

BREAKING THE POSTURE  
OF  
FEMININITY

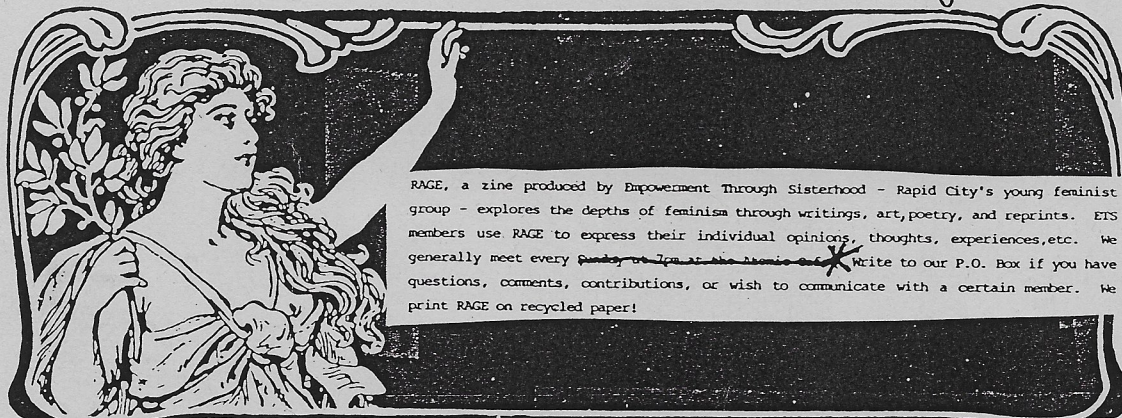
R.A.G.E

issue # 6

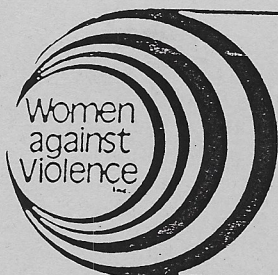


# RAGE #6 MARCH 1995

## Introduction to Rage



In the next issue: All ABOUT OUR TRIP TO D.C. for the Young Feminist Summit & Rally!



HAVE YOU BEEN  
BATTERED OR  
RAPED?

CALL:  
(605) 341-4808

\*See "The Little Things A Single Person Can Do to Fight Sexism" for meeting time and places.

/// We use  
/// Recycled  
/// Paper

Cover By:  
TRACY

Layout By: Tara, Kris, April, Jodi, Sara + Maggie.

## OTHER ZINES TO READ by April

Unwin zine #3 P.O. BOX 15 LAUREL, MD 20725-0015  
Send 2 STAMPS.

A friend named Anna does this zine by herself. This issue includes an interview w/ The New Bomb Turks, an interesting account of her trip to Finland, some odd Classifieds & more. She also accepts contributions. <sup>support her!</sup>

IKAB #2 %LEAH 6857 Compton Hts. Cir., Clifton, VA 22024

I really like this zine because it offers many different reprints/articles, by many different people, with many points of view. Also some music reviews, and a zine directory. IKAB mainly consists of other zine reprints with original stuff by Leah. Send 2 stamps to receive this great zine.

Bantha Jodder c/o Caroline 31 Yellowstone Ct. Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
Send 1 Stamp.

We just got this zine right before we printed #6 so I've only had a chance to skim through it, but it looks interesting. Includes a news piece on NWT,

an explanation of the zine name, a Rape article, plus other various writings. Note: All of these zines happen to be produced by women. I encourage any or involved w/ a zine including ♀ to send it in.

# R.A.G.E.

Breaking The Posture Of Femininity

P.O. BOX 2962  
Rapid City, SD 57709

Any ♀ or ♂ who would like to correspond w/ us - write



# QUICK DRAWS

have you ever had someone shoot you down with a sexist or ignorant comment and think of a comeback two minutes too late? we here at RAGE brain stormed for quick answers for situations ranging from "you're my friend so I want you to see my point of view" to "you pissed me off and I want you to know". here's our beginning list. use them, add to them, just be sure to use your VOICE.

TO ACQUAINTANCES, STRANGERS AND THOSE YOU'LL NEVER SEE AGAIN.

What's your point? What's your deal? What's your problem?

Ignorance must be bliss.

What do you mean by that?

Explain yourself.

Fuck off.

Excuse me?

Wish I could say the same for yours. You're ugly. (to a comment such as "nice ass".)

What do you think that does for me?

TO THOSE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE "TALKING SERIOUSLY"

That offends me, let me tell you why...

I am disappointed in your comment.

That attitude isn't helpful to anyone.

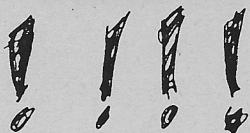
That hurts my feelings, let me tell you why...

If you're my friend, why would you say that to me?

Model a better way to say something. example: Girl? Oh, you mean woman. correct them like you would a child grammatically. keep repeating the correct term each time they use a wrong term.

What exactly are you talking about?

**WARNING:**  
I MAKE  
EYE  
CONTACT



hom-o-pho-bi-a  
(hom's fo' bē ə) z.  
insecurity about  
being heterosexual.

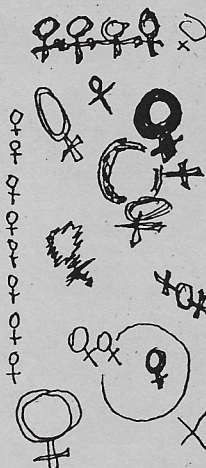
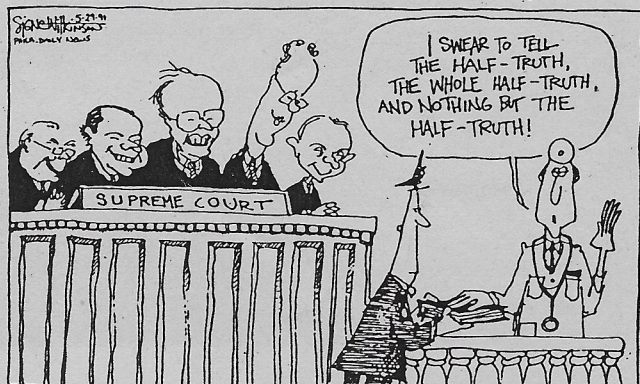
Seventeen Mag started  
in 1946 - this included  
a do's & don'ts column.  
Here's one from the 1<sup>st</sup> year:  
DONT speak up in conflict.

Do sit quietly  
Do smile if you can  
and when the moment is right  
Do say "I'm sorry."

YIKES! This conditioning  
of teens is  
frightening.

Our Generation still feels  
the consequences of this  
Conditioning. (AW)

ON LEGAL ABORTION  
AND THE LAW



GENERAL MATTERS

> wake up call

"he" is not without gender  
it cannot include me  
(woman that i am)

furios they would be  
at the general use of "she"

you must tilt back your head  
words form the plane

language crayolas  
draw in your brain

slit your eyelids  
smell your breath

and picture a fireman  
with plump breasts

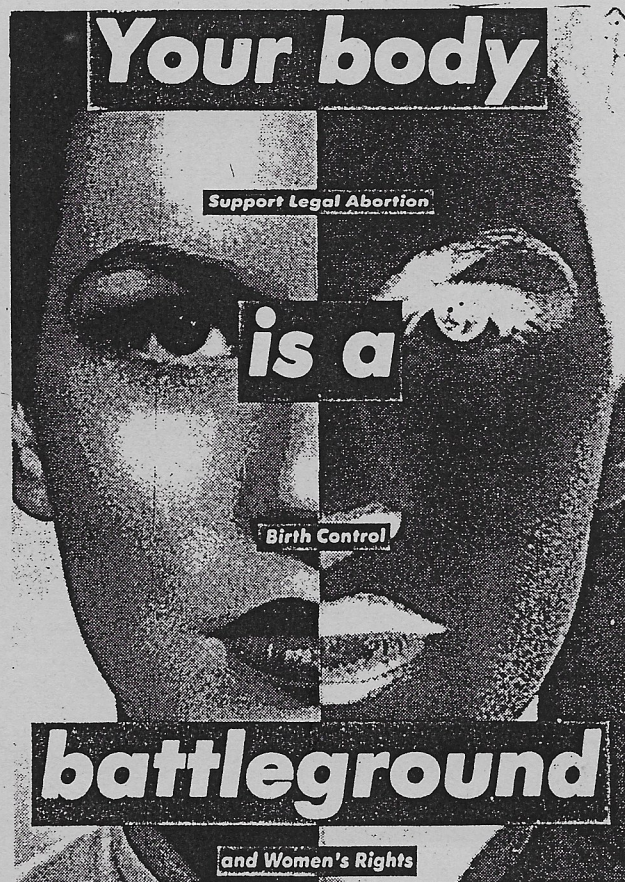
make the spectrum wider  
and simply say "firefighter"!

my parableless poem is direct  
and i don't apologize

songs of narrow tongues  
shouldn't be flung

leaving me half denied.

- kris soverson





MH: Perhaps they don't want to be enlightened because that would necessitate a change in behavior. Feminists always rail against being treated like pieces of meat and yet they say this as they eat a hamburger or steak.

CA: We all have to come to an awareness on our own. But because of the cultural pressure of meat-eating, as well as the denial that meat actually comes from animals, there's a linguistic dance done around butchered flesh. We don't say a lamb's leg, we say leg of lamb. We take away the possessive relationship between a lamb and his or her leg. Animals are not mass terms. Water is a mass term. You can add or take away water, but you can't change what water is. We falsely perpetuate the idea that meat is a mass term, that it never adds up to a living animal.

## Do feminists need to liberate

## animals, too?

an interview with Carol Adams, author of 2 books →  
The Sexual Politics of Meat:  
A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory

MH: Some people seem to feel that they have limited resources for compassion.

CA: Well, I'm not sure they think that there are limited resources, though we always hear of compassion fatigue. The fact is that there is no feminist justification for the slaughter of animals. We are benefitting from the object status of other creatures in our world. Once we recognize that, it doesn't take any more energy to grab a veggieburger on your way to a prochoice rally. To buy nonleather shoes rather than leather shoes. Once one makes this an inherent part of one's life there is nothing that stops one from continuing to be the kind of feminist/activist and antiracist activist that she's always been. In fact, because vegetarianism is actually healthier for you, a feminist vegetarian hopefully adds years to her life and can accomplish more with her activism. ♦

We ♥  
The Body Shop

phone 1-800-541-2535 anytime

by Sara ♀

info. from new magazine  
on the Issues ↓

Spring 1995

∴ mmm! Veggies!

