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Jane Doe of Newark

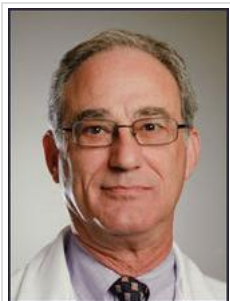
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SUMMARY: Jane Doe, age 20, died June 16, 1993 after an abortion performed by Steven Berkman at Metropolitan Medical Associates in Newark, NJ.



Steven Berkman

A 20-year-old Newark college student, identified in prolife sources as "Jane Doe of Newark," underwent a [safe and legal abortion](#) by Dr. [Steven Berkman](#) at Metropolitan Medical Associates on June 16, 1993. She was in the second trimester of pregnancy.

Jane reportedly felt dizzy in recovery. Berkman examined her, noted that she had a perforated uterus, and had her taken to a hospital by ambulance. She died in surgery, leaving her four-year-old son motherless.

"We are intensely investigating this matter," said an attorney for Jane's family. "We know something occurred that shouldn't have. We had a healthy 20-year-old go into that clinic and not come out. And I think a delay had something to do with it." Her medical chart showed the injury occurring at 10 a.m., but the ambulance wasn't summoned until two hours later.

A state report cited "chaos and confusion" when the ambulance arrived at the clinic to find Jane lifeless. The ambulance workers were not given adequate information about her condition.

Berkman said that there was no delay in transporting Jane to the hospital. He also said he did not believe she died from blood loss. The Bergen County Medical Examiner found that Jane had died from [hemorrhage](#) from a perforated uterus. Jane also had developed a clotting disorder that made it difficult to stop any bleeding. He ruled the death accidental.

Jane Roe is "Tracy" on Life Dynamics' "Blackmun Wall".

Sources:

- "Jane Doe, 1973-1993," *The American Feminist*, Fall 1999;
- "[Family Mulls Suit in Abortion Death](#)," *Bergen County Record*, 07/16/1993
- "State Clears Clinic in Abortion Death," *Hackensack Record*, July 31, 1993

Possible ID: Kerrema Syed b. 22 Apr. 1973 Newark Essex NJ d. 16 Jun. 1993 also spelled Kerma Syed

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