He notified jailers and nurses employed by Correctional Medical Systems Inc., current provider of medical care in the jail, that he was diabetic and needed insulin in the morning and the evening. Johnson received his first insulin injection 30 hours after he was jailed. He died on July 29th.

The state medical examiner concluded that the cause of death was lack of insulin complicated by a heart condition. Pulaski County Sheriff Randy Johnson turned over the case file to county prosecutors.

9/19: AD-G

*Little Rock, October 13*

Trooper Darryl Hall of the Arkansas State Police was accused of making sexual advances while arresting three women in separate incidents. Each woman testified that Hall had made comments about her beauty. According to Jennifer Morris, Hall touched her breast several times while adjusting her seat belt as she sat handcuffed in the front seat of his police car. Hall arrested Morris on March

13th. Sandy Dyer said that Hall stroked her hand while explaining arrest procedures on March 26. Melissa Chism claimed that Hall made advances toward her on April 2.

Hall has denied the allegations and remains on active duty during the investigation.

10/13: AD-G

*Jonesboro, October 31*

An investigation into who fired the bullet that penetrated the window of a convenience store during a high-speed chase was launched by the Arkansas State Police. Cpl. Charles Harper fired 16 bullets during the 30-mile chase of a van driven by Gene Young and Wanda Springer, who were wanted in Seattle on charges of armed robbery.

Jonesboro police participated in the capture of Young and Springer by setting up a roadblock. The Jonesboro officers deny firing any shots. Department policy dictates that officers not fire on a moving vehicle unless occupants of that vehicle fire at the officers.

State Police are investigating Harper's decision to fire at the van and whether or not Harper fired the shot that hit the store.

10/31: AD-G

*Conway, November 2*

Steve Armijo, former probation officer with the Adult Probation Office of the state Department of Community Punishment, was charged with misdemeanor harassment. Armijo allegedly offered to help Patricia Matthews with her probation in exchange for sexual favors. Matthews taped a telephone conversation with Armijo in which he talked about the type of sex he wanted from her.

11/2: AD-G

*Stuttgart, November 12*

James George and Beth Rail of Stuttgart filed a lawsuit against Arkansas County charging that James Shelton, a Keaton township constable, fired seven shots into their car last year for no apparent reason.

11/12-13: AD-G

*Eureka Springs, November 23*

Local activists have organized a group to monitor "police misconduct" in Eureka Springs. Four residents have sued the city and its Police Department in the past three months. Misconduct charges ranged from false arrest to battery.

Alderman Bill Rubley said that his main concern is the effect of the controversy on the town's tourism business.

11/23: AD-G

*West Memphis, November 23*

The Neighborhood Action Council and the Crittenden County chapter of the NAACP are investigating the death of an 18-year-old inmate of the Wrightsville Unit.

Lamarcus Covez Wright was said to have hanged himself in a holding cell of the unit. Wright's family requested that the two organizations investigate the death.

Wright did not seem to be depressed, according to his family, and he had requested pictures of his baby.

11/23: AD-G

## **MURDERS OF YOUTH**

**(20 years of age and younger)**

In April of this year, we began logging murders of young people. Incidents that were related to circumstances of abuse, neglect, or negligence are reported first. There were 11 such deaths. The second category of deaths involve young people who died as the result of street violence. Twenty seven such cases are summarized in this log.

### **Children Whose Deaths Were Not Related to Street Violence**

*Pine Bluff, April 20*

Clinton Washington, eight months, was taken to the Jefferson County Medical Center emergency room by his father and was pronounced dead at the center. The baby's body was sent to the Arkansas Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

Cal Washington, 25, was charged with manslaughter in the suffocation of his son. He was released on a \$10,000 unsecured bond. Washington told police that he placed a pillow over the baby's face to stop him from crying.

4/20, 4/27, 5/2: AD-G, *Pine Bluff Commercial*

*Jacksonville, May 5*

Kaylor Amir Kermit Rice, 7 months, died as a result of asphyxiation and suffocation. Rice was reportedly being baby-sat by Lonnie R. Hollis, 20, of Lonoke, and Shalla Whitaker. Jacksonville Police were summoned to the apartment complex where Hollis resided and found Whitaker in the courtyard with Rice in her arms. The baby was brought to the Rebsamen Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

A criminal investigation indicated that Rice's face had been placed in a pillow, causing his death. Hollis was charged with first-degree murder and was held in the Pulaski County Detention Facility on a \$100,000

bond. No charges were filed against Whitaker.