MH: You've written that you became a vegetarian in 1974. I became one in 1986 after reading Hans Rausch's Slaughter of the Innocents. That was a very powerful epiphany for me. After that, I couldn't continue to eat meat because I knew what I was eating. Do you think all feminists should strive to become vegetarians?

CA: Yes, but consciousness-raising is a very painful thing. When anyone raises these issues, we hear a lot of defenses that are very similar to defenses of sexism from the early 1970s. If you were a "bra-burner" then, now people think, "You're one of those animal rights people making me worry about how I treat animals." But the basic insight of the feminist animal advocate is that animals are not ours to exploit, animals are beings that exist in community with us. Our goals are to not have them on our backs or on our plates.

and Neither Man nor Beast:  
Feminism + the Defense of Animals

Vegetarians live 8 years longer, on average, than meat eaters...

"Many of the basic insights of feminism—about how patriarchy works—shed light on how we see animals. Patriarchy is a gender system that is implicit in human/animal relationships."

—Carol Adams

3 out of 4 vegetarians are womyn!!

### Speak Out Lip Balms

C. These SPF-15 lip treatments do more than moisturize and protect lips from chapping. Each vanilla-flavored lip balm gives you key information about one of the four issues The Body Shop is currently focusing on: animal testing of cosmetics, women's employment issues, endangered species, and AIDS. Customers who wish to actively speak out on these issues will find information phone numbers they can call, right on the lip balm labels.

#0341 ... Women's Issues ... \$2.95  
#0347 ... AIDS Info ... \$2.95  
#0343 ... Endangered Species ... \$2.95  
#0314 ... Against Animal Testing ... \$2.95

Good Vegan Food

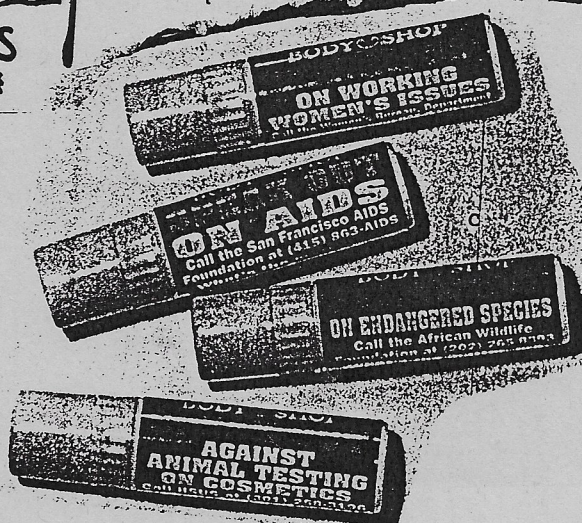
yum, yum!

by April

"Since I've been vegan, I've tried lots of foods. these are the best things I've found!"

- Boca burgers
- Tofu pups
- Veggie Cutlets
- Tofutti → ice cream, frozen yogurt, sour cream, and cream cheese

- Vegan Rella (cheese that melts)
  - Vita Soy soymilk (cocoa flavor)
  - Nature Sausage by Fantasti Foods
  - Rainforest Crunch candy bars
- go to your local health food store and demand these products!





# Ritual: We Fight Back

MELANIE KAYE

This ritual as first performed around the statue at 5th & Washington in downtown Portland on International Women's Day, 1978. In an updated version it was performed again at the Women's Night Watch, August 25, 1978. The following version includes the updated information but retains the earlier form.

Eight women appear on the street, group around the statue, backs to the crowd. We put on face masks. A knife and a wreath of flowers are placed in front of the statue. We begin, each woman speaking in turn.

1. My name is Wanda Carr. I am 40 years old. My husband beat & abused me for years. I shot him. I was acquitted. California.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

2. My name is Francine Hughes. I am 30 years old. My husband beat & abused me for 12 years. I divorced him, still he came back. One night he beat me, rubbed garbage into my face & hair. I waited till he was asleep. Then I poured gasoline under the bed & struck a match. I was found not guilty, on grounds of temporary insanity. Michigan.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

3. My name is Marlene Roan Eagle. I am an Oglala Sioux & I am 20 years old. My husband beat me many times. Twice I was hospitalized from these beatings, once for a month. When I was 7 months pregnant, he beat me with a broom handle. I grabbed a knife and stabbed him. I was

5. My name is Jennifer Patri. I am 32 years old. My husband abused me emotionally, beat & raped me for years. He molested our daughter. When he grabbed a butcher knife during an argument, I shot him. Then I set fire to the house with his body in it. I was convicted of manslaughter. Wisconsin.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

6. My name is Claudia Thacker. I am 41 years old. I survived the Nazi occupation of France to spend more than 20 years being beaten by my husband. I shot him. I was convicted of second-degree murder. I am free awaiting appeal. Port Orchard, Washington.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

7. My name is Nada Alayoubi. I am 17 years old. My husband beat me repeatedly. I shot him in our home in Fairbanks, Alaska, and escaped to my sister, in Washington. So far I have not been extradited, because I'm a minor.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

8. My name is Yvonne Wanrow. I am a Colville Indian and I am 34 years old. 7 years ago a known child molester, a white man, threatened my child and my friend's child. My leg was broken, in a cast. I tried to get the police to arrest the man. They said wait till Monday. It was Saturday. When he broke in, I shot him. I was convicted. The prosecutor reopened the case against me. I finally pleaded guilty for a suspended sentence. I am free. Spokane, Washington.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK. I'M STILL FIGHTING.

1. I am a woman. You don't know my name. I killed the man who abused me.

ALL: I AM IN PRISON.

2. Hazel Kontos, sentenced to life in Birmingham, Alabama, for shooting her husband who beat her and once held her at gunpoint.

3. Carolyn McKendrick, convicted of 3rd degree murder in Philadelphia, for shooting her boyfriend who beat her frequently.

found not guilty, on grounds of defense of my unborn child. Ohio.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK. I GOT OFF.

4. My name is Miriam Grieg. My husband beat me repeatedly. I shot him. I was found not guilty, on grounds of self-defense. Montana.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

5. My name is Evelyn Ware. I am 29 years old. My husband beat me repeatedly. He continued to beat & harass me even after we got divorced. I shot him. I was found not guilty, on grounds of self-defense. California.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

6. My name is Gloria Maldonado. I am 32 years old. When my husband attacked me and our son, I shot him. I was not prosecuted, on grounds of insufficient evidence. Chicago, Illinois.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

7. My name is Bernestine Taylor. I am 30 years old. My husband beat & abused me for 9 years. I stabbed him to death. I was found not guilty. Rockford, Illinois.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK. I GOT OFF.

8. My name is Darlene Lis. I am 21 years old. My boyfriend beat me regularly. One day he handed me a shotgun & told me to shoot him. I shot him. I was sentenced to 3-7 years for the shooting death of her husband. Her plea of self-defense was not accepted.

5. Dessie Woods, serving 22 years in Atlanta, Georgia for killing the white insurance salesman who tried to rape her and her friend at gunpoint.

6. Barbara Jean Gilmore, sentenced to 20 years, for killing her husband who beat her for 17 years. Her sentence was reduced to 5-year probation on condition that she see a psychiatrist.

7. Janice Painter, sentenced to life in Tacoma, Washington, for killing her 28-year old stepson, who had hospitalized her and raped her daughter. She is appealing her conviction.

8. Kathy Thomas, sentenced in Cleveland, Ohio, for shooting her common-law husband who was threatening to kill her. She is appealing her conviction.

1. Doris Kane, sentenced to 25 years in Augusta, Maine, for killing her husband while they were arguing about the bills.

2. and the following women who are serving time in the Oregon Women's Correction Center, for self-defense in various forms:

3. Donna Ferth.

4. Nancy Stilson.

5. Barbara Carpenter.

6. Judy Wagner.

7. Georgia Wondel.

8. Janet Billey.

1. Barbara Eacret.

2. Diane Davis.

3. and many others.

ALL: WE ARE WOMEN. WE FOUGHT BACK.

4. (Placing wreath on statue's head) When a woman fights back, she announces the possibility of resistance.

5. (Placing knife in statue's hand) When a woman fights back, she creates the possibility for more resistance around her.

6. When women resist together, we risk less.

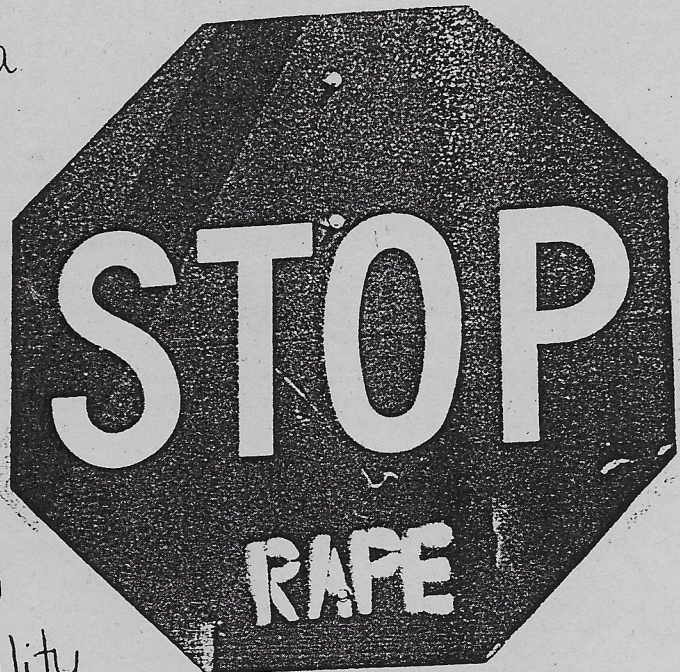
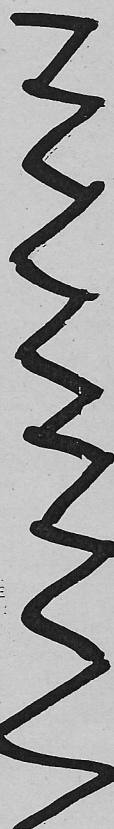
ALL: WHEN WOMEN RESIST TOGETHER, WE RISK LESS.

