

Vancouver Status of Women
2029 W. 4th Avenue
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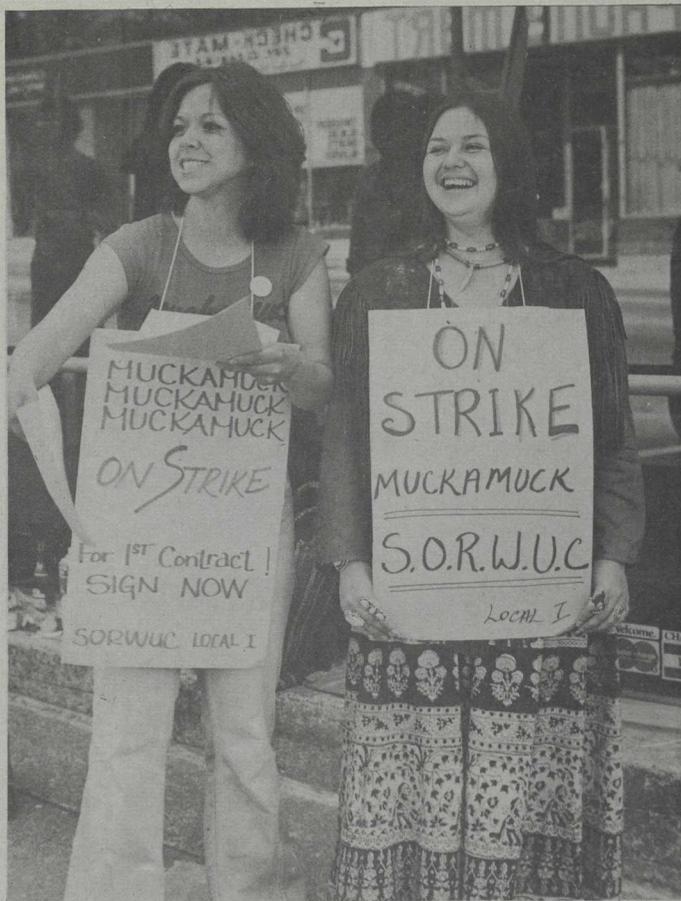
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VSW membership is by donation. Please remember that VSW operates on inadequate funding -- we need member support!



Sue Moore photo

VANCOUVER CITY DENIES VSW FUNDING

Vancouver City Council turned our funding application down again.

On Tuesday, May 16, Vancouver Status of Women returned to City Hall to ask Council to reconsider its decision to deny our organisation funding for a community worker.

Anti Choicers

The Anti-choicers went, too. Betty Green, a director of the so-called 'Pro-Life' society in B.C. spoke against funding VSW. She presented a 458 name petition which was opposed to funding "a controversial political action group." She quoted Provincial Secretary McCarthy's comment that VSW "had failed to demonstrate community support."

Green did not identify the group she represents. She said not a word about abortion.

It is possible that members of City Council would not have had any way of knowing what she was up to, had not Ald. Harry Rankin provided some loud asides about 'pro-lifers.'

Council members did not appear to take the petition very seriously. "They'll always be someone in the community who takes a different point of view", said Ald. May Brown. Ald. Marzari said that the group was 'hypocritical' for not having identified its real reason for opposing us.

Blow for Blow

The first time round, in March, VSW had lost by only one vote. This time, too, we were defeated by a single vote.

A funding application with Vancouver City Council needs eight affirmative votes to pass. On the former occasion, we had won the support of the following Councillors: Marzari, Rankin, Harcourt, Ford, Gerard, Bellamy and Gibson. Note well that Ald. Bernice Gerard had voted in our favour last March.

Mayor Volrich and Councillors Kennedy and Puil voted against us - not that that's a surprise to anyone.

But in March Ald. May Brown also voted against us. That meant that we had only seven votes. So we lost.

Two months later, at our May 16 appeal, Ald. May Brown indicated that she had experienced a change of heart. She spoke most enthusiastically in favour of funding.

She hadn't voted for VSW funding the first time, Ald. Brown explained, because she thought that we would be getting all we needed from the Provincial Government. However, in view of the fact that this had not happened, she recommended that City Council grant funding for two community development workers (\$22,000). Vancouver Status of Women, she said, provides important legal and ombudsman services to women in need, including many single parents.

We Lost by One Vote

Ald. Marguerite Ford agreed that the services provided by VSW are very important. Now, however, is not the time to be expanding, she added. She moved that we receive \$7,000 for one community worker.

Ald. Darlene Marzari commented: "Vancouver Status of Women has been going for enough time now to have proven itself in the community." She attacked the petitioners for not explaining their real reasons for appearing before Council in opposition to VSW. "When women are being told to get out of the labour force it's more important now than ever before to support a group such as the Vancouver Status of Women."

Lotta Continua/LNS



Marzari then moved that we be given \$11,000 for one community worker. (This was the original motion before Council, and the one which we had hoped to have carried.)

Ald. Kennedy spoke briefly against VSW. He's "vehemently opposed to funding a political action group."

"We're all motivated by politics to one extent or another", countered Ald. Harry Rankin. VSW, Rankin said, "represents a significant group of people", and for the group to be effective in the community, and for it to incorporate volunteers, it must have funding.

We lost all three motions: Mayor Volrich, Ald. Kennedy and Ald. Puil voted against the three motions: the \$22,000 (from the repentant Ald. May Brown); the \$7,000 (from Ald. Marguerite Ford) and the \$11,000 (from Ald. Darlene Marzari).

Again, we had seven affirmative votes: Councillors Brown, Ford, Harcourt, Marzari, Rankin, Bellamy and Gibson.

Where Was Gerard?

The crucial factor this time was that Ald. Bernice Gerard was missing from City Council.

Had Ald. Gerard been present at Council May 16, would she have again voted yes?

Ald. Bernice Gerard is a well-known anti-chooser on abortion. How would the presence of her fellow so-called "Pro-Lifers" with their petition against VSW have effected her?

June 7: Bliss Case in Supreme Court

The Stella Bliss Case has been heard before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Readers of Kinesis will be familiar with the intricacies of the Bliss case. Briefly, the case challenges Section 46 of the Federal Unemployment Insurance Commission benefits. Under Section 46, a pregnant worker must go on maternity benefits. She is not free to choose between those benefits and regular benefits, even if she qualifies for regular benefits and would prefer them.

Arguing for Bliss, lawyer John Nelligan claimed that the UIC discriminates against all women and accordingly contravenes the Canadian Bill of Rights.

VSW raised funds for Vancouver Community Legal Assistance Society lawyers Lynn Smith and Al McLean to take the case to Ottawa. The Supreme Court ruling is expected in the fall.



Laurie Leifer LNS

THE ISSUE:

Section 46 of the UIC Act discriminates against ALL women, not just "pregnant persons." ALL workers, women and men, should be accorded equal rights under law.

Muckamuck workers on Strike

The workers at the Muckamuck restaurant are on strike. This Vancouver restaurant serves food traditional to the Indian peoples of the North West Coast. It employs native people, but it is owned by whites.

The greivances include:

- * poor pay
- * no job security
- * no say in scheduling
- * short notice of change in working hours
- * illegal deductions for uniforms (the T shirts with Muckamuck printed across them).
- * constant criticism from management.

The Muckamuck workers joined SORWUC to seek an end to these conditions. The primary union organizer was fired the day that management was notified of the application for certification. Since then, the union has been certified (with 18 out of a possible 21 members). But six more union members have been fired or intimidated into quitting.



*
JOIN THE PICKET LINE

On Sunday, May 28, a majority of workers voted to take strike action.

The strikers say: "We are prepared to negotiate at any time, but we want a contract because it will give us control over our jobs and our lives.

"We want all the people who were fired or forced to quit re-hired - management is opening up an addition upstairs and there are lots of jobs.

"The Vancouver Indian Centre, the Native Voice, the United Native Nations, the Native Courtworkers, the Native Brotherhood and Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs have all assured us of their support. The trade union movement and women's groups have also assured us of their support.

"We gave our contract proposals to management on April 17 and they have still not made us one serious offer.

"Please don't eat at Muckamuck until there is a union contract and workers are rehired."

More information is available from SORWUC (Service, Office and Retail Workers union of Canada) : 684 2834.

Muckamuck worker ETHEL GARDNER on the dispute:

"Would you like to say a few words, Sam Bob, about what's going on here?" I asked, trying to get a conversation started among us.

"About the restaurant?", he replied.

"Yeah," I said. Before Sam had a chance to answer, I eyed some people walking away from the restaurant, and proceeded to find out what was happening. I was hoping for some spicey comments from people before the night was over. It turned out that they were just looking in the window as they were going by.

"Chris, would you say a few words about the Muckamuck, about what's happening here?" I asked. I felt like a newspaper reporter.

"Bro-ther," she exclaimed, "You mean why we're doing this?"

"About what management is doing right now, and about the response we're getting from people," I said. We were outside the restaurant passing leaflets to customers. The leaflets contained general information and a list of our greivances. Meanwhile, management was inside passing them a counter-leaflet presenting their side of the story.

"We're getting a pretty good response," Chris said. "We need more response - the way that the management is bullshitting, by putting that paper up there, by contradicting what we're saying, and yet they're lying in there, and then they're saying up there that Muckamuck T shirts are sold to staff on an average of six dollars, depending on style. That still doesn't alter the fact they're going against the law. You know, they're so dense on this. I can't see any part of it." She was really worked up. Her hand was on her hip.

She slowly turned her head away and somberly looked toward the restaurant and added, "I hope we can keep up on it. We need more Indians down here."

One lady stopped on her tracks, mouth dropped, and eyes big, exclaimed, after reading a few words or sentences of the leaflet, "I don't believe it! Is this true? If it is, we can't eat here!" I reassured her that it was true, and let her know that she would be confronted with another leaflet inside. She went to another restaurant. Many people turned away like this lady.

I caught one couple on their way out of the restaurant who had plenty to say.

"How was dinner?" Chris asked.

Leaflet and Counter-Leaflet

"Oh well, it was o.k., just that they're down on you guys. They don't even say why - it's an emotional trip they're doing on you, you know. So you should really work your stuff out and play it on them," replied the male of the couple. When a couple was approached, it was usually the male who spoke. We explained that we were having a bad time getting negotiations under way, that we were with SORWUC.

"You guys seem really sincere and calm about it. So I figure that some thing should work out," he said. "You guys seem pretty centred about it, where they aren't."

Chris expressed her views of the T shirt situation. She doesn't believe

that they should deduct money from our salary for them.

"Why don't they just give them to you?" asked the girl.

"Exactly," I said.

"You know what you should do," said the male customer. "You should tell them to go fuck themselves, and open up your own restaurant. Well, I mean, it's an idea, you know. Just slip away, and do your own trip. Don't try to hassle with them. They're just really oppressive, and they won't do anything."

He gave me the impression that he thought what we were doing wasn't worth all the trouble.

"We don't want this happening to our Native people any more, with our Native people working in there. They've been doing it for seven years. Even if we open up our own restaurant, they'll still want to use Native people, and they'll still give them a hard time," I explained.

"That is true, that's true," he said.

"You people, you people, I built a heaven for you people to work in", Chris was quoting one of the owners.

"That's Whitey talking there, eh?" he said. "That's Whitey, for sure."

"Where would they be without you?" said Cathy, a union representative.

"Right," said Chris, "they tell us this is a great opportunity to show off your jewelry, and all this and that. And if we don't wear jewelry we get fired! We have to buy our own jewelry!"

"Boy, well hang in there," said the supportive customer.

HUMAN RIGHTS



Credit: LNS Women's Graphics

We'll still be accused of "asking for it".

The Working Paper on Sexual Offences, recently released by the Law Reform Commission of Canada, has been severely criticised by Vancouver Rape Relief on the grounds that it does not address the most problematic areas of the present rape law, namely that of requiring the victim to prove that she did not consent.

"This requirement of proof indicates a bias against victims of sexual assault," commented Rape Relief spokesperson, Megan Ellis. "We see no reason why the burden of proof should be any different than that for victims of other assaults."

Megan Ellis made these additional points concerning the content of the working paper:

* "The Law Reform Commission of Canada indicated that it was of two minds with respect to protecting co-habiting spouses from sexual assault; but for the purposes of its recommendations the Commission took the least controversial option - it included only spouses living apart."

* "The Commission recognized the effect of language, deleting such archaic phrases as 'of previously chaste character', and sought to protect 'the sexual dignity of the person'."

* "The Commission's recommendations do eliminate redundant sections. For example, they do away with the section prohibiting seductions under promise of marriage, or of female passengers on board vessels, acknowledging that 'they assume a general sexual immaturity among women and also attribute to men the sole responsibility for making sexual decisions', and thus do not reflect current attitudes."

Better than Bill C-52

* "We appreciate the Commission's approach as being much more sensitive and comprehensive than that taken by the Minister of Justice as evidenced by Bill C-52, which was more cosmetic in nature, reflecting its pre-election timing."

* "We think it is quite ridiculous for the government to pay a body such as the Law Reform Commission to study and make recommendations on an area of law and then, six weeks before they are due to report, introduce its own, rather slapdash proposal. As well as serving to complicate the issue, it is clearly a waste of money."

The B.C. COALITION OF RAPE RELIEF CENTRES still haven't had confirmation from the Provincial Government concerning their funding.

The Centres are living on interim funding and overdrafts.

AN INTERVIEW WITH HOLLY DEVOR -
a member of the Coalition formed to oppose Anita Bryant's campaign
by Lorri Rudland

JOIN THE COALITION TO OPOSE ANITA BRYANT AND RENAISSANCE CANADA!
Come to: Britannia Centre, Rm. L2L3, 1667 Napier Street, Van. June 15th 7:00 P.M.

KINESIS: Anita Bryant is seen mainly as an opponent of rights for lesbians and homosexual men. But she, and Renaissance Canada, the Canadian organization that supports her campaign, are attacking many other civil rights as well. Just who and what are they attacking?

HOLLY: Anita Bryant is leading a campaign the aim of which is to return our society to fundamentalist Bible principles. She wants every one to live by the letter of the Bible and she wants the state - the government - to reflect the teachings of the Church in its strictest sense.

