

# Northern Woman

THUNDER BAY, Ontario

50¢

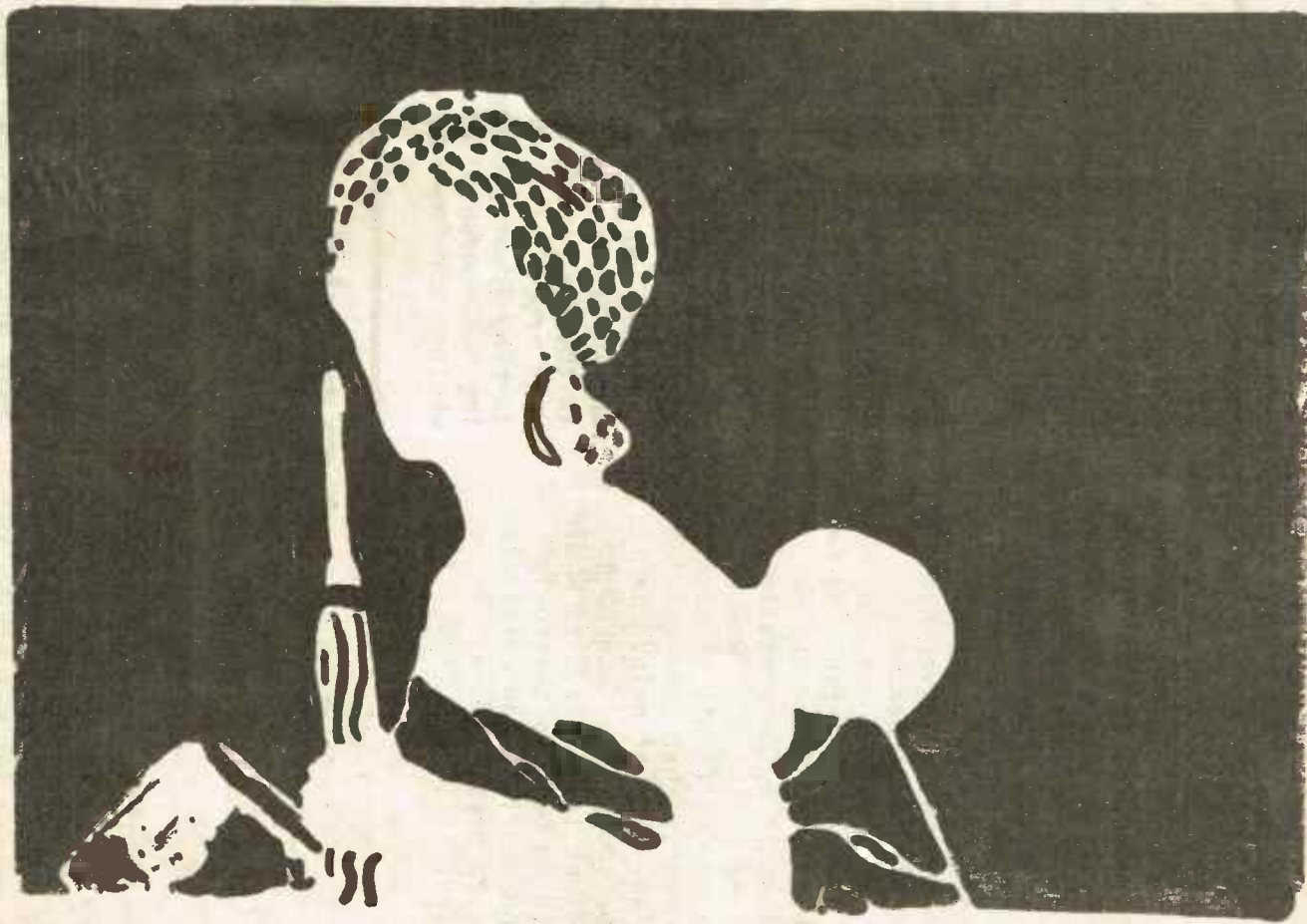
Volume 4

# Journal

Issue 3

MAY 1978

THE MOUNTAIN-MOVING DAY IS COMING. I SAY SO, YET OTHERS DOUBT. ONLY A



WHILE THE MOUNTAIN SLEEPS. IN THE PAST--ALL MOUNTAINS MOVED IN

FIRE, YET YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE IT. OH MAN, THIS ALONE BELIEVE,



# editorial

As the Women In Transition project moves inexorably to disclosure, and we in turn play our full part in exposing the magnitude of violence against women in our community, we have a strange feeling of relief that is echoed over and over again in the personal documentations. Thank God the secret is out, no longer any reason to pretend, as one minister who said, "There are no battered women in my congregation, Our women fear the Lord". One can readily see how difficult it would be for a woman in that congregation to ask for any kind of help. It is not easy for society to face up to its own violent instincts. It would be so simple to believe that only the base and deprived had cultivated the art to its present form. So simple to say, it's the drink, it's

the drugs, it's the money, it's the nagging, it's the woman's movement, it's the moral permissiveness, if we didn't know in every case it's the stronger against the weaker, the independent against the dependant and whether it is man against woman or woman against child it is rooted in the drive for independence on the one hand and the need to control on the other.

It was inevitable that one day the lid would fly off and we would be forced to recognize and deal with the cycle that pits social pressure against men, men against women, and both men and women against children who in turn are at war with society. In the past woman has dealt with this brutal part of her reality by turning inward, going mad, protecting the source of her dependance and whether she has done it out of fear

or love, the deterioration of her spirit and her loss of self-worth has been reflected in the family.

Perhaps this first real break in the cycle comes when women are no longer ashamed to say, "This is the way it is in my life and I see no good and sufficient reason to conceal it or continue to endure it." Our Society has an obligation to provide an option, a place of refuge in the immediate and the support structures that encourage her to believe she can make changes that will restore her self-worth. This is short term for the fundamental change has to come from a re-examination of the power structure as it applies to personal relationships, and more specifically the sexes.

Gert

## GERT'S GOSPEL

The column in this paper entitled Gert's Gospel must surely mean that Gert has things on her mind that she is dying to say, and that her sisters have enough regard for her wisdom to let her say them. Time slips by and the chances and the time for the saying sometime seem shorter than we like to think, so I ask myself, "What part of my nature have I not fully shared with you?" I am as transparent as water in my total dedication to a future generation who care enough for themselves that oppressing each other will not exist, not because it is a law, but because each will recognize that infringing on another's rights is a deadly insult to their own spirit. This is not to say that struggle honestly done and relentlessly pursued in the interest of justice is not only our right, but our absolute duty.

The world is full of warriors who say the end justifies the means. To say both genders are not in that march to destruction would be too fanciful for my age. I see and feel the movement struggling on all fronts today; to even suggest it is a passing interest, a dying dinosaur, or even something that can be contained by pressure, is absurd. We have studied

and researched everything but our own souls, and many of us still run in terror from the very word. If I had one last secret of my life to share with all of my human family, especially my sisters, I would speak of the mystery of the soul and the part it could play in our certain destiny. This planet was formed by a creative life force of positive energy. IT was a supreme act of love. We are the keepers of that creative life force not because we are the chosen, but just because it belongs to us. The mind has changed and grown through the generations, but the true life force, the positive energy, plays its part in everything we do without too many people even recognizing it. Man has not been content with the simple facts of the life force that created us, he must first structure it and then conjure up the lord of the structure. It is no longer necessary to make man in God's Image; we now have him safely in our own image and have built him great mansions to prove it. I have no objections to the multiple myths of the past, other than to sincerely mourn the blood shed for the foolishness of it all, and I sincerely believe it will continue in the name ridiculous of holiness.

In the face of all this complication of simplicity, I have chosen to make my spiritual life work for me in a way that even my grass-roots thinking can understand. First, I took a good look at what we're calling sin these days and I just threw it all out. I picked the most heinous sin in my mind, INDIFFERENCE. Indifference, can you

imagine the incentive to care if indifference was the biggy, and the consternation to find it had nothing to do with sex. Second, I claimed my creative life force; the positive energy of love in action whose only function is to be. For many years I thought its purpose was to lay a guilt trip on me but I discovered guilt was of the mind and as with many other things, was an illusion which had nothing whatsoever to do with the soul. Having shot down both sin and guilt and accepting the wisdom of the life force as my center and my soul, and recognizing the part that passion plays in struggle if struggle is just, it is my opinion that we lose two things by not recognizing the woman's movement as spiritual; one, the commitment that passion brings and two, recognition of the power of the creative life force that makes a tiny seed split a rock so that it can bloom.

I invite comment on the above and make only one small condition, that you not bore me with finite quotations.

Gert Beadle

\*\*\*\*\*  
WOMEN'S PLACE  
FLEA MARKET  
We have a table at  
Auntie Linda's Flea  
Market (Labour  
Centre, June 11)  
Bring your stuff to  
316 Bay or the  
Labour Centre.  
\*\*\*\*\*





# LETTERS

## I.U.D., P.I.D. etc.

Dear Sisters:

A few days ago I received four copies of back issues of the Northern Woman Journal from a friend in Thunder Bay. Reading those issues was a very moving experience. My emotions ranged from anger and sadness to joy and exhilaration. The Northern Woman speaks the truth, not only of the anguish of women but of their strength and courage. I was struck by the incredible honesty of the accounts of women's experiences. This journal marks an important step towards overcoming the isolation of women which has prevented them from realizing and working to overcome their oppression.

The Northern Woman is one of the best journals that I have seen. I intend to pass the copies on to the women in my consciousness raising group. I am sure they will be as excited about them as I was.

In sisterhood,  
Stephanie Holbik

Dear Gert:

The Northern Woman Journal arrived day before yesterday. Haven't had a chance to read it yet (will do that on the plane tomorrow when I fly to London) but wanted to let you know that I am absolutely delighted with the article and intend to use it for promotional purposes. Thank you so much.

No time to write a proper letter. Busy packing. I still remember my visit with you with great pleasure and look forward to seeing you again some time.

Made a new LP (live) last night and put the Women's Liberation Blues on it. Will let you know when it's released.

Best Wishes  
Vera Johnson  
New Westminster, B.C.

Dear Sisters:

Greetings! Up until a month ago, I was unaware that Northern Woman Journal even existed and now I am one of its most appreciative subscribers. A dear friend of mine received the last issue after having let her subscription go for some time (shame on her) and shared it with me one night. I really enjoyed it, especially the article about Muriel Boyle, as I was born and raised in Sioux Lookout myself. Anyway, a week later I opened my

Dear Women:

I'm searching for information dealing with natural cures for P.I.D. (pelvic inflammatory disease) I've been troubled by this repeatedly over the past 4 years. For a year and a half I was sterile: a direct result of a bad case of P.I.D. Last fall I discovered I was no longer sterile but pregnant.

This is another tangent but I had to have an abortion...my womb was so unhealthy, I had a D & C performed here. That head trip is another story.

What I want to do now is help my body regain its health. I have been "into" natural foods, etc, for a couple of years. In all that time I've been unable to discover a natural remedy for P.I.D. and related reproductive organ infections. I'd also like to know about specific things I can do to help myself in the fight for a normal womb. Can you (please) help me?

I would appreciate you discussing this and forwarding any information to me. How about an article in the Northern Woman's Journal? This information is important to all and, sadly, hard to come by.

