

M.A.C.S.W.
702-70 Arthur Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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ACTION

Dear Sir:

February 1994 MANITOBA ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN NEWSLETTER Vol.21, No.1

Bobbitt trial leaves deep wound in war between the sexes

• From Page A1

In a statement read by a friend, Mrs. Bobbitt said she hoped her case would help other women abused by their husbands and said she would still seek "the American dream."

Addressing other abused women, Mrs. Bobbitt said in the statement read by the friend: "Your lives are probably filled with fear and no hope of escape."

Her friend, Jann Bisutti, added: "She encourages you to reach out. Talk to someone, a friend, a family member or someone you can trust, or call a crisis hot line and try to get some help."

"If publicity of her abuse helps one person find freedom then all of this was not in vain."

After the verdict was announced, a sort of battle of the sexes broke out immediately in the offices, streets and bars of North America. Many offices in the United States reported their female staff cheering while male staffers looked glum — or at least strong and silent.

In a statement, the National Organization for Women said that despite the acquittal, a strong federal law on violence against women was necessary.

"We're glad the jury rejected the twisted argument that a battered woman should be locked up in a prison cell," said NOW executive vice-president Kim Gandy. "[But] this whole saga drives home the need for swift passage of a comprehensive version of the Violence Against

Women Act, which is stalled in the never-never land of congressional manoeuvring."

The founder of a U.S. "men's-rights" group, the National Organization for Men, said the verdict meant every man in America was now vulnerable to the kind of attack Mrs. Bobbitt inflicted on her husband.

"It's a tragedy, but I'm afraid it's now open season on men," said Sidney Siller, founder of what he called "the country's largest group defending the interests of heterosexual men."

In the end, after seven days and ten lurid testimony and a defence and seven hours of deliberation, the jury of seven women and five men had accepted the defence

argument that Mrs. Bobbitt had acted in the grip of "irresistible impulse" — in effect, temporary insanity — when she covered her husband's penis with a single stroke of a kitchen knife last June 23.

The trial judge sentenced her to 4 years in prison for mental health reasons, but the judge later reduced the term to 1 year for her husband.

But the verdict cast a shadow of a doubt over the prison term that convicted men have brought.

In a particularly bizarre twist in the case, Mrs. Bobbitt admitted she had hacked off the member and tossed it out the window of her car as she fled — where a policeman found it and rushed it to the hospital where John Wayne Bobbitt had been taken.

Judge scolds rape victim

Date-rape furore

FREDERICTON — A professor at the University of New Brunswick has touched off a storm of indignation with his suggestion that date-rape is a natural outlet for the sexual needs of young men.

Matin Yaqzan, an assistant professor of mathematics, wrote an article published in the student newspaper saying women should expect sexual intercourse when they agree to accompany a man to his bedroom. He said rape is a terrifying prospect only for virtuous women.

Many believe abuse statistics a feminist plot: psychologist

Date rape comments cause campus furor

It's a natural outlet, says professor

Got those "They're on the Wrong Planet" Blues? Sometimes Laughter is the only Non-Violent Option

Inside: Zero Tolerance of Violence
Woman Healing for Change
Interview with Yvette Nolan

Bobbitt ruling means open season on men

About MACSW

The Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women is a volunteer-based, non-profit feminist organization working through political action, public education and personal growth in order to improve attitudes, raise issues and remove inequalities affecting women today.

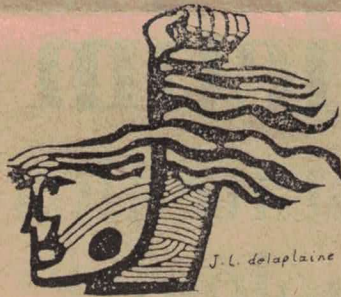
MACSW was formed in 1971 by a group of women who presented a brief to the federal Royal Commission on the Status of Women in 1967. MACSW has branches in Brandon, Dauphin, Thompson and Winnipeg.

About ACTION

ACTION is published 9 times a year by the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women, with the assistance of the Secretary of State Women's Program. The purpose of *ACTION* is to inform MACSW members about MACSW initiatives, to encourage members to take action on a personal and political level, and to serve as a forum to discuss all issues affecting the changing status of women. Articles express the views of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect MACSW policy.

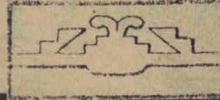
About ACTION Articles

News and feature-style articles, profiles, reviews, essays, letters to the editor, illustrations, cartoons and photographs are all welcome! Written submissions should be double-spaced and typed (2 pages max.) Material may be edited. Sorry, submissions will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. **Deadline for the next issue is the 15th of the month.**



Send stuff to:
ACTION Newsletter
MACSW
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702-70 Arthur Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1G7
Telephone: 948-5049

This issue: MACSW staff, Pat Sadowy, Marion Foster, Allison Dewar, Pam Jakubec, Marjorie Turton, Kelly Logan, Christie Harris, Suzy Waldman, Shannon McKenty, Jorica Perry, Sabine Hikel & Newsletter Coordinator Fiona Muldrew. Cover by Fiona Muldrew & various newspapers.



Thank you New & Renewed Members!

Gerri Thorsteinson
Louise Leask
Babs Friesen
Elizabeth Hudson
Sharon Kuharaku
Joyce Brazer
Lisa Yaroshko
Ann Marie MacIntyre
Lori Obirek
Jennifer Srigley
Dale Lee

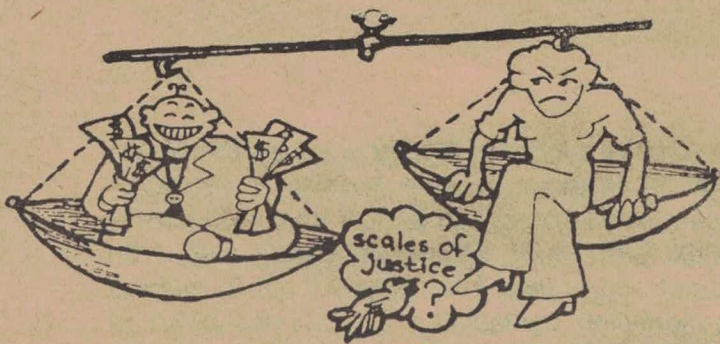
Audrey Myers
Judith Werier
Bonnie Caldwell
Trish Kovnats
Eugene Kostyra
Claudine Majzels
Linda Goosen
Eileen McFadden
Megan Lindsay
Judy Brown
Anne MacLean

Donna Turton
Leona Mayer
Jim Thompson
Rachel Abbott
Greenpeace
Marquis Project
Heather Kirkham
Gustine Wilton
Janine Cutler
M.J. Bewer
Colleen Watters

Sheila Goraluk
Davilyn Eyolfson
Cathy Thomassen
Karen Tjaden
Klinic Community Health Centre
MB Gov't Employees Union
MFL Women's Committee
Wisconsin State Historical Society
Sonia Kowalewich

Advertise in ACTION!

New advertising rates as of Sept., 1993: 1/4 page ad--\$30/\$25 for non-profit groups / MACSW members. 1/8 page ad (business card)--\$20/\$15 for non-profit groups / MACSW members. For info ph. 946-5049.



Zero Tolerance on Violence

Kelly Logan

A coalition of women's groups in Winnipeg has taken the first steps towards strengthening the province's Zero Tolerance Policy on Domestic Violence. Last November, the Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg Family Violence Circle, Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre, Reseau, Women in Second Stage Housing and MACSW joined forces to create a report entitled "Concerns About the Implementation of the Zero Tolerance Policy." Listed in this paper are 16 issues which the coalition wants the Department of Justice to address and act upon.

