

Pro-AIDS lobby moves to weaken child abuse laws

by Ira Liebowitz

California Attorney-General John Van de Kamp, and his protégé, Los Angeles District-Attorney Ira Reiner—who both went to bat for the Hollywood “mafia” in conducting a witch-hunt against the organizers of the anti-AIDS election initiative, Proposition 64—have now emerged at the forefront of a national campaign to limit the prosecution of pederasts and child abusers. The Hollywood “mafia” network which helped to build the political careers of both Van de Kamp and Reiner, has been identified as part of the \$5 billion-plus-a-year pornography industry, which was reported and named in detail in the 1986 report of the U.S. Attorney-General’s Pornography Commission. According to that report, an organized-crime network uses Hollywood film studios, producers, actors, and paraphernalia, to produce 80-90% of the hard-core pornography in the United States, including child pornography. The production of “kiddie porn” is an “industry” that closely interfaces child prostitution and cult-linked child abuse rings.

Events since Nov. 4—following the vote on Proposition 64, an initiative supported by 1988 Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., which had become the target of vitriolic and hysterical attacks in California’s top homosexual porno magazines—point to the fact that District-Attorney Reiner is taking his defense of the Hollywood mafia and its homosexual and child pornography industries even further. Reiner is appearing in the national media to denounce recent prosecutions of child abuse and child sex rings as “hysteria.”

Following the election, DA Reiner stepped into the national limelight on the issue of child-abuse investigations, apparently concerned with exposure of his and Van de Kamp’s highly questionable record on the issue during the battles over Proposition 64. In stories appearing during November in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and on Mike Wallace’s “60 Minutes,” Reiner appeared to be heading an effort to sell the line that “the nation’s growing concern about child-abuse is flawed by an hysterical overreaction.” Prosecutors are compelled therefore, to drop cases due to “tainted

evidence,” and media coverage which taints juries and prosecutors. Reiner’s controversial role in the “Virginia McMartin PreSchool” child-abuse case is cited as exemplary of this new “backlash,” along with the highly questionable shut-down of the “Jordan, Minnesota child abuse investigation,” a case launched in 1983 by Scott County prosecutor Kathleen Morris. (That case’s ending involved Minnesota Attorney-General, Hubert “Skip” Humphrey III.)

By going national in this way, Reiner may have now unintentionally elevated a scandal originating in California, to its proper national arena.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported Nov. 19 that according to Douglas Besharov, currently of the American Enterprise Institute, “the public, the policymakers, and the politicians have overreacted.” Exemplary of this, Reiner says the McMartin case “was a mess” and had to be dropped. The *Journal* also reported that a national organization called Victims of Child Abuse Laws (VOCAL)—active in California and originating among parents in Jordan, Minnesota—has formed to assist those unjustly accused of child abuse. (The publication of the pedophile-support group North American Man-Boy Love Association, NAMBLA, has been very appreciative of VOCAL.)

It may be true that hysteria in certain cases leads to unjust accusations, in courts as well as the mass media. However, the November articles clearly raised this issue to divert attention from a more important issue in the McMartin case in particular: Why wasn’t the case pursued along “conspiracy” lines to determine the higher-level networks “sexually serviced” by what probably amounted to a virtual stable of 350 children on the outskirts of Hollywood?

The issue escalated in late December with announcements by the Los Angeles School Board that reports of sex-abuse of students rose 350% last year, and despite efforts by the LAPD Sex Crimes Unit, Reiner’s office is refusing to prosecute!

Reiner’s gambit has coincided with a bizarre ploy apparently aimed at dropping the case against the two remaining

defendants in the McMartin case. On Nov. 29, Marcia Chambers reported front page in the *New York Times* that the *Times* had received a stunning "leak," a 2,000-page transcript on the McMartin case, containing much evidence damaging to the prosecution's case! This gem was obtained by one Abby Mann, a researcher for the defendants in the case, who, posing as a free-lance Hollywood film producer working on a book, had obtained the information from a dissident former prosecutor from Reiner's office, named Glenn Stevens. Stevens's possible violations of the law are now being investigated by, you guessed it, Attorney-General Van de Kamp.