I wish I could come to your meetings. I have MANY questions. Maybe I'll obtain the answers from you.

I'd like to impress you with the necessity of available information. Doctors, in my opinion, are not to be trusted. I place my trust in other women and their experiences. We must share!

Thanks to all  
Deb Hagarty  
Atikokan

Dear Sisters:

Here at long last is the promised column--written at Gert's request. I'm not sure if this is the type of column you are looking for--if it's not I'd have no objection to your printing one of my letters to Gert.

Also enclosed is my payment for my '78 subscription--unforgivably tardy, I agree.

I eagerly await my copies of The Northern Woman. Though I don't feel that NWO is the best place for me to be now, I am not inflexible, but I doubt if I shall ever live there again.

Good luck with all your activities. (Gert a letter will be off to you sometime this week.)

With much love and sisterhood,  
Carol

P.S. A pen name is not necessary for publication of this column.

Dear Editors:

Thank you for the complimentary copy of "Northern Woman". Enclosed is \$4.50. Please enter me as a subscriber.

Thank you for printing Sandra Steinhouse's article on the I.U.D. I had a similar experience and have been very lonely in the anger and frustration I feel with the medical establishment.

I also am a woman who is very conscious of her body and health care in general. Before my decision to have an I.U.D. (CU7) inserted in 1973 I had a lengthy discussion with my gynecologist. I felt fully informed on the pros and cons of this method of birth control. I was told there is a high rate of "infection" but was not told that this meant pelvic inflammatory disease--a fertility threatening infection. Nor was I told to contact a doctor upon the first sign of abnormal pain or bleeding.

On a Monday in November, 1976, I experienced abnormal bleeding. As I live 10 miles from my gynecologist and planned a trip to town on Friday, I decided to see him at that time. He did, when I saw him, give me a full explanation of all possible conditions that could be causing my symptoms. However, he instructed me to check into the hospital on Sunday for a laporetomy (exploratory surgery) on Monday. This three-day delay allowed the infection I had to ravage my reproductive system that much longer. On Monday my condition was diagnosed as pelvic inflammatory disease and I was prescribed a high dosage of antibiotics.

The infection did clear up and my doctor suggested that after I was completely healed I have a test done to see how badly scarred my fallopian tubes are. I had this test done and learned that my tubes are totally blocked with scar tissue, preventing pregnancy. However, he also informed me that there is surgery that can be performed to remove this scar tissue, which would increase my chance of becoming pregnant to 20%.

As I said, my reaction to this whole nightmare is complete horror and indignation. I feel like a victim. As I am a woman who prides herself on being in control of her life, this was an extremely demoralizing experience. I am left cynical and bitter towards the entire medical profession which, in the long run, may be better for my health.

I must, however, say that Sandra Steinhouse's experience surprised me in that I have always felt the best medical attention is to be found in the larger centres. Tho I am not satisfied with the doctor who inserted my I.U.D., the doctor who attended me during my infection, laporetomy and testing is to be highly commended when compared with Sandra's medical team.

Thank you, Northern Woman, for allowing me to tell my story and to relieve some of the anger I feel.

Sincerely,

Marsha Michael Cunningham

Northern Woman Journal page 3

cont'd on page 7

(see page 6)



# LETTERS

## I. U. D., P. I. D. etc.

Dear Sisters:

A few days ago I received four copies of back issues of the Northern Woman Journal from a friend in Thunder Bay. Reading those issues was a very moving experience. My emotions ranged from anger and sadness to joy and exhilaration. The Northern Woman speaks the truth, not only of the anguish of women but of their strength and courage. I was struck by the incredible honesty of the accounts of women's experiences. This journal marks an important step towards overcoming the isolation of women which has prevented them from realizing and working to overcome their oppression.

The Northern Woman is one of the best journals that I have seen. I intend to pass the copies on to the women in my consciousness raising group. I am sure they will be as excited about them as I was.

In sisterhood,  
Stephanie Holbik

Dear Gert:

The Northern Woman Journal arrived day before yesterday. Haven't had a chance to read it yet (will do that on the plane tomorrow when I fly to London) but wanted to let you know that I am absolutely delighted with the article and intend to use it for promotional purposes. Thank you so much.

No time to write a proper letter. Busy packing. I still remember my visit with you with great pleasure and look forward to seeing you again some time.

Made a new LP (live) last night and put the Women's Liberation Blues on it. Will let you know when it's released.

Best Wishes  
Vera Johnson  
New Westminster, B.C.

Dear Sisters:

Greetings! Up until a month ago, I was unaware that Northern Woman Journal even existed and now I am one of its most appreciative subscribers. A dear friend of mine received the last issue after having let her subscription go for some time (shame on her) and shared it with me one night. I really enjoyed it, especially the article about Muriel Boyle, as I was born and raised in Sioux Lookout myself. Anyway, a week later I opened my

Dear Women:

I'm searching for information dealing with natural cures for P.I.D. (pelvic inflammatory disease) I've been troubled by this repeatedly over the past 4 years. For a year and a half I was sterile: a direct result of a bad case of P.I.D. Last fall I discovered I was no longer sterile but pregnant.

This is another tangent but I had to have an abortion...my womb was so unhealthy, I had a D & C performed here. That head trip is another story.

What I want to do now is help my body regain its health. I have been "into" natural foods, etc, for a couple of years. In all that time I've been unable to discover a natural remedy for P.I.D. and related reproductive organ infections. I'd also like to know about specific things I can do to help myself in the fight for a normal womb. Can you (please) help me?

I would appreciate you discussing this and forwarding any information to me. How about an article in the Northern Woman's Journal? This information is important to all and, sadly, hard to come by.

I wish I could come to your meetings. I have MANY questions. Maybe I'll obtain the answers from you.

I'd like to impress you with the necessity of available information. Doctors, in my opinion, are not to be trusted. I place my trust in other women and their experiences. We must share!

Thanks to all  
Deb Hagarty  
Atikokan

Dear Sisters:

Here at long last is the promised column--written at Gert's request. I'm not sure if this is the type of column you are looking for--if it's not I'd have no objection to your printing one of my letters to Gert.

Also enclosed is my payment for my '78 subscription--unforgivably tardy, I agree.

I eagerly await my copies of The Northern Woman. Though I don't feel that NWO is the best place for me to be now, I am not inflexible, but I doubt if I shall ever live there again.

Good luck with all your activities. (Gert a letter will be off to you sometime this week.)

With much love and sisterhood,  
Carol

P.S. A pen name is not necessary for publication of this column.

Dear Editors:

Thank you for the complimentary copy of "Northern Woman". Enclosed is \$4.50. Please enter me as a subscriber.

Thank you for printing Sandra Steinhouse's article on the I.U.D. I had a similar experience and have been very lonely in the anger and frustration I feel with the medical establishment.

I also am a woman who is very conscious of her body and health care in general. Before my decision to have an I.U.D. (CU7) inserted in 1973 I had a lengthy discussion with my gynecologist. I felt fully informed on the pros and cons of this method of birth control. I was told there is a high rate of "infection" but was not told that this meant pelvic inflammatory disease--a fertility threatening infection. Nor was I told to contact a doctor upon the first sign of abnormal pain or bleeding.

On a Monday in November, 1976, I experienced abnormal bleeding. As I live 10 miles from my gynecologist and planned a trip to town on Friday, I decided to see him at that time. He did, when I saw him, give me a full explanation of all possible conditions that could be causing my symptoms. However, he instructed me to check into the hospital on Sunday for a laporetomy (exploratory surgery) on Monday. This three-day delay allowed the infection I had to ravage my reproductive system that much longer. On Monday my condition was diagnosed as pelvic inflammatory disease and I was prescribed a high dosage of antibiotics.

The infection did clear up and my doctor suggested that after I was completely healed I have a test done to see how badly scarred my fallopian tubes are. I had this test done and learned that my tubes are totally blocked with scar tissue, preventing pregnancy. However, he also informed me that there is surgery that can be performed to remove this scar tissue, which would increase my chance of becoming pregnant to 20%.

As I said, my reaction to this whole nightmare is complete horror and indignation. I feel like a victim. As I am a woman who prides herself on being in control of her life, this was an extremely demoralizing experience. I am left cynical and bitter towards the entire medical profession which, in the long run, may be better for my health.

I must, however, say that Sandra Steinhouse's experience surprised me in that I have always felt the best medical attention is to be found in the larger centres. Tho I am not satisfied with the doctor who inserted my I.U.D., the doctor who attended me during my infection, laporetomy and testing is to be highly commended when compared with Sandra's medical team.

Thank you, Northern Woman, for allowing me to tell my story and to relieve some of the anger I feel.

Sincerely,

Marsha Michael Cunningham

Northern Woman Journal page 3

cont'd on page 7

(see page 6)



# THE SILENT CRIME

## Violence Against Women

by Jackie Gross

The FACT of wife beating has always existed behind closed domestic doors. The PROBLEM of wife beating, like child abuse, is only recently coming to light. The term "WIFE", it should be noted, takes in women in situations involving husbands, common-law husbands and male friends. Until now, it has been an accepted, taken-for-granted, though unfortunate, fact of many women's lives.

Wife beating is thought by legal experts to be one of the least reported crimes there is, although family dispute calls to police departments constitute a very large percentage of their total calls. Though little has, to date, been written in Canada on Abused Women, estimates from the U.S. point out that every year, there are a half-million calls made to police for assistance in domestic disputes, and this figure represents only a small portion of the actual instances of wife battering that occurs.

The results of a Harris Poll on Family Violence in America find that 20% of the families polled approve of slapping the spouse on "appropriate" occasions. This figure increases to 25% of college-educated persons. In summary, the fact most responsible for the assailant's immunity from legal action is that in nearly one-quarter of all American families, wife abuse is an approved mode of behaviour. This includes the attitude of potential or actual victims.

In a Michigan State University Study involving a series of staged fights, three psychologists found that male witnesses rushed to the aid of men being assaulted by either women or men, and that men helped women being hit by other women; but not one male bystander interfered when a man apparently beat up a woman. Dr. Murray A. Straus of the University of New Hampshire suggests that the bystanders assumed the man was the woman's husband, and therefore, he had a right to beat her up. He also points out that in the famous Kitty Genovese Case, where 38 people witnessed a woman being killed without going to her aid, many of the witnesses said they didn't intervene because they thought the killer was the woman's husband!

### CAUSES OF BATTERING

The causes of conjugal violence are innumerable. Domestic assaults are, to a great degree, alcohol-related, and alcohol-related violence is almost always exclusively male violence. Dr. Richard Gelles, a University of Rhode Island Sociologist suggests that cause and effect in relation to alcohol and violence are the reverse of what is commonly supposed. Instead of men beating their wives because they've been drinking, they drink because they want to beat their wives. Gelles and Straus believe that, basically, violence is a learned behaviour. "In Fact," says Straus, "The family is preeminent in every type of violence, from slaps to torture and murder...." Mental disorder of the assailant has been blamed, but the fact that men all across the country beat their wives, is a clear indication that the problem lies, rather, in the societies in which we live; societies wherein the wife-beating phenomenon is taken for granted, actively supported, or ignored.

