



# NEWSLETTER

R17

JULY-AUGUST 1983

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St. John's Status of Women Council

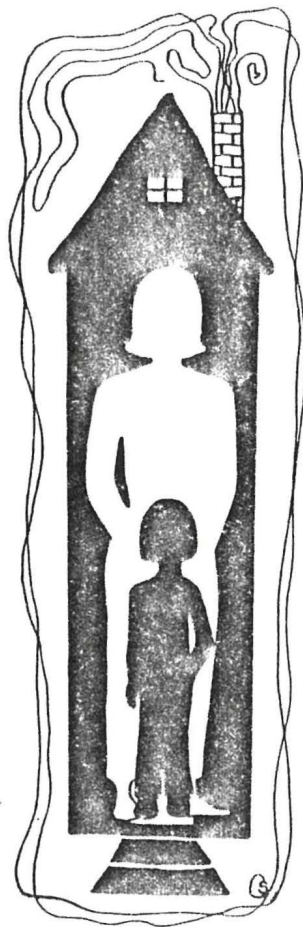
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**SPECIAL ISSUE:**

**WOMEN  
AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



"Once in a Cabinet, we had to deal with the fact that there had been an outbreak of assaults on women at night. One minister . . . suggested that . . . women should stay home after dark. I said 'But it's the men who are attacking the women. If there's to be a curfew, let the men stay home, not the women.'" — Golda Meir



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**ALSO:**

**GROWING UP IN THE SUBURBS**

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PEACE CONFERENCE  
—SPECIAL REPORT—**

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EDITORIAL

In conjunction with "The Great Fire Festival", this issue of the newsletter is devoted to "women and community development". Much of St. John's had to be rebuilt after the Great Fire, when families were left homeless.

If it were up to women to re-build a community, what type of homes do you think would be built? When this question occurred to me, I thought of a walk I had with a friend many years ago in an area of St. John's close to the downtown but more akin to a luxurious suburban development than a street of row-houses. As we walked down a small tree-shaded cul-de-sac opposite Bannerman Park, my friend (who had two young children and lived in a second floor apartment on a busy downtown thoroughfare), sighed as she looked at the mature maples and spacious houses. "Why can't we all live on streets like this? There's lots of room for the children to play, it's like living in the country but it has all the advantages of the city."

At the time we agreed that it was a matter of economics... the rich get to live in large houses with lots of backyard and trees while others have to tolerate small apartments on busy thoroughfares as they struggle to raise their families. Or the income-earner(s) can mortgage their lives to purchase a suburban house that necessitates a car to get anywhere because the public transportation system is so inadequate.

But I'm not sure now that personal economics and the unequal distribution of wealth adequately explain the bad planning and unfriendly housing that characterize many of our communities. 'Streets' and 'village squares' historically served as community centres, meeting places where people could come together to socialize and transact business. Now we have malls and shopping centres, with the streets devoted to the holy car. The value-system behind modern community planning seems intrinsically at odds with traditional female values which place people and feelings above inanimate objects and efficiency.



And look at the modern house from the point of view from the person who usually works in it, the woman. The small kitchen isolates her and her cooking and dish-washing from the eating area, where others can enjoy the fruits of her labour without having to see evidence of that labour. Is this much different from the older-style St. John's house where the kitchen was located in the basement so the maid could do her work out of view? At least in the large outport kitchen with its many chairs and day-bed, the work-centre was also a focus for socialization.

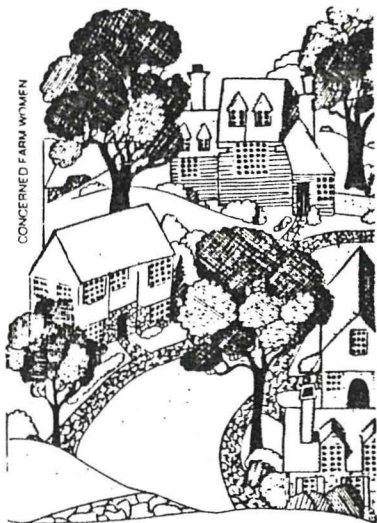
And what about the trudging trips up and down basement stairs to the 'laundry room'. The vast expanses of wall-to-wall carpeting that demand constant vacuuming? The design of a house cannot help but shape the activities that go on within it, and help determine the happiness of the people who work and live there.

Women must ask critical questions about the philosophy and values behind the community plans and housing designs that are developed. Whose interests do they serve, and in what way could they better suit our needs? As an exercise in 'visioning', ask yourself the following question. If St. John's were once again razed by fire, what would you design to be built in its place? (send in any ideas to the Newsletter, we'd be happy to publish them).

*Sharon Pope*

**"Women and Community  
Development"**

**Supplement  
pp 17-29**



## WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVES FOR NEGOTIATING PEACE

by Jane Robinson and Janet Marshall

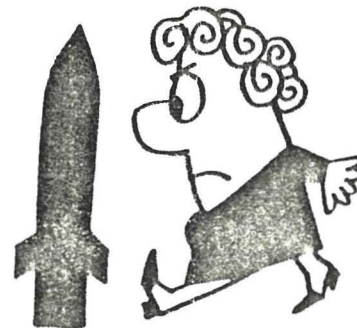
A Women's International Peace Conference was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia June 5-9. Women from 33 countries gathered to discuss and debate the meaning of true security and "Women's Alternatives for Negotiating Peace".

While billed as an international conference, 300 of the delegates represented Canadian peace and development groups and 50 women attended from other countries. The direct experience of the latter women with current wars and results of atomic testing carried much weight in the deliberations of the conference.

The main areas of concern were identified as: a recognition that peace cannot be achieved without justice; the urgent need to stop "Star Wars"; an overwhelming support for the self-determination of peoples (including a broad base of support especially for Nicaragua).

Initially the conference organizers had not planned for public statements or resolutions to be forthcoming from the 'negotiating structure of the Conference, but it quickly became clear that the delegates wanted strong statements about actions necessary for building peace.

The official statement telexed immediately to Prime Minister Mulroney and Opposition party leaders in Ottawa reflected the urgent concerns which emerged and were consolidated during the five days of discussion, debate and negotiation.





The statement demanded "an end to research, testing, development and deployment of all weapons of mass destruction, to the militarization of space and to all forms of violence."

The statement also condemned militarism as "an addiction that distorts human development, causing world-wide poverty, starvation, pollution, repression, torture, and death. Feeding this habit robs all the world's children and future generations of their inheritance."

The statement supported "the rights and efforts of all peoples to freedom from military and economic intervention," citing Nicaragua "as a new kind of society and a symbol of hope which must be allowed to live."

The statement strongly affirmed the overwhelming need for "a new order based on justice and the equitable distribution of the world resources".

Even more important than the statement was the more than fifty resolutions with important objectives and actions. These resolutions were the culmination of the workshops, panel and plenary session and identified and addressed the following broad areas of concern:

1. Canada's responsibility to take specific peace initiatives such as reducing its military budget by 50%, ending cruise testing, demilitarization of the North, halting uranium mining, declaring Canada a nuclear weapons free zone, conversion of war-related industries to socially useful goods and services.
2. A call for general and complete disarmament of all governments including a comprehensive test ban treaty.
3. An opposition to military and/or economic intervention in the affairs of sovereign states with specific resolutions on Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Grenada, South Africa, Chile, New Caledonia, and the Phillipines.
4. The recognition of racism and prejudice, and a strong commitment to break down these barriers.
5. The urgent need for a women's global peace network and specific actions including a "Sister Watch" of delegates who run the risk of reprisals from their governments by attending this conference.

The struggle for unity at the Conference was evidenced by the need to address issues of repression under military dictatorships and foreign intervention in the affairs of sovereign states as glaring examples of the trend toward militarization of the planet.

A workshop was held at the Conference to focus on the militarization of Labrador. The destructive effects of the intensive low-level high-speed NATO training flights on the traditional hunting life of the Innu peoples were discussed and slides of the recent Innu Assembly were shown. Resolutions from this Assembly and the Newfoundland and Labrador Women's Peace Conference were presented. A striking parallel was made between the militarization of Labrador and northern Saskatchewan. Vye Bouvier, a Metis peace activist and writer from the Cold Lake area of Saskatchewan, told of the appropriation of native lands for military target practice in 1953, including explosions of bombs, testing of defoliants, and training of NATO jets over villages. Heavy uranium mining is an added threat to health in northern Saskatchewan, causing, in Bouvier's words: "an ecological disaster".

