

Dalkon Shield Action News

A bi-monthly publication of Dalkon Shield Action Canada Vol.2. No.1 February 1988.

INTRODUCING

Once again let us introduce Dalkon Shield Action Canada, an information, advocacy and support organization for people who were injured by the Dalkon Shield IUD.

This is the second special issue of Dalkon Shield Action News. Like the first, published in November 1986 it is being sent to almost 4,600 Canadians who are seeking compensation against A.H. Robins, manufacturers of the Dalkon Shield. This special issue is also being sent to over 250 Canadian lawyers involved in Dalkon Shield litigation and to two hundred women's centres and health centres.

(between Nov '86 and Feb '88 Dalkon Shield Action Canada has published three fine newsletters with news and views on the Dalkon Shield. If you want copies of back issues please include an additional \$5.00 with your subscription)

We received the names and addresses of all claimants from a computer print out which was released to us by the Bankruptcy Court in Richmond Virginia. The list is almost two years old so if you receive this and its not for you please forward it to the addressee, for us. Thanks.

We at Dalkon Shield Action Canada want to assure you that your name and address is being kept in the strictest confidence and will never be sold or exchanged!!

We hope you find the newsletter interesting and motivating. We welcome your comments. We also hope that those of you who can will become a subscriber. We need your support. Please turn to page 11 for subscription information.



"Together we must create a future to meet our needs."

L'ACTION AU QUEBEC

Les conséquences tragiques d'avoir porté un stérilet Dalkon Shield dans les années '70 sont énormes: infection, avortement septique, stérilité, hystérectomie, angoisse mentale, plus les peines et misères apportées aux familles.

Ceci étant dit pourrions-nous un jour compter sur une compensation adéquate à tous ces malheurs? La compagnie A.H. Robins se protège avec la loi, et l'on nous a mis en attente depuis plus de deux ans.

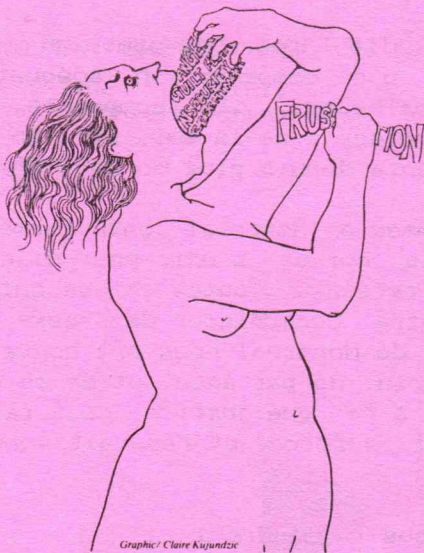
Quelques femmes à Montréal ont formé un group dans le but de s'unir pour discuter de nos frustrations. Toutes celles qui ont répondu à notre communiqué de presse dans les journaux de Montréal nous ont convaincu du grand besoin de partager et de se supporter jusqu'à ce que justice soit faite. "L'union fait la force" et faudrait surtout pas l'oublier:

Vous pouvez nous rejoindre à
Dalkon Shield Action Canada/Québec,
1701 St. Germain,
Montréal, Québec, H1W 2T3.
514-522-9693 ou 514-631-8391.

Je voudrais recevoir L'Action Dalkon Shield en français

LAWYERS LAWYERS LAWYERS

In November 1986, the first D.S.A.C. newsletter contained an article entitled "Lawyers - What to do with them?" Asked in that article was "Could lawyers in their quest for clients be the next level of professionals who make a living off women's pain and suffering?" Since that printing, in many cases, the answer is yes. The tradition of victims attracting victimizers is being further carried on in the Dalkon Shield story. Some lawyers have large numbers of claimants but do not have the experience (A.H. Robins is a formidable opponent) or financial backing to do the best job for their clients. In recent weeks, we have heard that some lawyers are advising their clients to accept what Robins is offering as compensation without a fight. They want to get rid of their Dalkon Shield clients. We think this is happening because many lawyers saw the opportunity to make a lot of money without realizing what they were getting into. Please do not unquestionably accept the advise of your lawyer. If in doubt, check it out with D.S.A.C., it is a service we provide.



Graphic/ Claire Kujundic

The opportunity to break the age old pattern of oppressed and oppressor is here: the time is now. For those of you who hired lawyers but are now wishing you hadn't, it is possible to fire them. I did it! It was such a great feeling and a lot easier than I expected. I had

been living in an isolated small town when I first heard about being able to file a claim against A.H. Robins. In my panic over deadlines, I hired a lawyer who had advertised for claimants. A year and a half later I moved to Vancouver and was able to meet with my lawyer. Because I had kept myself up to date on the latest Robins maneuvers, I was as informed as my lawyer and even had information that he was unaware of. After that meeting, I

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DALKON SHIELD ACTION NEWS

Dalkon Shield Action news is produced bi monthly in February, April, June, August, October and November each year.

