

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

The Women's Place  
31 Dupont Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
Mon. - Thurs. 10:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Phone: 929-3185

Dear Sisters,

It's September and another summer is over. Summer is always a time of flux; people leave, come and go, take vacations, change addresses and generally make it more difficult than usual to get things done. Take our August newsletter for instance, or even better let's forget it. Just when we finally got our hands on an addressing machine (used, old, but workable and "only" \$200 plus address plates) gremlins took over so that it (the newsletter) came out looking a mess. Part of the trouble for the past year was that we did not have a decent typewriter. This month we finally broke down and leased an electric typewriter - we still cannot afford to buy one. So from now on it's up to the volunteer typists, and it's not necessarily the best typists who volunteer. But we are trying, so bear with us.

Actually it has not been a bad summer for Women's Place and certainly the outlook for fall and winter is good - with your help.

A formal report on recent past and planned future is being prepared by Chris and Leah (our full time organizers) and will come out - hopefully - as a "special" mail-out in a few weeks. Please look for it in your mail and read it carefully. It's important.

Policy on Mailing List There is a matter that concerns everyone who receives this newsletter. As a matter of firm policy we will not turn over The Women's Place mailing list to anyone, no matter how worthy the cause. It is the belief of the Collective which runs Women's Place on your behalf that we have an obligation to keep your name and address from passing outside our control.

The newsletter is open to announcements from organizations, causes and individuals which we feel are relevant and of possible interest to women who support the feminist cause. Thus, you will find news of matters like Day Care, the "Y" liberation school, various protest groups and so on in the newsletter. It is then up to each individual to decide whether she wants to get involved in these actions. But we do not believe that we are authorized to turn over our mailing list to anyone else to do with as they like and intend to resist all pressure to change this policy. Do you agree? Please let us know. We need to hear from you, pro or con.

As a matter of interest, Women's Place mailing list is up to about 3500 names and growing at the rate of 100 - 150 per month. Therin lies our main strength and raison d'etre. Remember, this is all done with volunteers and donated money - we badly need both all the time. We can and are making minor improvements in the processing - address machine and typewriter are examples - but to really produce a qualitatively better newsletter would require hiring someone full-time to work on it - along with the volunteers of course. This we cannot possibly afford as matters stand.

It's September and another summer is over. Summer is always a time of flux; people take vacations and change addresses and generally make it more difficult than usual to get things done. Take care to get things done for instance, constant in letter for instance, or even better let's forward it. Just when we finally get our hands on an addressing machine (used, old, but workable and "only" \$200 plus address plates and a manual) Part of the at (the newsletter) came out looking a mess.

BOOKSTORE NEWS

CANADIAN

NON-FICTION

- 1. Survival, Margaret Atwood, P 287 \$3.25
- 2. The Ojibwa Woman, Ruth Landes, P 247 \$2.85
- 3. Mother Was Not a Person, compiled by Margaret Anderson, P 253 \$3.95
- 4. In Times Like These, Nellie McClung, P 129 \$2.95

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- 1. Cleaning in the West, Nellie McClung, P 387 \$2.98
- 2. The House of All Sorts, Emily Carr, P 166 \$2.25
- 3. The Backwoods of Canada, Catharine Parr Trail, P 125 \$1.75
- 4. Roughing It in the Bush, Susanne Moodie, P 237 \$1.95
- 5. The Stream Runs Fast, Nellie McClung, P. 316 \$2.78

NON-FICTION BOOKS

- 1. Red Emma Speaks, Writing and speeches, Emma Goldman - Ed. by Alexander Shelman, P 413 \$2.70
- 2. Woman in the Nineteenth Century, Margaret Fuller \$2.50
- 3. Liberation Now!, writings from the Women's Liberation Movement, P 382 \$1.25
- 4. I'm Running Away from Home But I'm Not Allowed To Cross The Street, A Primer on Women's Liberation, Gabrielle Burton, Hardcover, P 206 \$4.50

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY (Cont.)