Not only does she feel that homosexuals should be treated as sinners and punished by God, she feels they should also be punished harshly by the law. She condemns Jews, Hindu's, Moslems, and liberal Christians to burn in eternal damnation. Her campaign favours "right to work" legislation which is a legal attack waged by Big Business & Management against the worker's right to the protection of trade unions.

Anita Bryant would have women be restricted in choice to the role of wife and mother and would deny women the right to safe therapeutic abortions. She opposes the equal rights amendment in the United States which means that she opposes the concept of equal pay for work of equal value, equal opportunity in education and sports, equal access to credit and finance, equal property rights in marriage, and women's right to child care.

Renaissance Canada, the Canadian organization that supports her, is waging a powerful campaign to restrict the educational system to one narrow fundamentalist Christian view of life. They espouse the type of "spare the rod, spoil the child" attitude, core curriculum, the removal of all sex education from the schools, and the restriction of elective courses.

This is directly in opposition to the government's policy of multiculturalism which allows minorities to retain a cultural identity in a Canadian context.

The Renaissance campaign is strongly in favour of more repressive censorship laws. They would use these laws to repress any statements which are in opposition to their own beliefs. One of their first targets has been and will continue to be gay liberation publications and media statements and women's movement publications and media statements. In the name of "saving our children from pornography" they would in fact be censoring all opposing views.

KINESIS: How does Anita Bryant's campaign against gay rights relate to her opposition to women's rights?

HOLLY: The Anita Bryant campaign against homosexuals is also a campaign against any person heterosexual or homosexual who wishes to step out of traditional roles. Lesbian women are not generally highly visible in our society as lesbians. Being women whose lifestyle requires a high degree of self-sufficiency they are most visible as independent and self-defined women. As such, they deviate from the traditional role of women and it is as this sort of deviant that they are most discriminated against. This discrimination is the same punishment used against any women, heterosexual or homosexual, who dares to be independent and self-defined.

turn to col. 2, p. 21



TURKEY OF THE MONTH for June is Vancouver divorce lawyer Neil Fleisman. One reason why B.C. has the highest divorce rate in Canada, he says, is due to the shaky state of our economy. A "working man" can no longer afford to get drunk Saturday night and "beat the daylights out of his wife, as is his time-honoured right."



GET YOUR VGH MEMBERSHIPS IN!

Black, poor and female
by Pauline O'Connor

Nine Jamaican women fighting what they claim are sexist and racist motivated deportation orders are finding the law against them, but public support for their cause is growing.

The women, who came to Canada under a 20 year old agreement between Jamaica and this country for supply of Black domestic labour, are getting deported for failing to declare their illegitimate children on their immigration forms.

After their struggle became public, Immigration Minister Bud Cullen stayed deportation proceedings pending the outcome of a suit against the government using new Federal Human Rights legislation. But so far all court appeals against deportation have failed, including a bid for an injunction against deportation proceedings. In rejecting the bid, the courts denied the Federal Human Rights Commission any jurisdiction in this matter.

The women claim Immigration officials advised them not to declare their children. In Jamaica common-law relationships are customary, and most women are mothers by adulthood. The International Committee Against Racism (INCAR) has taken up the case, aiming to muster enough public support to force the government to back down.

"This move is a deliberate attempt by the government to build racial tension in the country and to blame unemployment on these minority ethnic groups", said INCAR co-ordinator David Jacobs.

These women are all working class. If they, the government, can treat these people as less than human, then they're saying it's all right for others to do so too."

Jacobs said immigration officials have turned a blind eye in the past to failures to declare children, since few Jamaicans are childless as the agreement stipulates they should be.

It's only in the past two years failure to declare children has become grounds for deportation - "material misstatements" - under the department's regulations, he continued. "In fact the women didn't even make misstatements," he said. "These are special forms for these women asking only if the children are coming with them now, coming later, or are adopted. The Immigration officers put 'not applicable' there".

Jacobs said that with 40 per cent unemployment in Jamaica, working in Canada is the only way these women can get money to care for their children. Elaine Pearl, one of the women to have been deported more than a week ago, said recently she faces poverty and permanent unemployment if she returns to Jamaica. She's determined her three children who joined her here last summer will stay even if she is shipped back.

Pearl worked as a maid for two years after arriving in Vancouver in 1976, and is now a kitchen helper in a Toronto hotel.

Jacobs said INCAR is fighting the deportation on the racism and sexism explicit in the case. The judge who rejected INCAR's injunction bid stated in his judgement "they're all Black, they're all women and they all lied".

Jacobs said the deportation move has spread terror through the Jamaican community since many women are in the nine women's position. He said several large union locals and other organizations have protested the government's action. (Upstream, April 1978)



Canadian Judge: "they're all Black, they're all women and they all lied".

Jamaican Women Fight Deportation

An UPSTREAM article.

Sorwuc: We Must Rely On Our Own Strength

The Service Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada recently applied to the Federal Department of Labour for the appointment of a conciliation officer to assist in negotiations for a first contract with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Bank of Nova Scotia, and the Bank of Montreal.

Notice to begin collective bargaining for the 20 certified branches was presented to the banks 8 months ago, and to date the two parties, with the exception of the Bank of Montreal, are still in the process of clarifying the Unions contract proposals. SORWUC's first approach to commence negotiations with the banks was to bargain jointly, but the banks refused to meet on these terms and insist upon individual branch negotiations.

"We realize that first agreements are lengthy and time consuming, but it seems the banks' representatives are prepared to drag negotiations on forever. Wages for employees at certified branches have been frozen,



LET'S PRESS THE BUTTON! THIS PAY CHECK IS A ROBBERY IN PROGRESS!

therefore bank workers are anxious to establish their first agreement with their employers, and hope the conciliation officer might help to speed up the negotiating process." said Jackie Ainsworth, 1st Vice President of the United Bank Workers Section of SORWUC.

Following the completion of conciliation, we will then be in a legal position to take strike action. Our demonstration at the Bank of Commerce in Gibsons, B.C. has proven to us that we must rely on our own strength and support from the Unions and the communities in order to establish decent wages and working conditions for bank employees.

"We realize that it is in the banks interest to stall negotiations, rather than coming to terms with the Union and signing a fair collective agreement with their employees." said Ms. Ainsworth.

SORWUC is also presently meeting with the Royal Bank and the Toronto Dominion Bank.



POLICE VIOLENCE IN FLECK STRIKE

Police violence has been stepped up in the Fleck strike (see Kinesis, May '78 p.9). On May 24 the picketers, mainly women, were charged by 50 Ontario Provincial Police, wielding riot sticks.

"I just didn't believe the police would strike a woman in the breasts", said one of the Fleck strikers. "But they came right at us, swinging. They hit me and another woman in the breasts. They got another in the stomach." Why are the police using violence on the line? "It's got to be political", says strikers.

140 workers, unionized with the United Auto Workers, have been on strike for a first contract at the Fleck manufacturing plant in Centralia, Ontario, since March 6. The plant, which manufactures automobile wiring, is 50% owned by the family of James Fleck, the Ontario Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

The Ontario Provincial Police have been on the scene since the strike began, attaching picketers several times and escorting scabs into the plant. The May 24 attack was the most vicious so far.



An UPSTREAM article

By Esther Shannon

BANKNOTE

RULING: no discrimination

"It's like a nightmare," commented Shirley Cooligan on the recent arbitration award favoring the British American Banknote Company (BABC).

Cooligan, president of Local 31, of the Steel Plate Engravers Union (SPEU), said that morale among the 25% women, is "very low." They had been on strike for 9 weeks from October '77 before the dispute was sent to arbitration.

equal pay issue

The main issue in the strike was the union's claim that the BABC was discriminatory against its women employees. They earn an average of 29% less than the men employed by the company.



Credit: Hazel Hankin/LNS

Powell River Homemakers

Twenty-one homemakers in Powell River who are members of Local 1 of the Service Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) have just signed their first contract.

Their pay will now range from \$3.75 to \$4.50 per hour, depending on experience and length of service, with a raise on September 1, 1978 to between \$4.00 and \$5.00. Top rate for the clerk is \$5.50 per hour. There are also provisions for overtime pay at time and one-half. Previous to the signing of the contract, the homemakers were paid between \$3.25 and \$3.50 per hour. They are employed by a non-profit association which administers the society. The contract will run for one year.

Homemakers in B. C. work in the homes of ill, elderly and disabled persons. Their salaries are mostly paid by the Department of Health under the new Long Term Health Care Programme. The Department assesses the clients for a certain number of care hours per month, and then pays for these hours after determining the client's income. There are about 27 such associations around B. C. and at least two large private profit making agencies in Vancouver which supply homemaking services under this Programme.

"This is the second group of homemakers in B. C. to join a union, and we think some significant advances have been made," said Pat Barter,

spokesperson for SORWUC. "Some of the benefits may not sound significant until you remember that homemakers are not covered by any standard labour legislation except the right to join a union."

As well as standard union clauses for grievances, discipline and discharge procedures, other benefits include:

- * Scheduling based on seniority which will allow employees fuller working hours
- * 3 weeks vacation at 6% of earnings after 2 years service
- * Paid sick leave and double time for worked holidays for all regular employees
- * Maternity and Adoption leave
- * Two consecutive days off after 6 or 10 days worked (depending on the number of hours worked)
- * 15¢ per mile travel allowance after the first four miles
- * Worker's Compensation

The importance of the homemaker's job was recognized by the government when it instituted the Long Term Health Care Programme. These women keep families together and people out of institutions. With a union contract, they now have more respect for themselves - and that's important for anyone to do a good job.

In his report, Owen Shime, the arbitrator, said that the union did not provide sufficient evidence to prove its claim of discrimination. He also noted that comparisons between wage rates in other companies with workers doing the same or similar work showed little or no difference in salary levels.

The union cautioned Shime that these comparisons could be invalid since he could in effect be comparing "one wage ghetto with another."

Noting that the union's position could be valid, Shime felt that he could not consider the "ghetto" argument since the union didn't provide any evidence to support its claim that women or mainly women did the work at the other companies.

He also said that if BABC was guilty of discrimination then the union "must be a party to this discrimination" since Local 588 of SPEU had signed the same contract with the Canadian Banknote Company.

Local 31 is considering an appeal against the arbitrator's decision. Shime went outside his terms of reference in comparing wage rates between other companies, says Cooligan.

Summing up the frustration and disappointment of the women in Local 31, Cooligan said that as far as they could see "there is no use for women to go to arbitration for women's rights."

Reprinted from UPSTREAM,
May '78

UPDATE ON RIGHT TO CHOSE IN US

Since June 1977, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that States could decide whether they would pay for poor women to have abortions, 36 states have enacted laws restricting state funding. Only 14 states and the District of Columbia still pay for some or all of the cost of abortions.

On March 17, 1978 in Boston, Mass. six anti-abortionists attempted to disrupt one of the city's major abortion clinics. Some tried to break right into the examining rooms. Another screamed at patients in the waiting room that they were "murderers".

The demonstrators staged a sit-in in front of each examining room door until police arrived and arrested them. Next day, anti-abortion forces returned and set up a picket outside the clinic. Anti-abortionists have also been trying to disrupt schedules at another Boston clinic by calling in false appointments.

VICTORIES IN NEW YORK AND VIRGINIA

In New York, the state legislature in mid-April rejected a ban on medicaid funds. About 4,000 pro choice people had lobbied against the anti-abortion amendment introduced by Sen. James Donovan (who had also lead the fight for the death penalty).

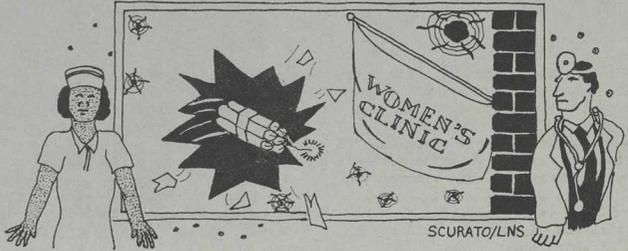
In Virginia on April 21, a federal judge ordered health officials to resume paying for abortions considered medically necessary for women eligible for welfare. At the same time the judge dismissed arguments by anti-abortionists who have been arrested several times at the Northern Virginia Women's Medical Centre. The anti-abortionists had sued the centre, saying it deprived unborn children of their right to live. The judge also rejected their request for a \$1 million judgement for each abortion performed at the clinic.

These arguments were part of a counter-suit by anti-abortionists after the clinic sued them with the help of the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) after the trespassing charges filed against the anti-abortionists were thrown out of the courts twice.

A national US pro-choice coalition, the Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse (CARASA) is organizing "Flying squads" of women who can be called immediately to local clinics in the event of threatened "right-to-life" violence.

Off Our Backs Info.

reproductive freedom under fire



ANTI CHOICE VIOLENCE

Cleveland's Concerned Women's Clinic was vandalized on the night of February 15. Someone broke in and slashed all upholstery on chairs and sofas, cut the phones, threw an iodine substance on the walls, floors and ceilings.

When the Clinic re-opened February 18 a man arrived in a blue delivery uniform, and when a Clinic worker opened the door to him, he threw a gasoline-like fluid in her face. She was temporarily blinded. He then firebombed the clinic, which was entirely destroyed. Damage estimates range in excess of - \$100,000.

In early March '77 unknown persons broke into the Planned Parenthood administrative offices in St. Paul, Minnesota, soaked the floor with inflammable liquid and ignited it. Damage extended through three floors of the building and was estimated at a quarter of a million dollars.

In February '78 an anniversary attempt was made to bomb the clinic. A bomb bounced off one of the plexiglass windows into a snow bank and failed to detonate.

On August 18, 1977 the Ladies' Clinic in Omaha, Nebraska was firebombed. A local newspaper received a pasted-up letter saying: "You'd bomb a concentration camp - why not an abortion clinic?"

November 1977 somebody broke into the Cincinnati Planned Parenthood Clinic and set fire to a crib in the reception area.

February 1978: The Cincinnati Women's Centre Clinic had a chemical bomb and packets of anti-abortion literature thrown through the plate glass during the night. The Clinic had to be closed for nine days. Estimated damages exceeded \$3,000.

