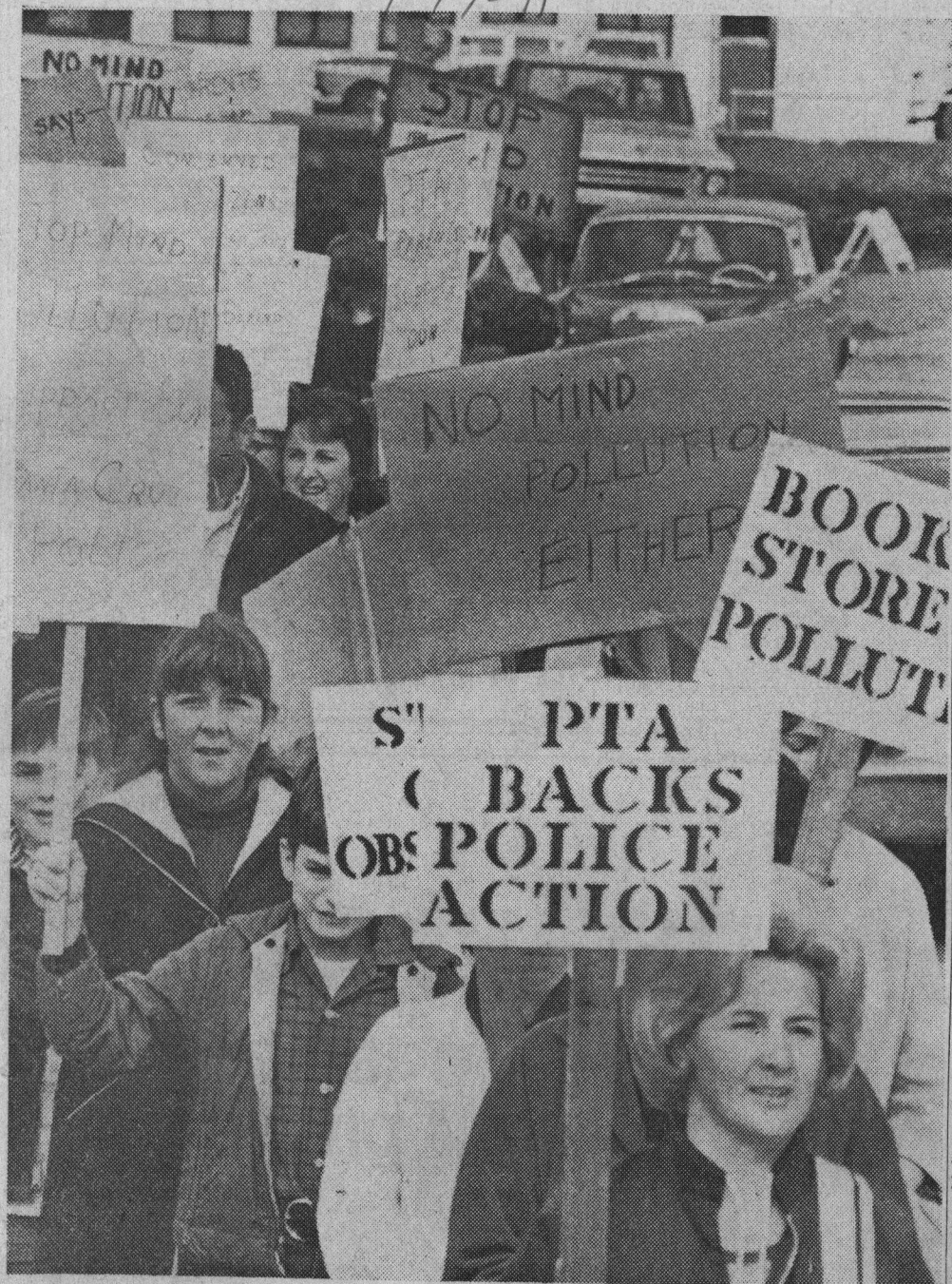


1-17-71



A sea of protest signs indicated what some 40 Santa Cruz citizens thought of Frenchy's K and T Adult Book Store, which has been closed three times by city police. The group,

sponsored by the Redwood Council PTA, marched down The Mall Saturday noon. (Photo by Sentinel Photographer Bill Lovejoy)

Marchers Support Police In Book Store Controversy

By WALLY TRABING

"Keep Garbage At The Dump!"

"Protect Our Children!"

"Stop Mind Pollution!"

These were some of the signs that bobbed above the heads of some 40 citizens who paraded down The Mall Saturday to protest the controversial Frenchy's K and T Adult Book Store, 1013 Pacific Ave.

Some 55 persons, mostly women, but men and children also, gathered at 11:30 at the city hall gardens for the march.

The store has been raided and closed three times by city police but reopened again Thursday under a U. S. District Court order.

Chief Geno Pini claimed that some of the material police had seized at the store was pornographic.

The protest march, organized by the Redwood Council PTA, served also as a backing for city police.

Some of the signs read:

"PTA Supports Our Police Chief."

"We Support Our Local Police."

"Stamp Out Obscenity."

Later the group marched down Pacific Avenue, but turned and crossed the street near Pen-

ney's before reaching the adult book store and returned down The Mall.

Louis Bacigalupi, president of the Gault school PTA, said:

"I was born and raised in San Francisco and saw what happened there. Because the people did not become involved it turned into a honky-tonk town. I moved to Santa Cruz and I'm not going to sit around and let the same thing happen here.

"They have their constitutional rights and we have ours, and I believe that the Supreme Court has left it open for each community to decide what is obscene and pornographic and what isn't," he said.

"We have a good police department and we want to help keep it good. It's in hot water now but we want to show that we are behind it."

One sign carrier, Mrs. Donna Comelli, said: "I have two small girls and we have a nice small town. We can't protect our children from all evils, but you can try to keep evil away. If people want to look at that kind of material they can go to San Francisco or San Jose."

Dave Wells, 15, carried a sign, "You Become What You Read," commented: "I don't think there is a need for a concentration of trash in one store." He

said that in the past he had looked at this type of material and thought it to be mentally damaging.

Others were afraid that if Frenchy's were allowed to remain in Santa Cruz it would draw topless and bottomless joints, pimps and prostitutes.

A bearded young man, Craig Morin, carried the message: "The Problem Is Deeper Than The Books."

"The real problem is the people, their weakness, the inside of man, it is not the book store," he said. "It is a temptation and it is our weakness that loves this type of material."

"Also I think the store is a test case. They are trying it out to get the community's reaction. If it goes it will open the gates to other forms of this ilk."

During the picketing in front of the city hall, a lady emerged from the city library across the street, contemplated the spectacle for a moment and was moved to inquire: "Are they picketing the library?"

Although the picketline turned back before reaching Frenchy's, one stalwart soul proceeded with purpose and determination and entered the store.

It is a single, small room with racks of mostly enlarged colored photos in series, wrapped in see-through plastic so only the top photo is showing.

Earl Kuhns, 42, co-operator of the store, reigns on a raised dais with a counter, handling the sales.

Enter Hilda Lans. Mrs. Lans looked about the

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Just Opened!

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