What largely initiated this effort was one woman's battle with the legal system. Since her abusive husband's release from prison in 1992, Mary Ann Strowbridge has been desperately trying to secure counselling for him. Ms. Strowbridge first gained media attention when she carried through with a threatened bank robbery to guarantee funding for this counselling. As well, she has been unable to have charges laid against him for breaking his probation order which forbids him from having contact with her. Last year, an investigation into her situation confirmed that due to the wording of his probation order, her husband was not obligated to attend counselling sessions.

At about the same time as this investigation, then acting Chief Justice Brian Giesbrecht made headlines with his suggestion that because of the backlog in the Family Violence Court, trials for cases without a reasonable expectation of conviction should be put on hold while the accused is directed into counselling. Suddenly, newspapers were filled with stories on how domestic assault charges had tripled in three years, how a nine month backlog left many cases vulnerable to challenges by reason of undue delay, how a large number of

complainants have been "uncooperative" and refused to testify, and how the legal profession in general has not been very pleased with Zero Tolerance. Only a few of these articles offered a woman's perspective.

MACSW's news release criticized the Justice Department for failing women like Mary Ann Strowbridge. Concerns over the Zero Tolerance Policy then leaped from the media's agenda to a political one as Assistant Deputy Attorney General Stu Whitley, in responding to this news release, made an open invitation to MACSW to discuss the policy. MACSW extended the invitation to other groups, resulting in the formation of a coalition and their report.

The issues covered in this report range from very broad areas of concern to specific points. In summary they are:

- the allocation of increased funding to the Family Violence Court;
- resolving the court backlog by methods other than a diversion of certain cases to mediation and/or counselling;
- the need for a pre-sentencing assessment to determine the effectiveness of counselling for the accused;
- mandating the police to search for evidence other than the complainant's testimony, so the pressure isn't just on the abused woman to testify;
- addressing complaints of how the police are inconsistent in pressing charges in domestic assault calls;
- the need for a greater number of staff and Aboriginal staff in particular at the Women's Advocacy Program to assist women in the legal system;
- specific attention to the threat faced by Aboriginal women on reserves;
- supporting and funding Aboriginal communities to establish an Aboriginal Justice System to deal with non-violent cases;
- correcting the problem of women being charged with assault when acting in self-defence;
- consistency and clarity in the wording of probation orders;
- developing more effective peace bonds;
- classifying and charging private investigators who assist in looking for abused women in hiding (in shelters or elsewhere) as stalkers;

- creating an ad campaign and education program directed at violence and sexism;
- producing a written summary of the goals and undertakings of the Zero Tolerance Policy;
- ensuring adequate and stable funding to service agencies providing safety, counselling and transition services to women in violent situations;
- funding to develop secure transition homes for abused women.

The subsequent meeting with Mr. Whitley last December was attended by 10 women from the coalition's various groups. Discussion of the report allowed for elaboration and clarification of the problems listed in it. Mr. Whitley noted that an education program on violence was already underway and that he would act immediately to resolve concerns about probation orders, peace bond orders, inconsistencies in the laying of charges and stalking legislation. However, he was reluctant to make any commitment to an Aboriginal Justice System or to any request for extra funding. It was agreed that dialogue between the coalition and the Justice Department should continue. Presently, MACSW and the other groups are waiting for a written response to the report.



Brandon Branch Report

Jennifer Howard, Administrative Coordinator

The Christmas/Hannukah/Solstice/Kwanzaa Season is finally over and we're all back into the thick of feminism. Since Santa neglected to put a peaceful, woman-friendly, environmentally sound world in my stocking (even though I've been asking for one for the last decade!), that means we're back into action.

Parliament is now back in session and the budget should be out this month. Watch for what will happen to the Women's Programme (MACSW's funding). It has been moved to Human Resources, of which **Lloyd Axworthy** is Minister. Letters of concern and pleas for increased funding should be sent to him and your MP, postage free, to: **House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6**

On the subject of money, and lack thereof, the City of Brandon will be holding a forum on poverty on February 23 and 24 from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at St. Matthew's Parish Hall, 13th Street and Louise Ave. If you want to make a presentation contact the City Clerk's office at 729-2207. MACSW will be presenting. If you'd like to help please call the office at 725-2955.

We held a vigil on December 6 that was well attended and well covered by the local media. With the assistance of Councillor Drew Caldwell we also put forward a motion for the City to declare December 6 a Civic Day of Remembrance for Violence Against Women. It passed unanimously and will be forwarded to the Union of Manitoba Municipalities and the Provincial Legislature for consideration. Thanks to Karen Lewthwaite, of the YWCA Westman Women's Shelter; and Mary Annis of Women for Equality, for making presentations on this motion.

In celebration of International Women's Day we will be holding a conference on gender and development (GAD) theory entitled "GAD: Questioning the Answers." We have been working with several local development agencies on this project and it promises to be enlightening and empowering. A brochure and registration form is enclosed in ACTION. For more information call 725-2955.

It's Brandon Career Symposium time again. MACSW will have a table at this year's event held on March 7, 8 and 9. This is our one opportunity to reach thousands of young people with information they wouldn't ordinarily get. If you can help, please call the office at 725-2955.

I travelled by train to Edmonton in December for a much needed vacation and visit with family and met several women en route. As usual I was asked what I "did" in Brandon. Whenever I tell someone new that I work for MACSW, I brace myself for their reaction, expecting backlash and defensiveness. This time, though, the women I talked to were supportive and eager to share their own stories of life in the patriarchy. I realized that these women were feminists even though they didn't self-identify as such. While this is sometimes frustrating, it's also a sign that the message is getting out, and whether we recognize them or not, feminists are everywhere!

Winnipeg Branch Report

Susan Banks, Administrative Coordinator

During the past couple of months our Political Action Sub-Committee has met on a regular basis to address a number of issues. On December 1, ten women from MACSW and other women's groups met with Stu Whitley, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, to discuss our many concerns about the implementation of the zero tolerance policy. A letter was drafted outlining our concerns, to which Stu Whitley is planning to respond in writing but has not yet done so. He sent us a copy of a letter he wrote to the Chief of Police regarding abused women being charged with assault.

In other news, we have written a letter to Justice Minister Rosemary Vodrey requesting a reopening of the inquiry against Judge Bruce McDonald, who has, on a number of occasions, made sexist/racist remarks in the courtroom. On one occasion he told a woman who was applying for a restraining order against her abusive partner to go home and try to work it out. We have also urged that community representatives have input into the overhaul of the Judicial Council, which deals with complaints against judges, and eventually sit on the Council.

In December, Chris Kolba organized an educational evening on New Reproductive Technologies with Sari Tudiver and Madeline Boscoe from the Women's Health Clinic. They showed a film and spoke to an interested crowd about the Royal Commission report which they were pleasantly surprised with. They hope the Liberal government will devote money to implement the recommendations.

Carol deHedervary organized a fundraising seminar for women's groups and responded to a deeply offensive and inaccurate article attacking the feminist movement, by Peter Warren, which added to the Sun's "Battle of the Sexes" treatment of women's issues. Copies of the ongoing saga are available in the office.

The trial date for Norman Andrushuk, who is accused of stabbing Kimberly Flett, a young Aboriginal woman, has been set for May 16-20, 1994. We encourage people to attend the trial in support of Kimberly. We raised \$120 for a

hamper for Kimberly.