5/5, 5/10: *Jacksonville Patriot; Carlisle Independent*

*Little Rock, May 22*

Kenneth Osborne, 2, fell from a second-story window. Jennifer Osborne, 23, his mother, was asleep in the room with Kenneth. The two were visiting the home of Jennifer's friend, Matthew Lubkin, 21.

According to Kenneth's grandfather, Mark Osborne, the blinds in the room were closed and Jennifer Osborne did not notice that the screen was missing from the window. Kenneth's grandfather speculated that Kenneth pushed through the blind and tumbled out of the window.

Jennifer Osborne carried her son back into the house. She allowed him to play for half an hour before putting him back to bed. When she checked on Kenneth about a half-hour later, he had stopped breathing. At that point, emergency services were called. Little Rock firefighters administered CPR until an ambulance arrived to take the boy to Arkansas Children's Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Detectives are investigating the death.

5/22: AD-G

*Little Rock, May 31*

The decomposing body of an unidentified black male infant was found in a storage shed in Southwest Little Rock. An autopsy revealed that the infant was stillborn. The infant's death is still under investigation.

5/31: AD-G

*Blytheville, June 2*

Devontay Harris, 2, was found lying unconscious on the floor of his home by Blytheville police, who had been notified that a child had been beaten and needed help. Harris was taken to a local hospital and was transferred later to a Children's Hospital in Memphis where he died.

An autopsy revealed that the boy died from blunt force trauma. He was struck in the head and abdominal area, which resulted in liver damage. The autopsy also indicated that the trauma occurred several hours before he was found by the authorities.

Andre Bates, 23, was charged with first-degree murder. Bates, the boyfriend of Harris' mother, was taking care of the boy while the child's mother was in Jonesboro. Relatives of Bates reported the incident.

Harris had been listed with the Department of Human Services as a child abuse victim.

6/2: *Courier News*

*Pine Bluff, September 7*

Rakaan Ellsworth, 15 months, died at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock from multiple blunt force trauma. A capital murder charge was filed against Larry Ladwig, 28, of South Dakota. Ladwig is the boyfriend of the deceased boy's mother, Stephanie Ellsworth.

Ladwig told investigators that "he pushed the boy's head into a door, hit him in the stomach, squeezed his head with his hands and shook him about 10 minutes" over a two-day period. Ladwig was frustrated because Rakaan would not stop crying.

Ladwig was held in Jefferson County Jail without bond. If convicted, the penalty would be death or life in prison without parole.

9/7, 10/1: AD-G

*Jonesboro, September 15*

Eva Ware, 10, died when she tripped over an exposed 100-volt wire. The wire was strung outside a dog pen owned by Patsy Simms, 54, of Harrisburg, to keep other animals away from her dogs. Ware was found draped across the wire. An autopsy indicated that burns on the back of Ware's legs were consistent with electrocution.

Simms has been charged with negligent homicide, a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in a county jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.

9/15: Sun

*Fort Smith, November 14*

Mark Wofford, 5, was found dead in his home by relatives. His mother, Stephanie Kay Wofford, 32, was charged with first-degree murder in Sebastian County Circuit Court. Stephanie Wofford confessed to killing her son. She apparently suffocated him and cut his wrists, and then stabbed herself in the stomach. Stephanie Wofford slit her own wrists and ingested Comet cleanser before calling relatives for help.

Wofford's parents were divorced after seven years of marriage. His father, Rick Wofford, told police that he and his wife had a few minor custody squabbles.

Stephanie Wofford was taken to the Sparks Regional Medical Center. She was arrested and charged with first-degree murder

11/14-15, 11/22: *Southwest Times Record*; AD-G

*Conway, December 1*

Christopher James Edmond Dodson, 19 months, died after his mother's boyfriend, James Wesley Bilyeu, 28, of Conway, punched the baby in the stomach. Bilyeu was charged with first-degree murder. Bilyeu lived with

Christopher's mother, Billi Jo Casper Dodson. There was evidence of chronic abuse by Bilyeu.

