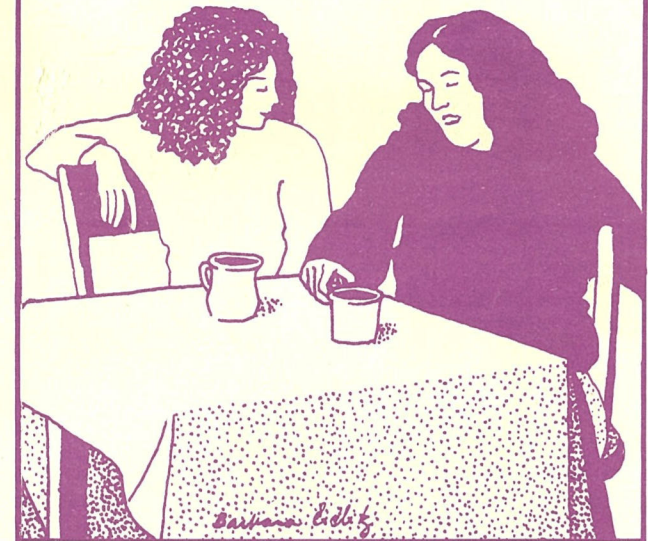


ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE

Vancouver Status of Women



Monday to Thursday: 1 pm to 5 pm
873-1427

400 A West 5th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Y 1J8

TAKE A LOOK AT THE FACTS...

- 1 in 10 women are battered by the men they live with: 45% of the Canadian population lives in an area without shelter services for battered women
- In Canada a woman is raped every 17 minutes. A woman is sexually assaulted in other ways every 6 minutes.
- 6 out of 10 widows have incomes of less than \$8,000 per annum.
- 82% of British Columbians support a woman's right to choose abortion.
- For every dollar a man earns, a woman earns 64¢ — immigrant women earn less.
- Midwives are illegal in every province except P.E.I.
- 60.2% of women in the labour force have school aged children yet the government provides only 2% of approved daycares.
- 4 out of 5 women are in service jobs—1/2 of these jobs will disappear in 10 years due to technological change.
- Domestic workers are not included in any provincial minimum wage legislation except P.E.I.
- 83% of all single-parent families are headed by women — 44% of these families are living below the poverty line.
- 61% of families in Canada would be living below the poverty line if women were not earning an income.

VANCOUVER STATUS OF WOMEN ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE



We are here to promote understanding about the changing position of women in society by community action, research and analysis, lobbying, public education and forums.

KINESIS

news about women that's not in the dailies

KINESIS has been publishing for over 13 years. We're the oldest feminist newspaper in English Canada. We're not an uptown, glossy, colourful magazine but we don't want to be—we just want to keep getting the news out!



The stories of women's lives become *KINESIS* headlines month after month. Our pages have reported on the victories, defeats, activism and commitments of women across B.C. and often around the world.

We want you to hear about women's struggles and achievements.

WE WANT YOU TO SUBSCRIBE.

Vancouver Status of Women • 400 A West 5th Avenue • Vancouver BC V5Y 1J8

VSW Membership — \$23 (or what you can afford)
— includes *Kinesis* Subscription

INSTITUTION — \$40

New

Renewal

KINESIS subscription only — \$15

SUSTAINER \$75 +

Gift subscription for a friend

I would like more information on *VSW*

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ PROV: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Please enclose in envelope with cheque or money order.

OUR HISTORY

The Vancouver Status of Women is a non-partisan, non-profit, registered society with a charitable tax status. Since 1971, we have been working with, and for, the women of British Columbia. V.S.W. was founded to ensure that the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women would be implemented. Over time, V.S.W. has become a recognized voice for all women working to bring about changes in legislation and social attitudes affecting the status of women in Canadian society.

In our twelfth year of operation V.S.W. faced its most severe funding cut. As a result of losing Provincial funds in the spring of 1984 two staff positions were cut and office hours were reduced. Nevertheless, we continue to research and organize community action on such issues as Family Law, Pensions, Pornography, Prostitution, Racism and Poverty.