In January, Fiona Muldrew spoke to Greenpeace about MACSW and links between the environmental and women's movements. Greenpeace has just moved into the same building so we look forward to working together more often. Fiona is also involved in a Gender and Development group which is just starting up in Winnipeg to network among women interested in the links between local and international women's issues. There will be a meeting on Feb. 15 (see back page) for anyone interested. Phone Fiona at 946-5049 for info.

The Emotional Abuse in the Workplace Committee has produced a pamphlet about workplace emotional abuse. A very successful public event drew about 20 people. Phone 946-5049 for info or copies of the pamphlet.

Kristin McMorran has been able to extend her contract until March 31 to work on a Women's Resource Guide and has rallied numerous volunteers from MACSW and the YWCA to help with the guide. It should be ready in April, 1994.

Charlene Ball and Chris Kolba have set up a volunteer public education committee with Stacey Crooks, Wendy Chung and Tricia Wachtendorf. They are planning an event in March on Images of Women in the Media: stereotyping, the backlash, what the public can do, etc. Ph. 946-5049 if you're interested in helping or have ideas for future educational events.

One of our next projects will be to protest the City's proposed budget. Once again, services such as health care, libraries and recreation programs are in jeopardy. Meanwhile 15 million dollars are targetted for a new arena and the Winnipeg Jets. We will be making presentations to city committees. See page 10 for details on who to call at City Hall.

Two Section 25 positions, along with the Provincial Fundraiser position, have unfortunately come to an end. Thanks to Carol deHedervary, Fundraiser; Charlene Ball, Volunteer Coordinator and Chris Kolba, Public Education Coordinator, for the tremendous work that was done.

Thanks also to the UofW Women's Centre for their *ad feminem* support and faithful booking of countless rooms at the UofW for MACSW's nefarious purposes.

Volunteer Coordinator Report

Charlene Ball

In the last seven months I have:

- conducted research and developed a small collection of resources on Volunteer Management.
- assisted in establishing several new sub-committees: Media Monitoring, Pornography, Workplace Harassment/Abuse, Political Action, Public Education, Networking/Women's Resource Guide and Volunteer Coordinating.
- developed and implemented a comprehensive record-keeping system for the volunteer program.
- planned and facilitated a volunteer orientation evening and numerous individual orientations for new volunteers.
- collected statistics on volunteer hours which were at least 1,240 hours over seven months (the equivalent of a full-time position).

If you wish to see MACSW's volunteer programs continue operating effectively, please consider becoming a member of the Volunteer Coordinating Sub-Committee!!! Your contribution is critical for our continued success and growth. Call 946-5049 today!

Wanted: Volunteer to contact staff and sub-committee representatives to collect stats on services we provide and volunteer hours; compile stats and submit reports monthly. This will help us apply for charitable status.

Thank you to the following women who volunteered at the MACSW office in December and January: Ceridwen Collins-West, Nancy Naismith, Elaine Typliski, Flo Wiens, Jenifer Gerard, Debra Liwiski, Barb Abramchuk, Carol Popiel, Kelly Logan...and to all of you who work on sub-committees, attend Branch meetings, and do all that "behind-the-scenes" work! Keep up the great work!!! Thanks!



LOOKING FOR A
PERFECT MATCH??

call MACSW today
AND VOLUNTEER!!

Parkland Branch Report

Heather Dootoff, Administrative Coordinator

Once again, the Angel Tree Project was the dominant activity of December. Four hundred gifts were gathered this year for children and distributed along with the Salvation Army's Christmas hampers. Approximately one hundred and thirty volunteer hours were dedicated to this project. Thanks to everyone who supported the project as a volunteer or through the purchase of gifts.

We were very fortunate to have Kathryn Olson in the community, November 30, sponsored by the Marquis Project. Ms. Olson presented to the Rotary Club and the high school during the day, and in the evening showed the video, "Fear on the Farm." The small group in attendance held a very big discussion on the issue of wife abuse in rural communities.

December 6th brought a Vigil in recognition of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. About fifteen people attended the vigil. "Full Circle", the third of the Women and Spirituality series produced by NFB, was shown at the office following the vigil.

The Dec. 6th vigil was followed quickly by a vigil December 23 for Ivana Belohlavova and her daughter Anita Doustkova.

It was with much sadness that Parkland Status of Women bid farewell to Suzanne Pellarin, who is heading to Whitehorse. We wish you all the best.

Thanks to the Brandon Branch for hosting the November PCC. Thanks for your hard work to facilitate the hard work that was done that weekend. Too bad Rita MacNeil didn't make it to the party though!

January has been busy with budget preparations. Anyone wishing to write a letter of support for MACSW's budget application please forward it to the Parkland Branch a.s.a.p.

The new year has also brought an influx of requests for participation on several committees. In spite of the stress associated with the increasingly full calendar, it is great to see some positive initiatives taking place. Hopefully my holiday February 4-12 will leave me revitalized for the work ahead. See you then!

Thompson Branch Report

Hari Dimitrakopoulou, Administrative Coordinator

It has been a busy start to a year that we all wish will bring much needed justice, peace and equality for everybody in the world.

At TACSW we started the year by tackling the issue of New Reproductive Technologies (NRT) at our January monthly meeting. A great crowd viewed the NFB film "Making Perfect Babies" and afterwards held an invigorating discussion on the effects of NRTs on women. TACSW will look into organizing a public discussion on the NRTs in Thompson.

During the past month we have kept working hard (especially Darlene Merasty) in promoting Community Kitchens with the support of women and community groups, through presentations and meetings. This has led us very close to starting the first Community Kitchen in Thompson--hopefully next month.

The Northern Women's Development Network, has made presentations to the City Council of Thompson and the new Minister of Northern Affairs on behalf of its ten members of which TACSW is one. We lobbied on recommendations for sustainable economic development, employment, education, childcare and Aboriginal traditional work. We are looking forward to the provincial government's response.

The TACSW committee on issues of Gender, Race and Development held a potluck supper and discussion of the proposed workshops on the same theme. We were joined by friends and community members from different racial backgrounds who are interested in the topic.

We have also had a busy month with our resource library providing information to dozens of students and personal requests. In our networking effort we have initiated the organizing of the International Women's Day event titled "An Evening of Celebration of Northern Women." More information will be available at the office.

It has also been a time where inequalities in the lives of women has to be proven again by MACSW to our funders, and the much needed work of MACSW has to be testified to. It's time for the annual MACSW funding application. Maybe Stats Canada and other national

economic and social indicators have not said it loud enough that women's status is sliding back rather than moving forward. Maybe working towards improving over 50% of the Canadian population's lives has to be a NATIONAL PRIORITY rather than spending what little time and energy we have proving the obvious.

Business and monthly meetings, planning sessions, discussion groups, lobbying efforts, more backlash, bigger efforts, and relentless cold weather have led us to believe that the only way to survive this period of time is to get together for an evening of **good feminist company, food and fun with TACSW members**. Don't miss "Wild Women Don't Get the Blues" at the beginning of February. See you there!!!

Cutbacks Call for Creativity

We are including budget information to encourage you to submit ideas about what MACSW's priorities should be and how we can creatively restructure MACSW to deal with federal cutbacks. The following budgets show the projected expenses for 92/93 and 93/94. Please note that our grant from the Secretary of State Women's Program has been reduced from \$136,000 in 92/93 to \$122,400 in 93/94 because of 10% cutbacks from the federal government. Consequently we have had to freeze two staff positions (rural coordinator and provincial coordinator) because of lack of funds. The Tories planned another 10-15% cutback to the Women's Program for 94/95 and the Liberals have not yet stated whether they are implementing these cuts.

