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Updated: 10:40 AM May 15, 2009

# New Obama protesters in town with graphic images in tow

South Bend, IN

If you've seen a set of trucks around South Bend that display gory abortion images, they are part of a new protest campaign by a group from southern California.



Posted: 7:26 PM Apr 27, 2009

Reporter: Nick McGurk

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If you've seen a set of trucks around South Bend that display gory abortion images, they're part of a new protesting campaign by a group from Southern California.

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The group, called Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, will stay in South Bend until commencement to protest President Obama's speech at Notre Dame.

"There's still time for Father John Jenkins and the trustees at the University of Notre Dame to do the right thing and rescind his invitation. That happens, we go away," said Mark Harrington with the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform.

On the trucks, which will be driving around town, are graphic images of aborted babies.

"I don't see where this is doing their cause any good," said Kevin Gaffney as he watched the trucks pass in downtown South Bend on Monday.

"It's disgusting, it's reprehensible," said Gaffney.

The pictures will likely disgust many. Organizers say that's the idea.

"You say oh that's terrible, we shouldn't bring them out into the street," said Harrington. "Well you know what, it is terrible, and we shouldn't bring 'em out in the street. But you know what, we're gonna bring 'em out in the street as long as the killing is going on."

Police say they understand some people will find the images offensive.

"Although some people might not agree with them or their display, it's something that's protected by the First Amendment, and there's absolutely nothing the police can do to infringe on that," said Capt. Phil Trent with South Bend Police.

The group plans to picket outside of Notre Dame's campus and will be flying a banner behind a plane in coming days and weeks.

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The group is not affiliated with controversial protester Randall Terry.

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