| ase 8:11-cv-00731-JVS-AN Document 82 | Filed 05/21/12 Page 1 of 21 Page ID #:11 |
|---|--|
| David Yerushalmi, Esq. (CA Bar No. 13 LAW OFFICES OF DAVID YERUSH 21731 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 180 Woodland Hills, California 91364 Tel: (646) 262-0500; Fax: (801) 760-390 david.yerushalmi@verizon.net Robert J. Muise, Esq.* (MI Bar No. P623 AMERICAN FREEDOM LAW CENT P.O. Box 131098 Ann Arbor, MI 48113 Tel: (855) 835-2352; Fax: (801) 760-390 rmuise@americanfreedomlawcenter.org * Admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> | HALMI, P.C. 01 849) FER 01 |
| Counsel for Defendants [Additional counsel continued on signatu | ure page] |
| CENTRAL DISTRIC | DISTRICT COURT CT OF CALIFORNIA N DIVISION |
| NORTHLAND FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC, INC., | Case No.: 8:11-cv-00731-JVS-AN |
| Plaintiff, | DEFENDANTS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT |
| vs. CENTER FOR BIO-ETHICAL REFORM, <i>et al.</i> , Defendants. | Date: June 4, 2012 Time: 1:30 pm Courtroom: 10C Hon. James V. Selna |
| | |
| | |
| Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J. | 8:11-cv-00731-JVS-AN |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| 2 | P | age |
|----|--|------|
| 3 | TABLE OF AUTHORITIES | ii |
| 4 | OVERVIEW | 1 |
| 5 | ARGUMENT | 2 |
| 6 | I. DEFENDANTS' VIDEOS PARODY, CRITICIZE, AND TRANSFOR | М |
| 7 | PLAINTIFF'S VIDEO AND THUS CONSTITUTE FAIR USE | 2 |
| 8 | A. Defendants' Videos Conjure Up and Reference Directly Plaintiff's | |
| 9 | Video and Message | 2 |
| 10 | B. Defendants' Videos Specifically Address the Message of Plaintiff' | 3 |
| 11 | Video | 6 |
| 12 | C. Defendants' Videos Manifestly Transform Plaintiff's Video | 8 |
| 13 | D. Defendants' Videos Were Neither Created Nor Used for Commerc | al |
| 14 | Purposes | 9 |
| 15 | II. NATURE OF THE COPYRIGHTED WORK | .11 |
| 16 | III. THE AMOUNT AND SUBSTANTIALITY OF USE WERE | |
| 17 | APPROPRIATE | .12 |
| 18 | IV. THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED SHOWS, WITHOUT REASONABLE | 1 |
| 19 | DISPUTE, NO MARKET HARM | .13 |
| 20 | CONCLUSION | .16 |
| 21 | CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE | .18 |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |
| 25 | | |
| | i | |
| | Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J. 8:11-cv-00731-JVS | S-AN |

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

1

| 2 | Cases Page |
|----|---|
| 3 | Campbell v. Acuff-Rose Music, Inc., |
| 4 | 510 U.S. 569 (1994) passim |
| 5 | Dr. Seuss Enters., L.P. v. Penguin Books, USA, Inc., |
| 6 | 109 F.3d 1394 (9th Cir. 1997)12, 14 |
| 7 | Mattel, Inc. v. Walking Mountain Prods., |
| 8 | 353 F.3d 792 (9th Cir. 2003)passim |
| 9 | Mattel, Inc. v. Walking Mountain Prods., |
| 10 | CV 99-8543 RSWL (RZx), |
| 11 | 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12469 (C.D. Cal. June 21, 2004) |
| 12 | Righthaven, LLC v. Jama, |
| 13 | 2:10-CV-1322 JCM (LRL), 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43952 |
| 14 | (D. Nev. Apr. 22, 2011) |
| 15 | Worldwide Church of God v. Phil. Church of God, Inc., |
| 16 | 227 F.3d 1110 (9th Cir. 2000) |
| 17 | Statutes |
| 18 | 17 U.S.C. § 505 |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |
| | ii Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J. 8:11-cv-00731-JVS-AN |

OVERVIEW

Plaintiff's opposition to Defendants' motion for summary judgment offers a tendentious, if not utterly distorted, view of the facts and law in a feckless attempt to avoid the only plausible and just outcome in this case: Defendants' use of Plaintiff's video was fair use and not an infringement of copyright.