(ALL: take off masks)

ALL: WE ARE WOMEN. WE FIGHT BACK. WE ARE WOMEN. WE FIGHT BACK. WE ARE WOMEN. WE FIGHT BACK.

When a woman tells the truth she is creating the possibility of more truth around her

-Adrienne Rich



Maldonado • Julia Parker Price • Bernestine Taylor • Darlene Lis • Virginia Tierce • Elizabeth Mae Fulmer • Gloria Timmons • Evelyn Graham • Jenna Keise • Roxanne Gay • Dessie Woods • Shirley Martin • Alta Bryan • Patricia Evans • Cathi Thomas • Barbara Jean Gilbert • Janice Painter • Donna Ferth • Nancy Stilson • Barbara Carpenter • Judy Wagner • Georgia Wondel • Nada Alayoubi • Christina Pratt • Sharon Cramer • Lorilyn Allan • Janet Billey • Barbara Eacret • Idalia Meira • Sandra Lowe • Janet Harrell • Eva Mae Heygood • Betty Jean Carter • Lee Murphy • Beverly Jon Thomas • Mary Meierne • Maxine Walman • Eva Diamond

these are the names of resistance fighters, the names of women whose attackers did not get away with it, the men who abused them are dead, the list continues to grow.

some of these women are in prison, along with hundreds of others whose names I don't know, their history is our history of resistance, each of them has helped enlarge the possibility of resistance.

only as women choose to resist men's violence will men's consciousness change, when men are afraid of us, there will be a material base for changing their consciousness.

or at least we will be on terms of equality of fear.

when women are as ready to stand up to men as men are ready to knock down women we can begin to talk about our common humanity.

not before.

I am talking about women and violence, most often we experience violence as something done to us, we know it's horrible, we have learned/are

learning to live with it, we are not a healthy model for oppressed people.

one step up from martyrdom, we support our right to defend ourselves, we organize, attend, and try to extend to other women classes in self-defense, we focus on dislocating knees, we try not to think about differences in size, weight, fighting skills, between an average one of us and average one of them, we are anxious not to escalate violence, so we rarely carry weapons or know how to use them.

this subject—of women organizing to do violence to men—makes us uncomfortable, we are the life-support system of the universe, we birth, nourish, and repair, how should we not shrink from committing violence?

—are we more comfortable as victims?  
—is fighting for our own people a guilty act?

when we try to envision ourselves using violence, we crash against the unthinkable, a taboo.

when we feel ourselves up against a taboo, we should ask ourselves: why is this horrible? why do we want to reject this? if we find no reason, only vague feelings of awfulness, we want then to think about this awfulness.

as long as a rule, commandment, behavior cowers in the unthinkable corner of our brain, we have no way of knowing whether the rule is ours or theirs, in our interest or theirs.

service performed for all women by those who resist is the fact that each resister has suffered for performing this service: at best, a painful and exhausting struggle in the courts; at worst, prison or death, as the death penalty is reinstated or its use is extended, we need to think about this.

the question arises inevitably: if we need men to know that committing violence against us is dangerous— if the use of violence is acceptable in an emergency, as a desperate choice—

why wait for the next emergency, for the next woman in danger to choose self-defense at great cost to herself?

why not create our own emergencies???

imagine: every day in the paper, instead of a story about a woman who was attacked, raped, beaten, tortured and/or murdered—information which certainly has its effects on us—there were a story about a rapist or batterer who was beaten, shot, stabbed—even public humiliation would be better than nothing.

how long would it take woman-haters to get scared?

one thing is clear: whatever any of us chooses to feel, think, or do about women fighting abusive men, women continue to fight, increasingly, the question then is not, should this happen?—it is happening, the question is, how do I choose to relate to this fact of women's resistance?

and if this resistance heartens us with each new appearance, inspires and empowers us, the question shifts again:

how can I take part in this resistance?

the implications of what I'm saying do not escape me

I am frightened to write about them openly: there is danger in fighting.

there is also danger in not fighting.

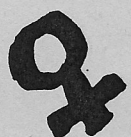
if using violence against men in an organized fashion is in our interest, and if we have reactions of discomfort, repulsion to the idea of fighting for our own people—

then maybe we need to struggle with our discomfort.

men don't take us seriously because they're not physically afraid of us.

we gloss over the fact that most successful resistance involves some kind of equalizer: a weapon.

we recognize that women who fight back fight back for all of us but in contradiction to the



STRONG GIRLS!



powerless puppets? i don't think so.

ONCE AGAIN SCIENCE HAS BEEN ABUSED TO DEFEND THE EASY WAY OUT. i watched the ABC News Special this past month which explored the differences between the sexes. a good portion of this news piece was intent on establishing stereotypical gender characteristics as something BEYOND OUR CONTROL, inherent according to the different hormonal baths which our brains receive in the womb as boy and girl fetuses.

men, THEREFORE, cannot help that they are aggressors, are not interested in anyone's feelings (including their own) and that they could care less about communication. and women just "NATURALLY" aren't architecturally gifted, but are "NATURALLY" better caretakers and are "NATURALLY" more cooperative. "we can't change what is physiologically set" was a main message of this new story. GIVE ME A BREAK.

i won't argue that currently men and women are different. obviously, now, differences exist in generalities, BUT to label anything as "beyond our control" is nothing but an excuse to allow us to become complacent and fatalistic.

are WE not in control of OUR OWN EVOLUTION, whether it be personal or as a people??? evolution does not control us, we control our evolution. we can become anything we choose to be. the question is not "can we change?" as this program insinuated, but rather "what do we want to become and how hard are we willing to work?"

men ARE CAPABLE of learning to communicate better and become "women's equal" in nurturing skills IF THEY WANT TO. and as women have been consistently proving again and again, they can do anything, even that which society has been telling them they couldn't. believe me, if men and women decide to expand their roles from the typical stereotypes which each is "assigned" by society, the brain juices WILL learn to accommodate us. we control the narrowness or width of our capabilities, we are not hapless puppets of a hormonal tyranny.

-Kris Severson



*"You don't get to choose how you're going to die. Or when. You can only decide how you're going to live. Now."*

—JOAN BAEZ

## Men, women sent to separate spheres

BOSTON — I think this is where I came in. Only when I was a kid we didn't need books to tell us that men were from Mars and women were from Venus. We could see that they inhabited different worlds.

Women were at home; men in the office. Women wore the skirts; men wore the pants in the family. She raised the kids; he ran the world.

Now, after 30 years of emphasizing what we have in common, we're back to focusing on the differences between the sexes. The more similar our real lives, the more we seem to focus on the separateness of our emotional workings and biological wirings.

The pop talk now is all about the different languages we speak, the different ways our brains work, the difference in our feelings. We scan the latest research looking for evidence of gender gaps rather than common ground.

Deborah Tannen's work, "You Just Don't Understand," has become proof that men and women can't communicate, even though her point was that we can. The complex new brain research has been reduced to a similar shorthand pronouncement that men and women "think differently."

We've become hooked again on notions of natural differences. But we should be more concerned with ways we are again nurturing differences.

The Yale researcher, Dr. Sally Shaywitz, who watched men and women sounding out words under a Magnetic Resonance Imaging machine, was struck by the alternate paths the male and female brain took to get to the same place. But today we're directing men and women to separate places.

You don't need an MRI to see that in the world I work in. Newspapers once put men and women into

single-sex spheres. The male world was public affairs — by and for men. The female world was private matters — by and for women. It took time to break down the print barriers, to have women reporting the news and to have "women's subjects" — from breast cancer to child care — leading the news.

Many of us who believe the old women's movement slogan — the personal is political — still struggle to connect private life and public policy. But in enclaves of new media, we are facing a re-segregation of men and women. It's not just ESPN for the boys and Lifetime for the girls. Not just the Internet, though it has chat groups that most resemble fraternities. The most glaring examples are the talk shows.

Talk radio has become largely a guy thing. It's not only moved to the right, but to the testosterone. The powerful hosts are mostly male, so are callers and so are listeners. It's become the turf of the angry white man.

Talk television, on the other hand, is largely a gal thing. The hosts may be more equally divided by gender. — Ricki Lake and Montel Williams, Rolando and Geraldo, Sally Jesse Raphael and Maury Povich — but viewers are mostly female.

The sexes are split and so are the subjects. Male talk radio is about political life. Female talk television is about personal life. The hot topics of the radio week

are the balanced budget, food stamps, Congress. The hot topics of the television week are "man-stealers," "meddling mothers-in-law," "obese women."

I don't think that men, naturally "evolved" from hunting mammoths to attacking Congress. Nor did the fittest of the female species survive gathering berries to be obsessed with man-stealing.

But the right-wing talk radio folk deliberately point their followers to the world, the arena of public policy, while the no-wing talk television hosts direct their audience to the home, the drama of private life. One sex gets marching orders, the other gets hankies.

In the end, keeping either men or women in single-sex slots may be equally destructive. But in the current rush of policy-making and unmaking, it's most troubling that the public voice is overwhelmingly male.

These men are arguing, faxing and forming what we call "public" opinion, while the women are talking personally in the traditional living room of relationships. Men are told to worry about laws and women about their in-laws.

In the cacophony of loud broadcast voices, women are uncomfortable in a shouting match. They're drowned out when speaking in their own voice. Indeed the year of the angry white man, typified by the sound of the talk radio, may not signify a male backlash as much as it does a female retreat.

But public policy is not a boy-thing. Whether you believe in nature or nurture, governing is not done in one part of the brain or for one half of the population.

Don't tell me that men are from Mars and women are from Venus. The last time I looked we were living here, together.

© 1995, The Boston Globe Newspaper Company



Ellen Goodman





educational magazine, usually focusing on the needs of teenagers. For those who have finished that stage in life, I've found that most of us would agree that we would never want to live it again. The physical and emotional changes, struggling to define who you are (mostly to yourself, and then others) and where you "belong" - and having to deal with new expectations and responsibility all add up to make the teenage years an enormous struggle. On top of that, so often you will hear, "these are the best years of your life", as if that doesn't irritate a feeling of imminent doom! Anyway, I wanted to share some scary facts from that article, in the hope that it would inspire people to be more accepting, and helpful to the teens in our society, because we need them, they are the future.

