THE SUDBURY WOMEN'S CENTRE..... JUNE NEWSLETTER.....JUNE 1982

We welcome our many new members. Many of you may have joined to see the film "Not A Love Story". We hope that you will stay with us, and work with us in our community. As we share an interest in issues raised by the film, I am sure we also have much else in common. BO ROW thought it a good time to restate the aims of The Sudbury Women's Centre now so that you could see what we are about.

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- 1) To provide a meeting place for women and women's groups.
- 2) To maintain a resource library on women's issues.
- 3) To provide a referral service and help women to use the resources available in The Centre and the community.
- 4) To provide education on topics of concern to women.
- 5) To defend women's rights wherever they are not up-held.

We are a friendly bunch. Drop in for coffee. Drop in any Friday at noon and share some soup with us at our weekly Soup's On event. Watch the newsletter for a series of membership study groups in the Fall. And then of course you likely have already heard about the many workshops we hold for all comers. Come and share your concerns with us. We need your thoughts. We welcome your help.

#### NEWS RELEASE May 18, 1982.

Women across the country reacted with shock and outrage at the attitudes expressed Wednesday, May 12 in the House of Commons by the majority of Members present. In response to a question raised by Margaret Mitchell, M.P. containing the assertion that one in ten women are beaten by the men they live with, Members of Parliament laughed and hooted. In Sudbury, the Sudbury Women's Centre sent two telegrams. One to Margaret Mitchell commended her efforts to emphasize the seriousness of the problem of wife abuse. The other, to the Honourable Judy Erola, P.C.M.P., supported her response to questions raised in the House.

Wife abuse is a major problem both nationally and locally. Until very recently it has received no public recognition. Women who are victims of wife abuse often have nowhere to turn for protection, treatment, shelter, and support. In the last few years, transition and interval houses have begun to fill these needs. However, until the problem is treated with the seriousness it deserves, the few transition houses that do exist face an uncertain future.

The Sudbury Women's Centre applauds any effort by the Honourable Minister for the Staus of Women to increase emergency shelter space and second stage housing, and to ensure a more stable funding base. In the meantime, the Sudbury Women's Centre will continue to fight for legislative change in the area of violence against women.

Fall Workshops are planned on Domestic Violence. and other topics related to violence against women. 4 5

# Welome these new members/ Bienvenu à ces nouveaux membres

Darlene Klein Sudbury

Bonnie de Meulles Sudbury

Bonnie Bliss Sudbury

Patricia Fraser Capreol

Catherine Cahill Sudbury

Bridgette Haentjens Sudbury

Marcia Fabbro Sudbury

Alma Pushkarenko Sudbury

Leah Ferron Wahnapitae

Joyce Hallett Sudbury Ann Berry Sudbury

Patty Gingras Sudbury

Rose Marie Skwarek Sudbury

Valerie Bigelow Sudbury

Jackie Clausen Sudbury

Marty Remillard Sudbury

Mary Lou Fabbro Sudbury

Aline Cuomo Sudbury

Diane Bob Sudbury

Sylvia Carscadden Lively Shirley Vincent Sudbury

Patricia Montpetit Naughton

Mary Ann Max Sudbury, Ontari

Gisèle Lavigne Sudbury

Janet Giroux Sudbury

Gladys Lilley Sudbury

Margrita Cortis Sudbury

Ruth Bastin-Millar Sudbury

Carol Underwood Sudbury

Not A Love Story: A film About Pornography played to a full house the evening of Tuesday May 4. Among the many concerns the film raised was that of censorship. The irony of course was that we were a group of women who were for the most part pro censorship after our viewing of the film, angry because the film itself had been censored. In only two provinces can Not A Love Story be screened publicly. If you have seen Not A Love Story and wish to complain about the way it

has been censored (i.e. private screenings only) write to:

Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations Theatres Branch 1075 Millwood Road Toronto M4G 1X6 Att: Mrs. M. Brown

As well, the National Film Board, which distributes the film, is interested in your comments. Write to:

National Film Board 195 First Avenue West North Bay, Ontario P1B 3B8 Att: Laura Guegen Charron At the same time you can order the film (for the cost of return postage only) for a showing for your class, community organization or even for your living room.