12/1: *Log Cabin Democrat*

*North Little Rock, December 2*

Austin McGeorge, 10 months, died from injuries resulting from his being left unsupervised in a bathtub. His mother, Stacy McGeorge, 20, was charged with manslaughter. On November 6, Stacy McGeorge heard her son crying in the bathroom and ignored him. When she later entered the bathroom, she found him unconscious in the bathtub. Austin was taken to Arkansas Children's Hospital where he died on November 10th.

12/2: AD-G

*Warren, December 29*

Nicholas Poole, 13, was shot in the left eye with a .25-caliber handgun by his 14-year-old female friend. The girl, whose name was withheld because she will be tried as a juvenile, was charged with manslaughter. According to police, the girl said that she accidentally shot Poole while showing him the weapon.

12/29: AD-G

## **Youth Murdered as a Result of Street Violence**

*El Dorado, April 9*

Cedric Cannedy, 18, of Camden, was shot to death by someone who fired into a group of people. Curry M. Tatum, 10, of Hampton, pleaded not guilty in the shooting. Bond was set at \$250,000.

4/9-10, 7/28: *El Dorado News-Times*; *Camden News*

*Forrest City, April 10*

Jonathan Hancock, 19, and Brady Davis, 19, both of Gosnell, were shot in Mississippi County. Hancock died from his wounds. According to Capt. Charles Elliott of the Mississippi County Sheriff's Department, Hancock and Davis were stopped at a traffic light in Blytheville when four black males jumped out of their car and placed guns to the heads of Hancock and Davis. The four then made Hancock and Davis get into the trunk of the suspects' car. Hancock and Davis were transported to a levee at Bunge where they were shot. The suspects left the area in the truck that Hancock and Davis had been driving.

St. Francis County police arrested Scotty Hodges, 24, William Hunt, 18, and Antonio Britt, 17, all of Madison. All three were charged with capital murder and at-

tempted capital murder in Mississippi County. In Blytheville, the three were charged with aggravated robbery and kidnapping. A search is continuing for the fourth suspect. All three are being held without bond. If convicted of capital murder, the suspects could be sentenced to the death penalty or life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Clarence Williams, 28, also known as Ray-Ray, of Mississippi County, was arrested by FBI agents on July 7th. He was arraigned in Osceola Municipal Court on charges of capital murder and attempted capital murder. Bond was denied. Williams was also arraigned in Blytheville on charges of kidnapping and aggravated robbery. Bond was set at \$100,000. Hunt was released on \$200,000 bond and was ordered to appear in court October 23. Britt's next court appearance was scheduled for October 23. Hodges was denied bond. He will appear in court after a 30-day mental evaluation is completed.

4/10-13, 5/3, 7/19, 10/3: *Times-Herald*; AD-G; *The Osceola Times*; *Jonesboro Sun*

#### *Little Rock, April 15*

Alex Jordan, 15, died as the result of a drive-by shooting on West 25th Street. Jordan, his brother, and two friends were standing in a vacant lot when they saw two men get out of a car and enter a house. A third man followed them into the house. Then they all left the house and got into a car. According to Jordan's brother, the man sitting in the passenger's side of the front seat fired four shots, one of which hit Alex Jordan in the stomach.

Lamar Holmes, 16, was arrested on a charge of first-degree murder and pleaded innocent. He was held in the Pulaski County Jail in lieu of \$250,000 bail. Hal Johnson, 15, turned himself in and was charged with first-degree murder. According to Little Rock police, Johnson fired the shots that killed Jordan.

Hal Johnson pleaded guilty to first-degree murder. He will be sentenced in January 1996.

4/15-18, 11/7: AD-G

#### *Stamps, April 25*

Tyrone Cook, 20, of Stamps, was shot 14 times with a 9 mm pistol at point-blank range. Lafayette County Sheriff John Kilgore reported that the shooting was the result of a drug deal and may have been gang-related. Police speculate that the murder might have been premeditated.

Evote Humphrey, 19, of Detroit, Michigan, but originally from Stamps, was charged with capital

murder. Humphrey pleaded innocent. A trial date may be scheduled for sometime in October.

4/25-27: AD-G

#### *West Memphis, April 27*

The body of Brandon Herbst, 17, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was found on the riverbank in De Soto County, Mississippi. Herbst had been camping with friends in West Memphis when he disappeared. The group planned to attend the Grateful Dead concert scheduled for the weekend in Memphis.

