kinesis

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
SEP 02 1977
LIBRARY

vol 6 no 9 vancouver status of women

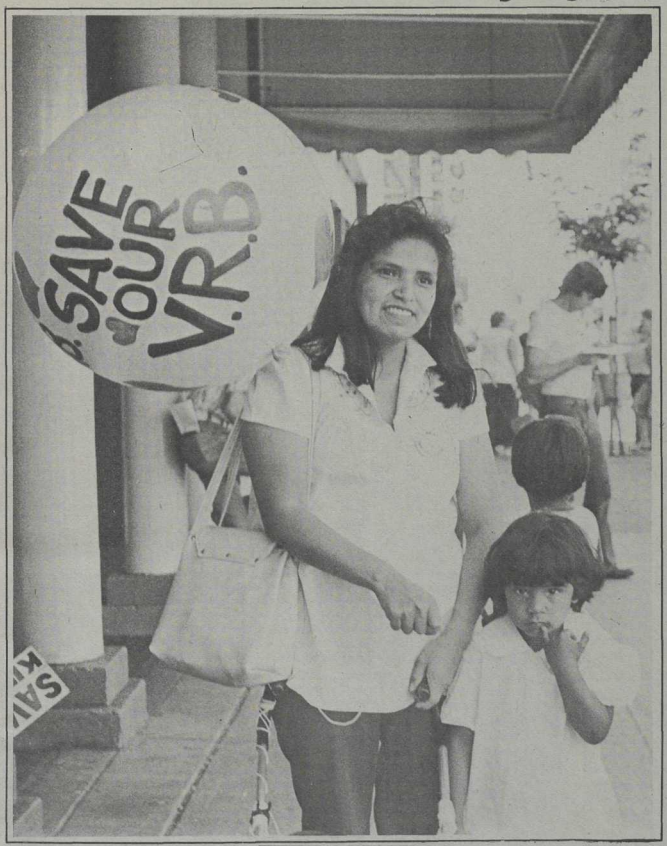


Photo: Cynthea Sand

at VSW, kinesis means change

July 24:

FEMINISTS FIGHT BILL 65

On Sunday, July 24, more than 2,000 people marched in protest against Bill 65. Bill 65 will dismantle the Vancouver Resources Board. It will recentralize power in Victoria and end the collective agreements of VRB employees. Scores of Vancouver citizens have recognized that this is a dangerous piece of legislation, and community groups and unions throughout Vancouver make July 24 a day of united protest.

The women's movement has been working actively throughout this issue. Representatives from twenty two women's groups marched, and the protest has the official support of the British Columbia Federation of Women, a province-wide organization with more than fifty member groups.

Sue Moore, Action Organizer of B.C. F.W. addressed the rally at the Orpheum which followed the march. Her speech placed the issue of Bill 65 within a feminist perspective. We had hoped that other speakers would place the issue within the broader, economic, perspective of Provincial/Federal cutbacks which attack low-income people (for example, the AIB rollbacks and the extended waiting period for UIC eligibility). We had also hoped that Bill 65 would be linked to other re-centralization moves by the Social Credit government (for example, the introduction of the CORE curriculum).

Sue Moore spoke to the feminist issue of how Bill 65 will undermine the already precarious position of single parent families. She spoke from the position of a 'consumer' of the services which will be axed.

Photo: C.T. Sand

Vander Zalm had predicted that there would be no clients at the rally. He was grossly mistaken. She spoke in support of a group which the Human Resources Minister knows very little about. This group comprises 85% of those receiving social services - women. Vander Zalm knows little about those who live below the poverty line in the late seventies. He knows nothing about what it is like to be a single mother.

When the women's movement has raised its issues with the Minister: the right to control our own bodies, the right to a non-sexist education, the right to 24 hour quality childcare, his response has been: "Women make the best cooks and housekeepers and should be encouraged in that role."

"When I was on social assistance", said Moore, "I was lucky, because I had free care for my children. That gave me the time to look for a job. I looked hard. I went to the Manpower Office daily, only to be disappointed time and time again. There were no jobs available that provided a living wage; there were no jobs at all."

Photo: Sue Moore

Left: Women from the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association waiting for the march to begin.
Above: Susan Hoeppner and Lee Grills with list of women's groups marching as part of the B.C.F.W.
Right: Rosemary Brown (NDP Vancouver-Burrard) addressing VRB Rally.
Below: Two of the two thousand marchers.

Photo: C.T. Sand.

Sue Moore said:"...the Social Credit millionaire mouthpieces...do not have a future of social assistance, a future of working for a minimum wage, a future of not knowing where their children are because child care is either not available or is too expensive to use."

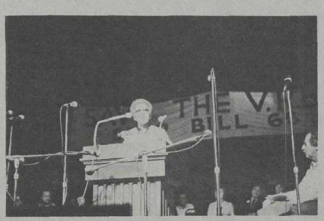
The Vancouver Resouces Board alone has recognized some of the special needs of women today. The VRB has provided money for essential services such as out-of-school childcare centres, youth workers, neighborhood houses and transition houses. All of these services add up to make life a little more tolerable. This is why, Sue Moore concluded, the B.C.F.W. opposes the abolition of the VRB. It demands that the Vancouver Resources Board not only be preserved but that community resouce boards be re-instated throughout the province.

VRB–a Feminist Issue

Fighting Bill 65 is not an issue in which the women's movement is taking part because we want to help fight an admirable cause. Fighting Bill 65 is a feminist issue. We have seen the way in which the rulers of this country act to preserve their self-interest when economic crises occur. When unemployment rises, they make it more difficult to receive unemployment benefits. When there are not enough jobs to go round, they keep women in the home by denying us chidcare. When there

cont. col 1, p.10

Photo: C.T. Sand.



August 13

This day has been declared a "SAVE THE VRB" day. Booths will be set up all over the city of Vancouver, and thousands of signatures will be collected, which will then be sent to the Premier and the members of his cabinet. Turn to page 10 and see how you can become part of the action.

Fight Union Busting, the Re-centralization of Services, Fight Bill 65!

kinesis

august 1977

ISSN 0317 - 9095

Vol.V11,

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

MEMBERSHIP DONATION _____

INSTITUTIONAL SUB: $15 p.a.

INDIVIDUAL SUB: $8.00 or, if less, what you can afford.

PLEASE TICK ONE:

Subscriber Only:

Member:

Renewal:

Indicate clearly if you wish to be a member and subscriber, or a subscriber only. Membership in VSW is by donation. In determining your donation, please balance your own financial situation with the fact that VSW receives only partial funding.

KINESIS costs 50cents in bookstores.

You can help our sub. base by delivering free copies in your community. Call VSW and we'll send you some : 736 3746.

KINESIS is published monthly by the Vancouver Status of Women. Its objective are to enhance understanding about the changing position of women in society and to work actively 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.

CORRESPONDENCE: Kinesis, Vancouver Status of Women, 2029 West 4th Ave, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1N3

SUBMISSIONS: VSW welcomes submissions from the feminist community and in particlar, from VSW members. We do reserve the right to edit, and submission does not guarantee publication. Include a SASE if you want your work returned.

WORKERS ON THIS ISSUE: Janet Beebe, Lilith Brewster, Mieke Hamer, Summer McGee, Gayla Reid.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Cy-thea Sand, cover, and VRB photos pp.1 & 10; Sue Moore, VRB photos pp. 1 & 10; Susan Sanderson, BCFW pictures, p.15. The Women's Kit, pp.12 $13. Steve Winter, p.11. Susan Sanderson,p. 23. Lee Grills,p.18. Liberation News Service: pp. 8,16 and 21.(Shuster, Friedrich, Women's Graphics.

GRAPHICS: Emergency Librarian,pp. 2 & 22; Bul Bul & Union Wage,pp. 3 &4; Maine Freewoman's Herald, pp.4,10,20; LNS,pp. 6&7 Bul Bul, p.6 and & Shake, p.7; Turkey from Majority Report, p. 9; Bul Bul p. 9 from LNS; p. 15 graphic - Peg Averill of LNS; IRS & Bul Bul p. 17; Peg Averill, LNS, p. 19 and ACSW Calendar dates: Press Gang.

letters

To the Status of Women:

You say you desire emancipation for all women and all you are succeeding in doing is attracting more revulsion, and disregard, and causing women to lose more and more of their freedom and rights.

I am not saying that you are whores, sluts or chippeys, but let's be honest, do you not think that you are giving that impression to large numbers of people, including men?

Apparently you are interested only in yourselves because you only print in Kinesis what suits you or favours you and you never answer your mail though you have given yourselves a fairly large salary. Do you think that your hypocrisy goes without being noticed by the majority of women, and other people?

Stop making up false propaganda and blaming innocent Grey Nuns and other Catholic institutions. If anyone has helped the sick and the poor and encouraged decent life styles they sure have. Perhaps their approach is sometimes not what we would like but at least their heart and effort is in the right place and most unselfish. Can you say that for yourselves?

I suppose this will be treated with indifference again or thrown in the waste paper basket which just proves once again that you are worse and more phony than The Capitalists and, God Knows, they are bad enough!

Amy Pollen

Sisters:

I am the rural organizer for the B.C. Federation of Women, an organization representing over forty women's groups in B.C. As my position on standing committee of B.C.F.W. is responsible for voicing the needs of rural women, I am asking for your cooperation. I NEED to communicate with as many rural women as possible. I am especially interested in hearing from women in extremely isolated living conditions, as these women often experience severe isolation from their sisters.

Please don't think that you have nothing to say. If you could express some ideas on the following questions, I would very much appreciate your time and effort. Your contribution will help me represent you and your needs to all B.C.F.W. member groups throughout the province of B.C.

What are the problems of rural living? Is the isolation a severe problem to you? What facilities does your community have for health care? What kinds of employment are there for women in your area?

These are just a few questions I would like some feedback on. Your joys/fears are important and need expression. B.C.F.W. cares and wants to represent you as well as possible. Please write me as soon as possible.

Emily Carter
Rural Organizer, BCFW

MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 22

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WOMEN'S GROUPS OF B.C. FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE B.C. FEDERATION OF WOMEN

Over the past several months, some women's centres have been advised by field officers of the Secretary of State to approach the B.C.F.W. for money for their centres. This action by field officers is reprehensible. It serves the function of dividing the women's movement.

The women's movement in Canada and B.C. in particular is being divided continually by government agencies which fund some groups and not others. Because we expend much time and energy seeking funding, this diverts our energies from activities demanding change. It is bad enough that much of our efforts are directed into funding, but when we have to explain to member groups why we don't have money to give to them, the situation becomes impossible.

If one stops and examines this issue, the ramifications are overwhelming. If the B.C.F.W. Standing Committee decided to fund a certain group in a region, and then couldn't fund a group either in another region or the same region, the hostility and angry feelings created by such a potential situation would render us useless. We cannot afford to pay such a price.

Another aspect of this practice by the Secretary of State is that it implies the priorities the funded groups have set for their funding is inadequate. By suggesting to a group looking for money that they should ask B.C.F.W, it appears that B.C.F.W.'s role is to fund women's groups. This creates confusion.

We must discuss and analyze how the government divides us with funding, how they inferfere with the operation of groups, the way they continually tell us what issues are important and need funding. The concept of B.C.F.W;s being responsible for funding activities of centres is contrary to the feminist principles of collectivity, which we attempt to work from. B.C.F.W. and the Standing Committee continues to struggle with the problems of isolation, urban/rural differences, geographical barriers, personal and political differences.

We must develop a strong feminist analysis concerning the nature of funding. We must continue to build a strong movement without being rendered useless by the string attached to government funding.
Susan Sanderson
Co-ordinator, B.C.F.W.

INACTION AT CITY HALL

In July 1975, Vancouver City Council unanimously passed a motion striking a special committee to design and oversee an Equal Employment Opportunity Committee for the City of Vancouver, targeting the women, racial minorities and physically handicapped employees.

A Committee was appointed by Mayor Art Phillips with representatives from Council, civic management, city unions, community groups, and the Human Rights Branch. Work began in September of 1975, and was concluded this spring and summer with the assistance of $5,000 from the Secretary of State Department.

The Committee has presented City Hall with a comprehensive analysis of the composition of the present City workforce by sex, by race and by physical handicap.

The report comments: "The results of our data collection do not lead us to conclude that the City of Vancouver practises overt discrimination. However, the different patterns of employment and compensation of women, racial minorities, and the physically handicapped do indicate the existence of barriers to equal opportunity.

"Women, racial minorities, and the physically handicapped are not represented proportionately in all job classifications and at all levels, and in general, they receive less pay. This does not mean that the City of Vancouver's employment practices are in any way out of the ordinary. In fact, in every sense, the City of Vancouver follows the larger Canadian pattern."

From these facts - the lack of proportionate representation, and the wage differential, the report draws two basic conclusions:

1. The City of Vancouver must take action to help solve these discrepancies and to give its employees fair treatment and to improve its overall use of human resources;

2. Because such action involves many specific steps and interlocking projects, the City of Vancouver should undertake a long-term, comprehensive equal opportunity program.

The City should therefore a) implement an Equal Opportunity Program to phase in the recommended changes over a three-year period; b) assign responsibility for the EEO program to the City Manager; c) create an Office of Equal Opportunity with the authority to implement the program.

With regard to women, the report recommends that: The City should review and revise all recruitment and selection procedures, and job requirements, to remove discriminatory effects. It should develop training programs, goals and timetables for implementation, career ladders, new training programs for women, and "bridge positions" between support and administrative and technical positions. It should provide career counselling to women employees, review pay levels and fringe benefits.

How do employment patterns break down? The picture is exactly what you'd expect to find:

Men are 70% of civic employees - (4,735)
Women are 37.5% of civic employees - (1,999)
74% of the women who work for the City are in the female job ghettos - they are secretaries, nurses or librarians.
90% of the traditionally male positions - police officers, parks workers, firefighters and engineering workers are men.

At the top of the ladder, the position is likewise familiar:

Men fill 82% of the management positions.
Women fill 18%.
Of the 35 women in management, 22 are branch librarians with the Vancouver Public Library (at the top of the female job ghetto, that is).

11 out of 17 departments have no women managers.
Women's median salary is 64% of men's.
Finally - only 6 out of 19 members of the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee are women.

Although women are 29% of civic employees, they are 51% of the population and 37.5% of the B.C. labour force.

VSW supports the recommendations of the report. We urge that this report be made more readily accessible to the public, to facilitate public debate.

VSW supports the following course of action:

1. Responsibility for the Equal Employment Opportunity Program should be assigned to the City Manager.

2. Within the Office of Equal Opportunity, reporting to the City Manager, one person and support staff should be appointed to the position of Director, with appropriate budget and space commitment.

3. At the Departmental level, an Equal Opportunity Officer should be appointed, who will report to the Director. This could be a full-time or part-time position, depending on the size of the Department.

The Director's job would include ensuring that appropriate review, recruitment and counselling procedures are implemented, that the classification of jobs and pay scales are reviewed, and that some system is developed for evaluating the work.

WHY IS CITY HALL UPTIGHT?

The Manager of City Hall, and the City Councillors are kept awake nights by the thought that this program might cost them $$$$. They see the costs running at $300,000 rather than the more realistic estimate of $50,000. When they think about spending money, their morale droops.

They also see the EEO Program as being a quota system, due to the phasing of the recommendations, which advise City Hall to "develop goals and timetables Department by Department for each area of underutilization."

Reluctant councillors appear to think that the under-representation of women, racial and physically handicapped minorities within their work force is due to factors beyond their control. They also think that things are improving (probably due to factors within their control!).

FEMINISTS

ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, CITY COUNCIL WILL DISCUSS WHAT TO DO NEXT ABOUT THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ISSUE. Your presence in the gallery is needed! We MUST lobby for action. Call VSW for exact details. 736 3746.

Your Support is Needed

MORE ABOUT EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, ALIAS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION...

Winnipeg

Both Edmonton and Toronto have pushed for equal employment opportunity at the City Hall level. The most progress seems, however, to have been made in Winnipeg:

WINNIPEG - A committee similar to the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee at Vancouver's City Hall has been active in the City of Winnipeg. They have found only one of the civic staff's 71 highest paid management positions is held by a woman. Furthermore, the committee's report said women are less likely to be promoted than men, with only 4% reaching higher paid occupational levels, compared with 10% of men.

At the other end of the scale, the committee discovered 70% of the bottom-rung clerical jobs are occupied by women. It said male city janitors earn more than cleaning women. Parking lot attendants are better paid than typists. Parks maintenance men out-earn female dental hygienists, and so on.

