

THEM'S FIGHTING WORDS

by David Lightman - The Hartford Courant

April 30, 2004 Friday

Did Karen Hughes engage in "the worst kind of demagoguery," as Rep. Rosa DeLauro maintains?

Did the onetime presidential adviser who is now back working with President Bush's re-election campaign compare Sunday's March for Women's Lives to terrorism, as Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee claims?

"How low can you go? Have you no shame?" asks Rep. Jan **Schakowsky**.

They all contend that Hughes compared pro-choice marchers to terrorists Sunday. While hundreds of thousands of people jammed the National Mall for the march, Hughes was on CNN talking about, among other things, abortion.

"I think after Sept. 11 the American people are valuing life more and realizing that we need policies to value the dignity and worth of every life," Hughes said. "And President Bush has worked to say, let's be reasonable, let's work to value life, let's try to reduce the number of abortions ... "

She went on to say that "really the fundamental difference between us and the terror network we fight is that we value every life. ... Unfortunately our enemies in the terror network, as we're seeing repeatedly in the headlines these days, don't value any life, not even the innocent and not even their own."

To **Schakowsky**, D-Ill., such words were using Sept. 11 "as a club over the head of anybody who disagrees with you." DeLauro, D-3rd District, charged Hughes' claim "disparages the very freedoms they claim to cherish."

Hughes had no comment.