Fifteen women from Newfoundland and Labrador attended the Conference. The six women from Labrador felt the Conference was important for their personal growth by giving them the opportunity to met and talk with many women, listening to their stories and their specific actions to build a more peaceful world.

This Conference was preceded by several regional and provincial conference, including one in Newfoundland and Labrador held in May. At these regional gatherings the underlying links between peace, justice, equality and development were made.

The Women's International Peace Conference will provide clear guidelines to Canadian women attending the United Nations End of the Decade for Women Conference to be held in July 1985.

The 'Conference Statement' from the International Conference is included with this newsletter on the next two pages. Space does not permit reproduction of the affirmations and action statements from the International Conference, but these are on file at the Women's Center for anyone who would like to drop by and read them or take off a copy. (photocopying prices: 10 cents per page)



The Urgency for True Security  
 Women's Alternatives for Negotiating Peace  
 International Conference, June 5-9, 1985, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Conference Statement

WE 350 WOMEN OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY, FROM 33 COUNTRIES, MEETING AT THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE IN HALIFAX, CANADA, JUNE 5-9, 1985, AFFIRM THE OVERWHELMING NEED AND DESPERATE URGENCY FOR PEACE, WHICH WE BELIEVE IS BOTH THE PROCESS WE LIVE AND THE GOAL FOR WHICH WE WORK.

AT THIS CONFERENCE, WOMEN FROM DIVERSE RACIAL, CULTURAL, ETHNIC AND POLITICAL BACKGROUNDS REPRESENTING DIFFERENT SIDES OF CONFLICT AREAS, CAME TOGETHER AS A LIVING EXAMPLE OF WOMEN NEGOTIATING PEACE. SOME OF US COMPROMISED OUR OWN SAFETY TO MAKE THIS COMMITMENT.

ALTHOUGH WOMEN'S VOICES HAVE NOT BEEN HEARD AND WOMEN HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED EQUALLY IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS OR IN FORMULATION OF THE INSTITUTIONS AND THE CULTURAL FABRIC IN WHICH WE LIVE, WE ARE MORE THAN HALF THE WORLD'S POPULATION; WE DO HAVE POWER; AND WE ARE SHAPING IT FOR PEACEFUL LIVING.

WE REJECT A WORLD ORDER BASED ON DOMINATION, EXPLOITATION, PATRIARCHY, RACISM AND SEXISM. WE DEMAND A NEW ORDER BASED ON JUSTICE AND THE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORLD'S RESOURCES.

WE CONDEMN MILITARISM. MILITARISM IS AN ADDICTION THAT DISTORTS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, CAUSING WORLD-WIDE POVERTY, STARVATION, POLLUTION, REPRESSION, TORTURE AND DEATH. FEEDING THIS HABIT ROBS ALL THE WORLD'S CHILDREN AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF THEIR INHERITANCE.

WE ALL LIVE IN THE SHADOW OF THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR WAR. WE DEMAND AN END TO RESEARCH, TESTING, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEPLOYMENT OF ALL WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, TO THE MILITARIZATION OF SPACE AND TO ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE. AS A FIRST STEP, WE CALL FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY.

WE SUPPORT THE RIGHTS AND THE EFFORTS OF ALL PEOPLES TO SELF DETERMINATION AND TO FREEDOM FROM MILITARY AND ECONOMIC INTERVENTION. AS AN EXAMPLE, WE CITE NICARAGUA

AS A NEW KIND OF SOCIETY, AND AS A SYMBOL OF HOPE WHICH MUST BE ALLOWED TO LIVE.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO COMMUNICATE AND JOIN WITH WOMEN ALL OVER THE WORLD IN OUR STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. AS A RESULT OF THIS CONFERENCE, WE ARE DEVELOPING A WORLD-WIDE WOMEN'S PEACE NETWORK. OUR FIRST ACT HAS BEEN TO PLEDGE OUR VIGILANCE IN MONITORING THE ONGOING SAFETY OF OUR SISTERS WHO ARE AT RISK AS A RESULT OF ATTENDING THIS CONFERENCE.

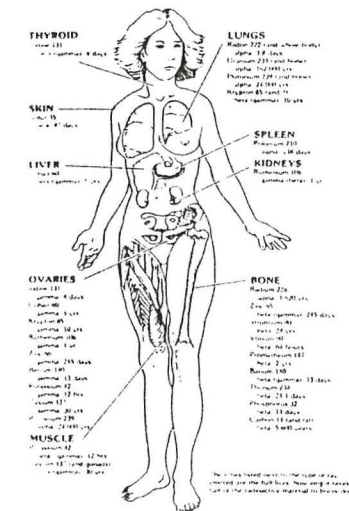
WE ARE COMMITTED TO ACTING GLOBALLY, NATIONALLY, LOCALLY AND INDIVIDUALLY FOR PEACE. WE WILL NOT COMPROMISE OUR COMMITMENT TO THE SURVIVAL AND HEALING OF THIS PLANET.

WE AFFIRM THE RIGHT OF EVERY HUMAN BEING TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY, EQUALITY, JUSTICE AND JOY.

JUNE 9, 1985.

WOMEN AND RADIATION

Below is a breakdown of where radiation affects the body



Of all the parts of the cell the nucleus is most affected by radiation. The nucleus houses genes which transmit inherited traits such as hair colour and facial characteristics. The sex organs are especially sensitive to radiation. Exposing the genes of a cell in a reproductive organ can start a whole chain of mutations and deformities in future generations.

Rapidly dividing cells are the most susceptible to radiation therefore fetuses and small children are exposed to greater danger from the effects of radiation.

For women, exposure to radiation is of particular significance because we bear the fetus which is so highly sensitive to radiation. Even before a woman is pregnant, radiation can affect her future offspring since eggs within the ovaries of women are formed at birth and do not change until she reaches menopause.

Exposure to even low levels of radiation (e.g., medical X-rays), therefore can cause a pregnant women to miscarry, cause deformities in the fetus and increase the risks of child leukemia.







## BRIAN NOT GOING TO NAIROBI

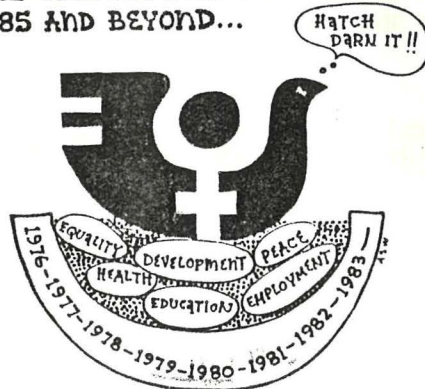
The Minister responsible for the Status of Women in Newfoundland and Labrador, Brian Peckford, will not be going to the United Nations World Conference on Women which will take place in Nairobi, Kenya, July 15-26 1985. The Canadian delegation, which is being headed by Walter McLean, the federal Minister responsible for the Status of Women, originally included Peckford as one of the invited provincial/territorial ministers who would be going to Nairobi. John Butt, acting Minister for the Status of Women in the province (he's the Environment Minister) will go in the Premier's place. Luanne Leaman of the Premier's office is also attending the Nairobi Conference. Walter McLean, federal minister responsible for the Status of Women, heads up the Canadian delegation.

Other members of the Canadian Delegation to the Nairobi World Conference "to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women" include: Maureen O'Neill, Co-ordinator of Status of Women Canada, Flora MacDonald, Minister of Employment and Immigration, David Miller, High Commissioner for Canada in Kenya, and Lindsay Niemann, of the Dept. of External Affairs.

St. John's Status of Women Council has written to Walter McClean to ask him to carry our concerns on the relationship between peace and development and equality for women to the United Nations Conference. We've asked for a report from him on the Conference and we'll include that in a future newsletter.

In addition to the official United Nations Conference, "Forum '85" is also taking place in Nairobi prior to the official conference to provide an opportunity for representatives of non-governmental organizations to discuss the achievements of the Decade for Women. Attending "Forum '85" from Newfoundland are: Lee Seymour, (Oxfam), Ann Bell (Provincial Advisory Council on the Status of Women) and Joanne Barber (Corner Brook Status of Women).

**THE DECADE FOR WOMEN...**  
1985 AND BEYOND...



## REPORT ON PORNOGRAPHY

by Dorothy Inglis

The recent legislation passed in the House of Assembly was welcomed by members of the Coalition of Citizens against Pornography.

In November, 1983, two resolutions were presented to the Provincial conference of delegates to the Federation of Municipalities on the subject of pornography. One resolution came from the Mokami Status of Women Council who had it presented from the Happy Valley Goose Bay Town Council while a similar request was presented on behalf of the Coalition.