The City's executive policy committee has promised to heed the committee's findings and upgrade women employees at City Hall. Among other things, inequitable differentials in pay are to be eliminated, and future hirings will be monitored to ensure applicants are chosen on qualification rather than sex. (Globe and Mail)

Feds. and Ontario

The Federal Government has undertaken an Affirmative Action plan in the civil service and all crown corporations. This is a voluntary program, and compliance is not mandatory by law. The Advisory Council on the Status of Women reports that very little progress has been made.

The Ontario Women's Bureau has set up a service which tells businesses how to go about implementing affirmative action. Again, the plan depends upon management wanting to set up the plan. About 106 buinesses have contacted the Bureau, and results are hard to gauge. The plan is voluntary. (Branching Out Info)

The lethargic performance of these voluntary affirmative action programs in Canada is only to be expected. The ruling class - those in power - do not operate against their own self-interest. They will institute just hiring practices only when we force them to.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

What we Learned

The affirmative action plan at Vancouver's City Hall - the Equal Employment Opportunities Program, is the first in Canada which has been the joint work of three oppressed groups within the community : women, the disabled and visible minorities.

The experience of working together has been a unifying one, with the common features of racism, sexism and anti-handicapped prejudice emerging in a process of discussion in which each group was able to raise the other's consciousness. Behind all the racist jokes about Asian firefighters, all the sexist jokes about women as weaklings and all the jokes about handicapped people is the same rationale: those who control the economy have a vested interest in discrimination.

They also make sure that the small gains which they have been forced to concede under pressure are whittled away at the first opportunity. The abolition of the Vancouver Resources Board, for example, will wipe out the VRB's excellent affirmative action program. We will have to start all over again.

• • •

Despite the demagogic claptrap about "reverse discrimination" and the horrors of "quotas", the opponents of affirmative action are advancing the classical bourgeois view that "freedom" consists only of the "right" of employers to set the terms under which the workers are obliged to sell their labour power to the bourgeois.

These terms include the absolute necessity for the capitalists to have at their disposal "reserves" within the working class whose situation is even more desperate than those of most other workers. The reserves are thereby forced to sell their labour at lower wages and to accept even more oppressive working conditions. Those "reserves" are, in the first place, oppressed national minorities and women - giving monopoly capitalism an enormous stake in instutionalized racism, national chauvinsim and male supremacy. (Silber, Guardian, 13/7/77)

Attack Under Way in U.S.

The attempt to take back those small concessions which they had to make in the 1960s is probably the dominant feature of the move to the right currently in full swing in the U.S. Equal Opportunities Programs, also known as Affirmative Action Programs, began in the U.S. in 1968. This is when the protest against racism was at its peak. The U.S.federal government drew up guidelines for affirmative action for all employers who had contracts with them. These guidelines were mandatory.

Bakke Decision

This fall, however, a case concerning affirmative action goes to the U.S. Supreme Court. It gives the court the opportunity, if it chooses, to eliminate virtually all affirmative action programs in education, employment and housing throughout the country.

This decisive case stems from a ruling in the California Supreme Court in September of 1976. At that time, the court ruled in favour of Allan Bakke, a white student, claiming that he had been a victim of "reverse discrimination". Much of the student activity at California campuses this spring and summer has centred on the imperative need to reverse THE BAKKE DECISION.

If the Bakke decision is upheld by the Supreme Court, women and minorities stand to lose the few jobs they obtained through special affirmative action programs stemming from the activism of the 60s and early 70s. At a time of high unemployment and inflation, when people are afraid of losing their jobs, it is profitable for the government and for industry to keep us divided along race and sex lines.

The Bakke decision will have an effect upon the position of women in the U.S. labour force, and a spin-off effect upon Canadian women workers. Neither affirmative action nor special admissions programs can solve problems of employment and educational opportunity, but it is necessary to protect these small gains and to strengthen them.
(Info from UNION WAGE)

Wednesday, August 10, 1977 is NATIONAL PRISON JUSTICE DAY.

National Prison Justice Day is a day of protest. It is a day to protest the conditions endured by all prisoners. It is a day to express our anger at a system which uses the law to uphold its own values and punishes the poor, the non-white, the dissident, and all who do not belong to or support its power structure.

Women are a minority of the total prison population. Their treatment in prison is a brutal reflection of the treatment all women receive in our society, but outside support and agitation for change directed at their specific needs as women is sadly lacking.

This year, in addition to the vigil being held at the B.C.Pen,

a vigil is being held at Oakalla, in support of the women inside. This vigil will begin at 8.00am on August 10th, and will last until 8.00am the following morning. Bring your sleeping bag. Signs and leaflets will be provided. Hopefully, there will be a speaker. We also plan to fast for the period of the vigil.

It is crucial for women to support this protest. If we don't do it, who will?

For more information, call Judi Morton: 736 3746 (work).

WOMEN AGAINST RAPE (WAR), a member group of B.C.F.W. are putting out a newsletter. If you want a copy, write to : 614 Milton St., Nanaimo, B.C. WAR needs contact persons, so if you are willing to act as the WAR contact person for your area, let them know soon.
WAR is planning a major action for November 5th. The action has the official support of the B.C.F.W.

Support WAR

WANTED - PROVINCIAL MAP ON RAPE STATISTICS

Before we can begin to eliminate the violence done toward us and our children we must have accurate informations. We must know exactly what we are up against. Information about other crimes is readily given to us. Frequently, the police publish in local newspapers the figures on the prevalence of burglaries, juvenile delinquent acts, etc. But we are never told exactly what the situation is regarding rape in our communities.

We would like women throughout British Columbia to write their local R.C.M.P. and request certain information. Some of you will get the information easily, others will be told that some of it is not available, while some of you will be given no information at all. Please send this information to: Suzanne Fournier, c/o Ariel Bookstore, 2766 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.

She and other Vancouver women are going to compose a Provincial Map with the information you send them. This map will provide us with accurate, comprehensive information for us to work on. We can update the map every three months or so.

In order to get our information, we will need to ask specific questions. We have composed a standard letter which you could use. However you choose to get the information, please be sure to include the specifics we have outlined. Remember, this information should be available to us - do not be afraid to ask for it.

Dear _____:

We are gathering statistical information on rape and sexual assaults for the year 1977. We request that you send us the information you have regarding the following:

Reported number of offenses: for RAPE and for SEXUAL ASSAULTS
Founded:
Unfounded:
Committed to Preliminary:
Committed to Assize:
Convictions:
Acquittals:

Plea Bargained:
Type of Assault: Gang or single, weapon used, use of violence, threat etc.
Geographical location within the community; what areas can then be considered safer than others.
Type of place where assault occurred: street, private residence, car, etc.
Circumstances surrounding the assault: was victim on a date with suspect, hitchhiking, walking along street, in her home, etc. Was the suspect known to the victim.
Age of victim.

(From WAR Newsletter)

REDEFINING RAPE

rape (rāp) n. 1. The crime of forcing a female to submit to sexual intercourse. 2. The act of seizing by force; abduction; improper treatment; violation; profanation: a rape of justice.

MYTHS ABOUT RAPE, THE VICTIM AND THE RAPIST

Myths are based on mistaken assumptions and erroneous information, but they are extremely powerful. Myths colour society's beliefs, attitudes and actions - in this case, those concerning the woman, the rapist and the rape act. There is some truth in some of the myths for some individual rape situations, but they cannot be seen as facts about rape.

MYTH: THE RAPIST IS A STRANGER

Our experience and studies have shown that in approximately 80% of rapes committed, the rapist is known to the victim. The man may be a neighbour, a colleague at school or at work, an acquaintance, an extended or immediate family member.

MYTH: THE RAPIST IS ACTING ON UNCONTROLLABLE SEXUAL IMPULSES

The basis of this myth is that men cannot control their sexual impulses. The idea is erroneous. Men CAN control their sexual desires. In fact, most rapes are not acts of "impulse" but are premeditated; 58% of one man-one woman rapes, 83% of rapes involving 2 men, and 90% of rapes committed by 3 or more men are premeditated.

MYTH: RAPISTS ARE CRAZED BOOGIE MEN

A rapist does not have fangs and pointed ears. Like most people, rapists have hang-ups, but these do not differ significantly from those of the "average" man on the street. In most cases, rape is not a product of mental illness - a rapist could look and act like the "normal" man across the hall or the stranger in the elevator.

MYTH: RAPE IS AN ACT MOTIVATED BY SEXUAL DESIRE

This is not true. Rape is an act of violence and aggression or domination and humiliation. Sex is merely the means of assault. Rape is not based on a need for sexual contact - 50% of rapists do not ejaculate. Rape is based on a desire to degrade and control a woman by forcing her to have sexual intercourse against her will.

MYTH: RAPE HAPPENS IN DARK ALLEYS

50% of all rapes occur in a home. A rapist may break into a woman's home or she may open her door to a friend, a neighbour, a serviceman. A woman may go home with a man after a date, after work, etc. Rape also occurs in situations that seem dangerous - hitchhiking, underground garages, parks, deserted streets...

MYTH: ONLY CERTAIN WOMEN GET RAPED

Rape can happen to any woman regardless of her age, physical appearance, character, lifestyle, ethnic origin or place of residence. We have heard of 6-month-old babies as well as 90-year-old women who have been victims of rape.

MYTH: THE REAL RAPE VICTIM WILL BE BATTERED, BRUISED AND HYSTERICAL

Rape is always traumatic - this is true regardless of the reactions of the rape victim. People behave differently in a crisis. In the same way, women who have been raped show a variety of reactions - hysterical crying, shocked apathy, calm "coping" behavior. If a woman is controlled and outwardly calm, it does not mean that she wasn't raped. Similarly, lack of bruises or broken bones does not indicate a woman has not been raped. Often threats of violence and a weapon at her throat, rather than actual violence are enough to cause a woman to "freeze" in a rape situation. In fear for her life, a woman submits but this does not mean she consents.

(From the WAR Newsletter, Vol 1, #1, 614 Milton St, Nanaimo B.C.)

In order to raise funds, WAR has produced the following items for sale. Each carries the words, Women Against Rape:

T.Shirts: Cream, Red, Navy Blue, Skyblue. All sizes. VSW has some, but direct all mail/bulk orders to 614 Milton St, Nanaimo. $6.00. Postage extra.

Decals : suitable for cars, windows, etc. $1.00

Buttons: $1.00 VSW has some supplies of each.

Join the Queue

Free!! SAVE THE VRB bumper stickers. From 1176 West 7th Ave, Vancouver. Call 738 9727. FREE BUMPER STICKERS!

Smut

In the spring of this year, both Roman Polanski and Henry Wynbey have been charged with drugging and seducing children. The L.A. police squad investigating child porn has been caught having sex orgies with female Explorer Scouts. And now, New York police have found that one third of the film footage confiscated in porno raids last year was child porn - ranging from voyeurism to training reels on how to deflower virgins. (from Majority Report)

Trashy

THIS GARBAGE CAMPAIGN IS PURE TRASH

Environment Canada has laboured mightily to produce a piece of garbage. Mlle. Can-Can is the new symbol of the Environment Ministry's Waste Watching campaign aimed at making school children litter-conscious.

Mlle. Can-Can is a sloe-eyed, long-lashed feminized garbage can complete with long black-gloved arms and cinched by a bright pink girdle (as in corset).

She is the main focus of buttons, brochures and messages being circulated by the ministry in its campaign.

Ontario Status of Women representative commented: "It's almost unbelievable to speak about waste and garbage, and use that kind of sexist approach!"

A spokesperson for the Environment Ministry was at a loss for words. "Maybe we should have a Mr. Can-Can. I don't know." (Info from Globe and Mail)

Cut it Out

Radical mastectomies have become an accepted way of treating breast cancer without any proof as to their effectivenss, says a major new study of surgery.

"A radical mastectomy is so frequently the treatment of choice that it would almost seem that a tradition has been established without clear-cut justification," says the report by an agency of Harvard University.

The report says a radical mastectomy "is no more effective than simple surgery in terms of survival experience, and the chances of local or distant recurrence."

"It does, however, cost more in dollars and hospital stay and does induce more morbidity, more mutilation, and more traumatic psychological adjustment as well as carrying a great risk of surgical death." (Province, July 6, 1977)

We've Been Recycled

The Provincial Coordinator, Status of Women envelopes are now being used by the Deputy Minister of Health.

News in Brief

Big Deal

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN I.W.Y.?

The ACSW (national Advisory Council on the Status of Women) has noted that in 1975, the age differential between male and female public servants widened, the concentration of women in lower-paid administrative support positions increased, and the number of women in senior executive positions decreased during the year.

T-Shirt Self-Exam

In April of 1976, workers in the maternal health area developed a pilot project to teach breast self-examination to high school students in Vancouver. Films, supplemented by a talk from the school nurse, were followed with an opportunity for students to be taught breast self-exam on a one-to-one basis. Nurses, students, parents were enthusiastic.

Several high school principals, however, objected to women 'baring their breasts', and one insisted that they demonstrate only with a t-shirt on. The program was eventually discouraged by the City's Medical Health Officer. Nurses were asked to keep the program low-profile by not advertising it. As a result, the program was never developed.

Your test scores are excellent.

but your grovelling and snivelling scores are low.

Class Divisions

The National Council of Welfare recently pointed to a discrepancy in the tax laws which means that the richer a woman is, the less she pays in taxes.

According to the 1976 tax schedule, a woman working as non-union store clerk and earning about $6,000 a year will pay about $520 in taxes. If she is supporting a child and has to pay for a baby-sitter, she can deduct a maximum of $1,000.

The child care deduction offers her a tax saving of $520 minus $260, which equals $260.

But take a woman with a teaching degree. If she is making $20,000 a year as a unionized teacher, she pays about $4,970 in tax.

However, if she also has a child and is able to deduct the $1,000, her taxes are reduced to $4,590. So the school teacher enjoys a tax saving of $380 - that's $120 more than the store clerk. Vancouver Sun

Human Rights Ignored

BILL C-25 (the federal human rights bill) has received final reading in the House of Commons. The bill discriminates against the emotionally handicapped by not mentioning them. It discriminates against gay people by not mentioning them.

The Act proscribes discrimination on the grounds of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, marital status, conviction for which a pardon has been granted, and in matters related to employment, physical handicap...

WRITE, once again, to the Justice Minister, the Hon. Ron Basford, pointing out to him that the emotionally handicapped and gay people are humans with rights, too.

Pregnancy Compensation

Now for slightly better news. The Maryland Senate has passed and sent to the House bills requiring that private employers and health insurance companies compensate women workers for up to 6 weeks of time lost from work due to pregnancy.

The fact that this legislation classifies pregnancy as a 'disability' is distasteful, but establishment of the principle of compensation for childbirth time is important. The Supreme Court in its wisdom has refused to consider exclusion of pregnancy compensation to be a violation of federal anti-sex discrimination laws, so the readiest alternative is to have individual states enact laws requiring maternity coverage. So far, 14 states have done so.

In Maryland, the bill faces stiff opposition in the House, particularly from the insurance lobby, which has numerous tame lawmakers. (Off Our Backs)

Beating T.W.A.

A federal judge ruled that TWA discriminated aginst stewardesses whom the airline laid off due to pregnancy, and then refused to re-hire. A similar ruling was brought last spring against American Airlines.

Although damages have not been set, TWA and American Airlines might have to pay up to $19 million to stewardesses who lost their jobs because of pregnancy discrimination. OOB

Maternity Benefits

The Public Sector Employees' Coordinating Council is pressing the federal government to amend the UIC Act so that women workers may collect maternity benefits to supplement UIC payments. The PSECC comprises 11 unions and represents about 100,000 public service employees in B.C. The Province

Unemployment Rates by Occupation
British Columbia 1975 and 1976

	1975	1976
Managerial, Admin. etc.	3.2	5.2
Clerical	6.0	8.2
Sales	5.3	5.3
Service	6.9	10.0

FIGHT RAPE

What follows are lengthy excerpts from an article by Belinda Sifford, which she wrote for Off Our Backs. It concerns a rape trial in Italy, which the feminist movement there made the focus of a national campaign.

It is of particular relevance to B.C. feminists at this time, when we are working towards a concerted anti-rape action on November 5th. As this action builds, it is important to have a clear analysis of rape as a feminist issue. It is important to relate this analysis to the specific actions we undertake. KINESIS would welcome such analysis. Why does our society have a vested interest in controlling women through rape and other related crimes of violence, such as wife-battering and pornography. Who, exactly who profits from this?