African American teenagers are far more likely to be shot to death than white teens. White teens are more likely to be injured or killed in an automobile crash - or kill themselves. Three quarters of all deaths that occur between the ages of 10 and 24 - a total of 30,000 a year - occur from preventable causes (not disease).

In 1990, among people between the ages of 10 and 19, 3,398 were murdered, and 2,237 committed suicide. During the 1980s, 19,346 teenagers were murdered and 18,365 killed themselves. That added up to 37,711 for the decade. Today, it is almost twice as likely for a teen to be murdered, or to commit suicide then in the 1960s. In addition, HIV has obviously taken its toll. The author of this article wrote it best, "Cross lines of race and class, adolescence has become a high-risk activity".

Dr. Staggars, a public health physician in Oakland, California, made an excellent point. When discussing the changes we need to make when dealing with teens, she used this example: "When asking teens why they behaved in a dangerous manner, she found that many of them would say 'I had to. Everyone else was doing it.' The most common response to that is, 'if everyone else jumped off a cliff...' (we all know that one). In all honesty, for a teen, at that moment, it feels much better to be at the bottom together than being on the edge of the cliff alone. She goes on to say that what we really need to be asking our teens is 'what else can you do to be part of a group and still survive, while taking responsible risks? Ask them if they have to jump off a cliff, can't they do it off of one that is not life threatening.

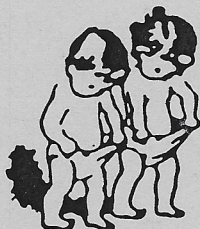
Albeit short, a section of this article was dedicated to teen pregnancy. The author wrote about three high school students who went into a clinic for a pregnancy test three days after the prom (the best night of your life - you know). All three of them were very well educated in the areas of "safer sex". After speaking with them, the author learned that many teenage girls feel as if they have no control. **THEY FEEL LIKE THEY HAVE NO CONTROL OVER THEIR BODIES. WHY? WHY? WHY!!!** The other point the author learned is that the girls felt as if there is no one to trust these days, and so when a boy says "trust me, I won't get you pregnant" the girls trust them because they want so badly to have a trustworthy person in their life. That is certainly partly our (all members of this society) fault. Why are we not proving ourselves to be trustworthy?

Dr. Staggars' experience of working with teens for years has taught her that the one aspect that has helped teens succeed is having a strong connection to at least one adult, one person they can depend upon, who really cares about them, who is there for them even when things are difficult, or easy. It amazes me that there is such an easy cure, but it is never put into use - that's a real sad aspect which we need to own up to.

How can we help? Start talking about it, discuss the issues, and ways to change them, then put your thoughts into action. Most important, **LISTEN TO THESE PEOPLE**, realize that they are people too - just like you, and that these are very formative years, and the formation which occurs will remain in our society.

I believe that if one person in our society is in trouble, we are all in trouble. It looks like we need to make some major changes to assist the large population of adolescents, and our society on a whole.

-Jodi Kilgannon 1/95



Oh, so that explains  
the difference in  
our salaries!

It wasn't long ago  
That my cousin and I would run through her suburban yard.  
It was the size of a football field, the hugest yard I had seen  
To catch fire flies.

After holiday meals.

We'd admire them from the table

Until we were dismissed  
to capture them.

Giggling, grass soft under our feet  
The changing season's evening air growing damp on our clothes.

We didn't care  
The fire flies would dry us.  
Once in our hand, we'd show one another  
As we began to glow from its light  
"Please let this brighten my life" we'd say  
Get it to the jar and go for more -  
catching as many as we could.

When finally the jar could not take another  
And darkness was in full force,  
We'd stare into the jar,  
Shake it every so often  
Then head for bed,  
They'd sleep on the front stoop.

By morning, we had forgotten them  
They no longer lit, none the less flew.  
Dead fire flies weren't beautiful to us  
And so, they went out with the trash,  
And neither of us thought much about it.

Sometimes, I wonder if you'd have me  
In a mayonnaise jar without holes in the lid  
As children, our intentions were not evil  
We just wanted their beauty,  
We admired them so.  
But where do good intentions get you,  
When that beauty has died  
And gone out with the trash,  
And you know you are to blame.

-Jodi Kilgannon  
2/5/95

## BEST ETS RUMORS

1. WE HATE ALL MEN.
2. WE HATE BEING CALLED MA'AM.
3. "MANHOLES" MAKE US MAD. WE THINK THEY SHOULD BE CALLED "PERSONHOLES."
4. WE FAVOR OUR GENDER.
5. WE ARE SEXIST.
6. OUR MEETINGS CONSIST OF MALE BASHING.

## TRUTH

1. WE FOCUS ON ♀/social ISSUES.
2. WE LIKE TO BE CALLED BY OUR NAME.
3. THIS IS INSANE.
4. WE SUPPORT OUR GENDER.
5. WE ARE EGALITARIAN
6. OUR MEETINGS CONSIST OF FIGHTING SEXISM.



MYTH: "Women work twice as hard as men for one-half the pay."

FACT: Women work three times as hard as men for one-third the pay.

Because woman's work is never done and is underpaid or unpaid or boring or repetitious and we're the first to get fired and what we look like is more important than what we do and if we get raped it's our fault and if we get beaten we must have provoked it and if we raise our voices we're nagging bitches and if we enjoy sex we're nymphos and if we don't we're frigid and if we love women it's because we can't get a "roaf" man and if we ask our doctor too many questions we're neurotic and/or pushy and if we expect childcare we're selfish and if we stand up for our rights we're aggressive and "unfeminine" and if we don't we're typical weak females and if we want to get married we're out to trap a man and if we don't we're unnatural and because we still can't get an adequate safe contraceptive but men can walk on the moon and if we can't cope or don't want a pregnancy we're made to feel guilty about abortion and... for lots and lots of other reasons we are part of the woman's liberation movement.

back

(To be read with the lights out)

I have been sexually abused  
You see, I was young,  
Young enough to fit into a sink  
To be bathed by my father  
Who would stick his finger into me -  
Into where?  
Yes, there, my vagina, vagina, vagina  
Aren't you shocked,

Hell, women are not even supposed to say that word  
Vagina  
But that's just what he did

So you see,  
I have been sexually abused  
When I was old enough  
Only to know that something was wrong  
But not that my father would cause it.

It's not a cry for sympathy,  
This is just to say that  
Sexual abuse can really fuck you up.



MYTH: "If you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything."

FACT: Smart Women are comfortable expressing disagreement, disapproval, unhappiness, hurt and anger in a non-attacking, non-judgmental fashion.

A WOMAN WITHOUT A  
MAN IS LIKE A FISH  
WITHOUT A BICYCLE



FEELING LIKE A FIREFLY TRAPPED IN A MAYONNAISE JAR

Do you know what happens to them when you do that?  
First, they stop glowing  
Didn't you catch them because you loved the way they glow?

THEN THEY DIE

I remember running around New York City's suburbia  
Trying to capture them  
To have something to admire  
Maybe their yellow glow would light up my life in some way  
Or maybe I'd capture Tinkerbell  
But what good would she be trapped in a Hellman's mayonnaise jar with the label

RIPPED OFF  
NO HOLES IN THE TOP  
I don't remember if I went with out the holes because I  
DIDN'T KNOW THEY NEEDED AIR or  
WAS AFRAID THEY WOULD ESCAPE

Don't you have the same fears in regard to me?  
The tighter your grip,  
The more dull my glow  
Have you noticed?  
So hold me, admire what you will  
But if your reason for trapping beauty is only to have it,  
Know that a used mayonnaise jar full of dead fireflies never did anyone good.

-Jodi Kilgannon  
2/5/95



Men need to be involved in feminism because sexism affects men as well as women. It affects men by affecting the women in their lives, whether it be their mother, girlfriend, wife, sister, friend, daughter, etc. This direct link happens when women hurt by sexism share their pain & frustration with the men around them. If a close bond exists, the men then internalize that pain & struggle. Men's involvement in the women's movement will allow change to happen faster. If we work together, communicate (make an effort to understand each other's point of view), learn from each other & educate others, we'll create a positive environment for everyone to live in. Women can only do so much, men's support & cooperation is critical.

By:  
April



## Batterers

A man sits by the bedside  
of a woman he has beaten,  
bathes her bruises,  
gingerly dabs at her wounds.

Earth, can we not love you  
unless we believe the end is near?  
Believe in your life  
unless we think you are dying?

Her blood  
pools about her, darkens.  
Astonished, he begins to cherish her.  
He is terrified. Why had he  
never seen, before, what she was?  
What if she stops breathing?



# A PAGE O' POETRY

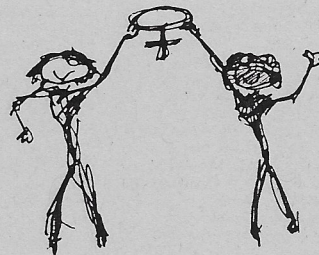
\* we as women, you as men by April W.

In order to make you understand  
we must bear our soul  
our deepest hurts, frustrations, and thoughts  
to you, our oppressor  
we stand split open, nude  
and let you judge the validity of our words.  
In order to make you understand  
we must scream until we lose our voices  
about the obvious injustices you force upon us  
while many of you stereotype us as moody bitches.  
In order to make you understand-wait-  
why must WE MAKE YOU understand?  
Patriarchy did this to us, we did not create  
the roles we're perpetuated to fill.  
It seems every time we take a step forward  
we land directly on your toes,  
you unwilling to step away from your sexist roles.

Sometimes you exist as a self-proclaimed supporter of us  
but sit silently in your comfortable world.  
And sometimes you exist knowingly as a sexist,  
but speak out of your effort and will  
to contain the sexism ingrained in you.  
You see, these of you who try to understand  
are on the path of taking those steps back.  
Only then, we as women, you as men  
can unite and create an oppressive-free reality.

\* An Explanation of my Poem

I didn't write this poem  
to offend men. This poem comes  
more out of frustration from  
when men automatically think  
they understand what we as women go  
through, which is not possible because  
they haven't gone through it. This  
gets proven when these men act  
supportive then either do nothing or  
talk behind our backs. We need to  
learn from each other to change  
society, but realize it's a slow process.



