

hundred thousand dollars worth of work. Friends who volunteer in Montgomery's public schools said the schools are so strapped for cash that teachers have to provide the toilet paper.

The private schools are nearly all white. The public ones are mostly black.

Vouchers would not yield universally integrated private schools. Too few minority children would be able to get vouchers and many of the best private schools would still be too expensive.

The latest proposals simply make minority children pawns in a political game aimed at improving the lot of those who already have all the advantages.

RIGHTS LEADERS SAY LAWS NATIONWIDE TARGETING HATE CRIMES HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE

(By Sabrina L. Miller)

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT) Miami—Prosecuting hate isn't easy. Although Florida's hate crimes law is one of the toughest in the nation, the number of defendants actually prosecuted under the 10-year-old statute remains relatively low, prosecutors say, because the standard is often difficult to prove.

"What you have to prove is that but for the fact that the victim was not a member of a certain group, the crime would not have happened," said prosecutor Charles Morton, a homicide supervisor in Broward, where a murder last week may have been a case of racial hatred run amok.

Still, civil rights leaders said, laws nationwide targeting hate crimes have been effective.

"We can't prove the negative, meaning we can't prove what hate crimes did not occur because of the law," said Arthur Teitelbaum, Southern Area director for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. "But we know that the Florida law is well known to the haters and the bigots, and they fear its consequences."

For Robert Boltuch, the man accused this week of the Feb. 24 killing of Jody-Gaye Bailey, being charged with a hate crime won't help or hinder his case because he already faces the most severe penalty for his alleged actions: If he is formally charged with first-degree murder and convicted, Boltuch faces either life in prison without parole or the death penalty. Boltuch has yet to be charged by the Broward state attorney's office.

"When you're dealing with Murder One, hate doesn't elevate it any further," Morton said. "The defendant is facing either life or death."

Florida's hate crimes law is used to elevate the seriousness and penalty associated with a crime. That is, a defendant cannot be charged independently with a hate crime; rather, the charge is added to an existing crime, such as aggravated assault or battery.

Being charged with a hate crime can bump a misdemeanor up to a felony and, if a defendant is convicted, can mean the difference between probation and prison.

The law cannot be used to enhance a non-capital crime to one where the defendant would face the death penalty. The hate element also cannot be used as an "aggravator," or a factor that jurors could consider in a death penalty case.

Although statistics show hate crimes nationwide have declined, glaring incidents like Bailey's death have made headlines. The names and the incidents are chilling and have gripped the public's worst fears about violence against minorities: James Byrd, a black man tied to a truck and dragged to his death by a white supremacist in Jasper,

Texas; Matthew Shepard, a University of Wyoming student beaten to death because he was gay; and the Feb. 19 beating death of Billy Jack Gaither, a gay man in Alabama.

Teitelbaum's group drafted the hate crimes law and was instrumental in getting it passed by the Legislature in 1989. The law was challenged as unconstitutional, with critics saying it targeted attitudes and speech rather than behavior. But a Broward case became the model in a state Supreme Court ruling that the hate crimes law is constitutional.

Fort Lauderdale defense attorney Herb Cohen was physically and verbally attacked by Richard Stalder in 1991 after going to Stalder's home to retrieve earrings for a female friend. Stalder answered the door, stating: "Hey Jew boy, what do you want?" and repeatedly made derogatory comments about Cohen's ancestry.

Stalder was charged with battery against Cohen, and when the two appeared in court, Stalder continued to assault Cohen with antisemitic slurs. Circuit Judge J. Leonard Fleet dismissed the charges against Stalder, saying the hate crimes law was unconstitutional. But the state Supreme Court reversed Fleet in 1994.

Former Chief Justice Gerald Kogan in the opinion wrote: "I do not dispute that people have a right to hold intolerant and bigoted opinions. But that is a far different matter than saying they have a right to act upon those opinions. . . . Criminal motive is not and never has been a protected form of expression."

Stalder later accepted a plea deal and received probation. Cohen said Friday that the standard of proof is fair and appropriate.

"These cases can be difficult to prosecute, and, in a sense, I guess they should be," Cohen said. "It shouldn't be easy to prosecute someone for what they say. But if the criminal act was motivated by race or religion, then it should be prosecuted as a hate crime."

Defendants charged with hate crimes in South Florida can be hit with a double-whammy in state and federal court. Local state law-enforcement agencies have worked closely with the United States Attorney's Office and the FBI to impose the harshest penalties on both levels. Defendants face criminal charges in state court and prosecution for civil rights violations in federal court.

Eighteen-year-old Raymond Leone, for example, faces up to 30 years in prison on state and federal charges after pleading guilty to two separate incidents in which he targeted the victims because of their race and religious backgrounds.

He and several others affiliated with the white-separatist group World Church of the Creator beat a Hispanic father and son for refusing to accept racist literature outside a rock concert in Sunrise in 1997. Leone also robbed and beat the owner of an adult video store in Hollywood because the man is Jewish.

Teitelbaum said the laws continue to punish ugly incidents of hatred.

"We saw the need to have an effective legislative response, a tool for law enforcement to prosecute these crimes because of their specific nature and impact," he said. "The victim is impacted, and every person in the victim's group is threatened and traumatized."

"American history, unfortunately, has been stained by these hate crimes," he said.

AUTHORIZING PRESIDENTS TO CONDUCT MILITARY AIR OPERATIONS AND MISSILE STRIKES AGAINST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA MC CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am compelled to rise to make this brief statement on the issue of funding and supporting the NATO operations in Kosovo.

While I, like many would like to see a clearer definition of the scope of the conflict, and a specific endpoint in sight, I will not abandon our men and women who join those of our partnering countries, or undermine them or our country. Further, while I am pained that the same concern and appropriate intervention has not taken place for the countries of my ancestry, Africa, as my colleague Mr. MEEKS said that is no reason to deny protection or relief from their persecution to the Albanian people of Kosovo.

I support Senate Concurrent Resolution 21, because it is the right thing to do.

TRIBUTE TO JIM AND ELLYNE WARSAW

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jim and Ellyne Warsaw who have spent over 20 years building and nurturing their marriage, and family, as well as their strong sense of Jewish community in the Orange County area.

The Talmud states that "He who does charity and justice is as if he had filled the whole world with kindness." In the spirit of such words, innovative volunteers actively participate in delivering tremendous support, selflessly dedicating their time and energy to enriching our community.

Jim Warsaw, has shown his dedication as the Honorary Chair of Project TBY 2000 Building Fund Campaign, as Past President of the American Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and as a board member of numerous organizations including the Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League, the National New Leadership board of Israel Bonds, and an active member of the Board of Directors of the National Parkinson's Foundation Alliance and the Lobby for Parkinson's Action Network.

Ellyne Warsaw has shown her dedication to Temple Bat Yahm as Past President of the Early Education PFO, Chairperson for the Annual PFO Fashion Show and Holiday Boutique, Trustee as the Vice-President of the Temple Bat Yahm Early Education Program, and as a supporter and contribute for the Annual Canvas of Hope fundraiser for a local chapter supporting Parkinson's Disease.

In addition to their caring for the needs of the Jewish community, Jim and Ellyne Warsaw are symbols of commitment, integrity, and