The audited statement is five pages so we are unable to reprint it in ACTION. Contact the MACSW Winnipeg office if you want to peruse it.

If you have restructuring/fundraising/money-saving ideas please phone or write your nearest Branch or contact the following people on **MACSW's Renewal Committee** :

Co-Chairs Leah Passler & Hari Dimitrakopoulou:
778-8549 (Thompson)

Susan Prentice: 474-6233 (Winnipeg)

Jennifer Howard: 725-2955 (Brandon)

Judy Hughes: 687-3810 (Flin Flon)

Virginia Jamieson: 638-4951 (Dauphin)



MANITOBA ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN - REVISED 92/93 Budget - For Nov Thirdly

	PCC	PROV COORDIN	BRANDON	RURAL	PARKLAND	THOMPSON	WINNIPEG	TOTAL
Branch Expense:								
Branch Activities			720.00	1120.00	720.00	720.00	720.00	4,000.00
Conf/Wkshop External								
Meet/Wkshop Internal								
Office Materials		200.00	250.00	200.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	2,150.00
Telephone		1,000.00	550.00	550.00	550.00	550.00	550.00	3,750.00
Photocopying		400.00	500.00	250.00	—	250.00	300.00	1,700.00
Postage		1,200.00	330.00	350.00	220.00	220.00	430.00	2,750.00
Resources			120.00	—	120.00	120.00	120.00	480.00
Committed Expense:								
Rent/Hydro			4,000.00	—	2,400.00	2,800.00	7,500.00	16,700.00
Insurance			220.00	—	220.00	220.00	220.00	880.00
Leased Equipment			900.00	—	800.00	900.00	900.00	3,500.00
Bookkeeper	3,300.00							3,300.00
Audit Fees	1,500.00							1,500.00
Salaries	4,334.40	17,550.00	12,230.40	17,550.00	14,040.00	12,230.40	12,230.40	90,165.60
Benefits	545.35	2,541.25	1,479.58	2,541.25	2,523.34	2,097.70	1,084.44	12,812.91
Newsletter	7,200.00							7,200.00
Meetings - PCC	2,000.00							2,000.00
Travel	4,000.00	600.00	200.00	550.00	340.00	280.00	280.00	6,250.00
Miscellaneous	100.00							100.00
Interpretation	150.00							150.00
Volunteer/Membership		1,500.00						1,500.00
Northern Region Access	150.00							150.00
TOTAL	23,279.75	24,991.25	21,499.98	23,111.25	22,433.34	20,888.10	24,834.84	161,038.51

MANITOBA ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN - 93/94 BUDGET

	PCC	Newsletter Fundraiser	Brandon	Parkland	Thompson	Winnipeg	Total	
Committed Expenses:		(6 months)						
Rent			1,826	2,484	2,586	6,000	12,896	
Insurance			200	200	200	200	800	
Leased Equipment			1,200	350	900	900	3,350	
Bookkeeper	3,300						3,300	
Audit Fees	2,500						2,500	
Salaries		10,250	7,192	14,383	14,383	13,383	73,258	
Benefits		1,158	813	1,625	1,625	1,512	8,278	
Blue Cross	3,000						3,000	
Newsletter		6,000					6,000	
Meetings - PCC	2,000						2,000	
Travel	4,000		300	200	200	200	5,100	
Miscellaneous	201						201	
Interpretation	100						100	
Volunteer/Membership	1,500						1,500	
Nthrn/Rural Outreach	280						280	
Branch Expenses:								
Branch Meetings			600	600	600	600	2,400	
Office Materials			100	400	400	400	1,700	
Telephone			400	500	500	500	2,400	
Photocopying			200	350		350	900	
Postage			400	250	250	250	1,400	
Resources				125	125	125	500	
Total	16,881	17,408	9,405	21,659	21,117	20,656	131,863	
Revenue:								
Sec State Grant							122,400	
Branch Fundraising				800	800	800	3,200	
General/Misc Donations			1,110				1,110	
Membership Revenue	7,900						7,900	
Interest	500						500	
Total Revenue							135,110	
Surplus/Deficit							3247	

Woman Healing For Change

A report by Jorica Perry with Woman
Healing for Change



Woman Healing for Change Inc. (WHFC) is a relatively new and exciting Manitoba organization begun by Manitoba women who attended the third Woman Healing Conference in north-western Ontario in May, 1992. The organization is a cross-cultural circle of women who hope to break down barriers between women and women's groups and to promote healing from trauma, violence, abuse and discrimination.

WHFC is guided by the following goals: (1) to organize retreats which will facilitate and foster healing and wellness of mind, body, spirit and emotion for women; (2) to provide opportunities for women to learn new skills and empower themselves and other women; (3) to incorporate the expertise and experience of Manitoba women as organizers, leaders, facilitators and elders; (4) to encourage the healing of self, and thereby reflect an image of change and growth to families and communities.

There is no established hierarchy in the organization, nor is the patriarchal model for decision-making present. To date all tasks have been completed by volunteers and decisions are reached through discussion and consensus. General meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend. There are three **sub-committees**, Organization, Finance & Fundraising and Program Planning, which meet as needed, usually in committee members' homes, and are open to any women interested in committee work. Membership in the organization is in the process of being more clearly defined. Attention is paid to indicators of need, and particularly to the need to prioritize or to pull back from being over-extended in order to attend to personal and/or family concerns. Volunteer work is acknowledged to be important work, but members' health and well-being is central to the health of the organization and the community. To ensure opportunities for self-care and support, several self-care groups meet regularly.

About once a month there are **Sharing Circles**, usually at someone's home (sometimes

on a week-end, at other times on a week-night). First there is a potluck shared meal and then women form a circle to share how they are feeling and what is going on in their lives. To encourage an individual woman to speak and to formulate her thoughts about her life, a talking stick or feather may be passed around the circle. When a woman holds the stick or feather she may speak and others listen respectfully in silence. The sharing circle is not meant to be a discussion group.

There is a monthly **Body-Spirit** evening facilitated by Barbara Tallon (896-3011) where free movement to music and guided visualization are offered. The purpose is to develop body awareness and stimulate intuition. It is also a good way for women to release some of their inhibitions and reservations. It also focuses on the connection between body and spirit, which in the prevailing culture, are all too often kept separate. These evenings are held every third Thursday of the month at the Centre Cultural Franco-Manitobain on Provencher in St. Boniface. The cost is \$5.00 and all women are welcome.

In April 1993 WHFC held an alcohol and smoke-free fundraising social and hopes to hold another in 1994. In June and again in August 1993 WHFC held **retreats** for about 30 women at the Jessie Saulteaux Centre near Beausejour. Women shared food and ate together, slept in tents or cabins depending on their choice, and participated in activities such as sharing circles, silent nature walks followed by art work, body movement and guided imagery, a sweat lodge and singing.

WHFC has a rapidly growing mailing list of women to whom information about upcoming events is mailed approximately once a month. **Information** is available by calling **Gela at 786-3292 or Joan at 452-2463** or by writing **WHFC, P.O. Box 2406, Winnipeg R3C 4A7**.

On February 11-13th WHFC will hold a networking, focusing, and organizational development **weekend workshop** at Hugh John MacDonald School, at Kate and Bannatyne, near the Health Sciences Centre, Winnipeg. Registration is only \$10.00. Northern, isolated and rural women are being assisted to attend

with funding from Secretary of State. Friday evening will be facilitated through song and activities led by Janine Gibson of Popular Theatre Alliance, followed by circle dancing. Saturday will begin with a smudge and sharing circle, followed by work in four groups to develop the organization and to create an action plan. Lunch, beverages and snacks will be provided, there will be movement and singing and laughter and in the evening an open house at Sylvia Chaddock's home. Sunday morning will include body movement led by Barbara Tallon, a summarization of the work and decisions, and a closing circle. To register for the workshop call Susan at 772-6407 or 452-2463.

