

National Advocates for Pregnant Women

N A P W

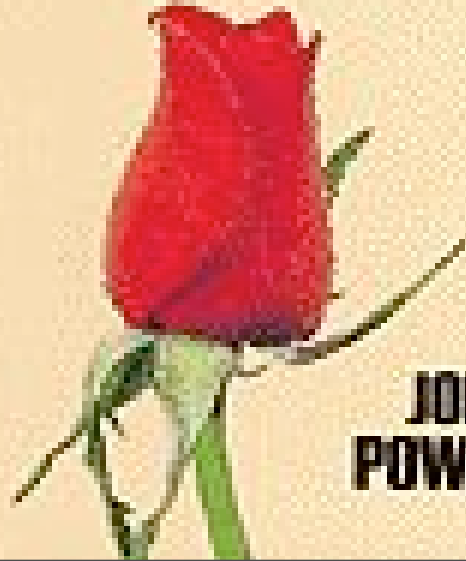
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The Abortion Holocaust

Today's
Final Solution

WILLIAM BRENNAN

abortion:
the
SILENT
HOLOCAUST



**JOHN
POWELL, S.I.**



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Number of babies that have been killed by abortion
since January 22, 1973:

48,683,669

SURVIVORS

...of the Abortion Holocaust!

ABORTION

the hidden

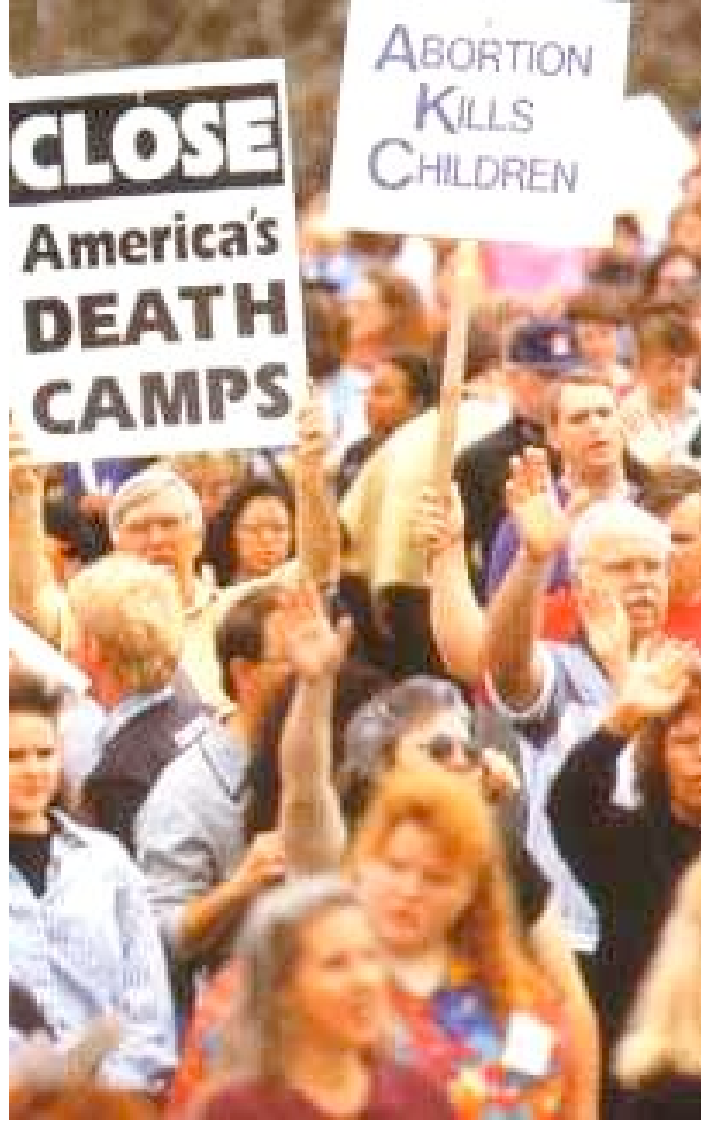
HOLOCAUST

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**Slavery.
Holocaust.
Abortion**

**Two Down.
One to Go**





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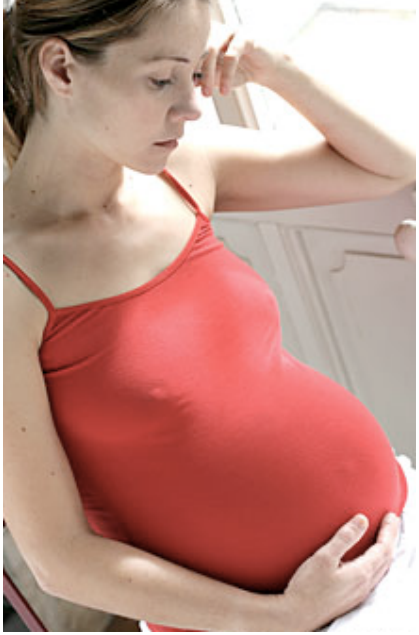


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EXCLUSIVE: A Look Inside the CIA

TIME

**CrACK
Kids**

**Their mothers used
drugs, and now it's
the children who suffer**



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TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

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Can the innocent legacies of drug use be rescued by care and compassion?