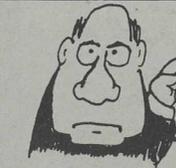
January 8, 1978: 10 small fires were set throughout the Columbus, Ohio Northwest Women's Centre. The Clinic is now operating out of a doctor's office. Damage was estimated at \$200,000.

March 1, 1978: Somebody broke into the Women's Clinic in Akron, Ohio and set a fire in the bathroom. The fire was discovered in time to prevent damage.

A US national pro-choice group, the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights has issued a request to religious leaders to join in calling for an end to the violence. Twenty-six religious leaders have joined the call, from the heads of the Episcopal Church to the United Presbyterians, U.S.A. to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. No Catholic bishop would participate.

Bomb threats are now phoned into many clinics regularly in an attempt to close clinics down, at least temporarily. In the U.S., the right to abortion is a constitutional right but it is under severe attack as a civil right.

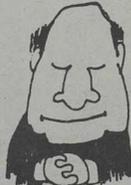
(Info from an article by Christine Brim, *Abortion Clinics Under Siege*, Seven Days, Vol. 2, #7)



I'M AFRAID THAT USE OF GOVERNMENT MONEY FOR ABORTIONS WOULD BE UNCONSTITUTIONAL!



BESIDES- ABORTION IS KILLING! -AND WE CAN'T GO AROUND USING GOVT. MONEY FOR MURDER!



THE MONEY COULD BE PUT TO MUCH, MUCH BETTER USE--



LIKE WAR!

SCURATO/LNS

Anti-Abortionist Tactics BCFW Health Subcommittee

There is no doubt about it. The anti-abortion movement is a threat to our right to the availability of safe, legal abortion. Their stand is that no woman has the right to terminate an unwanted pregnancy. They are actively attempting to impose this viewpoint on others, by using a variety of sensational and emotional tactics that emphasize and distort the uglier aspects of abortion.

Our stand is that women must be allowed to decide whether and when to have children, which by necessity means having abortion available. No one expounds the virtues of abortion. It is an unpleasant, ugly fact of life that has always been with us, legally or illegally. And it will continue to be with us until women and men are assured 100% safe, effective birth control.

Anti-abortion people are organized, numerous, and inspired by a strong sense of righteousness. They have a seemingly endless supply of money due to their affiliation with rich churches. They have a strong appeal to people who want to do good -- but these people have no understanding of the implications and complexities of unwanted pregnancy. It is important to understand the underlying intent of the anti-abortion movement: it is to actively interfere with our right to conduct our lives according to our own standards. We feel the anti-abortionists have a right to practice their own morality, but they have no right to impose it on us.

In order to know how to defend our right to the availability of safe, legal abortion we should have a knowledge and understanding of the tactics of the anti-abortion movement. Some of their tactics are:

Direct Political Pressure:

- mammoth letter lobbies to politicians, newspapers and journals.
- sending briefs to parliament.
- attempting to change hospital abortion policy by voting anti-abortionists onto hospital boards of directors.

Misleading Advertising:

- placing advertisements in buses, newspapers, etc. that offer "help" to women with distressing pregnancies. No mention of their anti-abortion sentiments appears in the ad.
- overemphasizing, falsifying, or distorting the negative effects of abortion. For example, telling women they will no longer be able to have children should they have an abortion.

Harassment:

- harassing doctors who perform abortions, or support the necessity for abortion.
- walking into abortion clinics and obstructing procedures.

Advertisements and Articles Distorting and Exaggerating Facts on Abortion:

- slide presentations to high schools and community groups which emphasize the ugliness of abortion eg. attempting to show the "human" quality of 2-inch fetuses. The focus of these presentations is sensational and emotional.
- distribution of grotesque colour photographs of abortion products, attempting to give the impression that most abortions are done in the second trimester.

-assorted newsletters containing anti-abortion articles.

- expensive billboard campaigns.
- propaganda which associates lack of respect for aged and handicapped people with the issue of abortion.
- pressuring librarians to buy anti-abortion literature for libraries.

Sensationalist "Theatre" Tactics:

- picketing outside hospitals where abortions are done -- some demonstrators come dressed as doctors (to take one example) carrying plastic bags full of broken plastic dolls.
- arriving at public meetings with bottles of preserved fetuses.

Tactics to Gain Financial Support or Information:

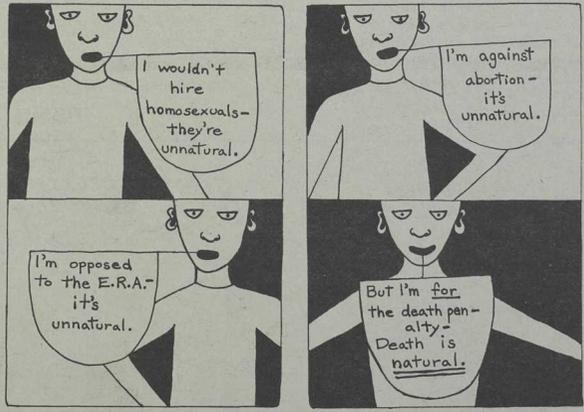
- priests soliciting support and donations for anti-abortion causes from their congregations.
- telephoning or visiting women's groups who offer information on abortion, often pretending to seek an abortion, in order to obtain information about the group's operations.

SOME COUNTER-TACTICS THAT ARE WORTH TRYING INCLUDE:

1. Writing pro-choice letters to magazines and newspapers, and letters to politicians supporting removal of abortion from the criminal code.
2. Advertising the places in your community where non-biased pregnancy testing is available, and information on all alternatives for problem pregnancies can be discussed.
3. Sending letters of support to doctors who support the right to choose abortion.
4. Keeping anti-abortion people off hospital boards by going to elections and voting against them. Anyone who is a member of the hospital society can vote.
5. Setting up informational programs in the community to familiarize people with the facts on abortion, to combat anti-abortionist tactics of distorting and exaggerating facts.
6. Using the media (films, video, radio) as much as possible to disseminate accurate information about all aspects of the abortion issue. See bibliography.
7. Exposing the tactics of the anti-abortion movement...making clear their intent to interfere with our freedom of choice.

These comments are excerpted from The ABORTION HANDBOOK FOR B.C., just published by the B.C.F.W. Health Subcommittee. For information about the handbook, contact the sub-committee c/o Box 24687 Station C Vancouver, B.C. V5T 4E2

LOGIC



Corrairie Scherer/LWS

ANTI GAY

New York (LNS)--In the wake of the repeal of St. Paul, Minnesota's gay rights legislation April 25, gay activist Del Martin told LNS: "I think that the country is in a very conservative swing and the 'New Right' is very well organized. They know how to push all these emotional buttons. It's not only gays they're after, but they are also after abortion rights, affirmative action and the ERA."

The St. Paul ordinance prohibiting discrimination against gay people in employment, housing and public accommodations had been on the books for four years. Its repeal, by a two-to-one margin, followed the precedent set in Dade County, Florida last year and marked the first of this year's assaults on gay rights.

In addition, the repeal movement is spreading to Seattle, Washington where two policemen are in the process of filing for a referendum on the employment section of that city's gay rights ordinance. And in California, an effort is underway to place an initiative permitting dismissal of gay teachers on the ballot.

At least 37 cities in the United States still have ordinances prohibiting discrimination against lesbians and gay men. Last fall Aspen, Colorado adopted a gay rights ordinance.

Gay rights ordinances forbidding discrimination against gay people in housing and employment have been repealed within the last few weeks in Wichita, Kansas and Eugene, Oregon.

In California, Senator John Briggs has filed over 60,000 signatures to have a School-Employees Homosexuality statute on the November state ballot. The measure, known as the Briggs initiative, seeks to deprive gay and lesbian teachers of their jobs.

The statute "could very well trigger other repressive measures that could eliminate tenure for teachers, limit their political activity and abolish collective bargaining," commented James Ballard, president of the San Francisco Federation of Teachers, at a mid-May rally of several thousands sponsored by the Bay Area Coalition Against the Briggs Initiative. Plexus



Gay Rights Being Whisked Away in Wichita, Kansas

defending our rights

PETERBOROUGH

On April 28, 150 marched through the streets of Peterborough, Ont. chanting "Hey, hey, ho, ho, Anita Bryant's gotta go" while Bryant spoke to a smaller-than-expected audience at the Memorial Center.

As bigots lined the streets yelling homophobic and sexist remarks, marchers drowned them out with chants and defended themselves against threats, rocks, and eggs.

In this morally upright and conservative city, this show of strength for gay, lesbian, and women's rights organized by the Trent Homophile Association was astounding. It was aided considerably by a busload of 60 supporters from Toronto.

(Andrea Goth Socialist Voice)

WINNIPEG

Three hundred and fifty marched in protest against Bryant's concert appearance in Winnipeg April 30.

The largest mobilization against her tour greeted concert-goers with chants of "Anita is a tyrant," "Stop Anita Bryant," and "Gay rights now."

The demonstration was organized by the Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant, which includes 23 lesbian, gay, women's, and left organizations, as well as Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 2034 and individuals from the Manitoban newspaper and the NDP.

"This is the largest show of solidarity we've seen in a long time," said an organizer. "It has gone far beyond our wildest expectations.

* * * * *

"We did more in one month to broaden support for gay rights than five years of planned lobbying and contact work not backed up with public action has done," said Walter Davis, one of the organizers and a member of the After Stonewall journal.

(Socialist Voice)



CONTINUED FROM p. 8

EDMONTON

Three hundred and fifty people participated in a demonstration organized by the Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant, April 29. Gathering at the Alberta legislature, they marched through downtown Edmonton to Winston Churchill Square. There, the marchers heard speakers from organizations and individuals that had endorsed the demonstration.

Bill Danyk from the Edmonton and District Labor Council executive outlined to the crowd that the labor movement had passed many resolutions in support of women's and gay rights. Labor must come to the aid of minority groups when they are attacked, he said.

He was followed by speakers from the Edmonton Women's Coalition, the Gay Alliance Towards Equality, the Unitarian Church, the Edmonton Gay Youth, the Revolutionary Workers League, and the Erewhon Books Collective.

Also addressing the rally as individuals were Julie Annie LeGras of the Alberta Human Rights Commission and Ruth Groberman, the foreign student advisor at the University of Alberta. (Lynda Little Socialist Voice)



Sue Moore photo

PROTEST AGAINST VANDER ZALM HOMOPHOBIA

Canada is being ruined by deceitful bankers, abortionists and homosexuals says Federal Social Credit leader, Lorne Reznowski. And he pledges that his Party will get rid of them.

Provincial Human Resources Minister Vander Zalm supports Reznowski's claim. Referring to Reznowski's comments on homosexuals, Vander Zalm remarked, "there are probably a lot

of people, particularly now, that support this type of philosophy and that favour a strengthening of the family unit."

The Gay Alliance Towards Equality comments: "Vander Zalm's remarks pose a threat to our very existence. We have to show that there are a lot of Gay people out there who are prepared to see what happened in Hitler's Germany does not happen here."

In an immediate response to these attacks, the Gay Alliance Towards Equality organized a picket in front of the Human Resources Offices, West 10th Avenue, on May 18th.

They were joined by representatives from the British Columbia Federation of Women and Vancouver Status of Women. "Women Unite for Lesbian Rights" and "Lesbian Rights are Human Rights" were among placards carried by the two women's organizations. About sixty feminist and gay activists demonstrated and chanted their opposition to this stepped-up campaign against lesbians and gays.

born again bigots

MORE ABOUT RENAISSANCE

CANADA'S OWN BORN-AGAIN BIGOTRY

Renaissance was "born" four years ago in the municipality of Halton, Ontario by Ken Campbell of the "Campbell-Reese Evangelistic Association, Inc." He formed Renaissance to stop the "satanic intrusion" of a gay liberation presentation in the high school his daughters were attending. He harnessed the anti-gay support of 1000 parents in a "Renaissance Regional Rally". His group has halted all discussion of gay sexuality in district schools despite student protests. High school student, Linda Lundquist of Burlington, complains, "This entire incident left me with the question of how can we be expected to open up our eyes and minds, and view things on a realistic level, when such restrictions are placed upon us by society as a whole!"

Renaissance has blazed through 20 Ontario cities and has become a national movement -- organized in 7 out of 10 provinces. A newly created Renaissance International is registered as a non-profit, charitable organization with receipting privileges: committed to the purpose of "propagating the values and philosophy of 'our' Judeo-Christian heritage".

Dr. Robert N. Thompson, joint organizer of the B. C. Renaissance chapter with businessman, Jeff Still, of A. E. LePage, admits, "Gay people are after boys and they know that's their weakness and downfall. Young lads are their easy targets. They even seduce them with ice cream cones."

"If homosexuals are going to practise the deviation of homosexuality, don't expect an open door for it," (he says). He "Biblically cannot accept homosexuals as part of the 'normal' community".

Thompson delivered a hard-hitting speech in the House of Commons in 1969 against proposed changes in the Criminal Code concerning the gay question. "Homosexuality has always had a debasing effect on morals and on personality... any government worth the name will want to help forward a national crusade for purity and integrity ... the nation's bedrooms should eradle righteousness - with the backing of the state".

"Anita Bryant" he says "is a high class Christian artist who (like Renaissance) is not anti-gay or isn't waging a campaign against homosexuals except as a private taxpayer/citizen in Dade County. It is the Gay Movement and the media who create the fuss by asking her all those questions and demonstrating wherever she appears."

Renaissance boasts a membership of 3,000 paid members with a strong representation from the professional and business communities. "They are more aware of the current drift in education and society" he explains. Three of Renaissance's executive members are directly involved in education: Dr. Kenneth R. Davis, Associate Professor of History, University of Waterloo; Fred Harp, Elementary School Principal, Ontario and Dr. Robert N. Thompson, Trinity-Western College, B.C. (These excerpts reprinted from Gay Tide)

First they came for the communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist.

Then they came for the socialists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a socialist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant.

Then they came for me . . . and by that time there was no one left to speak up.

- quotation ascribed to Martin Neimoller, a well-known Lutheran Theologian.