WHFC began with the intention of planning a **conference/gathering/retreat** for Manitoban women. Gull Harbor Resort on Hecla Island agreed to provide exclusive use of the facility and a beautiful, by-the-lake, safe, smoke and alcohol-free environment for the dates April 28th to May 1st, 1994. A maximum of 250 women can be accomodated. There will be some large circles including all women present, and approximately 12 small groups, each with its own symbol or totem. Women will choose their group by deciding which group symbol they are drawn to. They will then belong to this particular group which will function as a support group for the duration of the conference. Each group will have a facilitator and helper and they will have some choices to make about how they spend their time together. Activities may include sharing circles, singing, artwork, writing, movement. Workshops such as Giving Birth: Women's Experiences, Mother-Daughter Relationships, Ending the Cycle of Violence, Making Music and Creative Writing may be among the choices for individuals and groups. Body movement to music, games such as volleyball in the gym, swimming, T'ai Chi and yoga will be offered. There will be individual choice time where a woman can take part in a workshop, have a swim or a sauna, write or journal, sleep, go on a guided nature walk or perhaps bird-watch as the birds fly back to the north. Massage therapists will be on site if a woman wants a massage. Elders will be available for consultation. There will be

drumming, dancing and singing. **Woman Healing for Change** has its own powerful song with words and music composed by Esther Klassen.

The conference/retreat is open to all women. The cost per person will be at least \$300.00. We are actively searching for funding to subsidize those women who could not otherwise afford to attend. Perhaps your organization could help to fund, or partially fund, one or more women. We ask you to see what you can do in that regard and to let us know. Donations of money, time, or in-kind (food, juice, billeting of women from out of town, etc.) are welcome at any time, no matter how large or small. Please send cheques or money orders to **Woman Healing for Change P.O. Box 2406 Winnipeg R3C 4A7**. If you have ideas for funding please call **Paddy St. Loe (284-1347)** or **Joan Turner (452-2463)**. Mark April 28th to May 1st on your calendar. See you there!

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Renew Membership Pretty Please!!

February is MACSW Membership Renewal Month. So to celebrate please renew!! We used to ask our members to renew in February but now we ask members to renew one year after they sign up. Please check your envelope for the expiry date.

Funds raised from membership fees have gone down from \$9,855 in 1992 to \$8,210 in 1993. Our membership has remained fairly constant at about 400 over the past two years but there must be more than 400 feminists in Manitoba!! Ask a friend to become a member. Please consider paying more than the \$25 membership or sign up for pre-authorized chequing (automatic monthly deduction from your bank account). If you can't afford \$25, please pay whatever you can afford. A larger membership will give us a stronger member base to inform women of current events and impress those we lobby with our number power.

Quilting & Radical Notions Society

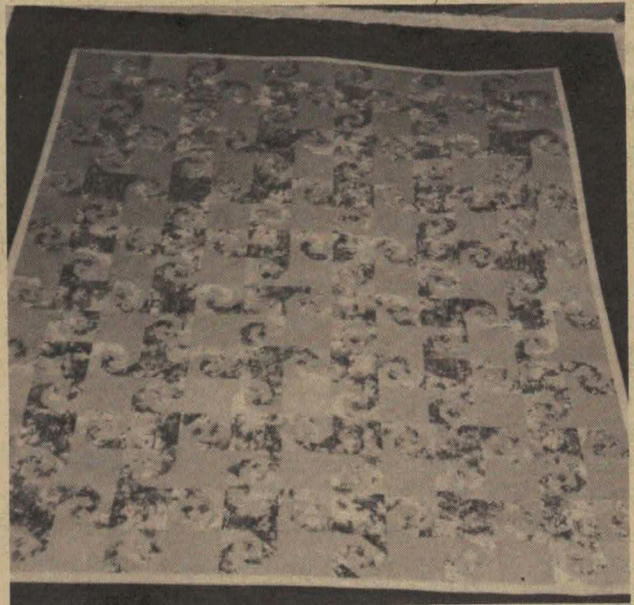
Fiona Muldrew

Will the Liberals fuddle-duddle over funding for feminists? Don't baffle over the answer too long. Buy raffle tickets today to keep MACSW alive! MACSW will raffle off a gorgeous quilt, pottery by Yutta Fricke, a t-shirt from Green Earth and a year membership to MACSW.

The quilt was made and donated by Marion Muldrew and has a beautiful "Snail's Trail" spiral design in purple and batik material (pink, blue and grey) with a dark blue border. It measures 76 inches by 60 inches (about 190 cm. by 150 cm.--big enough for a double bed). We will display the quilt for International Women's Day festivities on March 6 at the UofW. The draw will probably be in June, 1994.

Quilting bees are at Marion's house Sunday, Feb. 6 & 13 from 1-5 p.m., 937 Beaverbrook, Wpg. (No experience necessary, band-aids provided). This quilt will be hot with radical ideas radiating from every stitch! Thanks to the conspirators thus far: the Have Thread Will Travel quilting group, Monique Raimbault, Allison Dewar, Laurie Ankenman, Kelly Logan, Patrick &

Photo: Fiona Muldrew



Fiona Muldrew, Irene Heaman, Bev Peters, Rosemary Miguez, and Marnie Potter.

We need lots of help with the quilting, selling raffle tickets and phoning ticket-sellers. For more info ph. Fiona at 946-5049.

Winnipeg Jets Bodycheck Justice

Please phone the Mayor of Winnipeg and your city councillor before Feb. 16 to complain about plans to spend \$10 million on a new arena, \$5 million for the Winnipeg Jets and \$1.3 million for Winnipeg 2000 (big-business think-tank), while cutting back on libraries, health services and recreational services.

Mayor Susan Thompson 986-2196
Glen Murray (Fort Rouge) 986-5071
Sandy Hyman (River Heights) 986-5236
Amaro Silva (Daniel McIntyre) 986-6825
Lillian Thomas (Elmwood) 986-5195
Terry Duguid (North Kildonan) 986-5196
Rick Boychuk (Transcona) 986-5090
John Prystanski (Pt. Douglas) 986-5173
John Angus (St. Norbert) 986-6824
Jae Eadie (St. James) 986-2110
Evelyn Reese (St. Boniface) 986-5206
Al Golden (St. Vital) 986-5088
Bill Clement (Charleswood-Ft. Garry) 986-5232
George Fraser (St. Charles) 986-5231
Mike O'Shaughnessy (Old Kildonan) 986-5264
Harry Lazarenko (Mynarski) 986-5188

Media and Police Judged Case Too Soon

Sabine Hikel



The police and the media have had a field day acting as judge and jury for a woman who was allegedly sexually assaulted at the U of M on January 6, 1994. The 19-year old woman reported the incident to the police the same night the incident is said to have occurred, and was taken to the hospital for an examination. When the police spoke with the woman the next day, they informed her that not only did they doubt her credibility, but were charging her with public mischief as well.

The media instantly jumped on the story. But why? Because it was sexual assault? Or because the woman's claim was declared a "hoax?" The media seemed to take great relish in finding one more reason to declare women liars.

