

NORTHERN VIRGINIA



**FULL EQUALITY FOR WOMEN
IN TRULY EQUAL PARTNERSHIP**

WITH MEN

VOL. III No. 10 November 1973

SLIDE SHOW ON SEXISM IN SCHOOLS

MEETING NOVEMBER 29

There will be a slide show on sexism in the Fairfax County Public Schools given by Nita Raichelson of our chapters Education Task Force, followed by a discussion.

Come find out the subtle and not too subtle ways they influence our children to follow sex role stereotypes.

Guests are always welcome. No. Va. NOW meetings are open to all, women and men. We meet the 4th Thursday of the month (except this month which will be the 29th because of Thanksgiving) at 8:00 p.m. at

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
8922 Little River Tnpke.
(Route 236)
Fairfax, Va.

DIRECTIONS: From the Beltway, take 236 W. less than 2 miles to Guinea Rd. (There is a signal.) Just past Guinea Rd. is the Annandale Fire Dept. and next door is the church. Coming from Fairfax, take 236 E. past Woodson High School to Guinea Rd. Make a permitted "U" turn at the light.

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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Come prepared to do your feminist Christmas shopping at this meeting. The products we have manufactured and advertised in MS. magazine will be available for sale to those present. Some of the items include jewelry, stickers, and book bags. Buy yourself a present. Do it now for NOW.

NOW MEMBER FEATURED ON "A WOMAN IS..."

On Sunday evening, November 25, at 10:30 PM, A Woman Is... will focus on the problem of stereotyping young children into certain life roles and life styles solely on the basis of their sex.

The program will describe the concern of Judy Finney of Annandale, Va., that her two daughters will be limited in achieving their full potential, because of the discriminatory world women face.

This in-depth film study will show her attempts to eliminate sex stereotyping within her own home.

The entire Finney family will be featured: her husband, Charles; her son, Kurt, age 5; and her two daughters, Kathryn, age 8 and Charlene, age 3.

A Woman Is... is a Community Affairs presentation of WRC-TV 4, with Mary Catherine Kilday as Executive Producer and Louise Tiranoff, Producer-Director.

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MINUTES OF NO. VA. NOW BOARD MEETING

November 4, 1973

There was a correction to the Oct. minutes. Judy Dean and not Glenda Surovell will be working on the policy manual.

Jackie Mittelman will check to see what we can do about getting compensation from the phone company for not putting our chapter phone number in the new directory.

Ethel Buc reported that there is \$362 in the treasury. There will be a budget meeting on Dec. 2 (anyone who will be spending NOW money this year should be at the budget meeting). Following the budget meeting there will be an in-depth study of how to get, keep, and utilize our members better.

A motion was passed to reimburse Kate Brooks for phone calls in the amount of \$15.35 for her expenses relating to the Feminist Festival in August.

Nita Rachelson discussed the Nov. program. She also spoke on the complaint to H.E.W. under Title IX filed against the Fairfax County public school system and the State of Virginia by the Education Task Force. The Education T.F. has also written to 19 publishers asking them about revising text books.

The Speakers Bureau is zeroing in on abortion and ERA.

NOW people will be conducting Consciousness Raising Groups at Marymont College.

A letter will be written to Rev. Steinbruck of Luther Place Church, D.C. thanking him for his help with the demonstration on Reformation Sunday.

Judy Rockefeller gave details of the right to life demonstration at the No. Va. Women's Medical Center on Nov. 9.

The Board adopted a policy that any Board Member who fails to attend 3 consecutive regularly scheduled board meetings of the chapter without sending a substitute will be asked to resign.

Susan Brack will conduct a survey of the membership to try and determine what factors contribute to a member becoming involved in the chapter after joining and what factors contribute to their leaving NOW.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Language is important! It is the means by which people communicate their thoughts to each other.

My becoming a feminist was followed by a unique awareness of the sexism which runs rampant in speech patterns. For instance, I became insistent that females over 18 be referred to as women rather than girls. I became furious that books always assume the male gender in reference to people.

