



Chris Adams

Santa Cruz County women advertised their presence at yesterday's pro-choice march in San Francisco.

Area women join pro-choice march

More than 100 women from this area joined an estimated 20,000 demonstrators Sunday in San Francisco for what has been called the largest reproductive-rights march in history.

Members of the Santa Cruz chapter of the National Organization for Women organized a bus ride for 50 women to the Market Street rally. Cynthia

Matthews, NOW member, said she estimated another 50 Santa Cruz County women also attended. Matthews is director of public affairs for Santa Cruz County Planned Parenthood.

Sandy Skezas, of Soquel, attended and said she was struck by the wide age range of participants and by the number of men at the rally.

"There was a very wide variety of ages," Skezas said. "There were people from all walks of life. A lot of mothers and daughters and a lot of children attended. I was surprised how many men took part."

Skezas, who attends Cabrillo College, said there were no organized "pro-life" demonstrations during the 90-minute walk

that started at Justin Herman Plaza and concluded at San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza.

"They didn't have a booth. I didn't see any posters," Skezas said. "There was no anti-rally."

The march was organized by NOW of California as a warm-up for the reproductive-rights march scheduled for next Sunday in Washington, D.C.