"Faker cries rape," screamed the headline in The Winnipeg Sun. "Sex-assault claim proven to be false," blared The Winnipeg Free Press. I would like to ask the journalists who covered these stories just where this "proof" came from. The woman, and her alleged attackers, have yet to appear in any court. Furthermore, I question the police department's handling of the matter.

Although the woman reported the incident to police the same night that the alleged incident occurred, when police spoke with her the next day, they informed her they did not believe her story and, despite the complexity inherent in such investigations, took less than 24 hours to conclude, that she should be charged instead. I seriously doubt that this was enough time for anything resembling a thorough investigation--and certainly not thorough enough for the media to be able to declare "proof" that her report was a hoax.

According to police spokesperson Eric Turner, the woman made the whole story up out of "some desire for attention." This kind of narrow, misguided, misogynist attitude is pervasive in our society. Reporting sexual assault, never mind experiencing it, is far less than a rewarding experience. Attention? Would Turner have us believe that she wished to have

her name and face splashed throughout the press once her mischief hearing comes up on Jan. 28? And in the interim, she may continue to suffer not only the aftermath of the alleged assault but the indignity of helplessly watching the media and police neatly sweep away her claim as a hoax, forcing her deeper and deeper into silence in order to protect herself.

The media's handling of this story has been atrocious. It is a fact that one out of every four women will be sexually assaulted at some point in their lives. Yet the treatment the mainstream press has given this story would lead me to believe that sexual assaults occur infrequently and women frequently lie about being raped to "get attention." Knowing how women will be treated by the police and the media contributes to an understandable fear by women of reporting sexual assaults.

Only when women feel safe enough to have their voices heard and are given what is supposed to be a fundamental human right in this country--to be judged innocent until proven guilty--can we begin to stop this insidious form of psychological harassment, which now seems to plague any woman who has the courage to sacrifice the anonymity of her victimization in the hopes of putting an end to the psychological and physical carnage of sexual assault.

The focus of the media and the police does not reflect even the slightest possibility that her allegations are legitimate. They have set into motion a chain of circumstances where the roles of victimizer and victim have been cruelly twisted. (reprinted with permission from The Uniter, Jan. 13, 1994.)

Note: MACSW is supporting the woman with her court case. Please write Letters to the Editor to protest their perpetuation of rape myths and lack of analysis into the rushed police "investigation." The Jan. 8 articles by Melanie Verhaeghe of the Sun and Heather McLaughlin of the Free Press are available at the MACSW Wpg. office. Encourage the papers to consult Klinik's sexual assault experts for the real story on rape. Please write: Winnipeg Sun, City Editor, 1700 Church St., Wpg., R2X 2W9 and Winnipeg Free Press, City Desk, 1355 Mountain Ave., Wpg., R2X 2Y1.



Supporting Feminist Men

Interview with Playwright Yvette Nolan by Suzanne Waldman

Yvette Nolan, playwright and co-director of Winnipeg's Popular Theatre Alliance, has written a play entitled "A Marginal Man", to be performed **February 24 - March 6 at the Gas Station Theatre**. "A Marginal Man" is about what could happen when a man takes up a feminist cause. **Action** spoke with Yvette Nolan in Winona's Coffee and Ice.

Action: Could you give me a rundown of the plot?

Nolan: A man and a woman are job-partners at a traditionally male workplace. The woman experiences a domestic assault, and the man starts a white ribbon campaign, and is ostracized by the men and the women in his workplace.

Action: By the women as well? What do you account this to?

Nolan: As you would imagine, if it's a traditionally masculine workplace, the women have had to make some compromises to fit in, like pretending to be "one of the boys". This situation forces them to take sides. The play is based on an original experience of a man, a friend of mine, who works for the City of Winnipeg.

Action: So it's a true story, essentially?

Nolan: My friend's experience was the seed for the play. What I did was I fictionalized a real situation, drew out what would happen - what could happen - in the worst possible scenario.

Action: Is there an unhappy ending?

Nolan: I'm sorry to say, the play ends badly. There's a parallelism: the woman employee was the target of violence, of stalking, and the man becomes the target of violence.

Action: Speaking of parallels, I'm interested in the title, which suggests that a man, if he adopts a pro-women position, can come to occupy a parallel marginal status to women.

Nolan: What marginalizes the male character is that he's still not completely trusted by women, and he's rejected by men. Somebody like my main character is in a very difficult position. He goes around listening to "babes, chicks, cunts", but is thinking "most guys are like me - they really believe in equal rights." But then, when he tests that...if we think we take it on the chin, imagine what it would be like for a man to speak up. He's a fox in a henhouse. Gender betrayal.

Action: Do you have something that you would wish to say to these men that fall between two stools, so to speak?

Nolan: Well, it's not my place to say anything to them, but I can imagine what my friend feels in his predicament. Isolated and lonely, and, just like women feel, tired of fighting. I want to acknowledge these men who are committed to women's equality.

Action: Would you call them "feminist men"?

Nolan: Yes.

Action: What does it take, then, for a man to be an authentic feminist? Adrienne Rich asks a male figure in one of her poems: "What will you undertake?" Is it a commitment to action which is required? Or does it require that the man specifically risk something, as your character does, in order to approach the personal vulnerability of women?

Nolan: I'm not willing to judge anyone's authenticity. A man's experience is never going to be mine - but I'm not going to hold that against him. If he's identifying himself as a feminist, I have to believe he's doing it for the health of his soul.

Photo: Paul Martens



Photo: Terry Gallagher

man." Also, the main character's name is Adam. So it's suggesting "this is the first man", with hopes that there will be a lot more to follow.

Action: What kind of advance reaction is your play getting?

Nolan: It's actually generated a lot of hype. Perhaps because I've been selected to go to Australia in July to represent Canada at the International Women's Playwrights Conference. So we're getting national coverage. Perhaps also because of the timeliness of the issue. That sort of stuns me. This can't really be the first...

Action: The first what?

Nolan: The first play about violence against women? The first play about men and feminism? The Manitoba Men's Network is using one of the performances as a benefit. They told me that they're really glad we're doing this play, that what we're doing is acknowledging their struggle as well. Maybe they feel supported in some way.

Tickets for "A Marginal Man" are \$13/11. Phone 589-8408 for info.

Action: Women might have difficulty bringing men too easily under an umbrella of redemption.
Nolan: We can't ask individuals to redeem a collective wrong; we can ask for change now - and then, not damn them when they do. I'm tired of exclusion.

Action: Do you think there might be any backlash against your play from women who think differently?

Nolan: There's always a little backlash against my work. For example, I'm a half-breed - half Aboriginal. I took one of my plays, in which the central character was a white girl, to Vancouver, and somebody attacked me for that, saying "You have a responsibility to your people." But I can't write for other people. I don't play politically correct - I believe in my own personal right and wrong.

Action: What do you see as the relationship between the content of your play and the real world? Your title **A Marginal Man** seems to want to generalize it, like a parable.

Nolan: But it's "A Marginal Man", not "The Marginal Man." I think of a play as being an individual story that has universal resonance. Not "this is every man", but "this is a possible

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Feminist Future at UofW

Interview with Kristine Barr by Fiona Muldrew

Kristine Barr, fondly known as "Big Feminist on Campus", has a good chance of being the next University of Winnipeg Students Association (UWSA) president. This past school year she has served as the Status of Women Students Director, the Programming Coordinator at the UofW Women's Centre as well as sitting on the UWSA Finance and Hiring Committees. She's a fourth year student in Women's Studies and Administrative Studies.

As a feminist president of the UWSA, how would you do things differently?