Then, on Dec. 19, just as the case opened before Judge William R. Pounders in Los Angeles Superior Court, police in Manhattan Beach, California, announced that the original witness in the case, Mrs. Judy Johnson, whose reports of her son's abuse at the school had first alerted authorities to the ring, had been found dead in her Manhattan Beach home: perhaps murdered to distance incriminating accusations, or perhaps suicide committed under the heavy media pressure to shut the case. One thing is clear: a coordinated and heavy-handed effort appears to be under way to close this case, and pronto.

From Proposition 64 to child abuse

The Van de Kamp-Reiner linkage between the Proposition 64 battle and the McMartin case, developed as follows:

The Attorney-General's intention to cover for Hollywood organized crime in the Proposition 64 fight became apparent Sept. 29, 1986, when California Deputy Attorney-General Steven White intervened in the then-ongoing election campaign to announce a high-publicity "investigation" of Prop 64's supporters, supposedly suspected of a "criminal conspiracy" to commit improprieties in the gathering of nearly 700,000 qualifying signatures. Orchestrated at State Senate hearings in Sacramento, White's announcement immediately raised eyebrows because it was obviously timed to divert attention from an erupting scandal over a massive, organized-crime-linked funding operation into the \$5 million war chest of the *opponents* of Prop 64—the "No to Prop 64/Stop La-Rouche" coalition. That coalition's leaders included Bruce Decker, the top "gay affairs" aide to California Gov. George Deukmejian, and Dave Mixner, the former top aide to ex-Gov. Jerry Brown.

That same week, the porn industry had just placed ugly ads in a group of slick, hard-core homosexual porn magazines across the country soliciting checks to be mailed to Decker's coalition, care of a group of Los Angeles-based "gay" pornography companies.

Bearing earmarks of a cover for laundering organized-crime money, it was found that behind the operations is a consortium that is the largest producer of "gay pornography" in the United States. Publishing magazines such as *Jock*, *Torso*, and *Stars*, its corporate names are "Klinger International," and "Varsity Publications" in Los Angeles and

"Mavety Media" in New York, with ties to both "Flynt Distributing Co." of Los Angeles, and the infamous "Star Distributors" of New York. The consortium's principals are Casey Lee Klinger, George Mavety, Larry Flynt, and Ronald Embinder, who is linked to Thomas Sinopoli. The latter two have well known ties to organized crime "families." (Interested readers will find all the ugly details concerning these individuals by referring to the organized-crime sections of the Report of the Attorney-General's Pornography Commission.)

Events since the Nov. 4 vote on Proposition 64, the target of vitriolic and hysterical attacks in California's top homosexual porno magazines, point to the fact that Los Angeles DA Reiner is taking his defense of the Hollywood mafia and its homosexual and child pornography industries even further. Reiner is appearing in the national media to denounce recent prosecutions of child abuse and child sex rings as "hysteria."

The issue of Van de Kamp-Reiner's political protection role was first raised in a series of articles appearing Oct. 10, Oct. 30, and Nov. 3 in *New Solidarity*. Investigators detailed the evidence of apparent protection of the Hollywood mafia vis-à-vis Proposition 64, and a parallel history of quashing investigations of child-abuse rings and cults in California, which are believed interfaced to the Hollywood pornography "industry."

Detailed were the Van de Kamp-Reiner circle's ties to well known Hollywood mafia circles such as the law firm of Wyman, Bautzer, Hollywood political fixer Sidney Korshak, the Playboy Foundation, and so forth.

The McMartin PreSchool case

The same Hollywood film industry that "off-line" produces the nation's pornography, has also periodically spun out Hollywood-linked child-abuse and murder cults, and related informal rings—all modeled on the infamous case of the Charles Manson "Helter Skelter" murder conspiracy. Outstanding in the pattern was Reiner's shutdown of the

McMartin case.