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TEETHAI

ROGER

COVER STORIES

Innocent Victims

Damaged by the drugs their mothers took, crack kids will face social and educational hurdles and must count on society's compassion

By ANASTASIA TOUFEXIS

AT A HOSPITAL IN BOSTON lies a baby girl who was born before her time—three months early, weighing less than 3 lbs. Her tiny body is entangled in a maze of wires and tubes that monitor her vital signs and bring her food and medicine. Every so often she shakes uncontrollably for a few moments—a legacy of the nerve-system damage that occurred when she suffered a shortfall of blood and oxygen just before birth. Between these seizures, she is unusually quiet and lethargic, lying on her side with one arm draped across her chest and the other bent to touch her face, sleeping day and night in the comfort of her cushioned warming table. At best, it will be three or four months before she is well enough to leave the hospital, and even then she may continue to shake from time to time.

AT A THERAPY CENTER IN NEW YORK CITY, the saddest child brought in one morning is three-year-old Felicia, a small bundle of bones in a pink dress, whose plastic hearing aids keep falling off, tan-

gling with her gold earrings. She is deaf, and doctors are not sure how much she can see. She functions at the capacity of a four-month-old. Like a rag doll, she can neither sit nor stand by herself; her trunk is too weak and her legs are too stiff. A therapist massages and bends the little girl's legs, trying to make her relax. Next year her foster mother will put Felicia in a special school full time in hopes that the child can at least learn how to feed herself.

AT A SPECIAL KINDERGARTEN CLASS IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA, a five-year-old named Billie seems the picture of perfect health and disposition. As a tape recorder plays soothing music in the background, he and the teacher read alphabet cards. Suddenly Billie's face clouds over. For no apparent reason, he throws the cards down on the floor and shuts off the tape recorder. He sits in the chair, stony faced. "Was the music going too fast?" the teacher asks. Billie starts to say something, but then looks away, frowning. The teacher tries to get the lesson back on track, but Billie is quickly distracted by another child's antics. Within seconds, he is off his chair and running around.

These children have very different problems and prospects, but they all have one thing in common: their mothers repeatedly took crack cocaine, often in combination with other drugs, during pregnancy. That makes them part of a tragic generation of American youngsters—a generation unfairly branded by some as "children of the damned" or a "biologic underclass." More often, they are simply called crack kids. A few have se-

vere physical deformities from which they will never recover. In others the damage can be more subtle, showing up as behavioral aberrations that may sabotage their schooling and social development. Many of these children look and act like other kids, but their early exposure to cocaine makes them less able to overcome negative influences like a disruptive family life.

The first large group of these children was born in the mid-1980s, when hundreds of thousands of women began to get

hooked on the cheap, smokable form of cocaine known as crack. The youngsters have run up huge bills for medical treatment and other care. Now the oldest are reaching school age, and they are sure to put enormous strain on an educational system that is already overburdened and underachieving.

Their plight inspires both pity and fear. Pity that they are the innocent victims of society's ills. Pity that the odds will be stacked against them at home, on the playground and in school. Fear that they will

grow into an unmanageable multitude of disturbed and disruptive youth. Fear that they will be a lost generation.

The dimensions of the tragedy are staggering. According to the National Association for Perinatal Addiction Research and Education (NAPARE), about 1 out of every 10 newborns in the U.S.—375,000 a year—is exposed in the womb to one or more illicit drugs. The most frequent ingredient in the mix is cocaine. In major cities such as

New York, Los Angeles, Detroit and Washington many hospitals report that the percentage of newborns showing the effects of drugs is 20% or even higher.

The cost of dealing with these children is rapidly escalating. In California drug-exposed babies, many of whom are born prematurely, stay in the hospital almost five times as long as normal newborns (nine days, vs. two days) and their care is 13 times as expensive (\$6,900, vs. \$522). And that is only the beginning, since many of the crack

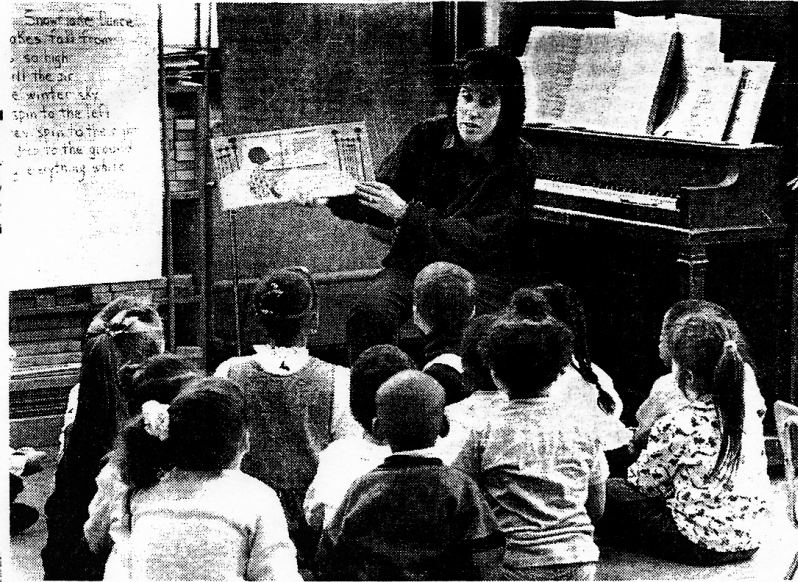
This boy once grabbed his teacher by the hair. But is it right to blame crack for his behavior problems?