Any change in the norm could bring out violent reactions in the wife-batterer. An example of this is pregnancy. According to Gelles in his paper on "Violence In Pregnancy" (1975), he suggests that attacks during pregnancy are directed as much at the unborn child as at the wife, and they represent resentment of the child on the husband's part. This may stem from the disruption of sexual activity, interference in patterns of social life, or the economic threat constituted by the coming child. It has also been suggested that abuse during pregnancy might be considered a form of pre-natal child battering. According to Mary Van Stolk, in her 1976 article in "Children Today", it was discovered in researching the abused and battered child that wife beating followed the same social, statistical and cultural patterns.

### WHY DO ASSAULTS GO UNREPORTED?

The reluctance on the part of the woman to report or discuss domestic assaults and consequently remain in her situation is due to many factors:

- 1) In many cases, she has nowhere else to go.
- 2) A desire to deny or conceal due to embarrassment or shame.
- 3) Abuse is an accepted way of life and many women feel that they have actually provoked a beating.
- 4) Psychological and emotional ties: over the time in which the wife was subjected to physical abuse, she may doubt her own worth and integrity.

- 5) The fear of being alone.
- 6) Concern for the effects of family breakup on the children:
- 7) Economic dependence.
- 8) Lack of support available from family, friends and community services.
- 9) Lack of knowledge about alternatives.

### PUBLIC AND POLICE RESPONSE TO THE BATTERED WIFE

In the past, and to a large degree today, battered women have met both legal and social indifference to their plight. One would assume that families would rise to the defence

of their daughters, but such is not the case. Nor do neighbours who suspect or are witness to events of family violence accept the responsibility for reporting incidents to police.

Even when police are summoned, the outcome is often less than satisfactory for the victim. Women are often discouraged from even filing a complaint, because the police know that in half the cases, the victim will drop the charges and that, as well, the court process and outcomes are not satisfactory to anyone involved. The police are reluctant to involve themselves in domestic disputes and this is somewhat understandable, considering that 23% of all policemen killed during 1974 in the United States, were killed answering family dispute calls. Some women who do make an attempt to press charges often give up due to an overwhelming feeling of "What's the use". Those who persist and find that the victim herself must appear in court to file charges, and that it can take months for the case to come to trial, lose all hope and drop charges. This, in many cases, is due to lack of sheltering facilities and reprisal from their assailants while waiting for the case to come to court. The entire process requires a greater strength and persistence than many women seem able to muster during this time in their lives.

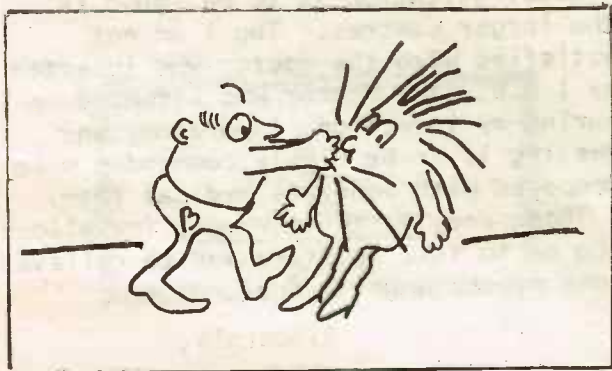
### NEEDS OF BATTERED WOMEN

One of the most fundamental elements in dealing with the problem of Battered Women is that of raising public awareness. This exercise in education must also be directed toward professionals in the community, such as Doctors, Lawyers, Clergy, Social Workers, Police and Courts.

Some of the misconceptions surrounding the Battered Wife which must be dispelled are:

That battered women bring the abuse on themselves; That these

continued on page 13



BÜL BÜL / 73



# motherhood

## ON THE INSTITUTION OF MOTHERHOOD:

"Everything else man can do. This (motherhood) is woman's function and her glory. For this she was sent into the world. Her best years must be spent in the nursery or the nation perishes.

In the noblest periods of a nation's history, the ablest women are ambitious of bearing distinguished sons.

Only in periods of decadence do women seek to be distinguished themselves." (1)

This published after the 'war to end all wars' told women what they ought to be and how they ought to think and feel about motherhood. This is what men expected and wanted. Some of us may say that it has changed, that women need no longer feel pushed or coerced by male dominated ethics.

But young girls are misled still today to picture motherhood as something it is not.

When we think of motherhood we like to think of the home--the happy home with the mothering lady hanging out the wash and serving meals to children and husband.

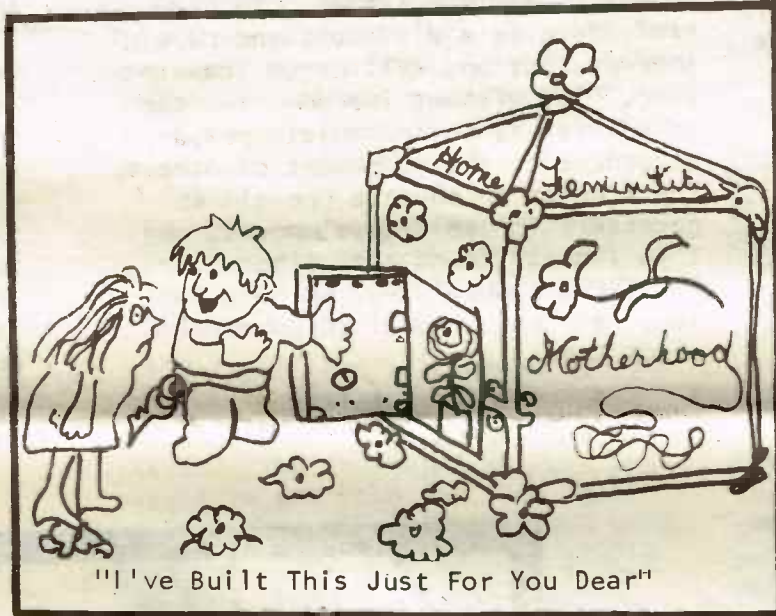
We think or are supposed to think of blooming women with rosy children at their knees, ecstatic madonnas, a Jewish mother lighting the candles in a scrubbed kitchen.

We do not think of the penalties imposed on those of us who have tried to live according to a different plan, the art which depicts us in an unnatural serenity or resignation, the medical establishment which has robbed so many women of the act of giving birth, the experts--almost all male--who have told us how we as mothers should behave and feel.

We are not supposed to think of fantasies of infanticide or day after wintry day spent alone in the house with ailing children. We have in our long history accepted the stresses of the institution as if they were a law of nature.

We do not think of the power stolen from us and the power withheld from us in the name of the institution of motherhood.

We are not supposed to think of the woman lying in a hospital with ice packs on her aching breasts because she has been convinced she must not nurse her child; of a woman in Africa equally convinced by the producers of U.S. commercial infant formula that her ample breast milk is inadequate nourishment; of a Vietnamese mother gang-raped while working in the fields with her baby at her side; of a woman trying to conceal her pregnancy so she can go on working as long as she can because when her condition is discovered she will be fired without disability insurance; or of the women whose children have gone un-nourished because they had to hire themselves out as wet nurses. We are not supposed to think of the woman who passes for "childless" who remembers giving birth to a baby she was not allowed to touch and see because she might love it and want to keep it.



The institution of motherhood cannot be touched or seen. It's powerful leaders are not housed in a specific building like The Institute of Technology. Women must never again forget that our experiences belong to a whole which is not of our creation.

Rape and its aftermath; marriage as economic dependence, as the

guarantee to a man of "his" children; the theft of childbirth from women; the concept of illegitimacy of a child born out of wedlock; the laws regulating contraception and abortion; the cavalier marketing of dangerous birth control devices; the denial that "women's work" is productive (work in the home); the chaining of women in links of love and guilt; the inadequacy of child-care facilities; the unequal pay women receive as wage earners, forcing them often into dependence on a man; the solitary confinement of full-time motherhood; the token nature of fatherhood which gives a man rights and privileges over children to whom he assumes minimal responsibility; the psycho-analytic castigation of the mother; the pediatric assumption that the mother is inadequate and ignorant (she's just another hysterical and neurotic mother); the burden of emotional work borne by women in the family--all these are connecting fibers in this invisible institution--and they determine our relationship to our children whether we like to think so or not.

It is not only the battered child that is to be considered. When children are dependent on one uncertain, weary woman for day-in day-out emotional sustenance, there is bound to be a lack. Then think of children pushed, cajoled, manipulated and the male children who grow up thinking that a woman is nothing more than an emotional climate made to soothe and reassure, or an emotional whirlwind bent on their destruction.

Adrienne Rich  
(from her book  
'Of Woman Born')

(1) Reverend George W. Clark Race Suicide - England's Peril 1917  
(Published by the Duty and Discipline movement)

## SHOULD PROSTITUTION BE LEGALIZED?

Prostitution is an issue which fast threatens to be overcome by sentimentality instead of common-sense among feminists. In sympathy with prostitutes, because the women's movement recognizes that prostitution is the extreme manifestation of the power struggle between men and women, some feminists have lent their support to prostitutes who have organized into groups like COYOTE AND B.E.A.V.E.R. which promote decriminalization of prostitution and aim to protect prostitutes against harassment by police or exploitation by the government or pimps. What must be determined is whether decriminalized prostitution, or even collectively-run brothels owned and managed by prostitutes, are alternatives to the degradation and violence that prostitutes currently encounter in our society.

As feminists, we believe that employment for women should allow comradeship, creativity and enrich the social environment in which it takes place. The work of women, we recognize, has been trivialized and underpaid in the denial of this principle, and so we support women who organize themselves to improve their working conditions. However, prostitution is not work like that of a secretary or factory worker. It is a relationship of power, in which the purchaser gains control in a most sensitive sphere of human inter-reaction, and asserts his superiority over the person whom he has hired. To suggest that women can be salvaged from the abuse and degradation implicit in prostituting one's self by "collective brothels", worker's control, or whatever, is to reduce these concepts to jargon. In a collective brothel, it will be women,

instead of a government or pimps, saving themselves to be victims in the alienation between men and women. Perhaps organized, prostitutes will not be penalized as heavily financially, but does that make their fate any more enviable?

Decriminalization of prostitution does not guarantee that prostitutes will be freed from the control of organized crime in their profession. Gambling, for example, is still heavily controlled by organized crime where it has been legalized. Decriminalization may lessen the degree to which police can harass prostitutes but it will not end harassment as long as prostitutes are mainly the young

cont'd on page 16

Northern Woman Journal page 5



# CAROL AULD

## TRANSITION STORY

### WOMEN AND STRESS SEMINAR

On Saturday, April 15, Confederation College was the site of a day of workshops on the topic of "Women and Stress", put on jointly by the "Status Committee" of the local Federation of Women Teachers of Ontario, and Women's Programs of Confederation College. Organizers of the workshops were Pat Rose, Sandy MacKenzie, Margaret Lanchok and Carlana Lindeman, of FWTAO, and Mary Fedorchuk of Confederation College.

Guest speaker was Mona MacLean, of the Clark Institute of Psychiatric Research, Toronto, who presented an overview of stress. Ms. MacLean also conducted workshops on the topic of "How to Alleviate Stress in the Classroom". Other workshops given were entitled "Coping Behaviours", given by Julie Fels and Sita; Personal and Physiological Factors, by Margaret and Scott Sellick; Drug Addiction and Alcoholism, by Jean Gale, R.N., and Medical Characteristics, outlined by Dr. R. Kajander.

