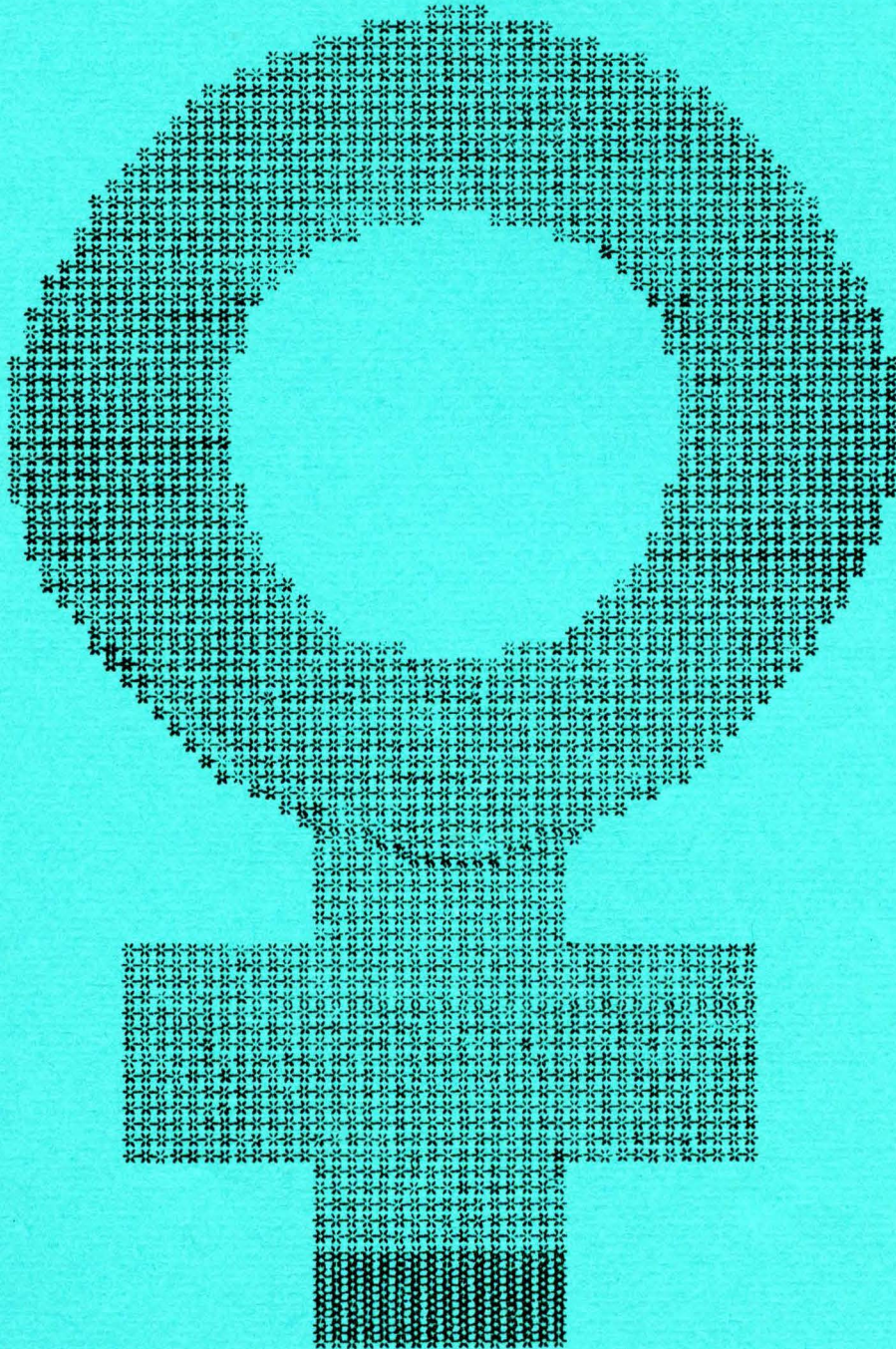


SEPTEMBER

1975



Winnipeg Women's Liberation Newsletter

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The Monthly Newsletter is published by Winnipeg Women's Liberation office at a WOMAN'S PLACE, 143 Walnut Street, phone 786-4581.