kids are placed in foster care. In New York City annual placements of drug-affected babies run to 3,500, compared with 750 before the spread of crack. That brings the city's foster-care tab to about \$795 million (up from \$320 million in 1985). The New York State comptroller's office expects that New York City will spend \$765 million



Photographs for TIME by Rick Orloff

The New York Times



John Sotomayor/The New York Times

"I can't say for sure it's crack," said Ina R. Weisberg, a kindergarten teacher at P.S. 48 in the Bronx. "But I can say that in all my years of teaching I've never seen so many functioning at low levels."

Born on Crack and Coping With Kindergarten

By SUZANNE DALEY

It is the middle of the school year in Ina R. Weisberg's kindergarten at Public School 48 in the Bronx, a time when after months of work, 5-year-olds can usually write their names, count to 10 and line up to go to the gym.

But this year, it has not happened that way. There are still a half dozen children who cannot seem to concentrate, who offer a jumble of markings as their names, who do not understand numbers and for whom lining up quietly is virtually impossible.

"I can't say for sure it's crack," Ms. Weisberg said recently, describing a semester of small, hard-fought advances. "The kids don't come with case histories. But I can say that in all my years of teaching I've never seen so many functioning at low levels."

The first large wave of children prenatally exposed to crack, the smokable form of cocaine, entered the nation's schools this year. Educators say they are presenting problems and behaviors that have left many kindergarten teachers confused and exhausted.

In most cases, the teachers, even 20-year veterans like Ms. Weisberg, are not sure what they are dealing with, and they have received no formal training to identify or handle the sometimes unusual needs of these children. Some teachers, unable to manage, are simply referring the children to special-education classes, swelling the size of many of those programs.

A few communities are taking steps to help teachers cope. The Hillsborough County school system in Florida, for instance, is setting up classes for teachers on how to manage such children. In Los Angeles, a booklet on teaching methods is being distributed and some teacher-training is under way. In the District of Columbia a study has begun

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NY Times 2-7-9.

After Pamela Rae Stewart was accused of failing to give medical care to a fetus in 1985, a judge threw the charge out.



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...or get pregnant again.”
In Altamonte Springs, just north of Orlando, Toni Suzette Hudson bore a son on Nov. 13, 1988, passing on to him her infection with syphilis and addiction to

...baby, a boy. A social worker from the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services came by to interview Johnson about how often she used cocaine. Johnson told all. Two days later, she left

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Kim Hardy is reunited at home with her son Aréanis, who had tested positive for crack cocaine at birth and was sent into foster care. At right, Hardy enters Muskegon County District Court with Donald Mangione of the sheriff's office center, and Tony Tague, the prosecutor who has spearheaded a drive to charge mothers whose newborns test positive with a felony.



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Neglect charges against Britta Smith for using crack cocaine while she was pregnant with Brittany, now 7 months, were dropped Monday in Franklin County Circuit Court.

KEITH GRAHAM/S



LINDA STELTER/THE STATE

Malissa Crawley plays with her son, Antwon, 6, and daughter, Antoinette, 5, in a park in Anderson. A parole violation may send the mother of four back to jail. She was convicted of using crack cocaine during her pregnancy with Antwon.

Mom's past haunts her future

S.C. debate: Prison vs. treatment

BY MICHELLE R. DAVIS
Staff Writer

ANDERSON — Malissa Crawley waits at the door each day when two of her children arrive home from school.

Six-year-old Antwon and 5-year-old Antoinette usually burst through the door, dragging backpacks and jabbering a mile a minute. During the day, Crawley takes 2-year-old Tywone with her to work, keeping house for a friend who's

recovering from a kidney transplant.

Crawley, 36, provides for her family with her salary and child support. She lives in subsidized housing but isn't on welfare. Her children are lively, interested in life and polite.

But soon, Crawley may trade her apartment in Anderson's Fairview complex for a prison cell. Her children will go live with Crawley's mother. And she'll have to explain — especially to Antwon, who studies

his mother with wide, sad eyes — why she can't be there.

"He says, 'Momma, what's going to happen to us?'" Crawley said. "He's worried I'm going to disappear."