BY DENISE  
LEVERTON  
contributed  
by Michael  
Melius

## Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,  
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.  
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;  
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

Aunt Jennifer's fingers flutter through her wool  
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.  
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band  
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie  
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.  
The tigers in the panel that she made  
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

FROM "A  
CHANGE OF WORLD"  
BY Adrienne  
Rich



DONATED  
BY MAGGIE  
KIRCHOFF

SIGRID WEIGEL (1950-)

MATHEMATICS FOR THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT:  
DOES TWO TIMES WOMAN EQUAL WOMAN?

if a woman,  
whose relationship to man X is that of worker : boss,  
has collected so much anger inside her  
and if then a woman,  
whose relationship to the same man X  
was that of wife: tyrannical husband,  
takes over the company after his death,  
what will be the relationship of woman to woman?

-S.L. Cocalis

FROM  
THE DEFIANT  
MUSE.

0.2.



"The greatest problem  
with communication  
is the illusion that it  
has been accomplished."  
-George Bernard Shaw



# THE Tenth Commandment

I. Thou shalt keep the  
Sabbath day holy.

Unless you can make a profit. Vatican gift shops do most of their  
business on Sundays.

II. Thou shalt honor  
thy father and thy mother.

The Church forbids abortion, even in the most horrendous cases.  
If a woman is raped and becomes pregnant, she must have the child.  
And the child is supposed to love the father.

III. Thou shalt not kill.

Some 45 percent of the population of Uganda is Roman Catholic.  
An estimated 1.8 million people there will die of AIDS by the year 2000.  
The Church prohibits the use of condoms.

IV. Thou shalt not  
commit adultery.

In the eyes of the Church, divorce is a mortal sin. So if you're  
unhappily married, your choices are to burn in hell now or later.

V. Thou shalt not steal.

When the Milanese Banco Ambrosiano collapsed in 1982,  
US\$1,300,000,000 was missing. Two years later, the Vatican  
paid US\$244 million to creditors of the bank because of  
its "moral involvement" in the scandal.

VI. Thou shalt not bear false  
witness against thy neighbor.

John Kroll, Archbishop of Philadelphia, USA, said that  
AIDS is "an act of vengeance against the sin of homosexuality."

VII. Thou shalt not lie.

Heaven?

VIII. Thou shalt not covet  
thy neighbor's house.

The Catholic Church has no need to be envious. According to news  
reports, the Vatican has a net worth of more than US\$2,000,000,000,  
not counting things like St. Peter's, other real estate or art treasures.

IX. Thou shalt have no other gods before me

See photo, right.

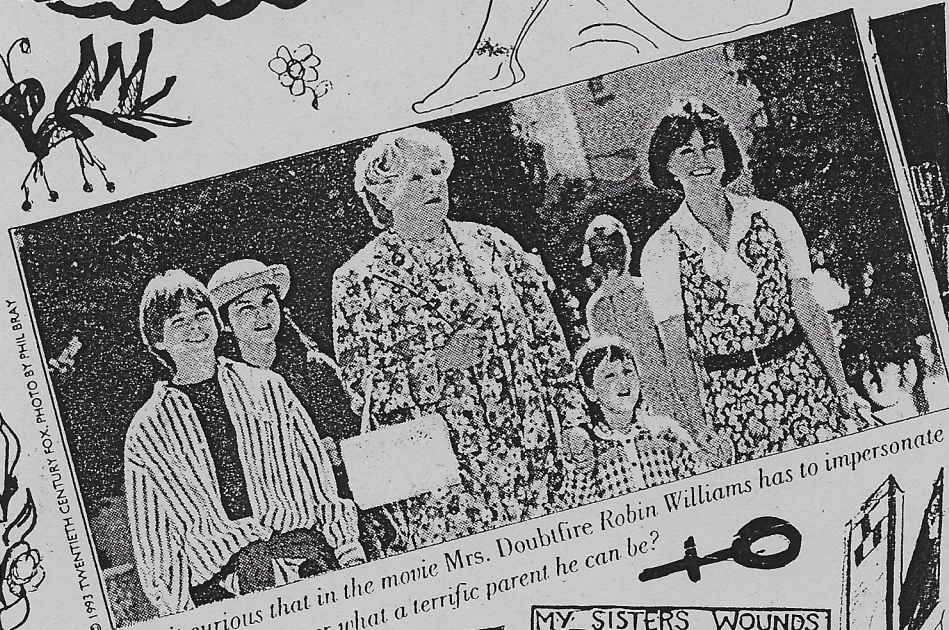
X. Thou shalt not take the name  
of the Lord thy God in vain.

Jesus Christ!! How could we not?

Submitted by  
Jodi Kilgannon



© 1993 TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX. PHOTO BY PHIL BRAY



Isn't it curious that in the movie Mrs. Doubtfire Robin Williams has to impersonate  
a woman to discover what a terrific parent he can be?

## WOMEN'S BROADCAST

Someday I'll announce on the radio  
Towards morning when no one is listening  
Certain recipes of mine

Pour milk into the telephone  
Let cats breed  
In the dishwasher  
Stamp on watches in the wash basin  
Kick off your shoes

Season a peach with paprika  
And spread honey on meat

Teach your children the basic skills of female foxes  
Turn the leaves in the garden over on the silver side  
Discuss something with an odd-ball

When it is summer, put on your furs  
Meet the men coming down from the mountains  
The bagpipe players  
Kick off your shoes

Don't be so sure  
That evening will fall  
Not so sure  
That God loves you.

-S.L. Cocalis

Submitted by:  
Marie Luise  
Kaschnitz



Submitted by:  
Hagvie Kirchoff

## Women

by Adrienne Rich

-for C.R.G.

My three sisters are sitting  
on rocks of black obsidian.  
For the first time, in this light, I can see who they are.

My first sister is sewing her costume for the procession.  
She is going as the Transparent Lady  
and all her nerves will be visible.

My second sister is also sewing,  
at the seam over her heart which has never healed entirely.  
At last, she hopes, this tightness in her chest will ease.

My third sister is gazing  
at a dark-red crust spreading westward far out on the sea.  
Her stockings are torn but she is beautiful.



typical anti-choice question: what if your mom had decided to have an abortion when she was pregnant with you? logical answer: quite frankly, who gives a fuck. there would not be one person in this world who would miss me, unless I had some friends in the womb. it's like wondering what would've happened if your parents had never fucked: you would never exist, no one would care, the reason people like randall terry (founder of Operation Rescue) claim they care has nothing to do with fetuses, it has to do with control of woman's habits and bodies. this is a man who claims he cares so fucking much that he opposes abortion even if the abortion is needed to save the woman's life. that's fucked. this is a man who believes that all sex except for procreation should be abolished. woman at operation rescue protests are not allowed to speak to the press. this is a man who believes that working woman are destroying the family unit (because the man is no longer the sole provider therefore causing him shame and the loss of his manhood), yet if his wife hadn't worked, his family would've starved. and let's talk about his wife. just why is she so opposed to abortion (she started picketing clinics before he did)? jealousy. it took her five years to conceive her first child (a slight infertility problem, you see), so she looks upon woman who can conceive so easily and then just "throw the fetus away" with disdain. and if these people give such a fuck about abortion, why are they so against pre-natal care, condom distribution, sex education, etc.? the answer lies in insecurity: for men, their masculinity is threatened. here's why: if a woman understands her sexuality, and is comfortable with it, she'll make use of and learn how to

use things like contraceptives, thus she's not at the whim of men for enjoyment. men like rights because they don't feel that they're competing with another man from the woman's past when woman use birth control and abortion they're controlling their sex life, and not allowing men to tie them down. since men have had this possessiveness thing going for quite awhile, if you hadn't noticed, they become liberated. this may explain why randall terry and his followers hate lesbians (they have nothing against male homosexuals, though), and why at an operation rescue protest between all the cries of "men and we just want to save you" the vocalization of abortion, you'll hear a lot of "dyke" and "whore" whispered under their breath, expressing their hatred of woman who don't go for that whole male/patriarchal thing. the anti-choice movement cares not a thing about fetuses (or "babies" as they call them, a term they use to make people sympathetic with them), I don't know why they would, but most of all they could care less about woman. anti-choice is a disease, kill it if you care.

*this little piece of disjointed writing was brought to you by the ladder, because we give a shit about woman, and their right to control their own lives and bodies...* the ladder is also a distro, zine, record label, and publishing co.. send a sample of your book, record, zine, demo, etc. with distro rates. send copies of demos (with lyrics!!!), and manuscripts for possible release. write for newest catalog... the ladder, 49 farewell st. newport, ri. 02840.

# **fuck anti-choice.**

Tricia from Florida submitted this piece. She's still working on her "seeker of Truth" zine - when it's done we'll let everyone know.

## **Wish List**

- \* conference table with 6-8 chairs
- \* 2 loveseats for waiting room (blue, gray, or burgandy tones)
- \* end tables
- \* table lamps
- \* desk lamps
- \* brochure and magazine rack
- \* exam table, lamp, and stool
- \* bookcases
- \* small TV for waiting room
- \* TV stand
- \* plates, silverware, silverware tray
- \* wall clocks
- \* radio/tape player
- \* printing calculators
- \* toaster
- \* coffee carafes
- \* clip boards
- \* computer and printer
- \* label maker

Planned  
Parenthood  
of Rapid City  
needs this  
stuff

←  
call 341-2545

## **Things you can do:**

1. Tell a friend about us.
2. Donate items from wish list.
3. Donate money.
4. Write a letter to the Editor.
5. Call and volunteer.

5  
WAYS

TO PREVENT ABORTION

1. Make Contraception more easily available
3. Increase the involvement of men.
5. make America friendlier to children.

2. Give young people a better teacher than experience.
4. Create new Birth Control methods.

\* All info from Planned Parenthood's Newsletter

all about Planned Parenthood by April

The way to prevent abortion is *not* to make it illegal. That won't work. It never has. Whenever governments have made abortions illegal, they have not stopped them. Throughout the centuries, when women have felt abortion to be their only option, they have had them. Whether they were legal or not. In the two decades before abortion was legal in the United States, nearly one million women went "underground" each year for illegal operations. Thousands died for lack of medical care. Tens of thousands were maimed. All were forced to behave as if they were criminals in order to do what they felt was right for themselves. We hope those days are gone forever, even though anti-choice extremists are determined to turn back the clock.