It is helpful to me to let people give me their own word association (i.e. GIRL: cute, bubbly, helpless as opposed to WOMAN: sensuous, mature, grown) when discussing my insistence on the use of a particular word. (Who wants to be viewed as helpless?)

This is one area which will never be legislated (unless Bella Abzug's bill to have all female government mailings have Ms. rather than Miss or Mrs. passes). It is an area, however, that each of us can take over complete and immediate control NOW. We can control the way we speak and the way we let others speak to us.

This is WOMAN POWER.

In Sisterhood,

Bonnie

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BUDGET BOARD MEETING

Please note that the Dec. 2 Budget Board Meeting will be held at Jackie Mittelman's house (See insert for new members meeting for directions). The meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. and will be followed by the study and discussion of how to improve our chapter's effectiveness. We won't quit until we have it settled. Accordingly we have planned a pot luck supper so bring something good to eat. Call Jackie if you want to coordinate the food.

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REPRODUCTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The reproduction task force has changed it's name to "Reproduction and Alternatives". Also, the chairperson of the T.F. has moved. Please note her new address in your directory. Judi Rockefeller, 3471 Lake St., Apt. #101, Falls Church, Va. 22041. 578-4905-Home; 280-1500-Office.

TWO NO. VA. NOW MEMBERS ELECTED

Two members of Northern Virginia NOW won election on November 6: Ira Lechner (D) to the House of Delegates from Arlington and Alexandria and Ellen Bozman (I) to the Arlington County Board. To our knowledge, these are the first NOW members in the state to be elected to public office. If you know of any others please let us know.

Northern Virginia NOW founder and member Flora Crater, Independent candidate for Lt. Governor, ran a spirited race and according to the Washington Post, garnered 10.3% of the vote statewide.

All three deserve our congratulations and continued help.

The Northern Virginia delegation to the General Assembly is probably more "pro-NOW" since the election, though a careful tabulation on all of NOW's issues has not been made. Defeated in northern Fairfax was Delegate David Sutherland (R) who last year held a press conference with the Stop ERA forces. William Moss (R), an incumbent delegate in southern Fairfax, met defeat (in NOW's questionnaire he replied that he was awaiting the ERA subcommittee study but was "inclined to vote yes."); Ray Vickery (D) and Robert Harris (R) were elected in the 18th and 19th respectively and are known to be generally favorable toward NOW positions. Harris is the husband of NOW member Cindy Harris and answered "yes" to all of NOW's questions. Warren Stambaugh (D) replaced George Mason Green in one of Arlington's House of Delegates seats. Stambaugh answered "yes" to every NOW question before the election; Green did not answer NOW's questionnaire in 1971 or this year.

James M. Thomson (D-Alexandria), chairperson of the House Privileges and Elections Committee (The committee which considers ERA) was returned to the House of Delegates for a tenth term. Responding to NOW's questionnaire he said, "I voted for the Va. ERA and against the Federal ERA. I am presently awaiting a study report from my subcommittee before making a commitment."

The General Assembly will convene in January and meet for two months. (Submitted by - Glenda Surovell)

POLK TO CHAIR COMMISSION ON WOMEN

Northern Virginia NOW member Bonnie Polk has been unanimously elected chairperson of the Fairfax County Commission on Women by its members. Her election must now be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors.

Bonnie was appointed to the Commission by Supervisor Rufus Phillips (D-Dranesville) in June. She succeeds Glenda Surovell, also a No. Va. NOW member, who has chaired the group since its inception. Bonnie has been a mainstay in NOW's Speakers Bureau.

The Commission on Women, the first such local commission in the state, was established in 1971, at the urging of Northern Virginia NOW. (Since that time, similar groups have been formed in Arlington and Alexandria.). In November 1972, the Commission presented an extensive report to the Board of Supervisors on discrimination against women in the County. The Commission has also established a Talent Bank for the use of the Board of Supervisors in making appointments and the Personnel Office in recruiting for County jobs. For information, call Barbara Gordon at 691-2594.

