

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Timely Broadcast of Abortion Docs to Air on KQED, KTEH

San Francisco, CA, March 2nd, 2010 – A trilogy of films documenting the history of abortion in the US offers an eye-opening look into the real world consequences of restricting access to safe abortions. The three-film series, **CHOICE: Then and Now**, will air locally on KQED and KTEH in late March and April.

The Trilogy sheds light on rarely discussed issues surrounding the history of abortion, turning points in abortion law and the current crisis in availability of services and access. The films, **When Abortion was Illegal, From Danger to Dignity** and **The Fragile Promise of Choice** have received many honors, including an Academy Award nomination, an Emmy and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Gold Medal. They were first released in the late 1990's and have all been updated to include the latest facts. **Fragile Promise** has been further updated with a new segment on the tragic murder in 2009 of an abortion provider Dr. George Tiller and a discussion of the current heated abortion debate.

Bay Area filmmaker, Dorothy Fadiman, is re-releasing the films in response to her concerns about diminishing access to abortion services in the United States and an increasingly polarized legal situation. Fadiman was moved to act when she confronted the following statistics: More than 80% of counties in the U.S. have no abortion services. History tells us that when safe, legal options are not available, women seek unsafe alternatives and many become infected, and as we know, some of these women die. Fadiman herself suffered life-threatening septicemia and almost died following a back alley abortion.

Fadiman underscores what research shows: that the number of abortions being performed doesn't change when access is limited; the number that changes is an increase in infections and deaths. In the year 2009, there were at least 70,000 deaths reported worldwide resulting from abortions. These deaths were primarily the result of an illegal abortion, in a location where legal procedures were not available.

For broadcast dates and times, as well as further information on the films and filmmaker, visit concentric.org/choice.

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