4/27: *Evening Times*

#### *Little Rock, May 14*

Marlo Taylor, 19, of North Little Rock, was shot to death around 3:15 a.m. while sitting on a bench in Riverfront Park in Little Rock. Taylor was sitting with a woman when two men walked up behind Taylor and shot him in the back with a shotgun. Four people, who were standing nearby Taylor, witnessed the slaying.

5/14-16: AD-G

#### *Little Rock, May 18*

Timothy White, 20, was fatally wounded while driving through the Amelia B. Ives Homes public housing project. Someone in a blue Oldsmobile 98 shot White in the chest and side. The shooting occurred on May 15th; White was pronounced dead on May 17th. About 200 people, mostly Crip gang members, attended White's funeral on May 23rd.

Paul Edward Brown, 21, was arrested on a charge of first-degree murder. He was held without bond. According to a resident of the neighborhood, the public housing project is a hangout for the Pirus—a Blood group. White was believed to be affiliated with the 23rd Street Crips.

5/18, 5/27, 9/10, 9/12: AD-G

#### *Little Rock, May 28*

Cornelius "Skeeter" Ganaway, 20, was fatally shot once in the stomach. Ganaway was driving on Dennison Street with a woman passenger. A brown Mercury Cougar passed Ganaway's car. Ganaway then pulled to the side of the street saying that something was wrong with the car. The Cougar stopped and backed up when Ganaway got out of the car and Ganaway was then shot.

Police are not positive that the slaying is gang-related but there is some evidence that it might be. Ganaway was identified by authorities as a member of the Eastside Players - a Blood gang.



Cobie Humphrey, 21, pleaded not guilty to the charge of first-degree murder. He was held in Pulaski County Jail on \$250,000 bond.

5/28-29, 1/20/96: AD-G

*Little Rock, June 5*

Mustafa Hussian, 12, along with his sisters Marcell Young and Malak Hussian, were fatally shot by a gunman in their home. See the entry for Little Rock, June 5 in the Sexist Murders of Women section for the details of these murders.

6/5-7, 6/9, 6/11, 6/14-15, 7/6, 7/10, 7/18-19, 7/25, 12/5: AD-G, *Arkansas Times*

*Little Rock, June 7*

Darron Dulaney, 19, was gunned down in the parking lot of an apartment complex. Police believe that Dulaney was fatally shot once in the chest because he was wearing his red Papa John's Pizza workshirt and cap in a Crip neighborhood. Red is associated with the Bloods gang while blue is favored by the Crips gang.

Freddie "Lunatic" Walker, 16, was arrested on a charge of first-degree murder and was held without bond. Walker approached Dulaney, who was sitting outside an apartment and asked why Dulaney was wearing a red shirt in Crip territory. The two men argued and Walker left. He returned shortly with a pistol and, when the two quarreled again, Walker shot twice. Walker pleaded innocent to the charge.

6/7-10: AD-G

*Pine Bluff, June 11*

Joshua Kennedy, 7, was shot to death in the back of a truck where he and a 5-year-old boy were sitting while Kennedy's father was working at a paper mill.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death.

6/11: *Pine Bluff Commercial*

*Pine Bluff, June 13*

Melvin Nelson, 17, was fatally shot with a 20-gauge shotgun during a 3:30 a.m. encounter in the Dollarway area of Pine Bluff. Nelson and some of his friends were riding in a car when they noticed another vehicle following them. They tried to outrun the other car but they were not able to do so. The friends stopped their car and Nelson got out of the car along with his friend, Shawn Lewis, 13. Nelson then shouted to the other car, which stopped about a block away, "What do you want?" Someone in the other car then fired the shot that fatally wounded Nelson in the chest. Lewis was

struck by one of the pellets from the shot. Lewis spent two days in intensive care at the Jefferson Regional Medical Center.

Christopher Eric Casey, 19, and Adam J. Foster, 17, were charged with the capital murder of Nelson and were also charged with criminal attempt to murder for wounding Lewis. Foster was charged as an adult and was held in the Helena Juvenile Detention Center. Casey told investigators that he fired the fatal shot but said that he fired in self-defense because either Nelson or Shawn had displayed a handgun. Casey was being held at the Drew County Detention Center in Monticello.