ENROLLMENTS DOWN



LNS Women's Graphics

The following comments on declining enrollments and women come from a paper prepared for the Status of Women Program of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF). The Status of Women Committee of the BCTF is particularly concerned about the effect that declining enrollment could have on the position of women in B. C.'s teaching force. *Kinesis* is grateful to Pearl Roberts, the Coordinator of the BCTF Status of Women Program, for access to the position paper.

What Will Happen To Women Teachers?

Women teachers must take their case to the community, and inform the public about these issues.

- * 1976 - The Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario was involved in a legal battle to protect the rights of women teachers who had been released at a ratio of 9 women to 1 man.
- * February 1977 - Vancouver Manpower registered 248 unemployed male teachers and 663 unemployed female teachers.
- * September 1977 - Statistics Canada reported 5,000 unemployed male teachers in Canada, and 22,000 unemployed female teachers.
- * September 1977 - Prime Minister Trudeau stated that the rise in unemployment was due to the unusually large numbers of women entering the work force.
- * January 1978 - A school trustee in Shuswap expressed concern at a school board meeting about a principal hiring his wife as a substitute teacher, when "the job could have been used by someone who does not already have another source of income".

The pressures are mounting and the threat is real. Women must become involved in the declining enrollment program in order to avert this attack on their jobs and on the equality of education in B. C.

Women workers are particularly vulnerable in times of economic decline. This vulnerability must be recognized and addressed in order to avoid repetition of an historic pattern. Women teachers must assert their basic right to equality of opportunity, job security, and just learning and working conditions.

Declining Support

The most immediate crisis in education is not so much declining enrollment as declining public support. This decline in support is directly related to the economic decline, with schools being blamed for high unemployment. It is important to realize that this loss of support is not provincial, or even national in scope, but common to most of the western world. Great

Britain, Australia, and the U.S. have seen similar attacks on their public school systems. Value Schools, Back to the Basics, Core Curriculum, Provincial Learning Assessment, Independent Schools, and now, the "problem" of declining enrollment are symptomatic of this loss of support. Schools have become scapegoats for crises facing our society, with governments leading the attack.

Certainly, a decline in student population creates difficulties for the education system. But is it really the "problem" that it is often made out to be? Why was no attention paid to the decline until the last year or so? In B. C., elementary (Grade 1-7) enrollments have dropped by more than 35,000 students since 1970. No one considered this to be a problem then. The fact is that teachers and the public were so involved in making long-needed improvements in our schools that little concern was expressed over a drop in numbers. Kindergartens were introduced, class sizes were reduced, and great strides were made in improving the quality of instruction. In fact, reduced numbers of students enhanced our ability to improve the system. The same situation exists today, if teachers organize to take advantage of it. Public support and understanding of the issues is a crucial factor.

Reduced Birth Rates

Social demographers talk about "age specific fertility," "gross reproduction rates," and "baby boomlets" in attempts to develop precise projections of the school-age population. Researchers admit that previous calculations have over-estimated population growth. Somehow their analysis has failed to take into account changes in the position of women in Canadian society. The most dramatic change has been the increased participation of women in the labor force. In 1960, 19% of Canadian married women were employed outside the home. By 1976, that figure had increased to 43%. Most women work for the same reason that men work - to support themselves and their families. Accompanying increased participation in the labour force has been a reduction in family size. Improved contraception and family planning have

enabled women to exercise some control over their reproductive function. Women welcome this control, and are not likely to give it up. The BCTF must support this right of choice for women, and oppose the use of tactics to pressure women into having children. These not-so-subtle tactics include the plethora of "declining enrollment jokes" as expressed publicly at the Declining Enrollment Conference and the 1978 Annual General Meeting. What is implied in these jokes is that women are to be blamed for the decline in student numbers. Forces outside the Federation, especially from the media, are threatening the right of women to make individual decisions about family size. The new television series: "Having Babies" is the most blatant example.

* * * *

Many women do not have children because the pressures of balancing family and work responsibilities are too great. Affordable, quality child care is increasingly difficult to obtain. The National Day-care Information Centre reports that the number of available spaces decreased in 1977, the first year this has occurred since they began monitoring the service in 1970. This is due to government spending restraints and the fact that a number of middle-income families who could not afford the increasing cost of child care removed their children. Some centres have been forced to close and others have re-organized to accommodate fewer children.

Job Security

Numerous issues in the area of job security directly affect women in teaching. One of the most pressing needs is to eliminate the misuse of temporary appointments. In a recent survey of temporary appointments, 27 out of 40 school districts indicated that they had more teachers on temporary appointments than there were temporary jobs. One district has 186 temporary appointments, but only 89 of these are justifiable under the Public Schools Act. Many school boards are using unjustified temporary appointments as a way of building a reserve force of easily dismissed staff. All too often, those temporary appointees are women. In

turn to p.11

cont. from p. 10

one interior district, 48 out of 62 temporary appointees are female... Another crucial area is job protection for part-time teachers. In 1976, 93.7% of part-time teachers are female. Most part-time teachers are on temporary appointments.

...women must not be pressured into taking part-time positions as a way of cutting staff. Reports from other provinces indicate that this is occurring.

Improved maternity leave is a critical need. Most districts do not have adequate leave provisions. This means that women who have children and wish to remain at home for a year or two must relinquish all job security within the district. Local associations that are concerned about the rights of women make maternity/parenthood leave a top priority in 1978 negotiations.

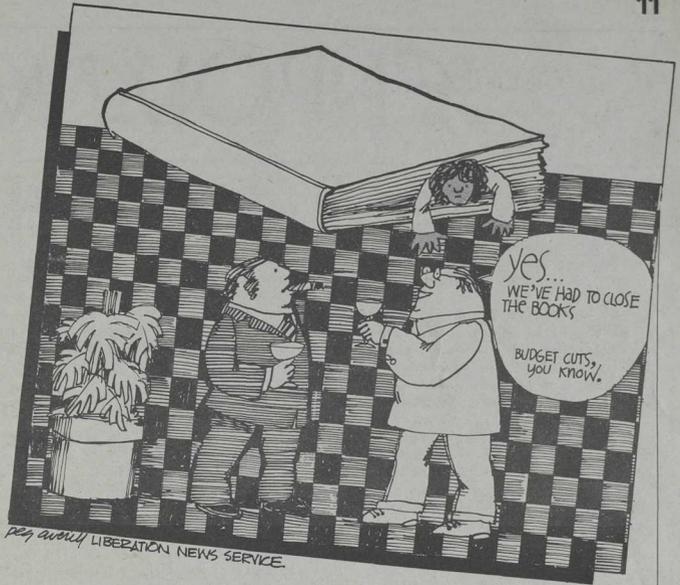
Primary teachers have the worst learning and working conditions in the province. While 17% of secondary classes are in violation of BCTF class size criteria, 41% of kindergarten, and 32% of primary classes are in violation. Almost all of those primary teachers with oversized classes are female. Very few primary teachers have been involved in the learning conditions program. Now that class sizes are shrinking through declining enrollment, primary classes can approach educationally sound standards. Primary teachers must make this case while the opportunity is at hand.

* * * *

Elementary preparation time is another concern that is receiving considerable attention within the BCTF. Again, since women are the majority of elementary teachers, this issue especially affects them. The average percentage of unassigned time per week for secondary teachers is 8.7%. For elementary teachers, it is 0.9%. Elementary teachers have waited long enough for preparation time. A number of good briefs in support of preparation time for elementary teachers have been developed by local associations and are available through the BCTF. The most effective ways to increase preparation time are to hire more teachers or maintain existing staff in situations of declining enrollment. Women teachers especially must involve themselves in this undertaking.

Declining enrollment has been used as an excuse to restrict course offerings in areas such as Women's Studies. If school boards have committed themselves to implementing Women's Studies, they must ensure that these programs are offered. Women's Studies is more than a much needed curriculum; it is an important way of reducing sex discrimination within the school system.

Similar arguments have been presented as an impediment to integration of classes. Again, school boards must clarify their position on discrimination. Equality of opportunity cannot wait for more "convenient" times. With community support, teachers can bring pressure upon school boards to ensure that removal of discrimination becomes a priority. ●



BCTF cuts Status of Women CONTACTS CONFERENCE

The Executive of the B. C. Teachers' Federation (BCTF) has decided to cut the budget for the BCTF's Status of Women program.

They have denied the program funding for the BCTF Status of Women's annual conference.

This conference is the heart of the BCTF's Status of Women's program. It is the opening activity for each year's program, helping the contacts develop the knowledge and the skills that are essential to the development of a local program.

Linda Shuto and Nora Grove, two former co-ordinators of the BCTF's Status of Women program explain what the Status of Women's Conference achieves and what the cuts will mean:

"We believe that these are the most serious cuts that could have been made to the program. All of us who have participated in the contacts' conference know the excitement and energy that is generated when a group of 100 women come together to share our knowledge, skills and sense of sisterhood. This process has been the major impetus each year to launch our local initiatives and to develop a strong, progressive force within the federation."

"We see these cuts as a deliberate attempt to undermine the effectiveness of our program. Although we were not present at the time the Status of Women program was discussed, Gale Neuberger of the executive committee said that she was appalled by the attitude and comments of some executive members. For example, one member stated that 'hordes of self-interest groups come (to the presidents' conference) to disrupt the proceedings', and another stated, 'perhaps we should ban these people from the site'. These comments were apparently references to the women who come to the summer conference (many at their own expense) to assist with the

small groups. We have always been particularly proud of the personal commitment that BCTF women have demonstrated toward the Status of Women program. It would appear that some BCTF members are resentful of that kind of dedication."

"The Annual General Meeting directed the British Columbia Teachers' Federation to make Declining Enrollment a priority consideration in the coming year. The Status of Women program is an essential program in this regard because women are traditionally affected most by tight economic conditions. The theme of the contacts conference was to be declining enrollment, yet this was the major cut from the program."

These cuts still have to be ratified by the June Representative Assembly of the BCTF. If that happens, comment Shuto and Grove, "we believe the death knell of the program will have begun."

Vancouver Status of Women and the British Columbia Federation of Women have mobilised to contact representatives to the BCTF Assembly to reiterate local support for the Status of Women's Contacts Conference and to oppose these reactionary moves by the current BCTF executive.

We Won!!

Just as we are going to press, we learn that the June assembly did NOT ratify the budget cuts.

The Contacts Conference will go ahead.

Pressure from activists in the BCTF, from BCFW and VSW paid off!

This is an important political victory. Details and analysis next month. Good sisterhood!

JILLIAN
RIDINGTON

WOMEN IN A VIOLENT SOCIETY

GENE
ERRINGTON

After months of preparation, organization, fund-raising and general hard work by the Calgary Status of Women Action Committee, the Women in a Violent Society Conference took place April 21-23. The conference gave feminists working on various forms of woman abuse--pornography, assault, woman battering, incest, and sexual harassment among them--an opportunity to come together, exchange information, and perhaps to establish a better communications network. It also gave us an opportunity to present feminist perspectives on these issues without the structures felt in the "Family Violence" symposia organized by traditional institutions, to refine our feminist analyses, and to reach a new audience.

Response Excellent

Public response was excellent; about 400 women, and a handful of men, attended. And they were representative of a larger community than that generally attending feminist events; the women were of all ages, classes, lifestyles, and from a wide geographical area. For all of this further understanding of the unique ways in which violence--and the threat of violence--affects their lives as women had become important. Their presence evidenced that a growing number of women realize that this issue affects all women. There is no area in which women and men experience the world so differently. We all live with the same omnipresent fear, and we were all agreed--we haven't asked to be violated, we don't want to be, and we must together demand that all forms of women's abuse end.

Friday night's keynote speaker was Diana Russell. Her speech was derived from testimony at the Brussels Tribunal on Crimes Against Women. It was a powerful beginning for all of us, but perhaps more so for those who had had little exposure to the subject before. Russell read a detailed description of the infibulation of a young girl in Africa. This painful excoriation of the clitoris, labia minora and part of the labia majora, followed by closing of the two sides of the vulva over the vagina, is still practised in many African countries today; somewhat less severe variations are performed in numerous countries. Euphemistically called "female circumcision" or "clitoridectomy", the operation is done with jagged instruments and without anaesthetic. It is one of the clearest examples of misogyny, of objectification and dehumanization, and of the consignment of women and their bodies to a solely reproductive role (the women are cut when married to allow intercourse, and cut further in order to deliver children). The

outrage, shock, and feelings of incredible and overwhelming vulnerability the description engendered caused several women to faint, and others to leave the room to vomit or escape. From the podium, bodies seemed to slump in synchrony to the pain and violation Russell described; women turned to each other, hugging to comfort and share their suffering.

Non Status

Lorenne Clark, Jillian Ridington, and Maria Campbell followed Russell. Their presentations brought the problem home to Canada. Maria Campbell is a non-status native woman, a member of the only group specially denied rights under the Canadian Human Rights Act. She spoke from her own experience of pain, poverty, and victimization; her testimony completed the linkage from the universal to the individual.

On Saturday morning, Bonnie Kreps' "This Film is About Rape" was shown. Again, it focussed on the effect of women who had been assaulted with interviews with convicted rapists, the film showed clearly the contrast between the horror experienced by the victims, and the reaction of the apparently normal men who had assaulted women almost as a game. The women had been traumatized; the men seemed almost smug, boastful that they had "scored". We recommend that the film be widely shown and discussed.

Rape

Following the film, Lorenne Clark discussed her research on rape; coupled with her feminist perspective, it is powerful, --and enraging. Existing laws are based on the proprietary interests of men in virgin daughters and chaste wives; sexual autonomy for a woman is not considered, or is discouraged. All of us--non-virgin, non-chaste, known to take a drink and travel unescorted--realized again that our violation would be considered unimportant. Only our own integrity would have been damaged, and that has little value in our society. Such realization can terrorize and immobilize us; we struggled again to overcome our feelings of powerlessness. Joanie Vance next discussed the deliberations of the Law Reform Commission on rape law; Lorenne and Joanie had both been involved in the discussions. Joanie made her recommendations as the national co-ordinator or rape crisis centres, and her statements represented the views of that coalition. Recommendations included taking "rape" out of the sexual offences category, allowing

a woman to charge her husband with this kind of assault, whether she is living with him or not; making the offenses pertain to both men and women; and removing the emphasis on penetration by expanding the definition to include forced contact of the genitals with any bodily orifice. As we now know, only the last two of these were incorporated in the proposed new legislation. Once again, the demands of women have been watered down and compromised.