Do all other socieities have the same vested interest in supporting rape? If not, why not? Does rape have anything in common with, for example, prostitution? With the way our labour (women's and men's both) is ripped off at the workplace? How does the alienation which produces rape function in our society? What causes that alienation?

ROME- Claudia Caputi, the eighteen-year-old Italian woman gang-raped last August, has disappeared with the help of feminists following the sentencing of seven youths by a Rome court, and the arrest of Vito Gemma, a man undoubtedly linked to the prostitution racket.

Claudia's disappearance is the most recent in a long, traumatic series of events that have ultimately implicated not only organized crime, but also government collusion, throwing the feminist movement into pandemonium by forcing it to confront the issue of prostitution.

In the process, however, some fundamental questions about the ideological basis of feminism have been raised and hopefully the polemic will serve as one mechanism for combatting the existing social structure.

Claudia's background is by Italian standards not uncommon. Raised in a poverty-stricken village, she attempted to abandon provincial misery by answering a newspaper ad. for a maid in Rome. Once in the city, she found that her employer, Vito Gemma, was seeking not only a housekeeper but a bedmate as well. Without money, friends, or family, she resigned herself to the situation. Then she met Nicola Vinciprova, a youth about her age. Last August 30, when the two of them took a bike ride, he and seventeen of his friends gang-raped her.

The rape trial had its first hearing March 29. The second hearing was set for April 4. But before that date, Claudia was abducted, raped again, and this time repeatedly slashed with a razor. The judge, an extreme conservative, interrogated Claudia at the hospital without her lawyers. He then sent notification that her charges about the second rape were under suspicion. He suggested that he had "simulated the offense" and "self-inflicted" the wounds.

The lawyer's move is emblematic of how legal systems the world over have consistently treated women in rape cases, trying to make a guilty party out of the victim.

At the second hearing, April 4, Claudia's lawyers accused the judge of "adhering to the same ideology of violence as that of the accused youths". Meanwhile, the women's movement continued to organize around the case, mobilizing in groups of ten thousand and five thousand.

An incredible amount of organizing materialized, directed by a central co-ordinating committee with representatives from all Rome collectives, constituting a unique moment of solidarity in Italy's multi-factioned feminist movement.

Unity prevailed until the fact of Claudia's prostitution began to surface. Although some women recognized rape as a political phenomenon that profoundly illustrates the exploitation of women, prostitution called painfully into play all the contradictions of a deeply ingrained religious upbringing and the strongly family-oriented society of Italy.

The complexity increased as the search for an immediate political strategy began. Some passionately declared all women to be prostitutes and called for another mass demonstration. But the question remained: what concrete effect would it have in the struggle to change a social order where rape and other more insidious forms of violence against women are rampant at all levels?

Claudia's lawyers decided to keep discussion of prostitution out of the case until conditions were more favourable. The feminists were unable to come to a united, up-front stand on prostitution. The alternate press, which had the responsibility to point out the movement's ideological weaknesses and to present articles analyzing prostitution in general, thus expanding its relevance to socialist, feminist thought, did not do so.

In sensationalizing Claudia's individual story, the original intention of making this a test case for rape diminished. She no longer spoke for the position of women in an economic system which exploits them and a legal system which maintains their repression. Rape symbolizes this reality, but so does prostitution. If women are excluded from the labour market - only 19% of Italian women are employed and this number is decreasing - and society refuses to take responsibility for this labour surplus, prostitution is the only avenue open for women like Claudia.

The growth of a genuine, revolutionary feminist movement depends on our understanding and combatting the mechanisms which produce mass poverty, prostitution and rape. All of them are part of Claudia's experience. *turn to col.2,p.20*

MEET THE JUSTICE

JUDGE RULES RAPIST "NORMAL"

When a 15 year old boy raped a girl in the stairwell at West High School in Wisconsin, Judge Simonson ruled he was reacting "normally" to the prevalent sexual permissiveness and women's provocative clothing.

The judge decreed that the youth should be permitted to stay at home under court supervision rather than be placed in an institution.

The anti-rape forces in Wisonsin are now gathering more than 20 thousand signatures needed to force a recall election against the judge. A special election for Simonson's seat will be held 40-45 days after the petitions have been turned in.

Simonson attacked the anti-rape forces as being "a group of strange bedfellows including lesbians, atheists, Marxists and members of the National Organization of Women." (info from The Guardian and Through the Looking Glass)

The U.S.Supreme Court has ruled that the death penalty may not be used as a punishment for rape when the victim is an adult. Women active in the movement against rape approve of the decision as being one of the rare progressive moves made by the Court. "Our aim is to destroy the system that encourages rape - not to give racists an excuse to persecute Black men."

In the U.S., of the 455 men executed for rape since 1930, more than 90% have been Black. (Guardian info)

If only she hadn't struggled...she wouldn't have fractured ribs, serious internal injuries, torn earlobes.

This is what Justice Wein, in London, England, thinks about a rape victim. English feminists are organizing against his decision.

The woman, Carol Maggs, 17, was sexually assaulted by Coldstream Guard Tom Holdsworth, 19. The judge reversed the three year sentence for Holdsworth, giving him, instead, a six-month suspended sentence. According to Justice Wein, Holdsworth is " a man of previous good character whose army career would be completely destroyed if this sentence were to stand."

Carol Maggs commented: " He (Holdsworth) must be laughing up his sleeve. What has his job got to do with it? He spent less time in prison than I had treatment. I was unable to work for four months...I was on crutches for days and had medical and psychiatric treatment for four months." from Globe and Mail

Women Round the World

Chile

Each month, KINESIS takes part in a letter-writing campaign for the release of Chilean political prisoners. The campaign is organized in Vancouver by the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Chile (906 - 207 W. Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. Telephone 669-5545)

This month, we are asking you to write on behalf of the following women:

LUCIA TOLOSA GAJARDO. She worked in the home, and has ten children. She was picked up June 8, 1977.

MARIA ISABEL BERMUDEZ DIAZ. She was a student of pharmacy and chemistry. She was picked up on June 9, 1977.

Direct your letters to:

General Augusto Pinochet
Edificio Diego Portales
Santiago de Chile

Maria Eugenia Oyarzun
Oficiana de la Mujer
Santiago de Chile

Ministerio del Interior
General Benavides
Edificio Diego Portales
Santiago de Chile

Sr. M. Eyzaguirre
Presidente de la Corte Suprema
Plaza Montt
Santiago de Chile

and in North America:

Horacio Arce
56 Sparkes Street, Ste. 816
Ottawa, Canada

Joaquin Grubner
Chilean Consul in Vancouver
1139 Lonsdale
North Vancouver, B.C.

Twenty-six women and two men risked their lives recently when they occupied the UN offices in Santiago, Chile and held a 10-day hunger strike. They were protesting the 2,000 political prisoners who have "disappeared". These are the people kidnapped by General Pinochet's Gestapo-style secret police (the DINA). Their arrests and whereabouts are never acknowledged by the State. The system of "disappearances" permits the junta to torture and execute while at the same time denying it.

The hunger strike sparked off solidarity actions around the world, which in turn effectively pressured Pinochet into conceding some demands to the strikers.

(info from THE GUARDIAN)

ENGLAND - Last September a group of women, "the Holbrook Road cleaners" went on strike when they discovered they'd been sweeping up asbestos dust. The five women have now gotten most of their demands: a list has been drawn up to record all those who were exposed to the asbestos; one of the women who was fired during the strike has been reinstated and their union is negotiating an agreement that all future cleaners will be unionized.

Women of Mozambique

This month, KINESIS features comments from the women of Mozambique. In these excerpts, they speak for themselves.

The second conference of the Organization of Mozambican women (OMM) was held in November 1976, focusing on the role of women in independent Mozambique. The OMM was formed by the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) during the struggle against Portuguese colonialism.

With the winning of the struggle against colonialism the organizing of women stopped and OMM failed to build structures that would integrate women into the reconstruction process. Many of the women at the Second Conference felt the result was that women were being forced back into their traditional African role or, in towns, into a new bourgeois role - both cases considered secondary support for the men rather than an integral part of the revolution. It was the women who had been in the armed struggle who took the initiative in demanding that OMM not forget its fundamental role of organizing the women both to combat the oppression they suffered as women and to mobilize them for equal participation with the men in building socialism.

Following are excerpts from the resolutions passed by the women at the Conference.

Illiteracy

Illiteracy affects the vast majority of the Mozambican people. It has a particularly high incidence among women who were doubly exploited in traditional and colonial society, which instilled in women a feeling of inferiority and dependence and conditioned them merely to please men and run a household.

In Mozambique, the problem is made worse for those who have not been to school because that means they cannot speak Portuguese, which is the official language of communication. This limits women's access to information. Because of illiteracy, a large proportion of the delegates to the Second Conference could not follow the reading and discussion of reports.

Women play a fundamental role in educating the new generation. They must take part in production and move from simply carrying out tasks to planning and directing them, to free their creative initiative. Learning the official language will strengthen feelings of unity and militate against regionalism, tribalism, and divisions. For all these reasons, eradicating illiteracy among women must be one of the top priorities of OMM.

Tribalism and Racism

Tribalism and regionalism have their origins in feudal society. We are familiar with stories of inter-tribal warfare passed down from our forefathers. Such wars were greatly exploited by the colonial regime.

Racism is a product of colonialism: it marks a clear distinction between the colonizer and the colonized. The exploiter and oppressor despises and humiliates those he exploits on

the basis of difference in skin colour. Racism is the highest form of humiliation.

Tribalism and racism are equally divisive in that they prevent people from understanding that our country is Mozambique and needs the strength of all the people for reconstruction.

The struggle was carried forward by Mozambicans of all races and regions. Through their suffering, their effort, and through working together, they forged unity. Women must continue to work and learn from other people's experiences in order to understand that the struggle of Mozambican women is the struggle of all women and people throughout the world against the common enemy: exploitation.

Women must fight the incorrect belief that they can only identify with those from the same land or with the same culture and habits as themselves. Our identity lies in our condition of being exploited and oppressed and in the common struggle for freedom. It is a class identity.

(In addition to other forms of work) the OMM must encourage the setting up of "communal neighbourhoods", which will help to eliminate individualism through the shared experiences of collective work with people of various origins.

Inferiority Complexes

The process of rendering women inferior originates in traditional education. It is reinforced by "initiation rites" and other such traditional practices which lead to passive acceptance and lack of initiative. The woman becomes an object of appropriation and pleasure, bartered by her family and subjugated to her husband's will. On top of this age-old process, women also suffered the humiliation of colonial society which robbed them

continued col.3,p.20

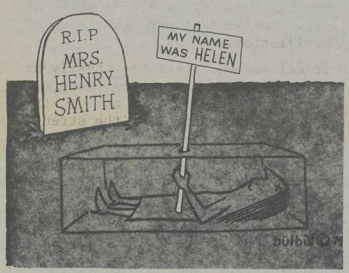
Sisterhood makes the news

Lead Levels

General Motors refuses to hire unsterilized women to work in plants where workers are exposed to lead. "We do not allow women to work on lead exposure jobs unless they are incapable of having children, either because of hysterectomy or tubal ligation," a GM plant doctor said.

GM worker Norma James underwent sterilization rather than lose her job in the lead battery plant at Whitby, Ontario. She is one of the many women forced to accept sterilization in order to keep a job. Corporations such as GM have decided it is better to hire only sterilized women rather than face possible lawsuits by parents of deformed children born to mothers exposed to lead. The Coalition of Labour Union Women (a U.S. group) has called for the establishment of a lead standard that would protect the health of all workers.

Corporations have united to protest any attempt at significantly lower permissable lead levels in plants. (Guardian/J. Brown)



Air Canada's Sexism

AIR CANADA GRANTS TRAVEL PASSES TO THE COMMON LAW SPOUSES OF ITS EMPLOYEES.

Among other requirements, Air Canada regulations specify that employees' common law spouses cannot have access to passes unless the common law wife is using her "husband's" surname. If the employee is male, this presents few problems as the common law wife can simply use his name for the purpose of applying for and getting passes.

If the employee is female, however, Air Canada has ruled that her common law spouse cannot have access to passes unless the employee uses her "husband's" surname in all her dealings with the company, including employee identification, pay cheques, etc.

Air Canada's female common law employees are reluctant to follow this rule, especially when no such requirement exists for legally-married employees. Upon being asked what it intended to do about this matter, Air Canada answered that the question was presently under study but that the company had no immediate plans to correct the situation.

From an ACSW Brief re : Status of Women in Crown Corporations.

Lesbian Mothers

On July 13, WAGES DUE LESBIANS organized a picket in front of the Ontario Supreme Court to protest the treatment of lesbian mothers and children of lesbians. The action had the support of a broad coalition of Toronto groups. The fight is not just a fight for the rights of lesbian mothers. It is the fight for the right of all women to determine how and with whom they will live, and for the right of children to decide what happens in their lives. The picketers organized their protest around the following four points:

* We refuse to choose between our sexuality and our children.
* Hands off our children!
* A parent's income should not be a criterion in court for a custody decision.
* We refuse to be penalized by our poverty.

ALL KINESIS READERS WHOSE NAMES BEGIN M-Z RECEIVED TWO COPIES OF THIS ISSUE. PLEASE PASS THE EXTRA COPY ALONG. PLEASE KEEP THE SUBS. COMING IN.

SORWUC

The Service, Office & Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) has signed its first collective agreement with a financial institution - the Electrical Trades Credit Union in Burnaby.

The contract provides a significant advancement in wages, benefits and working conditions for a comparatively small bargaining unit - three employees. It is the feeling of the Union that this will set a precedent and will encourage employees of other financial institutions - banks, credit unions, trust companies - to join together to gain bargaining power.

The Agreement provides for wages of $875 per month for a 33-hour work week for clerk-tellers, and vacations of 3 weeks plus 2 working days in the first year of employment; 4 weeks in the fourth year and 5 weeks in the seventh year. As well, it includes clauses important to working conditions: no arbitrary dress code; cash shortages cannot be deducted from a teller's wages; and employees will be consulted before new equipment is introduced or any renovations are made to premises.

A major accomplishment of the agreement is that it provides that part-time employees are entitled to all the benefits. They receive sick leave and vacations on the same basis as full-time employees, at their average rate of pay. They are covered by medical and dental plans, with the employer paying a percentage of the premium based on the number of hours the employee works.

G.A.T.E. needs Support

The Gay Alliance Towards Equality (G.A.T.E.) is planning to take its case against the Vancouver Sun to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Recently, the Sun won a reversal of a decision which had found it guilty of discrimination. The issue stems from a denial by the Vancouver Sun to run an ad which gave the title and address of GATE's publication, Gay Tide.

GATE is currently organizing an educational and fundraising campaign which will make their appeal possible. The costs of the trial will be high: first estimates suggest $5,000 may be needed.

This decision will be an important one, both for lesbians and gay men. Direct your donations to GATE, P.O. Box 1463, Station A, Vancouver, B.C.

Sexual Orientation

The Ontario Human Rights Commission has recommended that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation be forbidden under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Send a Turkey Some Facts

In an interview recently, Vander Zalm revealed that he was not familiar with Croll's figures about the povertly line. We suggest you clip these and forward him a copy.

Anyone who is living in Canada on less than $3,981 a year is living in poverty, David Croll (a Liberal Senator) said in Toronto, Wednesday, March 16.

Croll circulated in the Senate a chart showing poverty lines based on 1976 incomes and calculated on a formula devised by the Senate committee on poverty in 1971. The Senate formula puts poverty levels at a higher income than those announced by the government through Statistics Canada, or by two private organizations - the Economic Council of Canada and the Canadian Council on Social Development.

The Senate poverty level for an individual is now set at $3,981 compared with $3,490 based on 1975 incomes. For a couple poverty starts at $6,635. The poverty level for a family of three is set at $7,962; for a family of four at $9,289; for a family of five at $10,616; for a family of six at $11,943; for a family of seven at $13,270; for a family of eight at $14,597; for a family of nine at $15,924; and for a family of ten at $17,251. Vancouver Sun 17/3/77

BILL 65 *from page one..*

is an increased demand for social services due to unemployment, they make a stigma out of welfare. Those who cannot find employment are lazy sluggards who won't get "off their butts". Along with these measures goes budget-trimming: fewer and fewer services for women, for children, for the aged, for the handicapped. Any notion that these services are a human right and not a priviledge must be suppressed. Budget-trimming if facilitated by centralized control. The futher away the consumer of services can be kept from the dispenser of services, the better. It means that the consumer can't start to make a stink, to assert her/his anger, let alone power.