In a related action, Northern Virginia NOW President, Bonnie Armstrong, was appointed to the County's Tenant-Landlord Commission by Supervisor Phillips. (Submitted by Glenda Surovell)

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PROFESSIONALS REFERRAL

We need more recommendations from members of professionals sympathetic to women and women's issues. At the present time we particularly need more doctors, psycho-therapists, and counselors. If you know of any won't you please share this knowledge with your sisters? Please call Judy Finney at 461-8332.

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Is a NOW subgroup dealing with the issues of older women. For more information about this group please call Gilda Schenker at 537-1630.

ECONOMIC EQUALITY IN MARRIAGE

The "Bonnie Plan", suggested by Virginia B. (Bonnie) Cowan, and introduced by Rep. Richard Fulton (D-Tenn.) as H.R. 9325, "would require that any couple that wished to take advantage of income-splitting privileges be required to attest to an oath to be added to Form 1040, to be sworn to by each of the two married partners, stating that he or she does in fact have equal ownership, management and control of the income, assets and liabilities of the marriage partnership. 'The greatest benefit to society from this simple requirement for income-splitting,' said Ms. Cowan, 'would be that in any marriage reporting joint income, the "dependent" spouse would have actual income (regardless of employment status) amounting to one-half of the family income. The fiction of joint income would have become a reality.' (quoted from "Women Today")

This bill, if passed, would be a giant step in achieving NOW's goals of "Full Equality for Women in Truly Equal Partnership with Men". Please write your Representatives and Senators and let them know that you want them to support this bill! Do it NOW!

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A GIFT FOR A CHAUVINIST

Great mountains can be worn away by drops of water. The strongest chauvinist can be converted in time. Constant exposure to the issues of NOW can be the "drops" which accomplish this feat. What better "drops" than a subscription to the No. Va. NOW Newsletter? It would be a monthly reminder (10 months a year) of the issues of NOW. Who do you know that needs a little more enlightenment? How about your neighbor, your Congressman, your newly elected Representatives (to remind them that we are watching). How about your boss, gifts can be given anonymously, or your husband's secretary. (you can work on him from two sides). Your gift subscription will be announced by a special Christmas Card. Send your requests to: Susan Brack, 8613 Cushman Place, Alexandria, Va. 22308. The name and address of the person to receive the subscription must include the zip code. Make check payable to: No. Va. NOW, cost is \$3.50 each.

WOMEN'S ENABLING GROUP

Many women in our suburban Northern Virginia community are not satisfied with themselves and are not able to relieve their dissatisfactions on their own. In order to help alleviate this problem, a professional social worker is forming small groups of women at United Community Ministries, 6206 North Kings Highway, Alexandria, Virginia, for discussing and exploring alternatives open to these women. Emphasis is on alleviating guilt associated with the role shifts and clashes commonly felt by women. The eight 1½ hr. sessions will include mutual discussion and sharing of experiences. Groups will begin as soon as sufficient enrollment is achieved.

Their suggested time is 2:30 PM Tuesdays. The fee is \$10.

Interested women should call: Nancy Gonchar at 768-7106 or 768-6345.

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NATIONAL RAPE CENTER PROPOSED

"On September 13, Senator Mathias (R-Md.) introduced S. 2422, a bill which would establish a National Center for the Prevention and Control of Rape. Senator Mathias' office worked closely with the NOW Legislative Office and with Mary Ann Largent, NOW's national Rape Task Force Coordinator, in the drafting and tactics on the bill. Included in this package is Senator Mathias' statement in introducing the bill. Soon he will introduce into the record a letter from NOW endorsing the bill and alluding to our part in the drafting. ...NOW's most important contribution to the bill was to advise the language defining rape, for the purposes of the bill, as "forcible, statutory, and attempted rape, homosexual assaults, and other criminal sexual assaults."

NOW and Senator Mathias hope to get this bill through the Senate before Christmas recess. Please write both your Senators urging them to co-sponsor, not just support S. 2422.

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"I am afraid to tell you who I am, because, if I tell you who I am, you may not like who I am, and it's all that I have." From the book Why Am I Afraid to Tell You Who I Am?