- 1. Elizabeth Gady Stanton, Mary Ann B. Oakley, P 148 \$1.50
- 2. Not By God, but by People; The Story of Belle Tall Gould, Catharine Vance, P 65 \$1.00
- 3. The Diary of Anais Nin, Vol 1 & 2 each \$3.95

KIDS BOOKS

- 1. Penelope and the Mussels, Shirley Boccaccio \$2.00

- 2. One Morning In Maine, Robert McCloskey \$1.20
- 3. I'm Like Me (poems for people who want to grow up equal), Siv Widerberg \$1.50
- 4. Fresh Fish, And Chips, Jan Andrews, Illus. by Linda Donnelly \$1.50
- 5. Pippi Longstocking, Astrid Lindgren \$ .95
- 6. Charlotte's Web, E.B. White \$ .95

We also now have available a new and enlarged C.R. Kit with more articles, questionnaires, etc. to facilitate group discussion and interest \$2.50

LEGAL CLINIC

The Women's Place Legal Clinic will be staffed this fall by women law students from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. These women will be happy to try to help you with any legal problem you happen to have; income tax, separation, divorce, sex discrimination, etc. However, due to the fact that the clinic is staffed by students rather than lawyers, there will be some limits as to what they can do. In the event that your problem is too complicated, you will be referred to an agency or individual capable of handling your problem.

In order to better assist you, it would be helpful if you could bring all documents relevant to the problem along with you. Appointments are necessary and can be made by phoning Women's Place. Fall clinic hours are Wednesday evening 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and (possibly) Saturday afternoon 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The students regret to say that due to the volume of business and the complexity of problems presented, it is not possible to advise by phone. If you are in need of a quick answer to a simple legal problem call 928-6447 (Campus Legal Assistance Centre) daily between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. All services are without charge.

COUNSELLORS

Professional counselling is available from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. every Wednesday evening at Women's Place. Either phone for an appointment or drop in.

Counsellors: Amy Siren & Lynn Eakin

MEDICAL CLINIC

There is now a medical clinic at Women's Place every Saturday with a woman doctor in attendance. Kids can also be brought to the clinic. For an appointment phone Women's Place.

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CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING GROUPS

Women interested in C.R. Groups, please call Renate at 929-3185 and leave your name, phone number and times you have free. She will notify you as soon as a suitable group forms.

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SUPER DUPER CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING KITS  
NOW AVAILABLE

These kits can be used for starting C.R. groups, and also by groups in progress.

Included is a bibliography, questionnaires on topics and issues your group might discuss, the birth control and V.D. handbook, a guide to consciousness raising and a guide for using the kit, and many, many, more things.....

The kits are \$2.50 each and can be purchased from and ordered from the bookstore.

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ATTENTION WORKING WOMEN

If you have ever filed a complaint with the WOMEN'S BUREAU, under the Human Rights Code, or with the EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS BRANCH, under equal pay for equal work, we need your help in a survey. Whatever the final status of your complaint, please contact Liss at 929-3185 to set up a confidential interview.

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INTERVAL HOUSE

Interval House is a temporary co-operative residence for mothers and their children in crisis situations, located at 173 Spadina Road. Accommodation, meals, child tending and community resource information are provided to create a help/self-help living situation. Admission to the house is generally through referral from social service agencies, hospitals, churches, etc. and the length of stay is 2 to 4 weeks. Interval House is presently funded by the Local Initiative Program. We

need your help if Interval House is to continue and the areas in which you can help are varied.

Sole-support mothers are finding housing to be one of the most difficult problems to deal with. We are setting up a housing registry with the co-operation of the information centres. If you have clean, reasonably priced accommodation, close to schools and transportation and would be willing to rent to a mother and children, please call us at 924-1491 or your community information centre. (Call 863-0505 to obtain your community information centre number). We need volunteer hours in a variety of ways: physical presence in the house, children's activities, public speaking, fund raising, house hunting and ...

Interval House has been equipped and furnished through donations and this is an ongoing process. We need children's clothing, toys, towels, bedding, drapes, rugs, kitchen equipment (especially cutlery) appliances (vacuum cleaner etc.), freezer, typewriter and adding machine. If you have any of these items or would like to make a contribution towards purchasing them please call Interval House at 924-1491. Cheques should be made payable to Interval House. A tax receipt will be forwarded to you so please include your address.