But regardless of where we stand on the abortion issue, most of us would like to see the need for abortion reduced. This will only come as the natural result of reducing the number of unwanted pregnancies. Planned Parenthood has worked for decades toward that goal. We advocate the following ways to prevent abortion:

Planned Parenthood's studies support the premise that young people with high levels of self-esteem are the least likely to compromise their futures by taking the risk of unintended pregnancy.

To help young people avoid this we must provide them meaningful alternatives: a better understanding of human sexual development, a better education, real career opportunities, job development, training, placement and hope for a better life.

☺ ☺ ☺

These are five ways to guarantee far fewer unwanted pregnancies and far fewer abortions. Shouldn't the anti-abortion movement support these efforts? Shouldn't the government? Shouldn't we all?

The anti-abortion movement is increasingly hostile to the actual concerns of real people. They fail to acknowledge that lives are being ruined every day. Not by legal abortion, but by lack of education and access to contraception, by the lack of more effective, safer contraceptives, by men who refuse to share responsibility, and by society's inattention to the fundamental needs of our young people. Reversing this situation would prevent unintended pregnancies by the hundreds of thousands.

☺ ☺ ☺

You can also help. Circulate this statement among your friends. And, if you can, support our work by contacting Planned Parenthood in your area. Thank you.



## TAMPONS

Ellen Bass

My periods have changed. It is years since I have swallowed pink and gray darvons, round chalky midols from the bottle with the smiling girl. Now I plan a quiet space, protect myself those first few days when my uterus lets go and I am an open anemone. I know when my flow will come. I watch my mucous pace changes like a dancer, follow the fall and rise of my body heat. All this and yet I never questioned them, those slim white handies.

It took me years to learn to use them starting with puresettes and a jar of vaseline. I didn't even know where the hole was. I didn't even know enough to try to find one. I pushed until only a little stuck out and hoped that was far enough. I tried every month through high school.

And now that I can change it in a moving car—like Audrey Hepburn changing dresses in the taxi in the last scene of *Breakfast at Tiffany's*—I've got to give them up.

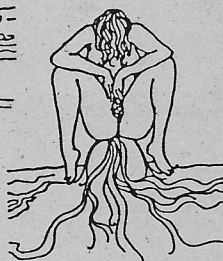
Tampons, I read, are bleached, are chemically treated to compress better, contain asbestos. Good old asbestos. Once we learned not to shake it—Johnson & Johnson's—on our babies or diaphragms, we thought we had it licked.

So what do we do? They're universal. Even macrobiotics and lesbian separatists are hooked on them.

Go back to sanitary napkins?  
Junior high, double napkins



1. Testing the Waters



2. Merging Flow

on the heavy days, walking home damp underpants chafing thighs. It's been a full twelve years since I have worn one, since Spain when Marjorie pierced my ears and I unloaded half a suitcase of the big gauze pads in the hotel trash.

Someone in my workshop suggested tassaways, little cups that catch the flow.

They've stopped making them, we're told. Women found they could reuse them and the company couldn't make enough money that way. Besides, the suction pulled the cervix out of shape.

Then diaphragms.

It presses on me, one woman says  
So swollen those days. Too tender

Menstrual extraction, a young woman says. I heard about that. Ten minutes and it's done.

But I do not trust putting tubes into my uterus each month.

We're told everything is safe in the beginning.

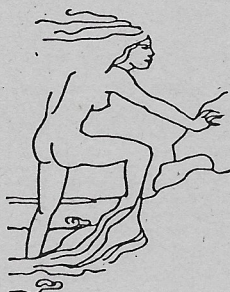
Mosses.

The Indians used mosses.

I live in Aptos. We grow succulents and pine. I will buy mosses when they sell it at the co-op

Okay. It's like the whole birth control schmeer. There just isn't a good way. Women bleed. We bleed.

The blood flows out of us. So we will bleed. Blood paintings on our thighs, patterns like river beds, blood on the chairs in insurance offices, blood on Greyhound buses and 747's, blood blots, flower forms on the blue skirts of stewardesses. Blood on restaurant floors, supermarket aisles, the steps of government buildings. Sidewalks.



7. Emerging

## MENSES

Nancy Corson Carter

Today my body fills with moon weight;  
It shifts dully when I move;  
Blood sloughs thickly from my womb walls;  
I ache into a monthly primal dream.

Lost among great rocks,  
I follow a voice like sand in wind;  
(it is the only sound;  
my loves are mute and far).

The goddess waits within her cave;  
Smiling, she raises her bowl to my lips—  
I drink and sign once more:  
I am her celebrant and slave.

This tide of hers inside my skin's a  
Wild and wedding thing;  
Life meets itself, a birthdeath river  
Burning moonward.

This dream ebbs, flows with her will;  
Entranced, I wait the waking lightness  
On familiar shores.



6. The Struggle

## MENSTRUAL BLOOD

Carol Stone Ptak

Menstrual blood  
he fears it  
as exuding disease;  
"unclean" a leper's  
vile festering sore  
dripping death.

Menstrual blood  
she reveres it  
as crimson renewal;  
a pulsing flowing  
timeless tide. Venerable  
wine of life.

## BLOOD KNOWING

Charles Fishman

Your blood  
on the sheets—  
a dark red flag  
that has pulled free  
of your body.  
I lay claim to it,  
to learn the  
boundaries.  
This is blood  
to swear by:  
what is within you  
will be tasted.  
I will know you  
entire, will risk  
drowning,  
though I go down  
spinning  
into my own  
confusion.

will have  
like  
blood trails,  
Gretel's bread

crumbs. We can always find our way.  
We will start to recognize each other by smell.  
We will ease into rhythm together, it happens  
when women live closely—African tribes, college  
sororities—  
our blood flowing on the same days. The first day  
of our heaviest flow we will gather in Palmer,  
Massachusetts  
on the steps of Tampax, Inc. We'll have a bleed-in.  
We'll smear the blood on our faces. Max Factor  
will join OB in bankruptcy. The perfume  
industry will collapse, who needs  
whale sperm, turtle oil, when we have free blood?  
For a little while cleaning products will boom,  
409, Lysol, Windex. But  
the executives will give up. The cleaning woman is leaving a  
red wet rivulet, as she scrubs down the previous stains.  
It's no use. The men would have to  
do it themselves, and that will never come up  
for a vote at the Board.  
Women's clothing manufacturers, fancy  
furniture, plush carpet all will phase out. It's just not  
practical. We will live the old ways.

Simple floors; dirt or concrete, can be hosed down  
or straw, can be cycled through the compost.  
Simple clothes, none in summer. No more swimming  
pools.  
Swim in the river. Yes, swim in the river.  
Dogs will fall in love with us.  
We'll feed the fish with our blood. Our blood  
will neutralize the chemicals and dissolve the old car  
parts.  
Our blood will detoxify the phosphates and the  
PCB's. Our blood will feed the depleted soils.  
Our blood will water the dry, tired surface of the earth.  
We will bleed. We will bleed. We will  
bleed until we bathe her in our blood and she turns  
slippery new like a baby birthing.



3. Receiving Energy



4. Centering



5. Sending Energy

everything from  
a great book  
about menstruation  
REN FINDER



FROM ONE SMART WOMAN  
TO ANOTHER

"We can say 'Peace on Earth,'  
we can sing about it,  
preach about it or pray about it, but  
if we have not internalized the  
mythology to make it happen inside  
us, then it will not be." —BETTY SHABAZZ

## Behind Every Successful Woman is Herself

### Some Basic Weapons and Targets

Weapon	Target
1. Your voice is one of your most important weapons. YELL!	
2. Knees	Genitals, ribs, kidneys
3. Elbows	Nose, chin, jaw, ribs, solar plexus
4. Head (to butt)	Face of someone grabbing from behind
5. Teeth for biting	
6. Feet/legs	Testicles
—Instep	Knee, shin
—Ball of foot	Instep, shin, or knee of someone attacking from behind
—Heel	
7. Fingers	Throat, eyes
—to jab	Face
—to scratch	
8. Base of palm	Chin, nose, temple
9. Fist (learn a proper fist and punch)	Solar plexus, temple, bridge of nose, ribs

MAJOR TARGETS: EYES, THROAT, GROIN, KNEES

### Common attacks

**Choke** — Back or front — take a deep breath and tuck your chin to protect your windpipe.

**Front** — His hands are occupied. Your arms, legs, and feet are free. Use fingers to eyes or hollow of throat. Use knees to groin or solar plexus. Use feet against shins, knees or instep. Grab testicles and pull. Use hands against eardrums or to scratch face.

**Back** — Use elbow to ribs, solar plexus or groin. Use fist to strike or hands to grab groin. Stomp on instep, scrape shins. Twist out at first opportunity.

**Rear attacks** — Try to determine the motive of the attacker.

If it is rape, he may have to change positions, giving you a better chance to escape.

**Grabs** — If a person grabs your wrist, YOU STILL HAVE THE REST OF YOU FREE. Do not waste time trying to break loose unless a quick twist against his thumb works to release you. Kick to the knee and use strikes as described above.

Whatever strikes you use, repeat them as necessary. Remember too that men often do not show

pain quickly. You may be having more of an effect than you think.

### ON WEAPONS

The best weapon you've got is one which doesn't look like a weapon. Whatever weapon you use, you run the risk of the attacker getting it away from you and using it against you. Have weapons available and know what to do with them.

Try not to call attention to your weapons so he doesn't suspect your intentions. A rolled up magazine or corner of a book look innocent, for example, but can deliver an effective blow against the throat, temple or face. Boiling water can deter an assailant yet be in the form of coffee fixings. House keys held between the fingers of a fist can be used to strike the face or throat.

Practice looking for weapons around you. This week, make some changes in your environment or behavior that contribute to your safety. Put in that lock; replace that lightbulb in the hall; label your keys.

• One last comment by millionaire televangelist Pat Robertson. In November 1989, Robertson talked to his television audience about the difference between men and women: "[T]he key in terms of mental [ability] is chess. There's never been a woman Grand Master chess player. [O]nce you get one, then I'll buy some of the feminism."