Indeed, to avoid this inevitable conclusion—one that is compelled by the facts and controlling law-Plaintiff must make the absurd argument that Defendants' videos are not actual parody. To do so, Plaintiff presents what can only be described as a confused, if not patently contradictory, four-part argument. The first part of this argument is that Defendants' videos don't "conjure up" Plaintiff's video. This claim not only contradicts Plaintiff's assertion that Defendants' videos use too much of Plaintiff's video, but it also renders incoherent Plaintiff's claim that Defendants' videos might actually be confused as Plaintiff's video. The second and third parts of Plaintiff's argument are, respectively, that Defendants' videos do not address the message of Plaintiff's video and that Defendants' videos are not transformative. Not only do the competing videos evidence quite clearly the opposite-indeed, Plaintiff acknowledges, for example, that the videos engage the viewer in a "debate"¹ (Pl.'s Statement of Uncontroverted Facts at \P 67)—Plaintiff's own testimony flatly and dispositively contradicts this assertion. It is not surprising that Plaintiff's opposition and its own motion for summary judgment entirely ignore

22 23

24

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

- 1 -

¹ Indeed, the CBR Video is publicly described as "The Most Shocking (Graphic Imagery), Four-Minute Abortion Debate You Will Ever See." (Defs.' Statement of Uncontroverted Facts [hereinafter referred to as "SMF"] at ¶ 20) (Doc. No. 40-2).

Plaintiff's sworn admission that Defendants' videos transform everything about
Plaintiff's video (*i.e.*, "every bit") into exactly its opposite. The fourth and final
prong of Plaintiff's argument is that Defendants fail to show that their videos
were created for non-commercial purposes. Given the undisputed facts and the
controlling law on this matter, it is hard to even credit this argument as anything
but frivolous.

We treat in turn each of these claims below and the remaining trivial assertions raised by Plaintiff.

In sum, this is not even a close call: Defendants' use of Plaintiff's video is fair use and not an infringement of copyright as a matter of law.

ARGUMENT

I. DEFENDANTS' VIDEOS PARODY, CRITICIZE, AND TRANSFORM PLAINTIFF'S VIDEO AND THUS CONSTITUTE FAIR USE.

A. Defendants' Videos Conjure Up and Reference Directly Plaintiff's Video and Message.

Plaintiff argues in its opposition that Defendants' videos do not actually conjure up Plaintiff's video. (Pl.'s Opp'n at 4-8). Yet, Plaintiff's own motion for summary judgment makes exactly the opposite argument when it claims that Defendants' videos are not transformative because they use too much of Plaintiff's video: "Instead, the Infringing Videos employ the original content to convey the same message—a pro choice (sic) message—and then add content that Defendants claim create a 'debate.'" (Pl.'s Mot. at 15). Thus, Plaintiff acknowledges that Defendants' videos are commenting upon—and, as is starkly evident to any fair-minded viewer, ridiculing—the very message of Plaintiff's

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

video. Indeed, Plaintiff's claim that the "Northland Video [does not have] any
inherent recognizable association or cultural significance that makes it . . . 'ripe
for social comment" (Pl.'s Opp'n at 7) is a claim that is so devoid of reality that
it demonstrates the absurdity of Plaintiff's argument.

Even perhaps more telling is Plaintiff's argument on "excessive use," when it correctly notes that Defendants employ Plaintiff's video as the "dramatic focal points" upon which to launch their commentary and ridicule:

Moreover, like the infringing article in *Harper & Row*, the Infringing
Videos are structured around the verbatim Northland Video clips,
which serve as the dramatic focal points of the Infringing Videos.
Because the Northland Video "plays a key role" in the Infringing
Videos, this consideration weighs against fair use.

(Pl.'s Mot. at 18). It is inconceivable how Plaintiff makes its argument that Defendants' videos are too focused on the Northland Video, but yet fail to conjure it up. Indeed, Defendants' videos include the very source name of the referenced video, "Northland Family Planning Clinic." Thus, Plaintiff's argument not only contradicts the assertions of its own motion, it flies in the face of the brute facts evidenced by the videos themselves.

