

Pro-lifers target doctor

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

Carrying signs saying stop the killing, about a dozen anti-abortionists picketed outside a Laurier Avenue gynaecologist's office for an hour last Friday.

The morning demonstration by the Campaign Life Coalition was targeted at Dr. Sushil Suppal, who last year performed about 50 abortions at Milton District Hospital.

"We don't hate Dr. Suppal," Rick Greer of the pro-life group told *The Champion*. "We hate what he's doing."

Dr. Suppal, who has practiced in Milton for the last three years, maintained he's providing a service to the community.

Admitting the picketers are hurting his practice, he said the Campaign Life Coalition should concentrate on lobbying the government, not doctors and patients.

"I'm not doing anything illegal," the doctor said in an interview Thursday morning. "I'm not a murderer."

The organization has picketed in front of his office before, added Dr. Suppal. He said he called the police to keep the demonstrators off the grounds.

In literature handed out during the demonstration, the Campaign Life Coalition urged the public to contact Dr. Suppal to express their "opposition to this violent act against women and children."

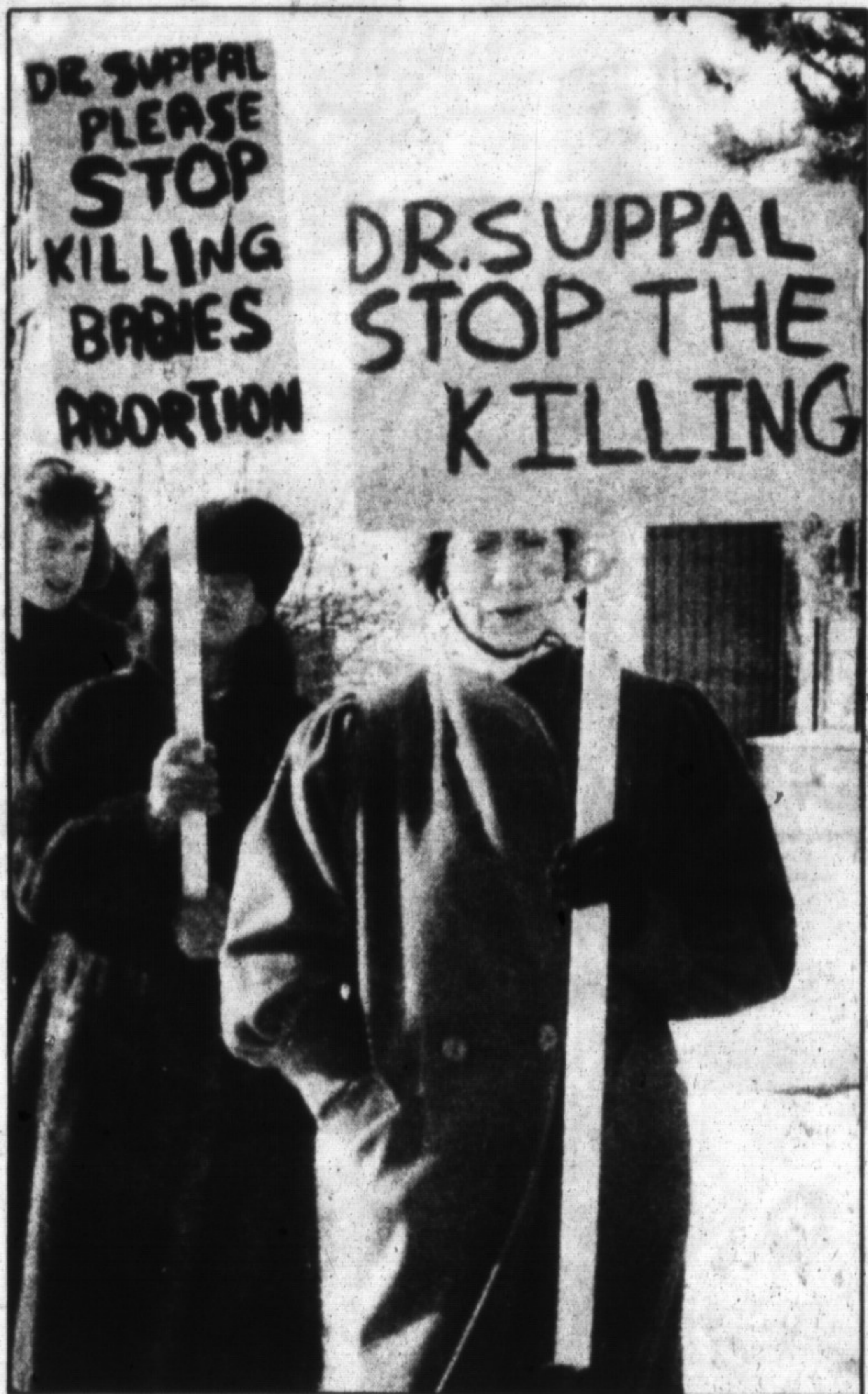


Photo by KAREN SMITH

Protesting abortion, Campaign Life Coalition of Milton supporters picket outside the office of Dr. Sushil Suppal, who performs abortions at Milton District Hospital.

Halton hands out 35% more for welfare

Year-end figures show Halton Region dispensed more than \$28 million in welfare cheques in 1992, an increase of approximately 35 per cent over the \$20.7 million disbursed in 1991.

While that is not good news, it at least is not quite the bad tidings regional welfare director Janet Menard had anticipated. The \$28,041,130 is "slightly less than we had budgeted. We had budgeted \$29.6 million," she said Tuesday.

Ms Menard also noted that Halton dealt with 40,145

welfare claims in 1992. That too was "slightly under" the expected 42,000 cases. Each case may represent an entire family. The accepted average is that one case equals two people on welfare.

Welfare costs are shared among the regional, provincial and federal governments. Halton pays 20 per cent of the bill in many instances, while the other two government tiers split the remainder. Because there are various funding exceptions to the ratio, Halton in fact

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