WORKERS ON THIS ISSUE

Megan Arundel, Lucy Crowther, Elaine Cumley, Laura Jones, Colleen Penrowley and Maggie Thompson.

Dalkon Shield Action Canada's head office is housed with the Vancouver Women's Health Collective at:

302-1720 Grant Street,
Vancouver B.C. V5L 2Y7.
Our Phone number is (604) 255-9181

Dalkon Shield Action Canada wishes to express its sincere thanks to the Vancouver Women's Health Collective for much information, support and assistance. THANKS!

Volume 2 No. 1 February 1988

CAROL AND JANE'S STORY



Mary Firth

I was at university in the early seventies. Six of us, living in the women's residence all went to the university health clinic asking for some form of birth control. We were told of a terrific new I.U.D. designed for women who hadn't yet had children and were referred to a local gynecologist for Dalkon Shield insertions.

When I had mine inserted, which was excruciatingly painful in itself, I was told I could expect more but milder discomfort and cramping and that I could expect a regular discharge as well. Often times I had sharp stabbing pains and very painful periods.

As the next few months unfolded, I thought myself lucky as the other five ended up pregnant with the Dalkon Dalkon Shield still inserted.

My closest friend at the time, I will call her Carol, didn't think at first that she was pregnant. I was told, as I'm sure she was, that the D.S. had a 93% chance of being a safe and effective method of birth control.

Carol was feeling quite nauseated all the time and also had a very bad pain in her thumb joint. She went to her family doctor and told him of both her conditions and he gave her cortisone injections for her thumb and heavy tranquilizers for her nausea, which he thought was from an ulcer. The tranquilizers made her nausea even worse so she finally stopped taking them. She went to the university health clinic and had a pregnancy test that turned out negative.

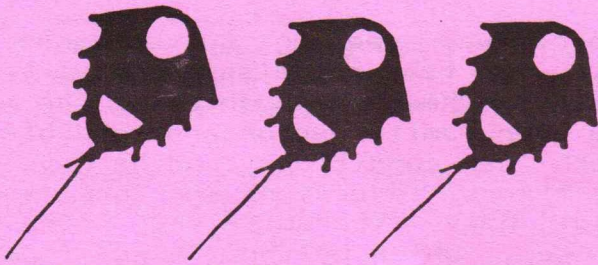
Time went on, her nausea went on, she continued to have cortisone injections for her thumb and finally realized to herself that she must be pregnant. She was 4 months pregnant! During this time she had been taking tranquilizers and cortisone shots and it was too late for a therapeutic abortion.

Scared and confused she went back to the gynecologist. He told her that he would book her into the hospital for a saline solution to induce labour, which he did 4 weeks later. He told her they were trying out a new technique - she would have the solution and then would have the abortion at home. I asked her what she was supposed to do with the fetus and she meekly told me that the gynecologist had told her to flush the baby down the toilet.

I was horrified! I immediately called her doctor at the Health Clinic and told him all of this. He was concerned and said he would call the gynecologist. I don't know how the gynecologist convinced him this method would be safe but the plans did not change and Carol went into the hospital for her saline solution, at 5 months pregnant, and went home with her boyfriend to await the miscarriage.

As labour began it became so painful for Carol and so frightening for this young couple that they called an ambulance and rushed Carol off to the hospital. There she gave birth to two tiny dead fetuses.

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I moved away shortly after and began a few years of travelling throughout North America and Europe. I had my so called normal discharge all along, but obviously I thought I was lucky as this IUD was working for me... I wasn't getting pregnant.

Before I went to Europe I went to my doctor for my inoculations and health preparation for my trip. He asked me if I was looking forward to those 'latin lovers' which I thought was odd and rude but didn't say anything. He gave me a prescription for a big supply of penicillon "in case I got VD, and needed to treat myself". I thought it might be handy to have in case I had any kind of infection as I was going travelling for a year or more, and was on a very limited budget. This would save me from having to spend money on potential medical bills.

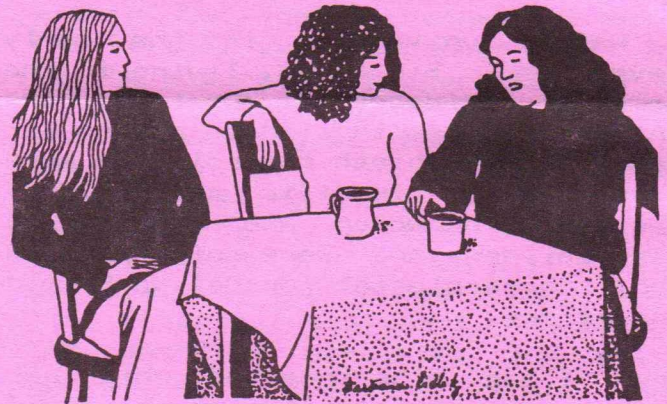
While in Europe my discharge got worse and worse as the months went by. I didn't have any more discomfort than my usual heavy and painful periods, so I left it. Seven months into my trip I had a really infected sore throat and took my handy penicillon to clear it up. My discharge also cleared up but somehow I never put the two together.