Plaintiff apparently understands the difficulty of this argument, and as a result, morphs the argument into a claim that the "conjure up" requirement is really one that requires a "distorted imitation" and "mimicry," which, it claims, is not achieved by Defendants' videos. (Pl.'s Opp'n at 5). To make this argument, Plaintiff is forced to disassemble Defendants' videos into separate videos: one video that uses too much of Plaintiff's video and a separate video consisting of Defendants' video clips. In other words, according to Plaintiff's faulty argument,

- 3 -

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Defendants' video clips do not create the obvious "distorted imitation" of
Plaintiff's video because Defendants' clips should not be viewed as a whole, but
really multiple and quite distinct videos: the portions of the referenced work (*i.e.*,
Plaintiff's video), on the one hand, and Defendants' ridicule and commentary in
the form of their clips, on the other. This approach, however, contradicts both
Plaintiff's own sworn testimony and the controlling case in this circuit—*Mattel*, *Inc. v. Walking Mountain Prods.*, 353 F.3d 792 (9th Cir. 2003).

Specifically, Plaintiff's own testimony was that the core message and purpose of its video was to de-stigmatize abortion. (SMF at \P 7). Indeed, at approximately 50 seconds into Plaintiff's video, the narrator sets the stage of her messaging by telling her audience that "[d]eciding to have an abortion is a **normal** experience. We trust you and we believe you are making your decision from <u>a place of goodness</u>." (SMF at \P 2; Chelian Dep. Exs. 8 & 9 [Northland Video]). As made clear in the record, Plaintiff admitted that the purpose of its video was to "de-stigmatize" abortion, while Defendants' videos plainly "stigmatize" abortion and seek to "shame and anger and disgust anyone who's watching [them]." (SMF at \P 42). And Plaintiff explained exactly how Defendants' videos accomplished this reversal: Defendants' videos "changed," "ruined," and "distort[ed]" "every bit" of the intent, meaning, and message of the Northland Video. (SMF at \P 41).

At the visual and artistic level, it is beyond dispute that Defendants' videos as a whole conjure up and ridicule Plaintiff's message of normalcy and goodness by juxtaposing jarring video and music that is anything but normal and good at "dramatic focal points." And this mockery of Plaintiff's message is prefaced by a scripture citation to 2 Corinthians 11:13-14, which warns viewers that Satan

- 4 -

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

masquerades as "an angel of light," and an introduction quoting George Orwell, which condemns the use of lies to obscure murder. (SMF at \P 40). 2

1

11

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Moreover, Plaintiff's effort to chop up Defendants' videos into Plaintiff's 3 video clips as one distinct work and Defendants' interwoven video clips as a 4 separate work flies in the face of *Mattel, Inc.* As Plaintiff recognizes, *Mattel, Inc.* 5 held that even though the defendant used the Barbie doll image essentially in its 6 entirety, removing Barbie's clothes and placing her in dangerous settings was 7 patently ridicule and mimicry. Yet, the defendant's work did not literally distort 8 or modify Barbie at all. Rather, the defendant stripped Barbie of her clothes and 9 surrounded her in the defendant's own milieu, thus providing the viewer "with a 10 different set of associations and a different context" within which to view Barbie. Mattel, Inc., 353 F.3d at 802. Indeed, the court was so certain of the patent 12 application of fair use that on remand it sanctioned the plaintiff with an order to 13 pay the defendant's legal fees in excess of \$1.5 million. Mattel, Inc. v. Walking 14 Mountain Prods., CV 99-8543 RSWL (RZx), 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12469 15 (C.D. Cal. June 21, 2004) (awarding the defendant attorney's fees and costs as 16 compensation and as a deterrent for having to defend against an objectively 17 unreasonable and frivolous copyright claim in light of the fair use exception). 18

This is precisely what Defendants have done here, if not with even more Defendants' videos strip the "normalcy" and "goodness" of artistic flair. Plaintiff's version of a Barbie doll-like abortion by removing the fig leafs of the milieu created by Plaintiff. The placement of images showing the stark reality of abortion at its most gruesome moment before and after each of the "dramatic focal points" along with a jarring music score is the quintessential "distorted imitation" and "mimicry" fair use recognizes.