Wife Battering

During the Saturday afternoon session on battered women, Gene Errington examined the family structure and our values, and psychologist Maria Eriksen spoke with compassion on the damages inflicted on women she had seen as clients. Maria could offer no profile of the "typical" male batterer; again, they are "normal" men. A male lawyer spoke obtusely, irrelevantly, and interminably on legal recourses available to battered women. The final speaker, Jillian Ridington, discussed the need for feminist-based resources and refuges for victims of abuse, and some of the problems in the current law and its application. All the women on this panel emphasized the "blaming the victim" perspective so prevalent in our legal and social-service institutions.

No time remained for questions after this panel; the room had been booked for another group, and we had to prepare to hear Robin Morgan, Saturday night's featured speaker. So the anger had no where to go, and the questions people needed to ask remained unanswered until the next afternoon, or became forgotten or repressed.



Jillian Ridington

In an attempt to raise extra funds, the organizers had opened Morgan's appearance to the community, and charged those not registered for the conference to attend it. Newcomers would perhaps have gained more from her address than those who had heard the issues delineated in greater detail for two days. Morgan is a good speaker, one of a number of American feminists who make their living speaking and writing. We have no figures on the number of non-participants she attracted. However, there was some question as to the appropriateness of paying a large sum to an American feminist, who did not attend the early sessions, while Canadian women with perhaps greater expertise are available. Lorenne Clark, for example, is an accomplished, knowledgeable, and dynamic speaker. She has academic qualifications, has co-authored an excellent and recent book on rape (using Canadian data) and has done a great deal of ground work in the field of pornography. She is now seeking funds to enable her to complete her pornography research. She is more deeply involved in the issues than is Morgan; she is an active feminist, and a hard-working vice president of N.A.C. She contributed to three sessions; Morgan gave one speech. Yet Clark received 1/3 of Morgan's fee; no other Canadian women were paid at all. The question became a large issue the following day, and is still being debated in the Calgary Women's Newspaper.

Pornography

On Sunday morning, the delegates had to choose to attend either a workshop on Sexual Harassment, or one on Pornography. Both were well done and relevant. The Sexual Harassment workshop exposed the cruelty behind such lies as "If you are able to handle yourself, it won't happen to you," and "If you turn him down tactfully, he'll get the message". Such lies force all working women into a double bind; they are forced to conform to standards of attractiveness, openness, and friendliness, and yet given no support to deal with violations of their dignity and personhood. In B. C. the Human Rights Code states "there shall be no discrimination in terms of conditions of employment"; this is interpreted to mean one should be free from harassment based on any group factor including sex. But the panelists including Hanne Jensen, B. C. Human Rights Officer, and Tina Schmidt, her Calgary counterpart, Pat Preston, the President of Calgary.SWAC and a vice-president of N.A.C. and Connie Hunt, a lawyer, agreed that the issue is a real one. And poignant personal testimony from the women present showed that it is an issue whose time has come.

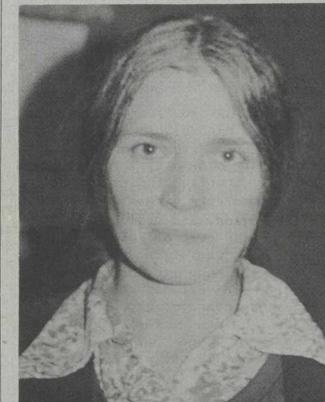
The workshop on pornography was led by Diana Russell and Lorenne Clark. As background for it, Russell had brought a display of violent pornography, and had suggested that all those planning to attend the workshop see it. For those of us who had gritted our teeth and gone through it, the display had said it all. Pornography of this type can not be confused with erotica; it is not about sex but about the exploitation and degradation of women and children (usually female children). No person should take a position on this issue without being aware of this particularly vicious kind of pornography. If such material depicted Blacks, Jews, East Indians --any other visible minority--there would be great public outcry. But since it depicts only violence to women and since it is "only" for "titillation", and since it just might cure some poor fellow of his impotence, it is acceptable, protected by the "freedom of the press".

There was little time Sunday afternoon for the "Where do we go from here" session, and it seemed somehow unreal to try to formulate plans for action at that point. In the state of frustration and exhaustion which seemed almost universal at the end of the conference, even analysis seemed useless, if not impossible. In the face of such overwhelming evidence of misogyny, it became very difficult to find a place to begin either to analyse or to work. Using concepts of patriarchy seems to work best; it affirms our conviction that we cannot release women from victimization so long as the patriarchal system continues. Starting with local groups, biting off an area to work on, then liaising with other groups to put understandings together, may decrease the awesome insurmountability of the task.

Support

In beginning this article, each of us wrote separately about our impressions, of the conference. All of us mentioned the powerful emotions it had engendered in us; the anger, disgust, and frustration--and how these had often become directed at the men present who accused us of emotionality, while plaintively querying "what about the women who ask for it" and "what if a woman cries rape on me?" We all mentioned feeling love and empathy for the women who spoke out of their own pain. For one of us, it occasioned her first public statement on the rapes undergone but unarticulated during her first marriage. The atmosphere allowed such disclosures and gave immediate response and support to the women who made them. Perhaps this support was one of the most valuable aspects of the conference. We have to make it possible to talk about these things, to allow women to get away from shame and self-blame. One poignant example occurred during the sexual harassment workshop, when a 17-year

old woman got up in front of 200 women and told a story of sexual harassment on her first job. She broke down several times, but she told her story. The most significant thing was that she had been unable to tell her story before, to her parents or her counsellor; yet she told it in the workshop, because the support was there. But we are concerned that the support continue to be there, for her and all the others. All the women who came need supportive people and structures around them as they continue to deal with the anxiety, and the anger, and the overwhelming sense of vulnerability that the conference realized. We must speak of these things, but where can we go from there? Is violence against women, in any or all of its forms, an issue deeply understood and felt by enough women that it can become an issue to bring women together?



Gene Errington

Last fall, at the B.C.F.W. convention a provisional sub-committee on Violence Against Women was formed. Because one of the committee's co-chairs became unable to continue, and the other has been too committed to go it alone, the committee has not yet met. But it seems like a good vehicle to begin working. A meeting is being called for June 15. Perhaps an analysis of the new proposals for law reform regarding incest and pornography might be a first task; workshops or a conference similar to Calgary's might be goals to work for. If any one who is a member of a BCFW member group would like to join the committee, please contact Jillian through VSW or at 738-0395 evenings. Meeting time: 7.30 at VSW.

In discussing the conference, we have pointed out some of its problems as well as its importance. We do not mean to criticize the women who organized it; we thank them very much for the efforts they made, and for the new perspectives they gave to all of us who attended. They had the energy and commitment to do what we have yet to do; organize a major conference with a feminist perspective, on a topic that affects us all. We appreciate it very much. ☐



Betsy Wood and Gay Hoon

Press

Vancouver, B.C. Canada - Two feminist prison activists are facing sentences of up to life imprisonment in the wake of a desperate break-out attempt here in January by five prisoners at the maximum-security B. C. Penitentiary, the scene of more than a dozen mass insurrections, hostage-takings and escape attempts in the past decade.

The charges against Betsy Wood, 48, and Gay Hoon, 32, are the most serious and the most arbitrary to confront politically-active people on Canada's West Coast in more than a generation. Wood and Hoon, long-time day-care and women's work-place organizers, have been key figures in the campaign to focus attention on the Pen's solitary confinement unit, which prison experts have called one of the most brutal and inhuman in North America.

Wood and Hoon are charged with attempted murder and several other offences related to aiding an escape attempt. The attempted murder charge, which carries a maximum life sentence, was pinned on them on the grounds that Wood and Hoon bear equal responsibility because one of the prisoners stabbed a guard during a scuffle.

KINESIS, March '78

Preliminary Hearing of Wood and Hoon Tuesday, June 13, 1978, 9 a.m., New Westminster Supreme Court Annex, 615 Clarkson. (Hearing could last two weeks.)

The two women were present in the B. C. Pen visiting area on January 28 when a prisoner smashed through a reinforced glass partition with a sledgehammer, in an apparently well-coordinated plan to overpower the guards there and escape out of the visitor's entrance. Five prisoners, all of whom now face charges as a result of the incident, then made their way through the hole in the glass and into the visitor's waiting area.

The attempt aborted when the guards managed to close and lock two doors and escape, leaving behind 13 visitors - including Wood and Hoon - as hostages. In the longest such seige in Canadian prison history, the ensuing deadlock held firm for a week while negotiations were conducted between prisoners and police officials, until finally the hostages were released unharmed and the prisoners returned to custody in solitary confinement.

Wood and Hoon were immediately arrested. At their first court appearance a few days later, the prosecution alleged that Wood had arranged for a car to be parked right outside the visitor's entrance, and that Hoon had supplied a gun.

The prosecution doesn't have to reveal its case until the preliminary hearing, scheduled for June 13th in New Westminster (B.C.) provincial court. If the court decides that a prima facie (credible) case has been made out, Wood and Hoon will be bound over for trial, probably this fall.

THE PRISON

"The hole--it's just this tiny god-dam room, and when they shove you in there, it's like they're putting you in a closet. Then that big steel door clangs shut. It's like you're buried alive in a concrete vault."

-prisoner at the solitary confinement hearings, September 1975.

The solitary confinement unit at the B. C. Pen is no ordinary prison hole; penal experts from Canada and the U.S. agree it is the harshest that North America has to offer on a par with the infamous "Adjustment Centre" at San Quentin, California. Conditions in the hold at the B. C. Pen came to light in 21 days of scorching testimony in 1975, during a lawsuit brought by eight prisoners (including Andy Bruce, one of the five involved in the current break-out incident) in the Federal Court of Canada. The suit resulted in an unprecedented judgement that exposure to such conditions constituted "cruel and unusual punishment, in violation of the Canadian Bill of Rights". But the judge neglected to make any order for change, so aside from a few cosmetic alterations, conditions remained the same. Here's what that has meant to date:

- * confinement in a cell 11 feet by 6 feet, with four bare walls, including a solid steel door; a bed composed of a concrete slab 4" from the floor with 2-3" of foam on it, and one blanket for bedding; the toilet and sink combined in one fixture, with cold water only.
- * a regimen that consists of 23 1/3 hours a day in this cell, with one half hour of airless, unless "recreation" between four concrete walls.

turn to col.1, p.17

Indict the Prison System

ACSW UPDATE

A.C.S.W. REPORT - OCT. 1977-JUNE 1978

One of the Advisory Council's most important tasks during the past nine months has been to counteract the growing backlash against the women who remain in the labour force during times of economic slowdown. I'm sure you've all heard the silly, unfounded and demeaning remarks by federal and provincial politicians that married women are taking away jobs from men. These views are also shared by uninformed members of the public, including well-off women.

Part of the fault lies with the media image of women which still does nothing to dispell the myth of their 'secondary worker' status. A.C.S.W. is taking two concrete steps which should help correct women's image.

The first is a joint study with the Canadian Life Insurance Association to show that women do have a permanent place in the labour force. It seems that this fact must be proven again and again before enforcement of equal-pay legislation and additional protection for part-time and unorganized workers will be taken seriously. The second is to do our own study of women in advertising and hopefully convince some of the insensitive clods in that field to change their tactics. Both studies should be completed this year.

In January, the Advisory Council issued a progress report on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women entitled "International Decade for Women 1976-85...What It Means To Canadian Women". Of the 120 proposals under federal jurisdiction, 52 (less than half) have been fully implemented, another 46 partially adopted and 22 not implemented. The Council also made 60 proposals which embrace and expand on the original recommendations not yet adopted and we hope the government will implement these before 1980 - the year that all governments must report their progress (or lack of it) on women's issues to the United Nations. What about this record so far? Like other women's groups, the Advisory Council is becoming increasingly impatient that eight years after the Royal Commission's Report was tabled, so many of the major issues have not been fully resolved. Some examples are:

ABORTION AND BIRTH PLANNING

The Badgely Report confirmed women's fears that the abortion law is being inequitably applied across Canada. No further action has been taken. And now the influence of the so-called "pro-lifers", who foist their narrow views on federal and provincial politicians, is being felt. Funding cutbacks to groups who give birth control information, advocate sex education in schools, and believe in freedom of choice, is almost inevitable unless a strong counter-attack can be launched.

ECONOMIC VALUE OF HOMEMAKER

A.C.S.W. believes that the economic value of a homemaker to the family must be proven and sold to the public and a paper on this subject will be ready soon. Once this is done, the mechanics of including homemakers in the Canada Pension Plan will have to be worked out. In July of 1977, two major amendments to the CPP were made. The first is equal splitting of CPP credits earned during marriage between husband and wife upon divorce or annulment of their marriage. The second would protect contributors who leave the labour force for a period of time to raise children under seven years of age. Unfortunately the province of Ontario has vetoed the second amendment and it cannot become law. A.C.S.W. feels that Premier Davis is 'playing politics' with Ottawa at the expense of women.



DOROTHY
HOLME

MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS-FAMILY BREAKUP

Currently the federal government has jurisdiction over marriage and divorce while the provinces have jurisdiction over matrimonial property and civil rights issues. The answer lies in unified family courts but this concept is bogging down at the provincial level. Justice Minister Ron Basford recently said that unified family courts are the building block for family law reform and would eliminate many of the jurisdictional problems that now exist in the field. But can our federal and provincial politicians put aside their intergovernmental jealousies and legislative chauvinism? Or like Ontario and the CPP, will they wrangle on at the expense of women?