Six hundred delegates unanimously passed the requests for provincial enacting legislation to be put in place so that municipalities would be allowed to restrict the method of display of pornographic materials. This has finally happened. No children will not be accosted with the material. Now those of use who find it offensive to shop in a store that depicts women in demeaning ways will not have to be confronted by the material.

The enabling legislation means, however, that each and every municipality will now have to put it on their books. It is our understanding that a suitable by-law has been prepared that all councils can use. It will now take alert citizens across the province to see that their town council acts on the legislation.

The Fraser Committee on Prostitution and Pornography has made its formal presentation to the Federal Government, and groups across Canada have been studying its contents. The first to come down in support of the recommendations is the Canadian Coalition Against Pornography.

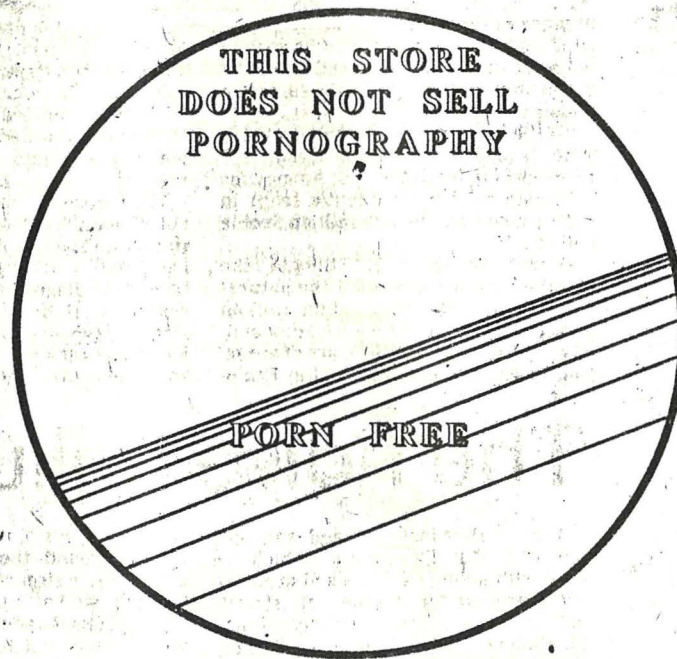
The report suggests three main thrusts:

1. severest of penalties would be levied on anyone engaged in child pornography
2. criminal sanctions would be used for pornography that connects violence with sexuality ("hard-core")
3. federal legislation giving the municipalities the right to restrict display, as in our recent legislation



The Fraser Committee report is 750 pages of thoughtful consideration of the hundreds of briefs presented across the country, and may well be the most comprehensive study on the subject in any country. It will be the centre of future discussion for a long time to come, with many opinions differing on whether they have gone far enough. If government acted now on the main three-tier suggestions, a lot of material that is presently available in our province would be removed. A lot would still remain that would be offensive, but none of us ever expected nor wanted the criminal law to be used as a "catch-all" for everything pornographic.

We agree with the Fraser Committee that a line must be drawn on what is "criminal". This means that a lot of offensive material will still be around, and that will require community education and community action. Which is one of the reasons the Coalition is asking store-owners to voluntarily declare their store "Porn-Free" and display one of our cards in their window.



#### **ATTENTION STOREOWNERS:**

If you do not now carry, or have never carried pornographic material on your shelves and wish to display the above sign in your window at no cost, please contact the Coalition of Citizens Against Pornography, P.O. Box 652, Station C, St. John's, Nfld. A1C 5K8

**PORNOGRAPHY: A DISCUSSION**  
Produced for  
PEOPLE OPPOSING PORNOGRAPHY

Written and Directed by	Paul Hanna
Camera	Ken Rogers
Sound	Scott Webster
Narrator	David Clark

This 30 minute videotape explores the violence in pornographic magazines and videos available in a small Canadian city: Fredericton, New Brunswick.

The video approaches the pornography question with the assumption that few people understand the amount and severity of violent pornographic material available in "small town Canada".

Graphic excerpts from violent magazine and video pornography are interspersed with reactions, opinions, and solutions of the citizens of Fredericton. Although the emphasis is on the opinions of youth, the production also includes the comments of older adults, male and female, from many walks of life: psychologists; counsellors; clerics; video and magazine store owners; rape crisis, transition house, and planned parenthood workers; and many "on the street" interviews.

PORNOGRAPHY: A DISCUSSION points out the degrading effect pornography has on children, women, and men; the link between violence in the home and pornography; and promotes action for the individual viewing the production.

PORNOGRAPHY: A DISCUSSION sets today's pornography in an historical perspective, examines what pornography is available, its effect, and what action can be taken to prevent its spread.

Dorothy Inglis of St. John's, Newfoundland, Vice-President of the National Action Committee of the Status of Women had this to say: "PORNOGRAPHY: A DISCUSSION is a must for the libraries of concerned anti-pornography groups".

Please send \$30.00 for each cassette ordered to  
People Opposing Pornography  
C/O 855 Grandame St.,  
Fredericton, N.B.  
E3B 3Z7



## PORNOGRAPHY AND FARLEY

by Helen Porter

A short time ago I was in Toronto where I attended an International Night at Harbourfront. There were writers there from all over the world, including Elizabeth Janeway from the United States and Barbara Jefferis from Australia, reading from their work. Canada was represented by Farley Mowat, who read from his latest defense of animal life, Sea of Slaughter. So passionate was Farley in his presentation of the walrus which once inhabited the Magdalen Islands and which were senselessly and cruelly destroyed, that my companion, a writer from British Columbia, had to leave the room. His vivid depiction of blood and gore and cruelty were too much for her.

After the reading, another friend and I decided to ask Mr. Mowat when he was going to write a book about pornography. We felt that someone who could be so so touched and perturbed by the savage treatment of animals should also be upset about the women and children who are victimized, forever scarred and sometimes murdered in the cause of pornography. His first reply to our question was a leer and the statement "Yes, If I can do the research." As we continued to question him he said: "Pornographers are not an endangered species." My friend Jenny replied "No, but women are". He backed hastily away from us, muttering something about having to buy a drink for the writer from West Germany. It was obvious that he knew nothing about the brutality and obscenity of present-day pornography, and cared less. He no doubt considered Jenny and me a pair of fanatics from whom he had to escape immediately.



## SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

## WOMEN AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## WOMEN AND HOUSING

by Cheryl Long

Women's Centre

Housing is an area of vital concern to women. Community planners more often than not male, are unaware or refuse to create policies that take into account the realities of many womens' lives.

The sharp edge to this reality is poverty... the poverty of many single mothers, divorcees and elderly women.

There is a lack of sound policy in the housing area... lack of efficient co-operation between provincial and municipal governments... lack of programs to motivate private interests to invest in non-profit housing.

As anyone who works in an agency to assist those in financial need can attest to, housing is of great importance, and the lack of it is a fact that many women must face. We need to publicize this failure on the part of the government to address this basic right. We need more women involved in urban planning.

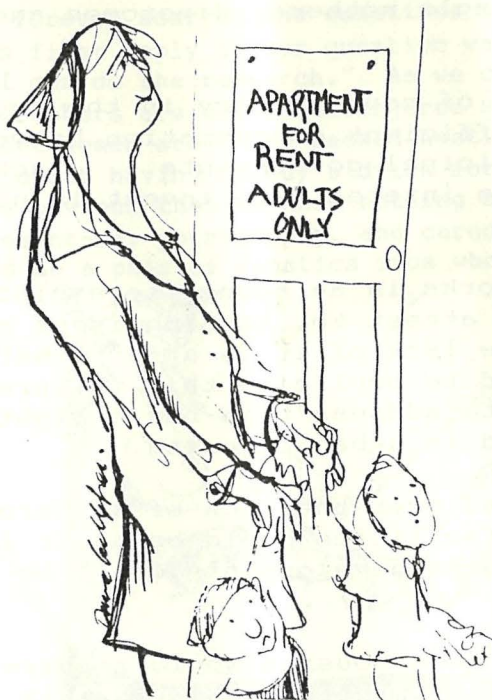
Women are angered over the lack of daycare facilities. Such facilities could be built into housing developments. Housing developments could be built with central access.

While initially such housing would require some form of taxpayer assistance, in the long run this would be returned in full in improved quality of life for women and children in the community.