If you have any letters, articles, announcements, poems, literary articles to submit, send them to the above address.

Subscription price \$3.00 per annum; single copy price 25¢

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WOMEN'S LIBERATION NEWSLETER

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1	2	3	4	5	6	
	BACK TO SCHOOL!	♀ Place Planning Mtg 7:30 p.m.				
7	8 Discussion Conference in MEXICO 8:00 p.m. ♀ Place	9 MAREE United Way BOARD Room 267 Edmonton Speaker: Mr. LOEWEN near School Supt. 8:00 p.m.	10	11 NEW TO ♀ LIBERATION MTG 8:00 p.m.	12	13
14	15 ♀ Place Business Mtg 8:00 p.m.	16 NEWS- LETTER COLLECTIVE MTG 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Single, divorced, Separated Women mtg 8:00 p.m.	19	20
21	22 NEWSLETTER LAYOUT REPORT FROM PLANNING RE OCT 25 RALLY	23	24 Planetarium RECONSTRUCTION OF VIETNAM 8:00 p.m.	25	26 DEADLINE Submissions for "WOMAN AS VIEWER"	27
28	29 NEWSLETTER MAIL OUT 7:30 p.m.	30				

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER

Letters to the Newsletter Collective must not exceed 300 words. Opinions expressed in these letters do not necessarily reflect the policies of this newsletter.

LETTERS

Dear Sisters:

Please note my change of address for the mailing list of the monthly newsletter.

I must say that I thoroughly enjoy each month's issue of the newsletter and eagerly await its arrival. Keep up the good work!

I realize that we, as women, can become discouraged easily--but always look ahead to our goal--freedom! and don't give up.

Peace be with you,

Liz Cronk

WOMAN AS VIEWER

We, the Committee for Women Artists, are soliciting submissions for an art show entitled "WOMAN AS VIEWER" to be held at the Winnipeg Art Gallery from November 25 to December 14, 1975.

Women artists are invited to submit not more than ten slides of works in any media, figurative or abstract, from which works will be chosen by a jury of professional artists. The jury will also select one work which will be used on a 16" x 24" four colour poster to publicize the show. (The artist chosen will receive \$150.00 for the reproduction of her work.) Works will be insured in transit and return shipping costs will be provided. We would appreciate your co-operation in submitting your own work and in contacting other women who would welcome this opportunity to show their work. Slides must be submitted by September 26, 1975. Enclosed please find a poster which we hope you will be able to display.

Hopefully, "Woman as Viewer" will counteract the effect of an art show being presented by the Women's Committee of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. The Women's

Committee show is featuring women as the subject of art in the 19th and 20th centuries. This topic will necessitate the use of works by male artists and will inevitably perpetuate past stereotypes of women. "Woman as Viewer" will include only works by women in an effort to equalize past exclusion of women artists from major shows.

As well as this, we hope the works of art will exemplify the new consciousness of women who are attempting to overcome their traditional position of oppressing in society. Many women artists of today are seeking a new aesthetic which will express the female mode of existence in visual images. We anticipate works of art which will portray female rather than male conceptions. We hope this show will challenge conventional ideas about women and their view of themselves, of men, and of the world. We would like to bring a new female sensibility to the public.

We have obtained funding through the Secretary of State as part of the International Women's Year program.

The title of the show, "Woman as Viewer", emphasizes woman as one who sees rather than is seen, who does rather than is done to; woman as active, rather than passive.

Because this issue is so important and appreciated by so few in our society, we trust you will give special attention to our request.

