

POLICY STATEMENT

The centre takes no ideological position in regard to the politics of the Women's Movement. We serve as a catalyst for existing ideological organizations and for individual women. We could no longer serve as a catalyst if we advocated any one stand over another.

In order to safeguard the use of the centre for all women we do not allow groups to use the centre as an office.

Any women's group may use the centre to hold meetings or special events. If possible we ask that they contribute to the centre in exchange for this space.

If groups need space in which to store equipment, we will try to make arrangements.

The mailing list may be used by any women's group working to better the position of women in our society. It may not be used by political groups not expressly run by and for women.

Dear Sisters,

As we move into autumn, traditionally the time for increased activity on all fronts, The Women's Place is getting ready for the onslaught. The summer has been spent in building a firm foundation to allow the growth of all groups using the facilities.

August turned into a productive month starting in a rousing way with a library party. Admission was a book. With these and other contributions the library is finally in operation, hampered unfortunately by the limited number of books. However, we hope to expand our humble collection and in the meantime, circulate those we already have.

Expansion of the bookstore, appropriately named Lettuce Out, has been slow but sure. It now has a wider selection of books, articles and posters for sale, as well as a considerable amount of free literature. If you have suggestions for anything you would like to see carried, please let us know.

Circumstances have unfortunately held up the Film Festival that was planned for September. The date has now been moved up to October 6th and 7th. Films shown will include *Wanda*, Kate Millett's *Three Lives*, *Women on the March*, (part 1) and others. Place and time of showings will be announced in the next newsletter.

The fall Liberation School has finally gotten it together. The delay, for those of you who phoned in, was due to a scarcity of teachers for the courses. We hope to be able to find more skilled women so that the courses can be expanded next term. To save time wasted last time registering in class itself, there will be a separate registration night for all classes. See the brochure inside for further information.

A group of interested women is now working in a new collective to combat sex-role stereotyping in the children's books currently in use in Metro's schools. They intend to contact schools and teachers this fall, and using the bibliography which is now being compiled, they will attempt to introduce non-sexist literature into the classrooms. This is a big project and although the group is large and enthusiastic, it can use more womanpower and/or suggestions and ideas.

On every third Friday, starting on September 1st, there will be a Lesbian Drop-in at The Woman's Place. (no sociology students or surveys please). The evening will include music and supportative discussion and begins at 8:00 p.m.

On the third Thursday of every month, "Your Place" holds a general Information Meeting, for those interested in finding out exactly where they can help or just what the Place is doing. It is also a time for criticism, suggestions and meeting the staff, or simply getting a look at the operation. Everyone is welcome. Meeting time 8:00 p.m. at 31 Dupont Street.

It looks as if the three Toronto womens' newspapers, *Bellyfull*, *The Velvet Fist*, and *The Other Woman* will be amalgamating after they get out their next issues. We are still hoping to fix up the ungodly mess in the basement for their use as workrooms and lay-out place. The cost of finishing even a small part of the basement is exhorbitant, so we are still looking for materials preferably free or at minimum cost. If you know of the availability of such please call.

Later on this fall a legal clinic for women is being planned. We are hoping to have lawyers available one night a week to advise women on their rights and help work out problems including divorce, welfare, property rights and so on. More information should be in the next newsletter.

Speaking of legalities, our Legal Handbook, is finally completed. It is a forty-six page handbook concerned mainly with welfare rights but it also includes other legal rights as well. You can pick up a copy at the bookstore for a small donation. If any groups wish more than one copy please call us and we will arrange it.

For those of you who were interested in volunteering but hesitated before because you

thought we had enough staff or you were going on vacation, here is an interesting little item. Our grant as well as the summer, run out on September 1st. Paid staff are on the most part leaving to go back to school or to new jobs and we will be operating entirely on volunteer help. The future of "Your Place" depends entirely on the amount of effort and participation that you are willing to provide. Please call, write or come in.

Money of course, is also absolutely necessary. Many women have expressed willingness to pledge a certain amount each month. Some have done so but we need more. If you can't pledge, any amount is not just welcome but desperately needed if we are to continue operating.

THE WOMEN'S PLACE STILL NEEDS YOU

As was explained in the introduction, now more than ever we need volunteers to fill places at the centre. Almost anything you can do we need help with and what you can't do we shall try to teach you, if possible. This is definitely a good cause.

1) *Distress Centre* -- A few people have shown interest in setting up this kind of centre, for which we have found a great need in the city. A meeting will be held on Monday September 11th, for all those interested. Please call the Centre and ask for Lynn so that we can get an estimate on interest. This may well mean several salaried jobs as the women already involved have intentions of applying for a L.I.P. grant.

2) *Office Work* -- The central office needs women most mornings, afternoons and evenings to answer the phone, answer the letters and answer (or try to answer) most questions that women come in to ask. We supply free coffee and sometimes interesting conversation. An added attraction here is a bit of creative housework which we tried valiantly to avoid most of the summer and Sandy got tired of doing by herself.