6/10, 6/13: *Pine Bluff Commercial*; AD-G

*Blytheville, June 23*

Police found Mario Brown, 17, lying in the street with a gunshot wound in his head. He had been shot in the face at close range. Brown died during the trip to a Memphis hospital.

Lewis Noles Jr., 18, Kiara Smith, 18, and Terry Noles, 16, all of Blytheville, were arrested on charges of capital murder and attempted aggravated robbery. All three were held without bond.

It is believed that Terry Noles, Lewis' brother, and Kiara Smith helped Lewis Noles plan to steal Brown's automobile.

6/23, 6/30: AD-G

*Pine Bluff, June 24*

Corbi Ingram, 17, died from an apparent gunshot wound to the chest. Al Franklin, 21, is being held at the Jefferson County Detention Center pending the filing of a second-degree murder charge against him.

Conflicting reports were received from witnesses. One witness said that Ingram and Franklin scuffled playfully before Franklin pulled out a handgun and shot Ingram. Another witness reported hearing a shot and then seeing Franklin leave the scene in an automobile.

Franklin turned himself in and surrendered the alleged murder weapon to police. He claimed that Ingram and other people at the residence tried to rob him and that he shot in self-defense.

6/24: *Pine Bluff Commercial*

*Wynne, July 13*

The mother of Maturi Glasper, 19, found his dead body lying in the back yard. The cause of death was determined to be two gunshot wounds in the chest and another in the back of Glasper's head.

Sheffield Gardner, 21, was charged with capital murder. He was held without bond in the Cross County Jail. Witnesses saw Glasper and Gardner arguing. Gardner is accused of shooting Glasper nine times.

7/13: AD-G

*Jacksonville, July 17*

Thomas E. Washington, 17, was walking with his nephew, Leo Washington, 16, when a gunman walked up behind them. Thomas Washington was shot and died shortly thereafter.

Neighborhood residents believe that the shooting was gang-related. They claim that the area is ruled by a Hoover Folk gang.

Sammy Danell Scott, 20, was arrested and charged with capital murder. Witnesses saw Scott leaving the scene of the murder around midnight on July 14th. Scott was held in the Pulaski County Jail with bail set at \$100,000.

7/17, 7/22: AD-G, *Jacksonville Patriot*

*Jacksonville, July 17*

Bryan Keith McKnight, 20, was shot and killed by the night manager of the Phillips 66 station at 705 S. First Street. According to Sgt. J.J. Martin, the manager was closing the business when he heard someone from behind the dumpster. He saw that McKnight had a handgun. Fearing a robbery, the manager shot McKnight. The prosecuting attorney's office has not yet decided whether or not the manager will be charged with justifiable homicide.

7/17: *Jacksonville Patriot*

*Cotter, July 28*

The body of Robert Joseph Leach, 18, was found beneath a bridge over the White River. Leach's body was sent to the state Crime Laboratory for autopsy. Baxter County Sheriff Benny Magness said that it was unknown whether or not Leach's death was accidental or a suicide.

7/28: AD-G

*North Little Rock, August 29*

Police found Germein Brown, 17, lying on the floor of his apartment with his mother kneeling beside him. Brown's mother, Dorothy Brown, 41, told police that her son was shot while walking a dog outside their apartment complex. The victim told his mother that "Glen" had shot him.

A resident of the complex told police that Brown was

"hit" because of a dispute with someone at Granite Mountain, an area of Little Rock.

Glen Cole, 23, was arrested and held without bond at the Pulaski County Jail. He pleaded innocent and remained in jail in lieu of \$500,000 bond.

8/29: AD-G

*Helena, October 16*

Marcus Bogan, 14, of West Helena, was abducted from a truck stop where he had gone to wash his family's car. He was taken in his family car to an area south of Helena and shot to death with a 12-gauge shotgun. His body was sent to the state Crime Laboratory.

Four suspects were arrested—Gene Williams Jr., 17, Willie Mitchell Jr., 15, Dwayne Hughes, 18, and Rorlenskee Ackward, 15, all of West Helena—and charged with felony murder, kidnapping, and theft of property. The motive for the murder is suspected to be that the suspects needed a car because the car they allegedly stole the night before broke down at the truck stop.

Arraignment was scheduled for October 27.