If you are interested in taking part in this show please send your slides to:

Committee for Women Artists
"Woman as Viewer"
2-374 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Yours truly;

Suzanne Gillies; co-ordinator for the Committee for Women Artists

WOMAN AS VIEWER

A JURY SHOW FOR WOMEN ARTISTS
NOVEMBER 27 ~ DECEMBER 14, 1975
AT THE WINNIPEG ART GALLERY *
submission requirements

- Not more than 10 slides (35 mm.) of works in any medium to be submitted to:
WOMAN AS VIEWER SHOW
2-374 Donald Street
WINNIPEG, Manitoba R3B 2J2.
- Deadline for submissions: SEPTEMBER 26, 1975.
- All submissions will be returned; all works will be insured.

poster competition

- One image will be chosen from the submissions for a 16" x 24" poster publicizing the exhibition.
- The artist selected will receive \$150 for the reproduction of her work.

an international women's year project

funded by the Secretary of State Department, Ottawa.

* This exhibition is organized and co-ordinated by the Committee for Women Artists, Winnipeg, independent of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Exhibition space courtesy of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Direct further enquiries to "The Committee for Women Artists" at the above address.

FEATURES

Women in Literature

by Millie Lamb

INSTALLMENT ONE

The Women's Liberation Newsletter is pleased to present this soul-stirring piece of work in serial form. The first installment in this month's issue will no doubt rivet your attention in addition to providing you with much pleasure and thought.

about the author.....Millie Lamb's interest in women writers and women in literature goes back a long time to Louisa May Alcott and L. M. Montgomery. Millie felt a strong identification with Jo and Anne as fearless resourceful human beings and later with Jane Austen's Elizabeth and George Eliot's Maggie. This feeling about women--in her work with the Women's Movement and in Women's Theatre since 1968 has been reinforced--feelings she wants to share with the young people she teaches and women readers. Millie Lamb teaches English Literature to Senior High School students at Sturgeon Creek.

¹ HAMLET, Act III, Sc 2

² The Manitoba Teachers' Society, BRIEF TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN.

³ Buckley, Jerome H, ed. POEMS OF TENNYSON, "The Princess; A Medley" p. 158 (Houghton Mufflin Company, 1958)

WOMEN IN LITERATURE

If the purpose of literature, in Hamlet's words, "was and is, to hold as 'twere the mirror up to nature, to show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure,"¹ what image of women does that mirror show?

Literature as taught in schools is a masculine mirror. What follows is supportive evidence, and a modest proposal to redress the balance in the teaching of secondary English, by emphasizing the role of women as fifty per cent of the human race.

Five years ago the Royal Commission on the Status of Women concluded, "...a woman's creative and intellectual potential is either underplayed or ignored in the education of children from their earliest years."

The brief to the Royal Commission on the Status of Women, submitted by the Manitoba Teachers' Society, in 1968, was no less critical; "Our boys and girls are stereotyped. Although a girl's interests, abilities, and attitudes are found to lie on a continuum ranging between masculine and feminine, a sharp distinction is made between a boy and a girl.....Very early in life the girl is taught to be a sex object.....When the young girl begins school, she already realizes that her future role as a wife and mother is of prime importance..... Early education of boys and girls is differentiated either consciously or unconsciously by teachers.....Throughout

the education of our youth, social attitudes determine the education received and in turn keep the attitudes fixed." ²

As Mike McGrady pointed out in the Winnipeg Free Press of June 5, 1971, "It begins at the beginning, in the Dick and Jane readers. Even in the title Dick comes first. Jane is silly, playful, essentially a frivolous sort. Dick, on the other hand, is practical, hard-headed, sensible.

"See that baby doll," said Jane
That doll can talk,
I want it.

I want a doll that talks."

"Oh, Jane," said Dick.

"You have two big dolls.

Do you want a baby doll, too?"

"Oh, I guess not," said Jane.

"I guess I have all the dolls I want."

From Dick and Jane we go to the world of fairy tales, where the image sharpens somewhat. The beautiful maiden spends her life--sometimes in sleep--waiting for the prince's magic kiss. She sews and cooks and spins while he is involved in acts of courage, the slaying of dragons and so forth.

And she reappears in more adult books--she is the secretary to the private eye; the glamorous other woman in a love triangle--always in the armchair. It is clear most writers have prized women for the same reasons they might prize a cocker spaniel--a fineness of line, a glossiness of pelt, an aristocratic stance, and above all else, an alertness in responding to commands."