Participants in the workshops were treated to lunch at the College, and comments were such that those who participated found their day a most worthwhile one. One result of the day was that Confederation College Women's Programs would be willing to offer a six to eight week course on the topic of Stress, if an interest was expressed by the public.

Its been nearly eight months now since I fled the shackles that family, school and Thunder Bay placed on me, and, looking back, I haven't had the slightest twinge of regret or homesickness. That's probably because I was not running from something as I was running to embrace a fuller, richer life in Toronto. I did not expect it to create or destroy me - but to simply aid me in my development as a writer and a woman. So - I braved the unknown and escaped to the cultural milieu of my choice-Toronto.

During this brief period I feel that I have grown tremendously continuing to experience education in the truest - no, the ONLY way, that being self-education. For too long I was brainwashed into believing that learning is a process separate from life, and that one must attend a place called school in order to "learn" and/or acquire the job ticket that everyone needs to be "successful". (Success interpreted as financial assets by the majority). Everyone is capable of learning autonomous from the penal system which operates under the guise of "education". Everyone has the right to that education. People do not have to be bribed, seduced, or threatened into learning - their curiosity is natural, and should be allowed to develop in as many or as few areas as they wish.

Though I admit to having become spoiled by the cultural delights that Toronto offers in abundance, there are a number of other benefits that come from being completely independent. My self-respect and self-confidence has bounded back with more strength than ever - before, it had virtually vanished into a well of oblivion. Now I'm able to devote my energies to positive sources, instead of perpetually wallowing in a sea of self-pity and depression.

Reflecting on my rapid growth and maturation in recent months, I encourage others, caught in the stifling, oppressive, totalitarian atmosphere of school, to escape and find ways of education themselves. I am reminded by a section in Doris Lessing's preface to her incredible work, The Golden Notebook, where she speaks of her decision to leave school at the age of fourteen, choosing to educate herself rather than submit passively to academic instruction. She believes that each and every child who enters the current school system should be told repeatedly throughout the time she/he must spend there that they are not really learning anything, that they are just being put through a system of "indoctrination" because our society has not yet evolved a system that does not indoctrinate.

In short, our society is not conducive to learning - it has merely produced an institution where everyone must spend X number of years in order to get a job ticket, with which they hope to be admitted to the labour force. Though the number of

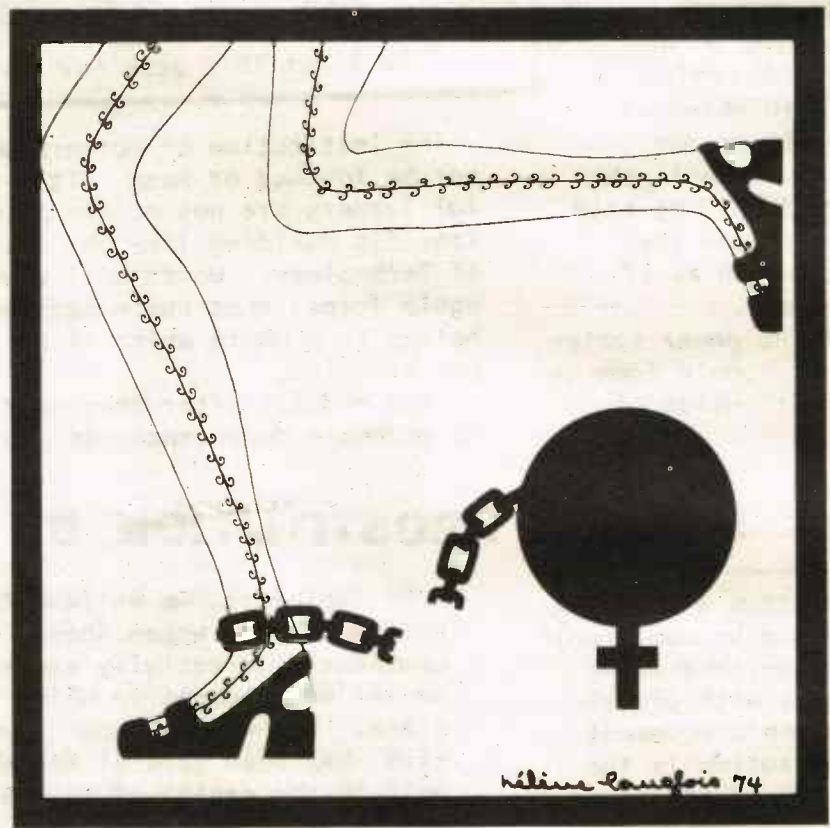
years increases with each decade, employment opportunities decrease, so that the time spent in school is wasted in more ways than one.

So it's with these thoughts in mind that I close. I have difficulties of course - no one's life is free from problems - but they will be resolved as I unearth solutions for them, experiencing new ideas and new people in the process. I occasionally wish that I had the power to free people from the institutions called schools and demonstrate what education actually is, but that would not only undermine the person if they weren't ready for such a change, but it would be imposing my reality on them, which is defeating my very purpose.

Regrets? Not a single one, for I am living my life according to my standards, rather than submitting passively to someone else's reign (which only exists if one lets it - no one is indispensable). To be truly free is a difficult and painful journey, but one well worth traveling. For without freedom, one can only exist as an incomplete person, dependent on the judgement of others. The freedom to educate oneself is necessary for this development, and I've finally found that liberation. And there's absolutely nothing foolish, selfish, immoral or subversive about that.

Carol Auld

Marg Lanchok



### SUFFRAGE TO NOW

The role of women throughout the history of the Thunder Bay district has been significant from the early days to the present.

Many individual women and women's organizations may have records of their action and activities.

Information and records are being sought by two women on a Secretary of State summer grant.

The period from the time women got the vote (1910 to 1960) will be

particularly difficult to unearth as well as information on or records of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, W.C.T.U.

Any contacts or information would be appreciated. Please call 345-7802 and ask for Anne or Monik



Letters cont'd

mailbox to find a Northern Woman Journal with my name on it yet. Needless to say, I was rather surprised, not to mention curious as to who on earth could have known I was planning to subscribe to it. I thought my friend couldn't possibly have sent in a subscription for me and have it arrive exactly a week to the night I first set eyes on it. Well that is exactly what had happened, although God only knows how you managed such speedy delivery. Regardless of how you did it, please accept my appreciation and thanks.

I would be very interested to know how our journal started and who had a hand in its beginning. I'd like to see an OPEN woman's group started in Dryden also, but as far as I know there is no such animal-- as yet. A year ago Ruth Cunningham visited the Con. College here in Dryden and as a student there at the time, I saw a lot of women hopeful and excited at the possibility of a Woman's Group here. Unfortunately when Ruth left, so did a lot of the enthusiasm. Any of the women I spoke to about it later just said, "Yes, it's a great idea, but who's going to start it?" That's a good question, Who? Help, somebody take us to our leader!! If that's impossible, can't someone out there, anywhere, give us some suggestions. The interest is definitely here but the know-how is not.

Even if we don't achieve any big solutions to women's problems in this town, at least we could meet, discuss and generally get our heads together in the right direction.

Is there anything we can do to help our journal grow? What can we do? If you had a "Let it all Hang Out" Column that women could write into (and back and forth) on specified subjects and simply exchange ideas or just express their different opinions and thoughts on that particular topic, I think it would spark a lot of interest and produce a lot of positive feedback.

Especially controversial topics such as abortion (although that's been rather overdone) birth control, and women's changing attitudes towards men, sex, marriage, personal goals, etc. A special column such as that would not only be extremely interesting, but informative as well.

I can't speak for other women, of course, but I'd sure like to see a change from the "Rape Theme" to happier subjects. (Except anything that shows the laws changing in our favour, finally). It's damned necessary, unfortunately, but how about some articles on victories won as well. Every small (or large) victory shared, gives the rest of us greater strength to fight the next battle. So please encourage your readers to share their struggles and hopes to our greater understanding and sisterhood.

Incidentally, now I know what to

buy for the hard-to-buy-for....a year's subscription (at least) to Northern Woman Journal, what else?? (Thanks Kathy, for mine).

Your sister-in-spirit

B.J. Halliday  
Dryden

Dear B.J.:

It's letters such as yours that make putting to-gether this Journal worthwhile. There have been many times some of the collective have been tempted to chuck it; however, it's difficult to quit an unpaid but rewarding job.

The Journal started in 1973 after a successful "Northern Women's" Conference.

A group of 50 women came to-gether in a church basement to try to establish a women's centre in Thunder Bay.

The Journal was a newsletter informing women who had attended the conference, about the progress of this group.

Most of the women who organized the conference are involved in some aspect of the women's movement in Thunder Bay.

Many of us newly involved in the women's movement began "getting our heads to-gether" through CR. We have sent you an old issue of the Journal with the out-line of how to start. Before you can become politically involved, it is helpful to recognize how and why women are oppressed. CR is a good start.

To help the Journal grow, subscribe, get your friends to subscribe, and submit articles, events, and most of all share your experiences with other women readers. As you said, "let it all hang out!"

Editors

To the Collective:

Enclosed you will find an article I have written about a course called Women and Psychology, sponsored by Confederation College and conducted this winter.

During a Rape and Sexual Assault workshop in late January in Thunder Bay, Barbara Coomes mentioned to some women from Fort Frances that articles and thoughts from this area were welcomed.

Besides the article on Women and Psychology, I have enclosed some poems I wrote over the past few years. They have never been published before. Do what you will with them.

I enjoyed your most recent edition of Northern Woman's Journal. It's getting better all the time and I'm hoping to contribute as much as possible from this area of Northwestern Ontario. I agree with the idea that women from all parts of this area be encouraged to contribute to the magazine.

Best wishes and continued success,  
Debra Pilon, Fort Frances

## Women's Place Printing

Brochures Booklets Pamphlets

Newsletters

LETTERHEAD BULLETINS

REASONABLE RATES

No order too small

(Some may be too big)

316 BAY ST. Phone 345-7802

## CHRISTIAN FEMINISM CONFERENCE

The conference on Christian Feminism, held at Confederation College, featured Shelly Finson as Co-ordinator of the movement for Ecumenical Christian Feminism from Toronto and Penelope Washbourn, author of "Becoming A Woman", assistant professor of Religion at the University of Manitoba. It was well attended although your reporter had difficulty seeing these bright inquiring and progressive minds nailed down to any particular pew. It was generally conceded that a feminist, although a Christian, would operate for some time to come in a hostile atmosphere inside the secular community. Nevertheless I saw no indication of any reluctance on the part of participants to accept the premise that some changes have to be made and that they had some responsibilities to bring them about.

The focal point of wholeness was an irresistible force that established a sisterhood of mutuality that generated easy sharing with the members of the feminist community and those in the Christian community; the feminists that attended with an affiliation to Woman's Place have good reason to believe that a new era of understanding has been established that will in time prove of benefit to both groups. Few feminists would quarrel with the premise that spirituality is a necessary dimension in the search for full personhood; that it contains the hope factor makes it doubly necessary.