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Bienvenue à nos nouveaux membres! Plusieurs entre vous sont devenues membres afin de voir "Not A Love Story: A Film About Pornography". Nous espérons que vous vous intéressez à d'autres activités au Centre Peut-être que vous voulez travailler avec nous autour des différrents sujets concernant les droits des femmes. Pour ceux qui ne sont pas au courant des buts du centre, les voici.

- Selon la constitution du Centre des femmes, les buts sont:
- de créer un centre de rencontre pour les femmes et les groupes de femmes
  de maintenir un service d'information de ressource et de référence sur des sujets concernant les femmes
- d'offrir un service de référence et d'aider les femmes à se servir des ressources disponibles dans le Centre et dans la communauté
- de défendre les droits des femmes partout où ils ne sont pas respectés

Venez nous voir tous les vendredi pour 'à la soupe'. Dites-nous vos intérêts commes femmes et comme femmes francophones

# ATAC ALL TOGETHER AGAINST CUTBACKS

Atac is a community based coalition of trade unions, human service organizations, consumer groups and other interested individuals geared to fighting cutbacks in health, education and social services.

The following are exerpts from a recent ATAC press release:

"The organization People Against Climbing Taxes (PACT) has in a very short time become a vocal presence on the municipal scene. It seems one ignores it on one's own peril. Indeed, when the Sudbury School Board brought down its latest budget it felt obliged to justify the budget not to the parents who have children in our schools (and therefore are most concerned about the quality of education) but to PACT. PACY points to the "Responsible" level of educational funding provided by the provincial government and then condemns local board for not being as financially prudent. What are the facts? Provincial government funding as a percentage of expenditure on elementary and secondary school education in Ontario had declined from 60% in 1972 to 52.2% in 1981. Local school boards have had to make up the difference through higher municipal taxes. PACT tells us provincial spending on education is less because of declining enrollments. In fact, the real level of per pupil funding (funding adjusted to the rate of inflation) has declined faster than the rate of declining enrollments. PACT has yet to demonstrate any concern over the quality of education being received in our schools and the effect of further cutbacks on our children. PACT's newspaper ads give bogus comparisons between the high cost of schooling in Sudbury in relation to other communities. They pick rural communities or areas that do not provide bilingual education. PACT has yet to point to specific examples of waste in our local school system.

For more information about ATAC, call Heather Smith 674-4494 after 5:30p.m.

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MUSAC is attempting to organize a bus trip to the Art Gallery of Toronto --The Judy Chicago exhibit. Price \$50.00 includes bus fare and admission ticket. No date has been selected. Twenty interested people are needed before they will charter the bus. If interested, contact Kelly Smith 675-1151 ext. 401.

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#### It came from the House ..... A Monthly Trivia Feature

We are introducing this article as a monthly contribution monitoring the comments of our elected officials. If you have any selections to add each month, please contact Mary Lou at 673-1916.

Recently there was a question raised regarding the inadequate funding available for transition homes for victims of domestic violence. The question raised heckles and laughter from the audience Discussion took place:

- a) within a group of male chauvinists
- b) in a forum dominated by men
- c) in the federal House of Commons
- d) All of the above.

## Answer: d)

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In response to questions raised by Pat Carney (PC- Vancouver) regarding concerns about prostitution in Vancouver, Solicitor-General Robert Kaplan responded that:

- a) it was a complex issue and he did not know all the answers
- b) there should be legalized brothels
- c) there should be penalties against men who exploit women sexually and economically
- d) prostitution is great for restaurants... always want to eat after you get laid...

Answer: d) (And we didn't make it up...)

Provincial treasurer Frank Miller has substantially narrowed the list of items which he considers essential and therefore not subject to sales tax. Which of the following items are considered essential?

- a) tampons? sanitary napkins?
- b) suncor?
- c) Mr. Miller's brilliant scarlet plaid jacket?
- d) a government jet

Answer: b) c) d) (But it's difficult to get'moss and birch bark? in downtown Sudbury)

At a local NDP riding association meeting the only female speaker was introduced as:

- a) an inspiration to the Party
- b) a prominent party organizer
- c) an articulate feminist
- d) the latter in a choice between a speech and good looks

tex free alternatives

Answer: d) Despite the validity of the first three....