3) *Newsletter* -- Once again folks, I guarantee that the newsletter (brilliantly written and designed as is) needs more than one person to share the blame if it comes out wrong or there are any errors. If you are interested in trying out your writing talents or flexing your fine fingers on either a cartoon or a typewriter, (some choice eh!) come to the newsletter collective meeting on Tuesday September 12th, or call and ask for the woman with the calloused fingers. Steph.

4) *Referrals* -- We now have a short list of good women doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers. We further have some names of good day-care centres, free clinics, information centres, legal help and a myriad of others. The list however, is short and needs to be expanded. If you know of anyone or any centre you think would be of value for us to keep on file, please call so that other women can use these services.

5) *Children's Group* -- A group of our younger sisters ages eight to twelve years will be meeting regularly at the centre to play, talk and explore together in a non-sexist way. Projects will include tie-dyeing curtains, going places, possibly learning a little carpentry and so on. Meetings will be held every Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m.

6) *The Library* -- The library began to circulate books on August 17th. Any woman may borrow two books for a period of one week. Volunteers are still needed to administer the library, organize the pamphlets, and magazines, compile bibliographies etc. The library is still small and due to our limited financial resources, donations of books, and magazines are needed to make it grow. Women who work in schools or universities and can order free desk copies of books from publishers should contact Ilene for suggestions on what to order.

7) *Children's Books* -- Women who have experience in the writing, illustrating, or publishing of children's books are needed to advise and help a collective interested in producing non-sexist children's literature. Also any other women with stories should call Ilene or Leah at The Women's Place.

8) *Consciousness-Raising Groups* -- On the first Thursday of every month someone will be at the

centre to talk to anyone in a consciousness raising group about their groups. Tell us how they are going - what are the problems? - are you getting bogged down? - have you found anything that works particularly well for your group? Those not already in a group but who would like to be should call the centre. We are attempting to form groups in the various areas in the city so don't be afraid to call if you live far away from the actual centre.

9) *Research On Women* - The Women's Place is currently gathering sources for research on women, particularly research relating to sexual stereotyping and role conflicts. If you are aware of sources for such research or are doing research in this area, contact S. Laurie Women's Place or home 923-5094.

10) *Non-Sexist Children's Literature Bibliography* - Many women have requested that the Women's Place carry non-sexist children's literature in the bookstore, that is stories for children that depict positive images for both boys and girls. Some literature has already been suggested to us by other women's groups and from feminist publications. If you know of any good non-sexist children's books which might be included in our bibliography and ordered from the bookstore please call Women's Place or Sonnie at 923-5094.

SCHEDULE OF HAPPENINGS AT THE WOMEN'S PLACE

More information on these and other meetings at the place can be obtained either from the rest of the newsletter or by calling 929-3185. All meetings take place at 31 Dupont Street.

Friday September 1st and September 22nd -- Lesbian Drop-in. 8 p.m.

Monday September 11th -- Distress Centre Meeting. 8 p.m.

Tuesday September 12th -- Newsletter Meeting. 8 p.m.

Thursday September 21st -- General Information Meeting. 8 p.m.

Friday September 29th -- Book Shower (to supplement our small library) Refreshments, music and interesting talk. Admission a book. 8 p.m.

Monday October 1st -- Consciousness-Raising Meeting. 8 p.m.

Friday October 6th and Saturday October 7th -- Film Festival at O.I.S.E. Times and films in next newsletter.

Every Tuesday -- Children's Group. 5 - 6 p.m.

Every Monday and Wednesday -- "The Other Woman" Meeting. 8 p.m.

GOODS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO WOMEN IN TORONTO

The Open Door

All Saints Church at Sherbourne at Dundas
366-4319

Open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Open Door is a drop-in centre for women providing coffee, companionship, television and advice and information on community services. It also runs a free rooms registry service, with a list of clean rooms and apartments in the Ward 7 area.

The Other Woman

31 Dupont Street
929-3185

The Other Woman is a revolutionary feminist newspaper put out by volunteers. It has no grants. It needs subscriptions (\$2/yr. for six issues) photographers, artists, poets, writers, researchers to contribute.

Package for High School Women

306 Glen Road.
923-2271 (after 5)

Pam Mcleod has been funded by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to produce a package of materials about women for use in High Schools. It will include filmstrips, records, slides, printed materials, photographs, etc. She would like to hear from women, teachers, and high school students who have ideas to contribute.

Parkdale Single Parents Association

1267 Queen Street West
532-2977

This is an association of single parents, separated, divorced, unwed, widowed, regardless of custody, male or female. Members discuss mutual problems — money, daycare, welfare, etc. Free day care is available possibly through the summer. Two student lawyers are available. General meetings are held the first Wednesdays of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Women's Bureau

400 University Avenue, 10th Floor
365-1537

The Women's Bureau was established to conduct research for the improvement of the status of women employees, promote expansion of employment opportunities for women, receive and investigate complaints of acts contrary to the Equal Employment Opportunities Act. This Act prohibits discrimination because of sex or marital status in hiring training, promotion or dismissal. Discriminatory advertising or referral by agencies is prohibited. All employers with more than 25 employees must provide 12 weeks maternity leave for women who have worked at least one year. Dismissal for pregnancy is prohibited. Anyone wishing to file a complaint should contact the Bureau.