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

In sum, Plaintiff's argument that Defendants' videos do not conjure up the
 Northland Video for ridicule with distorted imitation just does not wash.
 Plaintiff's argument is contracted by its own admissions, and it was soundly
 rejected by *Mattel, Inc.*

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

B. Defendants' Videos Specifically Address the Message of Plaintiff's Video.

To put it politely, yet bluntly, the second prong of Plaintiff's argument that Defendants' videos do not address the "normalcy" and "goodness" messages of Plaintiff's video is sophomoric. (*See* Pl.'s Opp'n at 8-9). It is sophomoric because it seems to suggest that to "address" Plaintiff's video, Defendants must use an explicit medium such as the spoken word and more particularly that Defendants' use of carefully placed visual images with a jarring music score that almost literally attack the original work does not count as expressive critique and ridicule.² Plaintiff's argument, if taken seriously, would nullify most of what counts for expressive art throughout history.

And to make this argument, Plaintiff is left to argue the absurd point that Defendants do not succeed in their goal of parodying the lies about the "goodness" narrative presented by the Northland Video because that narrative is not that abortion is normal or good *per se*, but that a woman who has to make that choice is a good person. In Plaintiff's own words: "The Infringing Videos do not address the crux of the Northland Video: that a woman who is faced with

22 23

24

² And, as noted, Plaintiff conveniently ignores the fact that the CBR Video is prefaced by a scripture citation to 2 Corinthians 11:13-14, which warns viewers that Satan masquerades as "an angel of light," and an introduction quoting George Orwell, which condemns the use of lies to obscure murder. (SMF at ¶ 40).

deciding whether to have an abortion is a good person, and that the process that 1 she engages in when making that decision can be difficult."³ (Pl.'s Opp'n at 9). 2 And, even more precisely stated in Plaintiff's own words, the following appears 3 at two minutes and twenty-one seconds into Plaintiff's video: "When a woman 4 decides to have an abortion, she is making a choice that is thoughtful, considered, 5 and essentially coming from a place of goodness." (SMF at \P 2; Chelian Dep. 6 Exs. 8 & 9 [Northland Video]). 7

But these absolute statements about the choice to have an abortion are 8 manifestly false, and these are precisely the messages Defendants' videos attack. 9 It is simply not the case, even assuming abortion is not the murder of an innocent 10 human life as Defendants maintain, that women decide to have abortions only after a "thoughtful" and "considered" process that is "essentially coming from a 12 place of goodness." All over the world, and it is certainly notoriously true in 13 China where the state forces its citizens to have an abortion after they've reached 14 the statutory one-child quota, women decide to have abortions for all sorts of 15 reasons that are not sourced in "goodness," but in coercion and exploitation, and 16 in many cases, such as abortions in parts of the world where young females are 17 targeted because the society values sons over daughters, for sorted and morally 18 dubious reasons. And even more to the point, precisely because Defendants 19 contest Plaintiff's premise that abortion is not morally reprehensible, their videos 20 expose the "normalcy" and "goodness" narrative which permeates the Northland Video with the ugly and shocking reality that is abortion at the naked visual level. 22

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

11

21

²⁴ Plaintiff also ignores the fact that the Northland Video refers to its work (i.e., performing abortions) as not only "good," but as "sacred." (SMF at ¶ 2; Chelian 25 Dep. Exs. 8 & 9 [Northland Video]).

Moreover, as noted previously, Plaintiff's deposition testimony renders this 1 argument not only sophomoric, but flatly contradicted by Plaintiff's own 2 admissions. How is it possible that Defendants' videos so successfully 3 transformed Plaintiff's video from one of "de-stigmatization" of the abortion 4 decision to its opposite, as testified to by Plaintiff's designated representative, 5 Renee Chelian, yet accomplished this artistic feat without actually addressing this 6 fundamental narrative of de-stigmatization? Plaintiff has no answer for this 7 anomaly, and that is precisely why Plaintiff has chosen to ignore its own sworn 8 testimony on this critical point. (See SMF at \P 41-44). 9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