To hear our own Donna Phoenix discoursing on (from the personal

cont'd on page 9

Northern Woman Journal page 7



# Is This what we want?

## THE FAMILY LAW REFORM ACT (1978)

(In Force Mar. 31/78)

Note: This Law is Retroactive

### I. ASSETS (Married Couples Only)

#### B. MATRIMONIAL ASSETS WILL BE SUBJECT TO A POSSIBLE 50/50 SPLIT:

- \* at the time of separation
- \* matrimonial assets include home, car and items used for "shelter and transportation or for household, educational, recreational, social or aesthetic purposes" (determined by how it's used)
- \* matrimonial assets do not include non-household bank accounts, investments, pension plans, family business, land not used in the definition of matrimonial assets (above);
- \* only if spouses have not made a marriage contract to split assets otherwise.

#### BUT AT THE COURT'S DISCRETION:

- \* there could be a different split depending on such things as how the property was acquired or how long the couple has been married or separated;

or

- \* split up non-matrimonial assets if the family assets have been 'unreasonably impoverished' or if one spouse has acquired non-matrimonial assets due to the other spouse assuming child-rearing and household management responsibilities.

#### B. JOINT RIGHT TO POSSESSION OF THE MATRIMONIAL HOME:

- \* until divorce or Court orders otherwise;
- \* one spouse cannot sell or rent the house out from under the other spouse without the latter's consent;
- \* marriage contract CANNOT affect this.

#### C. FAMILY BUSINESS:

- \* if one spouse has "contributed work, money or money's worth" toward non-matrimonial assets, that spouse will have a monetary or property claim.

## II. SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS

1. Every *spouse* has an obligation to support self and to support other spouse.

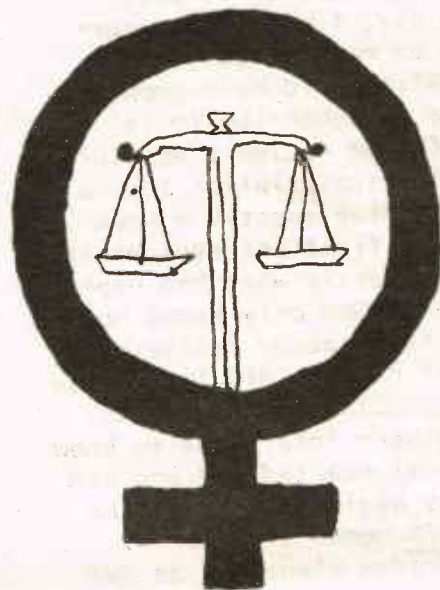
"spouse" means: a) persons married;  
b) persons cohabiting:  
i. more than 5 years.  
ii. relationship of some permanence and a child is born; and application within one year of cohabitation.

2. Every *parent* has an obligation to support his or her child.

"child" means: child under 18 years and unmarried unless over 16 and has withdrawn from parental control.

3. Every *child* who is over 18 has an obligation to support parent, provided parent has cared for and supported the child.

"support": dependent upon need and capability; Court shall consider all the circumstances of the parties.



## III. DOMESTIC CONTRACTS

(In writing, signed and witnessed; not through a lawyer).

This Section gives a man and a woman freedom to organize their affairs in whatever way they choose.

A *domestic* contract prevails over the Act except:

- 1) the support provision can be set aside where:
  - \* it results in unconscionable circumstances;
  - \* the dependant spouse qualified for support;
  - \* there is default in payment of support.

- 2) Matrimonial Home - a married person prior to separation cannot contract out of the right to possession or the right to control dealings with the matrimonial home.

- 3) Court is always able to review provisions respect to custody and access of children. *Dum casta* clauses void (clauses in agreement made prior to Mar. 31/78 in which support dependent upon the woman remaining chaste void).

KINDS OF DOMESTIC CONTRACTS: (If under 18, persons cannot legally make a Contract but can be married)

1. Cohabitation Agreement: Entered into during cohabitation - becomes a Marriage Contract on marriage unless validly terminated.

Restrictions: Cannot deal with Custody and after separation.

2. Marriage Contract: Entered into before and cohabitation.

Restrictions: Cannot contract out of the right to possession of, or to control dealings with, the matrimonial home;

Cannot deal with Custody and after separation.

3. Separation Agreement: Entered into after cohabitation has ceased.

Can deal with: \* Matrimonial home, possession and the right to control dealings;

\* Custody and Access - Court will disregard if it is in the best interest.

Can deal with: \* Support - Court will not if:



- it results in unconscionable circumstances
- the dependant spouse qualifies for public support
- there is default in payment of support

cont'd from page 7

#### IV. DEATH

1. The new law with respect to splitting assets does not apply if one spouse dies unless an action was started before the death.
2. If there is a Will, property is distributed as per the Will *except* if the dependants are not adequately taken care of.

NOTE: "Dependants":

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| -Spouse or common-law spouse | } to whom the deceased owed a legal duty to support or was supporting. |
| -Parent                      |  |
| -Child                       |  |
| -Brother or Sister           |  |

(Common-law spouse - lived together five years or in a relationship of some permanence where a child is born; Spouse - includes divorcees; Child - inside or outside marriage or a child whom the deceased has treated as one of his family). (Can include former spouse).

3. If there is no Will:

- \* If no children, spouse gets everything;
- \* If children, spouse gets first 75,000, the residue being split among spouse and children;
- \* above subject to dependants' claims set out in 2, above.

by Mary Tomlinson and  
Dianne Baig

#### VOICES

A Play

by Susan Griffin

"a portrayal  
of the lives  
of five women"

JUNE 25, 1978

8:00 p.m.

LITTLE

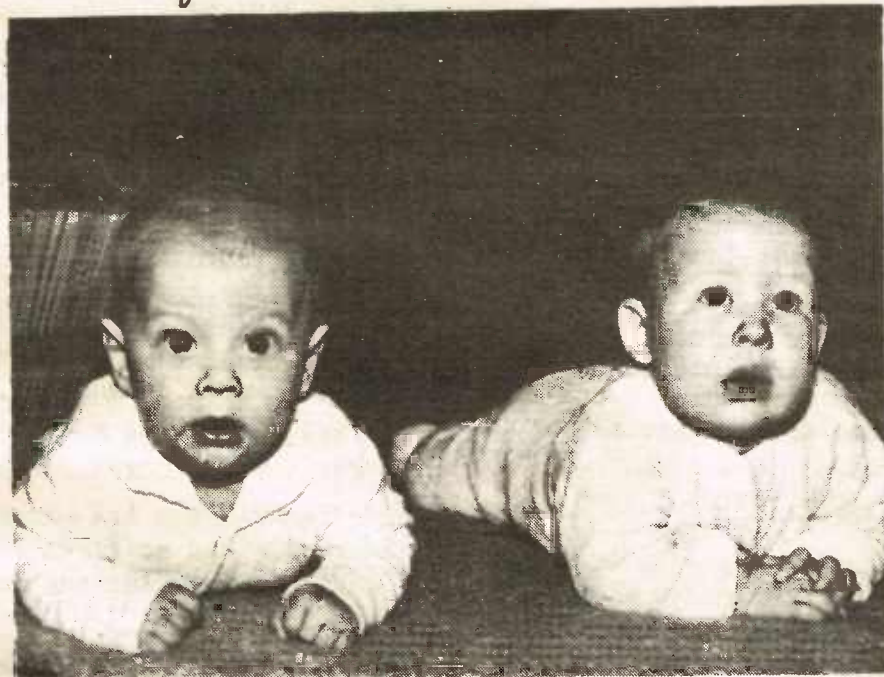
FINN  
HALL

to the political), our own Joan Bari teaching a workshop on the history of women, the kind of informed questioning of the church as oppressor by it's own members, the amount of good literature on the subject encourages us to see the Christian community not as it has been, but as strong aware women could shape it in the future. My own privilege of standing before this group and identifying myself as a strong feminist committed to my sisters and the goals they have established, motivated by the love that cannot be co-opted and need never be apologized for and the invitation to read some of the poetry that expresses that feeling was a great joy to me, I have nothing but love and admiration for my Christian sisters -- theirs is a monumental task, but the movement I have set myself to, in the company of the vanguard to human liberty is moving on every front and my whole person is involved. We at Woman's Place celebrate a beginning dialogue between two groups that have in the past been strangers if not opposing groups. That we have met, and ask nothing of each other except the recognition of the bond that exists between all women, makes the visit of Shelly Finson and Penelope Washbourn important to the future of Thunder Bay feminists both inside and outside the church.

Gert Beadle

*I'm a  
Boy*

*I'm a  
Girl*



The contest to guess which baby was of what sex was really just an exercise in how we stereo-type, even infants.

Any of us that believed we could correctly identify the sex without an examination of the genitals is in need of further education. We recommend reading 'The Day Care Book' by Vicki Brietbart, available from Women's Centre library.

Editors

#### BABY PICTURE CONTEST COMMENTS:

"I think the one on the left is a boy because he has his fists clenched and he is the more aggressive looking."

"I think the one on the right is a boy because he looks strong and stalky."

"The one on the left because her eyes are brighter. The one on the right is the boy because his mouth is smaller."

Kimara Holland  
(3 years old)

"on the right is a boy because of the large facial structure"

" the one on the right is a girl, she is much more delicate looking"

" the left is a boy because his ears stick out as mine did at his age"

" on the right is a girl. The expression on her face indicates some concern or sensitivity to the photographer."

" both healthy looking babies. Who cares?"

Northern Woman Journal page 9



so she said to me "why"  
i answered "because i love him."  
little did i know  
for that love  
cost me my health and dignity.

Mickey Pedersen

a year  
of teeth threatening to  
fall out  
a friend's pout  
and a lot of doubt

one of my truly hardest years

i've grown so much  
sown a little  
haven't flown  
and feel so very alone

and yet have known  
at times  
the reason why  
i still look up to see the sky  
and hope  
and breathe  
and cry  
a lot

it's all on course

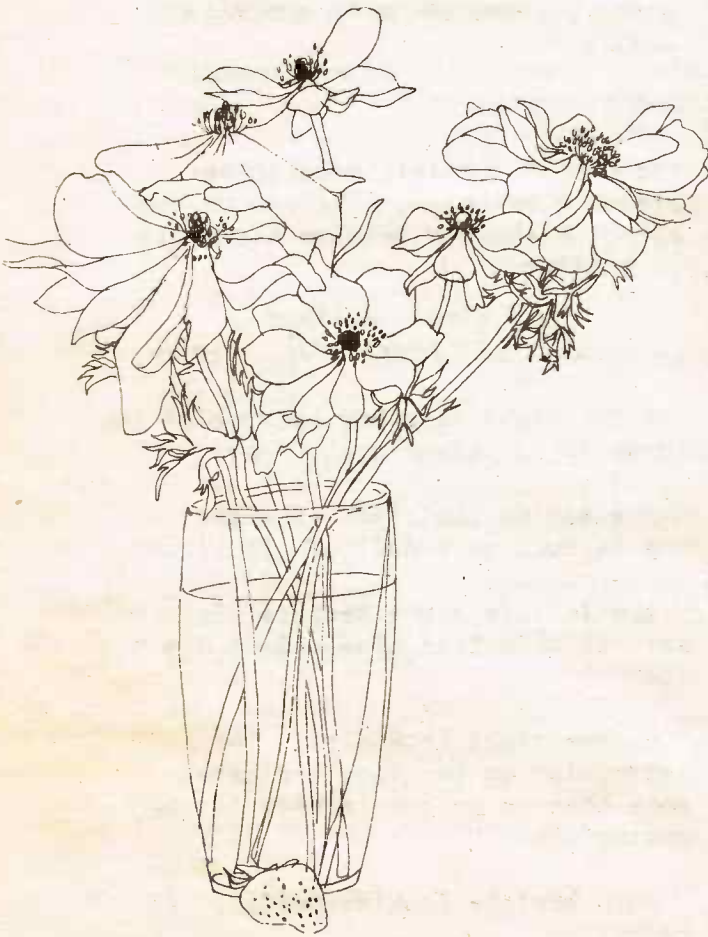
the struggle  
which few can see  
is just me  
alone sometimes

in love sometimes

a character of my music box  
and when i stop  
to listen, i feel i caught  
a part of life

i thought was missing

Pam Wilson



## LIVING ALONE, 1974

Living alone I have learned to depend  
on myself and shun the proffered but  
inconsistent love of men  
who want it always on their terms  
to suit their whims  
while I would rather it suited mine.