KB: I would like to see more job-sharing to make the system less hierarchical and allow more people to learn valuable skills. It would allow more women with children to get involved in student politics. Unfortunately, job-sharing was voted down by the present board because they didn't think two people sharing the same job would be able to reach consensus to vote on various issues.

I would also encourage decentralization by encouraging board members to speak to the media about their particular area of expertise rather than always having the president speak on every issue. I'd like to see more collective decision-making but this won't be accomplished immediately. I've already introduced feminist process ideas to UWSA meetings. We have opening and closing go-arounds to help people feel more open and respected at the meetings. There's been resistance to consensus decision-making though--people don't trust each other. I'd like to plan a retreat for the UWSA so we could get to know each other as people and encourage more respect. We might be able to see the commonalities among people and break through the "taking sides" competitive model of politics.

What concerns do you have for women on campus?

KB: Safety is what I've been working on a lot. I've organized two Wen-Do sessions on campus for about forty women. I also arranged a safety audit of our campus and I'd like to do a safety audit of the physical surroundings near the UofW

to look at lighting, how many people are around, etc. I'd also like to review services such as the Safe Walk Program and the Sexual Harassment Office and improve the sexual harassment policy and implement a race-relations policy so we'd have tools to lobby the Administration with. I also want to look at university accessibility to make it easier financially for women to come here.

Do you think women are getting more politicized on campus?

KB: Yes, a lot more women are getting involved in UofW politics. Quite a few from the Women's Centre are running in this election. Women realize that we have to make the connections with the administration for long term change.

Is there a backlash at the UofW against feminists?

KB: Last year lots of posters for female candidates were defaced or destroyed. On one poster a woman's face was burned out. I didn't notice that happening to any of the male candidates. This year lots of people running are supporting women's issues. However, one candidate says the Women's Centre doesn't represent the majority of people on campus. Maybe he'd like a pool hall instead. (Note: About 58% of UofW students are female and the majority of students are part-time)

What contact do you expect with groups outside the UofW?

KB: I'd like to make more contacts with community groups like MACSW and CHOICES. We should have alliances with grassroots groups on social justice concerns. We have a Community Liason Director and I think it should be a priority to set guidelines and have a clear direction for programming through this position. **The UWSA election is Feb. 7-10, so if you take any classes there you now know how to get "Big Feminism" into student politics.**

Jill Town

Kathy Burke-Gaffney

Renovation

Additions

Barrier Free Design & Construction

HOUSEFITTERS
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Announcements

Feb. 2-13, **Primus** play "The Night Door", an exploration of dreams and the spectrum of sexual identity, 8 p.m., 389 Main St., old CIBC Bldg., \$15/12, ph. 943-9815 for reservations.

Film Screenings by the UofW Womyn's Centre, free, ph. 786-9788:

Feb. 4, **Long Time Comln'** (with Faith Nolan & Grace Channer) and **Forbidden Love** (Lesbian Cult Classic), 1-4 p.m., Rm. 3C01, Feb. 8, **Whoopi Goldberg Night: Sarafina** (set in Soweto, South Africa) and **HBO Comedy Special**, 6-9 p.m., Rm. 3C01, co-sponsored by African Students Assn. for Black History Month. Feb. 11, **Speaking of Nairobi**, **African Market Women's Series** and **Unnatural Causes**, 1-4 p.m., Rm. 3C01, co-sponsored by African Students Assn.

YM/YWCA workshops: **Assertiveness Training for Women**, Feb. 3 - March 3; **Assault Prevention**, March 5 & 12 or 19 & 26; **Car Mechanics for Women**, Feb. 5 & 12; **Resolving Conflict & Anger Management for Women**, Feb. 7 - March 14; **Income Tax Workshop for Women**, Feb. 26, ph. 989-4100 for details.

Feb. 5, **IDEA Centre's 20th Anniversary**, "Weaving a Global Tapestry", music, dance, theatre, poetry about impact of racism on international/local development; performances by Red Roots Theatre, India School of Dance, Nellie McClung Theatre, Licanantay (Andean music) & more; 8 p.m., Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre, 340 Provencher, \$15/7, ph. 786-2030.

Feb. 6, noon, **Vigil for Leonard Peltier** (Aboriginal activist unfairly imprisoned for life), Turtle Island Community Centre, behind David Livingstone School, 240 Flora, Clyde Bellecourt, founder & national director of AIM will speak, ph. Barbara at 256-7973.

Feb. 6 & 13, **Quilting Bees for MACSW Raffle**, Sundays 1-5 p.m., 937 Beaverbrook St. (south of Grant), Wpg., see p. 8, ph. 946-5049 for info.

Feb. 11 & 12, **Project Peacemakers 10th Anniversary**, "Continuing the Peacemaking Journey", workshops on Nonviolent Resistance, Media Literacy, Cooperative Games, Clowning for Peace & more; Speakers: **Karen Ridd, Peace Brigades International**, Fri., 7:30 p.m., \$5/3; **David Jackman, Project Ploughshares**, Sat., 9:30 a.m., Sat. workshops, lunch & Salvadoran supper \$15/8, entire conference \$20/10, First Mennonite Church, 922 Notre Dame, Wpg. Register early for workshops. Ph. 775-8178 for info.

Feb. 13, **Valentine's: Life, Love & Relationships**, Trivia Pursuit with Networking for Womyn, a Wpg. Lesbian Womyn's Group, at Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre, 1910 Pembina Hwy., 5 p.m., adult only event, ph. 452-8844.

Outdoor Women's Network: Feb. 6, Skating at Sargent Park, Wpg., ph. Gerry, 783-0640.

Feb. 12 & 13, **Cross-country skiing**..an over-nighter at James Lake Cabin in Turtle Mountain Park, ph. Monique, 284-2596 before Feb. 5.

Feb. 8, **An Integrated Interdisciplinary Response to Child Abuse**: Translating Research into Practice, presentation by Dr. Astrid Heger, Director, Centre for the Vulnerable Child/Suspected Child Abuse & Neglect Program, Univ. of Southern California, 1-2:30 p.m., Rm. 224 Educ'n Bldg., UofM, Wpg., for info ph. MB Centre for Research on Family Violence & Violence Against Women, UofM, 474-8965.

International Women's Day planning meetings: Feb. 8, 22, & March 1, 7 p.m., YM/YWCA meeting Rm. C, 301 Vaughan St., Wpg., ph. Minnie at 832-1639 for info.

Feb. 10-12, **A Conference with Sandra Butler**, author of Conspiracy of Silence: The Trauma of Incest, Travelodge, Kenora. Days one & two: **Advanced Clinical Workshop** - working with adult survivors of childhood sexual trauma; Day three: **Consequences of Consciousness** - dealing with grief & burn-out as a healer. For info ph. Chrysse Regehr, (807)468-6853 Kenora Sexual Assault Centre, Box 687, Kenora, ON, P9N 3X6.

S.D.B.

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More & More Announcements

Feb. 15, **Women & Islam**, Susan Medd, professor of Religion, presented by BUWO, 7:30 p.m., Penthouse Lounge, 5th fl., Brodie Science Bldg., Brandon Univ., ph. Mary at 728-8496.

Health Issues: **Midwifery Childbirth Interest Group**, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Clinic, Wpg.; **New Reproductive Technologies Network**, Feb. 17, 7 p.m., Misericordia Nurses Residence. For info ph. Madeline, Women's Health Clinic, 947-1517.

