

Memorial Hospital, Resident-in-Charge, Erythroblastosis Clinic, LA County; Instructor, OB/GYN USC School of Medicine; Executive Resident-OB/GYN LA County General Hospital.

In addition to many Society memberships, Sloves lectures at USC and lectures on women's rights for the Pro-Choice organizations, including NCRRA and NOW, and South Bay Friends of PPLA.

Sloves was also one of the organizers in the late 1960s of the Jewish Heritage School in Palos Verdes, and a former Vice President of Temple Beth El in San Pedro.

The Sloves' kids, all multi post-graduates, drop in as often as possible, given two of the three cross-country distance. This day, several of Peg's gorgeous home-baked High Holiday desserts are enticingly displayed and constantly sliced into on her serious work-island-kitchen/nosh center by all who enter their home, all day long.

Sam Sloves (UC Santa Barbara, Columbia University) lives in New York City, and is teaching high school math and college film history; Sara Sloves (UC Santa Barbara, New York University, New School), is an actress and swing dancer, also living in New York; and Max, (UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara and USC Law), is with O'Melveny and Myers in Los Angeles.

Sloves recalls about a decade ago when Planned Parenthood and the South Bay Friends of PPLA were planning a new South Bay women and family clinic. Emotions were running high,

and Sloves' offices were picketed. One partner's home address was even made public, his family and even kids under siege for days by Pro-Lifers, carrying 'doctored' graphic pictures outside his house.

During the pre-legal abortion era, Sloves, then a young resident, saw a great deal of suffering and loss of life as a result of illegal abortions.

"Women, single, married, mothers...

By the time they came in (to County-USC) they were very ill. For many, it was too late, and there was very little we could do for them. Maybe 10 to 20 a night. It made you feel strongly that abortion must be legalized, and performed in a medically safe and sanitary environment that would decrease the complication, including the death rate. Some of these women were mothers already.

"We doctors also tried very hard to get patients to use birth control pills, but at that time, the law prohibited more than a one-month supply and when the pills ran out it was hard to get women back in for monthly prescriptions.

"Thankfully," he continued, "the law was finally extended to a three-months' supply. It really helped to reduce unwanted pregnancies. And then-Governor Ronald Reagan signed the procedure into law. That, along with safe sex, health education and birth control information has saved many lives."

"It's insane," he says. "The Pro-Life movement fights abortions, birth control, sex education and family planning, but it doesn't want to pay for pre-natal

care or childcare. It won't help women or their children be healthy."

Bob and Peggy have both served on the boards of the Natural History Museum, the Bowers Museum of Cultural Arts, Santa Ana, and the Skirball Museum, where long-time friend Nancy Berman served as director when Peggy was a docent there. Peg began volunteering as a docent at the Natural History Museum when the kids started school.

Despite the fact that Sloves' father was an important art collector, Sloves credits his wife with his 'real' introduction to art.

At Skirball, Bob also discovered a mohel (Jewish medical-spiritual 'briss' (circumcision) training program. He is a member of its second graduating class. Now Professor Emeritus of the USC OB/GYN Clinical Program, he trains new mohalim and has served four years as President of NOAM, the National Organization of American Mohalim. The reform branch of Judaism, it recognizes the Jewish heritage of children from either the father or mother of intermarried couples, and not only the mother, as do the orthodox and conservative branches of Judaism.

Berman also introduced the Sloves to the high-profile activist artist Judy Chicago during a Skirball museum tour to Santa Fe in the mid 80s. Visiting her studio, the couple became good friends with Chicago and her husband. Chicago's works can be seen scattered here and there in their home, comfortably 'socializing' with other works by Red Grooms, Frank Minuto, Chitlily,

Sari Steggs, Tony and Elizabeth Abeyta, Ric Charlie, Michael Horse, Candace Gawne and Sheila Goldberg.

"I think that our favorite artists are those we have come to know personally," Sloves says. Other names flow, such as Alan Hause, Kevin Red Star, Jon Nieto, Andy Warhol, Jan Kasperzcki, Harry Fonseca, Leonard Peltier, Enrico Flores and Rodolfo Morales.

"I tried to narrow it down," he apologizes, "but as we walked through the house to review the art, I realized that almost every work of art brought back a memory of a person or time or place that was important and pleasurable."

Sloves loves medicine and feels close to patients he sees in and around the Hill.

"I get notes, and announcements of special occasions. And I'm delivering the babies of some babies I delivered 30 years ago," he says.

"Last week (just after discovering the new cancer in late September), from my hospital bed, I saw a nurse walk by my room. She did a double take, backed up, walked in, and pulled out some photos of her son, now 28, and said, 'Dr. Sloves. You delivered my kids. They're doing this and that and the other thing.' I couldn't believe it was her kid. She looked so young herself! That was really great."

Dr. Bob guesses he's delivered well over 3,000 babies, including several sets of twins, but surprisingly, no triplets. Not yet. "Now, that will be an experience," he laughs. *PEN*