So I have become undependent which is  
not the same as being independent,  
but is a parody of independence:  
born not of freedom but of bondage  
to an idea of totality within oneself.

Living alone I have learned again and  
again to expect nothing of others  
and demand only the best of myself.  
The pain suffered makes me equal to any  
task required and taps a jumble of poems  
cluttered inside steely pens.

Debra Pilon

## ANOTHER DAY

The shower's spurts of water  
clean away violent nightmares  
and I'm ready for the day's  
dreams of you while our lost love  
sits heavy in my empty belly.  
I take sustenance from within  
this morning, again.

Debra Pilon

## SIMPLE THOUGHTS--1975

No thoughts of battle  
pride and lust vanquished  
Few thoughts of myself  
no thought of tomorrow

Thoughts of opening  
no thoughts of lonely  
rejection of you  
senseless hoarding of me

Past thoughts questioned now  
Unfeeling loveless  
games of gain or loss  
finally cast aside.

Debra Pilon

# POETRY

You just dance on down the road  
Yes you've always been my lover  
You just dance on down the road  
You know you'll always be my friend  
You just dance on down the road  
We've even been each other's parents  
You just dance on down the road  
The road that neither starts nor ends

Mickey Pedersen

## THE DANCE

How do you feel  
i mean, how do you feel 'bout  
all those women  
wanting you  
for their very own sugar-daddy  
they'll let you steal their hearts away

now  
You know what you want and  
You don't care how you get it  
old news to me,  
you've known how to take for a  
long time now

ooh! they're waitin'  
a new dress,  
"my sin" perfume  
exciting youth  
inviting eyes

the pulsing bass  
beats out dance rhythms  
the floor is alive

The dance begins  
You have your choice of lovers tonight  
the thrill of the choice  
the thrill of the chase  
Are you really aware  
of what's going on

or

Do you like the game?  
do you really feel,  
do you really love,  
Can you really give?

anon

## Queen of Night

Sparkling starlight guides her way,  
Queen of Night.

Flitting to and fro her cosmic domain  
her eyes take in her sex's helpless  
frustrations.

All laughters heard, and recorded,  
another page is added.

Tears of joy are gathered up, and  
added to the heavens.  
Queen of Night's eyes glow with  
pleasure, as her ears tune in to the  
sound of woman's laughter.

All her women down below, she dream  
of their life better.

Whirling through her witching hour,  
she pauses and reflects, she can't  
much, does what she can our Queen of  
Night.

Each day we have our golden hour,  
alas it does give way to old routine  
of cries and pain these cries of  
anguish drown out the gayness and  
laughter.

Women stand, shout out.....

let us all make a pledge to laugh  
smile with all our tomorrows.

Linda Richard



# McRAE VISITS WOMEN'S PLACE

Paul McRae is a likeable and well-intentioned member of the Federal Parliament, bumbling around in a bureaucratic stew he neither fully understands or totally believes in. That's probably the kindest thing that can be said of any politician of whatever party to-day. Acknowledging his lack of legal savvy in the area of woman's issues, he nevertheless submitted himself to the questions of several groups of women who are actively pressing for change in an informal setting at Woman's Place, Thunder Bay, with the following results:

## WOMEN AGAINST RAPE

### Meeting with Paul McRae:

The Rape & Sexual Assault Centre, represented by Doreen Boucher and Shelley Vescio, attended a meeting at Women's Centre to present issues on rape and sexual assault to incumbent Paul McRae. Three major areas of concern were discussed, they are the following:

1. Law Reform: Do you support changes in the present Criminal Code involving sexual offences? The existing laws reflect the attitude that:

a) Rape is defined by the criminal code as a sexual act, (or crime of sexual passion) and therefore puts an aura on a crime that is an assault with violence, an issue of power imposed on another human being.

b) Women are seen as property--therefore, rape is not recognized in a marriage.

c) History, background style, past behaviour, issue of consent (by lack of resistance), there is consideration used against the victim by defense lawyers through innuendoes in cross examination. The woman's past sexual history can be brought up at the judge's discretion--including prior contact with the defendant.

2. What support can you provide with the following situations? We feel that often local crown attorneys are not handling prosecution in rape cases adequately, regarding these points:

a) inadequate preparation and support of the rape victim.

b) failure to take firm stands against defense lawyer's harassment of victims.

c) poor analysis of rape: especially with new research available regarding the issues. Therefore, they are unable to present accurate views to juries.

3. Would you support permanent funding of Rape Crisis Centres in Canada and, if so, what branch of government should provide financial support?

Mr. McRae, in response to the questions put to him admitted to a lack of knowledge regarding aspects of the law, in this case rape, but he felt rape should be changed to an assault charge, to ensure more convictions as he realizes that this is a major problem (low conviction rate). Regarding the admittance of a woman's sexual background, he felt that this should be eliminated as well.

He was unaware of any problems as those mentioned regarding the crown attorneys. Mr. McRae felt that any difficulty with crown attorneys should be dealt with through the

attorney generals' office, as his office could do little. He added that a change of laws in the immediate future could encompass this problem.

Regarding funding, Mr. McRae felt that Rape Centres should be funded through Health & Welfare or Secretary of State. He felt, however, that because assault and rape is very similar to wife battering, and he has trouble differentiating them as a problem, that these groups should be funded jointly with other women's groups, ie. Women's Centre. He emphasized that politicians view our groups as a "luxury" and that where cut backs are made in funding, non-bureaucratic groups as ours are the first to go. He recognizes the service that we do, but others do not.

The Law Reform Commission's legislation of releasing their working paper on law reform to the public was brought to Mr. McRae's attention. He knew nothing of it--but promised to look into it. Before he left, Doreen Boucher gave him a copy of the centre's questions presented that night, and talked with him further regarding the Law Reform Commission's working paper on sexual offences. She gave the information she had received from Joannie Vance, the National Association of Rape Crisis Centres, ie. that there was indecision within the Commission to release their paper. He said he would look into it.

True to his word, within the next week, his Ottawa office called to find out more information. His secretary, Mary Anne Pettit, called the Director of Research of the Law Reform Commission, Mr. Elton, and spoke to him regarding the problems with the working paper on sexual offences.

Apparently, numerous problems plagued the completion of the paper, thus the delay in its release, but he told her it was in final translation (April 4/78) and would be released at the end of May to the public! Mary Anne told Doreen Boucher that she would keep in touch and a copy would be sent to the Thunder Bay Rape & Sexual Assault Centre as soon as it was released.

### Local News:

Prior to the termination of the IYW Revisited Project (April 21/78) and the end of staffing for the Rape Crisis Centre, the city gave the Thunder Bay Rape & Sexual Assault Centre \$15,000 for one year to continue their operations. Our original request for \$35,375 had already been turned down by the Financial Assistance Review Group. At the last minute we were asked to attend the public meeting on March 21st and, through the support of Eleanor Morin, Don Smith and John Packota, (council

person), the council passed a grant of \$15,000. Needless to say, the Rape & Sexual Assault Centre were pleased.

At a subsequent meeting of Rape & Sexual Assault collective, after hours of discussion, Doreen Boucher and Eve Pykerman were re-hired on a part-time basis to co-ordinate activities of the centre.

Since the allotment of funds from the city, the RCC has experienced "growing pains". There seemed to be a need for examining our direction and goals of the past, re-evaluation made and new directions set for the future. After a great deal of discussion, debate and scrutiny, the structure of the RCC will be changed to implement our new "lease" on life. A Steering Committee will be set up. Members of the Steering Committee will be made up of the sub-committees that have also been formed recently. These sub-committees are:

- 1) Education:
  - (i) personal education
  - (ii) public education
- 2) Law Reform Study Group (Committees)
- 3) Funding Committee
- 4) Victim Support: Training and Orientation

Those interested in becoming involved with any of the aforementioned committees, please contact the centre at 344-4502.

The Centre has been active as well in its Outreach program through Secretary of State funds. Doreen Boucher, Eve Pykerman, Julie Fels and Gert Beadle were a delegation from Thunder Bay to a workshop in Kenora. Kenora is endeavouring to establish a Rape Crisis Centre there, and were seeking assistance from Thunder Bay Groups in helping them organize. The workshop was held in Kenora the 12th and 13th of May. It was attended largely by those already involved in setting up a Rape Crisis Centre and representatives from Fort Frances and Red Lake. The public is very hard to reach regarding the issue of rape. Other resource persons from Kenora included Glenna Hamilton, a psychologist with the Children's Centre in Kenora, O.P.P. Don Jones, Kenora Police, Bob Mashaud and Vern Frolic Crown Attorneys from Dryden.

The workshop served more as an educational session for Kenora members, and an opening of communication between them and the officials, ie. O.P.P., Police.

We have not received any feedback as to the direction Kenora is now taking, but we hope to hear from them soon. In our opening session, we stressed the need to talk to each other and find what personal needs

cont'd on page 11



## silent crime , cont'd

women enjoy being beaten; That it is a lower class phenomenon; That abusing husbands are mentally ill.

The needs of Battered Wives include Immediate Refuge for themselves and their children; a 24-Hour Crisis Line; Counselling Therapy; Medical Treatment and Advice; A Crisis Intervention Training Program for Law Enforcement Officers, to enable them to better understand and deal with domestic problems. Legal services and advice are needed regarding rights, separation, divorce, custody and property matters; Emergency Financial Aid is necessary through various social services; Law Reform is needed to better protect the rights of the Battered Wife; and Greater Co-operation between the medical profession and other agencies is essential.

In many cities, facilities and centres have already been or are in the process of being set up, specifically to deal with and harbour Battered Women and their children. For example, The Frontenac Family Referral Service in Kingston, The Hiatus House in Windsor, The Vancouver Transition House, and The Women's Community House in London.

The reluctance of many women to report assaults against them, or their denials of such assaults, make the compilation of statistics and data a difficult task. This, in turn, is detrimental to the raising of public awareness and ensuing changes in societal attitude, social services available and law reform.