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GROUPS! MEETINGS  
SINGLE MOTHERS CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING GROUP

To meet weekly - Discuss problems openly. For information call: Judy 961-8050 (after 6:00 p.m. until 12:00)

I'm interested in getting a group of women together to explore personal growth and interpersonal relationships using Gestalt, B.E., movement, etc. If interested call 921-7777.

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LESBIAN MEETING  
MEETINGS! BEER!!

We're organizing Fridays, 8:00 p.m., Women's Place.  
(For more information phone Rowena 929-3185 or Ellen 921-6517)

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RANSAC

(Radical Activist Collective.)

This is a group of women at Women's Place who want to do something about atrocities such as the Miss Toronto Beauty Contest, Friar's Tavern where women get in free if we wear bikinis, Toronto-Dominion Bank where women have to wear mini skirts, Yonge Street sex clubs and massage parlours. We can only be strong and effective if you participate with ideas and energy. Phone Rowena 368-4381 or 929-3185 for more information on RANSAC and meeting times, etc.

ADS

THE CRABAPPLE CRAFT HOUSE

Artists who have works of art or crafts they would like sold in a Canadiana craft house, please contact Ms. Jean Woodsworth 767-8820 or 925-3419.

"WOMEN'S LIB." TYPE PRESS

Is available for printing jobs. We will do Movement and personal work - flyers, pamphlets, letterheads, children's books, reprints, etc. Movement prices for movement work. Call Women's Place for further information.

Barbara Astman opens September 7 - 30, Wednesday - Saturday 12:00 - 6:00. Baldwin St. Gallery.

ADRIENNE POTTS ARRESTED

On May 15, 1973, Adrienne Potts, a Vancouver feminist here on vacation in Toronto, was falsely charged by the Metropolitan Toronto Police. Dr. Potts and her friend were leaving Rochdale after having been at a movie when two men drove slowly past them giving Adrienne the impression that they were curb-cruising.

She gave them the traditional finger.

One of the men retaliated by jumping out of the car to tell her

that she was unlady-like. He then produced a police badge and told her to get into the car. She did and they drove away with her, leaving her friend behind.

In the car she asked if she was under arrest and he said: "Ya, for possession of marijuana." Adrienne had no marijuana on her at the time, but when they got to 52 Division they produced a baggy of their own as evidence. That is the first time Adrienne saw the marijuana that was allegedly hers. She was later searched and nothing was found.

Adrienne Potts is not guilty.

Lie detector reports have proven that she is telling the truth, but they are not admissible as evidence in our courts.

Because of a previous conviction which resulted in probation, Adrienne faces a possible jail sentence.

This is the case of a woman being charged for reacting to sexism.

You can help your sister by showing up for trial at OLD CITY HALL on SEPTEMBER 13, at 10:00 a.m. in COURT ROOM 25, or BY SENDING CHEQUES TO PAY OFF EXPENSES. Please make them payable to the ADRIENNE POTTS DEFENCE COMMITTEE, 31 DUPONT STREET, TORONTO & ONTARIO.

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CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING QUESTIONNAIRE

Consciousness-raising groups have been an important part of The Women's Place from its beginning. Some groups are great; some are not so good. Some women get involved in other activities going on at the Women's Place; other women go on to other things. We feel that it's time for us to try to establish some kind of contact with all those women who have gone through C-R: Where are you now? How did it affect your life, if at all? What did you think of your C-R experience? How could it have been improved? By answering the following questionnaire, you can help us evaluate the C-R experience, make improvements in it, as well as provide further and better outlets for the needs of women after they have been in a C-R group. If you wish to remain anonymous, don't include your name.

1. How did you hear of C-R group(s)?
2. How long did your group stay together?
3. How long had the group been together when you joined?
4. How long did you stay in the group?
5. Are you in a C-R group now?  
Is it the same one you first joined?
6. About how many people were in the group when you joined?  
How many dropped out after you joined?  
How many new members came in after you joined?  
How many women were in the group at the end (or now, if it is still going)?
7. What age range were the members in your group?  
( ) under 20 ( ) 20-30 ( ) 30-40 ( ) mixed
8. Was the group mixed or homogeneous according to marital status?  
( ) mostly married ( ) mostly single ( ) mostly lesbian ( ) divorced women  
( ) single mothers ( ) mixed--specify how?
9. Was the group mixed or homogeneous according to education and occupation?  
Please give examples.
10. Did your C-R experience affect your relationships with the people close to you such as your husband (or lover), your children, your parents, etc.?  
Were your relationships with these people more tense, more strained, or more open, more friendly, etc.?