According to the Chess Federation of the United States there were already two women Grand Masters at that time—both from Georgia—and, since Robertson's gaffe, three more. Pia Cramling of Sweden (1992), and the Hungarian sisters Zsuzsa Polgar (1991) at age 22, and Judit, who last year became the youngest Grand Master ever at age 15. Judit recently defeated Boris Spassky in an exhibition match and is touted by her fans as a potential first-ever female "Men's World Champion."

Ignorance must be bliss!

Is good  
Sex

It's 1995, and a sexual relationship doesn't begin with a kiss. It begins with a well thought out conversation about sexually transmitted diseases. Smart Women know that no one can afford to be careless.

Worth  
AIDS?

Be with other womyn



Meet, dream, sing dance  
share in circles

All  
women  
are

strong  
people  
(we have  
to be!)

### THE WITNESS

The witness was no one  
We were there —

Alone  
In the dark  
Mid-day's bright sun shining through  
Brothers' playing nearby  
Quick, he stuck his finger in the sink  
Under the dirty water  
Into my body  
Felt around, and finished bathing me  
Like any good father would.

The biggest event in my year long life  
And no one was there to witness it  
Not even our pet hamster  
Whose cage rested on the indoor-outdoor rug.  
Nor the trees, grass, nor basket ball hoop in the front yard.  
So close I could have touched them  
Not even the bay.  
Which so often held my heart, and laughter  
Only me.  
And maybe that is why I see it over and over again.

**SMART WOMEN OF  
ALL AGES AND ALL  
EXPERIENCES MAINTAIN  
THEIR CHOICES AND THE  
RIGHT TO SAY "NO"  
WITHOUT REGRET.**

He came over to me & punched me  
in the face. My nose was bleeding. I was on  
the floor. He picked me up, called me names,  
threatened to kill my family. I shot him. I was  
found not guilty. Connecticut.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

1. My name is Sharon McNamee. My husband  
beat me for years. Several times I asked the  
police to protect me against him. They were no  
help. He beat me & threatened me at knife-point.  
I shot him. I was acquitted. Bellingham,  
Washington.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

2. My name is Janice Hornbuckle. My husband  
beat me for years. Several times I asked the  
police to protect me against him. They were no  
help. He beat me & threatened me at knife-point.  
I shot him. I was acquitted. Bellingham,  
Washington.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

3. My name is Virginia Tierce. I shot the man  
who raped me. I was found guilty of man-  
slaughter. I was granted a retrial. I was acquitted.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

4. My name is Inez Garcia. I killed the man who  
held me down while his friend raped me. I spent  
19 months in prison, my case was 3 years in the  
courts. I was found not guilty. California.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK. I  
GOT OFF.

5. My name is Alta Bryan. My husband beat me  
for 3½ years. I divorced him, we saw 4 different  
counselors, still he continued to break into my  
house, beat me and my children any hour of the  
day or night. For two months I begged him to stay  
away. Finally, one morning last July he broke in  
once again and I killed him. I was not prosecuted  
on the grounds that no crime had been com-  
mitted. Hood River, Oregon.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

6. My name is Agnes Scott. My husband beat  
me for years. Seven years ago I left him, went into  
hiding with my two children, moving every time  
he found out where we were. Last March I go:  
home from work to find him in my apartment. He

beat me with his belt and then began to attack the  
kids. I stabbed him. I was charged with first  
degree manslaughter, but the indictment was  
dismissed. I am free on bond while the D.A. tries  
to indict me again. Brooklyn, New York.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

7. My name is Lorilyn Allan. My boyfriend beat  
and raped me several times. The last time I  
stabbed him. I was found not guilty, on grounds  
of self-defense. Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

8. My name is Elizabeth Mae Fulmer. My  
husband beat me for 5 years. I shot him. I was  
convicted of voluntary manslaughter. I served  
the minimum sentence of 6 months and am now  
out on parole. Franklin County.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

1. My name is Gloria Timmons. I am 23 years  
old. My husband beat me many times, often in  
front of witnesses. I shot him. I served 4 years  
of a 20-year sentence and am now out on  
parole.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

2. My name is Joann Little. I was in prison for  
breaking & entering, 7-10 years. I killed the white  
prison guard who raped me. I was acquitted. But  
I was sent back to prison to serve my sentence.  
Raleigh, North Carolina.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK. I'M  
STILL FIGHTING.

3. My name is Evelyn Graham. The day I shot  
my husband I had visible bruises all over my  
body. The police took no photographs. I am  
awaiting trial.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.

4. My name is Roxanne Gay. I am 27 years old.  
My husband was a professional football player.  
He beat me for 4 years, injured me many times. I  
was afraid for myself & my daughter. I stabbed  
him. I am awaiting trial. Clementon, New  
Jersey.

ALL: I AM A WOMAN. I FOUGHT BACK.



# The Info that WASN'T ON TV!!!

i recently watched an abc news special about the biological differences between men and womyn. i must say i'm more than a little disturbed at what passed as scientific research. a number of parents claimed they had raised their children all the same, buying trucks and dolls for both sexes. yet, they say they are amazed to discover that the little girls like dolls and the little boys like trucks. they concluded that the desires must be biological; that girls inherently like dolls and boys inherently like trucks. no mention was made whatsoever about the influences of these kids' peers, displays in stores oriented toward girls' or boys' stereotypes, or the television's influence upon their interests.

they further defend these ideas with research finding that little girls talk to and interact more with other people and their parents, whereas little boys prefer less direct interaction with others and more action and competition. these findings are supposed to explain why womyn's ability and men's inability to share feelings is biological. once again, no one talks about research which found that parents of children help bring about these differences (many times unknowingly) by communicating more with girls and less with boys. for example, when children get hurt, little girls are encouraged to spend some time relaxing, many times telling their parents what happened and how they got hurt, thereby helping to build the ability to communicate with others. on the other hand, little boys are told, "you're a big boy, go back outside and play," which encourages keeping feelings to themselves.

incidentally, the most amusing yet angering thing i heard on this special was that girls that don't follow the stereotyped norm are different because they experienced a testosterone wash over their bodies when in their mom's tummy, and this made them more aggressive and masculine. this explanation was given to explain why not all girls act like girls - biologically, they would have acted like girls, but the testosterone bath altered them. these girls are the architects, construction workers, etc. basically then, these researchers are telling the public that all girls will want to cook, clean, and raise children, and all boys will want to get a job, fight wars, and watch competitive games like sports - unless a freak occurrence happens, like the one described above. why do i find that hard to believe?

i think these people need to step out of "leave it to beaver," and into reality. what about margaret mead? she asked the same question years ago - are sex roles biological? - and guess what? she found out they couldn't be. she found three tribes in new guinea which prove that sex roles are anything but biological. the arapesh are a tribe in which both sexes are what the western world would describe as "feminine." the mundugamor are a tribe in which both sexes are "masculine," and (perhaps the one that disproves the biology theory the most) the tchambuli are the opposite of western stereotypes. the womyn are aggressive, warlike, and do the hunting, and the men stay at home all day, gossiping and making themselves beautiful.

so margaret mead gives three cases of untypical sex roles, and we still see scientists trying to prove the roles are biological? not to mention, we see it on national television? this type of bogus research serves only to perpetuate the patriarchal system which has been oppressing womyn since history began. if it continues, we'll watch as this brainwashing destroys - in a matter of years - the equality womyn have been fighting for centuries. and we'll be right back at the age-old myth, "a womyn's place is in the home." it's time we start hearing the truth about the biology of sex roles; namely, that there is none. when you read or see research of this kind being fed to the american public, write the authors and tell them the facts. fight back - tell them where to stick their research!

take me somewhere else  
i want to go somewhere else  
i want to hide, but can't  
there are too many rumors,  
too many mirrors



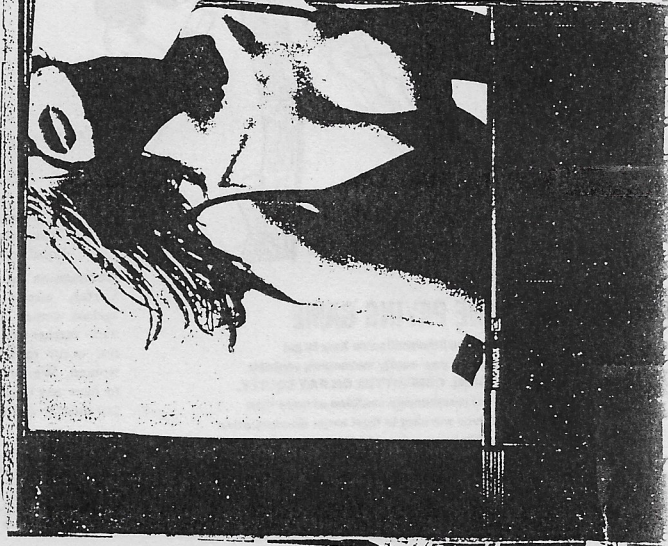
reaching up...  
grasping at air  
searching for a place  
where they see inside

i want them to hear me,  
understand me  
have a conversation  
but all they do is see me

opening up...  
finding a way  
to get peace of mind  
something much too rare

i am equal  
i want to feel equal

-tara reub



When you see a sexist ad on tv, call and let that network know you object to the ads showing women in a negative, offensive way. Call themain headquarters for the network (abc: 212-456-7777, cbs: 212-975-4321, nbc: 212-664-4444 and fox: 310-277-2211 and ask for the Office of Broadcast Standards and Practices. Tell them the name of the product being advertised, and voice your objection to it. Networks have been known to pull commercials if they suspect continuing to run the ad will lose them loyal viewers.

Submitted by farah Johnson

farah Johnson

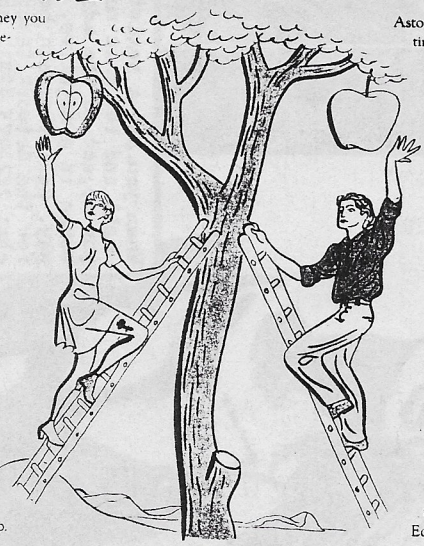


# WAGING WAR ON WAGES

Does your paycheck have more to do with sex than with skill?