When I returned home I went back to my doctor and told him of my infection but he never wrote it down in his medical report. Shortly after I heard about the Dalkon Shield being potentially harmful and it was "recommended" that it be removed. When my doctor went to remove mine - he yanked it out quite forcefully - I went into shock - it was partially imbedded in my uterus. The doctor was extremely anxious and left me lying down on the examining table for more than an hour.

After the colour returned to my cheeks and I seemed OK, he told me that he didn't feel it was a good time to insert another IUD and that I should go home and rest. A few months later I had a Copper 7 inserted. When a regeneration of the infection occurred I had the Copper 7 removed and decided never to have any other form of IUD again.

TEN YEARS LATER: One morning at 7.00am my mother called to tell me my father had a heart attack and wasn't expected to live the day. I was engulfed in an overwhelming feeling of loss, not wanting it to be so. I flew home. My dad didn't die for two more weeks.

I was in my first two weeks of pregnancy and I didn't know. I had a very light period but thought the reason for that was my grief. I had



another very light period the next month and I felt slightly nauseated all the time: again I thought it was my grief. Two weeks later I started spotting and having cramps. The whole weekend the cramping became more intense and more centralized.

I began to realize that I had an ectopic pregnancy in my right fallopian tube. I was feeling more and more ill and frightened. Very early the next morning I called my doctor's emergency number and she told me to go straight to the hospital. I had the operation shortly after. In six weeks I lost my father and my baby....

LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS: WHAT ARE THE POSSIBILITIES?

With recent news about the American Home Products offer to buy Robins, and with the increased level of enthusiasm here in Vancouver we believe Dalkon Shield Action Canada is now in a position to make a legal/organizational initiative that could become a national landmark in Women's Health/legal work.

While claimants can certainly continue to process their claim without a lawyer, Dalkon Shield Action Canada is now convinced that with the help of a good lawyer claimants are likely to receive much higher settlements.

In recent weeks a number of Canadian lawyers have approached Dalkon Shield Action Canada with the intention of working more closely with us. We have begun to gather names and information on these and other lawyers so that we can select the very best legal counsel available.

We will only work with lawyer(s) who have good credentials and reputations in the legal and medical communities, and who will work cooperatively and respectfully with Dalkon Shield Action Canada. There are two other ingredients, they need to have time and money.

STEP ONE

We ask a private donor to put up a certain amount of money in the range of \$30,000 - \$50,000. This money is an honest up-front, no strings attached donation. We already have a number of groups and individuals already interested in donating to us!! With this money we complete the formation of our organization both here and across Canada, pay off a debt we owe the Vancouver Women's Health Collective (about \$8,000) and begin the concerted effort to secure government funding for our work.

STEP TWO

We approach lawyers who have the time commitment, resources and experience to be able to handle a

large number of Dalkon Shield cases. We may decide to have one or more lawyers across Canada. We have an absolute commitment to provide legal services in both English and French.

STEP THREE

We request the Canadian lawyer(s) we find to work with Bob Manchester, we put them in touch with one another and ask them to develop a proposal for us to consider. We will suggest that they charge their clients no more than 20% contingency fee. We will also suggest that the lawyers pay us a service fee for the information and administration services we provide. If their proposal meets with our approval and we are assured they will provide the best and most cost effective legal service for Canadian claimants (French and English speaking) then we can....



Santa Clara Centre for Occupational Health

STEP FOUR

We recommend that our members use the legal services of the lawyer(s) and assist women to get in contact with them. However, this legal work will become only a minor part of our work. In addition to this our objectives as an organization will be to assist people seeking help with adoption, IVF, surgery and other IUD injuries etc. Setting up the necessary legal and administrative systems so that claims are fairly and thoroughly processed is not our responsibility, it is the responsibility of the lawyers. We can assist them.

STEP FIVE

We put this plan to a vote of our membership on March 5th 1988. If approved we organize a huge fundraising-celebration to be held as soon as possible.

THE DALKON SHIELD STORY:



JAN. 1971 Robins began sales of the Dalkon Shield. By 1972 59% of IUDs fitted in the U.S. were Dalkon Shields.

JUNE 1974 Robins suspended Shield sales in the U.S. at the request of the FDA. By then 4.2 million had been sold worldwide; 102,000 in Canada.

FALL 1979 Carie Palmer of Kansas was awarded \$600,000 for Dalkon Shield injuries, also \$6.2 million in punitive damages.

SPRING 1984 Judge Miles Lord ordered court appointed officials to search Robins' files for evidence of misconduct. The index to the new material uncovered after this search was 568 pages long!!

SEPT 21 1984 99 women filed a class action suit of \$70 million in Atlanta, Georgia using evidence uncovered as a result of Judge Lord's order

OCT 29 1984 Robins initiated a recall campaign aimed at reaching women still wearing the Dalkon Shield. Robins urged women to have their Shields removed and paid the medical expenses of 4,700 women at a cost to Robins of \$1.8 million.