#### HELP NEEDED

The Women's Recovery Home is in constant need of the following items: Women's and children's clothing, household items, furniture, and news of vacant, affordable rooms and apartments. These are needed when women leave the home to begin again in the community. Drop off items at 405 Ramsey Road. If you can answer any of the housing needs call Gloria Dixon at 674-4193.

- COMING EVENTS

- June 3 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Centre....Marta Gloria Theres will speak about the political situation in Latin America. Ms. Theres is a lawyer for the National Committee of Trade Unions in Guatemala. She is the mother of five children. Presently she is living in exile in Costa Rica. Ms. Theres has been brought to Sudbury by the Inter-church committee for Human Rights in Latin America.
- June 4 NOON...If you can't make it Thursday evening, come to Soup's On. We hope to have Ms Theres with us for a lunch discussion.
- May 21 to July 4. Art Gallery of Ontario. Judy Chicago's work
- June 23 8:00p.m. at the Steel Hall....Women in the Trades Birthday Bash. The Women's Centre will have a games table at this celebration. Plans call for a pay bar, roulette wheels, cards tables. There will be a small paid admission. This is a Wednesday evening.
- June 26 All day Workshop at the Steel Hall....Occupational Health & Safety Workshop, with resource person Claire-Marie Fortin. Topics to be a) Video Display Terminals, and b) Stress. Daycare will be available. Please contact the centre if you need daycare.
- June 12 Watch for information about activities in support of the U.N. Disarmament Day. The Women's Centre plans to take part in a musical and theatrical statement in Memorial Park.
- June 5 & 6 The Rape Crisis Centre is holding a full weekend training session for volunteers. 10:00 a.m. at the Women's Centre.
- le 16 juin au Centre des Femmes....a 14:00 heures. Une Rencontre Sociale pour les meres francophones et leurs enfants.
- October 2...Place and time to be announced. Mark the day on your calendar. Doris anderson is coming to sudbury for an afternoon of workshops and an evening dinner sponsoredby your Women's Centre. Events will centre on women in relation to the new constitution.
- June 18,19, 20... Plans not yet firm for the second annual Think Tank weekend. Speak to a member who should know a little later in the month if you are interested in coming along. The more thinkers the better.
- June 10 The Rape Crisis Centre continues its training for volunteers with resource person Marion Roberts from the Children's Aid. The topic will be Incest.

# Pregnancy and Childbirth Workshop

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On the weekend of May 8th and 9th, 1982 a very informative workshop was held on a subject very dear to my heart - pregnancy and childbirth.

Winifred Hunsberger, an instructor with the Childbirth Education Association in Toronto, led the weekend's events. The C.E.A. offers classes in childbirth preparation; review classes for couples who have attended the former; cesarean birht preparation classes; mother-baby classes; and new parent education. Other services offered by the C.E.A. are: communication with professional groups and students; information for interested lay groups (speakers are available); film rental; reading room and book sales; and teacher education programs that are recognized by the International C.E.A.

Unfortunately, there are no branches of the C.E.A. in Sudbury but anyone can purchase a membership that would put your name on a mailing list for the newsletter. However, as all membership activities occur in Toronto it does not seem like someone would fully benefit from being a member here in Sudbury. More information on this is available at the Women's Centre.

The C.E.A. is a non-profit organization accountable to a board of consultants composed of concerned health and other professionals.

This weekend workshop is unique to C.E.A. and Winifred had the challenge of condensing her reams of information that normally takes approximately 8 classes into a 12 hour weekend seminar. She accomplished this in a very complete manner and her style of leadership was interesting and stimulating. Some of the topics covered were as follows: nutrition and weight gain during pregnancy; physiological changes in the mother's body; position of the fetus; stages of labour; childbirth breathing and relaxation methods; tips on how to make yourself comfortable during labour; natural childbirth and childbirth with medication; suggestions for contents of a childbirth kit to bring to the hospital; and massages to be used during labour as well as at other times. Also four films were shown on normal childbirth, cesarean childbirth and the newborn infant.

Because of the limitation of hours at this workshop, the topics covered were very specific and Winifred followed my suggestions on what would probably be most informative to the group. Certainly there are other topics that should be covered but all participants planned to take other prenatal courses through the Health Unit. The workshop goal to provide preg nancy and childbirth education was met.