C. Defendants' Videos Manifestly Transform Plaintiff's Video.

Plaintiff's third prong of the argument that Defendants' videos are not fair use rests on the purported distinction between "transform" and "change." (Pl.'s Opp'n at 10-11). In essence, Plaintiff's argument is that change must transform the very meaning and purpose of the referenced work. Defendants agree. And, indeed, Plaintiff's deposition testimony supports Defendants' position and contradicts its lawyers' opposition brief on this very critical point. As Defendants' motion makes clear, it is not just that Defendants' videos "change" or "ruin" Plaintiff's video that make the videos transformative. (*See* Defs.' Mem. at 11-14) (Doc. No. 40-1). Rather, as Renee Chelian testified, Defendants' videos take portions of Plaintiff's video and transform de-stigmatization into stigmatization, which is the transformation of the very core meaning and purpose of Plaintiff's video. (SMF at ¶¶ 41-44).

Indeed, Plaintiff's effort to distinguish *Mattel, Inc.*, merely underscores just how dispositive that decision is for this case. In *Mattel, Inc.*, the defendant did not alter Barbie at all. All he did was remove some or all of her clothes and place

her into different environmental contexts (*i.e.*, a blender). Barbie as a physical thing remained unchanged. Barbie *qua* America's image of what the Barbie doll 2 stood for was transformed. Similarly here, Plaintiff has testified without 3 hesitation or equivocation that its video's message and purpose was to de-4 stigmatize the abortion decision and that Defendants' videos successfully turned 5 that on its head. If ever there was a case of transformation in the context of fair 6 use, Defendants' videos would be a profound and jolting example of how to 7 achieve this using mediums that bring to bear both the grotesque and the sublime. 8

D. Defendants' Videos Were Neither Created Nor Used for **Commercial Purposes.**

To begin, Defendants have addressed the points presented in Plaintiff's fourth prong of its argument in their opposition to Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. (Defs.' Opp'n at 15-17) (Doc. No. 73). However, what deserves attention here is Plaintiff's abuse of the factual record. In an effort to create facts similar to Worldwide Church of God v. Phil. Church of God, Inc., 227 F.3d 1110 (9th Cir. 2000), Plaintiff literally distorts the facts of Worldwide Church and those in evidence before this court to create a new record *ex nihilo*.

Contrary to Plaintiff's rendition, Worldwide Church stands for the proposition that a work copied in its entirety and not transformed at all may not be used by a religious, non-profit organization to attract members and gain donations. *Worldwide Church*, 227 F.3d at 1110-17. A non-profit is not exempt from the full analysis of the fair use doctrine simply because it is a non-profit. Indeed, *Worldwide Church* was about the taking and use of a 380-page work and simply converting it for the church's own purposes. The case had *nothing* to do with parody or critique. Even Plaintiff's parenthetical description of this case

1

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

(see Pl.'s Opp'n at 7 ["finding reproduction and distribution by nonprofit 1 organization of an entire religious written work not fair use"]) recognizes that this 2 was a case where a 380-page work was used in its entirety for specific gain by the 3 non-profit. (Pls.' Opp'n at 7-8). 4

Worldwide Church is simply inapposite to the facts here for two fundamental reasons. One, Defendants' videos are transformative, and transformative in precisely the way the fair use exception demands. The decision in Worldwide Church hinged in great measure on the fact that there was no transformative use. *Id.* at 1117 ("Although 'transformative use is not absolutely necessary for a finding of fair use,' where the 'use is for the same intrinsic purpose as [the copyright holder's] . . . such use seriously weakens a claimed fair use."") (citation omitted). And, as the Ninth Circuit has made clear, "[g]iven the extremely transformative nature and parodic quality" of Defendants' videos, any "commercial qualities become less important" in the fair use analysis. Mattel, *Inc.*, 353 F.3d at 803.