MATRIMONIAL PROPERTY

A January 1978 study entitled "Draft of Statement on Matrimonial Property in Canada" by A.C.S.W. showed that no province or territory has yet attained the minimum objective of recognizing marriage as a partnership of equals. None of the Bills being studied by the provincial legislatures at that time (P.E.I., Ontario, Alberta and B.C.) provided for an equal sharing of assets acquired through the spouses' joint efforts during the marriage. Manitoba had passed a reasonably good Bill but after a change in government, it was suspended before it came into force. B. C. and Ontario have since introduced revised Bills and the Advisory Council will study these and issue a statement.

RAPE - SEXUAL ASSAULT

Although A.C.S.W. welcomes the recent measures to change the rape laws, there are three main reasons why we are not satisfied with the amendments. One, since rape is a crime of violence and not one of uncontrolled sexuality, a separate category of 'sexual assault' should be created. Two, married women who, because of economic circumstances are unable to leave the matrimonial home, have no protection from rape by their husbands. Three, by introducing amendments only, the government is attempting a piecemeal solution instead of a total overhaul of this part of the Criminal Code.

A series of Income Tax recommendations were presented to the federal government in January. These involve structural changes in the Act re child care allowances, women who work in an unincorporated family business or farm, alimony and maintenance payments, and lump sum settlements in the event of divorce. Details can be obtained in A.C.S.W.'s "Background Paper-Women and the Income Tax System" and "Recommendations on Women and Taxation". Some of the changes suggested originated with V.S.W. representations.

Two major research documents were released at A.C.S.W.'s April meeting in Montreal. One is on "Women and Aging: A Report on the Rest of Our Lives." It is a depressing paper that confirms statistically what most of us have long suspected - old women are our poorest citizens. They not only face financial discrimination - in pension plans, government assistance programs, employment and housing - but also psychological discrimination. Our youth-oriented society still doesn't know what to do with women who reach 40 and refuse to become senile. We are anxious to get feedback on this paper before making our final recommendations to the federal government.

The other one is a book called "Indian Women and the Law in Canada - Citizens Minus." It was researched and written by Kathleen Jamieson (Indian Rights for Indian Women) with the support of the Advisory Council. This powerful study, which documents the historical and sociological background to the present discrimination against Indian women embodied in the Indian Act, is well worth reading.

SHARING THE POWER

A.C.S.W.'s long-awaited political kit was also released at this meeting. It's called "Sharing the Power" and is intended for use by women's groups to help women learn how to influence the decision-makers and become directly involved themselves in the political process.

cont. on p.16

cont. from p. 15

It includes information on how to lobby, write a brief, organize a workshop, and work with the media. It details how to run an election campaign and how to be a candidate. It includes a discussion on power and involvement, questions revealing attitudes, and projects for group work. It lists federal Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies to which recommendations for appointment should be made.

It doesn't, however, tell women how to deal with the dirty tricks and questionable maneuverings of the "backroom boys". We hope that women will join the political party of their choice and fight for changes re nominating meetings, access to party power, etc. from within.

A CBC reporter recently asked me if the Advisory Council was a "powder puff" organization. I explained to her that any advisory body - even the Economic Council of Canada - is ineffective if the public is not supportive of their proposals to government. I know one thing for sure - nothing happens without public pressure. It is the only thing that governments respond to. A good example is the federal Human Rights Bill, which is law today only because of several well-organized write-in campaigns by many diverse organizations across this country including the Vancouver Status of Women.

write for ACSW materials

I urge women to write for the various documents that I have mentioned. Pick your area of interest and support us with letters and more letters to the appropriate officials. The documents are free and can be obtained from the Advisory Council, 63 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario. K1P 5R5 (Box 1541, Station B).

One of my priority areas for the Fall will be to urge the establishment of a provincial advisory council on the status of women. British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba are the only provinces without councils and as a result, women in these provinces are denied a voice on women's issues at the federal level. I will have more to say on this in a future Kinesis. In the meantime, please read Page 7 of April Kinesis - editorial on "Representation without Notification" which expresses my views exactly.

I have enjoyed my first year on the federal Advisory Council on the Status of Women. There is a tremendous amount of material to digest and it takes time to establish media contacts. Therefore I have not had as much personal contact with women's groups as I would have liked, but hopefully I can rectify this in the next two years. Please call me at 936-1662 if you have any questions or wish information on A.C.S.W.'s many activities.

Dorothy Holme

LETTER LOBBY

This month's Letter Lobby is by former L.L. Coordinator, Dorothy Holme. She believes letter lobbying to be a most important tool which individual women and women's groups can utilize to affect change.

V.S.W. would like to organize another L.L. group but since inadequate funding has reduced our staff to the bare minimum, we must rely on volunteers. Dorothy has agreed to give her initial assistance to get a group going - four or five people is all it takes. If you are able to help in this vital area, please phone Sue Moore at 736-1313.

LETTER LOBBY

Imagine that you are reading the TV Guide - a family magazine - and the first paragraph of an article called, "Television Discovers Sex!" goes like this:

A guy runs along the beach at ABC, his balls bouncing like white balloons in the twilight. On NBC, a different guy bends down so the camera can linger on his buttocks. Neither guy was an actor a year ago. Both are beneficiaries of the fact that television this year is buying 'butts and balls' and 'guys that jiggle'.

Impossible, you say, it would never happen. No one would dream of degrading men and the male anatomy in this manner. But what if the subject (or object) was female? Well, that's different, isn't it? Just substitute the word 'boobs' for 'balls' and 'girl' for 'guy' and you have the picture.

This repulsive article goes on to tell us what we can expect in the way of television 'entertainment' this Fall. Inane shows such as Roller Girls, Beach Girls, California Girls, ad nauseam, will feature "plastic faces, large breasts, F. F-Majors hair, and semi-scanty, form-fitting uniforms".

Television executives (male) readily admit that the women portrayed in the shows are "sexual fantasies" but they also point out that "titillating" programs are perpetually near the top of the Nielson ratings. And the U.S. Federal Communications Commission says it has had very few complaints from viewers - other than a few religious groups.

But I think the FCC is in for a surprise. A recent Vancouver Sun story told of a national protest by concerned citizens against Sears, Roebuck & Co., sponsors of Charlie's Angels and Three's Company. "We are disgusted with the low level of television programming and are going to make our voices heard where it counts - in the advertisers' pocketbook," one spokesperson said.

woman
as portrayed
by the
media



Feminists should also make their voices heard. Although we don't have the same clout as U.S. residents we can add considerable weight to their lobby. Write the offending stations (Canadian and American) and also to:

U.S. Federal Communications
Commission
Broadcast Bureau
Washington, D.C., 20554

Send copies of your letter to

Communications Minister
Hon. Jeanne Sauve
House of Commons, Ottawa

and the Canadian Radio and Tele-
communications Commission
1050 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B. C.

Here is a sample letter:

I am deeply concerned about the denegation of women in (name of show) and I understand that this type of 'entertainment' will be even more prevalent in the Fall.

It is ironic that television producers have picked the United Nations' International Decade of Women (1975-1985) to revert to the dark ages in their portrayal of women.

Surely they can come up with interesting and intelligent programs which would reflect today's woman and still be high on the Nielsen ratings. Granted there are some viewers who cannot yet visualize women as human beings, but must you cater to this minority?

I intend to boycott the sponsors and television stations concerned and will urge my friends in (name of organization or political party) to do the same.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Yours truly.

CONTINUED from p. 14.

Wood and Hoon

* a complement of guards who routinely subject the prisoners to every form of humiliation. There has been a history of beatings, strip searches, threatening them with guns, gassing them and hosing them down in their cells, contaminating their food with everything from human waste to ground glass. Verbal abuse is constant, including suggestions to commit suicide.

* such complete sensory deprivation that prisoners lose the ability to talk with other people, even to read books. They become prey to their own hallucinations, often losing contact with reality completely.

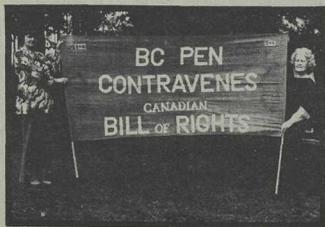
* thorough-going despair, leading to frequent suicide attempts and suicides. The long-term solitary confinement unit is meant to segregate, for months on end, prisoners who are perceived by the administration as a threat to the "peace and good order" of the institution. This can mean anything from prisoners who have assaulted guards to those involved in political organizing. All the experts who testified in the suit stressed how capricious this process is.

In this past decade prisoners at the Pen have tried every sort of tactic to break down solitary, from law suits to hostage-taking to mass strikes and insurrections. Yet the Pen's hole persists - a monument to the entrenched power of the senior Security Staff.

Richard Wright, Ralph Saumer and Dave Bennet, all of whom have experienced Solitary, are charged in connection with an escape attempt last January (Steve Hall has already been sentenced to life, and Andy Bruce faces trial in the Fall); Betsy Wood and Gay Hoon, who have been key figures in the battle against Solitary, are accused of helping them.

BC PEN ON TRIAL

More information from Solitary Confinement Abolition Project, Box 758, Station A, Vancouver, B. C. Money urgently needed by Wood-Hoon Defence Fund, c/o CCEC Credit Union, #10 - 246 East Broadway, Vancouver, B.C.

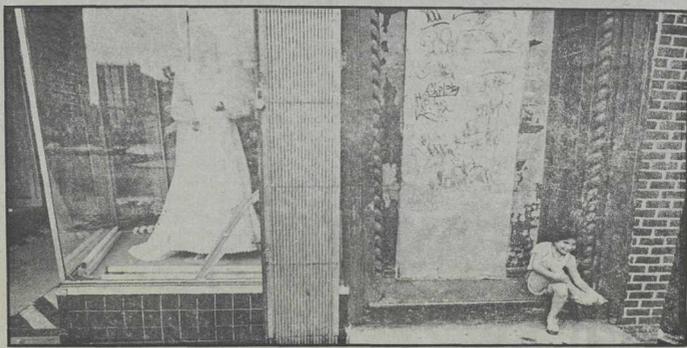


WOMEN'S WORLD! A weekend extravaganza to promote cosmetics, facials, hairdo's, fashions, sewing machines, multi-purpose garbage bags, vegetable choppers, no-stick frying pans, nailpolish, nylons, sexuality, passivity, plasticity, and stupidity was held this June 10-11 at the Show Mart Building of our own P.N.E. Admission was only \$3.50 - a bargain at the price! (Just who is raking in the dough, we ask?)

Women's groups were invited to attend in order to present an alternative viewpoint (or to avoid picketing of the premises). Attend, we did. *up to col.3*

Women's World

We were provided with a corner of the room to set up displays. Our corner of the room was called **WOMEN'S WORLD IS CHANGING!** Press Gang, Makara, Ariel Books, Vancouver Women's Health Collective, Vancouver Status of Women, Rape Relief, SORNUC, Priorities (NDP Women's Ctte. Magazine), Vancouver People's Law School, and Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion provided pamphlets and information. For many women we also provided a welcome relief from the surrounding propaganda and sales pitches. And, women also expressed anger at losing \$3.50 for a tacky advertiser's gimmick that promised more than they delivered. But then, don't they all



WAWAW

Women Against Violence Against Women (WAWAW) of Toronto have protested a recent advertisement for men's clothing sponsored by Harry Rosen Men's Wear of Toronto.

The advertisement features a woman on the floor of a washroom. She is half-dressed. Above her, stand three men. One is licking a knife and pointing a carrot at the woman. "The message is clear that the woman is the victim of a premeditated and brutal attack", commented a WAWAW spokesperson.

(Globe and Mail info.)

RAPIST MENTALITY

Victoria - Saanich Mayor Mel Couvelier voted against a grant for rape prevention education on May 9. He didn't want "some woman in a low-slung blouse" giving talks about rape in schools.

"Did you see her blouse? It was down to here, for God's sake", he told reporters.

Victoria Rape Relief worker Trisha Mary Moon had worn a blazer-type with a scarf around her neck.

The Greater Victoria intermunicipal committee turned down Rape Relief's appeal of the earlier refusal to grant the Centre \$16,000.

The Centre now operates with 2 workers who work up to 100 hours a week.

ANTI CHOICE

"There's nothing wrong with fighting abortionists." Hon. W. Vander Zalm, M.L.A. Hansard, May 10, 1978.

ANTI ABORTIONISTS LOSE POLITICAL BATTLE IN PRINCE GEORGE
Anti-abortionists failed to elect their candidate in the recent federal Liberal nominations in Prince George, B. C. While the balloting was going on, members of the Prince George Women's Equal Rights Association demonstrated for choice outside.

Lee Nunn, 31 year old Prince George apartment manager, had the backing of the Coalition for Life in B. C., an anti-abortion group. Liberal Party spokespersons have confirmed that the anti-abortionists had been buying up party memberships.

Nunn's opponent, Spike Enemark, won by 92 votes on the first ballot to Nunn's 61. (info from Prince George Citizen)

ANTI-CHOICE factions are signing up members for the annual general meetings of hospital boards in POWELL RIVER and FORT ST. JOHN.

Meanwhile, an anti-choice person has won a seat on the SURREY HOSPITAL board. Art Goyer, a chartered accountant was elected, while two other anti-choicers were defeated.

In VANCOUVER, the Coliseum has been booked for the VGH Annual General Meeting.

A RESPONSE TO CITY COUNCIL

What the cutbacks will mean

The Mayor and Council
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave
Vancouver B.C.
V5Y 1W4

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I believe the Vancouver City Council made a grave error in refusing the request of Vancouver Status of Women for funding. The service this group performs for women and the community as a whole is invaluable.

Let me detail my own experience with this wonderful group, bearing in mind that the help they gave me they give to countless other women every day.

In February, 1977, because of the alcoholism and brutality of my husband, I took my three children and left our family home, finding accommodation in a store top apartment.

The following three months were very trying for me. I was forced to go on welfare while awaiting my hearing; I had a prowler; I lived in fear that my husband would discover our whereabouts; my oldest son had an emergency appendectomy; my youngest son was hit by a car; I was constantly worried about the outcome of my hearing and whether the Court would grant me the orders I requested, particularly that of occupancy of the family home.

I must have phoned the Status of Women office ten or fifteen times over this difficult period. At times I felt I couldn't make it - that I would have to return to my husband and his abuse. Every time I phoned,

People often ask us, "What will the cutbacks at VSW mean?"