Jail vs. treatment. Crawley's addiction to crack cocaine while pregnant with Antwon started her down the path that leads to prison. Crawley says she has been free of drugs since 1995. But six years ago following the birth of her 5-pound, 12-ounce baby boy, tests showed the child had crack cocaine in his bloodstream.

Crawley pleaded guilty in 1992 to child endangerment and was sentenced to five years in prison. However, that sentence was suspended, and she remained free on probation to take care of her family and participate in a drug treatment program.

But in 1994, Crawley violated her probation by getting into a fight with her boyfriend. That conviction carried only a 30-day sentence and Crawley hasn't been in any other trouble since. But now she's facing the full

PLEASE SEE **MOM** PAGE **B3**



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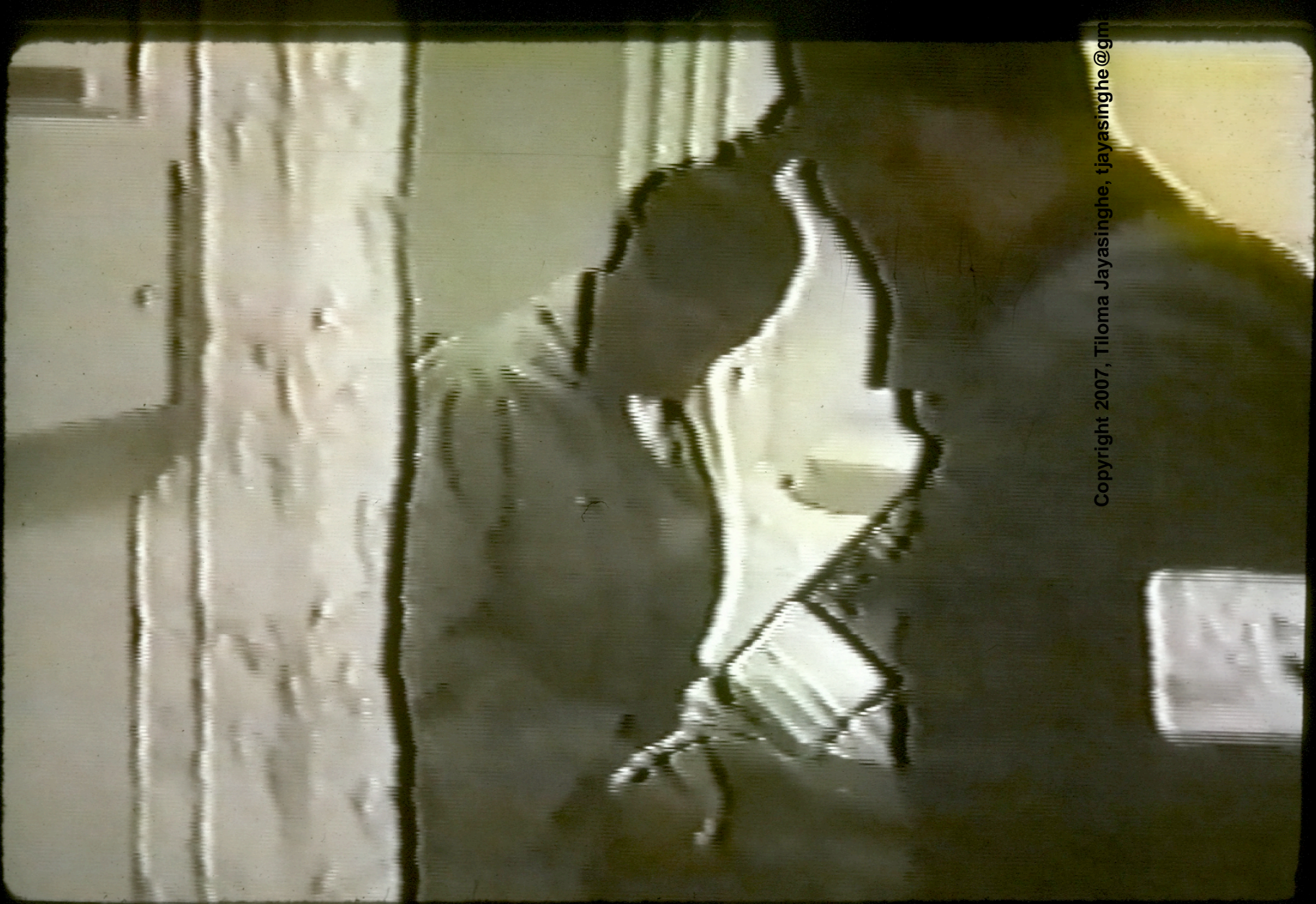