Two, the testimony and record in this case are clear: Defendants did not use 16 their videos for commercial gain in any way, shape, or form. (See SMF at ¶ 37-39). The testimony cited by Plaintiff to suggest otherwise was testimony by Defendant CBR that CBR used its video in two contexts. The first was to accomplish the very goal of parody for which the video was produced: to make it available to the general public to criticize and ridicule Plaintiff's video. It did so by posting its video on its website and posting links elsewhere. It neither solicited funds nor members nor sought any other commercial gain through the presentation of its video. (See also Defs.' Statement of Genuine Disputes at ¶¶ 37-39, 62-63) (Doc. No. 73-1). Moreover, as the undisputed record also makes

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

clear, unlike the defendant in *Worldwide Church*, which used the 380-page work
to build its membership and donation base, Defendant CBR's use of its video
made it more difficult to raise funds and fit into the mainstream anti-abortion
movement precisely because of its graphic use of abortion clips as critique and
parody. (Cunningham Decl. at ¶¶ 10, 12) (Doc. No. 40-4).

Plaintiff's argument that the use is commercial because Defendant CBR also solicited donations through other pages on its website is incorrect in that this use does not create the necessary commercial nexus found in *Worldwide Church*; that nexus being a direct link between the use of the 380-page work to build its membership and the specific use of that book for the same purposes as it was intended by its creator-copyright holder without "paying the customary price" for the work. *Worldwide Church of God*, 227 F.3d at 1117-19.

The second use of the video, as CBR testified to, was in letters to solicit defense funds for <u>this</u> litigation. Asking members of the public to support its fair use defense and mentioning the video at issue so that the public might judge the matter for itself is hardly an infringing use of the copyright work as found in *Worldwide Church*. Indeed, a finding that post-litigation fundraising efforts by a non-profit amounts to "commercial gain" would surrender the non-profit's ability to defend the very First Amendment rights embodied in the fair use doctrine.

For these reasons, and based especially on the transformative nature of Defendants' videos, this court should reject Plaintiff's argument of commerciality and find that Defendants have prevailed on all elements of the fair use analysis.

II. NATURE OF THE COPYRIGHTED WORK.

This factor need not trouble the court for very long. Indeed, as the Ninth Circuit has "recognized in the past, 'this nature of the copyrighted work factor

- 11 -

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

typically has not been terribly significant in the overall fair use balancing." Mattel, Inc., 353 F.3d at 803 (quoting Dr. Seuss Enters., L.P. v. Penguin Books, 2 USA, Inc., 109 F.3d 1394, 1402 (9th Cir. 1997)). Similarly here, this factor is not 3 "terribly significant" in the analysis due in large part to the transformative nature 4 of Defendants' videos. Nonetheless, it is certainly worth highlighting the fact that 5 Plaintiff's own designated "expert" testified under oath that there was nothing 6 creative, new, or unique about the "Good Woman concept," and it did not 7 originate with Northland. (R.A. Dep. at 100:1-18 at Ex. 2) (Doc. No. 73-3). 8

In sum, it is reasonable for a trier of fact to conclude that the Northland Video "is an *informational work* . . . and thus deserves less protection than a creative work of entertainment." Righthaven, LLC v. Jama, 2:10-CV-1322 JCM (LRL), 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43952, at *8 (D. Nev. Apr. 22, 2011).

III. THE AMOUNT AND SUBSTANTIALITY USE WERE OF **APPROPRIATE.**

Contrary to Plaintiff's contention, Defendants' assertion that the amount of video used was "the content quantum minimally required to criticize" the Northland Video is not "wholly conclusory" and without factual support. (See Pl.'s Opp'n at 16). Indeed, as with the analysis regarding the transformative nature of Defendants' videos, Defendants invite the court to view the videos Similar to how Defendants' graphic imagery ridicules Plaintiff's themselves. message more effectively than words ever could, viewing the videos demonstrates the minimalist way in which Defendants' ridiculed and mocked the essential "focal points" of Plaintiff's message, including its method of delivery. Consequently, Defendants used only those essential parts of the Northland Video that were necessary to effectively create their critical parodies. And the fact that

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

1

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

this amount equated to approximately one half of the Northland Video should not 1 be surprising—indeed, it should be expected. Moreover, contrary to Plaintiff's 2 assertion, the Ninth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court are clear on this point: 3 "[*The courts*] do not require parodic works to take the absolute minimum amount 4 of the copyrighted work possible. . . . 'once enough has been taken to assure 5 identification, how much more is reasonable will depend, say, on the extent to 6 which the [work's] overriding purpose and character is to parody the original, or, 7 in contrast, the likelihood that the parody may serve as a market substitute for the 8 original." Mattel, Inc., 353 F.3d at 803 (quoting Campbell, 510 U.S. at 587) 9 (emphasis added). Here, there can be no reasonable dispute that the "overriding 10 purpose and character [of Defendants' videos] is to parody the original" and that 11 Defendants' videos are no market substitute for the Northland Video. In sum, the 12 amount and substantiality of use were appropriate. 13