Thanks to the City of Vancouver and the Federal Secretary of State Department, V.S.W. is able to continue operating in the face of reduced funding and general restraint policies.



V.S.W. NOW

With the current backlash against feminist organizing and analysis it is vital that V.S.W. remain a visible advocate for women's concerns. V.S.W. works with all levels of female experience. Often we are an initial contact for women-in-crisis seeking resources for their individual problems. We are also an important resource for those women who want to become personally involved in feminist issues. Community action, public education and the promotion of self education for women and their children are continuing V.S.W. priorities.

The V.S.W. office also provides extensive research materials on women's issues and works on many levels to upgrade the status of all women, whether they are working in the home or in the labor force. In this respect, we make recommendations to all levels of government regarding policy and legislation affecting women and, whenever possible, the organization assists women in their own communities to define and act upon issues specific to their locality.

EQUALITY FOR WOMEN

In 1985 the reality of equality for women is far from being achieved. Anti-feminist and anti-women advocates would like to turn back the clock to a time when even basic equality rights for women had not been recognized.

Today, V.S.W. continues to work on issues such as: violence against women • family law • sexual harassment • reproductive choice • human rights • pornography • women working in the home • racism • poverty • lesbian rights • women in their unions • prostitution • aging • immigration • equal pay for work of equal value • sex role stereotyping • educational opportunities • children's rights •

This list is by no means exhaustive. At any given point in time V.S.W. is responding to those issues raised spontaneously by women, the media, and the government.

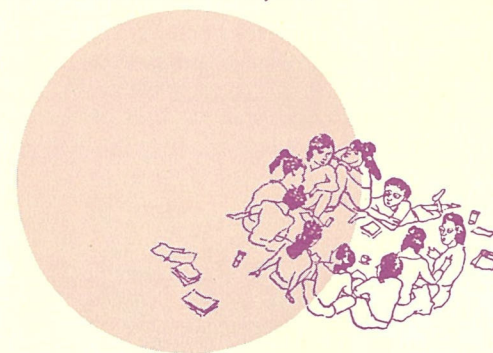


V.S.W. SERVICES

- feminist lawyer referrals
- telephone and drop-in referrals for women's resources throughout Vancouver's Lower Mainland and B.C.
- networking women with women's organizations
- advocacy counselling for women struggling with government and other bureaucracies
- information and library resource services
- research assistance on a drop-in basis
- production and distribution of pamphlets and information sheets
- public education forums, workshops and conferences
- media appearances and press liaison work including newspaper articles, letters to the editor, etc. . . .
- participation in community actions
- organizing community actions where appropriate
- public speaking on a limited basis and speaker referrals

RESOURCE CENTRE

We have always had a resource centre which provides information to women, community groups and social agencies, but we recently expanded our information and centralized our files for public access. The Resource Centre is open during regular office hours so our staff can assist with any questions. (Please call if our regular hours are inconvenient to you.)



VOLUNTEERS

Keeping V.S.W. organized and functional on a day to day basis would be impossible without volunteer support. At any one time we have between 30 and 50 volunteers working on office administration, on specific women's issues, and producing our paper, *KINESIS*. Those volunteers who commit regular time to the organization gain skills and practical experience for future employment.

Can you help? Volunteers are always needed and your experience is welcome. Call us for details.

V.S.W. MEMBERSHIP

When you pledge your \$23.00 for a V.S.W. membership, \$15.00 goes for your *KINESIS* subscription. The remaining \$8.00 goes directly to all other V.S.W. work. By buying a membership you are showing your support for V.S.W. analysis and work.

As a member you can become more actively involved in V.S.W. issues either through volunteering, attending the annual general meeting or by being nominated and elected to the V.S.W. Board. At V.S.W. we are working to enhance understanding about the changing role of women in society. As membership increases, so does our strength.

WE WANT YOUR SUPPORT!

JOIN US!



Your financial support in buying a membership ensures that we will be here in the future for you.