Lesbian Drop-In

31 Dupont Street
929-3185

One Friday evening a month the Centre will be open for a Lesbian Drop-In evening. NO SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS OR SURVEYS, please.

Women's Liberation Movement

The centre office has closed but several collectives are still in operation.

W.L.M. Legal Collective

363-9621

Has an advisory bureau on legal problems. Puts out fact sheets on women's rights in marriage, divorce, custody, etc.

W.L.M. Working Women's Collective

923-8531

Contact Karen Webster.

W.L.M. Well Baby Clinic

64 Augusta
920-1793

Open Saturdays. Doctors, dentists, nurses available. Women from the collective help patients, explain problems and give advice.

W.L.M. Abortion and Birth Control Collective

925-7721

Contact Ruth Miller.

Woodgreen Community Centre

835 Queen Street East
461-1168 and 467-9088

The Centre trains people on welfare about welfare rights. Any ten people on welfare can apply for free instruction.

Abortion Coalition

863-9973

An organization set up to fight for the repeal of all abortion laws. It is a nation-wide coalition of women and women's groups.

Childbirth Information

228 McCaul Street
489-6350

Contact Sharon Auerbach for information on free childbirth preparation classes using the LaMaze method. Also information on breast feeding, birth control and doctors and hospitals that are helpful.

Community Hostel

191 Spadina Road
925-4613

Overnight accomodation for women or couples and children. Open 6 p.m. (registration) till 10 p.m. with a three day limit. Breakfast and supper for 25 cents each.

The Centre

25 Sheppard Avenue (at Bayview)
225-6542

For information counselling and medical referral on birth control, venereal disease and unwanted pregnancy. Staff is trained by the York Student Clinic.

York Women's Caucus

493-5835

A women's group in the suburb of York primarily organized around the abortion issue.

New Feminists

Box 597
Station A, Toronto

Children's Liberation Workshop

Box 207
Ancaster, Ontario

Women's Involvement Project

921-6591

A group involved in video taping programmes about women for cable T.V. Brochures are available for the 12 programmes already completed. Shows to be completed by the end of August are: "Women in Welfare", "Patriarchy and Sour Grapes", "Women in Institutions", "Pornography".

The Alternative Press Centre

Room 604, 341 Bloor Street West
921-9588.

The Alternative Press Centre publishes an index to underground and alternative papers, including several women's papers. We have copies of the INDEX covering July-December 1969 and all of 1970. The INDEX and the copies of the papers are available for reference use in our office. We also have some information on women's groups in other areas (mostly pamphlets from women's groups in the States.) Please call before coming over as we keep somewhat irregular hours.

Operation Family Rights

310 Danforth Avenue
461-3801 and 461-0666

Gives free advice for people on welfare. Has part time jobs for volunteers and offers training programs on welfare rights. Contact Linda Parker at above phone numbers or 767-9089. She

(Goods and Services Available to Women in Toronto, Continued)

is also willing to give training programs at the centre if enough women are interested. Call 929-3185 if you would like to be involved.

SHARE

65 Dufferin Park Avenue
537-4764

Offer free programs for women in the Bloor-Dufferin area who would like to get out of the house for a few hours a week and perhaps learn new skills or practice up on old ones. They already have sewing on weekday afternoons, crafts two days a week and a single mother's coffee hour on Wednesday mornings. Exercise classes, swimming, card nights and bowling(!) are in the planning stages. Coffee and conversation always available.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Jan Freedman, 2 bedroom apartment to share in 4-plex. 9 Oaklawn Gardens, Apt. C. Avenue Road & St. Clair.

Login House -- residential treatment for drug related problems of kids 15 - 19. (3 girls & 3 boys). 33 Dalton Street, Toronto 179, 964-2664.

Is anyone in Downsview or Scarborough interested in a C-R group. We know women who'd like to get together to talk but can't come all the way in here. Call Chris Wardell at the Centre.

Co-op day care centre is forming in Eglinton Yonge area. Need interested people & kids. For working people (no compulsory time requirement for parents but parents have say about running of centre.) Interested people call Nancy Goldsberry (work) 368-1801. (home) 485-5986.

SEP 14 1977



THE WOMEN'S PLACE
31 Dupont Street
929-3185

Hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m. -- 10 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 9:30 a.m. -- 5 p.m.

The Alternative Press Co.
Box 604, 341 Bloor St.
929-3185

The Alternative Press
Publishing several women's
and all of them are free
of charge. We also have many
women's groups in the
area.

Operation Family Link
810 Dundas Ave. W.
461-3801 and 461-3802