IV. THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED SHOWS, WITHOUT REASONABLE DISPUTE, NO MARKET HARM.

As demonstrated more fully in Defendants' motion for summary judgment (*see* Defs.' Mem. at 16-18) (Doc. No. 40-1) and in their opposition to Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment (Defs.' Opp'n at 19-23) (Doc. No. 73), harm caused by effective criticism or disparagement is not cognizable injury under the Copyright Act—whether the harm is to the original or its derivative uses. *Campbell*, 510 U.S. at 590-92. Consequently, "[b]ecause parody may quite legitimately aim at *garroting the original, destroying it commercially as well as artistically*, the role of the courts is to distinguish between *biting criticism that merely suppresses demand* and copyright infringement, which *usurps it*." *Id.* at 592 (internal citations, quotations, and brackets omitted) (emphasis added). Thus,

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

under this factor, the relevant inquiry is whether Defendants' videos tend to
<u>supplant</u> or <u>substitute</u> for the potential market for the Northland Video <u>or</u> its
derivatives. *Id.* at 592. Here, it is utterly implausible—indeed, it is quite
frivolous—to argue that Defendants' videos would usurp demand for the
Northland Video or its derivatives in any conceivable way.

In its opposition, Plaintiff, relying on *Dr. Seuss Enters., L.P. v. Penguin Books, USA, Inc.*, 109 F.3d 1394, 1403 (9th Cir. 1997), claims that Defendants failed to "bring forward favorable evidence" that there has been no market harm. Plaintiff is mistaken on a number of fronts.

First, as *Dr. Seuss* makes clear, the assumption of market harm was made because the use at issue was not transformative and thus operated as a market substitute. It was upon that finding that the court noted the defendants' burden. *See id.* ("Because, on the facts presented, Penguin and Dove's use of *The Cat in the Hat* original was non-transformative, and admittedly commercial, we conclude that market substitution is at least more certain, and market harm may be more readily inferred.").

Second, the market harm caused by the market substitution at issue in Dr. Seuss was directly related to the "substantial" "good will and reputation associated with Dr. Seuss' work." *Id.* Here, Plaintiff has disavowed any such harm to good will or reputation⁴ and, in fact, has argued just the opposite, noting that there is no "evidence that the Northland Video is well-known among the general public or even among activists in the abortion debate." (Pl.'s Opp'n at 6).

Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. for Summ. J.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Plaintiff has disavowed any damages related to Defendants' use of the
 Northland Video other than "the loss of licensing opportunity." (Chelian Dep. at
 95:1-6 at Ex. 1) (Doc. No. 73-2).

And finally, Defendants have presented irrefutable evidence that there was 1 no market harm. As the record shows, Plaintiff has never sold the Northland 2 Video, nor has it ever licensed the video. Plaintiff has no draft licensing 3 agreements, contracts, or any other writings whatsoever evidencing any intent to 4 sell or license the Northland Video. Plaintiff never had any substantive 5 discussions about selling or licensing the Northland Video, and Plaintiff continues 6 to use the video as a counseling and educational tool. (See Chelian Dep. at 38:16-7 17; 39:14-25; 42:3-16; 102:23-25; 103:1-2, 5-12; 104:20-23; 105:4-11; 106:12-18 8 at Ex. 1 [admitting that Plaintiff never sold or licensed the Northland Video; never 9 had any discussions about any of the essential or even non-essential terms of a 10 sales or licensing agreement, such as the price at which Plaintiff might be willing 11 to sell or license the Northland Video or the price the supposed purchasers or 12 licensees might be willing to pay to acquire the rights to the Northland Video; and 13 moreover, Plaintiff never had any discussions regarding any of the other terms of 14 a sale or license of the Northland Video]) (Doc. No. 73-2). Consequently, it is not 15 surprising that Plaintiff's "expert" testified that she knew of not a single instance 16 where a similar video was licensed to another abortion provider or anyone else 17 for that matter. (R.A. Dep. at 110:1-11 at Ex. 2) (Doc. No. 73-3). Most tellingly, 18 there was not a single email, letter, note, or draft of any discussion whatsoever of 19 the use, much less the sale or license, of the Northland Video by anyone prior to 20 the appearance of Defendants' videos, much less any kind of an agreement from 21 Plaintiff to any third party. (See Chelian Dep. at 38:16-17; 39:14-25; 42:3-16; 22 102:23-25; 103:1-2, 5-12; 104:20-23; 105:4-11; 106:12-18 at Ex. 1) (Doc. No. 73-23 2). Indeed, according to Plaintiff's own documents, the only interest expressed in 24 25 a writing to actually use the Northland Video occurs *after* the CBR Video is