10/16-19: *The Daily World*; AD-G; *Phillips County Progress*

*Pine Bluff, October 20*

Travis Smith, 18, was fatally shot while standing on a street corner. According to witnesses, Smith was involved in an argument. A friend of Smith's was arguing with the suspect's brother when the suspect pulled a semiautomatic handgun out and shot Smith once in the groin and once in the upper chest. The body was sent to the state medical examiner's office.

10/20: AD-G

*West Memphis, October 25*

Frank Hart Jr., 14 months, was fatally shot in the head by a passenger in a car that had been sideswiped by the driver of the car in which Hart was riding. Hart's parents, Frank Hart Sr. and Tracy Lewis, both 19, and Lewis' son, Victor Lewis, 4, were also in the car. The driver of the car in which Frank Hart Jr. was a passenger had stolen the car. The driver's name was not released for fear that the shooting suspects would retaliate.

Michael Martin, 18, of West Memphis, was charged with capital murder. The driver of the automobile in which Martin was riding is still at large. Martin was on probation for previously spraying a park with gunfire.

10/23-27, 10/29: *Evening Times*; AD-G

*Newport, October 30*

Brian Bumpous, 20, died from a single gunshot wound to the chest by a semi-automatic handgun. He was found in the mall parking lot. Police apprehended Don Anthony Allen, 19. He will be formally charged in Newport Municipal Court.

10/30: *Daily Independent*

*McCrary, November 15*

Jeff Bell, 19, was fatally shot during a fight with Mike Browning, 25, at Browning's house. Bell was shot with a .30-30 rifle. No charges have been filed.

11/15: *AD-G*

*Fort Smith, November 22*

Ernest Ross, 19, was shot and killed on the street where he lived with his brother. Neighbors heard one gunshot followed by three more in quick succession. When the neighbors went outside to investigate, they saw a group of 10 to 15 black youths running away from the area. Police did not label the shooting as gang related but neighbors believe that it might have been.

Ross was shot once in the forehead during a fight involving 11 teenagers. Four were stabbed during the altercation. Willie Keywood, 16, was charged with first-degree murder. The fight apparently resulted from an argument over a stolen jacket.

11/22-23: *Southwest Times Record; AD-G*

*Bentonville, December 6*

Daniel B. Crawford, 20, died from a gunshot wound to the chest. He was shot at close range with a 12-gauge shotgun. According to Benton County Sheriff Andy Lee, several people at the scene of the shooting had been drinking and shooting weapons prior to the incident.

Michael R. Rice, 29, was arrested and is being held on pending charges of second-degree murder. Bond was set at \$20,000. Lee indicated that Rice was the boyfriend of Crawford's sister.

12/6: *Daily Record; Northwest Arkansas Times*

*Little Rock, December 20*

The body of Leonzo Brent, 19, was pulled from a pond near Sweet Home. The body was sent to the state Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

Three men were arrested near the pond on that same morning. Chris Young, 20, Russell Pegues, 27, and Lavar Brent, 18, were charged with theft by receiving and fleeing. The young men were tracked down after they ran from a stolen 1992 Chevrolet truck.

12/20: *AD-G*

## SATANIC VIOLENCE

*Benton, January 13*

Paul House of Harvest Temple reported to police that someone painted satanic symbols on the front wall of the church. House received an anonymous telephone call shortly after he discovered the vandalism. The caller told House, "Your house will burn. Satan is Lord."

Detective Jimmy Holiman of the Benton Police reported that a similar incident had occurred in October 1994 at the New Covenant Church. Harvest Temple is located in the structure that was occupied previously by New Covenant.

1/13: *Benton Courier*

## HATE CRIMES REPORTED TO THE ARKANSAS CRIME INFORMATION CENTER

*Malvern, January 12*

Three victims were involved. The offense was Intimidation in a Residence/Home. The bias motivation was identified as Anti-Black. There were two accused offenders—a white female and a black male.

Arkansas Crime Information Center (ACIC) report and Malvern Police records

*Pulaski County South, March 21*

Three individual victims were involved. The offense was Destruction/Damage/Vandalism in a Residence/Home. The bias motivation was reported as Anti-Black. Nine white accused offenders were involved.

ACIC report

*Siloam Springs, May 24*

One victim was involved. The offense was Aggravated Assault in a Grocery/Supermarket. The weapon used was a knife. The reported bias motivation was Anti-Hispanic. There was one accused offender—a white male.