APRIL 2 1985 Robins announced that it intended to establish a \$615m trust fund to pay claims against the Shield until the year 2002. (up to Dec. 1984 it had paid \$314.6m in settlements and costs) The planned fund, while not even set up, caused Robins to report a net loss in 1985 of \$416.6m.



Isis

JUNE 30 1985 Robins reported that so far there were 14,330 suits against the Dalkon Shield and that new claims were coming in at 10 a day. Of the 14,330 suits, almost 9,500 had been settled either as out-of-court settlements or by trial.

AUG 21 1985 Robins filed Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Act allowing them to postpone paying their debts until a court ordered repayment schedule can be drawn up. Chapter 11 also allows them to continue operating.

NOV 13 1985 The Bankruptcy Court of Richmond, Virginia established the April 30th 1986 deadline for filing claims against Robins. A notification program was developed. The U.S. notification program cost \$3.6 million included full page advertisements in all major newspapers, prime television and radio. In Canada and elsewhere Robins was merely required to produce press releases, press conferences, public service announcements and letters to health ministers and medical associations.

DEC 30 1985 Robins' Reorganization Plan is due but is not prepared. The company is granted an extension until March 31st 1986.

March 31 1986 Reorganization plan still not ready. Granted second extension until June 30th 1986.

APRIL 23 1986 The Vancouver Women's Health Collective and the Women's Health Clinic of Winnipeg file an application in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Richmond, Virginia to extend the April 30th 1986 deadline for Canadian claimants so that an advertising campaign similar to that required in the U.S. could be conducted in Canada.

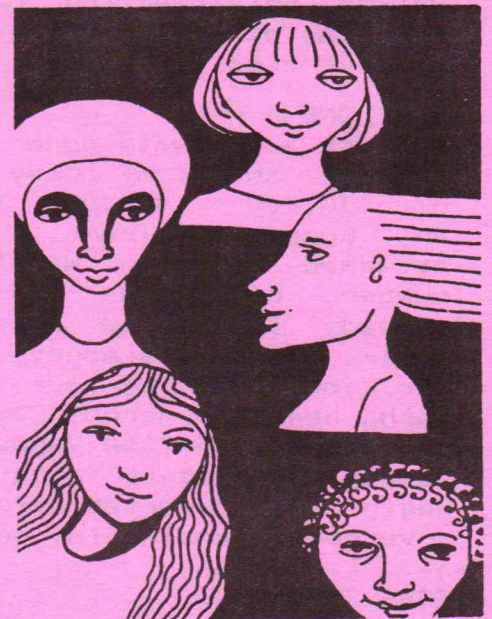
APRIL 30 1986 By midnight April 30th 1986, 282,687 claims were filed from the U.S.: 4,533 were filed from Canada. (estimated number of Canadian claims is closer to 6,000 since some 1,500 were filed through American lawyers) 2,190,147 Dalkon Shields were fitted in the U.S. and 102,112 were fitted in Canada.

JUNE 17 1986 Judge Merhige, of the bankruptcy court extends the April 30th deadline. He rules that rather than claims having to be received in Richmond Virginia by midnight April 30th 1986, any claim postmarked by midnight April 30th 1986 will be accepted. This allowed an additional 19,000 claims worldwide to be accepted. Vancouver Women's Health Collective and Winnipeg Women's Clinic appeal Merhige's decision. saying the extension is still not enough.

JUNE 30 1986 Reorganization Plan due. Robins granted third extension now due September 30th 1986.

JULY 1986 Court appoints Frances McGovern professor of law from the University of Alabama, to develop an estimate of how much Robins might owe in damages. His calculations are to be developed from averaging the amounts awarded before the bankruptcy proceedings, and by sending a lengthy questionnaire to 1%, or about 3,000 of claimants who filed by the April 30th deadline.

SEPT 30 1986 Reorganization Plan due. Robins is granted its fourth extension now due February 5th 1987.



CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

MAY 1 1987 Robins files its Disclosure Statement as required. In it the company outlines its financial mess.

JUNE 1 1987 Special fund for Reconstructive Surgery and In Vitro Fertilization announced.

JULY 13 1987 Robins stockholders appeal the establishment of the Infertility Fund, arguing it is premature. Their appeal effectively freezes the fund.

