Facebook Nurse-In

Written by Laurel Haring Monday, December 29 2008 14:28

So how did the virtual nurse-in at Facebook go on December 27? Saying it was an unparalleled success just wouldn't do it justice. To recap, Facebook has been removing pictures of women breastfeeding their babies in an often random, arbitrary way. In response, Stephanie Knapp Muir began the "Hey Facebook, Breastfeeding Is Not Obscene" group in 2007. Her goal was for Facebook to allow breastfeeding pictures and stop classifying them as obscene. (If you'd like to see some of the pictures Facebook removed, just click here .)

Fast forward to the last days of 2008. The movement gained worldwide media attention. And in the last week alone, the "Hey Facebook…" group welcomed a staggering 17,000 members, for a total membership of 79,500+. The "Hey Facebook…" group is an offshoot of Facebook's Mothers International Lactation Campaign (MILC), which sponsored the weekend's nurse-in.

According to Stephanie's post, more than 11,000 participated in the event. The nurse-in asked that Facebook members post a breastfeeding image as their profile picture and change their status line to read, "Hey, Facebook, breastfeeding is not obscene!" Some group members held a live nurse-in at Facebook's Palo Alto, Calif., headquarters.

In her post, Stephanie concludes with this message: "This is an issue of critical importance not just for nursing mothers and their children, but all of us fighting for gender equality and freedom. Our event was a success … but we still have far to go."

Laurel Haring is a writer. She lives with her family in Wilmington, Delaware, and posts semi-regularly to her blog, Let Me Say This About That . She is still finding wrapping paper all over the house, and the pine-tree's needles are starting to wander out of the living room. She believes her home could do in a Roomba in about 10 minutes.

http://www.typeamom.net/facebook-nurse%11in.html