Women don't have human rights in B.C. We have services to compensate for their lack. And little by little the present government is legislating those services away.

Photo: Sue. Moore

Vancouver City Council has adopted a resolution calling for the continuation of the Vancouver Resources Board. Community groups, unions and the women's movement have done likewise.

But so far, Bill 65, calling for the abolition of the VRB is still before the legislature in Victoria and Bill Vander Zalm seems intent on pushing it through.

In order to demonstrate in a united way the fact that the vast majority of Vancouver citizens, and especially the recipients, support the VRB, a day of action is planned for Aug. 16.

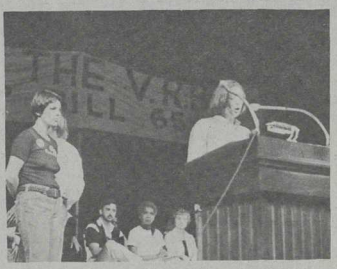
Save VRB Actions

"Support the VRB Day" has been called for Saturday, August 13th.

On that day, starting at 10am, on every street corner in the heart of the fourteen main communities in Vancouver, "Support the VRB" booths will be set up and a petition, calling on the government to withdraw Bill 65, will be available for signature.

The more than sixty organziers from the "Save the VRB-Joint Committee" will take the initiative in their own neighborhoods in organizing the details of the petioning, the support booths and local parades on August 13.

Photo: Sue. Moore



Sue Moore (L) and Susan Sanderson (R) address the VRB Rally on behalf of the B.C.F.W.

The day's activities will be climaxed by an open-air, festival rally in the early evening, where the number of signed petitions will be announced and plans for presentation to the Government discussed.

PLEASE TAKE PART IN THIS PETITION-SIGNING DAY. PHONE VSW FOR DETAILS.

WE WILL BE SETTING UP A BOOTH OUTSIDE VSW for the day of August 14. You assistance in womaning the booth would be appreciate. Call Gayla at 736 3746 for information. DROP BY VSW AND PICK UP PETITIONS TO CIRCULATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

SAVE VRB PETITION

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED CITIZENS, SUPPORT THE EFFECTIVE, HUMANITARIAN AND DEMOCRATIC WAY THE VRB HAS DELIVERED STATUTORY AND OTHER NEED SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE CITY OF VANCOUVER.

WE NOTE THAT VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED A RESOLUTION URGING THE CONTINUATION OF THE VRB, AS HAVE OTHER PUBLIC BODIES AND CITIZEN GROUPS.

THEREFORE, WE RESPECTFULLY URGE THAT BILL 65, WHICH CALLS FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE VRB, BE WITHDRAWN IMMEDIATELY BY YOUR COVERNMENT.

NAME ADDRESSS PHONE

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please Sign this Petition and Mail it to VSW IMMEDIATELY

SORWUC

The Service, Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) held a Special National Convention July 23 and 24 in Vancouver.

The main purpose of the convention was to change the structure of the Union to make it more effective for organizing banks, and for other industry-wide organizing campaigns in the future. The amendments to the constitution allow for the establishment of occupational or industrial Sections, which can include a number of Locals.

About 30 observers attended the convention, mostly representing other Unions. Vancouver Status of Women and the British Columbia Federation of Women also sent observers. The B.C.Government Employees Union brought greetings, and an interest-free loan of $5,000 for their Administrative Support Component towards the bank workers' organizing drive.

The delegates representing United Ban Workers, Local 2 of SORWUC, decided to call a wage and contract conference for September 10 and 11. The conference will bring together bank workers from all over B.C. to prepare contract proposals to take to negotiations with the banks to cover all certified branches in B.C.

SORWUC was certified Friday, July 22 to represent about 60 employees at five bank branches - the first certified bank branches ever in B.C. The Canada Labour Relations Board ordered representation votes at 12 branches, and ten more applications are pending before the Board.

SORWUC Local 1 reported to the convention that they now hold 17 certifications including restaurants, a neighborhood pub, offices and social service workers.

Transition House

A collective agreement has been signed between Local 1 of the Service, Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada, and the Vancouver Resource Board. The agreement covers S.O.R.W.U.C. members who are V.R.B. employees at Transition House. This House is a refuge for women (and their children) who are in crisis. Most of the women using the shelter are battered wives.

The most significant gain for the employees under this fourth collective agreement is a work week averaging 23 hours, which recognizes the strain of rotating shifts at a facility that is staffed around the clock, 7 days a week.

A wage increment was granted, bringing the hourly pay rate to $7.42. Continuing the precedent set in their first agreement, March 8, International Women's Day, is designated as a statutory holiday. The employees are also covered by the Vancouver Resource Board fringe benefits package which includes a fully paid dental plan, long term disability benefits and full paid life insurance and extended health benefits.

What will happen to these fringe benefits when the V.R.B. is legislated out of existence...?

SUPPORT SORWUC in their work. You can become involved by calling them at 681 2811 or 684 2834. Their address: #1116-207 West Hastings, Van.

tahsis woman

by Cam Hubert

She really didn't know which was worse, afternoons or days. It seemed like afternoons threw mealtimes all to hell, you were either cooking meals, warming up meals, packing lunch boxes or...something ...until you felt as if the electric stove was connected to your bellybutton. Ken didn't always eat when he got up, so he'd need something before he went on shift, but the kids didn't want to eat a big hot meal that early, they weren't hungry right after school, they wanted to go out and play. So if Ken got his hot meal, they got it warmed up two or three hours later, which was a hell of a lot of one day tied up in one meal. Then dishes and the kids in bed by eight-thirty, and she packed lunches for the two who were in school, not real lunches, they came home for lunch, but a snack in a brown bag for recess, made them feel big, and it only took a minute or two. Maybe do a bit of ironing, and wait for Ken, not due home until one.

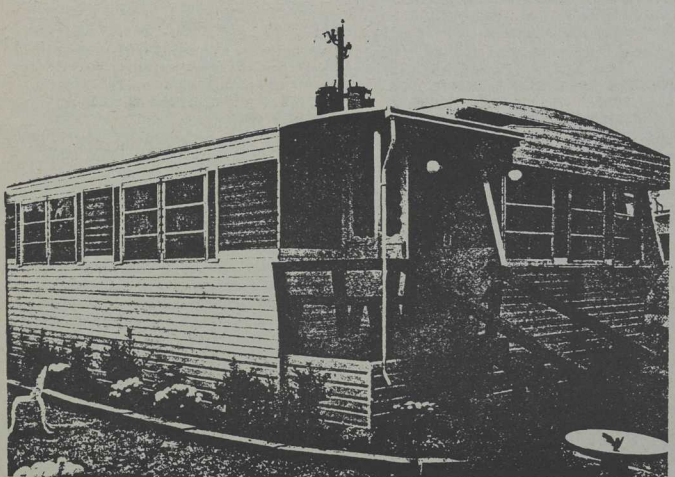
Hadn't been too bad before they'd moved to Tahsis, but Ken, he said he was tired of tromping up and down the slopes lugging beads with the sun frying his face or the rain pissing down the back of his neck, and the rents were so high if you had kids that there was no way you'd ever get saved up for a place of your own. Go to Tahsis, he said, there's work in the mill, they pay top wages, and maybe we can get a company house. Nice new houses, and the rent subsidized by the company, hell you couldn't rent a chicken coop out here for what you'll pay for a three bedroom basement brand new in there. Put in all the overtime I can, save like a bunch of rug riders, and in four or five years we've got enough to put down on our own place.

Well, the company houses were full and the list was as long as a tall man's leg and she didn't want to live outside and have him in the bunkhouse, coming home to visit when he could, so here they were in a trailer-house on the trailer-court and already the entire plan was changed because the payments on the trailer were higher than any rent had ever been, but, as Ken said, at least they weren't just flushing the money down the toilet, they were building up an equity, as good as money in the bank, and could always sell when it was time to move out again. But it was sure no hell living in a trailer court with tin boxes plunked down on hog fuel filling what used to be a swamp. Mind you, the company was good about it, every spring they gave out all the bedding plants you needed to make your space nice, and they had a gardener went around mowing the lawns and wrecking his lawnmower on rocks and nearly taking the legs off every dog and kid in the court. And they's brought in a truckload of little shrubs, that made it nice. She'd kind of laughed, though, there they were surrounded by trees and mountains and sea, living on a filled-in swamp, planting inky-dinky shrubs and you looked out any window in the trailer and you could see trees so big one of them would build a house. But they didn't build houses of wood in Tahsis; stucco houses and aluminum trailers and all the wood taken off in freighters to places that used to be just names in the atlas at school.

At least on the Outside you had television to pass the time: here, it was a joke. It was all probably illegal, but she'd sure like to see them take everyone to court about it, she knew what she'd say if they hauled her in, she'd just say: Listen, mister, I read in the paper that it's costing every man, woman, and child in Canada five dollars a year for the CBC and with me and Ken and four kids, that's thirty dollars you owe us for every year we've been up here S.O.L. so pay up. That's what she'd tell them. There used to be a cablevision but it went belly-up, so there they were with most of the town wired up for something that didn't work anymore. But you can get these things you plug alongside a TV and you can tape the programme and some of the people had got together and got some of these and put them on sets with friends in Campbell River or someplace, and the friends shipped in the tapes. If it was a really good one, you could phone the guy and ask him to re-play it, like if you were on shift and you missed the one about Archie and the guy who thought he was a woman and gave mouth-to-mouth to, and you heard everyone talking about it, well, you just phoned the guy and he re-played it for you. Which was a bit boring for anyone who'd already seen it, but better than nothing. Except when the tapes were late coming in or something. Some days and evenings the screen was blank, sometimes you got half of one movie and half of another and it didn't make any sense but it was something to pass the time.

It was the weather and the country had put the cablevision belly-up; trees falling over in the wind, the rain washing the side away, always lines broken and the expense of going out, finding the break, fixing it, finding another one. And the mountains stopped the regular signal from coming in, you couldn't have an aerial higher than the mountains for heavens sake, it would fall over for sure. God, she thought for the umpteenth time, God, Eskimos in igloos in Aklavik get colour TV piped in but we're on the wrong side of the island, we're S.O.L. We don't even have a dentist, if you're lucky you can get in to see the volunteer dentist the shantymen bring in to the mission at Esperanza, but that's like waiting for the second coming, everyone from so many little towns, outports and float camps, all trying to get the kids to the same volunteer dentist who only came in on weekends anyway, and usually never the same one twice. We're S.O.L. over here, and nobody cares. Pay through the nose for taxes but what do you get. Ken said it was getting screwed without getting kissed, but they won't listen no matter what you say anyway.

During the day you could get CBC radio. Some of the programmes were good although a lot of the time you didn't have any idea what in hell they were talking about; art galleries when you don't even have a proper library, well, it doesn't mean much. Reviews of plays seem a waste of time when all you've got is one movie and it's not open every night, and if it was open you could be sure that at some point, at least once, maybe more often, the damned thing would stick or something. Once they'd sat and watched while the light burned a hole in the film and on the screen this brown scorch patch got bigger and bigger, it was kind of creepy.



(over)

And at night, well, forget it, either you got seventy-eleven stations jamming in at once and everything all jumbled, or you got static that hurt your ears. One of the kids from the high school who baby-sat for them sometimes, he said it was "skip" and had something to do with the cloud cover at night. Anyway, on afternoons, when would you get the chance to really listen to the radio? Kids in and out all day and then you had to get the vacuuming done, on afternoons she didn't vacuum until after Ken had got up, it wasn't fair, he needed his sleep. But it had to be done before the kids went to bed, that's all they'd need, an excuse to lallygag up and down the hallway; drink of water, need a pee, something in my eye, Teddy won't stop squirming...

So you do Artex, like oil paint in a tube with a ballpoint tip. Already she'd done a big wall hanging of a tiger glaring. (Ken said the be-buggered beast is cross-eyed, and they'd laughed because it almost was.) And she'd done a nice tablecloth. It faded when she'd washed it, but she'd touched it up and it was really nice. Sometimes Sally came over and they had tea and Artex'ed together, or maybe two or three of the girls would come over, and they'd maybe play cards or something. The ones with older kids had sort of built-in babysitters and could get out of a time without having to worry about a sitter. Be nice when hers were older. Although, you don't know, after Myra's girl got that infection, well, maybe it was real true, Little kids, little worries, Big kids, big worries, but what could you expect, really, with freighters here from all over everywhere and there comes a time you can't keep your kids right with you all the time, and the seamen with the run of the town while they loaded lumber and god knows what kind of infections they've got.

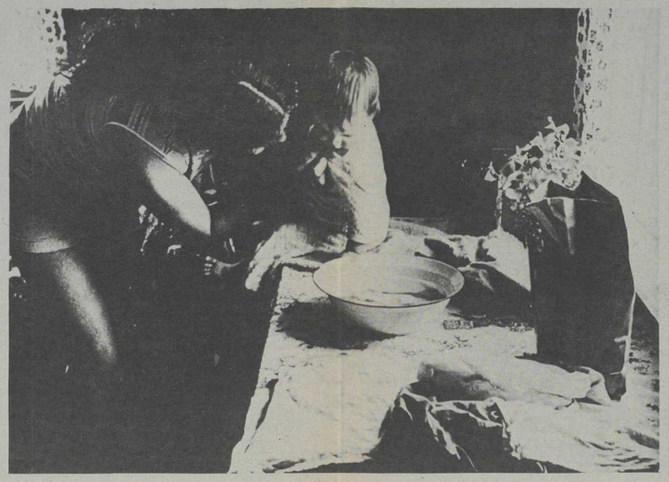
But some nights nobody came and so you just Artex'ed and maybe read or knit or crocheted. She had sweaters done for all the nieces and nephews and the afghan would be nice when it was finished. It was for Ken's mother, even he didn't know about it, a real Christmas surprise.

He'd be home in a few hours. Just a few more hours. Maybe she'd have a bath, a nice long soak with some herb-scented bath beads. Maybe wash her hair with that new no-tear shampoo, a baby shampoo made by a family-run factory in Maine or some place, all natural ingredients, PH balanced, the father invented it when his baby girl was born and you could pretty well be sure it would be good for you, a man wouldn't put together something that wouldn't be good for his own baby girl's hair. It would curl up nice and soft and she could dry it and style it with the new blow comb thing Ken gave her for her birthday. Then her pink wrapper and when he got home, well, while he showered the sawdust off and the smell of that awful stuff they soaked the boards in, he could have a beer, Ken loved to drink a beer in the shower, he said it made him feel real ritzy like those sheiks with harems and big sunken tubs full of warm water and dancing girls to wash his back. And after eight hours in that awful place, a man deserved a chance to feel as ritzy as hell on wheels.

He'd be too tired to really eat, they always were, but she knew he'd grin when she gave him a second beer and the invitation plate. Some thin sliced salami, cheese hunks, some crackers and a slice of Hovis bread with real butter. Ken loved real butter, but you couldn't afford it for everyday use so mostly they used margarine but she liked to keep a bit stored away for times when he might need just a little boost, so he could feel maybe a bit special, like. And some pickled eggs, she made her own, the price of eggs in the CoOp was godawful high when the egg was two weeks old and raw, try to buy one pickled and the price would make your appetite wither. Anyway, Ken said hers were better and it didn't take all that long to make up a dozen or so now and again. He'd grin when he saw two eggs on his invitation plate, everyone knew the jokes about pickled eggs and beer, and how they caused action. Flash all night and fart all day, although the men - and some women lately - didn't use the word Flash, they used that other, awful word. Ken would grin and say Oh God save me, work like a dog for hours on end and come home to a sex maniac. Lord God gimme another egg, Lord God gimme strength.

In the morning she'd crawl out of bed with sand under her eyelids, close the bedroom door so the early morning noise wouldn't bother him. A working man needs his sleep. Get Alex and Erin off to school, Pierre outside to play, and try to keep Teddy from making too much noise. He loved to get into the cupboards and bang the lids on the pots and pans. Or crawl into the bathroom, pull himself upright and flush, flush, flush, maybe even pull the toilet roll from the dingus and throw the roll into the bowl. Last week, he pulled over the big Christmas cactus, the first of the four kids to even think of doing that. It fell and the big blue glazed pot cracked and fell into half a dozen pieces, dirt scattered all over the carpet and leaves, arms, stems broke from the main plant and lay there, accusing her of...something. It was all she could do not to blow up, she could feel herself fighting the urge to beat him, to pummel and kick and scream God damn you, Teddy, you bastard, that plant was more than forty years old, you little shit my grandmother left that to me when she died, you dirty little...But he was so scared! The noise, the fall, the dirt, the look on her face, and his little eyes welled with tears and he said his first sentence "I so'y, mommy."