produced and published and only after Plaintiff and its colleagues became aware 1 of the CBR Video. (Muise Decl., Ex. A [NFP 000038] at Ex. 3) (Doc. No. 73-4). 2 The final blow to any claim of market harm comes from one of Renee Chelian's 3 own colleagues, who correctly reassures her after the CBR Video is posted that 4 there is no likelihood that any reasonable person would confuse Plaintiff's "Good 5 Woman" messaging with the CBR Video. (Muise Decl., Ex. A [NFP 000048-B] 6 at Ex. 3) (Doc. No. 73-4). And the reason is patently obvious: Defendants' videos 7 turn the "Good Woman" narrative on its head and are so clearly a transformative 8 critique of the reference work that they stand as the quintessential exemplar of the 9 power of parody and the propriety of fair use. In sum, the evidence is 10 overwhelming and undisputed that there is absolutely no market harm legally or 11 factually. 12

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Defendants respectfully request that this court grant their motion and enter judgment in their favor as to all claims Additionally, because Plaintiff's copyright infringement claim is so frivolous, Defendants request that this court award them their costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505 and other applicable law.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID YERUSHALMI, P.C.

<u>/s/ David Yerushalmi</u> David Yerushalmi, Esq.

AMERICAN FREEDOM LAW CENTER /s/ Robert J. Muise Robert J. Muise, Esq.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

| C | ase 8:11-cv-00731-JVS-AN | Document 82 | Filed 05/21/12 | Page 20 of 21 | Page ID #:1143 |
|--------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | | THOMAS MC | DRE LAW CEN | TER | |
| 1 | | /a/ Enin Manin | | | |
| 2 | | /s/ Erin Mersino, Erin Mersino, | <u>io</u> Esq.* (MI Bar N | No. P70866) | |
| 3 | | 24 Frank Lloyd P.O. Box 393 | d Wright Drive | | |
| 4 | | Ann Arbor, Mi | | | |
| 5 | | Tel: (734) 827- emersion@tho | -2001; Fax: (73- masmore.org | 4) 930-7160 | |
| 6 | | *Admitted pro | _ | | |
| 7 8 | | LAW OFFICE | S OF CHARLE | ES S. LIMAND | RI |
| 9 | | | za, Esq. (CA Ba | r No. 185820) | |
| 10 | | Box 9120 Rancho Santa | Fe, CA 92067 | | |
| 11 | | Tel: (858) 759- | -9930 | | |
| 12 | | <u>climandri@lim</u> | landri.com | | |
| 13 | | Counsel for De | efendants | | |
| 14 | | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | |
| 16 | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | |
| 21 | | | | | |
| 22 | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | |
| 25 | | | | | |
| | | -] | 17 - | | |
| | Defs.' Reply in Supp. of Mot. | . for Summ. J. | | 8:11-cv-00 | 0731-JVS-AN |

Case 8:11-cv-00731-JVS-AN Document 82 Filed 05/21/12 Page 21 of 21 Page ID #:1144

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 21, 2012, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the ECF system which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record. Parties not on ECF system and requiring postal service: none.

| such filing to all counsel of record. Parties not on ECF system and requir |
|--|
| postal service: none. |
| Respectfully submitted, |
| <u>/s/ Robert J. Muise</u> Robert J. Muise, Esq. |
| Co-counsel for Defendants |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| - 18 - |
| |