The *New Solidarity* series stated: "In 1983, evidence first came to light in Los Angeles of an at least 10-year pattern of sexual molestation of pre-school youngsters by staff and others, at an exclusive, private Manhattan Beach school named the Virginia McMartin PreSchool. The Los Angeles District-Attorney at the time, Robert Philibosian, announced that mounting evidence from 350 children, who were telling their parents of incidents of the killing and mutilation of small animals before their eyes, rape, sodomy, and satanic rituals at the school, amounted to the "largest child sex scandal in the nation."

"A \$4 million investigation was launched by Philibosian, which amassed 540 volumes of evidence through, among other things, systematic interviews with the children, conducted by the prestigious Children's Institute International (CII). Congressional hearings in 1984 even included groundbreaking testimony by investigators of the case," which raised evidence of McMartin-type ring tie-ins to international child-kinapping and sexual-bondage and murder networks.

"With the 77-year-old Virginia McMartin and six relatives and teachers under arrest, however, and with 540 volumes of testimony in the hands of the District-Attorney's office, Reiner," formerly a defense attorney for Charles Manson cult-killer Linda Van Houten in 1968, "beat Philibosian in the 1984 election for District-Attorney."

"On Jan. 17, 1986, Reiner stunned the law enforcement and legal community, by going before Los Angeles Municipal Judge Aviva K. Robb to . . . drop charges against all but two defendants, Peggy McMartin Buckley, 59, former director, and her son Raymond Buckley, 27.

"Testimony of 350 of the children during Reiner's tenure, had been whittled down to 14, on the grounds that 100 were younger than five, and others' testimony had been 'tainted' by leading questions on the parts of investigators, and so forth. Following Reiner's announcement, even his assistant, Deputy District-Attorney Lael Rubin, told the press, speaking of the five defendants against whom charges were dropped, 'I can't say they're not guilty because I don't believe that.'

"According to Mary Emmons, the director of CII, who opposed Reiner's move, of 400 McMartin children interviewed by CII, 350 had 'positive disclosures' of criminal activity. She also pointed out that in most other investigations outside California, children's videotaped interviews are regarded by the courts as admissible evidence.

"Reiner's decision outraged most of the parents involved. Typical was the comment of Mary Mae Coffi, who told reporters: 'Things that my children said they wouldn't have said, if they hadn't experienced them, and they hadn't been buried there inside.'

"There is a systematic pattern of protection for this Hollywood cult and mafia entity, and its political machine in California. The pattern warrants thorough investigation, and soon." Reiner's recent actions underscore this.

Book Review

A specious excuse for

by Kathleen Klenetsky

How NATO Weakens the West

by Melvyn Krauss

Simon and Schuster, New York 1986

271 pp, \$18.95

Efforts by pro-Soviet factions in the West to decouple Western Europe from the United States received a shot in the arm, with the recent publication of Melvyn Krauss's raving attack on the Atlantic Alliance, which calls for "a popular outcry of unprecedented proportions against American defense support of the Europeans."

"The United States must abandon NATO" is the blunt theme of *How NATO Weakens the West*, a book that was obviously concocted to convince American conservatives that withdrawing all U.S. ground forces is the moral, patriotic thing to do.

In fact, as military experts such as NATO Supreme Commander Gen. Bernard Rogers insist, such a move would ensure a de facto Soviet takeover of Western Europe, leaving the United States isolated and vulnerable. In an interview published in the November issue of *Air Force Magazine*, Rogers stated, "I can't think of anything that will move the Soviets more quickly down that road toward the objectives" they have set for themselves "than the withdrawal of U.S. forces" from Europe. "If the U.S. withdraws 100,000 troops from Europe, this won't make the West Europeans do more" in terms of their contributions to NATO; rather, such an action "is going to send the kind of message that will lead" the European NATO members "to start to accommodate to the East."

But Rogers's warnings don't faze Krauss one bit. A senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, who peddles "free enterprise" economics on the side at New York University, Krauss ignores those whose knowledge of the European military and political situation far exceeds his own, choosing instead to marshal a host of specious arguments, all of them tailored to appeal to conservative Republican prejudices, to claim that U.S. interests would be best served if Europe, as well as