Ken came flying out of the bedroom ballsass naked and saw her crying over the broken memories, Teddy crying because mommy was crying and a mountain had crumbled. He picked Teddy up quickly, put him in bed with a popsicle for heavens sake, and it will take forever to get the stains out of the sheets, orange popsicle melting onto the pale blue sheets. Then Ken came to her, bent over, still naked, and helped her pick up the mess. He put all the broken pieces of the plant on a damp



paper towel, then he got dressed and left the trailer without saying where he was going. She vacuumed up the dirt, still crying, remembering her grandmother's parlour and the even-then huge plant sitting on a small table, and her grandmother smiling and saying It's yours when I'm gone, honey, and now it was all smashed and Teddy had cried himself to sleep and might never know what it was he had broken.

Then Ken came back in the trailer and she started crying all over again, he'd gone down to see Dawn Tanner and come back with small pots, potting soil, rooting hormone, and he held her close and teased her, hey, old woman, the trailer's only waterproof on the outside, you're gonna flood us out, come on, now, get your shit together and make me something to eat. And he sat gluing the pieces of the old pot together with Krazy Glue, and sure you could tell it had been smashed and glued back together, but who cared, he got it all fixed up and then they took all the broken off bits and potted them, and they were growing. Even the old plant was doing well, maybe the shaking up had done her some good.

One thing for sure, Teddy stayed away from it now. From it and everything else that looked as if it might tumble down and make a noise. But sure as hell, as sure as anything, you could be sure he'd find something new. You could bet dollars against the holes in doughnuts that kid would find something else to get into before long.

But that was only one day that Ken got disturbed. Usually she managed to keep it down to a dull roar and he could catch up on his rest. She made beds, dusted, started the washing, brought Pierre in, protesting, and set him on the toilet. When he was inside he was fully toilet trained but if you let him outside and he got playing with the other kids, he'd have too much fun to leave it just to go pee. Maybe she'd better drain him now, too, because he slept so soundly he'd pee the bed without waking up. Ken said the river could flood the trailer and Pierre would just roll over and sleep harder. Sometimes he'd be asleep and all around him the sheet would be wet with sweat, and she'd worried about that, someone told her it was the first sign of either diabetes or TB, night sweats, but they had him checked over and it was nothing, Ken said it was like everything else he did, he did it so completely it became hard work for him and he slept so soundly he sweat doing it.

She walked him, still asleep, down the hallway. He was too heavy to carry, a big boned boy, he'd be huge, like her brother, although god help us hopefully he'd be smarter. She pulled down his pyjamas, aimed it for him, then turned on the cold water tap in the sink. Pee Pierre, Pee for mommy, she said, and he did. Eyes shut, still asleep swaying a bit, he peed. Funny how the sound of running water made a kid pee. Adults, too, probably. She shook it for him, pulled his jammers back up and led him, sleepy but trusting, back to his bed. He'd stay dry all night, now.

Getting to sleep about three in the morning, Ken would sleep until just about noon. The kids would be home for lunch, and he'd need breakfast; damn afternoons, meals were insane! Then the two little ones had to take a nap. Finish the washing and fold the stuff from the dryer and it was time to pack Ken's "lunch" which he'd eat around eight at night, and feed him before he went to work. Some days he didn't want to eat before he left, it depended a lot on if he'd just had toast and coffee at his noon breakfast, or if he'd had bacon and eggs, you could never be sure, every day was different and yet somehow the same.

And either you went short of sleep or you never got to see your man. He'd get up and you'd be busy, and the little ones wanting this and needing that, and a couple of hours later, he'd be off to work. And if you try to go to bed early, well, she'd tried it, hoping she could get a few hours sleep and wake up feeling fresh when Ken got home, but, for one thing, after ten years of marriage, she couldn't get to sleep easily in a bed by herself. And if she did get to sleep, Ken knew as soon as he came in the door, and then he'd tip-toe around, quiet as a mouse, not wanting to disturb her because he knew if she'd managed to get to sleep alone it was because she was wiped out and weary. She'd tried napping in the afternoon, but that just gave her a headache. Unless Ken decided to nap with her and then, of course, neither of them got to sleep and he hated to get up and go to work after loving, actually she didn't much like to have to get up from a warm bed when the kids woke up from their nap and wanted juice or a pee or outside to play.

At least on days you all got up together and had at least two meals a day together and after the kids were in bed they had the evening together. The first few nights they went to bed early, he might not go to sleep right away because he was geared to the other shift, but he'd hold her and nuzzle her neck and love her slowly and softly, then hold her and whisper until she fell asleep, warm and safe, feeling his skin fill the empty bed.

After the kids left for school on days, she would start the wash, tidy up, then get the taxi and maybe go down to the CoOp when it opened. The prices made your hair stand on end, but what else do you do, drive nearly a hundred miles, part of it over a road so rough and dangerous it doesn't even count as a fire access road in case the bush flared? The CoOp wasn't really a CoOp anyway. Oh, they had a meeting now and again, but they had packers and you didn't mark your own prices on things like in a regular CoOp and maybe you got dividends back at the end of the year but it sure didn't make up for the high prices, some things nearly double what they were outside, but just try to get outside; it was like saying rice was cheaper in China than in Tahsis...so you're going to go to China to get two pounds of rice? The CoOp was all there was; in a company town the company takes care of you, but it can keep out any competition, too, so they got you one way or the other, coming or going.

She'd go into Tanner's store and look at the plants and the books. Shelves of used books, you could trade your old ones for other used ones, or, if you didn't have any to trade, you could buy used books cheaper than new ones. And the place was nice, you felt good in there. Mostly it was a catalogue outlet where you picked up your parcels and handed in your orders, but Dawn had added other things, too because the catalogue part alone didn't pay enough to make it worthwhile staying open, and she had plants and macrame hangers and she always had a smile and a bit of conversation for you.

The real book store was mostly science fiction and magazines. The science fiction was good, especially Ray Bradbury, he had a mind like a patchwork quilt and it was fun to examine each patch one at a time, book by book. But you get tired of it after a while, god, you were out of touch enough with the real world without reading about other planets. Vancouver was another planet! And God, some of those magazines. Two different ones just for gay men! Make you laugh, those bunkhouses full of bearded, rough, tough, beer drinking, swearing and fighting men, and enough of them to make it worthwhile bringing in these magazines with the pictures of dewy eyed boy-men with smooth bodies and their pricks showing, of course their pricks showing, looking either stiffly obvious or limp and useless and really very funny. She wondered how many men knew how much women snickered about the funny looking thing the men were so proud of. Even Ken, although she'd never tell him, it looked like a peanut with a hat on it. And magazines with grossly posed women turning everything dirty, at least Playboy took good pictures and made legs look like something worth having, not things to turn your stomach. Sitting spraddle legged on a stool, peeling apples, as if anybody ever would!

Spraddle legged and showing everything, damp and spread and looking like something you'd find under a rock. A lot of the men bought the stupid things. She tried to read one, once, just so she couldn't be accused of cutting it off without giving it a chance. Well, you'd have to be at least a trained acrobatic gymnast to do even half what they described. An acrobatic gymnast, and mentally ill, too! Four and five people at one time: like the old party song 'Argued all night over who had the right to do What and with Which and to Whom...' ...sillyass things.

She used to pick up a Ms. when it came in and at first she'd go home, excited, and spend the evening reading it from cover to cover, feeling that maybe finally someone would put it all into words for her, but lately, well...She'd get it and read it and Ken might tease her a bit, Hey old woman, don't you get any idea about burning your bra, huh, the government would declare a fall-out emergency...or he'd say Don't get so goddam liberated you forget your friends, eh, and wink and sort of pat his fly and laugh when she felt her face going red. Once in the pub Artie had got a bit nasty, well, Artie always did when he'd had a beer or two too many, and he'd get, like, well if it was a woman you'd say he got bitchy. And they'd been talking about maybe trying one of these groups where the women get together one night a week without the kids and everyone has to bring an article or something that would be of interest to the whole group, and nobody can talk about husbands, kids, or those kind of gossipy problems, but maybe current events or something. And Artie, he said he'd go to hell in a piss pot before he was babysitting so his old lady could fart around pretending to be somebody, and everyone was getting kind of stiff and wondering was Artie going to start fighting or something and then Ken, god what a sense of humour, he said Oh, hell Artie, don't worry about it, if my old woman gets her consciousness raised another inch, I'll need a (over

TAHSIS WOMAN (concl.)

ladder to see it, and everybody laughed and even Artie calmed down and relaxed.

But she didn't read Ms. as much now. All that American politics, and she couldn't even understand ours let alone theirs where even the dogcatcher changed if a new president got in. By the time they had their primaries and their campaign and their election it would be time for our election and it seemed like all you ever got was government people wanting a vote from you, although why the papers are so full of their politics is a question. Ken said it was so that when they took over the whole shiteree we'd know what the candidates were talking about when they came up here to get votes to go to Washington.

And all those articles on Found Women, well, how did they get LOST, all those doctors and lawyers and judges and writers, they didn't need Found. Stick out like a sore thumb in any crowd! How can you feel lost if you're a woman engineer, building a bridge or something. You felt lost when it was still two hours from quitting time, like now, and the whistle was screaming. Screaming. Screaming.

It meant someone was hurt.

Her uncle had been a rigging slinger and he'd been killed at work but at least the women at home didn't have to hear the whistle, didn't have to stand wondering Who...Who ...didn't know a thing about it until the minister and the head push showed up at the door, instead of him home for supper.

Screaming. Right now half the wives in Tahsis...the afternoon shift wives...would be standing like she was. Stiff. Staring. The dayshift wives would snuggle closer to their men; even those who hated their men and a lot of them did, still they'd cuddle closer, it was the afternoon shift wives who stood. Staring. Like her, staring at the invitation plate, the pickled eggs, the snack, the pickles that were an unspoken I Love You, staring, hating herself for the prayer she was whispering.

"Dear God, I'll be good, I promise I'll be good, just don't let it be Kenny bad hurt or dead, please god, we want another little girl, and I'll be good, I really will, I'll stop smoking and I won't swear, ever, and just don't let him be crippled, don't let it be Kenny with his back smashed, living forever in a wheelchair and feeling like a Nothing. I'll be good, I really will, just don't let it be Kenny."

Staring, waiting, staring to see who would come in the door, the charge hand and the priest, or Kenny coming toward her knowing she'd been terrified for hours. Staring at the invitation plate, please god, dear god, please dear god let someone know about this so we can be Found Women, too!...

Inez

Inez...you got knocked down and raped.
You said no, and got knocked down and raped.
His two friends helped knock you down
and they watched, laughing, while you were raped.
Still saying no, you were down, and raped.
After they left, laughing,
you got up, still saying no.
- And you got a gun...
- And you found them...
Was he still laughing?
You got up from being raped
and your gun said NO.
You got up from being raped and said NO
in a voice they understand, the voice
of history, the voice of spilled blood
and shattered bone, the voice of
torn flesh and international politics.
You got up from being raped
and your gun said NO
in a voice they understand.
I bet he heard you that time!

cam hubert

ASKING FOR IT

Dessie Woods has been in prison for almost two years now. On February 2, 1976, she was sentenced to a total of 22 years in one of the most notorious women's prisons in the south of the U.S., in Hardwick, Georgia.

Since that time she has been the victim of brutal beatings, forced druggings, and nude solitary confinement.

Her crime?
Dessie Woods dared to fight back against one of the oldest traditions in the southern U.S. - the white rape of black women. Her assailant, a white insurance salesman named Ronnie Horne, was killed with his own unlicensed gun, and as it happens in so many cases, the victim, Dessie Woods, was made to be the criminal, and the dead would-be rapist, the victim.

Dessie Woods would not have met Horne had she not been poor and black. She was hitch-hiking on a mercy mission, to demand needed medical attention for a friend.

After the case of Joan Little, it had been hoped such cases would diminish. However, that has not been the case. Third world women such as Inez Garcia, Yvonne Wanrow and Dessie Woods are three of the cases which have gained wide publicity. There must be many others, which have not.

The U.S.National Committee to Defend Dessie Woods is located at P.O.Box 92084, Atlanta, Georgia, 30314,USA.

On Wednesday, July 20, an L.A. judge overturned a decision in a rape case which had convicted the rapist. The judge wrote:

"The lone female hitch-hiker, in the absence of an emergency situation, as a practical matter, advises all who pass by that she is willing to enter the vehicle with anyone who stops and in so doing advertises that she has less concern for the consequences than the average female.

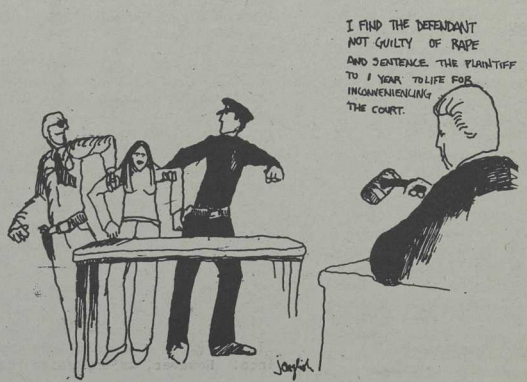
Under such circumstances, it would not be unreasonable for a man in the position of the defendant here to believe that the female would consent to sexual relations."

"We find it outrageous that a judge can make such a decision", said Joan Robbins of the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women. "We feel this decision gives a green light to men who pick up female hitch-hikers to assault, rape or molest them".

West German Protests

There are 35,000 reported rapes every year in West Germany. Since the first torchlight anti-rape protest in March '77, three more women's demonstrations against violence against women have occurred.

The demonstrations of May 8 and June 18 were spontaneously organized within 48 hours of reported rapes of individual women in West Berlin. (OOB)



B.C.F.W. Standing Committee Meeting

This year's Standing Committee of B.C.F.W. held its final meeting in Quesnel, July 15, 16 and 17.

The Committee passed motions of protest against Bill 65 (VRB) and Bill 68. (Bill 68 wipes out a collective agreement of workers at Notre Dame U., and, like Bill 65, it is an ominous case of union-busting.)

The Committee also discussed the provincial government's interest in creating a position within government for the funding, evaluation of Rape Relief Centres. An ad-hoc committee was struck to prepare a position paper on the whole issue of funding. The committee has in turn arranged A DAY OF DEBATE RE:FUNDING. This will be held August 21st at the Cultural Exchange, 217 B East 16th Ave. See the flyer in this issue for details.

p.s. these are only highlights. For the real goods, read the minutes...

ABOVE AND BELOW: Pictures of B.C.F.W. luminaries, taken by Susan Sanderson.

Puerto Rico has the highest incidence of sterilization in the world. A 1968 study showed that more than 35% of the women of childbearing age have been sterilized.

Puerto Rican women are also the youngest in the world to be sterilized. Two thirds are between the ages of 20 and 49. The key agency carrying out sterilizations is the Family Planning Agency of Puerto Rico. It receives $750,000 of its $900,000 budget from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Unemployment is 30% in Puerto Rico. For the U.S. controlling the population of Puerto Rico is an attempt to divide the country and limit political unrest so that superprofits for U.S. corporations will not be threatened by unrest. (CESA/Big Mama)

US

Sterilizations in the U.S. have increased at the staggering rate of 1 million a year. Some 20% of all Black married women and 25% of Native American women have been sterilized. New York City Council voted recently to curb the increasing incidence of sterilization abuse in that city. The new guidelines require all hospitals and doctors to wait 30 days after consent forms - in the patient's native language - are signed before the operation is performed. They also require that the patient understand that the operation is permanent. These guidelines, if implemented, will curb the population control forces that promote sterilization as a permanent method for containing the birth rate, particularly of Black, Puerto Rican and other Third World people in the U.S. Organizations sponsored by the U.S. government, like International Women's Year Committee, are pushing population control in the name of "women's liberation". At the same time, continued threats to women's right to abortion (see last month's Kinesis) force more and more women to "choose" sterilization. (Guardian)

BC

Women in B.C. are turning to sterilization as a form of birth control at more than double the rate for men reversing a trend set in the early 70s.