Thank you for your co-operation

Women's Place  
51 Dupont St.  
Toronto



11. Did your C-R experience affect your relationships with people at work or school, old friends, acquaintances, etc.? How?

12. Did your C-R experience affect your job situation at all (e.g. did you change jobs, get fired, quit, went back to school, etc.)?

13. What was your involvement in the Women's Movement before you joined the C-R group?

14. What is your involvement in the Women's Movement now?

15. Did your life style change at all during the time you were in the C-R group? How?

16. In what ways do you feel your C-R group succeeded?

17. In what ways did it fail?

18. How can The Women's Place improve C-R groups?

19. What kind of follow-up can the Women's Place provide for women who have gone through a C-R group?

20. Are you available for a personal interview?

If so, please write your name, address and phone number:

Please use extra paper if you need it to answer the questions more fully than the space provided and attach to the questionnaire. Mail it to:

C-R Questionnaire  
Women's Place  
31 Dupont St.  
Toronto

Thank you for your co-operation!

## IS THIS ANOTHER WAY YOU ARE BEING COOPTED ?

Every Fall hundreds of women are asked to canvass for the United Appeal.

Every Fall thousands of women are asked to contribute to the United Appeal (subtly or not so subtly, at the door or in the office).

These women certainly feel they are doing a valuable community service. They have little information on which to judge otherwise, and have the highly polished machinery of the United Community Fund and its supportive Toronto Press to encourage their perceptions of doing a valuable job.

The time is NOW to question the relevance and effectiveness of the U.C.F. and United Appeal (to be known from now on as the United Way - in order to use American promotional materials) and to continue looking at ways womanpower may be redirected.

### A LOOK AT THE ISSUES

- \* The simple ineffectiveness of the U.C.F. is demonstrated each year as the campaign goal goes up and yet there is a continuing failure to deal with poverty or any other major social problem. Band-aids - no solutions.
- \* The structure of the U.C.F. shows corporate control (four women, four labour representatives and most of the rest of a Board of sixty are from business). Should those who benefit most from our present social and economic system determine the methods of serving the social casualties of that system ?
- \* There is evidence of control of member agencies by the U.C.F. - especially if the agencies attempt some accountability to their constituents.
- \* Individual wage earners are the greatest contributors to the U.C.F. in spite of great tax advantages to the corporations. The payroll deduction system has altered the source and style of charity, but not the corporate controls.

### A LOOK AT AN ALTERNATIVE

For people that want to become involved or contribute, there are alternative action organizations that are organizing and coming to grips with the causes of social problems. To select alternatives, we suggest that the organizations meet the following criteria:

- operate democratically. - majority of members directly face the issue.
- majority of members are below the average Metro income.
- majority of staff, if any, are hired without reference to formal qualifications.

The United Way is an antiquated and ineffective way of raising money to solve social and economic problems. It is no longer worthy of public confidence or further financial support. The United Way allows corporations to appear like "good corporate citizens" at the cost of wage earning contributors. We suggest that you not donate to the United Way but give or get involved with social action organizations that are working to solve social problems.

For further information contact us at : Citizens Concerned About Social Policy,  
c/o 620 Millwood Road, Toronto, Ont.

MONEY

For three Newsletters now, we have asked for women to send \$2.00 for the cost of the Newsletter. This month we must warn you that if we do not either hear from you saying you still want the Newsletter and/or receive your \$2.00 donation we will have to remove your name from the mailing list. Please co-operate so that we can keep as many women as possible on the mailing list. Of course, any of you who are sending monthly pledges or have made donations already this year will continue receiving the Newsletter.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER AND AM ENCLOSING \$2.00.

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34 Pettit Dr.,  
Weston, Ont. M9R 2M9

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THE WOMEN'S PLACE