ACIC report and Siloam Springs Police records

*Henderson State University, June 25*

A religious organization was reported as the victim of vandalism. The offense was Destruction/Damage/Vandalism at a School/College. The reported bias motivation was Anti-Multi-Racial Group. There was one white accused offender.

ACIC report

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*Dardanelle, September 10*

One victim was involved. The offense was Aggravated Assault on a Highway/Road/Alley/Street. The reported bias motivation was Anti-Black. There were two white accused offenders.

ACIC report

*Camden, September 13*

There was one victim involved. The offense was Simple Assault in a School/College. The bias motiva-

tion was reported as Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander. There was one black accused offender.

ACIC report ♦

This year we are not including the activity of Arkansas' religious Right in the log. You may request a copy of our 1995 report of activity by the religious Right from our e-mail (WProject@aol.com), telephone, or U.S. mail.

**We thank our many volunteer monitors.**

Special thanks to Denise Dorton, Judy Matsuoka,  
Alma Cardwell, Frances Pritchett, Mollie Wiseman,  
Carolyn Reed, and Tammy Bugarin.

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## JOIN US ON-LINE

We are creating an e-mail directory for rapid and inexpensive communication. To receive our calendar through e-mail, or if you are a member and want to receive the newsletter also, please send us your name and e-mail address. Our e-mail address is [WProject@aol.com](mailto:WProject@aol.com).

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# Transformation

Editor Suzanne Pharr  
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\* Printed on recycled paper. \*

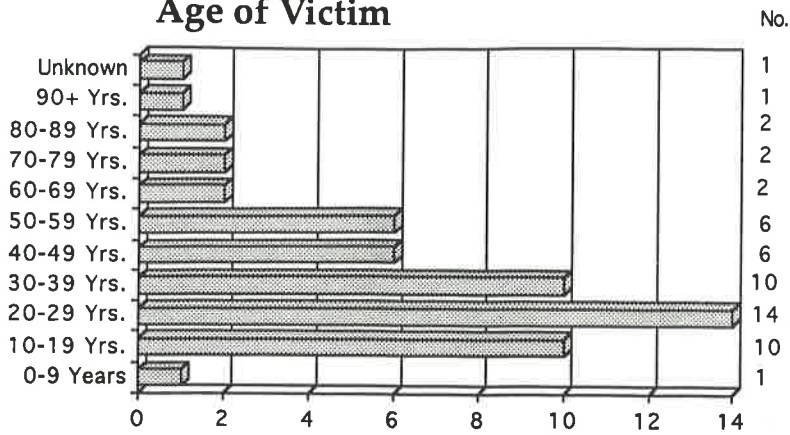
### Women's Project Staff:

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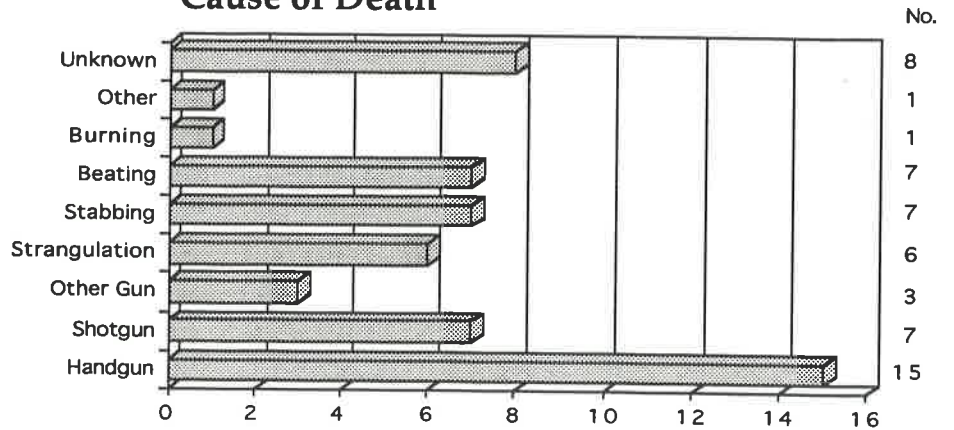
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# 1995 MURDERS

