

## Elephants and Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

### Is killing elderly a 'new idea' of Hart's?

Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm, a long-time friend of Hart who endorsed him early in the presidential race, told a meeting of the Colorado Health Lawyers Association March 27 that terminally ill old people have a "duty to die and get out of the way."

Likening senior citizens who reject machines and other advanced medical technologies as a means of staying alive to "leaves falling off a tree and forming humus for the other plants to grow up," Lamm said: "You've got a duty to die and get out of the way. Let the other society, our kids, build a reasonable life."

Despite a massive public outcry, Lamm has refused to retract his remarks. At a press conference in Denver March 29, Lamm told a pro-life group which had called on him to repudiate his stand that they were "contemptible" and a "tiny minority" of the American population.

Although Hart claimed to reporters that he "totally disagrees" with Lamm's position, he advocates a series of cost-cutting measures, including expanding Health Maintenance Organizations, and substituting para-professionals for physicians, which would undermine the quality and availability of U.S. health care. In addition, Hart boasts that he sponsored legislation to enable hospices to receive Medicare funds.

Lamm, a former national president of Zero Population Growth, endorsed the cannibalism of Alfred Packer during his 1982 re-election

campaign, and earlier this year questioned the value of spending thousands of dollars to educate mentally retarded children "when after four or five years all they do is roll over."

### Moscow praises Hart—trouble on homefront

Ever since Gary Hart trounced Fritz Mondale in New Hampshire, the Soviet press has been singing the praises of the blow-dried wonder from Colorado. *Pravda*, *Izvestia*, and *Literaturnaya Gazeta* have all run stories applauding Hart for his nuclear-freeze support and his opposition to the MX, B-1, and the U.S. military presence in Central America and Lebanon.

Now the organ of the ultra-Russian-chauvinistic faction in the Soviet Union has jumped on the Hart bandwagon. The March 28 edition of *Sovietskaya Rossiya* carried a panegyric to Hart which, under the heading "The Words and Political Credo of Gary Hart," announced that "Without doubt, Hart's views on the questions of nuclear disarmament and improving Soviet-American relations arouse interest and sympathy." (Fritz Mondale is referred to rather cavalierly as a "former senior member of the discredited Carter administration.")

Though *Sovietskaya Rossiya* didn't mention it, Hart's favorite author is Fyodor Dostoevsky, the 19th-century Russian author whose "Mother Russia" fanaticism is the newspaper's governing philosophy.

Moscow's motherly embrace is causing Hart some problems at home. We reprint here a piece that appeared in the March 26 *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Under the headline "Gary Hart Gets Lyndon LaRouche'd," the *Inquirer* reports: "Some Gary Hart campaign posters around the city have had anti-Hart campaign stickers pasted to them. One of the stickers, about three inches square and placed in the lower left-hand corner of the Hart poster, is almost humorous. It says, 'His name

used to be Hartpence, until he dropped his pence.'"

"The other sticker is much more potentially harmful. It says simply: 'KGB Approved.' Now it is doubtful that presidential candidates Walter F. Mondale, Jesse Jackson, or Ronald Reagan would accuse Hart of being supported by the Soviet secret police. Then who would? Come on, you know. All right then, let's take a shot in the dark and call Lyndon LaRouche's Philadelphia campaign headquarters and ask. . . .

"When asked about the sabotage of Hart posters, Suzanne Rose, a spokeswoman for LaRouche's Philadelphia campaign headquarters, said yesterday, 'I don't know what our supporters are doing, although he [Hart] certainly is KGB-approved.' Ms. Rose cited an article in the official Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* on March 11, which she said described Hart in a favorable manner."

### 'Gays' and disco Dems

Fritz may be suffering a temporary ratings slippage at the Kremlin, but his popularity is zooming with at least one group. On March 28, his New York City headquarters hosted a press conference by "Gays and Lesbians for Mondale," at which such self-styled "openly gay activists" as Allen Roskoff, president of the New York chapter of Americans for Democratic Action, and Kenneth Sherrill, a professor and Democratic district leader, announced their backing for Mondale's candidacy.

"Mondale doesn't just offer lip service to gay civil liberties," said Sherrill with a fine turn of phrase. "He's shown intense executive leadership and a passionate commitment to our rights. . . . When we needed a notable person to legitimize our activities and attract national media attention to what we're doing, Walter Mondale came forward. He was with us in the trenches."