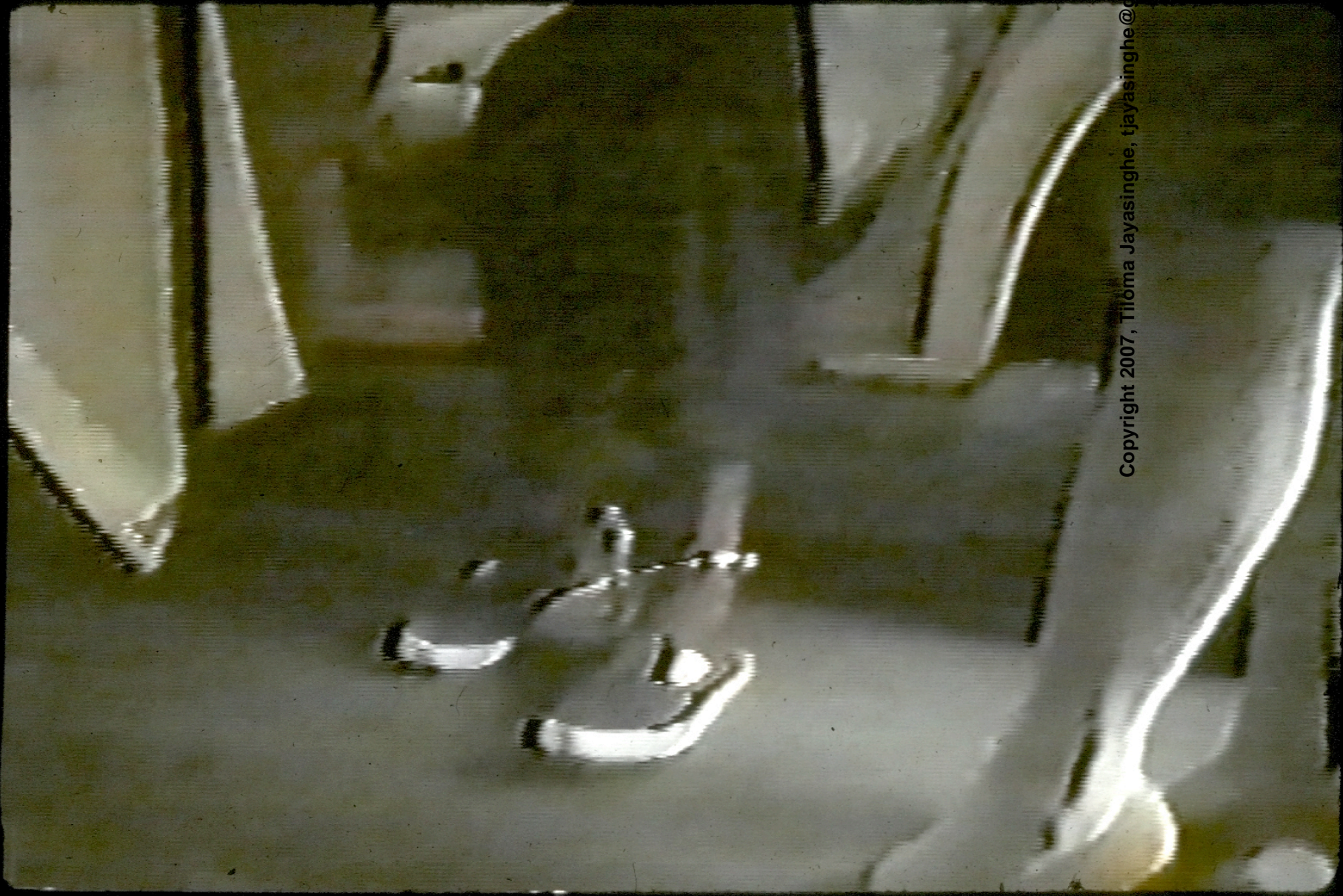
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Medical University of South Carolina