Women have to empower themselves, by educating each other and then lobbying. We have witnessed our power before to influence the government as a collective. Housing has to be viewed as a feminist issue - it is where we live our private lives and rear our children.

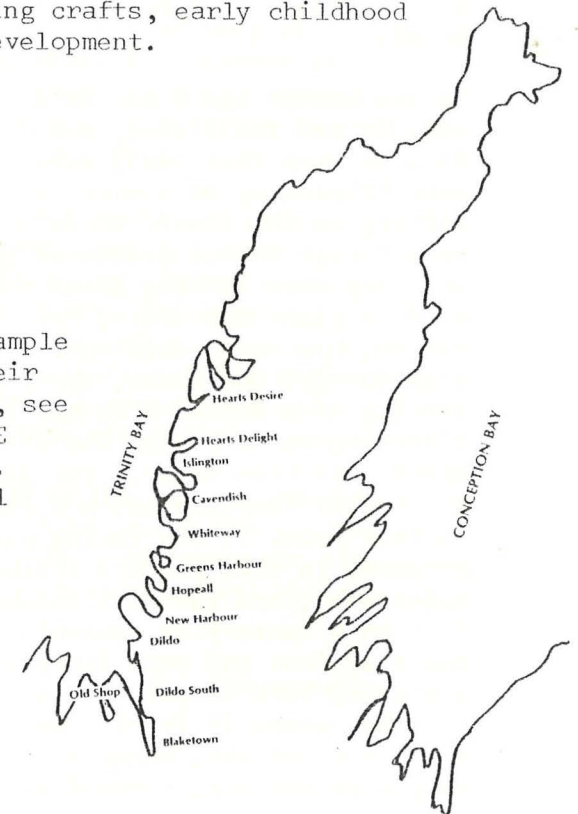
This brings us to the topic of safe houses, shelters for battered women and children. The waiting lists for these houses are long... the demand much greater than supply. This is the situation women face. Women's concerns are community concerns. Our direct experience with these realities qualifies us to give valuable counsel and direct input into urban planning decisions. Put safe affordable housing where it belongs ... AS A PRIORITY NUMBER ONE RIGHT OF ALL WOMEN!!!



## TRINITY BAY SOUTH WOMEN ON THE MOVE

The WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE, a sub-committee of the Upper Trinity South Regional Development Association, have been organizing since 1982. The women came together primarily around the issue of unemployment but the group has been active in gathering information on the skills in the area that includes Trinity Bay South from Old Shop to Heart's Desire. The original focus on unemployment and the fishery resource continues to be important but the women have branched into sub-committees including crafts, early childhood education, agriculture and social development.

For an excellent and progressive example of women organizing to determine their community development and direction, see TRINITY BAY SOUTH:WOMEN ON THE MOVE prepared by M.U.N. Extension, W.I.N. and the Upper Trinity South Regional Development Association.





# What do rural women do?

HELEN WOODROW has been involved in community development work in this province for 10 years. Her most recent work as Programme Development Supervisor with Memorial's Extension Service includes designing educational programmes for delivery to rural communities, conducting research on adult education structures and adult learning needs, and assisting community groups and Extension field staff in designing educational programmes.

Among other things, Helen has been instrumental in the development of the Upper Trinity South Women's group. Excerpts from her recent address to the Newfoundland Teacher's Association's Special Interest Council on Women strongly supports the work of W.I.N. and addresses the power and potential for social change that comes with organizing at the community level.

"A few months ago I sat in a room very different than this one. It was the living room of a single parent in Trinity Bay. Between that small room and the adjoining kitchen people were tripled up on arm chairs, leaning against the stove, sitting on the floor. There were over forty women there, from recent high school graduates to grandmothers. It was a meeting and they were talking about the economy, their experiences as fish plant labourers, how they had prepared for their future, how employable they really were. That room was alive with energy. One woman, about sixty, leaned over to me, looking at a mother with her six year old daughter, who sat listening attentively. She whispered, 'She's learning a lot about life here today.' Tonight I want to talk with you about that learning and how important it was to all of us in that room. It was taking place as part of an adult education process. In this process learners establish the educational objectives, and the curriculum. The evaluation focuses not just on a mastery of content; it includes an analysis of their actions and most importantly their progress in achieving both structural change and change in self-percept..... In 1982, women in Trinity Bay, in communities from Blaketown to Hearts Delight, began to organize. They wanted change. They were hurting, economically, and that drove them together."

"How would you describe what was going on for Trinity Bay women? Would you call it education? Maybe some of you wouldn't. Education goes on in classrooms, doesn't it? Sometimes our jargon obfuscates our goals. The problem is people tend to associate learning with a well financed, highly organized structure called the education system. It's central to our economy, employs thousands of people and is one of the biggest expenditures of our federal and provincial budgets. But let's not be blinded to the importance of learning environments outside that structure. Let us continue to exploit, and find creative, appropriate ways of working with adults in both the classrooms of educational institutions and the kitchens of learners. Trinity Bay women were knee deep in education, as dog ugly for learning as they were for work.....

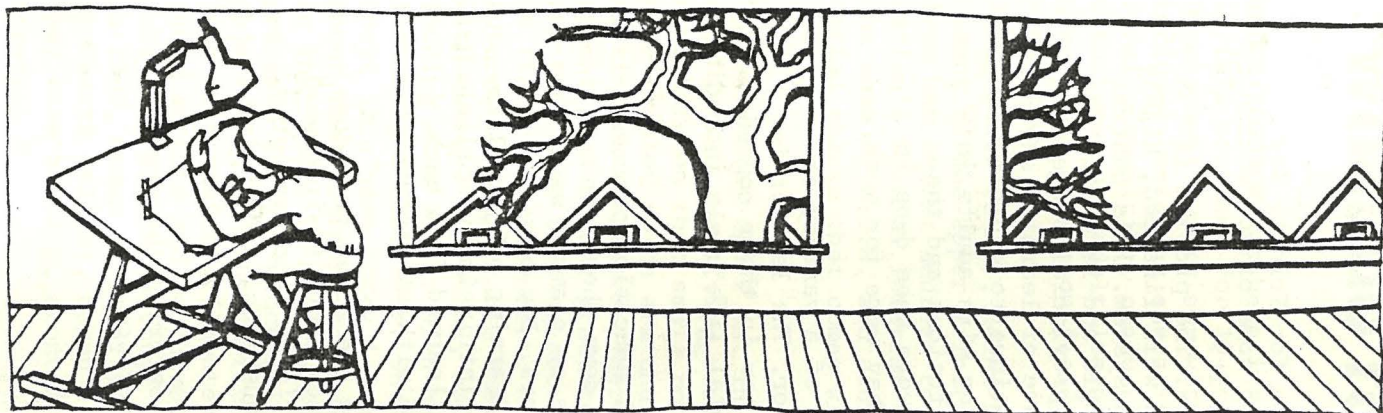
This non-formal education process is one of a variety of approaches available to the adult educator. The learner is central to the design, you meet the learner in their content of family, of community, of a developmental life cycle incredibly different for women than men.....

I want to tell you that in the non-formal education process I've described to you, we tried to break down these and other barriers to participation. Meetings or classes were held at a time appropriate for the learners. Day care and transportation was provided for a large learning project like the fisheries forum. These learners were intrinsically motivated, and they supported one another, and they learned from each other. It wasn't easy, and it wasn't done without mistakes.

But they came together. They didn't know the women from down the shore or in Islington. They didn't know about their power as individuals or groups. Now they do. It's an important step for them and their daughters, and their husbands, and their friends.

Both you and I have a responsibility of fostering the growth of that power in all women across this province."



