

FALSE ALARM

It is one thing when a newspaper editorializes against hospital mergers between Catholic and secular facilities, quite another when a purportedly objective news report shows its bias. This is what happened recently when the *North Jersey Herald & News* did a piece on the subject. It went so far as to say that such mergers “threaten reproductive rights.” Talk about a false alarm.

The fact that our laws permit a person to have an abortion, or to use contraception, does not *require* private health care facilities to provide these “services.” Does the legal right of an adult to use pornography require every book store to sell pornographic materials? Should a vegetarian restaurant be required to offer meat dishes because people have a legal right to eat meat?

The medical needs of entire communities should not be held hostage to the narrow pro-abortion ideology of a few. And in any event, it is outrageous to read an editorial disguised as a news story. This says volumes on what passes as journalism at the newspaper.

We conveyed our sentiments to the *Herald & News* and hope our members are on the lookout for such abuses. They don’t happen often, but even once is too much.