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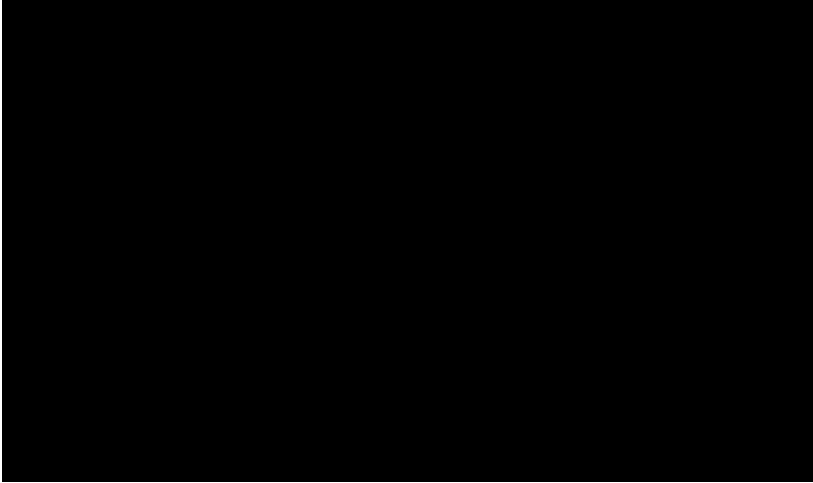
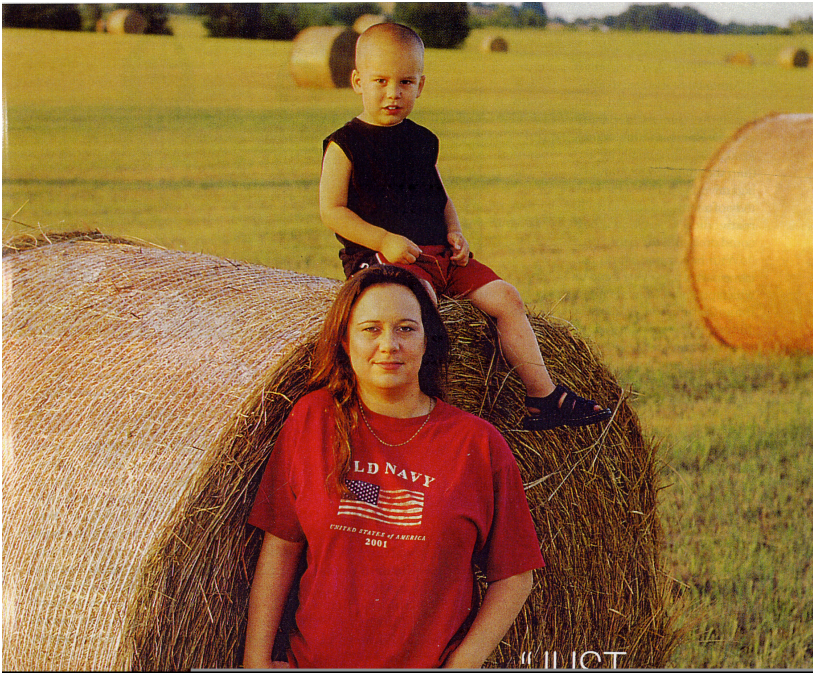
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PICTURE OF THE DAY



Plea Bargain for Mom in C-Section Case

A woman charged with murder for allegedly delaying a Caesarean section that could have saved one of her twins pleaded guilty Wednesday to child endangerment in a deal with prosecutors.





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Bad Day? 15 Fun Pick-Me-Ups



The Collins family of Texas

37-Pound Woman Gives Birth to Healthy Son

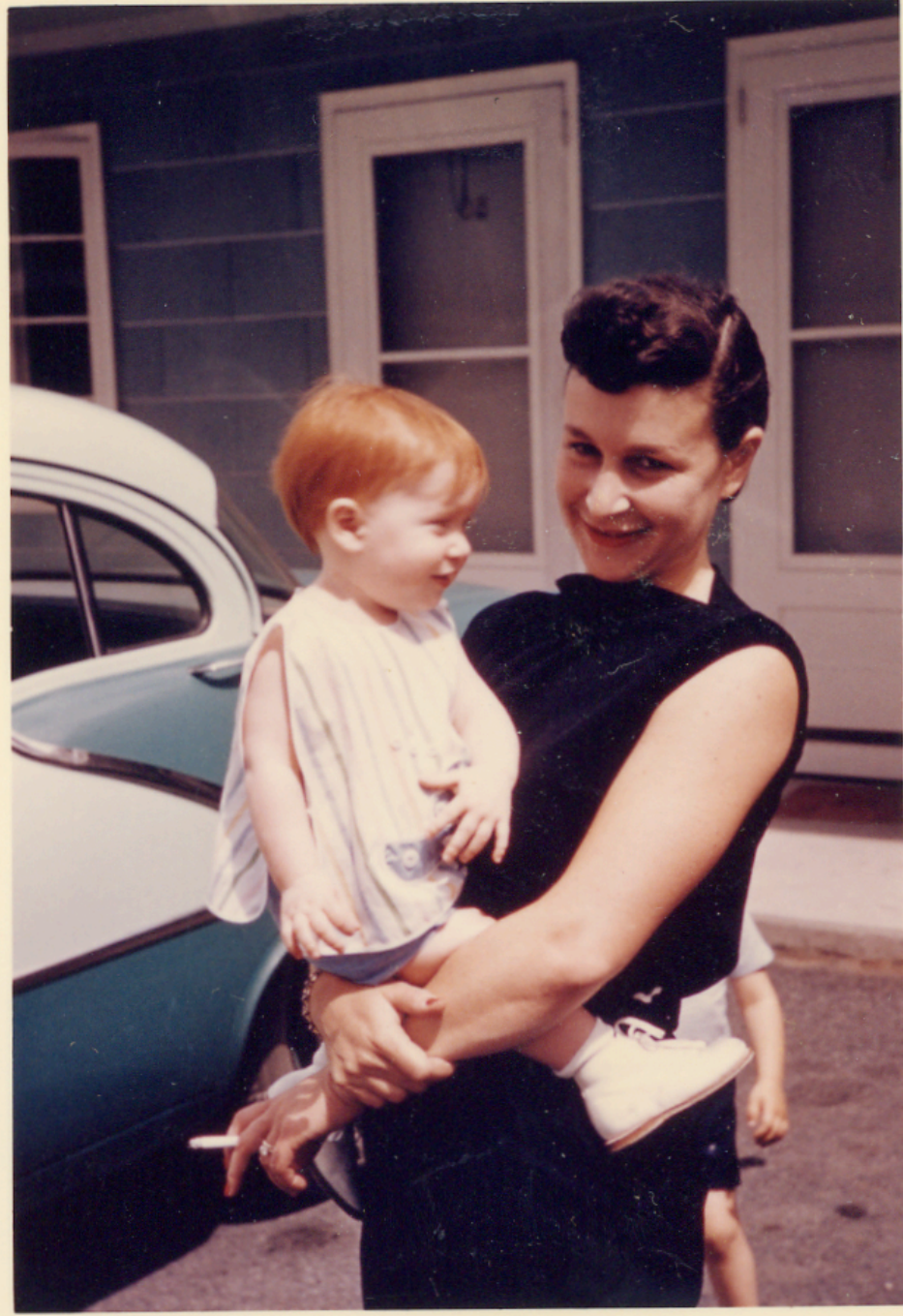
TULARE, Calif. (Feb. 10) - A woman who weighs 37 pounds, stands 3 feet tall and uses a wheelchair has given birth to her first child.