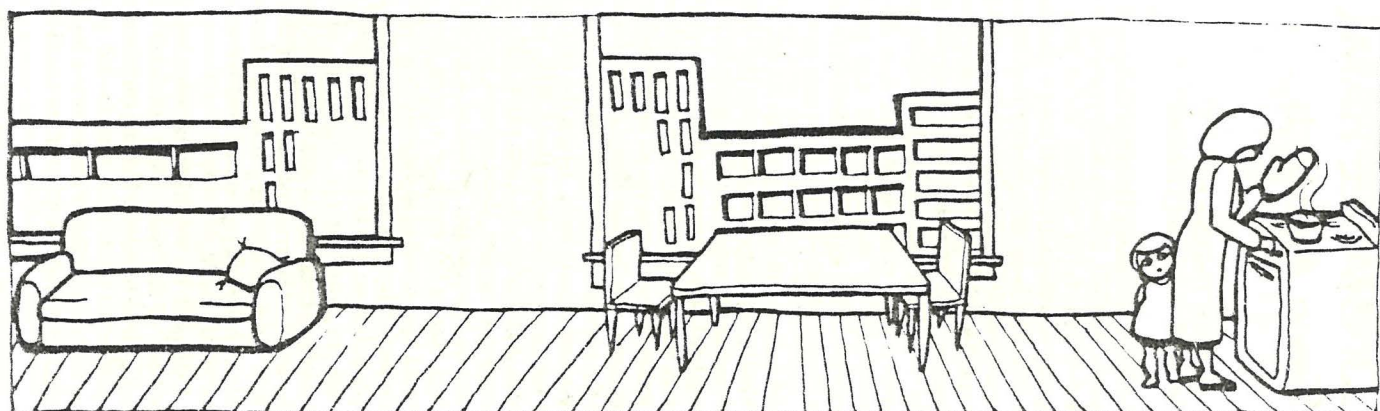


### "WOMEN SEE OTHER THINGS"

KERRY GOSSE graduated from the Technical University of Nova Scotia with a Bachelor of Architecture in April, 1985. Of the 42 graduates, Kerry was one of seven women and the only woman from Newfoundland. Kerry did not follow the normal pre-engineering route to architecture. She graduated from Memorial in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts in Archeology. "Archeology got me into architecture. We had looked at historic villages and their re-construction. My interest developed from there." In 1982, Kerry graduated from the Technical University of Nova Scotia with her Bachelor of Environmental Design, worked one year in St. John's with the BAE group and then returned to complete her Bachelor of Architecture.

Kerry has worked with the BAE group during her academic career and since graduation. At the moment, she is responsible for a project in Pleasantville re-designing 9 buildings. When she first started working with the BAE group in 1982, all the technical and engineering staff were men. Kerry did not feel uncomfortable. "I was used to it at school - even at M.U.N. I think the men were a little uncomfortable at first but with time, I was treated the same as everyone else." She has not experienced any problems working in the construction industry as a woman but admits that it is nice to now have a woman engineer and two female draftpersons on staff.

Kerry feels that changes in the direction of planning and development in St. John's would ultimately reflect regulations at City Council. "At the architectural level, there probably wouldn't be a lot of difference between male and female architects even though women do see things differently or maybe a better way of saying it is women see other things."





## CONSTANCE HAMILTON CO-OP Simon Architects

### Permanent Housing for Single Mothers and Children<sup>12</sup>

Toronto's Constance Hamilton Co-operative opened in 1982, after several years of concerted efforts by various social service agency representatives and local women activists. The co-op, designed by Joan Simon, consists of both a six-bedroom second stage transition facility for women needing crisis housing, and 31 townhouses designed for the long-term use of single women and women with children. Again, it is fairly convenient to shops, schools and public transportation although not ideal according to Simon. Wherever possible, safe outdoor

and indoor children's play spaces are provided in locations that maximize the ability of mothers to supervise them while involved in other tasks. Access to an internal courtyard, small private balconies and combined kitchen/dining areas are all used to achieve this goal. Another significant design feature is the provision of common spaces where co-op members can meet. Given the extremely limiting specifications that CMHC insists upon in its Section 56.1 non-profit and co-op housing program, these spaces were not easy to incorporate; including a room for child care, a tea room, or a co-op shop all would have resulted in disqualification from funding. Since the primary aim of the co-op's initiators was to provide affordable as well as appropriate housing, these guidelines could not be neglected. Instead, the architect rearranged parking facilities to allow for a community patio. She also was able to include a communal roof terrace in the hostel facility.

Even with the resulting subsidies, only 25 percent of the units were provided with rent-g geared-to-income funding supplements, a proportion much lower than needed, given the income profiles of most women and the stipulation that the other units would have

to be rented at the lower-end-of-market value. To compensate for this restriction, Simon designed units to facilitate sharing, by putting living rooms and dining/kitchen areas on separate floors, and also by placing some bedrooms downstairs. Lack of daycare centres in the immediate area, and the inability to find funding to establish one, is the second major disadvantage, after cost, that women in the co-op identified.

In a more positive vein, women find living in Constance Hamilton attractive for reasons other than simply the physical design. The possibility of living in a community of supportive adults with some similar needs and interests is also important. Another attraction is the enhanced degree of control over one's environment that co-operative, as opposed to rental, housing allows. All members of Constance Hamilton are expected to participate in one of the committees established to maintain and enhance the structures.

WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENTS  
(vol. 7 #2)  
Spring, 1985

## Women as Architects: Have We Come a Long Way?

As we progress through the eighties, more and more women are taking their places alongside men in professions once considered to be "off limits". Women in the field of architecture are no exception. However, women architects claim that much of their progress is illusory. They say they have difficulty finding jobs and "moving up" once they are hired; they are not accepted as equals; and they must work twice as hard to prove themselves. Are these perceptions accurate or are they exaggerated by women in the field? Are there prejudices? What is the man's point of view?

To answer some of these questions we decided to investigate the hiring practices of architecture firms in the Detroit area. We wanted to determine the number of women employed by architecture firms as architects, the positions these women held, their salaries compared to those of their male colleagues, and the advantages and disadvantages of hiring women.

Out of approximately 200 architecture firms in the Detroit area a random sample of 60 was selected and questionnaires mailed in June 1983. These firms represent a cross section of the employment opportunities available to women architects. Of these we received 29 responses giving a return rate of 48 per cent. The majority of these responses were completed by the principals/partners of the firms surveyed, the individuals responsible for hiring. With three exceptions the responses came from men aged 35 to 60, so we can assume we are portraying the man's view.

Our survey results point to discrimination in hiring, salary and relative position in firms. There is a large discrepancy between the number of women and the number of men employed as architects. Of the 29 firms responding, 12 employed women in architectural positions. Of these firms' combined total of 276 architects, only 23 were women: less than nine per cent. It was not surprising to find that 96 per cent of the respondents said that the majority of their co-workers were male. Only four per cent

could respond that their office was staffed with an equal number of male and female architects.

Hiring of women in architectural positions has not been continuous. The first woman hired obtained her position in 1951. Then a large gap occurred until 1979 when women were again hired. In recent years the employment of women architects reflects the growing number who entered professional schools in the late 1970s as a result of the women's movement and other social changes.

Most of the women hold low level, low paying drafting positions. We found from the survey that eight of the 23 women were doing drafting work while nine women held lower management positions such as job captain, interior designer or junior designer. Four were in middle management positions such as project manager, and two were in upper management, including project architect or partner. In general, women held jobs of lower status, responsibility and financial reward. These jobs are detrimental because women become pigeon-holed in low level positions with little opportunity for advancement or for becoming registered.

In salaries, women again come out "low on the totem pole". The average salary for all architecturally related positions was \$24,000. Men had an average slightly over this total at \$24,750 while the average for women was considerably less at \$16,800. This differential reflects the lower pay of the drafting positions held by the majority of the

women compared to design or administrative positions.

We discovered that many firms' official hiring policy and their actual hiring practices often differ. Only 31 per cent of the firms said they had affirmative action programs. Of these, approximately half employed women architects. Nearly every firm commented that hiring was based on ability, competence, skills and talent, and that gender did not influence the decision. Yet most firms did not employ women. Were qualified women architects unavailable to fill positions or were women



overlooked, discouraged or omitted from the hiring process?

Responses to our open-ended questions indicate some of the attitudes responsible for the small number of women hired. Many of the respondents gave traditional and stereotypical answers.

Some of the comments recorded exemplify these attitudes. One respondent said, "women are distracting to some of the men in an office." He added, "women leave to get married and have kids." Another said, "Men are ill at ease with women and an 'on guard' feeling exists among the male staff. The major problem was that women are distracting sexually."

One principal stated that his firm did not hire women because, "Workmen's Compensation laws made it a risk to hire women because of sexual harassment." In Michigan where this survey was conducted, these laws do not apply to sexual harassment (which is investigated by the Equal Opportunity Office of the state's Employment Commission).