Figures released by the medical services department in Victoria show that 10,857 women underwent tubal ligation in the medical program's fiscal year ending March 31, 1977, an increase of 4,500 in the past 6 years.

The figure is double the number of vasectomies performed on men. *(Vancouver Sun)*

Provincial Government Funding—Rumour and Fact

In last month's Kinesis, all residents of British Columbia received a flyer mentioning that the provincial government was considering the establishment of a position within the government which would evaluate women's groups and act as a liaison person between women's groups and the government.

Now we learn that the government of B.C. is considering extending Rape Relief services to all areas of the province and, to this end, they are contemplating setting up a government position to coordinate B.C. Rape Relief centres. This means that their plans are somewhat narrower than we first were given to believe.

This the response from the B.C. Coalition of Rape Relief centres:

The Coalition of B.C.Rape Relief Centres would be pleased to receive assistance to extend Rape Relief services throughout the province. However, we emphasize that we are not prepared to consider the setting up of a government position to duplicate work that is already being done by the Coalition. We do not wish to spend the taxpayers' money twice over.

At this time, the Coalition is made up of women who work co-operatively out of Kamloops, Vancouver, Victoria and Nanaimo, and are funded jointly by the Ministries of Health, Attorney General and Human Resources. Chronic lack of staff and funding make it impossible to add additional services without additional monies. Each Rape Relief staff person is already working an average of 80 hours per week to meet the needs of the immediate communities.

Every person who has been sexually assaulted has the right to information and support. The Coalition of B.C.Rape Relief Centres expects the money from the provincial government to move ahead in providing services to every person in the province of British Columbia.

BOOKS

The following books need to be reviewed. If you are interested in doing one or more, please contact Mercia at 736-3746. We aren't expecting an academic review - just your viewpoint on whether or not the book is feminist. Please keep reviews short, one page or less if possible.

The Lesbians Home Journal
The Lavender Herring - lesbian essays
The Jewish Woman in America
Maria Tallchief - biography
Aviation - a herstory of women in aviation
The Female Eye - photography by Canadian women
Country Women - a handbook for the new farmer
These Days)
Forty Acres and A Mule) poetry
Sapphic Songs)
All Our Lives: A Woman's Songbook
Surviving the Male Mid-Life Crisis - a male perspective
Beyond God the Father - feminist revolution and evolutionary philosophy
Birth
Prepared Childbirth
Controlled Childbirth
The Rights of the Pregnant Parent
Womanhood Media Supplement
Media Sexploitation
Me, Myself and I) personal
SuperSelf) development
The Horrors of the Half-Known Life - 19th century male attitudes to women
Education - herstory of women in education
But Can You Type? - Canadian universities status of women report
Women: Menopause and Middle Age
Population Target - policies of population control in Latin America.

Childbirth: Is Hospital the Right Place?

IMMACULATE DECEPTION by Suzanne Arms

Published by San Francisco Book Co. /Houghton Mifflin, 1975

Reviewed by Gina Dougan, Fraser Lake Women's Centre

How complacent women are. Childbirth is our own experience. It happens rarely to each of us. Yet we have allowed it to become more rewarding to doctors and hospital staff than for ourselves. We allow ourselves to be made extremely uncomfortable, drugged, cut and torn, all of which is dangerous to ourselves and our new babies. We believe we are safe because it is done in the hallowed and sterile atmosphere of hospitals and doctors who are well paid to do this.

In reading Immaculate Deception, we see that childbirth is really a normal function of the body of a healthy woman - how physically and psychologically rewarding it is for both mother and babe, when a child is born with the help of a sympathetic and qualified midwife and a woman in control of her body.

According to the author, Ms. Arms, "Today scientists are beginning to report evidence that supports what many women have felt for generations: that where and under what conditions a woman gives birth greatly affects the course of her labour, the normalcy of her delivery, the health of her baby, and the lifelong relationship of mother and child. Women have always felt a need to find a 'safe' place for birth, safe from harm and disturbance. The hospital, we have been assured, is that safe place. But we are beginning to wonder.

"The pregnant woman in America today actually knows little more about her coming birth than the child in the street. She can probably recount many stories about other people's births, including at least one chilling tale of a friend who supposedly 'wouldn't be alive today' if it had not been for a quick-thinking obstetrician who intervened to save the day. But information about what really goes on inside the hospital stops at the front door. In making this book I have tried to show what has happened to birth in American hospitals, what we have lost in our national push for progress, and what alternatives to current practice still exist. Childbirth is one of the most profound, personal experiences a woman can have. Yet our present system of uniform care does not allow her the freedom to choose her own way of birth and reclaim the experience as her own."

After reading this book I felt sad that it is too late for me to have enjoyed the births of my own children to the fullest. But I feel so glad that my own two daughters will have this awareness available to them. How terrible it is that the few midwives in America who have had the courage to help women with their birth experiences have been hounded by sharp tongues and extremely unfair laws.

People are the masters of their own destiny and women should be especially so in childbirth. I hope this book is made easily available to all people. It will make the young extremely enthusiastic about the future of the family unit but it will make older people sad that they couldn't have done more in the bonding of the family unit.

A Woman Should Have the Right to Choose

"I felt sad that it was too late for me to have enjoyed the births of my own children to the fullest."

The Complete Book of Midwifery, by Barbara Brennan, C.N.M. and Joan Rattner Heilman (Toronto: Clarke Irwin, 1977), $5.95.

Reviewed by Jane Evans

It's certainly a tremendously encouraging title, but this book is not the answer for those who imagine that giving birth with a midwife means giving birth in the security of one's own home. This is "the modern woman's guide to a hospital alternative in childbirth." Written by a nurse-midwife, it's a step in the right direction but some of the old practices of hospital delivery - stirrups, episiotomies - are still perpetuated. While we can see the necessity for even such things as induced labour from time to time, our aim should surely be to get the healthy mother and child as far away as possible from the alienation of the stark hospital atmosphere.

The infant mortality rate in the U.S. (in spite of the Canadian publisher, this is an American book) is significantly higher than those European countries which rely on the services of trained midwives. Brennan is a nurse midwife who has received the same obstetrical training as a doctor and is affiliated with a major U.S. hospital. The practices she describes are, while not ideal, miles ahead of anything we have in B.C. Here, home delivery is against the law, and a doctor will not attend no matter what the emergency.

For the pregnant woman who wants the reassurance of reading about nearly natural delivery, this is a pleasant book, but for the real stuff, Leboyer's Birth Without Violence or even dear old Grantly Dick-Read are still miles ahead.

Friends:

If your review has not appeared in Kinesis yet, don't feel neglected! We have lots of reviews on our files right now, and we'll be printing them in the coming months.

I'M NOT MAD, I'M ANGRY

Summer McGee

Women Look at Psychiatry, ed. Dorothy E. Smith and Sara J. David. (Press Gang Publishers, 1975)

This book critically examines the role psychiatry has played in the oppression of women, demands that we re-assess our concepts of mental health and mental illness, of madness and anger and presents the reader with alternatives - both political and personal.

Feminism As Therapy, Anica Vesel Mander and Anne Kent Rush (Random House, Bookwords, 1974)

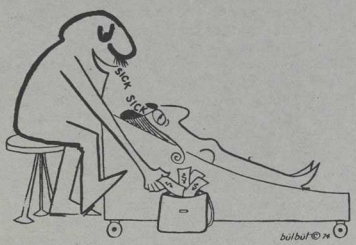
Discussion of feminist therapy, Freud was confused, work, play, politics, sex roles, anger, female spirituality. Presented in a very down home real way, basic consciousness raising book.

Women and Madness, Phyllis Chesler (Avon Book, 1973)

The book details the damage psychiatry has done to women and offers valuable documentation and new insights. It also challenges the definition of madness itself.

Psychoanalysis and Women, ed. Jean Baker Miller, M.D. (Penguin Books, Inc., 1973)

These essays by sixteen eminent psychoanalysts revise Freud's long-standing, phallocentric view of women. Karen Horney, Alfred Adler, Clara Thompson, Gregory Zilboorg, Mary Jane Sherfey and others achieve a more realistic picture of the human female as they dispel



myths about dependency, biological determinism, penis envy, and masochism.

PERIODICALS

"Therapy: Two Views", Wenday Barrett and Tom Sandborn, Makara, March 1976

An interview with Wendy Barrett working with Cold Mountain and Tom Sandborn's view of radical therapy. Very basic points regarding the intertwining of politics and therapy. Valuable comments regarding the importance of feminism in therapy.

"Psychology of Women", ed. Marylee Stephenson, Women in Canada (Toronto: New Press, 1973)

Presents a general discussion of the effect of sexism on the psychology of women.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Anti-Psychiatry Bibliography, Kathy Frank (Mental Patients Association, 2146 Yew Street, Vancouver, 1974)

NEWSLETTERS

Canadian Psychiatric Association Task Force on Women's Issues Newsletter, c/o Dr. Sue Stephenson, 717 W. 10th Avenue, Vancouver.

Newsletter reports on coming events, workshops, liaisons and local news from across Canada as well as listing suggested resource material.

"In A Nutshell" Newsletter, Mental Patients Association, 2146 Yew St. Vancouver.

Various articles on patients' rights and political occurrences and also contains poetry and the patient's viewpoint.

PACKET

"Therapy Information Packet For Women", KNOW INC., P.O. Box 86031, Pittsburgh, PA, Women in Transition Inc. 1975.

A good feminist perspective on the whole area of mental health.

Listings on Psychiatry and Oppressed Groups - women, homosexuals, racial and ethnic groups, welfare recipients and the poor. Other subjects: the politics of sanity and madness. Dates of publications are from 1971 to 1973.

Women: Sexuality, Psychology and Psychotherapy, A Bibliography, Emily A. Carey, Womanspace, 636 Beacon St. #406, Boston, MA, May 1976, $1.00

An inclusive bibliography of papers, articles, and texts on all aspects of women and the scope of mental health. Contains only American publications.

RAPE IS A 4 LETTER WORD

Summer McGee

Rape Prevention Handbook - Breaking the Hold, Vancouver Rape Relief, August 1977. Note: This is a new book, forthcoming in August.

A feminist analysis of rape; includes discussion of who rapes, why rapes occur, the social rules of rape, and a historical analysis of rape.

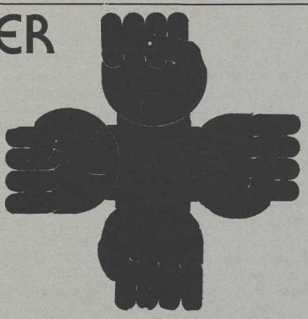
LOCAL INFORMATION

"A Study of Rape in Canada: phases C, D, and E", A Report to the Donner Foundation, Loreene M. G. Clark and Debra Lewis (Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto), 205 pp., 1977.

The research studies 378 of a total 420 rape cases reported to the Vancouver Police Department between 1970 and 1974. The report examines victims, offenders, and treatment by the judicial system. They conclude that major attitudinal and legislative changes must occur if there is any hope of getting more victims to report offences and more offenders convicted.

CANADIAN PERSPECTIVE

"The Treatment of Rape and Rape Victims within the Canadian Criminal Justice System: Failure, Facts, and Theory", Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto, 64 pp., 1977.



Report studies reported rape cases to the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department. This report examines the whole process from reporting a rape to conviction. They conclude "what is clear from this data is that there is a bias which operates throughout the entire criminal justice system to ensure that some and only some rape cases will be prosecuted (p. 29)." This is an excell- analysis of rape and the "dismal failure of the Canadian criminal justice system (p. 4)."

FORTHCOMING - WORTHWHILE

RAPE: The Price of Coercive Sexuality, Loreene M. G. Clark and Debra Lewis, September 1977.

The empirical data is based on rapes reported to the Toronto Police Department in 1970. This is an excellent Canadian analysis on rape. They emphasize that rape is a physical assault and not a sexual offence and that the Criminal Code should definitely be amended.

Rationalization of Sexual Offences in the Criminal Code, Advisory Council on the Status of Women, Box 1541, Station B, Ottawa, K1P 5R5 (Sept. 22/76)

"Present legislation regarding rape and other sexual offences even with recent amendments, does not fully reflect societal norms, nor does it ensure the individual autonomy, self-determination and self-respect to which we believe every individual is entitled. Without further reform of the Criminal Code relating to sexual offences, the rights and interests of neither victim nor accused can be upheld (p. 3)." Recommendations are made for amending the Criminal Code. Worthwhile for getting acquainted with the Criminal Code.

AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE

*Against Our Will: Men, Women and Rape, Susan Brownmiller, Bantam Books.

Excellent, definitive book on rape.

*The Politics of Rape: The Victim's Perspective, Diana E. H. Russell, Stein and Day - hardback publishers but available in paperback.

Includes 22 interviews with rape victims. Good in communicating

(turn to col 1., p.20)

Our Hon. Members

Racism and Sexism Raise Their Ugly Heads

June 28: Ms. Pat Jordan (North Okanagan) of Rosemary Brown (Vancouver-Burrard): "I wonder why that member doesn't go back to Jamaica!"

June 16: Charles Barber (Victoria) speaking of the Social Credit hiring of three women as tourist counsellors for the Marguerite: 'The point of this hiring was to place aboard the Marguerite three young women in attractive costumes who, with bright smiles and winsome looks would proceed to talk to the tourists...all of which sound very good."

June 29: Premier Bennett: "Although the member for Burnaby North (Eileen Dailly) is one of the members that is worthwhile looking at on the other side of the House..."

Sex Discrimination in Schools

On June 23, the Leader of the P.C. Party, the Hon.Scott Wallace, questioned Education Minister McGeer: "...Can the Minister tell the House where he has on his staff any person or persons actively involved in initiating studies or making recommendations on the subject of sex discrimination in the schools, and if so, what has been accomplished?"

Hon. Mr. McGeer: "The answer to the question is yes, it's a concern of the whole curriculum development division. It's a policy of the provincial government to address itself to any questions of sexual discrimination that occur in the schools and we are actively prusuing the problem. Now I must add, Mr. Speaker, that of the some 300 pieces of mail that arrive each day in the Ministry office, in the past year, coming across my desk, there has not been one single written complaint..."

As Scott Wallace later produced a carbon copy of a letter to McGeer from VSW complaining about sexism in school texts, McGeer must have been telling at least something less than the truth.

Sexism in education is a widely documented fact of which any educational professional should be aware. Human rights officers are now investigating blatant examples of sex discrimination in Lower Mainland schools. McGeer's dismissal of sexism as a non-problem, on the very day he was being lobbied by a province-wide coalition of concerned women, is outrageous. Write McGeer and tell him so. Send Scott Wallace a copy. ALSO, WRITE SCOTT WALLACE AND THANK HIM FOR HIS SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE.

Women and Pornography

On June 23, Rosemary Brown (NDP, Vancouver-Burrard) spent some time questioning Attorney General Garde Gardom on the subject of pronography. As chief law enforcement officer, the Attorney General, said Ms. Brown, should accept some responsibility. The basic point made by Brown was that pornography has become closely linked with violence, and that the entertainment industry is making a mint out of violence against women.

"...I think the thing that really alarms us is the whole nexus between pornography and violence. It's passed out of the phase now where it's simply a matter of exploiting women's bodies; it's reached intc the arena where they're being exploited in a violent way...if pornography was just a private fantasy publicly shared, we could probably say to ourselves: 'Let us leave it alone. It's a bunch of dirty-minded old men having fun...if they're that stupid, let them at it.' But it's not that any more. It's in the public arena now. Those of us who are women, and those of us who are the parents of women or the grandparents of women, have to demand more from that Attorney General than this...I demand on behalf of my sisters...that the Attorney General do something about this filth linked with violence which is degrading us...in this province."

WRITE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, GARDE GARDOM, AND DEMAND THAT HE TAKE ACTION TO CURB THE FLOW OF MEDIA VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

the Injustice System

On June 23, Rosemary Brown (NDP, Vancouver-Burrard) asked the Attorney General, Garde Gardom, to address the problems of women within the prison system in B.C. She began by pointing out the lack of any real vocational and rehabilitative services for women in prison. "...When I visited prisons right here in the Lower Mainland, in one prison there was a couple of sewing machines and that was all. Absolutely no attempt had been made to help these women complete their education (26% of these women in prison have less than a Grade 8 education, only 6% have finished high school)...Most of the women in Oakalla were native Indian women, and most of them...were in there on drug-related charges... All of them were poor...I found that 46% of them were under age 25.