Women In Transition has made considerable headway in its crusade on behalf of Battered Women in Thunder Bay. An extensive survey of social agencies and other professionals determined that, in 1977, 1,108 Thunder Bay women sought help. Based on the fact that less than half of the questionnaires were not returned, it is frightening to consider the unknown numbers of women who were missed in the survey plus those who didn't seek help. According to similar studies done in other areas of the continent, where the base reported figure is multiplied by 10 in order to obtain a realistic picture of actual incidence of Battering, the figure of 11,108 possible Thunder Bay incidents looms in the forefront.

In addition to the agency questionnaires, individual questionnaires were distributed throughout the city for the purpose of reaching actual victims of Battering to determine if they sought help, from whom, and if the help was adequate. The following are some of the comments gleaned from the 140 questionnaires returned to date:

"POLICE REFUSED TO INTERFERE - COURT WAS A WASTE OF TIME..."

"DETECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ INFORMED MY SISTER (abuse victim) THAT HE DIDN'T BELIEVE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED..."

"POLICE JUST SAID TO KEEP THE PEACE, EVEN AFTER SEPARATION WHEN HE BEAT ME ON THE STREET..."

"IT MADE ME SAD TO GET THIS QUESTIONNAIRE BECAUSE I'VE BEEN SEPARATED NOW FOR SIX MONTHS AND IT BROUGHT UP A LOT OF FEELINGS THAT I FEEL LUCKY TO BE OUT OF IT ALIVE..."

"CHILDREN INVOLVED, AND FEAR OF PARTNER'S REACTION."

"MY LAWYER \_\_\_\_\_ ADVISED ME TO FILE AN ASSAULT CHARGE AGAINST MY HUSBAND WHICH I DID. I WENT IN COURT 8 TIMES BEFORE THE TRIAL - IN THE END MY HUSBAND GOT OFF FREE OF THE CHARGE..."

"THIS IS A SUBJECT WHICH TOO OFTEN IS PUSHED UNDER THE RUG. IT'S TIME TO BRING IT OUT IN THE OPEN AND DEAL WITH IT NOW!"

"THE PROBLEM IS, IF I GO OUT AND GET HELP, HE TOLD ME ALREADY, THAT WILL BE MY LAST COMPLAINT."

"I HAVE SOLVED MY PROBLEM. IF I HAD RECEIVED THE ASSISTANCE WHEN I FIRST APPLIED, 10 YEARS BEFORE, MYSELF OR THE CHILDREN WOULD NEVER HAVE HAD TO SUFFER AS LONG AS WE DID. MY DIVORCE SHOULD BE THROUGH IN THE SPRING. THE SCARS AND MEMORIES ARE HARD TO FORGET WHAT WILL REMAIN WITH MY CHILDREN AND THEIR PROBLEMS DUE TO THIS LIFE REMAINS AHEAD."

"DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO GO" "TOO SCARED" "DIDN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO KNOW"

It is the object of Women In Transition to publish a handbook for Battered Women, for distribution throughout the city. Included in it will be emergency information, advice on alternatives available (Housing, Family Benefits, General Welfare, etc.) and legal steps to follow. Recommendations based on the two surveys will be made to the agencies concerned--It is hoped they will be receptive.

You are urged to lend your support to the plight of Battered Women -- Letters to the editor, letters of encouragement to Women In Transition, (316 Bay Street) or any other form of support, or can pass one to someone who has been a victim of Battering, please do so -- They are available at the libraries, community centres, some laundromats, Canada Manpower offices, Salvation Army Thrift stores, Operation Reclaim, City Social Services, Counselling Agency, to name a few, and 316 Bay Street.

## marriage contract

- Full disclosure of individual assets, and agreement that these shall continue to be owned separately by each person.
- Agreement that all property acquired by either party during the marriage shall be owned jointly.
- Neither party shall be forced to pay present or future debts incurred by the other (with the exception of necessities).
- An arbitrator may be appointed by mutual agreement for any future marital disputes.
- The woman takes responsibility for birth control, and reserves the right to end an unwanted pregnancy.
- The woman retains her own name in marriage.
- Neither partner will impose religion on their children (or, the children will be raised in a particular faith).
- Housework and childcare will be divided equally.
- Both parties will continue to pursue individual careers.

- Each partner may take two weeks vacation a year alone, if desired.
- Should one partner have to relocate for business purposes, the other is under no obligation to follow.
- Decision-making shall be shared equally.
- A partner engaged in child-raising or studying will be supported by the other.
- If childcare is not shared equally, then the employed spouse will contribute a certain sum every year to a savings account or pension fund in the stay-at-home partner's name.
- If both work, half of each income is the property of both during the marriage.
- If the marriage ends, both partners will continue to support the children. The partner with custody of the children will allow the other partner reasonable access.
- If the marriage ends, both partners will split all their Canada Pension Plan credits evenly.

- Either partner may initiate review and revision of this contract at any time, as the relationship grows and changes.
- The spouse who stays home to look after the children shall receive a designated sum, or a percentage of the family income, for her/his personal use, to save or spend as she/he pleases. Source Unknown



Northern Woman Journal page 13



**HORROR STORY**

In early 1974, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Speck of Pittsburgh decided they didn't want any more children. They already had two daughters afflicted with a rare, crippling hereditary disease shared by the father. In April 1974, Mr. Speck underwent a vasectomy. Nevertheless, Mrs. Speck was pregnant again by October. In December, she underwent an operation that she was told was an abortion. However, the baby arrived—a daughter, born with cerebral palsy and crossed eyes. The sickly, premature infant was kept in an incubator for 68 days before being sent home, and now she also has that much feared genetic disease. The Specks are suing both doctors for performing operations that didn't work. After the failed abortion, "when I told the doctor I was still pregnant," Mrs. Speck recalls, "he told me it was probably a floating urinary tumor."



**MEDICAL**

Ottawa -- A newspaper report says a study has found that one-third of 2,070 psychiatric out-patients were incorrectly diagnosed by Ottawa doctors over a three-year period. The Ottawa Journal says the study was conducted by Doctor Erwin Koranyi, Director of the Ottawa General Hospital's Adult Psychiatric Out-Patient Department.

The paper quotes Doctor Koranyi as saying he found cases of cancer, heart disease, brain tumors, syphilis, diabetes, and epilepsy which other physicians had missed.

Doctor Koranyi is quoted as saying he had one patient who had been prescribed an antacid for what was supposed to have been a nervous stomach disorder. Tests found the patient not only had cancer but a heart condition.

**MEDICAL - LAST TAKE 2**

These are some of the cases described in Koranyi's study:

--A patient presented herself several times at another hospital complaining of intense lower abdominal pain for several weeks and was told it was psychosomatic. The woman, who was 24, died of peritonitis -- internal bleeding, and complication following perforation by her intra-uterine device, a contraceptive.

--A patient, whose family physician said he was complaining of neck pain and headaches, was found to have a brain tumor.

--A patient, whose physician said she was suffering from depression, was being beaten by her husband for having miscarriages. The woman was suffering from a rare form of malaria which was also causing the miscarriages. After treatment the woman became pregnant, had her baby and the beatings stopped.

The newspaper says Koranyi's department returns its findings to the physicians who made the incorrect diagnoses. Some doctors accept the information with concern. Others become angry and stop referring cases.

A DEFINITION OF FEMINISM: "Something we have assiduously avoided. Feminism is working for political rights within the patriarchal system changing the monopoly of patriarchal standards, and preserving female experience."

Joan Hoff Wilson

**FEDERAL POLITICS: ROLL UP THOSE PRETTY CUFFS-**

**CHANGING OUR DAUGHTERS' FUTURE**

Similarly, in a speech to the Annual Congress of the *Chambre des Notaires du Quebec*, The Honourable Monique Begin, (Minister of National Health/Welfare) cited the following statistics on women in federal politics: There are now 9 women in the House of Commons, 3 of which are cabinet ministers. Two of these ministers are Quebecois. Of the 167 recommendations of the Royal Commission Report on the Status of Women, 122 are within federal jurisdiction. Of these, 19 have not been implemented in their entirety.

Begin says there are four major issues at the federal level which need immediate action to improve the status of women nationally. She advises thus:

- a) Remove abortion from the Criminal Code and apply the Act as it was voted by Parliament in 1968.
- b) Repeal that section of the Indian Act which stipulates that an Indian woman marrying a non-Indian loses her native status.
- c) Reform the Divorce Act and set up consolidated family courts.
- d) Amend the Income Tax Act to allow a wife employed in an unincorporated family business to be paid a salary.

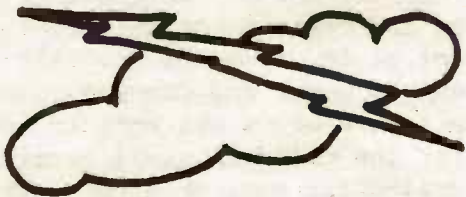
Begin reminds us "The day will come when the positions of Governor-General and Prime Minister will be held by women."

Adapted by Karen Richardson  
Credit to Status of Women News

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* **the** \*  
\* **CO-OP BOOKSHOP** \*  
\* **and** \*  
\* **RECORD CENTRE** \*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Excellent selection of Canadian literature, classics, film books, science fiction, crafts, poetry, many unusual titles. Best folk, ethnic and blues selection in town.  
Open till 8 each day and all day Sunday  
182 S. Algoma Street.  
On campus every Thursday beside the Main Cafeteria  
Phone 345-8913  
\*\*\*\*\*

**THUNDER CLAP**

To Pat Ryan and her excessive energy in organizing our successful Boogie.



**THUNDER BOLT**

To the man who smokes cigars and works at the LCBO - Algoma Street—who commented that "Our boogie must have been a fizz" when we returned some liquor.

"Rape  
Is  
An Exercise  
In  
Power"  
—Susan Brownmiller

**Teen Family**

Teen Family Program needs concerned community people throughout Thunder Bay to be volunteer Family Workers, One-to-One Friends, Special Interest Leaders, and Tutors. No special experience or education is needed: Teen Family Program offers an orientation/training program and workshops for volunteers. Please call 345-1531, or drop in to 164 Peter Street if you would like to hear more.

WHOOP - EE...  
 WE'RE HAVING A  
 LINEN SHOWER  
 (new/used)   
 for the soon-to-be-opened  
 NATIVE WOMEN'S CRISIS HOME  
 WHEN? - THURS., JUNE 15/78  
 8 p.m.  
 WHERE? - WOMEN'S PLACE -  
 316 BAY STREET  
 (Food & Refreshments Provided)



# GERMAINE GREER what she said

## PILL IS DESTROYING WOMEN

Germaine Greer says it. The bodies of women are headed for ruin because they refuse to take control over their lives.

The intra-uterine device, the Pill and the teeming array of contrivances designed to render a woman infertile --are destroying her. Contraceptive abortion is the only real autonomy a woman has over her fertility.

Contraception supposedly freed women. Not so, the controversial Australian feminist told a packed lecture theatre at Lakehead University Sunday night.

Pelvic inflammatory diseases brought on because of the Pill's tendency to change the body's intricate chemistry are at "epidemic levels," she said.

But nobody talks about it.

"It is a great irony that the world's cleanest women have guts that are completely rotten and pelvises that are unspeakably filthy."

"And if you were to taste us, any cannibal would say 'yuch', she's on the Pill."