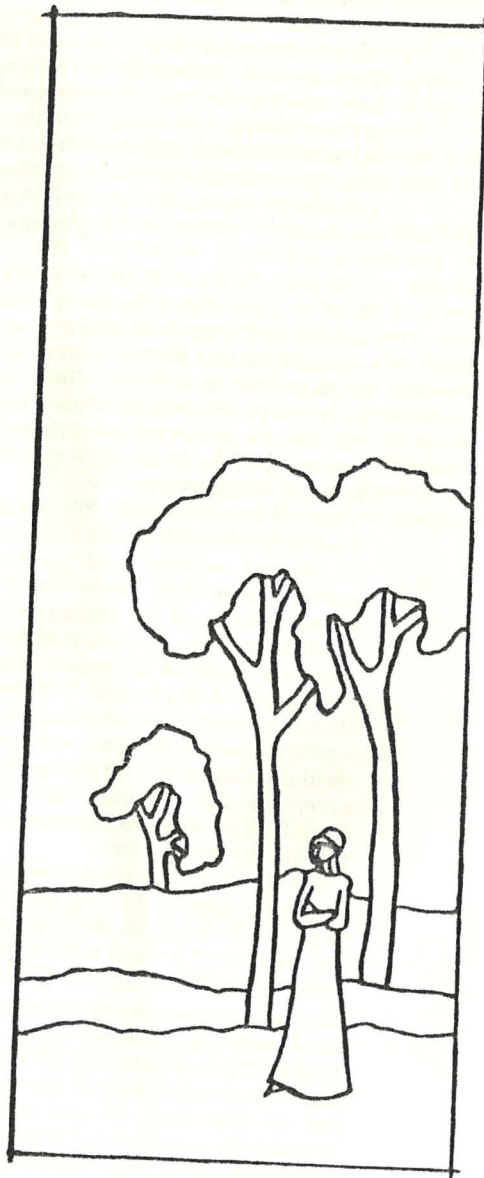
In the technical area women are considered to "have less of an understanding of construction than men." They are credited, however, with "a greater colour and pattern understanding and ability of selection," a comment often used to relegate women to positions in interior design, graphics or rendering, and to exclude them from the challenging roles and the opportunity to develop expertise in other areas.

Commenting about the advantage of hiring women, one respondent said, "their presence cleans up the language in the office a little." Others answered that women are "hard working," "steady," "more dedicated," and "able to give attention to detail." No mention was made of skills or ability that supposedly serve as criteria for jobs.

We were greatly disappointed to learn that women had not achieved wider acceptance in the field from their fellow professionals. We learned that attitudes among male colleagues need to change drastically (and we hope, soon) for capable women to enjoy equal respect, equal pay and more professional options and opportunities.

*Rochelle Martin, Wendy Chamberlin and Sarah Haselschwardt are at the School of Architecture, Lawrence Institute of Technology, Southfield, Michigan.*

Reprinted from WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENTS (vol. 7 #2) Spring 1985.



## Growing Up In The Suburbs

Our "first house"! Those words had such a wonderful sound. They meant security, roots and "a place for the children." After going without frills (i.e. babysitters, movies, adult clothing, etc.) and eating eggs for dinner four days a week, we finally had that other precious word -- the "downpayment"!

We were poor, but "present-poor"; very different from "future-poor." There was no question where we would buy -- present-poor people move to the suburbs, where there are backyards, safe streets and "other children to play with." (Future-poor people live downtown, where their children are constantly exposed to the dangers of traffic, pollution and perverts.) The suburb had, as well, libraries, recreation centres and a multitude of stores, all within a short driving distance. What more could you ask?

Slowly, the connections began. Children are a wonderful vehicle for "breaking the ice", and there were lots of them! Initial conversations centred around kids' ages, stages of development, what your husband did, and the fact that this small house was only your first step. From there, came mutual favours -- the most important one being babysitting. The routine would be: get up early, get the kids ready, pile into the car, drive into town to take hubby to work and drive home. (Nobody had two cars!) Somewhere during the day would be a doctor's appointment or other important errand where, blissfully you were "without kids" for an hour or two. At five o'clock, the process reversed and hubby came home. None of us ever got the car for the day for no reason, or just to get away on our own for a few hours. That would have been too much of an imposition on our neighbours. (The library, the recreation centre and the stores might well have been a thousand miles away.)

The same held true when we got together -- there always had to be a reason: to borrow something, to return something, to give a message, etc. Although we loved getting together over a cup of coffee, not one of us ever went to the door and said "Let's talk"! It makes me angry when I hear people referring disparagingly to suburban "Kaffeeklatsches\*". They were our survival, our connections with other women, and our mechanism for coping with the insanity of isolation, children and endless housework.



The talks were always good, but strange in retrospect. Husbands and kids were favorite targets: "I'm going to kill those kids, if they don't shut up!", and "You won't guess what John (Jim, Bob) has done this time!" But that was the extent of the vented frustration. Never did we say, "I'm afraid I'm going to hurt my kid, if I don't get a break", or "Jim (Joe, Bob) and I are having some problems." That would have been unthinkable. We would have handed over too much information to then maintain the contented upwardly mobile image.

There was always another favorite topic, and that was the few selfishworking-mothers in our neighborhood. We took great pains to point out to each other, all the indications of how the selfishmother's children were suffering. When the selfishmother bought new clothes or some "extra" household item, (because that's all they worked for, anyway) it was good for a week's conversation.

Conversely, when we occasionally talked with the selfishmothers (for the sake of her children), we realized that they felt that we were boring, dreary, and "too tied up with our children."

Years later, when I remembered the animosity we felt toward each other (and when I knew the impossible task of being a working mother), I felt quite guilty. It did not take me long to realize, however, that the blame for how we behaved lay elsewhere. Both groups were only doing what we had to -- reinforcing each other that we had made the right decisions in our lives. Little did we realize that it wouldn't matter what we did, it would never be "right", because there is no right and wrong. A few of us (sadly, only a few) eventually realized that the "career" that we had chosen (being totally responsible for making people happy) was bound to fail. It failed mainly because we had forgotten to include ourselves in the group.

The majority of us, since (and often during) that time in our lives, experienced depression, physical problems, food addictions or alcohol abuse. This was not due to the fact that we stayed home to raise our children. It was the fact that this "job" went unrecognized and unsupported.

In creating suburbs, planners need to realize:

1. Not everyone in a suburb has access to transportation, just because there is a car in the family.
2. There has to be a place, or places, where adults (mainly women) can connect with each other. This networking has to be more than just a by-product of our children's activities.
3. There is a desperate need for good, cheap daycare. Not only for those mothers who choose to work, but for those mothers who need a few hours to themselves and now have to rely on someone doing them "a favour".

These few suggestions could go a long way toward the prevention of depression, suicide attempts and "homemaker burnout".

I look back on my "suburban years" with a great deal of nostalgia. I never really thanked the women who were my friends. They helped me to be a good mother, they helped me to survive, and they kept me sane. I thank you now, wherever you are, for helping me to recognize the strength that women have, and the importance of making connections with each other.

Diane Duggan

\* Kaffeeklatsch: an informal gathering, as of housewives during the day, to drink coffee and chat. (Webster)

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ATTENDING  
THE PROVINCIAL STATUS OF WOMEN  
CONFERENCE, BEING HELD THIS YEAR  
IN GANDER FROM FRIDAY OCT. 18 TO  
SUNDAY OCT. 20? IF SO, PHONE THE  
CENTRE AND LET US KNOW.**







of this, is to talk with each other and figure out what they can change in themselves and in other men.

RB: Feminists often take the line that women are morally superior to men, and that if women ruled the world it would be a totally different place.

MD: Well, I think it's quite possible that women are morally superior to men -- I don't ever use that expression: it just doesn't [seem] natural to use it, it sounds pompous, at least for me. But certainly it's not women who have been the originators and legitimators of the nuclear society, of the necrophilic, death-dealing society --

RB: But they have supported it --

MD: They have gone along with it, yes, as instruments - I mean the wives - surely we all know that. But if you could begin to imagine a non-patriarchal, non-hierarchical way of being, I think you would see some hope. Women know the experience of when we create women-space, and when we do rituals, when we discuss ideas: the method is totally different; the atmosphere is different - there is a sharing of ideas. I mean it's very male to be in debate, who can win a point you know. I don't like that kind of discussion. I can win, but it's not worth it. It is much better if we... complement each other's ideas: I mean by "complement" add to each other's ideas and build together and weave together. That's a different style, alternative.

RB: How would you envisage the ideal society?

MD: Well, see, I don't think I can answer that question.... I think I can just get glimpses of it from my experience of woman-space. But to try to see it on a major global scale is not possible. In a way it's a male question to ask something like, well, how do you see the world in the year 2010. It's like jumping from the present to some future in a linear way without really experiencing time in a different way. It all depends upon what we're doing at any moment what will happen, so right now my experience is of women getting in touch with our psychic powers and our intellectual powers and reclaiming the power of naming which was stolen from us -- and getting in touch with the air, the wind, the water etc -- and we begin then to have glimpses of our own powerful cells in interconnection with each other. Once I start to be asked questions about societal structures and so forth, I feel funny because I don't think it's

appropriate to get to jump over that. There's something then that's happening about not confirming the immediacy of the moment, the living of the moment now. Right now we're creating what the future will be, just by releasing ourselves from that state of possession.