"She's a strong

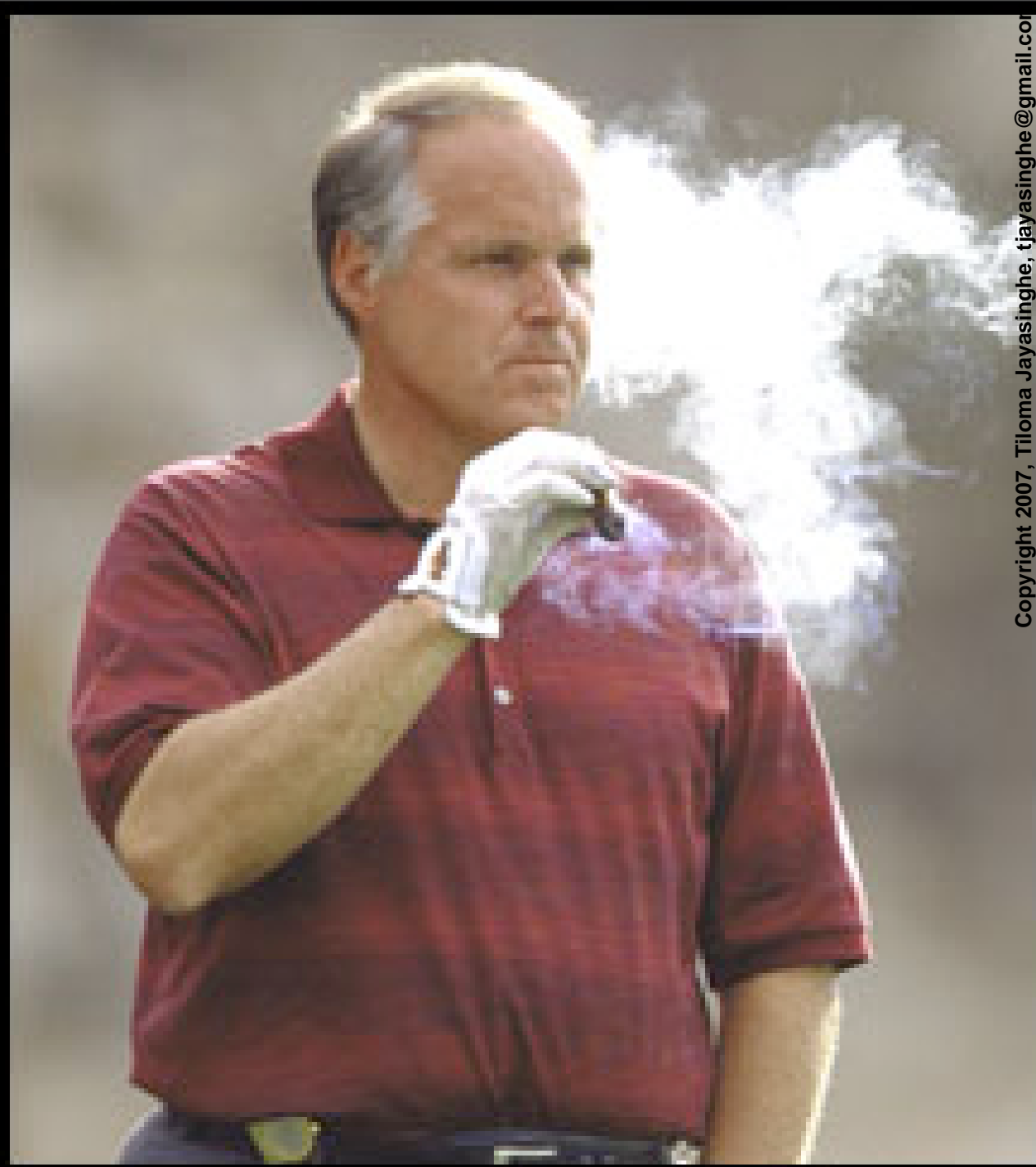


AP

Roy and Eloya Vasquez show off their new son, Timothy Abraham Vasquez. Eloya, 38, suffers from Type 3 osteogenesis imperfecta, a disorder that makes bones soft and easily broken.