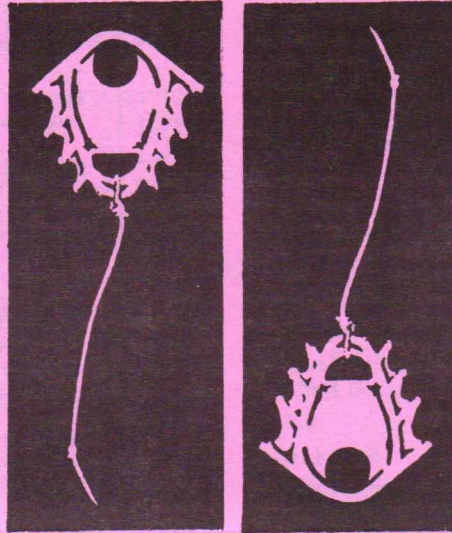
JULY 21 1987 The U.S. based Dalkon Shield Information Network organized a day of action. Claimants gathered at the Richmond courthouse to express the frustration and anger felt by Dalkon Shield survivors around the world. Dalkon Shield Action Canada held press conferences in Vancouver, Kamloops, Montreal and a picket at the A.H. Robins plant in Toronto.

AUGUST 1987 Robins accepts a bid by the Rorer Group, a medium sized American pharmaceutical company. The offer proposed to buy Robins for \$2.65 billion and would establish a trust fund of 1.75 billion to settle Dalkon Shield claims. However, the trust fund was to be limited, meaning that neither Robins nor Rorer nor any shareholders of these companies can ever be sued by any claimant.

NOV 5 1987 Hearings on the Reorganization Plan begin and continue for 6 days. Robins valued claims at between \$812 million and \$1.22 billion. The Claimants Committee valued claims at between \$4 and \$7 billion.

DEC 11 1987 Judge Merhige rules that Robins must set aside \$2.475 billion to settle Dalkon Shield claims. No terms or

NOV 4 1986 Class Action against Aetna Casualty and Surety Company allowed by court. This case will determine whether Aetna, the company that insured the Dalkon Shield, will have to contribute to the fund Robins establishes to pay injured Dalkon Shield users.



plan proposes that claims be settled in five steps. 1. claimant is paid \$100 and would sign a release freeing Robins of any future liability. 2. claimant is awarded from \$300 - \$2,000 depending on her injuries. 3. claimant is offered an out of court settlement after an in depth review of the case. 4. claimant accepts binding arbitration offer 5. jury trial. schedule for payment of the money were set except that the money would be "payable over a reasonable period of time".

DEC 18 1987 Robins announces it received a takeover proposal from the French pharmaceutical firm Sanofi.

DEC 31 1987 Robins approves the Sanofi offer to pay \$600 million for 58% of Robins shares. Sanofi will also back loans for the \$2.475 billion needed to establish the trust fund. Sanofi's offer will likely satisfy the Robins family goal to retain its 41% interest in the firm.

JAN 20 1988 Robins Board of Directors accepts a \$3.28 billion takeover proposal by American Home Products. The plan offers to set up a \$2.475 billion trust fund within a year of being approved by the court. Also Aetna offers to establish an additional fund of \$250 million to settle late claims. This could be the winning plan for claimants.

FEB 4 1987 American Home Products offers \$2.35 billion to buy out Robins. Proposes that a trust fund of \$1.75 billion be established to settle Dalkon Shield claims. American Home - manufacturers of Anacin, Dristan, Easy Off and Chef boy ar dee - had enough cash to set up the trust fund immediately!!

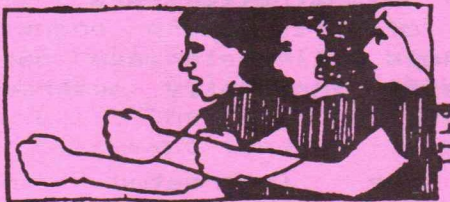
FEB 5 1987 Reorganization Plan due. Robins has no plan. Granted fifth extension.

FEB 9 1987 American Home Products withdraws its bid because Robins insisted its chief executive officers be awarded huge salaries and severance settlements.

APRIL 16 1987 Robins files Proposed Reorganization Plan. The plan proposes a \$1.75 billion trust to be administered by Claims Resolution Trustees. The trust is to be established with a huge loan from a group of commercial banks headed by Manufacturers Hanover. Manufacturers Hanover is known to have a credit rating problem because of outstanding loans to the Brazilian government!! The

FEB 3 1988 E. Clairborne Robins chairman of Robins Board of Directors and his son E Clairborne Robins agree to add \$10 million of their own money to the \$2.475 billion trust fund to be established by American Home Products if its offer to buy Robins is approved by the court. Lawyers for the Robins family said they hope this gift will be enough and that it will be accepted as an apology!! We'll see

The Saga Continues...



MANCHESTER VISITS VANCOUVER

On January 9 1988 Dalkon Shield survivors in B.C. were treated to an electric public meeting featuring Vermont lawyer Bob Manchester.

Mr. Manchester has worked with Dalkon Shield Action Canada and the Vancouver Women's Health Collective for eight years. His legal advice and has always been sound, thorough and has cost us nothing. We are indebted to him for much support and assistance.

Mr. Manchester spoke sincerely and confidently of how, after many years of battle, Robins finally is going to have to pay and pay severely for its lies, deceit and injuries.

Most importantly Mr. Manchester gave claimants reason for optimism when he said he was confident serious injury claims would net claimants \$95,000; moderate injury claims would net \$25,000 and mild injury claims would net \$15,000.