....Continued on next page

Tennyson makes this very explicit in his narrative poem, "The Princess"—a young woman who insists on educational equality, until taught better by the Prince:

Man is the hunter; woman is his game
The sleek and shining creature of the chase;
We hunt them for the beauty of their skins;
They love us for it and we ride them down.

and

Man for the field and woman for the hearth;
Man for the sword and for the needle she;
Man with the head, and woman with the heart;
Man to command, and woman to obey;
All else confusion. 3

A generation of educators absorbed such ideals — and later the more advanced ideas of D. H. Lawrence.

.....to be continued

NEXT MONTH INSTALLMENT TWO LOOKS AT
SOME OF THE WORK OF D. H. LAWRENCE AND
MORE.



HELP!

If you have a few hours a week
please volunteer to staff the house!
Even a few hours a month will be of
enourmous assistance.

WOMEN AND SELF-DEFENSE

by Joanne Richardson

The OFY project WOMEN AND SELF-DEFENCE has completed a successful summer. Produced was a half-hour video-tape (which depicts basic exercises and self-defence movements) as well as a forty-one page manual which gives a detailed, photographed description of various self-defence techniques. The techniques were chosen for their simplicity and practicality. Copies of this manual are to be made available at very little or no cost. Anyone wishing a free copy may obtain one from A WOMAN'S PLACE any time after mid-September. If orders are filled by mail the fee is 25¢ to cover postage.

Women responded well to the courses and seminars that were given over the summer. It is always gratifying to work with women who have decided that it is time to fight back.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLANNING MEETING AT WOMAN'S PLACE

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD
7:30 PM

Rally, workshops and social against Federal evaluation of International Women's Year. (October 25th)

Help plan for this important event to take place--we need each other!

LOOKING FOR A NEW T-SHIRT?

A Woman's Place has them!!! As a fund-raising project some great T-shirts were silk-screened for our own enjoyment. Available are Wonder Women designs and a Women's Liberation design. For only \$4.00 each (\$2.00 children's) support this worthy cause.

RECONSTRUCTION IN VIETNAM

is the topic of two representatives of the new government of South Vietnam who will give a public address at a meeting on WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 1975 at 8:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Winnipeg Planetarium (across from City Hall). For further information please phone Doreen Plowman at 582-4248.

CJUM-FM

is a new Winnipeg radio station scheduled to go on the air this fall. They are situated in the University Centre at the U of M and the station hopes to involve not only the academic community but as many Winnipeg people as possible.

Strong emphasis is placed on the hope of interesting women's groups in developing regular programs; or if this is not feasible, occasional features and information on activities.

If you have any ideas, questions or comments call Sheila Baptie at 474-9327.

TWO NEW GROUPS

- Mtg. 11
Sept. 11
8:00 p.m.
1. Women new to Women's Liberation wanting to rap and/or find out more about the movement are forming a group. If interested call Tula at 786-4581.
 2. A rap group for single, divorced, separated or separating women--especially those with children will begin in September. We have many requests from women wanting to meet others in similar circumstances. If you know of someone who needs such a group have them call Ellen at 774-5080.
- Mtg
Sept. 18
8:00 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR MEETING

to discuss the Conference held in Mexico. This important and interesting gathering is planned for September 8th and hopefully there will be copies available of researched official and unofficial minutes of the Conference.

8:00 p.m.

THE WOMEN WITH TWO CAREERS

U.M.S.U. special project: the forth coming International Women's Year Conference on "The Women With Two Careers" to be held October 4th and 5th, 1975.

The structure of the conference would involve basically four forums with workshops:

1. The Woman with two careers: mother and breadwinner.
2. Childcare.
3. The child's development, role playing, elimination of sexist education, etc.
4. Family planning.

There will be an informal gathering on the Saturday evening and a plenary session on the Sunday evening.

MANITOBA LEGAL HANDBOOK

Revised edition 1975 available for only 60¢ from A Woman's Place