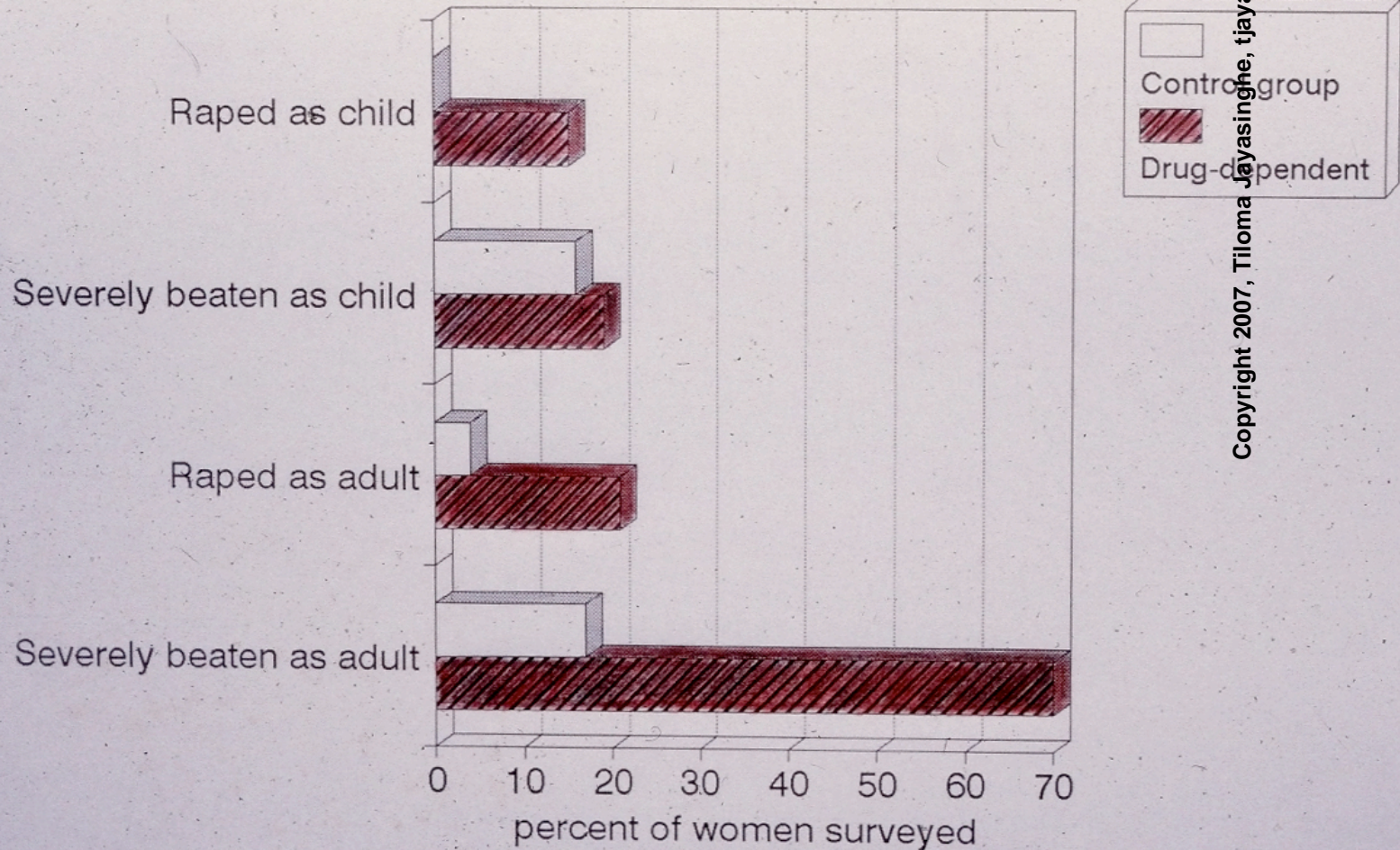


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Violence and Maternal Substance Abuse



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Obesity raises pregnancy risks

Compared with normal weight women, overweight and obese women suffer more pregnancy complications and their babies are more likely to have medical problems at birth, a panel of experts concludes.

New York Times, April 23, 2007
In Turnabout, Infant Mortality on the Rise

The setbacks have raised questions about the impact of cuts in welfare and Medicaid and of poor access to doctors, and, many doctors say, the growing epidemics of obesity, diabetes and hypertension among potential mothers, some of whom tip the scales here at 300 to 400 pounds.

SIGNetures