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**"I think the whole phallic state is really a state of separatism..."**

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RB: You said that women should withdraw themselves from men and stop energizing them.

MB: I think there are different levels of understanding that. First of all, the word "separatism" is often used, and I don't use it very frequently you might notice. But I think the whole phallic state is really a state of separatism: they separate women from women; they separate me from my deep spiritual powers; they fragment consciousness; they fragment everything. And given that's the prevailing state - separatism - I have to separate myself from that state in order to communicate with myself and with others who are capable of communicating. So I see when I speak of feminist separatism at all, I see it as separating from the state of separatism in order to communicate. And that has certain practical consequences; it starts with separating my true self from all false selves that have been embedded, and then it has certain external consequences. In my case, it certainly involves choosing to put my time, my energy, with women primarily and first. But women's lives are complex. There are women who have sons, etc., and so they have to live that separation in different modes, and I can't dogmatically impose my mode upon them. I think the core of it, of separation, of positive female-identified separation: the core meaning is, to separate my real Self and identify with it, and I write that with a capital S, from all the false selves they are constantly embedding.

RB: Thank you very much.

[I thought this was the end of the interview. I did not want to tire Dr Daly, who was about to fly back to Boston. Besides, Nancy Creighton had cooked lunch and we were all about to eat. I was surprised, then, when Dr Daly turned to me and asked:]

MD: Okay; is there anything you want to say?



RB: Well, I teach a course in women writers, and it was a struggle for me to do this, and it was very important to do it; but I don't see excluding men from the course. When I first did it, there was one man who dropped out very quickly; the last time there were three men. But it seems to me that I'd like to share with them -- I'd like them to see a female point of view, rather than being brainwashed all the time....

MD: I can understand that. I also, in the beginning, in the early seventies did allow men into my courses, and my experience with that was that it altered the conversation among the women, that it dulled them out, and that they were always checking out, on some level, how this male was reacting, even if he didn't say anything, even if this one quiet little male -- he was controlling the situation in some way. They were always looking over to see how he felt. And so then I experimented with not allowing the men into the classes, but if they insisted on studying with me, okay, I would tutor them separately. Just having an all-female class, my experience was that things move much more quickly into a real conversation -- and not just about atrocities -- I mean, that women could be more honest about subjects like rape and so forth, and woman battering and incest and all that. But more than that, that women started being incredibly creative with each other, with ideas. And having once known that experience, I was not going to settle for something else. There are obviously many women giving Women's Studies courses at which men can be present, and that's fine; but I've made this decision, and it has been a matter of blood, sweat and tears keeping it.

RB: It is very interesting how you become aware how socialized you are towards men. Because the first women's studies course I did was an interdisciplinary one: there was one man in the course and I was looking to see, what did he feel?

MD: Exactly.

RB: Then I realized. I mean, there were thirty women in the class and one man. I was always thinking, how is he getting along?

MD: And most likely so were the students, so that's a problem. I could even do that myself, I mean just check it out; I could find that tendency in myself, and it's awful you know. Especially if they start asking for pity, which they often do, or asking the women to help them along; and so the women put their energy into helping along this man instead of helping each other. It's a pity you know. So that's how I see it, and I can't possibly -- I won't change it now.

END.

Roberta Buchanan

[N.B. This interview may not be reproduced without permission of Mary Daly.]

## DAY CARE

An N.D.P. survey conducted in February of this year (1985) shows that the Provision of Child Care on a Universally Available Subsidized Basis, to be the most important issue of concern to women's groups.

The most remarkable feature of the survey was the high ranking given to the provision of child care. Newfoundland and Labrador is the worst province in Canada when it comes to providing subsidized high quality child care places.

Some of the respondents called child care "Basic to the economic equality of women", others stressed its need to the "Working poor and unemployed." Others felt that "Adequate child care is a right."

Others stressed the need for properly trained child care specialists and one respondent felt the program "Should be paid for out of deductions from the person's paycheque matched by employee contributions." The respondent went on to say that the facilities should be established in business offices or at least in business districts and when not possible there, in local neighbourhoods.

**MYTH #1 CANADIAN FAMILIES ARE ABLE TO PAY THE FULL COST OF THEIR CHILD CARE UNLESS THEY ARE VERY POOR.**

**NOT TRUE!** Good child care is expensive and middle-income families often can't afford the cost. The graphic shows why.



In Ontario, 1 staff person takes care of 5 toddlers. Each family pays 1/5 of the staff person's annual salary of \$17,500 so each family's fees will be \$3,500. An additional 20% for food, supplies, equipment, building maintenance, benefits and administration must be added to each family's fees, for a total annual cost of \$4,200 per child.

[Artwork courtesy Mary Ellen Irving]



# DAY CARE

## ORGANIZING FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY TASK FORCE

The report of the Parliamentary Task Force will have long-lasting consequences for Canadian families. It will have the power and influence to begin the process of building an equitable, high quality system of child care services.

If the response of those of us who care about high quality services for children is not strong and clear, this Task Force could make recommendations we will regret for years to come.

Communities, groups, and individuals across Canada must be organized and active to take advantage of this opportunity. Begin planning now to make your views known to the Parliamentary Task Force.

Here are some planning suggestions:

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

We have been assured that there will be public hearings in every province and territory. Groups should plan to turn out in force for these public forums.

**Plan your own public hearing:** If the Task Force is including only one hearing in your province, organize your own in other centres, and invite the Task Force to attend.

**Plan a work-shop meeting:** before your presentation to practice, with your own group, or with others in your area. Be sure you cover all the issues!

**Bring along your supporters:** Numbers do count! Even if only one or two people from your group make a presentation, see that you provide an enthusiastic audience for them.

**Use the press:** Send copies of your submission to local reporters whom you know are sympathetic; send letters to the editor; call your local radio station and suggest a phone-in on child care when the Parliamentary Task Force is in town. Appoint one person in your group to be responsible for press coverage. And save local clippings!

### KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE CDCAA

To be effective at the national level, we need to keep on top of what is happening across the country. Please send us copies of your letters and briefs, press clippings, word about the hearings in your province, and other information.

## WOMEN'S CENTER REPORT

Presently I'm involved in three groups: Housing Action Committee, Women on the Outside, and a consciousness raising group.

I want to welcome Cheryl Long to the Women's Centre. A SEED grant makes it possible for us to hire Cheryl. She is involved in crisis counselling and helping with the general running of the Centre.

A special thanks goes to Sandy Pottle and Elsa Burt for painting the stair way at the Centre. Also, CONGRADULATIONS to Sandy Pottle and Beth Decker, as the peas are already up in the garden they put in the Centre's backyard.

There are no statistics this month as I just came back from my holidays.

Best holiday wishes to Beth Lacey and Anne Favanagh!

Anne Donovan





# Conference News

## STATUS OF WOMEN

The annual provincial conference of Status of Women Councils will be held in Gander Friday Oct. 18-Sunday Oct. 20th. The theme is "R/Evolution in Women's Health Care". Registration fee: \$25 (includes Banquet and Sunday Breakfast). If you are interested in going, please phone the Women's Centre as soon as possible as we are working on arrangements to get as many members from St. John's Status of Women Council there as would like to attend.

## WOMEN AND OFFSHORE OIL

An International Conference on Women and Offshore Oil will be held Sept. 5-7 in St. John's, Nfld. This Conference will have two main themes: women and the offshore labour force, and the implications of offshore employment for the family and vice versa, including consideration of health concerns. Registration is limited, so if you are interested pre-registration is recommended. Write: Conference on Women and Offshore Oil, I.S.E.R., Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Nfld. A1C 5S7, phone: 737-8156.

## STATUS OF GIRLS

An International Conference on the Status of Girls will be held October 29, 30 and 31, 1985 at the Montreal Sheraton Centre. For more information, write: International Conference on the Status of Girls 6161 St. Denis Street Suite 4.06 Montreal Quebec Canada H2S 2R5 (514)274-3581.

## FARM WOMEN

The second National Farm Womens Conference will be held this year in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island from Nov. 21-24. The Newfoundland representative is: Judy Peddle, Box 128, Lethbridge, AOC 1V0, phone: 467-2439. The theme of this years conference is "Farm Women: Networking for Action".