He estimated that had Robins recalled the Dalkon Shield in 1974 as it should have, its entire costs would have come to \$50 million. Instead the company choose to cover-up, lie and produce mis information about the Shield. Now even the most

conservative estimates are saying the entire affair will cost Robins close to \$4 billion.

Mr. Manchester's visit was informative, fun and inspirational. Bob we look forward to seeing you in Vancouver again soon.

DALKON SHIELD INJURY CATEGORIES As compiled by R.E. Manchester

SEVERE INJURIES

Infertility - permanent
Infertility - corrected by surgery
Infertility - other
Total Abdominal Hysterectomy
Septic Spontaneous Abortion
Tubo-ovarian Abscess

MODERATE INJURIES

Ectopic Pregnancy without permanent effects
Perforation/embedment with surgery
PID requiring hospitalization
PID Chronic
Unplanned pregnancy
uncomplicated delivery healthy child
Voluntary abortion
Miscarriage after 12 weeks
Temporary Infertility

MILD INJURIES

PID without hospitalization
Miscarriage up to 12 weeks

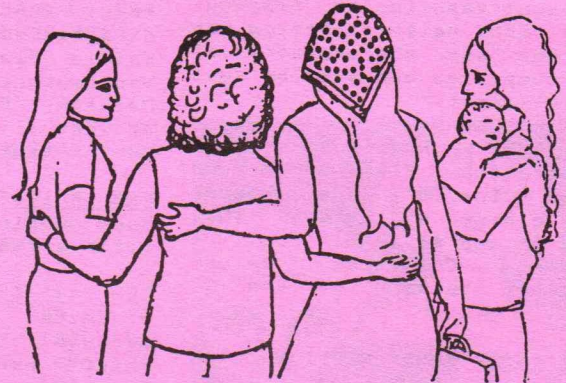
INJURIES WITH NO PROOF OF CAUSATION

Cancer
Endometriosis
Sexually Transmitted Disease

WORKSHOPS

D.S.A.C. does not want the focus of its work to be merely legal and financial. We know D.S. survivors experience distress every single day. We want to do what we can to make our lives easier.

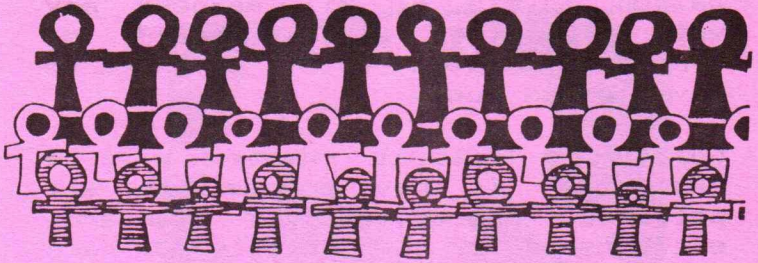
At our last public meeting in Vancouver on January 9, 1988, we circulated a list on a proposed workshop series. There was interest shown for: 1) Adoption 2) In Vitro Fertilization 3) Pelvic Inflammatory Disease 4) Accepting Infertility. Other suggestions are 5) Coping with the trauma of a Hysterectomy and 6) Men---Living with Dalkon Shield Survivors. With your help, we hope to offer these workshops in the near future.



Although dredging up old pain is very difficult, often times when it is heard by sympathetic ears, it loses some of its sharp edges. These workshops will help ease our grief at being innocently scarred for life.

If you are interested in participating or in helping develop these workshops, please contact us at: D.S.A.C. #302-1720 Grant St. Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2Y7

*****PRESS STATEMENT*****



DALKON SHIELD ACTION CANADA PRESS STATEMENT JANUARY 7 1988

On December 11th 1987 Judge Merhige, who is overseeing the bankruptcy proceedings, ordered A.H. Robins, manufacturers of the Dalkon Shield, to establish a \$2.475 billion trust fund. To date Judge Merhige has provided us with no information about how he arrived at this figure or about how the money will be raised or dispensed. There is however, one redeeming feature about the court order. The \$2.475 billion figure is more than double Robins' maximum estimate of \$1.22 billion, and as such indicates that Robins has underestimated the seriousness of its injuries all along.

By sharp contrast just ten days later on December 21st a New York Bankruptcy Court accepted a plan by Texaco Inc. to pay its adversary Pennzoil Co. \$3 billion compensation for losses incurred when Texaco sabotaged Pennzoil's takeover bid of a third oil company Getty Oil. That case involved no loss of life or serious physical injury of anyone. Furthermore the figure was reached within eight months of Texaco's application for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection. The comparison between Texaco and Robins leaves a sour taste in our mouths about how the courts value women's lives and bodies.

The perspective of Dalkon Shield claimants is rarely heard. Talk of corporate takeovers involving multi millions of dollars, of tax credits and shelters, of gains and losses in stock exchange trading provide us with few assurances that our interests as claimants are being fairly represented.