Feb. 17, 7-9 p.m., **Basic Massage Techniques**: Robin Faye will teach simple, safe techniques for basic upper back, neck and shoulder massage for relaxation & increased body awareness. Cost: \$20/15 for MACSW members/10 for low-income. Some proceeds will go to MACSW to help buy a new computer. Location: TBA, ph. 946-5049 to register. If you are able to teach a skill/offer a service and donate some proceeds to MACSW please phone your nearest Branch.

Feb. 24 - March 6, **A Marginal Man**, play by Yvette Nolan, Popular Theatre Alliance, Gas Station Theatre, Wpg., 8 p.m., ph. 589-8408.

Feb. 26 & 27, **Introduction to Art as Therapy**, with Pam Reichert, linking artistic expression with healing, Winnipeg Art Gallery, 9:30 am-4:30 p.m., \$150, ph. 786-1971, Learning Networks, for info.

March 4 & 5, MACSW-Brandon presents **"Gender and Development (GAD); Questioning the Answers"**, GAD theory & applications, featuring Joanna Kerr from the North-South Institute; \$40/30. For info ph. 725-2955, childcare available, wheelchair accessible.

March 11 & 12, **Women's Rights are Human Rights**, UN End of Decade for Women conference, Delta Inn, Wpg., Ph. 889-1197.

Common Ground Co-op is looking for two **roommates** for Feb. or March 1. Shared chores & food. Large, beautiful house with sauna & darkroom. No pets, no kids. \$245/mo. incl. bills & insurance, \$30/week for food, ph. 775-2750.

The Same Damn Bunch (SDB) Homestead Co-op has an **Apartment Available** at \$440.00 per month, including laundry. This co-op offers a friendly, secure environment in the Wolseley community, on a bus line, and close to stores, parks, and schools. For more information ph. 772-3675, if you are a non-smoker and supporter of status of women issues.

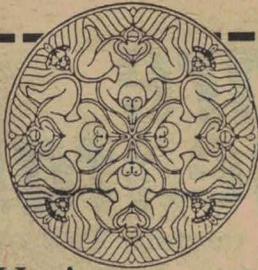
Stalking Support Group - Women who are harassed by stalkers are invited to join a support group, ph. MACSW-Wpg. for info, 946-5049.

P.O.W.E.R. needs winter clothes: coats, hats, gloves, etc., ph. Susan Riley at 783-6759.

Computer Crisis -- MACSW's computer has been through it all--nervous breakdown, virus, memory loss--and now it appears terminally ill! It's having trouble handling our membership, resource listings and the Action Newsletter, so we really need to upgrade. The following is our computer "wish list": **any (second hand) 386 PC w/2+ mg RAM and at least 80 mg harddrive**. If any of this makes sense to you, you might be of help to us. If you know how we might upgrade our computer as cheaply as possible please ph. Kristin at 946-5049.

Boycott Sega Toys!! The Night Trap video game shows real actresses being stalked, mutilated and murdered. Write to Sega Toys and complain about their promotion of violence against women. Join in attempts to get the Night Trap game removed from stores. Boycott Sega Toys and write: **White Ribbon Campaign, Suite 104-220 Yonge St., Toronto, ON, M5B 2H1**

Toy Sale, MACSW member Jean Snow is offering major savings on Discovery Toys, 20% of proceeds go to MACSW, catalogues available, ph. Jean at 261-9154 or MACSW at 946-5049.



MACSW MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes! I want to add my voice to the hundreds of Manitoba women who belong to MACSW.

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Family Law

Aboriginal Women

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Farm/Rural Women

Trades & Technology

Senior Women

Health

Pensions

Violence Against Women

International Women's Day

Pornography

Women & Poverty

Lesbian Issues

Education

Women/Disability

Young Women's Group

ACTIVITIES

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Office Duties

Public Education

NEAREST MACSW BRANCH

WINNIPEG
702-70 Arthur St.
Winnipeg, MB
R3B 1G7
946-5049
946-5051

BRANDON
202-107-7th St.
Brandon, MB
R7A 3S5
725-2955

PARKLAND STATUS
OF WOMEN
8 Memorial Blvd.
Mail: Box 23
Dauphin, MB R7N 2T9
638-3599

THOMPSON
Box 722
Thompson,
R8N 1N5
778-8549

Women's libbers are mentally ill

Calendar of Events - February

- 3 **Women & Words Author Readings:** Laura Atkinson, Ceridwen Collins-West, Bev Greenberg, Eunice Lavell, Shannon Lavell, Shannon McKenty, Paula Newman, Jorica Perry, Pat Sadowy, Rhonda Stevenson, 7:30 p.m., Bold Print, 478 River, ph. 452-9682.
- 4 **Weighing the Risks**, a one day conference on weight preoccupation, eating disorders and body image, 8:30-4:30, Union Centre, 275 Broadway, Wpg., \$35, ph. 947-1517.
- 4 **Wild Women Don't Get the Blues**, TACSW Midwinter Potluck supper, viewing of "Wisecracks" video at 28 Walnut Ave., 7 p.m., ph. Hari at 778-8549 or Louise (w)778-5243/(h)677-6697, Thompson.
- 4 & 5 **Can Winnipeg Afford the N.H.L?** A free conference with discussions on gov't spending on professional sports, Eckhardt-Gramatte Hall, 3rd fl. Centennial Hall, U of Wpg., ph. Thin Ice, 453-4649 (pamphlets at MACSW Wpg. office)
- 8 **Barbara McDonald of CIDA** will speak on global gender & development issues, noon hour brown bag lunch, Ph. Jennifer at 725-2955. , Brandon.
- 10 **Parkland Branch Mtg.**, 5:30 p.m., Speaker: Cheryl Kinney-Matheson on Re-Imagining: A Global Theological Conference for Men & Women by Women, Carri's list brings food.
- 10 **Wpg. Branch Meeting**, 6 p.m., UofW, Rm. 1C10, ph. 946-5049 to register for child care.
- 11-13 **Woman Healing For Change: Focusing, Connecting & Networking Weekend**, Hugh John MacDonald School, \$10 ph. Susan at 772-6407 or 452-2463. (see p.8)
- 12 **Bold Print Valentine's Day Sale**, 11-6 p.m., 50% off selected items, 10% off books, cards & music, Bold Print, The Women's Bookstore, 478 River Ave., Wpg., 452-9682.
- 13 **Pink Triangle Day Vigil** to commemorate homosexuals killed in WWII, 5:30 p.m., meet at the Legislature, march to St. Stephen's Broadway Church for 6 p.m. vigil, ph. 783-6115. Coffee House later at Happenings basement, 272 Sherbrook St., ph. Dennis, 477-0738.
- 15 **Gender & Development networking group**, 7:30 p.m., Rm. 304 B, Union Centre, 275 Broadway Ave., Wpg., for info ph. Gerry at 783-0640 or Fiona at 946-5049.
- 16 **Brandon Branch Mtg.**, 7 p.m., 160 McDiarmid Dr. We'll be watching "Full Circle", the final part in NFB's Women's Spirituality Trilogy. Ph. Jennifer at 725-2955.
- 17 **Ms. Purdy's AGM**, Is Purdy's Worth Saving? Voice your opinions about Purdy's financial crisis, 7 p.m., 226 Main St., Wpg.
- 23 & 24 **City of Brandon Forum on Poverty**, 7:30-10 p.m., St. Matthew's Parish Hall, 13th St. & Louise Ave. Call the City Clerk's office, 729-2207 to make a presentation or ph. MACSW, 725-2955 to help with ours.
- March 6 **International Women's Day Rally**, Wpg. Leg. 1 p.m., events at UofW with Heather Bishop

Pope bedevilled by pagans, cult feminists