## WOMEN'S FESTIVAL

The Canadian Women's Festival '85 will be held August 30-31 and Sept. 1 in Kildonan Park, Winnipeg, Manitoba. For more information contact: Canadian Women's Music and Cultural Festival, 3D-161 Stafford St., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3M 2W9, phone: 204-477-5478.

## RAPE CONGRESS

An International Congress on Rape will be held in Jerusalem, Israel, April 7-11, 1986. For further information, write: Congress Secretariat Peltours Ltd., Congress Dept., PO Box 394, Tel Aviv 61003, Israel. Tel: (03) 650862 - Telex 33803 TLV.

## NOTICES

**NEEDED!!!! TGIF CO-ORDINATOR**

**MAKE FRIENDS, ENJOY YOURSELF!!**

**ALL THIS AND MORE IF YOU WILL JUST VOLUNTEER TO CO-ORDINATE THE MONTHLY "TGIF'S" HELD AT THE WOMEN'S CENTRE THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH.... if you are the person we need, let us know! Phone today, and make yourself the social hub of the women's movement in St. John's!!! (phone the Centre 753-0220)**

COME DOWN TO THE WOMEN'S CENTRE, 85 MILITARY RD., FOR A SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH RIGHT AFTER WORK. THAT'S RIGHT, OUR FAMOUS "TGIF'S" CONTINUE REGULARLY, AND WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU. JUST DRIFT ON IN AFTER WORK, WE'LL SELL YOU A DRINK AND THERE'S ALWAYS LOTS TO TALK ABOUT. THE NEXT TGIF IS JULY 16, THEN IT'S AUGUST 30th, SEPTEMBER 27th ETC ETC.... MARK THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN YOUR ALPAC NOW AS THE TIME TO DROP BY THE WOMEN'S CENTRE.

## FOR SALE:

3 Pope Joan T-Shirts  
2 medium, 1 small  
price: \$9/each  
If you are interested, contact  
the Women's Centre



FOR SALE: 1 portable KENMOUNT dish washer, Model DW1A, 99 KW per month, EXCELLENT CONDITION, Best Offer Accepted!!! The money from the sale goes towards buying equipment for KIRBY HOUSE, Second Stage Housing for Battered Wives and their Children. Call Susan Mercer 726-0564 or 576-9180.



## IN CELEBRATION OF CANADIAN WOMEN

Edited by  
Greta Hofmann Nemiroff

Call for submissions of poetry and short stories by and about Canadian women! For a thematically organized anthology edited by Greta Nemiroff, to be published early in 1986 by Fitzhenry and Whiteside of Toronto. The themes are: Growing up Female; The Body and Sexuality; Education; Romantic Love; Women and Men; Women and Women; Women and Work; Women in the Family; Mothers; Aging; Women's Transcendence: Art and Spirituality; and Women-Power. Deadline for submissions is 1 October 1985. For further information, please contact Greta Nemiroff, The New School, Dawson College, 485 McGill Street, Montreal, Quebec. H2Y 2H4.

## NEW PUBLICATION

Women And The Law In Newfoundland And Labrador

### WOMEN AND VIOLENCE

- wife battering
- sexual assault
- child abuse
- sexual harassment



The Provincial Advisory Council on the Status of Women  
Newfoundland and Labrador

Available free of charge.

## Women's Studies and Teaching English

The March 1985 issue of "The English Journal" vol. 74 No. 3 is on Women's Studies and the Teaching of English. Copies are at the MUN Library and at the N.T.A. Information Centre; or can be ordered from: The National Council of Teachers of English, 1111 Kenyon Rd., Urbana, Illinois, 61801, \$4 U.S.

## CN Scholarships Available

1985 scholarships are available from Canadian National for this fall's semester. These \$600 scholarships are designed to encourage women to take up careers in non-traditional areas. If you are interest, brochures which fully explain how to apply are available at the Women's Centre. Deadline for application: July 26 1985.

## From the Newsletter Committee

Thanks to everybody who commented on the new format for the newsletter, which started with the June issue. We've called this the "July-August" issue because we're only too aware that by the time this gets printed and mailed it's nearer to the end of the month than the beginning. So starting with the September issue the deadline for copy will be the 20th of each month, which should allow time to actually get in in your hands by the beginning of the month. Don't forget this newsletter is a volunteer effort, and although we try as hard as we can, it's all on what spare time there is and its very difficult to make deadlines.

We still haven't come up with a good name. Suggestions range from "something like herizons" to "the hag rag", "the chrone chronicle", the "her-ald", "sister" and "vixen". We're going to try to come up with a new name for September so if you have any brilliant suggestions please let us know soon.

This issue of the newsletter was conceived and worked on by Annette Clarke, Sharon Pope and Cheryl Long. Other contributions and assistance came from: Diane Duggan (a great article!), Janet Marshall and Jane Robinson (wish we could have been at the International Conference too), Roberta Buchanan (whose two years as editor will always be remembered, especially for thought-provoking and eminently readable editorials), Pamela Hodgson (sorry the peace poems didn't get in the June issue, but here they are in this issue), Helen Porter, Dorothy Inglis, and Anne Derigan.

Theme for September issue: "Women and Sexuality"  
Deadline for copy: July 20th  
Paste-up night: Wed. Aug. 28th, 8pm-11pm  
at the Women's Centre  
We (obviously) desperately need help in putting the newsletter together. If you can spare one evening a month, please help!! All it takes is a steady hand and lots of patience -- we supply scissors, glue, advice etc.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily representative of the ideas and opinions of the St. John's Status of Women Council. The Newsletter exists to provide a forum for women's opinions and an outlet for their expression. We welcome letters, comments, book reviews, poems, articles and



MEMBERSHIP FOR THE COMING YEAR  
IS NOW DUE.  
MEMBERSHIP IS \$10 REGULAR,  
\$5 FOR STUDENTS AND UNDEREMPLOYED

-----  
YES, I want to renew my membership in St. John's Status of Women Council (and keep receiving my newsletter)  
Enclosed is my membership fee for '85-'86

-----  
Please send me a questionnaire to fill out on my commitment to/expectations of St. John's Status of Women

DO YOU LIKE THE NEW LOOK OF THE NEWSLETTER?

HOW ABOUT A NEW NAME TO GO ALONG WITH IT?

WE'RE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS!

THIS NEW FORMAT COSTS EXTRA \$\$\$\$\$\$'s EVERY MONTH...

CAN YOU HELP OUT? ANY DONATION WILL DO!

- JUST SEND IT TO:  
NEWSLETTER DEVELOPMENT FUND  
PO BOX 6072  
ST. JOHN'S, A1C 5X8

# DO THE MEDIA REFLECT CANADIAN WOMEN'S REALITY?

What is the media saying about women? Help us collect headlines each month. If you see a story or headline that you think would be of interest to other women, just clip it out, mark the date and source, and drop it off at the Women's Centre for inclusion in the newsletter. Here's a few we found last month:

## ABORTION DEBATE

*Slim majority of Canadians favors free choice, poll finds*

THE GAZETTE Montreal, Saturday, April 20, 1985

### THE NATION

#### Abortion access: What do rural women do?



## ABORTION AND THE PILL

When women got control over conception, why did the abortion rate increase?

*Ottawa waters down affirmative-action plan*  
*Heated debate at conference*  
*Women unite in urgent plea for peace*

*Lawsuit seen as option for women on faculty*

*Women faculty still paid less*

*Business must lobby to stop equal-pay laws, lawyer says*

*The middle-class blues*

Poll reveals tax burden disparities

*ABC, ex-employee settle sexual harassment suit*

*Strikers told to wait for bill on equal-pay legislation*

*Single mother, 3 children hardest hit, survey shows*

*Manitoba new fathers to get paternity leave*

*"The Muse" July 2/85*

The system, not feminism, the root of society's problems

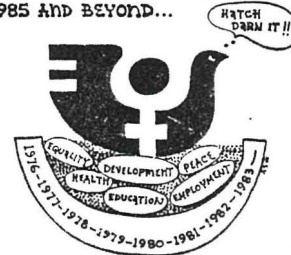


HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN  
ST. JOHN'S STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL  
FOR '85-86??? IF NOT, THIS IS YOUR  
LAST CHANCE (AND YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER)

... RENEW NOW...  
SEE PAGE 42 FOR DETAILS

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THE DECADE FOR WOMEN...  
1985 AND BEYOND...



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