One service which we have been forced to cut is personal counseling. What does this mean?

Read this woman's letter. Her comments are more eloquent than any we could offer.

I received support, sympathy and good advice. After each call, my courage was renewed as was my determination to build a new life for me and my children. Finally, the date of my Hearing arrived - I was granted all my orders and we made plans to move back into our home. On moving day, I discovered my husband was not going to comply with the court order and my three children and I with all our belongings were forced to move in with friends. This was the most difficult time of all. No one could help me: not the police, not the courts, not my lawyer. I phoned Carol Pfeiffer at the Status of Women. She gave me the courage, after four days at my friends, to contact a locksmith while my husband was out, have the locks changed, and move kit and kaboodee into the home. When my husband came home and tried to enter forcibly, the police arrived and finally enforced my restraining order. If I hadn't done this, I would probably have moved back to sink further into depression.

After I was in my home, I felt as if I could get on with my life. I returned to work in August and have been working ever since. I feel stronger than I have ever been. My children and I are getting along just fine. And I really believe that without the help and encouragement of the Status of Women, I never would have made it. They were always there when I needed them, just as they are for any person in distress who asks for help. If I didn't return to my husband, I would probably still be on welfare at a cost to the taxpayers of several thousand dollars a year. If I had returned to my husband, I would probably have either committed suicide or have been institutionalized, again at a cost to the taxpayers. I am not being overly dramatic. I was in a very bad state when we moved out.

So you see, in my case the Vancouver Status of Women has saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars. And that is just one case. They help hundreds of other women the same way each year. Now the group will have to cut back services. I wonder which service will be the first to go? Now perhaps there won't be time to listen to all the distressed people who call. Now perhaps they will have to turn people away.

What is more important than helping people rebuild their lives? What are your priorities and those of our Provincial Government? You should be ashamed of yourselves for denying aid to this most worthwhile and deserving group.

Name withheld



COMBAT IN THE MEDIA ZONE

A recent issue of Seven Days carried an excellent article under the above title by socialist-feminist Barbara Ehrenreich about the seventies media version of a feminist.

"Unlike her militant predecessor", Ehrenreich writes, "the media's New Woman is never aggressive (only 'assertive'), but that doesn't stop her from getting her way....In pop psych language, the New Woman has 'kicked the fear habit', 'learned to say no' (to the tiresome demands of other people), and decided to be a 'winner', not a 'loser'..."

New magazines, like New Woman and Working Woman, have sprung up to promote the image and service those who aspire to it. MS., the only explicitly feminist mass magazine, always assumed that its readers were into making it - or 'getting yours' to borrow the unfelicitous title of MS editor Letty Pogrebin's recent book - but Working Woman

aims straight for the upwardly mobile career woman with articles like "Selling Insurance Offers Lucrative Careers Nationwide", "How to Become an Entrepreneur", and "Selling Big on Commission."

NEW SUPERWOMAN

Meanwhile, the traditional women's magazines have been hastily updating their image to suit the ear of the upwardly mobile New Woman. The Ladies Home Journal, for example, purveyors of hard-core domesticity to at least three generations of American women, has thrown out the apron image for a business-like blazer. Its average reader, LHJ claims, is no longer a satisfied mommy, but a frenetic achiever, "who never stands still...One moment, she's off to the mountains for some skiing, the next moment, she's off to the islands for some tennis. And in between, she's a growing family (sic), an exciting career and a creative way of life that's hers and hers alone".

RACISM & DECLINING ENROLLMENT

FAIR IS WHITE?

Robert Jackson, the head of the Ontario Royal Commission on Declining School Enrolment is worried about the racial suicide of Canadians of European descent.

"The only immigrants we can get are from countries of uncontrolled fertility", he said. Moreover, the Indians and Eskimos could "get the country back by default", because of what he believes is their higher-than-average birth rate.

Test-tube babies may be a solution, he suggests.

He says that he's not racist, just controversial. "I don't think it's fair that we may disappear and be replaced by others (immigrating to Canada) who are not controlling their fertility rates. After all, fair is fair." (CP info)

...rd sqar of laqon

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

FRANCE

RAPISTS CONVICTED

Three men were convicted of rape in France early in May. The conviction represents an important victory for the women's movement.

The case involved the beating and rape of two Belgian women on a camping trip near Marseilles in 1974. The trial was a national focus of attention, with large women's demonstrations publicizing the case and forcing the courts to act. Local male supremacists vehemently opposed the case, threatening and attacking women journalists, lawyers and spectators at the trial.

The rapists' defence typified the anti-woman bias of French justice. The defendants admitted committing the attack, but maintained that since the victims had finally "yielded," the men were innocent of rape. Defense lawyers also inferred that the women were to blame because they are lesbians, and frequently complained that the women's movement was interfering with justice by making a major issue out of the case. Guardian May 17th.

JOANNE LITTLE

JOANNE LITTLE GETS EXTRADITION SET-BACK FROM NEW YORK COURT

New York (LNS)--The New York State Court of Appeals on May 9 upheld an order to extradite Joanne Little back to North Carolina from New York. The ruling came after lawyers for Little presented arguments before the court in Albany, New York on a motion to grant an evidentiary hearing in the case. Little and her lawyers have been trying for the past several months to prevent the extradition and bring witnesses and evidence into court to document harassment of Little in the North Carolina prison from which she escaped.

In statement released after the decision, William Kunstler, one of Little's lawyers, charged that the Appeals Court "had shirked its human and legal responsibilities" by not granting the hearing.

"The issue is not the innocence or guilt of Joanne Little," stated the Reverend Timothy Mitchell, a Black minister who traveled to the Albany hearing from New York City with a busload of Little's supporters.

"The issue," he explained to LNS shortly after the hearing, "is what's going to happen to her if she is sent back to North Carolina."

Last fall, Little escaped from the North Carolina Correctional Facility for Women where she was serving a seven to ten year sentence for allegedly stealing \$200 worth of goods in a 1973 robbery of a trailer in Washington, North Carolina.

Little's supporters say she has continually been denied parole on the basis of trumped up charges created by prison officials. Little became a target of constant harassment, she claims, after she won an acquittal in the killing of a white prison guard who attempted to rape her.



NICARAGUA

The people of Nicaragua are fighting a war against the repressive dictatorship of Anastasio Somoza.

On April 13, a militant, Doris Maria Tijerino Haslam was captured in a battle near the Honduras border.

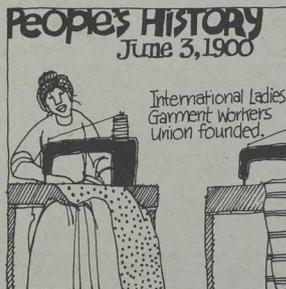
This is Doris' fifth time in one of Somoza's dungeons. When she denounced to the world the brutal atrocities she had suffered at the hands of her torturers, she was arrested and held for two years. It seems unlikely that the regime will allow her to survive to tell the world yet again about that regime's brutality. Doris was released before only after massive protests by the people of Nicaragua and world public opinion. Now, another world-wide campaign is being organized on her behalf.

Send telegrams or letters demanding:

- 1. that Doris Tijerino's physical well being be guaranteed;*
- 2. that she be given due process of law before proper authorities;*
- 3. that decent living conditions and freedom from torture be guaranteed all political prisoners in Nicaragua.*

Send these messages to:

- 1. The Presidential Palace
Managua
Nicaragua*
- 2. Kurt Waldheim
United Nations Building
New York, N.Y.*



TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

In response to the rising incidence of rape, "battering" by husbands and other forms of violence against women, activists in Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio, organized several activities during "anti-rape week" April 23-29.

The highlight of the week was a march "to take back the night" April 29. A total of 1000 women in both cities marched through the streets after dark, calling for an end to rape and other anti-women crimes. Demonstrators also expressed support for women's rights to self-defense and demanded the right to control their own bodies and lives.

The largest action was in Washington, where over 600 marched through a high-rape neighbourhood to a rally organized by the Rape Crisis Centre (RCC), the D. C. Area Feminist Alliance and the Task Force on Abused Women, the march also drew a show of support from sympathetic bystanders.

At the rally, RCC director Nkenege Toure encouragingly noted the presence of a small number of men and third world women among the predominantly white female crowd. "We must make people aware that we intend to end batter and rape," she said, "and we must unite the community to do that."

A speaker from the Dessie Woods Defense Committee demanded immediate freedom for Woods, a Black woman imprisoned in Georgia for killing a white man who tried to rape her. (Guardian '78)

ITALY

The Italian government has approved a bill which makes abortion available to women over 18 within the first three months of pregnancy.

Abortions can be performed for health economic, social or psychological reasons. The law is one of the most progressive in Europe.

Pope Paul describes abortion as "homicide" and a statement from the Vatican after passage of the Bill reiterated that abortion remains "an abominable crime" in the eyes of God.

The Socialists, Social Democrats, Republicans, Liberals and Radicals voted in favour of the Bill which carried in the Senate 160 to 148. Christian Democrats and neo-Fascists opposed it.

There are some negative aspects to the Bill. The doctor, for example, must consult with the father of the unborn child to evaluate "the circumstances that lead her to seek the interruption of the pregnancy". Such a stipulation subjects the woman to an enforced "discussion" with a physician and partner, both of whom may oppose the woman's choice to have an abortion.

Despite these drawbacks, the bill represents a victorious culmination to four year's agitation by pro-choice groups. Their petition drive against the old abortion law was a major factor in the Christian Democratic government's resignation in 1976. (Sun/Guardian info)

Rathwell vs. Rathwell by Connie Hunt

RATHWELL CASE: HAVE NEW PRECEDENTS BEEN SET?

a Calgary Women's Newspaper article by Connie Hunt

In January 1978, the Supreme Court of Canada handed down a decision which has been described as a 'landmark case' for married women's property rights. In *Rathwell v. Rathwell*, it was held that a Saskatchewan farm wife was entitled to a declaration that she owned one-half of the land and personal property acquired by her husband and herself during their marriage.

At first blush, the *Rathwell* case would seem to overturn the *Murdoch* case, in which the Supreme Court of Canada denied the ownership claim of a Turner Valley woman to ranch property on which she had laboured for many years alongside her husband.

A close look at the *Rathwell* decision reveals that it is less of a precedent-setter than one might have originally hoped. For while three of the nine judges seem prepared to vary the law as set out in *Murdoch*, the others were able to distinguish the *Murdoch* case on its facts.

The result is that the majority of the Supreme Court of Canada still adheres to the legal principle laid out in *Murdoch*: where property is registered in the husband's name, the wife must have made a financial contribution before she will be declared an owner.

Lloyd and Helen Rathwell married in 1944. After the war they opened a joint bank account into which each deposited savings of \$700.00. In 1946, 1947 and 1958 land purchases were made with money from the joint account. In the first two cases, the balance was paid by crop share payments which were funnelled through the joint account. The balance on the third acquisition was satisfied by farm work which Mr. Rathwell carried out for the vendor. Title to all three parcels were registered in Mr. Rathwell's name.

Between 1944 and 1967 when the Rathwells separated, Mrs. Rathwell worked very hard. Mr. Justice Dickson of the Supreme Court described her contribution in this way:



LNS/G



LNS/G

Mrs. Rathwell did the chores when her husband was busy on the land; she looked after the garden and canned the produce; she milked cows and sold the cream; she drove machinery, bailed hay, provided meals and transportation for hired help and kept the books and records of the farming operation. Often, while Mr. Rathwell worked the fields, she fulfilled his obligations under a contract to drive a school bus. She raised and educated four children...to grain belt farmers, the kitchen was just as much an integral part of the farming operation as the feed lot, or the machine shed.

not the victory it might appear

At the trial of the *Rathwell* case, before the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench, it was held that Mrs. Rathwell was not entitled to any ownership of the property in her husband's name. Two judges of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal declared that she was the half-owner of all the land and personal property at issue. The third Appeal Court judge was of the view that her contribution was not equal to that of her husband's; he would only have awarded her one-half of the first two land purchases.

All nine judges of the Supreme Court of Canada heard the *Rathwell* appeal. Five of the nine held that Mrs. Rathwell was half-owner of all the property acquired during the marriage. The other four agreed with the one court of Appeal judge that her contribution had not equalled that of her husband, and that she was only entitled to share in the first two land acquisitions.

As a result, Mrs. Rathwell succeeded. But, in order to understand the effect that her case might have on future decisions, one must examine the reasons of the Supreme Court of Canada.

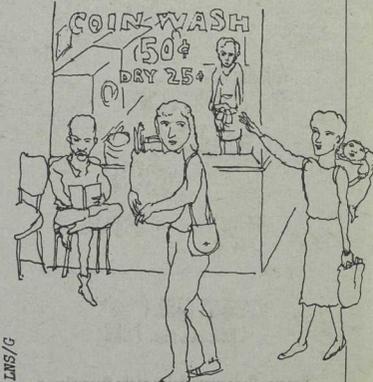
Three of the five majority judges based her rights upon two separate principles. The first, called a resulting trust, operates in the following way. The Court will look to see whether the parties shared a common intention that property registered in the name of one should be shared by both. Where both parties have made a direct financial contribution, a presumption arises that they intended each to be an owner. Where there is no financial contribution, the Court must look at other factors to ascertain whether the common intention existed.

In the *Murdoch* case the judges ruled that there was no financial contribution by the wife, and the Court was unable to find other indicators of common intention. In *Rathwell*, the fact that the land has been paid for through the joint bank account was considered sufficient to establish a resulting trust in favour of Mrs. Rathwell.

These three judges, however, went further. They also held that Mrs. Rathwell was entitled to succeed on the basis of a second principle, the constructive trust. Even if she had not made a direct financial contribution, she would have been entitled to succeed because it would be unjust, in all circumstances of the case, for Mr. Rathwell to retain the benefits of the wife's labour.

It is the second principle which is of greatest significance, since it would permit courts to consider factors other than financial contribution (such as work as a homemaker) in dividing matrimonial property, and thus redress the injustice of *Murdoch*.