The chemical changes which develop are sometimes subtle and hardly noticed. The breath, skin and vaginal secretions of a woman using the Pill take on a different odor, she said. There are a host of possible psychological and physiological upsets few women are aware of because "we don't really know what the pill does."

Some of its side effects aren't so subtle. Headaches, vaginal infections, swellings, sterility, blindness, cancer--and very likely, she said, a shortened life span.

"I happen to think that it isn't worth it. Fertility is not such a terrible scourge."

Greer, 39, is an internationally-known feminist best-known for her book, the Female Eunuch, published in 1971.

## RISQUE REMARKS

Grey pant-suited and black-booted, her address to the mixed crowd was sprinkled with off-the-cuff humor--some of it risqué, much of it unprintable. Not everyone agreed with her, but very few didn't respond to her oratorical skill.

Commenting on a statement in her book which said that any woman who would not taste her own menstrual blood had a long way to go towards liberation she said: "I'm not asking you to do it. I'm asking you to think about the idea that something which is coming out of your own body is horrible. It's not horrible."

The responsibility for a woman's body does not lie with the medical profession. It lies with women, she said.

"Medical procedures are never fool-proof. And most doctors are fools."

At the heart of the problem is the "basic insecurity of women."

"We are constantly doing things in order to be loved."

She pointed out that jealousy between the sexes have separate sources of motivation. While men fear infidelity because they don't want to share their women, women fear it because they don't want to be abandoned.

"A marriage that ends is not a marriage that fails...it's just shorter."

"I don't think we're everygoing to get along with men until we learn to get along without them. I'm not suggesting lesbianism as a political tactic," she remarked lightly, "It's much too good for that."

## UNNECESSARY

She suggested that actual insertion of the penis into the vagina (intra-mission) is not absolutely necessary for a normal sex life.

The fact is that many women don't want intramission and this is evidenced if they don't produce vaginal lubrication. But in this society, women will not tell their mates what they want or don't want, she said.

Withdrawal of the penis at point of climax, is a discouraged form of contraception which Greer favors. However, she said she would hesitate to recommend it in this society because most people have sexual relations "when they're drunk or stoned," thereby lessening their chances of self-control, she said.

## IUD NOT SAFE

The IUD is not safe. Users bleed heavily. They are often inserted improperly. They wander to other parts of the body. They are frequently rejected by the body itself.

And rejecting an IUD is "rather like giving birth to a bread knife."

Commenting on contraceptive creams and jellies, she said it doesn't make sense that substances which are not supposed to be put on the skin can be placed inside the sensitive vagina.

Tubal ligations are probably "simpler to perform than vasectomies" but the real problem is the four-hour operation involved to have it reversed, she said.

She didn't leave many contraceptive options open.

Except abortion.

Abortions, even self-abortions, can be easier, safer and faster than IUD insertions but they will continue to be for the most part embarrassing, painful and costly as long as society believes they are an evil to be only slightly tolerated, she said.

"They (society) don't like abortion because abortion is a matter of choice. It has an aspect of real control. They want fantasy control (chemical contraception)."

"I'm not telling you what to do but to do some accounting...find out what they've taken away from you...and don't say ignorance is bliss because that's what they rely upon."

by Nelle Oosterom  
Credit to Chronicle-  
Journal



Despite the coverage by the Chronicle-Journal on the visit of Germaine Greer to our fair city there will be only a small portion of the public with enough emotional security to understand the message she brought us. We prefer to get hung up in the rhetoric, to dwell on the fee as an escape mechanism, grey painted and black booted and a dirty mouth, the media image of fascist repression bringing us decadence and perversion. Could we have borne to hear the message in simple terms, that our bodies are our own, that our minds are our own, that our conscience is our own and that every infringement upon these territories whether by state or church or man or woman is an assault on our very souls.

She is saying that in the final analysis unless we recognize where availability to the sexual appetites of our brothers have led us and understand the reasons why we respond to those appetites we will continue to abuse our bodies and our minds to escape the consequences of that act. She is suggesting that we all have a lot to learn about sexual and social intercourse and that woman is paying a very high price for man's exploration of the subject; she is saying that fear of not pleasing has castrated us spiritually and made us uncertain of our own sensuality. She is telling us if we were really aware of how little casual sex (and I consider anything taken for granted is pretty casual) adds to our perception of either love or romance we might seriously consider it hardly worth the trouble.

The myth that all children conceived in love belongs only to the blind for love is a conscious decision for a shared responsibility --make no mistake--our outmoded abortion laws have nothing to do with a burning concern for children, the world is full of battered, bleeding and starving children, enough to keep these fanatic defenders of an 8 week foetus on their knees and broke forever. What it has to do with is control, a misguided conviction that women are not capable of a moral decision unless that decision coincides with a pre-drafted conception of woman as a productive instrument. The hypocrisy in our present abortion law is staggering, it makes no moral statement but it draws a line. Yes if you can afford it and no if you can't, on the grounds of human rights alone we should be enraged.

Given all this, Germaine Greer is saying Face the reality, your backs are against the wall, there is no help and no pity anywhere, come to terms with your own sexuality, quit putting hardware and chemicals in your system for somebody else's benefit, quit looking for someone else to complete you, you are whole persons and you reselling your souls for the kind of gratification that is not worth the price you're paying. If one young woman heard her message loud and clear it could change her entire life and make the price paid for her (Germaine's) visit our best bargain this year.

Gert Beadle



# Credit Union News

## Update -

The Northern Women's Credit Union is presently operating with volunteer help only.

Their paid staff person, Betty Harkema, was paid as part of a Canada Works Project, I.W.Y. Revisited, which ended on April 28th.

Betty is still volunteering her time when she can and there are other qualified women to take your deposits, withdrawals or loan application, BUT try to conduct your business on the days the credit union is officially open (Tuesdays, Fridays and Thursday evenings) when we can guarantee a qualified person will be in the office.

### LOAN LIMIT \$2,500.

The loan limit is now \$2,500. in excess of the member's shares.

The credit committee reports a large increase in approved loans in the past month and urge all members to keep their share accounts growing by regular deposits, by cheque or money order, if you can't come into the office.

The credit committee reports, also, that the nature of the loans requested have been mainly for

NORTHERN WOMEN'S CREDIT UNION  
316 BAY ST.

HOURS  
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS  
10 a.m. TO 5 p.m.  
THURSDAYS 7 p.m. TO 9 p.m.  
PH. 345-7802

emergencies, so it is vital for a women's credit union to be able to meet the credit needs of these women who in spite of anti-sex discrimination laws are still being judged on the basis of myths about women's financial irresponsibility. This credit committee judges your credit worthiness on the basis of character and ability to repay.

As you increase your share deposits the credit union's capital assets increase and the loan limit increases thus allowing the credit committee to permit larger loans.

Even if you are presently paying on a loan try to deposit something, however small, into your share account. As for all of you whose account has been inactive for months, come on, help us help the many women in need of financial assistance.

MUST BE A MEMBER

If you are considering a loan remember that you must first be approved as a member to be eligible. The board of directors approves your membership at their monthly meeting. Don't delay your loan--JOIN NOW.

### LOGO CONTEST

The board of directors appreciates the efforts of the many women who submitted logos. There have been many good ones but the board had to postpone their decision last month due to a very heavy schedule of other business. They should be deciding at the next meeting early in June. If you are still considering submitting a logo you still have time to bring or mail it in.

### INTERPRETERS NEEDED

\*PORTUGUESE                      \*ITALIAN  
\*OJIBWAY                            \*CREE  
\*UKRAINIAN

to translate a booklet on alternatives for battered women. PLEASE CALL WOMEN IN TRANSITION - 345-8272

## THE COST OF BORROWING

by Noreen Lavoie

What it costs to buy on credit or borrow on a loan is confusing to most of us when all we have in the way of information is an interest rate that the lender charges. How they determine the actual cost by this rate of interest is important for us to know.

If finance charges on goods, for example, are added to the purchase price and the total is to be repaid in 12 equal monthly payments:

Example #1

WHEN THEY SAY	YOU PAY
1% per month	21.46% per year
10% per year	17.97% per year

If finance charges are made on the unpaid balance each month:

Example #2

WHEN THEY SAY	YOU PAY
1% per month	12% per year
1½% per month	18% per year

The Northern Women's Credit Union determines interest as in sample #2 at 1% per month or 12% per year.

When we read that some banks are offering loans at 11.5% we must first determine what this means in actual costs before we can compare.

Let's say you want to borrow \$500. and pay it back in a year:  
Example #1: equal monthly payments  
 $\$500. \times 21.46\% = \$607.30$ . Cost to you  $\$607.30 - 500. = \$107.30$ .

Example #2: unpaid balance monthly  
 $\$500. \times 12\% = \$60$ . Cost to you \$60. Based on the two methods of computing the interest, there is a difference of \$47.30.

If you cannot find out which way the lending agency computes the interest, do this:  
Choose a figure close to your own loan requirement and a time figure for repayment. *Phone* the bank

instead of making a personal visit (less hassle and easier to obtain only the facts), the credit union or finance agency, and ask what your monthly payments will be. Multiply the amount they give you by the number of months you asked for to repay. Subtract this amount from the amount of the loan and the difference will be the actual cost to borrow.

It is the *actual cost* to you that should be uppermost in your mind when shopping for credit.

We know and you will find out that, for personal loans, you cannot beat a credit union.

Remember, too, that most credit unions will be returning to you a percentage of the interest you paid in the form of a loan rebate.

## SHOULD PROSTITUTION....

cont'd. from P. 5

poor and desperate. Rather than decriminalization, the law should recognize that, as in other types of employment such as child labour, it is the employer (the man who solicits the services of a prostitute), and not his employee (the prostitute) who is the criminal. Once the law holds that the man who solicits sexual services is guilty of a crime, and not the woman who works as a prostitute usually out of desperate circumstances, reforms to make prostitution obsolete (as child labour was made obsolete) will be instituted.

It will be a great setback for women kind if prostitutes are seen only as a kind of proletariat whose struggle to organize must be supported. No woman, whether poor or middle-class, needs the subjugation of prostitution tolerated by the law and instituted in the fabric of our society. Thus feminists must not allow their concern for prostitution to extend to the tolerance of prostitution as an acceptable means of employment for women.





Canada Post / Canada Post  
 Bulk third class / En nombre troisième classe  
 220

RETURN TO:

THE NORTHERN WOMAN  
 316 BAY ST.  
 THUNDER BAY P, ONT.

Return Postage Guaranteed

Donna Shaw  
 171 Banning St.  
 Thunder Bay P, Ont.  
 P7B 3J2

TABLE OF CONTENTS:	pg
Editorial, Gert's Gospel.....	2
Letters .....	3
The Silent Crime .....	4
Motherhood .....	5
Carol Auld .....	6
Is This What We Want .....	8
Poetry .....	10
McRae Visit .....	12
Bits and Pieces .....	14
Germaine Greer .....	15
Credit Union .....	16

HAVE YOU MOVED? PLEASE LET US KNOW.  
 (We must pay return postage to keep  
 up our mailing list)

Your subscription is due.

**The Northern Woman**  
 316 Bay Street,  
 Thunder Bay, Ont.  
 (Six Issues)  
 \$4.50 year  
 \$8.50 Business  
 or Institution

*Life*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Donations  
 Gratefully  
 Accepted