Thirteen people attended this workshop and generally the comments were very positive. For myself, I found that many of my anxieties about childbirth and hospitals were relieved from the workshop. Also being taught the levels of breathing for the stages of labour was very reassuring because I was finding that books often were not specific enough. Spouses and or coaches were encouraged to attend so that they could be an informed source of encouragement and assistance to the woman in lanour. The discussion of this topic with other couples was also very therapeutic.

I would strongly urge other pregnant women and their spouses to contact the Women's Centre if they are interested in a similar workshop being offered again.

-Penny Earley-Tough

## CANADIAN ABORTION RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE-ANNUAL MEETING

On Saturday April 24, 1982, CARAL held its annual meeting in Toronto. Kathleen Howes attended to represent the Sudbury Women's Centre and to give a report on the abortion situation in this city. Of the three hospitals in Sudbury, only the Memorial Hospital will perform therapeutic abortions. There are only two doctors who will perform the abortions, and so the availibility is limited indeed. Both these doctors make regular referrals to ACCRA (Abortion Counselling and Contraceptive Research, a fee for service abortion referral agency) which in turn refers women to Toronto, Montreal or the US. This ends up to be an expensive and traumatic ordeal for the woman from Sudbury or further north. And we supposedly have the right to therapeutic abortions!

At the annual meeting, Dr. Henry Morgantaler gave a rousing speech on the lack of choice which presently exists for women. He pledged his willingness to risk further jail terms, if this is what is required to help women attain real freedom of choice. All delegates agreed that Dr. Morgantaler had already done enough for the movement, and that new women and men must take stands.

And this led to the STAND UP AND BE COUNTED campaign. The delegates all agreed that until the public realizes that it is its sister, niece, boss, employee and friend that has an abortion, and not some anonymous woman, the situation will not change. In a really moving show of solidarity, many of the women in the room at the meeting rose and were counted.

If you support the STAND UP AND BE COUNTED campaign, and if you have had an abortion, please consider filling out the enclosed form and sending it in as an expression of solidarity.

By joining CARAL now, you can receive a free copy of Abortion in Law and History--the Pro-Choice Perspective. There are also copies of this at the Women's Centre.

Name.       Phone.       Date.         Address.       City.         Province       Postal         Code       Occupation         Name of Federal Riding or Member.         Indiv. Member \$10.00       Family \$15.00         Sustaining \$25.00       Affiliated Group \$25.00         Your cancelled cheque is your receipt.         Beturn to CABAL       Box 935	I support the state	ment of purpose of CARAL and wish to become a member
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Telephone 1-416-961-1507

"WE REGARD THE RIGHT TO SAFE LEGAL ABORTION AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT"  $_{\odot}$ 

# CANADIAN ABORTION RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE (CARAL) ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR LE DROIT A L'AVORTEMENT (ACDA)

#### WE HAVE HAD ABORTIONS

WE BELIEVE that it should be a basic human right to decide, freely and responsibly, whether or not to have children as well as to determine their number and spacing. The attitudes and laws against abortion in this country are causing untold suffering.

THE REPORT of the Committee on the Operation of the Abortion Law (Badgley 1977), has documented 'sharp disparities in the distribution and accessibility of therapeutic abortion services.' Only 20% of civilian hospitals had therapeutic abortion committees in 1976. There has been no substantial change since then. Badgley documented long delays for women seeking legal abortions.

SINCE MEDICAL RISKS INCREASE as the pregnancy advances, it is evident that Section 251 of the Criminal Code creates a significant health hazard to women.

#### A RIGHT WITHOUT ACCESS IS NO RIGHT AT ALL

NOW even limited access is being threatened by Borowski's legal action to declare the law invalid. If he wins, the result will be that abortions will become illegal and women will have to resort to self-induced or backstreet abortions with the attendant risk of fatality.

WE BELIEVE abortion should be a matter of individual conscience, a matter between a woman and her doctor. However, because of the social stigma still wrongly attached to abortion, we the undersigned do publicly declare that we have had abortions, with the hope that women in Canada will take their experiences 'OUT OF THE CLOSET' and through discussion bring about a more enlightened awareness of the abortion issue.

#### STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

I have had an abortion. I publicly join thousands of Canadian women in demanding repeal of all laws that restrict our reproductive freedom.

Name:

Address:

Please use my name in whatever way will be helpful in achieving Freedom of Choice.

SIGNATURE

Send to: CARAL Box 935, Station Q, Toronto, Ontario M4T 2PI

formerly The Canadian Association for Repeal of the Abortion Law • anciennement l'Association canadienne pour l'abrogation de la loi sur l'avortement

#### BOOKS

Schneir, Miriam. Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings. New York: Vintage Books, 1972. Alderson, Sue Ann. Bonnie McSmithers is at it Again! Edmonton: Tree Frog Press, 1979. Mitchell, Juliet. Woman's Estate. New York: Vintage Books, 1971. Rinzler, Carol Ann. Strictly Female: An Evaluation of Brand-Name Health and Hygiene Products for Women. New York: NAL, 1981. Washbourn, Penelope. Becoming Woman: The Quest for Wholeness in Female Experience. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1977. Luxton, Meg. More Than A Labour of Love: 3 Generations of Women's Work in the Home. Toronto: Women's Press, 1980. Christ, Carol P. and Plaskow, Judith. Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1979. Ehrenreich, Barbara, and English, Deirdre. Complaints and Disorders The Sexual Politics of Sickness. New York: Glass Mountain Phamphlet No. 2/The Feminist Press. Rape Prevention Resource Manual - B.C. Rape Prevention Project, B.C. Police Commission, Rape Relief

Pizzey, Erin. Scream Quietly or the Neighbours will Hear. Great Britain: Penguin, 1974.

#### Booklets

Abortion in Law and History: The Pro-Choice Perspective CARAL

## NEWSLETTERS

Elizabeth Fry Society of Sudbury, April newsletter A Woman's Place Calendar ACTION, Volume 10, Number 5

CARDWO Newsletter, No. 2, April 1982. North Bay Women's Centre newletter, May 1982. Sault Ste. Marie Women's Resource Centre newsletter NOW AT WHEN (Women's Health Education Network) The Monthly, Spring 1982. (theme issue:gynecology)

#### REVUES

Entrelles: revue féministe de l'outaouais. Volume 3, numéro 3. Entrelles, volume 3, numéro 4. Entrelles, volume 4, numéro 1. les sourcières, no. 8 (thème: Les femmes et les pouvoirs) Les Têtes de Pioche: Journal des Femmes COLLECTION COMPLETE, les éditions de remue-ménage, Ottawa, 1980.

#### LIVRES

Egalité des races et des sexes en milieu de travail: un défi et une chance. Bureau de la main-d'oeuvre féminine, Travail Canada. de Grosbois, Louise et al histoires vraies de tous les jours. Montréal: les éditions du remue-ménage, 1976.

#### MAGAZINES

Great Expecaations:

Priorities, Volume 10, Number 2, March - April 1982 Room of One's Own, Volume 6, Number 3. Hysteria, Volume 1, Number 4, Spring 82 (thematic issue on women and sexuality) East West Journal, May 1982. Fireweed, Issue 12 (thematic issue on blood relations) Women: A Journal of Liberation Volume 8, Number 1 Connexions: An International Women's Quarterly, Winter, 1982. New Women's Times Feminist Review, number 19. International Women and Health Resource Guide. A joint project of ISIS and the Boston Women's Health Collective Helicon Nine: A Journal of Women's Arts and Letters, Fall 1981, Number 5. Communiqu'elles, April 1982. Kinesis, May 1982.

The magazine for expectant parents,

Spring, 1º82

Did you know that 'A Wive's Tale' has been sold to the national labour federation in Belgium (the equivalent to our CLC) and that it's being translated into Flemish and French? It has also been entered in a women's film festival in France and has, been bought by a French distributing company in Paris. Interesting, huh?

11		<i>ر</i>	JUNE EVENIS			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday		Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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		RENERAL MENBERSHIP MEETING		Saue for Brin	Save your saleable. items for Rummage Sale July 1 Bring them to the Centre.	items July 10 th. entre.



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38 Beech Street West 25 Sudbury, Ontario P3C 1Z3 SUDBURY A telephone: (705)-673-1916

Hysteria Box 2481 stn: 3 Kitchener, Ontario