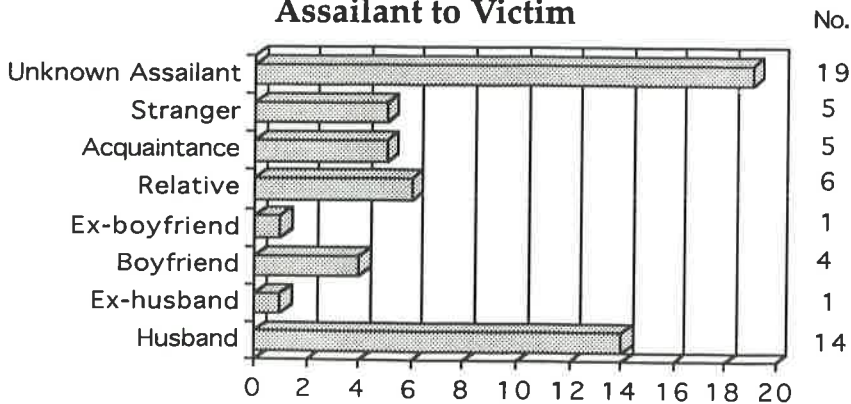
## Age of Victim



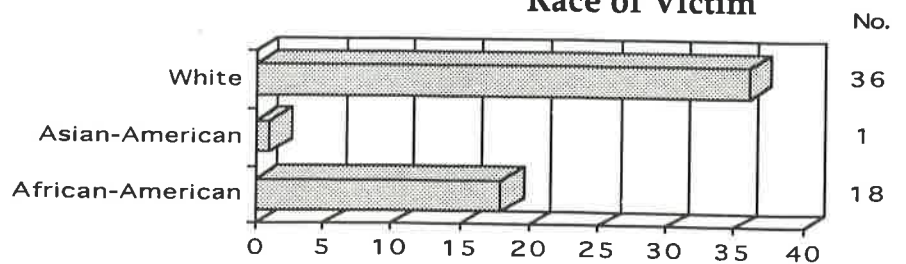
## Cause of Death



## Relationship of Assailant to Victim



## Race of Victim





# Our Mission...

Our goal is social change or, as the poet Adrienne Rich writes, "the transformation of the world." We believe this world can be changed to become a place of peace and justice for all women.

We take risks in our work; we take unpopular stands. We work for all women and against all forms of discrimination and oppression. We believe that we cannot work for all women and against sexism unless we also work against racism, classism, ageism, anti-Semitism, heterosexism and homophobia. We see the connection among these oppressions as the context for violence against women in this society.

We are concerned in particular about issues of

importance to traditionally underrepresented women: poor women, aged women, women of color, teenage mothers, lesbians, women in prisons, etc. All are women who experience discrimination and violence against their lives.

We are committed to working multi-culturally, multi- racially, and to making our work and cultural events accessible to low income women. We believe that women will not know equality until they know economic justice.

We believe that a few committed women working in coalition and in consensus with other women can make significant change in the quality of life for all women.

**Transformation** is published four times every year.

In each issue, members and volunteers receive analysis of contemporary issues, information about Women's Project upcoming events and activities, book reviews, and more.

If you are not a Women's Project member or volunteer and would like to continue receiving the newsletter, please fill out the membership form on this page.

## Current Projects

### ■ Prison Project

A support and advocacy project for women in prison that provides support groups for battered women in prison, a prisoner-led AIDS program and a transportation program for the children of incarcerated mothers.

### ■ Women's Watchcare Network

A project to monitor and respond to incidents of racial, religious, sexual, and anti-gay violence; and to provide education and strategies to counter the activities of hate groups and the Radical Right.

### ■ The Social Justice Project

Workshops on understanding racism and homophobia and developing methods to eliminate them; women's economic issues; organizational development for social change organizations.

### ■ Women and AIDS

A project to develop strategies for working with women and caregivers around AIDS issues.

### ■ African-American Women's Institute for Social Justice

A project which creates strategies for overcoming the barriers that hinder African-American women's efforts toward power and self-determination.

### ■ Communications and Events

A newsletter, a lending library, statewide and regional conferences, and production of women singers, poets and novelists.



**Yes, I would like to join  
the Women's Project.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/day \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/evening \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 7.50     \$ 20     \$ 50  
(low income)     \$ 25     \$100

#### Make checks payable to:

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Little Rock, AR 72206

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