



**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY
MARCH 7TH, 1981**




**RALLY/DEMONSTRATION
11AM SHARP, CITY HALL ROTUNDA**



**SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN
AROUND THE WORLD**




**IWD FAIR 1-4 pm
HARBORD COLLEGIATE
286 HARBORD STREET**



**ALL WOMEN'S EVENING CELEBRATION
AND DANCE**

519 CHURCH STREET 8pm - 1am



**WOMEN STOOD UNITED,
WOMEN STAND UNITED
OUR POWER WILL FREE US**



NOT SERVANTS...

In the constitutional wrangling over which government gets which spoils, our political leaders have shown little concern for how the division of powers will affect women. Constitutional committee co-chairman Hays exemplified the attitude of "our" representatives: he responded to a women's brief on the Charter of Rights by asking who would look after the children while all the "girls" were out working.

Yes, who will look after the children? And the elderly? and the abandoned or battered women? The government's attitude is that it is not a priority to fund childcare so that we can work outside the home — or for that matter to provide sufficient family and unemployment benefits when we aren't employed. They will not fund these services at a level which would make it easier for us to challenge our servant role in the family and workplace.

Childcare remains a key issue. Childcare is not a form of welfare to be grudgingly given to special groups. Universal quality childcare is **our right and our children's right.**

Support for this demand is growing. Last fall, both the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress overwhelmingly passed resolutions demanding daycare. And in October, hundreds of adults and children demonstrated at Queen's Park to protest the Tory failure to maintain current levels of daycare funding. We will not settle for less, or even the same; we want a government supported system of childcare, available to all who want it, and more funding for social services.

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NOT MACHINES...

More and more women work outside the home. It is a necessity and it is our right. But few women workers are unionized, only 27%, and many — including most immigrant and native women — are trapped in low-paying job ghettos. Most women work as clerical, service or domestic workers. Wages are low and hours are long. Conditions are often poor. We are highly vulnerable to the whims of bosses and of the economy. And when we go home, we're still responsible for the work involved in sustaining our families — our double day of labour.

We deserve better. We've begun to make progress in the unions. Women have gone out on strike for a first contract at Fleck, Blue Cross and Radio Shack. We've fought for better wages for clerical work through the PSAC strike. We are beating down the doors of the traditionally male jobs. Women are fighting for contract

clauses such as no discrimination on the basis of sex or sexual orientation, maternity leave and equal pay for work of equal value. We demand **economic independence**; we demand **equal pay for work of equal value.**

We deserve better and we are organizing to see that we get it.

IF ALL WE DID WAS SIT AT HOME AND WEEP...

Violence is a part of every woman's life. Sexual abuse and harassment in the street and on the job, domestic beatings, rape — these forms of violence are common in our city. Lesbians are the victims of verbal and physical attacks. Immigrant and native women know the additional sting of racism.

But we refuse to be silent. We will not resign our jobs to avoid "unpleasantness"; we will not hide our shame by covering our bruises; we will not retreat to the closet; we will not sit at home alone weeping. We are learning we can fight back. **We are organizing to stop violence against women.** Many of us are learning self-defense. We are realizing our own strength. Last summer, a brutal rape-murder in the Beaches united us in our rage against the violence we all experience. We felt our power as we took back the night together.

WE WILL NOT BE PUSHED BACK

The issues of women's liberation are many and far-reaching. We have come a long way in a difficult and hard-fought struggle; we have a long way to go.

But even the gains we have made are under attack. Times are hard. The current economic crisis has brought massive layoffs and serious cutbacks in social services and social security programmes. The Right in this country is responding by trying to consolidate a social and political majority by scapegoating racial and ethnic minorities, women, lesbians and gays. Right extremist groups such as Renaissance, the Ku Klux Klan, the League Against Homosexuals are playing on people's fears for the future as they try to push "uppity" women and racial and ethnic minorities back into a past when all was right in the world — a romanticized past that never was.

Abortion rights, the freedom to be open lesbians, the freedom to live and work without violence or discrimination — these are some of the freedoms these groups are trying to deny us. But we are fighting back. Women are refusing to be forced out of the workplace and back into the home to be economically dependent. Women are organizing to fight racism and discrimination. We

are continuing to demand our rights. **The struggle against conservative, racist, and anti-woman groups is the struggle of us all.**

The economic and political crisis we face here in Canada is not isolated; it is a reflection of the international situation. Today the threat of a world war is greater than it's been for the last 30 years. The imperialists of the world are escalating their arms build up. We are acutely aware of the threat to all our lives and to our future from the increasing danger of nuclear war. On International Women's Day we cannot be silent on this issue. We oppose the use of our human and natural resources for nuclear and military technology.

WE ARE NOT SERVANTS, WE ARE NOT MACHINES,
WE ARE NOT THE WEAKER SEX

WOMEN ARE UNITED AND STRONG. OUR
STRUGGLE CONTINUES

FORWARD EVER! BACKWARD NEVER!

I would like to endorse International Women's Day, 1981

I am sending a contribution of _____

I would like to be on the mailing list _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ ORGANIZATION _____

MAIL TO: MARCH 8TH COALITION, Phone: 789-4541
PO BOX 70,
STN F, TORONTO,
ONTARIO M4Y 2L4

ENDORSEMENTS

Action DayCare
Birth Control and VD Centre
Canadian Union of Educational Workers Locals 3, 7
Cross Cultural Communications Centre
CUPE METro Council
GLARE (Gays and Lesbians Against the Right
Everywhere)
Immigrant Women's Centre
In Struggle
International Women's Day Committee
International Socialists
Lesbians at Large
Lesbian Perspectives
National Action Committee on the Status of Women
Ontario Division of CUPE
OISE Lesbian Caucus
Ontario Federation of Labour
Ontario NDP
OFL Women's Committee
OPSEU Region 5 Women's Caucus
OPSEU 525
Oxfam Toronto
Parkdale Legal Aid
Revolutionary Workers' League
Riverdale Action Committee Against Racism (RACAR)
Sean O'Flynn, President, OPSEU
SORWUC
Times Change
United Auto Workers
U of T Women's Studies Student Union
Voice of Women
Women on Watch (WOW)
Women's Press
Women Working with Immigrant Women

For more information call: 789-4541

**DAYCARE AVAILABLE, PRE-REGISTRATION
REQUESTED CALL: 535-6269 or 531-2835**