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a rioter; he was married, over 44 years of age, and from the top half of the occupational hierarchy rather than the bottom.

Neither the profile of the non-violent black nor that of the rioter, Miller concludes, accounts for violence or the lack of it. What the data do show, he says, is that the better educated and more mature members of the black community were among those who sought to prevent the rioting after it had begun.

*Making Death
Less Gruesome*

"Hospice: A New Building Type to Comfort the Dying" by Lo-Yi Chan, in *AIA Journal* (Dec. 1976), 1735 New York Ave., Washington, D.C. 20006

Roughly two-thirds of all deaths in America occur in hospitals and other impersonal institutions that are "ill suited to the needs of the dying," writes Chan, a Manhattan architect. He then describes a very different "hospice" he helped design, near New Haven, Conn.

Using as models two successful English "hospices" (hospices were originally inns run by monks in the Middle Ages), Yale medical planners and others set up the nonprofit Hospice Inc. in 1971 to provide a special 44-bed "community" for the mortally ill. Unlike the typical hospital, it has no surgical facilities; it is more spacious than most nursing homes and has rooms for diagnostic X-ray equipment and physical therapy. To avoid isolation, most patients are housed in four-bed suites, with anterooms, and relatives' visits are encouraged. A day-care center for staffers' children adds a light note. The hospice entryway has a fireplace and alcove for coffee klatches.

The hospice idea, Chan argues, is applicable to special sections of general hospitals—but designers must "put aside the efficiency esthetic" and use "familiar patterns" to create a "supportive building" that is neither a hotel nor a "machine for dying."

*Abortion Rights:
Questions Persist*

"Abortion and the Supreme Court: Round Two" by George G. Annas, *Hastings Center Report* (Oct. 1976), 360 Broadway, Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. 10706.

Despite the Supreme Court's 1973 landmark pro-abortion ruling in *Danforth v. Planned Parenthood of Missouri*, legal authorities are still in a quandary over how many restrictions a state can place on a woman's right to abortion.

The Court's five-man majority held that "non-mature" or "non-competent" minors would need parental consent for abortion, even in the first three months of pregnancy, when, under the Court's ruling, no state can forbid an abortion. (In the second trimester, a state may

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impose certain health standards; in the third, it may proscribe abortion except when a threat to health or life exists.)

In *Danforth*, the Court's minority argued in favor of requiring a husband's consent to his wife's abortion because the wish to continue a pregnancy should be given weight along with the wish to end it. The minority also said that parental consent was desirable in *all* abortions involving minors "to protect children from their own immature and improvident decisions."

Annas, director of Boston University's Center for Law and Health Services, predicts that future abortion litigation will center on the issue of consent by parents or husbands, since even the majority opinion in *Danforth* states that such consent is sometimes desirable. The courts are likely to decide who is most competent to make the final decision in an abortion, even in the first trimester, with the doctor in all probability having the most influence.

ARTS & LETTERS

Literary Amnesia and the Revolution

"How the Puritans Won the American Revolution" by Sacvan Bercovitch, in *The Massachusetts Review* (Winter 1977), Memorial Hall, Amherst, Mass. 01002.

Although popular 19th-century writers used the Revolutionary War and its political tumults as a backdrop for romances, plays, and novels, the century's major American writers—from Benjamin Franklin to Stephen Crane—ignored the struggle for national independence as either theme or setting.

Washington Irving's *Rip Van Winkle* slept through the war; Franklin's *Autobiography* all but excludes it; James Fenimore Cooper's Natty Bumppo is a pre-Revolutionary rifleman, other Cooper heroes belong to later times. Melville, Whitman, Emerson, Thoreau—all touched on revolution in the abstract but shunned their own nation's experience.

Bercovitch, a professor of English at Columbia, suggests that this literary amnesia stemmed from the writers' strong Puritan ideology, which favored independence but feared democracy; in old age, even the Boston radical Sam Adams turned his oratorical fire on the "boundless and insatiable ambition" of what he called "king mob."

As the war faded into patriotic myth (as depicted in George Bancroft's 1834 *History of the United States*), the Puritans, not the humanistic Jeffersons and Franklins, dominated intellectual life. Puritan