The three judges were able to distinguish *Murdoch* because no financial contribution had been recognized in that case. They also pointed out that the constructive trust doctrine had not been considered in *Murdoch*. And, in addition, they specifically stated that to the extent that *Murdoch* means that a wife's labour cannot be viewed as a contribution, they would not be prepared to follow it.



LNS/G

RATHWELL vs. RATHWELL
cont. from p. 20

The latter statement in the case has attracted a great deal of attention. However, it must be viewed in its proper perspective. It was made by only three of nine judges. Indeed, the other six judges either explicitly or by implication took a contrary view. The other two judges who found in Mrs. Rathwell's favor did so on the resulting trust ground, only because of her direct financial contribution. They declined to discuss the constructive trust notion.

The four dissenting judges would have awarded Mrs. Rathwell half of the first two land acquisitions on the basis of her financial contribution and denied her ownership of the third parcel because her contribution was less than her husband's. They explicitly denied the power of the Court to invoke the constructive trust in matrimonial disputes.



G. /LNS

Thus, while five of the nine judges granted a declaration of her entitlement to half the property, their only agreement was that her rights arose because of her financial contribution. This means that Rathwell can be distinguished from Murdoch because of the joint bank account, and that the Murdoch case is still alive and well in Canada.

The Rathwell case underscores, once again, the need for legislative action in the matrimonial property area. For we can be no more certain, after Rathwell than before, that the Courts are prepared to take a non-monetary contribution into account in dividing matrimonial property.

IF THEY TAKE YOU IN THE MORNING THEY WILL BE COMING FOR US THAT NIGHT.



Modern Times/LNS

Devor on Bryant,
cont. from p. 3

KINESIS: What do you think is the significance of Anita Bryant's campaign against gay rights?

HOLLY: Anita Bryant is not only attacking the rights of lesbians and homosexual men. She is attacking the rights of all people. She is pinpointing the rights of gay peoples as her major target because she is able to appeal most effectively to prejudice against a minority who have at present the fewest rights under the law.

gays an initial target

Homosexuals have only recently begun to organize on their own behalf and consequently public awareness of the realities of the homosexual lifestyle is still very low and public prejudice and belief in stereotypes and unfounded myths is still very high.

The last ten years has shown the rise of a more open attitude in society towards sexuality. Heterosexuals as well as homosexuals have been moving towards a freer form of sexuality. Part of this has been the institution of sex education in the school system, scientific investigation into human sexuality (Kinsey and Masters & Johnson), freer access to birth control, and a general willingness to take the discussion of sexuality out of the bedrooms and into an open forum. The women's liberation movement has been one of many large forces responsible for bringing about this change in attitude.

With the questioning of traditional sexual values has come a questioning of traditional roles based on one's sex and a willingness to examine and experiment in alternatives. In this atmosphere the gay liberation movement has been growing. With its growth, those who fear change have become enraged. Anita Bryant is a leader of the forces which wish to oppose change and growth in almost every sector of our society. Her followers are those people who would believe that it is possible that our value system has already reached perfection and no longer needs to change.

Their appeal is an emotional one to fear of the unknown, to fear of change, and to hatred of people who are different. These emotions can easily override reason, logic, and the law.

Once the freedom of speech and the freedom of the press have been censored, once our educational system has limited our ability to examine freely all sides of an issue, when workers have been denied the right to organize into trade unions, women the right to control of their own bodies and to move freely in the world, minorities the right to practise their own beliefs--when all rights have been voted away in the exercise of righteous moral indignation, then we no longer retain the right to dissent.

Therein lies the danger in allowing what may seem to be a lunatic fringe to continue unchecked. In a democratic system if enough people can be appealed to through irrational emotionalism and hysterical fear tactics, our rights and freedoms can be voted away from us.

Vancouver, Sunday, June 18, 1978.
Police and post office sit-in by jobless: BLOODY SUNDAY!

VANCOUVER.
SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 1978

RALLY & PICNIC!

FOR A SHORTER WORK WEEK
F.L.C. FOR ALL THE JOBLESS

LIVE MUSIC - Speakers from Labour, post office occupiers, unemployed.

STANLEY PARK (AMERMAN'S TREE)
1 p.m. Drinks or Shirts FREE!

Greater Vancouver Union of the Unemployed

Vancouver Status of Women
Tuesday, June 20 7-30
Kits Library
8th & Macdonald
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MEN AGAINST SEXISM

MEN AGAINST SEXISM is a new group aiming to raise consciousness and engage in direct action around issues of sexism. This is an open group, which can be contacted through Box 33863, Station D, Vancouver, B.C.

This group recently protested the Vancouver Sun's sexist coverage of the March 8 parade with pickets, protests and petitions.

BLACKOUT

British Columbia's BLACKOUT is a new anarchist newsletter. Available for free from Box 758, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. Updates on direct actions, agitational and propaganda campaigns around town. It aims to act as a call-board, information exchange and general People's Black Pages. Send in your anti-authoritarian news.

RAPE AWARENESS

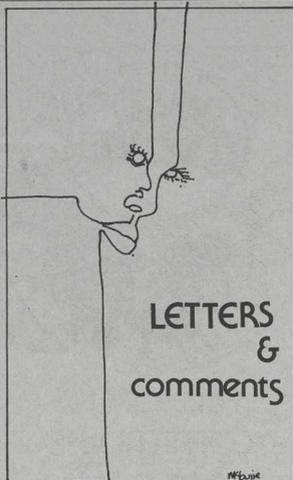
Rape Relief will be holding community awareness programs this summer:

The Rape Awareness Project is a Young Canada Works Summer Project sponsored by Vancouver Rape Relief. The project employs four women and is concerned with research into community organizing projects, preventive education, and outreach work in schools and community centres around rape awareness.

Breaking The Hold: a work shop on rape prevention and rape awareness for teachers and counsellors July 15 or August 12; 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Britannia Community Centre
1661 Napier Avenue
Vancouver

Pre-registration. Contact Rape Awareness Project, #4 - 45 Kingsway, Vancouver 872-8212.



LETTERS & comments

Every month I can't believe it will be better but it is. Super job.

While agreeing that the body and its rights are of utmost importance to women, would appreciate equal attention to her mind and its achievements - which still have to be greater than a man's to receive similar attention.

I certainly enjoy reading Kinesis and keeping up with what's happening in Vancouver. It would be an awful loss if you had to fold.

I want to break all Vander Zalm's windows, stick my finger up at Family Court, sneer at all present party systems going, start a feminist party in B. C. and sink ex-husband's boat, march on Ottawa - but the furnace keeps going off and the buses are on strike!

Thank you for all the inspiring articles and information in Kinesis.

Can we have more articles on women and religion?

Thank you very much for producing a fine, informative newspaper. We've enjoyed receiving it immensely.

Isn't it remarkable these days what Grace McCarthy and Jack Volrich find to spend our money on?

Keep up the fight for women!

I admire what you are doing.

Couldn't you, however, soft-pedal the lesbians? It reduces the support from other women's groups and, after all, they are a small, non-productive group, really not worth all the effort you make.

FRIDAY JUNE 16 IS THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY of the shooting of Black students in Soweto. There will be a rally at the Vancouver Courthouse from 4.30 - 6.30 to commemorate Soweto and to campaign for the end to Canadian bank loans to South Africa. The rally has been endorsed by the BCEW and is sponsored by the Southern Africa Action Coalition and the Canadian Council for International Cooperation.

KINESIS

We are saddened to learn of the death of Professor Geoffrey Riddehough in London, England, at the age of 76. Those of us who worked in the VSW office during the period that Professor Riddehough was a member of VSW remember his genuine interest in the organization and its work. This interest was expressed in his thoughtful comments and in generously signing over to VSW several hundred dollars of stock dividend cheques.

Professor Riddehough never failed to drop in at the annual VSW Christmas Party for a chat. We also retain fond memories of his outrageous puns and limericks and his spirited defense of the English language and its spelling which prompted him at one point to offer his services as a proof-reader for KINESIS.

Professor Riddehough even offered to share his secret recipe for peanut butter cookies with us. VSW has lost a good friend.

Sincerely,

Jo Lazenby
Nancy Conrod
Judy Bourne
Diana Ellis
Bobbie Patrick

Dear Friends

As an employee of the VANCOUVER SUN I would like to comment on your proposed letter to the Sun about Dave Stockand's coverage of IWD.

First, please understand that I am not defending the Sun's action in printing the article. I was as angry and ashamed as everyone else when it appeared. But I feel that your argument should not be so much with Dave Stockand, but with the editors. A reporter does not have free licence to write whatever she/he pleases. Most articles go through at least two editings before they are published. Why weren't these comments cut out of the story before it was printed? It is sad that Dave Stockand feels he has to write like he did, but if that's the way he is, it's the editors' job to "reform" his writing.

Also a copy of letters should be sent to Bruce Larsen, the managing editor, as he has a great deal of say on what goes into the paper.

Name withheld.

a women's bookstore

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v6k1r1 canada
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APARTHEID
APARTHEID
APARTHEID

MUST FALL!

Don't Support Racism
With Silence: Protest!

EVENTS FOR FEMINISTS

SFU Women's Studies

WOMEN'S STUDIES SUMMER INSTITUTE

July 3, 1978 to August 19, 1978

WOMEN IN CANADA: 1920 TO PRESENT
Dorothy Livesay, poet and author
of Collected Poems: The Two Seasons,
A Winnipeg Childhood, Ice Age, The
Woman I am, and Right Hand Left Hand

Barbara Todd, historian and co-author
of Never Done.

WOMEN AND THE VISUAL ARTS

Maria Tippett, art historian and co-
author of From Desolation to Splendor:
Changing Perceptions of the British
Columbia Landscape and Emily Carr:
A Biography (forthcoming).

ISSUES IN WOMEN'S HEALTH AND HEALTH
CARE, Abby Schwarz, biologist and
co-author of Our Bodies Our Selves.

WOMEN AND POWER, July 21, 22
WOMEN AS ARTISTS, July 28, 29

PLUS:
"VARIETIES OF FEMINISM" a six even-
ing discussion series. An exhibit
of women artists.

Public Lectures.

For more information contact:

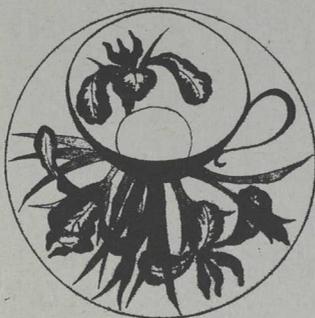
Margaret Benston or Meredith Kimball
Women's Studies Summer Institute
Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
Simon Fraser University

FILM CRITICISM

FEMINIST FILM CRITICS

Our first study group will meet
briefly on Friday, September 1st
at 7 p.m., at the VSW downstairs
office. The first assignment is to
read the film reviews of RIDDLES OF
THE SPHINX in the May 1978 issue of
TAKE ONE, available for \$1.00 at
bookstores, free at the library.
Also, try to get a hold of the brand
new, comprehensive anthology, WOMEN
AND THE CINEMA, edited by Karen Kay
and Gerald Teary, published by Dut-
ton, 1977. At \$10.95 it's expensive,
but you may persuade your local lib-
rarian that for all movie-goers it
should be required reading. Meantime,
I'll see you at the movies!

Brig Anderson

FULL CIRCLE
COFFEEHOUSE

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Vancouver 874-7719



Doors open at 8:30 performance 9:30

Admission \$2.00

Wednesday - Women and Men

June 14 CAROL STREET AND FRIENDS
Carol's bringing all her
friends for this one...so
don't miss it!

June 21 ALICE AGES
Well known Victoria poet
and storyteller

June 28 NELLIE McLUNG
Well known Vancouver poet
with a famous ancestor...

Friday - Women only

June 9 MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE
Barbara Stevenson
Barbara Moon
Lynette Harper

June 16 AN EVENING OF JAZZ
Kathy Kidd/piano
Colleen Savage/Vocals
Gail Griffin/Bass

June 23 ALICE AGES
Well known Victoria poet
and storyteller

June 30 MARY ROSE (and Sat. July 1st)
From Portland, Oregon...
A strong woman's voice ...
Composed "I'm my own Woman
Now"

WORKSHOPS & SPECIAL EVENTS

CELEBRATION!!

Saturday June 17th 8:30 p.m.
Dance...music...refreshments...
For Women only...\$1.00

* * * *

WOMEN EMERGING with Sara David
Gestalt...Body Awareness....
June 8-12 10 AM-5PM \$75.
To Pre-register call 876-2937

KINESIS

ISSN 0317-9095

1978 June

Vol 7 #6

Kinesis is published monthly by the
Vancouver Status of Women. Its ob-
jectives are to enhance understand-
ing about the changing position of
women in society and to work active-
ly towards achieving change.

Views expressed in Kinesis are those
of the writer and DO NOT necessarily
reflect VSW policy. All unsigned
material is the responsibility of the
Kinesis editorial and production crew.

SUBMISSIONS: VSW welcomes submis-
sions from the feminist community and
in particular, from VSW members. We
do reserve the right to edit, and
submission does not guarantee publica-
tion. Include a SASE if you want
your work returned.

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Judith Burke, Kris Craig, Portland
Frank, Janice Pentland-Smith, Dor-
othy Restall, Gayla Reid, Joan Wood-
ward, Lorri Rudland.

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Women is by donation and Kinesis is
mailed monthly to all members.

Individual subscriptions to Kinesis
are \$8.00 per year and we would ask
members to base their donations on
this and their own financial posi-
tion.

As we now have the status of a char-
itable organization and as we are
unable to pay for Kinesis from these
funds due to government regulations,
we will be issuing tax deductible
receipts for the balance of all mem-
bership donations over \$8.00.

Please remember VSW operates on in-
adequate funding - we need member
support!

Canada
Employment
&
Immigration
Commission

A WOMAN'S PLACE 125 E.10th Ave.
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Drop in and see if we can help you find a job
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Tuesday evenings until 8:00



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women's programme of the B.C. Federation of
Labour, please contact:



Director of Women's Programmes
B.C. Federation of Labour
3110 Boundary Road
Burnaby, B.C. V5M 4A2
430-1421