"Why do so many of the prostitutes end up being incarcerated and so few of the men who use the services of these prostitutes ever get called to justice?

"There is something basically wrong with the system...(Another) thing that really bothered me was what happened to the babies born to a number of these women who were in prison...if there wasn't a family unit that was ready and willing to take the child...then the child disappeared into the whole network of the welfare bureaucracy...

Provincially

THE MAJOR DISASTER IN THE LEGISLATURE recently is reported upon at length in other sections of this month's Kinesis. This is Bill 65, the Bill which would, if passed, abolish to Vancouver Resources Board. Gordon Gibson (Leader, Liberal), Scott Wallace (Leader, P.C.) and members of the N.D.P. are united in their opposition to this Bill.

picture: Members of the Province-Wide Education Lobby which met with McGeer to give him some CR on sexism recently.

"The other thing that really terrifies me was when I read the Solicitor General's statistics that indicated that between January 1970 and December 1973 there was a 179% increase in the number of women ending up in prison." That number represents an increase in trafficking, possession and prostitution. Half of the 4,000 people sent to prison each year are incarcerated for crimes against property, not against people.

Brown also alluded to the lack of grievance procedures for women prisoners, the lack of adequate physical and mental health care.

Rosemary Brown called for "an advisory council of concerned women who.. will deal with the whole issue concerning women in the prisons, the whole business of vocational training, educational training and the whole justice system as it applies to women."

VSW SUPPORTS THE SETTING UP OF SUCH A COMMITTEE. WRITE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, GARDE GARDOM, AND URGE THAT HE CREATE SOME MEANINGFUL JOB TRAINING AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR WOMEN WITHIN THE PRISON SYSTEM.

Rape in B.C.

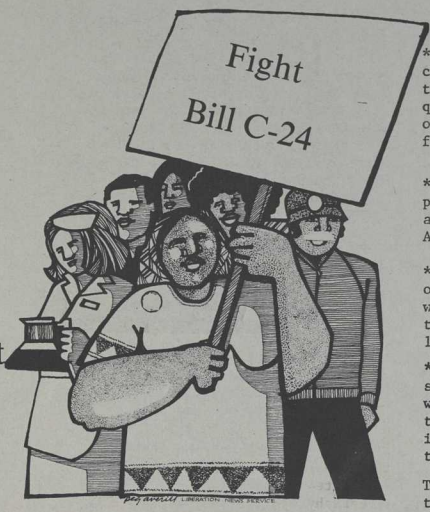
On June 22, Rosemary Brown (NDP, Vancouver-Burrard) asked the Attorney General, Garde Gardom, for some "real commitment to the unified family court in terms of money", and for up-to-date statistics on how many rape cases went through the courts and how they were disposed of.

Gardom responded with a summary of his government's actions in the area of rape relief. He mentioned the funding of the coalition of rape relief centres ($125,000). He also alluded to the 1976 changes in the criminal code, which will allow for "closed hearings in rape cases, changes of venue, restrictions on the publication of the woman's name in newspaper, and restriction in cross-examination of the woman about prior sexual conduct." Further, he cited the educational project in rape prevention, for which $15,000 has been raised.

WRITE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, GARDE GARDOM, AND EXPLAIN TO HIM THAT RAPE IS ASSAULT AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH. While the restriction of cross-examination is a progressive proposal, any moves to make rape trials "Hush, Hush" further confuse the issue and add to the sexist notion that women should be ashamed of being raped.

Meanwhile, Back in Ottawa

The Federal Government has just passed Bill C-24. This amends the Immigration Act in an extremely oppressive way. Also, this session, they amended the UIC regulations and made it more difficult for workers to qualify for benefits. Both measures make like even tougher for ordinary people in Canada, both are indicative of the fact that, as the economy worsens, those in power will attempt to shift the burden of crisis on to the backs of the general populace.



New Immigration Act

Bill C 24 means that:

* there is no restriction on the arbitrary conditions an immigration officer can set when people enter Canada. They can be deported for any viclations. (Section 14)

* immigrants will be photographed and fingerprinted by immigration without committing any offence. (Section 111.2)

* immigration and police will not need a warrant to arrest immigrants, just on "suspicion". (Sec. 104.2)

* the state will be able to detain immigrants for indefinite periods of time without bringing them to court trial. (Sec. 104.3)

* the state will be able to require Canadian citizens and residents to obtain exit visas before leaving the country. (Sec. 115)

* ANY person, including a Canadian citizen, can be compelled to provide the state with ANY information "required" (pertaining to immigrants or immigration) , or face jail and fines. (Section 95)

* any immigrant may be deported for political reasons on the basis of a SECRET report (Sec. 40.1) WITHOUT APPEAL.

* immigrants may be deported simply on SUSPICION that they are associated with any organization that is "LIKELY" to engage in acts of violence (Sec. 19.1g) NO PROOF NECESSARY.

* immigrants may be deported if the state considers that they are "LIKELY" while in Canada, to actively support the struggles against dictatorships in their homelands or ANY other country. (Sec 19.1f)

The above points were summarised by the Vancouver Committee Against Bill C-24. This group is fighting the Bill. You can contact them at P.O. Box 69646, Station "K" Vancouver. Write and ask to sign their nationwide petition.

Write to your MP and to the Minister of Immigration (Bud Cullen) protesting the Bill.

The Family in The New Society

The latest publication of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women (ACSW) has been getting lots of flak.

The booklet is called The Family in the New Society. According to newspaper reports, the issues the book exposes - the rising divorce rates, discrimination against women and wives, and the available alternatives to the nuclear family, are considered too "negative" by the majority of council members.

The One-parent Family

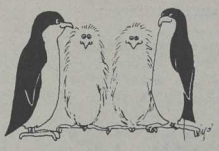
The vice-chairperson, Win Loewen, has been quoted as saying that "the majority of council members felt it was not a positive representation of the family."

The Communal Family

It's very hard to imagine what the fuss can be about. The booklet carries a section on the Liberators, Controllers and Preservers of the nuclear family. The Preservers - the Aiders and Abettors are television, and the education system: "Television is perhaps the worst offender for in the majority of 'family' shows, women are shown in traditional roles...The second worst preserver of bygone attitudes is to be found in our educational system."

The Childless Couple

Illustrations by Madeleine Beaudry.



The Traditional Family

The booklet contends that the right to be married should be accompanied by an equal right not to remain married. There has been no new divorce reform since 1968, it comments, and lists seven desired reforms.

The section concludes: "There is little evidence to support the contention that children are better off in a two-parent unhappy home than in a well-adjusted, economically stable one-parent home and the current myths to this effect should be dispelled."

Like other publications in this ACSW 'person papers' series, the booklet contains many interesting statistics. For example, in 1975, for families headed by women, the average income was $6,389. In 1974, for families headed by men, the average income was $15,529.

In addition, the booklet outlines various lifestyles - the childless couple, the one-parent family, the traditional family, the communal family, the common-law family. "The family headed by a woman alone with all the attendant psychological and emotional problems, is the most disadvantaged unit in Canada."

LIMITED COPIES AVAILABLE AT VSW

illus. from the book

K.C.I.A.—Rape

SUPPORT GROUP IN JAPAN AIDS KOREAN WOMAN RAPED BY KCIA

New York (LNS)--Korean residents of Japan have formed a support group to help publicize the case of a Korean woman tortured and raped by the Korean CIA (KCIA), the Pak Jung Hi regime's secret police recently implicated in the bribery of U.S. Congress members.

The woman, 27-year-old Kwon Mal Ja, was born in Japan, where there is a substantial Korean minority as a result of Japanese domination of the Korean peninsula from 1910 to 1945. Kwon went to South Korea to learn the language and customs of her people, but was kidnapped by KCIA agents in August, 1975.

Kwon was held prisoner for ten days. After hearing the KCIA discussing whether to kill her if she refused to give names, she finally signed an 'affidavit' they had prepared as evidence in the 'spy case'.

Kwon Mal Ja was tortured repeatedly and frequently threatened with rape and other sexual abuses by members of the KCIA, who sometimes removed all their clothes for the torture sessions.

After she was released, one of the agents followed her home to her apartment in Seoul. He then assaulted and raped her, at the same time promising that "you will never be taken to the CIA and your human rights will be guaranteed."

Kwon emphasizes that her case is not unique; "A great many, indeed, had similar experiences. They were tortured and humiliated.

"In the ROK (Republic of Korea - Seoul regime)," she says, "a mere mention of re-unification is punishable by death."

Rape Resources (cont.)

from page 17

personal experiences and doing away with many myths.

The Sexual Abuse of Children: A Feminist Point of View", Rape: The First Sourcebook for Women, N.Y. Radical Feminists, ed. Noreen Connell and Cassandra Wilson, New American Library.

An excellent and powerful article on the subject. Coherently presents the facts, reviews available literature, and puts forth a strong analysis of why this phenomenon exists. There are other articles, interviews and papers that are good in the Sourcebook.

*Rape, Carol Horos, Dell.

A practical book concentrating on self-defense and post-rape care. It has a very complete section on exactly what to expect and what to demand from hospitals, police and courts.

*Against Rape, Andrea Medea and Kathleen Thompson, Ferrar, Straus and Giroux.

Also a practical book on what to do after rape, and on self-defense. Only book on rape to devote an entire chapter to "the little rapes": street harassments and attempted pick-ups.

*Rape: The All-American Crime, Susan Griffin, KNOW, Inc., P.O. Box 86031, Pittsburg, PA 15221, $.40.

The first major analysis on rape; it is still the best short piece for consciousness raising on the subject.

*Sexual Assault: Confronting Rape in America, Nancy Gager and Cathleen Schurr, Grosset and Dunaap.

A recent publication; appears thorough, with good analysis.

"Sexual Abuse Begins at Home", Ms. Magazine, Ellen Weber, April 1977, pp. 64-67.

Some relevant information regarding sexual abuse in families and its prevalence. Destroys myth that these are unusual, isolated incidents.

*Included in a bibliography printed in Women's Press, Portland, Oregon.●

Italian Rape Case (cont.)

from page 7.

While discussion raged within the women's movement, Claudia's third and final hearing took place, April 15. Nicola Vinciprova, the youth who had first befriended Claudia, was charged only with public obscenity, not rape, because Claudia had agreed to go with him on a bike-ride. Another, equally significant slap in the face for women was the abhorrent defense made on behalf of the boys, reflecting the social mentality women are up against. Their lawyers stated, "My clients didn't know such sexual acts were against the law!" ; "My client was the last. If he'd refused, they would have thought he was impotent." "Boys will be boys and when a girl likes to go out and have a good time, she has to expect trouble." The concluding lawyer accused Claudia of having a phallic fetish...

When Claudia was released from hospital on April 21, she escaped into hiding because she feared for her life. It was her employer, Vito Gemma, who had set up the second rape in order to terrorize her into keeping quiet about the prostituion. During the eight months she had been in Gemma's house, he had forced her, and other young women, to take part in cruel sexual orgies. One woman had gone blind after being violently beaten up.

The grotesque details of the case only reinforce the more squalid circumstances of women's oppression. A single court case will not change this reality, nor will a campaign to end prostitution. Feminists must fight to end violence in the streets, at home and in the work place by fighting on all fronts to create an economic system which will provide socially productive lives for women and men.●

FRAME UP

The murder trial of two Filipina nurses, LEONIE PEREZ and FILIPINA (P.I.) NARCISO concluded recently. Both women have been convicted on two counts of murder, seven of attempted poisoning, one of conspiracy to poison, stemming from a rash of mysterious deaths at the Ann Arbor Veterans Hospital in the summer of 1975. The prosecution admits to having only circumstantial evidence, many of the 70 odd government witnesses have been unable to corroberate the prosecution's version of events, one state witness claims she was offered immunity from the same charges plus a job promotion if she testified against Narciso and Perez, the Hospital's Chief Pathologist testified that one of the victims had none of the poison Pavulon in his liver or blood and the other victim's autopsy report was unexplainedly missing, both women have impeccable professional records, and most recently come to light, is a psychiatrist's report that Nursing Supervisor Betty Jakim confessed to the killings before she committed suicide in February. Everything in their case indicates that Narciso and Perez are victims of a truly criminal justice system that's looking for a scapegoat in two Third World women who are foreign to the workings of the American legal system●

Mozambique (cont.)

from page 8

of their husbands and children and exploited them at work. Colonialism very often left prostitution as the only means of livelihood.

This feeling of inferiority holds women back from participating in meetings and even family discussions - in front of their husbands and children, women feel unable to express their own opinions. Their inhibitions and lack of initiative in turn produce an inability to take on responsible jobs or to break away from this conditioning.

Women whose feelings of inferiority and dependence in relation to men are deeply embedded, are incapable of conceiving of life without men.

SINGLE MOTHERS AND DIVORCED WOMEN

Single mothers are frequently isolated, and when they do not have the necessary technical skills to get a job to provide for themselves and their children, the preconditions for prostitution are fulfilled.

The divorced woman, like the single mother, is isolated in our society, regardless of the causes of her situation. Whether or not she has children, the only recourse open to the abandoned wife is prostitution or servitude either in her family household or in a new union. The abandoned wife will go and live with the first man who will accept her because she is afraid of being alone. There is a tendency for such men to exploit her, treating her no more than a servant with children.

The OMM must encourage women to win their economic independence. This is the basis for their affirmation as useful people, capable of fulfillment within society.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The OMM must realize that the ideological campaign should be persistent and continuous. The material conditions must be created whereby women can liberate themselves from their enslaved condition. The Second Conference believes that the communal villages and cooperatives provide such a basis, because through them women can be integrated into collective work. They will have the same duties and rights as men, and the product of their labour will benefit themselves and the community.

(From Union Wage)

MFP LNS story and graphic

pic: PEREZ AND NARCISO

How to Survive on UIC

"When dealing with the Unemployment Insurance Commission you can never say definitely what is going on." So says Allan MacLean, a lawyer with the Vancouver Community Legal Assistance Society.

But officials of the Commission answer that people claiming benefits (claimants) often don't pay attention to the informational material the Commission provides in six languages. Tony Strachan, an information officer for the UIC, complains that the gutters outside Commission offices are often strewn with this material.

Wherever the truth may lie, it's safe to say that applying for unemployment benefits can be baffling.

First question: who can get benefits? According to the present legislation you have to work and pay premiums for at least eight weeks to be eligible. (Bill C-27, now before Parliament, would stretch this period to twelve weeks.) But you must have been working in what is called "insurable employment", and this is decided not by the Unemployment Insurance Commission but by the Department of National Revenue.

Government sponsored make-work projects are particularly tricky in this regard. There was the sad case of a young couple who worked on a government sponsored project a few years ago, paid premiums, then collected benefits after the project terminated. They were ordered by UIC to pay back $3,000 when National Revenue decided that the job was not "insurable".

You are not eligible for unemployment insurance if you are self-employed or employed by your spouse. Nor are you eligible if you are 65 or older.

It is your employer's responsibility to deduct your premiums from your pay cheque.

When you want to claim for benefits you can pick up the application kit at your nearest UIC office. The kit contains various pamphlets which you should not throw in the gutter.

According to MacLean, you should be very carefuly in filling out the application form. If, for example, you have quit your job, and your explanation for quitting is not satisfactory as far as UIC officials are concerned, you can lose up to six weeks of benefits. That is, they will disqualify you from money for six weeks if they think you quit qithout "just cause".

Woman in Unemployment Office

The June unemployment figures for B.C. are out: for men, 6.7% and for women, 9.7%.

"For example," says MacLean, "if your doctor told you that you would definitely have a nervous breakdown if you stayed on at a certain job, that's probably just cause. If you quit because you don't like the colour of your office, that probably is not."

According to the law, your former employer has five days from your last day of work to provide you with your Record of Employment Certificate, your "separation slip". This certificate tells the Commission how much money you were making and how long you worked. Since you will get about 66% of your weekly earnings in benefits, the Commission needs to know how much you earned in a typical week.

If, for some reason, you don't have the certificate when you are ready to file your claim, file anyway. Since there is a two-week waiting period for every claimant, the important thing is for you to establish your claim first; worry about the details during the waiting period. But keep after your exboss to give you your Record of Employment.

