

Anti-abortion activists protest Nobody's Fool contributors

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Vowing to protest the underwriters of Planned Parenthood of Central Texas and Nobody's Fool into the future, several anti-abortion activists Thursday morning set their sights on a few area businesses that gave material aid to the 15th annual sex education conference.

Being an underwriter means a business gave cash or in-kind donations to support the event, which costs about \$10,000 to produce each year.

The *Waco Tribune-Herald* is one of several local businesses that contribute services to such community events as Nobody's Fool and the McLennan County Collaborative Abstinence Project.

The first business targeted by demonstrators was Shipley Do-Nuts, at 1812 W. Waco Drive. Starting about 6 a.m., a half-dozen people congregated in front of the store with a large black sign bearing a skull and crossbones and the slogan: "This Business Supports Planned Parenthood."

By 9 a.m., Bill McBride of Pro-Life Waco was the only protester who remained at the shop. Sitting in a lawn chair on the sidewalk, McBride, sponsor of



Staff photo — Duane A. Lavery

Bill McBride (right) holds a sign in front of Shipley Do-Nuts, 18th Street and Waco Drive, Thursday while debating with Alexander Bernal of Austin. McBride was protesting sex-education workshop sponsored by Planned Parenthood, as well as businesses that support the event.

area billboards for gave him a thumbs-up sign, he said.

ProLifeAcrossAmerica.org, said most of the reactions he had gotten from passers-by had been positive. One person made an obscene gesture, but many more protesters.

Customers 'have come in and told us they appreciate us for supporting' Nobody's Fool.

Bo Semanek, manager of Shipley Do-Nuts

port the store gave the event was providing doughnuts. She pointed out that Shipley also gives doughnuts to many other community events, including those hosted by McCAP, which is touted by anti-abortion activists as an alternative to Planned Parenthood's sex education event.

Across town, Bird-Kultgen Ford, 1701 W. Loop 340, was also picketed because the business provides a box of pens for the event. Protesters there also had a skull-and-crossbones sign and stood in the grassy right-of-way in front of the business.

Protester Doel Garcia, leader of Waco Right-to-Life, said he really doesn't have a problem with the dealership giving Planned Parenthood pens for the event as long as the business's name didn't appear on promotional literature for Nobody's Fool.

"When everybody sees that, they believe it's an endorsement of what they (Planned Parent-

hood) do," Garcia said. "If one person comes by and sees this and calls (Kultgen) and tells him it bothers them, he might go and have the name taken off the flier."

Company President Peter Kultgen wouldn't comment on whether he would ask that the dealership's name be taken off materials next year.

He said he had no idea whether the picketers would affect his business. Kultgen said he went to talk to Garcia to warn him about the speed of the traffic on the access road the business is located on and to make sure protesters were planning to stay in the right-of-way, rather than in the dealership's driveway where they might get run over.

"It's perfectly legal and they're perfectly entitled to their opinion," Kultgen said. "I asked (Garcia) if he wanted a box of pens and he said no."

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