We urge claimants to be wary of advice to accept any proposal from Robins or the court until there is adequate information to assess whether that proposal is satisfactory.

Claimants cannot afford to merely accept the advice of the 'experts' around us. Had doctors, government regulators and consumer groups questioned the advice and information available on the Dalkon Shield before it was widely marketed, we wouldn't be here today.

Dalkon Shield Action Canada is not prepared to place its seal of approval on any plan unless it makes provisions to compensate claimants quickly and fairly. We are also not prepared to accept any buy out offer that allows shareholders to receive money for their shares before claimants receive compensation for their injuries.

The Dalkon Shield story is not simply about a defective product and the injuries it caused. It is a story about gross corporate misconduct, negligence and deceit. It involves not just the women who were killed or injured and not just their families and friends. This story touches everyone who hears of the lies, the deception and the financial manoeuvres of A.H. Robins.

There will be new devices, products and medical treatments for women to consider today and in the future, Indeed the reproductive technologies of the past have created the need for the reproductive technologies of today. The impact of the Dalkon Shield will be felt every time we have a medical decision to make.

We welcome anyone whose life has been affected by the Dalkon Shield to join us.

For more information please contact DALKON SHIELD ACTION CANADA 302-1720 Grant Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2Y7 (604) 255-9181

— PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS —

On March 5th 1988 Dalkon Shield Action Canada will hold its first Annual General Meeting in Vancouver.

VANCOUVER INDIAN CENTRE
1607 E. Hastings St. Vancouver B.C.
10am-3pm

AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. Report from DSAC steering Cttee.
3. Adoption of Constitution and laws
LUNCH
4. Election of Board
5. Vote on Legal Plan
6. Other Business

CONSTITUTION:

2a The objects of the society are:
i. to provide comprehensive information to women and their families about the Dalkon Shield Intrauterine injuries and the medical and legal recourses available. ii. to provide and encourage the formation and maintainance of Dalkon Shield support groups and networks. iii. develop and encourage active and comprehensive programming for women and their families, to include information about other intrauterine devices, and correspond with other Dalkon Shield information and support groups Internationally. iv. to get fair financial, social and emotional compensation for its members. v. to carry on its objectives without purpose of personal gain for its members; any profits or other accretions to the organization shall be used in promoting its objectives.

BYLAWS:

Membership 1. members may be affiliated to a local chapter or be direct members of DSAC. 2. annual fees shall be paid directly to the society. 3. the majority of members shall be persons injured by the

Dalkon Shield. 4. all members may vote for the elected board of directors and may submit nominees to any elected post.

Chapters. 1. local chapters will be recognized if they comply with all policies procedures and standards established by the society. 2. Each chapter shall elect a chapter representative bi-annually to be a member of the board of directors.

Board of Directors The positions are Chairperson, Vice chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and all chapter representatives. Terms of office shall be for two years, with staggered terms. (elections are held annually for half of the positions)

Meetings Special or regular meetings may be held at any level of the society. The board of Directors shall hold their annual meeting within two months before the end of the fiscal year, December 31st. This is to ensure the preparation for the annual audit, planning for the annual meeting and budgeting for the next year. 2. The general members annual meeting shall be held within two months from the end of the fiscal year. The agenda will include approval of the budget, adoption of the financial statement, election to the board of directors and policy decisions. Chapters shall hold annual meetings at least one month before the general members annual meeting.

Policies shall be subject to the approval of the general membership. There will be policies developed for staffing, fundraising, and education.

Amendments to the constitution or bylaws shall be at a special meeting and by extraordinary resolution adopted by a 2/3rds majority of the members present at the meeting.

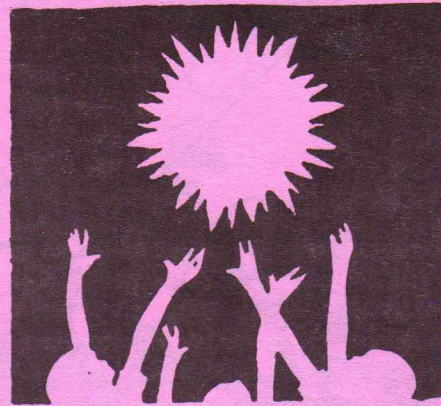
If you or someone you know is interested in being a member of the Dalkon Shield Action Canada Board of Directors please notify us by phone or in before March 5th 1988. Include in your nomination some basic information about your connection to this issue and your future plans for involvement Dalkon Shield Action Canada.

became very depressed. It was clear to me that he did not understand the issues and he intimated that I was whining and should be happy to be part of an historical case. Two weeks later I telephoned him and said I did not agree with his views on the case and no longer wanted to be represented by him. To my surprise and delight, he said he would write the bankruptcy court to say he no longer represented me.

One problem that could arise is having to reimburse your lawyer for expenses paid out to obtain medical records. If there is a problem, please contact D.S.A.C. for help.

