

The Diocese of The Arctic

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

1055 AVENUE ROAD
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5N 2C8

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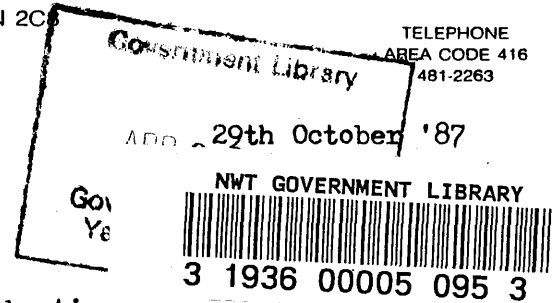
MAR 31 1988

RT. REV. JOHN R. SPERRY, D.D.
BISHOP OF THE ARCTIC

RT. REV. J. CHRISTOPHER R. WILLIAMS
BISHOP SUFFRAGAN

VEN. PETER C. BISHOP
EXECUTIVE ARCHDEACON

Mr. Michael Angottitauruq, MLA
Government of the N.W.T.,
Box 1320,
Yellowknife, NWT,
X1A 2L9



Re. Abortions

Dear Sir,

At the Synod of the Diocese of the Arctic which met in 1984 there was a long discussion and a great deal of distress expressed over the matter of artificial abortions. After that Synod I wrote to the various auth. both Territorial and Federal expressing our concern. The response we got was encouraging.

At the recent Synod the matter was again raised and I was directed to inform you and the appropriate health authorities that we are still concerned and affirm the position taken by our Church as outlined in the attached document.

With regard to this matter there was also considerable concern expressed because it would appear that when people approach the authorities about the possibility of an abortion only materials from the 'Pro-Choice' side of the issue are made readily available. We are calling on the health authorities to make materials from the 'Pro-Life' side of the issue equally available and would ask you to use your influence and authority to do the same.

I thank you for your consideration of this most distressing issue.

Yours truly,

Peter C. Bishop

Executive Archdeacon

encl. Off. Statement

The following is taken from the 1980 Journal of Proceedings

"That this General Synod, in proclaiming a Gospel of Life and Hope and Compassion for all of God's people, rejects the principle of 'abortion on demand' or for the reasons of convenience or economic or social hardship, and commits itself to strong support of:

- a) such educational programs in the Church and compatible secular agencies which exist or may exist in the future for family life, birth control and social responsibility;
- b) effective action to provide skilled counselling for families and individuals facing unwanted pregnancy;
- c) community responsibility to ensure adequate practical help in the care and nurture of children."

Act 42