Imagine how much more money you would have to earn at your present job to live basically the same life but without financial anxiety. Five thousand dollars more a year? Ten thousand? It could mean some more to salt away for retirement. Money to get away in the dark of winter as well as in the summer. A larger home. Or finally paying off those student loans.

When I play this game I can't help but remember that women earn 72 cents for each dollar that men earn. And it occurs to me, as it has occurred to you, how sweet it would be to make 28 percent more than what I make now, to close that wage gap.



Astoundingly enough, that's what one tireless crusader is trying to do. Eleanor Holmes Norton, Democratic congressional delegate from Washington, DC, last July introduced the fair pay bill, proposing "pay equity" for private and public employees regardless of race, gender, or national origin. Pay equity aims to compare jobs that are traditionally male (like loading and unloading boxes in a warehouse) with ones that are traditionally female (like filing and typing in an office) and to make the salaries equal if the jobs are found to be similar in their levels of skill, effort, responsibility, and working conditions. Norton, a leading activist on this issue since she chaired the Equal Employment Opportunity

Commission under former President Carter, asserts that "discrimination against women cuts so deep that ordinary market adjustments in wages do not occur to an adequate degree for women. We need statutory protection to have any chance of closing the wage gap quickly and extensively."

## THE PAYING GAME

For more information on how to get involved in the pay-equity movement, contact: **THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON PAYEQUITY**, the national membership coalition of more than 170 organizations working to fight wage discrimination and promote pay equity. 1126 16th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20036; (202) 331-7343. For **AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, MUNICIPAL, AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES** members, talk to your local chapter. And for more information you can contact the national office: **Women's Rights Department, A.F.S.M.C.E.**, 1625 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20036; (202) 429-1000. **WOMEN'S BUREAU, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**, a watchdog for women's issues in the workplace. 200 Constitution Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20210; (800) 827-5335. **9 TO 5, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WORKING WOMEN**, which works with women against workplace inequities. 238 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 700, Milwaukee, WI 53203; hot line (800) 522-0925. And the ever popular and sometimes even effective move: **WRITE YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES**, state and federal, to assert your position and get information on theirs.

DO SOMETHING!

CAN YOU believe these?? DISGUSTING!!

"It is not only a right but an obligation for a woman, especially a woman in the public eye, to look as good as she can.... It's like keeping up a racehorse or a show dog."  
—Dolly Parton, singer yuK.



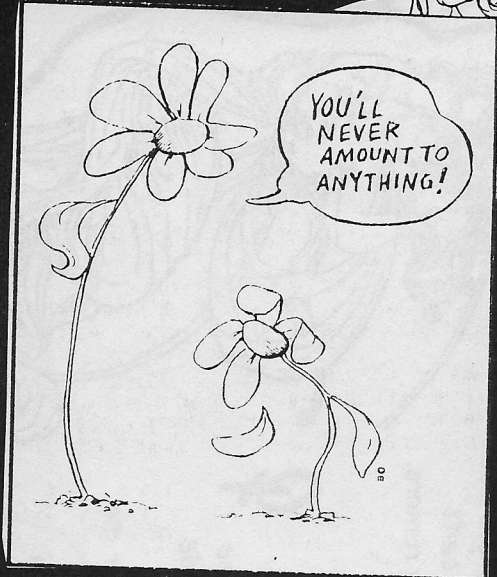
"I don't think you can have a sense of balance in anything unless you are married."  
—Nancy Reagan, former First Lady yuK.  
"I think incest can be handled as a family matter within the family."  
yuK.

—Jay Dickey, U.S. Representative (Republican, Arkansas), defending his position against abortion in cases of incest  
Reprinted from New Women Magazine.

THIS PAGE SUBMITTED BY TARA REUB

BE AWARE!!!  
APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!!  
THIS IS JUST A REMINDER ON AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT SUBJECT TO ME + TO US ALL.  
BY MAUD LAVIN REPRINTED FROM NEW WOMEN MAGAZINE

# APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!!



"I Wish You Were Never Born"  
"Why Are You So Stupid?"  
Sticks and stones can break your bones but words can never harm you...  
When it comes to child abuse this old adage just isn't true. Because while verbal abuse doesn't leave any marks on the outside, it almost always leaves scars on the inside!

And what's hardest to see, is often hardest to cure, that's why so many children with low self esteem often grow up to become abusive parents themselves. And most of the time, they don't even know it.

It isn't always easy being a parent, It takes wisdom, love, and a lot of patience. So next time you've reached the end of your rope, take a deep breath and count to ten. Or perhaps call a neighbor or friend or seek professional help.

But please, think before you speak. Because harsh words really can harm them.

# APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!




Ideas from April


educate yourself on feminism (read up, take college classes, speak with others)  
learn from other feminists and respect individual ideas  
speak out against sexism (jokes, comments, etc.) let the person(s) know their words hurt  
& offend you as well as women in general OR use body language to show your disapproval  
go to empowerment through sisterhood meetings-don't assume what we're about or  
listen to the gossip about us-come find out for yourself! come and voice your ideas-we  
are a positive/fun/supportive/educational group  
wear social/political buttons, shirts or put stickers on your  
bike or car  
be consistent in your goals

Ideas from kris

don't be silent when a sexist joke is told (& I don't mean laugh)  
learn a better language for yourself (i.e. mail carrier as opposed to mailman) and  
practice using it until it's natural  
never think of god as solely male -that's what messed us all up in the first place  
write to companies that run sexist ads  
write letters to the editor regarding sexism  
question the status quo  
question any history we're taught, any literature we're told is "great", anything that is  
"scientifically" proven; it's all usually presented through the dominant patriarchal  
perspective alone.  
watch for burn out, rest when you need it  
don't get overwhelmed, take it step by step and remember millions are working for  
change, they may not surround us in south dakota, but they exist!!!

everyone consider yourself invited to ETS meetings thursday evenings, a special  
invitation to men the first thursday of each month. come even if you don't know what  
we're about, find out for yourself which, if any of the rumors are true. ask members you  
know for place and time or write us at po box 2962, 57709.

USE YOUR VOICE   
"Our Lives Begin to End  
When We Become Silent  
about the things that  
matter." Dr. Martin Luther  
King JR.

Planned   
- Parenthood

has SWEATSHIRTS

"STAND UP FOR CHOICE"

for a mere \$20 &

T-SHIRTS

"FREE CHOICE"

for only \$12!!

Also:

FREE BUTTONS

"FRIENDS OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD"

& FREE CONDOMS. VISIT THEM OR CALL 341-2545

### BUTTONS

- if you cut off my reproductive choice, can i cut off yours?
- so that explains our salary difference (pic of a ♀ baby & ♂ baby checking out what's under their diapers.)

- No MEANS NO
- men of quality respect women's equality
- god is coming and she is pissed!
- Wise up! Stop blaming the victim.
- i don't eat anything with a face.
- this is what a feminist looks like.
- he's pretty, but can he type?
- Lorena Bobbitt for Surgeon General

~~PORN~~

### STICKERS

- OINK if you ♥ Rush
- Meat is dead
- Feminism is the radical notion that women are people
- pro-child/pro-choice
- I'm the NRA
- Against abortion? don't have one.
- No one is free when others are oppressed
- If you feel attacked by feminism, it's probably a counter attack.

# MAGAZINE \*\*\*\* REVIEW

MOTHER JONES IS A MUST HAVE  
FOR ANYONE WHO WISHES TO BE WELL-  
INFORMED ON WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING  
IN WASHINGTON. FULL OF EXPOSES &  
POLITICAL INFO THAT WILL CLUE YOU  
IN LIKE NO OTHER POLITICAL MAG -  
FORGET TIME, FORGET NEWSWEEK! THEY'RE  
FLUFF COMPARED TO MJ. ALSO, AN  
EXCELLENT RESOURCE FOR OTHER  
ALTERNATIVE READING MATERIAL. WRITE:  
MOTHER JONES PO BOX 469024 ESCONDIDO,  
CA 92046-9838.

ALSO EXCELLENT! → JAN/FEB issue of MS.  
has recap of 1994's POSITIVE EVENTS!

More BUTTONS and  
STICKERS for sale!!

order  
form on  
back

\$1 MINIMUM DONATION EACH + SD& FOR POSTAGE. SEND

CASH OR MONEY ORDER TO: ETS

po box 2962  
rapid city, sd 57709

ORDER  
NOW!  
MAKE A  
STATEMENT  
!!!



UPCOMING ETS  
MEETING TOPICS:

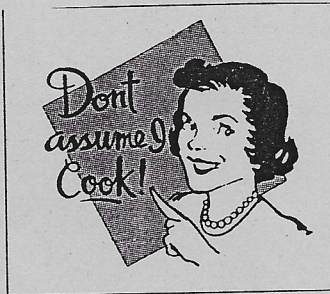
13 APRIL → discuss learnings & experiences from Young Feminist Summit in D.C.

20 APRIL → teenage oppression/depression

27 APRIL → empowering ourselves

4 MAY → ♀ & ♂ MEETING  
sexual harassment

OUR 2ND ANNUAL MARCH FOR  
THE SAFETY OF WOMEN IS COMING  
UP QUICKLY (IN JUNE). CONTACT  
US BY WRITING TO OUR PO BOX 2962  
RC, SD 57709 IF YOU'RE INTERESTED  
IN HELPING WITH IT IN ANY WAY.



WILD WOMEN  
DON'T GET  
**the blues**

A large, hand-drawn word "UNREAL" in a sketchy, expressive style. The letters are tall and thin, with many overlapping strokes and wavy lines around them, giving it a dreamlike or abstract feel.

11 Feminism encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become lesbians." - the reverend Pat

-the reverend Pat  
Robertson

(1992 G.O.P. Convention)

send to: PO Box 2962  
RAPID CITY, SD  
57709

# STICKER / BUTTON ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

AMOUNT OF \$  
ENCLOSED:

[illegible]