Let's remember that the legal work is only one part of what D.S.A.C. stands for. It is important that we get every penny we can out of A.H. Robins and Aetna Insurance. It is more important that D.S.A.C. becomes

a strong national organization that lasts many years beyond that elusive "cheque in the mail". Having been condemned to a life of extremely difficult pregnancies, chronic pain, infertility, and the despair that goes with it all, we need each other's support. We also need to make sure no women ever again have to suffer like the women who wore the Dalkon Shield.



Santa Cruz Women's Health Centre

Make me a member of Dalkon Shield Action Canada so I can join the fight against A.H. Robins. With my membership I will receive a bi-monthly subscription to Dalkon Shield Action News.

Je voudrais etre membre de L'Action Dalkon Shield du Canada pour lutter confre A.H.Robins. L'adhesion donne droit a un abonnement au journal Nouvelles de'Action Dalkon Shield pour se tenir au courant.

My cheque or money order is enclosed
Ci-joint veuillez trouver mon cheque

Je voudrais recevoir L'Action
Dalkon Shield en francais

\$15 regular membership
prix normale

\$10 low income
prix bas pour les economiquement faibles

I am also enclosing a donation of \$ _____ to help cover expenses.

Aussi jevoudrais faire un don de \$ _____ pour aider a faire face aux frais.

Yes I am interested in legal representation through Dalkon Shield Action Canada

Oui je voudrais des renseignements a l'egard d'un avocat

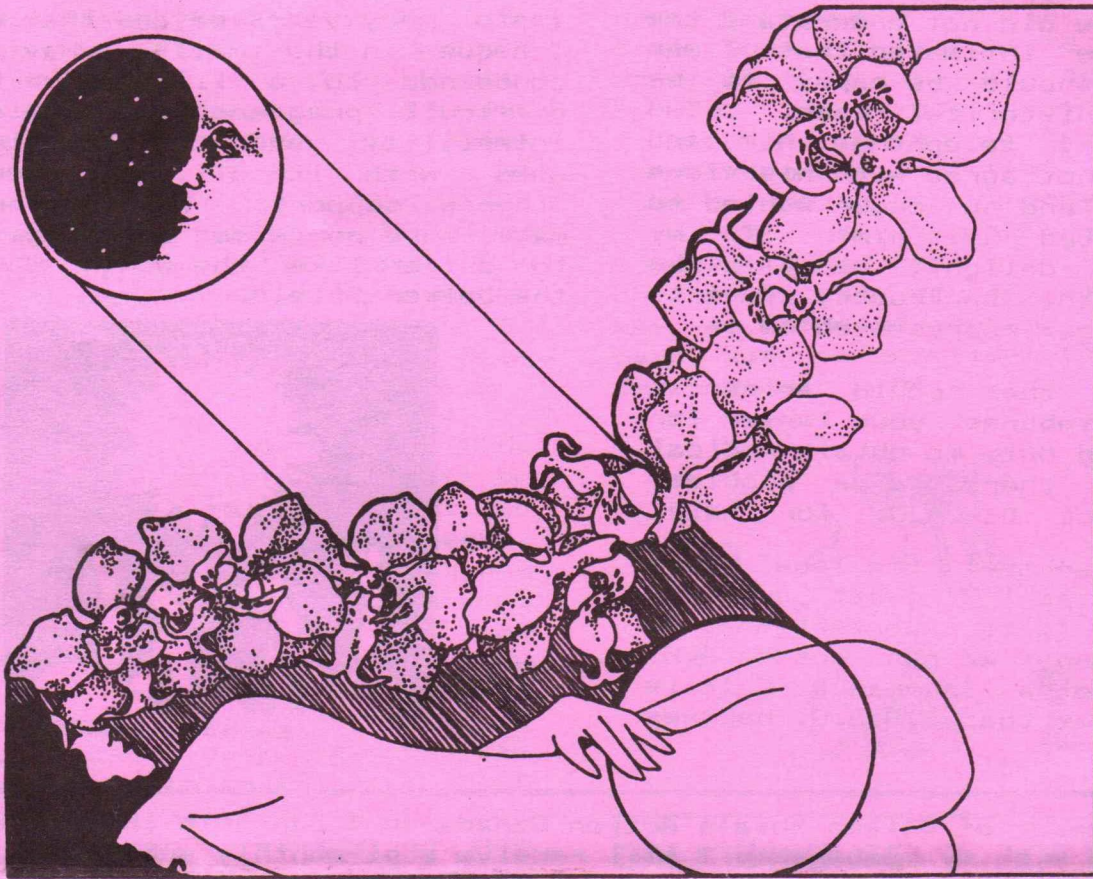
Yes I am interested in participating in a group in my community.

Oui je voudrais participer dans un groupe dans communaute.

Yes I am interested in helping to start a group in my community

Oui je voudrais aider a commencer un groupe dans la communaute.

NAME/NOM _____
ADDRESS/ADRESSE _____
PROVINCE _____
CODE POSTALE _____



graphic: mothering

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