

Supreme Court Overrules Texas Plea On Vagrancy, Abortion

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States Supreme Court Monday rejected Texas' argument that a federal court has no authority to hear a vagrancy case, and overturn state laws, by upholding a three-judge district court ruling that had declared most of the state's vagrancy laws unconstitutional.

This was the second time that the case has been before the high court. The first time, the court sent the case back for the three-judge panel to decide if it

had authority to hear the case in light of a recent Supreme Court decision that limited the authority of federal courts to overturn state laws.

The three-judge court decided that the Supreme Court did have the authority.

The State of Texas did not argue the constitutionality of the law, but whether the federal court had the authority to find it unconstitutional.

Lawyers for the state argued that the plaintiffs who brought

the suit were facing no immediate charges or arrest and had no right to file the suit.

Lawyers opposing the state noted that the plaintiffs had the right because there were still arrests being made by law officers at San Antonio, Tex., where the suit was filed. The attorneys also noted that the cases were often dismissed before coming to trial, which placed the so-called vagrants in jail without allowing them to test the constitutionality of the law.

The high court also rejected Monday the states appeal for a rehearing to save the antiabortion statute, which was struck down by the Supreme Court last month.

The ruling stated that the states could not materially interfere with a decision between a woman and her physician to terminate pregnancy within the first six months. The ruling allowed the states to limit abortions during the last three months only if it was determined that the life of the mother was in jeopardy.

The appeal that the high court dealt with Monday, and brought by Dr. C. W. Thompson, permitted medical abortions only "for

the purpose of saving the life of the mother." Thompson claimed that the Texas law violated a federal constitutional right of privacy.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals upheld the law last November although it had been declared invalid by a three-judge federal court. The State court ruled that Texas has a compelling interest in preserving fetal life.

Thompson claimed that an intolerable situation had been created with physicians and expectant mothers who were unaware of their legal rights because of the conflict of rulings between federal and state courts in Texas. Texas accused the Supreme

Court of imposing its own "social beliefs" in order to strike down the state's abortion law.

With the rejections of the state's appeal for a rehearing came instructions from the high court, to the Texas Court of

Criminal Appeals, to take another look at the conviction of a Houston physician who was sentenced to two years in prison in 1968 for an abortion performed on an unmarried mother of three children.

Car Club To Show Movie

"Requiem for a Race Track," a movie about endurance racing at Sebring, Fla., will show Wednesday at the A&M Sports Car Club meeting.

Information will be available on an upcoming Sports Car Weekend, March 31 and April 1. Events will include a Saturday rally and Sunday autocrosses, revealed

TAMSCC President Kerry Bonner.

The 7:30 p.m. club meeting at the old College Station City Hall, 101 Church, is open to all interested persons. "Requiem," a 21-minute color sound movie, covers various aspects of 21 years of endurance racing on the 5.2 mile Sebring airport road course.

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Career Education's Time Has Arrived, Says TTTC Speaker

Career education is a movement whose time has clearly arrived, the keynote speaker of the 25th Texas Industrial Teachers Conference declared Friday at A&M.

Lack of it during the past school year cost American taxpayers \$28 billion, the equivalent of the space program so far, said Dr. C. H. Groneman.

"During the past school year, 850,000 students dropped out of elementary or secondary school, which costs \$1,000 a year per student to grade 12," said the California State University professor who once taught at A&M.

"Assuming, on the average, these students dropped out at the end of their sophomore year, it amounted to an economic loss of \$7 billion. The loss to the nation of 750,000 students who graduated

from high school without salable skills was \$9 billion," Groneman added.

"Another 850,000 entered college, but left without a degree or without career know-how, usually at the end of the first year," he said. "That adds another \$12 billion" to make the \$28 billion loss because the education being given was unsatisfactory.

The former head of A&M's Industrial Education Department said career education poses answers and is one of the U. S. Office of Education's top priorities for the 1970s.

Career education is not to be considered synonymous with vocational education, but permeates all segments of education programs, Groneman said.

Record Set In Drawing Contest

Record participation of 14,530 students in 251 schools have entered the Texas State Drawing Competition of the Engineering Design Graphics Department.

"This is the largest year in the 31-year history of the contest," reported Dr. James H. Earle, department head.

Contestants submit mechanical drawings by mail for departmental judging to determine state winners. Drawing are due April 1.

The five-division contest includes working drawings for first and second-year students, technical illustration open to all drawings students, architectural drawing for architectural drafting students and product design of a slide projector cabinet for all drawing students. The cabinet holding a projector and several slide trays doubles as living room furniture.

Winners will be announced later this spring.

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