Next Month: Regular, Sickness and Maternity Benefits. For a copy of the booklet Unemployment Insurance, contact Vancouver People's Law School. Booklets cost 50¢ each, plus postage. Write to 2110-C W. 12th Avenue, Vancouver or phone 734-1126.

facts: Send the Turkey Some

1. H.P.E.A. (Handicapped Persons Income Assistance). Those recipients who live in subsidized or institutionalized housing now receiving a mere $265 a month have had no increase since January 1976 although cost of living index has increased since that time.

2. The Income Assistance $40 shelter overage recently announced by the Minister, brings non-subsidized housing recipients "up to the 'potential' monthly income of $305; those who are between ages 60 to 64 must pay 25% of this '$40 shelter overage' themselves!"

3. Of the $40 shelter overage promised by the Minister on July 1, 1977, 25% of it must be paid out of the recipient's $175 monthly income.

4. Recipients of Income Assistance must endure a 4 month waiting period before qualifying for $40 rental overage. This applies across the board: singles, couples, and families.

5. The October 1, 1976 substantial cutbacks to the hanicapped were not restored until July 1, 1977 (nothing retroactive), despite Minister's assurances to the contrary.

6. The GAIN (formerly Mincome) Legislation Section 8 which allows cost of living indexing in the Act has NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED. Minister states matter "has been under study" since September 1976! C.O.L. increase since mid-1975 has risen 27%.

7. Promise of "Universal Pharmacare" has not been fulfilled. Benefits do not accrue until first $100 per year are paid. What about working poor who make $3.00 an hour? Also o it does not cover needles for diabetics, asprins for arthritics, etc.c.

8. Despite urgent pleading, residential hotels and boarding houses in metropolitan core areas of B.C. cities are not covered by the Landlord and Tenant Act. Tenants have NO RENT CONTROL PROTECTION. Some pay $115 out of $175 income for rent!

9. Vancouver City Council's recommended basic social welfare income is $230 (single), $340 (couples) - compared to present Human Resources $175 (single), $300 (couples).

10. "Welfare Fraud", "Freeloaders" ...No objective studies reveal more than 3% of social welfare recipients "ripping off the system". The Minister of Human Resources admits to no knowledgeable study, either.

11. Contradiction: The Premier publicly champions the guaranteed adequate income for all Canadians; the Minister of Human Resources publicly disagrees and continues "piecemeal", "means test", "investigative", "guilty until proven innocent" policies toward public recipients of the province.

12. The Minister of Human Resources repetitively boasts about the $100,000,000 "surplus" his policies, through underspending, have "saved" the taxpayers of B.C. In truth, it has been at the expense of hungry people. From a brief by the First United Church. FAPG Newsletter 6/77

Show these figures to your banker.

This is how DAON DEVELOPMENT CORP. makes its millions, selling condominiums and corporate culture. It's from an ad. for their "River Bend" paradise in North Van. Their address: Jack Poole, Pres, Daon, 1050 W. Pender. Phone 688 2171.

•more letters

Dear Ms. Allen:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 27, 1977 with regard to Mr. McGeer's inadequate answer to my question in the Legislature the other day, regarding his Department's ignoring of sexism in the Department of Education. It was particularly galling to me to be told that in the course of the past year, he has not received a single letter of complaint on this subject. As you mention, you yourself have written letters to Mr. McGeer and one of the ladies who was in attendance in the Gallery of the Legislature that day, also showed me copies of two letters which had been sent to the Minister.

I would very much appreciate being kept informed of all the information you have on this subject. As you may be aware, we have not yet debated the financial estimates of the Department of Education and since that debate presents me with a much better opportunity to question the Minister in depth, than does the daily Question Period, I would be most appreciative if you could provide me with any specific examples which would clearly prove the Minister's indifference to what is a very important issue.

Thank you again for taking the trouble to write and, as I repeat I would be most grateful for any further specific examples on which I could base questions and criticisms for the important debate which will take place on Education within the next two or three weeks.

Yours sincerely,

G. Scott Wallace, MLA
Leader, Progressive
Conservative Party of
British Columbia

Editor's note: Scott Wallace will be resigning soon. Write to him now and thank him for his consistent support in the Legislature.

KINESIS:

This is the best feminist publication I know. Due to lack of time, I've had to narrow the scope of my reading and I count on Kinesis to keep me informed of developments. Keep up the excellent work!

Andrea Davis
North Vancouver

KINESIS:

We want to express our appreciation for Kinesis - an extremely important feminist newsletter and one that must be among the most useful and informative of the many feminist publications. We also want to support your current drive to make Kinesis more widely available in the community through community centres, laundromats, etc.

It is because Kinesis is so important that we want to raise a problem that seems to us signficant both for the newsletter and for the women and women's groups who contribute to Kinesis and who read it.

We have noticed that there frequently is no acknowledgement of the sources of information or the authorship of articles that appear in Kinesis. In two cases recently, this related to us directly. In one issue, information that appeared on a pamphlet prepared and distributed by the Council on Household Employment and the Women's Research Centre was reprinted word for word, although neither group was acknowledged. In another issue, an article on child care appeared that was based almost entirely on information supplied by Cath Alperovitz of our staff, although she was not credited.

We feel it is important that women's work be recognized and credited, most particularly in a feminist publication. In so many other areas it is not. It is taken for granted, or it is subsumed by or credited to others. Or, it is simply anonymous.

It is important too that women who read Kinesis begin to get a sense of the extent of women's work, that they see that many women are doing many things - that groups like the Council on Household Employment are beginning to break new ground.

Your newsletter reflects the situation of women in many countries and many situations; it should reflect as well and women and groups who are doing something about it.

Sincerely,
B.Gene Errington
Co-ordinator
Women's Research Centre
45 Kingsway, Vancouver.

Editor's note: This is a just criticism. In the future, every attempt will be made to acknowledge information sources more rigorously.

Articles referred to appeared on p.1 of Vol6,#6 and p.23 of Vol 6,#5.

KINESIS:

My subscription plus a bit!! Sounds like you need all the help you can get so I'm canvassing the women at work for you. Good luck and please don't fold. I can distribute in my apartment building and a few at work if that helps.

Susan P. King-Wilson
Vancouver

KINESIS:

I strongly disagree with remarks made by L. Zeldowicz in her/his letter to Kinesis. We live in such an incredibly sexist society, and are just beginning to realize and examine the sexist value systems and vocabulary around us. We cannot have enough material via all vehicles, like Kinesis, to help us notice and respond to the sex-role stereotyping around us. After reading articles and books on the subject, and with seven years of experiencing sexism in our educationdl system, as a teacher, I myself am only now beginning to feel that I can see exactly how broad any definition of sexism must be, and indeed how wide its societal ripples are. I feel that such intensive and continual examination of sexism is necessary before and certainly during the period where we try to smash sexist social and economic hierarchies. Ideally, 'exploitation of sexism for business promotion should obviously be condemned and opposed' but it takes oodles of consciousness-raising to have us realize and recognize this mind warp through advertising, and again further reflection and thought-change to organize to fight this sexism. I really am not sure that I could have come to the above realizations had it not been for excellent, thought-provoking articles such as are found in Kinesis.

In further disagreement, perhaps as Zeldowicz suggests, I am being naive and simplistic; but I breathed a giant sigh of relief after reading in Kinesis and in the Hite report, that other women, indeed many other women use masturbation as one form of sexual satisfaction and a means of relieving inner tension. We are so uptight about our sexuality; we have had such few chances to explore our feelings and our bodies; and many of the limited 'facts' given to us are now being shown as untrue; that we desperately need more chances to explore the many ways we express our human sexuality. Feminist publications, such as Kinesis, provide one such chance, especially to persons living in remoter areas lacking opportunities for discussion.

I strongly urge the editorial board of Kinesis to keep up the unbelievably excellent job they have been doing. I welcome each issue of Kinesis and read the many articles with great interest; and do consider this reading part of my developing-as-a-feminist-person process. Thank you for allowing me to ramble on. This letter of support for the content of Kinesis is very long overdue.

As for Zeldowicz's definition of lesbianism as "an infrequent variant of sexual behavior" with no special needs, that remark must be treated with the contempt that it deserves...

Susan Crowley
Prince Rupert

Dear Women:

Enclosed you will find a cheque for a year's subscription to Kinesis. Around Christmas I noticed a change in your paper - whatever happened I really like the change - it's become much more relevant to me.

Sincerely,

Paulette Roscoe,
Campbell River, B.C.

Sisters

How to Form a Union

Instructors: Jean Rands and Harry Rankin
Date & Time: August 2, 3 and 4 from 7:30 - 9:30pm
Place: Britannia Community Centre, 1661 Napier Street, Vancouver

A free, 3-evening course sponsored by the Vancouver People's Law School. Learn how to join a union, your rights while organizing, and how to obtain certification for your union.

The course is free, but you must pre-register to ensure that space is available, by calling 734-1126.

Homosexuals and the Law

Instructor: Diana Davidson
Date & Time: August 4, 7:30-9:30 pm
Place: Vancouver Public Library, 750 Burrard Street, Vancouver

A free, 1-evening seminar sponsored by Vancouver People's Law School. How does the law prohibit homosexual behavior? How do police enforce the law? How are homosexuals treated under human rights legislation? Vancouver lawyer Diana Davidson leads the discussion.

Please pre-register for this free seminar by calling 734-1126.

BCFW Day— August 21st

How does government funding affect women's groups? What are the dangers for women's groups of: too much money? Too little money? Too many paid staff?

BCFW is holding a one-day conference to discuss these issues on August 21st at the Cultural Exchange, 217B East 16th.Ave.

Centre pic: Yvonne, Emily and Yvette at BCFW Standing Committee Meeting.

ACCESS

WOMEN'S STUDIO, 165 West Pender - Vancouver Women's Inter-Art Society has studio space available: $23.00 per month for a whole space, $11.50 for half a space. Darkroom available for use also. Call Karen at 684-9008 evenings.

AMAZON ACRES, a women's collective farm, is looking for 1 or 2 feminists to move in and share the farming. The farm is located in a beautiful, quiet setting. There is an excellent bus service to Vancouver (1 and a half hours). $150 - $200 a month, all expenses included. Call 462-9858 for more information.

We Goofed

The Vancouver Rape Crisis line was printed incorrectly last month. It REALLY is : 732 1713

VSW

ORIENTATION meetings at VSW have been cancelled until September. CR FACILITATORS will be trained in the fall. Phone 736 3746 for more details. LEGAL AID CLINICS ALSO START THIS FALL.

Full Circle

FULL CIRCLE COFFEEHOUSE
152 E. 8th Avenue, Vancouver

AUGUST CALENDAR

* WEDNESDAYS - Open to Women & Men
$2.00 - starts at 8:00pm.

August 3: FERRON (singer)
August 10: "OPEN MIKE" (no charge)
August 17: CONTACT IMPROVISATION & TAI CHI DEMONSTRATION
August 24: MARY SCHLESINGER (poet/journal reading)
August 31: CAROL STREET (singer)

* FRIDAYS - Open to Women Only
$2.00 - starts at 8:00pm.

August 5: FERRON (singer)
August 12: WOMEN'S THEATRE CO. from Seattle
August 19: NONI HOWARD (well-known poet from San Francisco)
August 26: CAROL STREET (singer)

* SPECIAL EVENTS

August 6: PARTY (Saturday)

Sunday Night Drop-Ins: Women Only, free.
Assertiveness Training Workshop by Isobel Kiborn)
Car Mechanics Workshop
Piano Fund - Donations Welcome!

Richmond

The Richmond Women's Resource Centre is planning a workshop on Home Survival for Saturday, August 27.

If you are tired of always asking a man to help you when something goes wrong then now's the time to learn how to do it yourself - plumbing, basic carpentry, painting, general maintenance, what to put in a tool box, and how to use it.

We are still working on the fee and the place but if you want more information give us a call: Dayle at 270-2969 or Lesley at 274-0831 or Colleen at 273-5902. Registrations must be in by August 19.

Richmond Women's Resource Centre continues its WINDOWS FOR WOMEN, a summer program for women on Wednesday evenings. The August program is:

August 10: MIDDLE AGE: MENOPAUSE
August 17: SEXUALITY WITH AMIE HEMING
August 24: PANEL OF WOMEN FROM DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES

Place: South Arm United Church
11051 No. 3 Road, Richmond
Fee: $2.00 for each session
Time: 7:30 - 10:00 pm

For more information contact Dayle (270-2969) or Lesley (274-0831). Babysitting available.

Cultural Exchange

AUGUST CALENDAR

Every Tuesday until August 23: THE ART & SCIENCE OF PALMISTRY with Jackie Goodwin. 7:30-9:30, $2.00/class.

Fri/August 5: AN EVENING IN CHINA, slides and music from China by Lyn Buckle. Tea provided. $1.00/1.50. 8:00pm.

Sat/August 6: NELLIE McCLUNG READS POETRY. $1.00/1.50. 8:00pm.

Sun/August 7: DISCOVERING CLAY with Persimmon Blackbridge and Moira Mulholland - movement, sound and fantasy combined with clay work - a workshop to demystify art. Pre-register by calling 732-1693 or 253-7809. $5.00 for materials and firing. 10:30-4:00pm.

Sun/August 7: ART EXHIBIT OPENING. Watch for invitations. Open house from 8:00pm. Free.

Fri/August 12: RITES OF WIMMIN - Lesbian/Feminist Theatre. On tour from Philadelphia. Childcare provided. $2.00/2.50. 8:00pm.

Sat/August 13: RITES OF WIMMIN - Street Theatre in Stanley Park (at Second Beach). 2:00pm. Free & Fun!

Thur/August 18: THE HISTORY & DYNAMICS OF THE TAROT by Silva Tenenbein. $1.00/1.50. 8:00pm.

Mon/August 22: GENERAL MEETING - We are seeking more women to make the Exchange work. With summer over we are looking for whatever commitment you can offer - help the Exchange grow! Call 732-6204 for information. 7:30pm.

Sun/August 28: WINE & GOURMET DINNER AND SOCIAL. 7:00pm. $7.00, everything included. Tickets sold in advance only - call 732-1693 by August 25.

TO BE ANNOUNCED!! WATCH FOR FLYERS

Noni Howard and Terry Wetherby, two well-known poets from San Francisco. Noni is showing a full-length feature film of "The First Annual Women's Poetry Festival of San Francisco".

Video Film Circuit: Videos of women's activities in 14 centres across North America and Europe will begin arriving sometimes in August, so watch for flyers. The Exchange is part of the circuit of women's groups about which films have been made!

WE'RE SORRY ABOUT LAST MONTH. By mishap, our membership list was lost and many members didn't receive a calendar or notice of the July 6th members' meeting. Anyone who did not receive a calendar this month, please notify us. The Exchange is having financial difficulties, but we hope to weather the summer and replenish and restructure the collective at the August 22nd general meeting. Please attend!

Women's Studies Courses Begin at Langara and the YWCA September
Call 736-3746 (Gayla) for details.

vancouver status of women
2029 west 4th avenue
vancouver, b.c. V6J 1N3
736 3746

in 4-77
Serials Division,
Main Library, U.B.C.
VANCOUVER, B.C.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 KINESIS MAIL OUT	3 COFFEEHOUSE WOMEN & MEN LESBIAN DROP-IN - VSW	4	5 COFFEEHOUSE WOMEN ONLY	6 WOMEN'S PARTY AT COFFEEHOUSE 8.00 pm
7 COFFEEHOUSE DROP - IN WOMEN ONLY	8	9 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LOBBY CITY HALL	10 PRISON JUSTICE DAY - VIGIL AT OAKALLA: 8.00 am	11 VIGIL ENDS 8.00 am	12 THE EXCHANGE RITES OF WIMMEN LESBIAN/FEMINIST DRAMA	13 9.00 am LESBIAN RIGHTS SUBCMMTTEE SAVE VRB DAY
14 COFFEEHOUSE DROP-IN WOMEN ONLY	15	16	17 KINESIS DEADLINE ! VSW: LESBIAN DROP-IN	18 THE EXCHANGE: HISTORY OF TAROT	19 NONI HOWARD at COFFEEHOUSE	20
21 B.C.F.W. CONFERENCE RE: FUNDING EXCHANGE	22 EXCHANGE; GENERAL MEETING	23	24 COFFEEHOUSE WOMEN only LESBIAN DROP-IN	25	26 CAROL STREET AT COFFEE-HOUSE, 8.00	27 HOME SURVIVAL WORKSHOP - RICHMOND
28 COFFEEHOUSE DROP-IN	29	30	31 at VSW: LESBIAN DROP IN	**AUGUST**		