BREAKING INTO MANAGEMENT

The ad-hoc Committee On Women in Management of the Washington, D.C. Chapter of N.O.W. is making plans to hold a one day seminar in February or March on "Breaking into Management from the Woman's Point of View."

They are looking for suggestions as to what we would like to hear at such a seminar. What particular questions do you have that they can expound upon or what do you know about women in management that you would like to contribute?

They need an idea of how many materials to provide and how large of a room will be needed, so if you are interested in coming to and/or participating in such a seminar, please send a postcard to one of the three people listed below by Dec. 15, 1973 and let them know your interests. Telephone numbers are included in case you have any questions.

Sandy Gruschin, 3245 Nebraska N.W., Washington, D.C. (362-5989-home; 967-3106-Office); Ann Beng, 9102 Fairhaven Ave., Upper Marlboro, Md. 20870 (868-5122-home, 967-2517-Office) Gayla Salinas, 5704 Beech Ave., Bethesda, Md. 20034 (530-1959-home, 222-6441-Office).

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CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING GROUPS

New groups will be forming after the Holidays. Women and men interested in joining a Consciousness-Raising Group should call the numbers listed below. We have attempted to contact everyone who signed up either at the September meeting, or during the summer. If you have not been called, please call us.

Women - Jackie Mittelman (780-6232)
Men - Hugh Fuller (524-1267)

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RESOURCE SISTERS WANTED

If you would like to be a resource sister and discuss a specific topic with a Consciousness-Raising Group, please call Georgia Fuller, 524-1267.

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CALL 280-3443 for a surprise!

SELF-DEFENSE WORKSHOP

How many times have you stayed at home nights because you were afraid to go out by yourself? How many good times have you missed because of your fear? Too many!

One way to conquer this fear is to gain the confidence of knowing that you can defend yourself in an emergency. The self-defense workshop conducted by Mary Ann McCarthy is an excellent way to gain this confidence. Mary Ann will show you how you can defend yourself without having to be a judo or karate expert. It's simple.

The next self-defense workshop will be held on December 7 from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. The cost is only \$3 and check should be made out to "Va. State Council, N.O.W.". Call Cecelia Banholzer (323-8324) evenings to register.

Registration is limited so please hurry. You don't want to miss out on this excellent workshop.

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BIAS IN THE BANKS

A Consent Decree has been filed in San Francisco as settlement of a suit against The Bank of Calif. "In negotiating this Decree both sides specifically insured that qualified white males will continue to be promoted. The change from the past is that now, with bank-backed educational and training programs, qualified women and minorities will also be promoted. No longer will women and minorities have to be superstars to secure management positions; the Decree guarantees that merely being as qualified as a white male will be sufficient for promotion." (quoted from "Women Today")

This is just one example of what N.O.W. members can accomplish. We can do it too! Please help Mary Ann McCarthy to accomplish our goal of equal promotional opportunity by giving her the data she needs to be effective. Please send her your name and the name of your bank (that is all) to 1112 N. Roosevelt St., Arlington, Va. 22205.

SPEAKERS BUREAU BUSY

The Speakers Bureau is alive and flourishing under the capable direction of Kerry Green. Requests are numerous for speakers from NOW to speak on a variety of topics ranging from abortion to education, from role problems to the ERA. Far from being purely speaking engagements these sessions usually turn into discussion groups with NOW speakers as coordinators. We have found our audiences keenly responsive. Everyone, it seems, has an opinion, prejudice, or reaction to the Woman's Movement. The Speakers Bureau is becoming an important source of positive public relations.

Recently Kerry Green shared the program with a contingent from the "right to life" group at an adult church seminar. Kerry's calm and forthright presentation contrasted favorably with the blood and guts slides and male gynecologist who repeatedly stated that the only "accidental" pregnancy occurred in the case of rape.

Anyone interested in giving presentations or coming along to coordinate discussion and field questions please contact Kerry Green at 560-5871.

Help spread the word NOW; there are a great many people waiting to hear from us. (submitted by Pam Byrum)

WINDSHIELD WIPER INVENTED BY WOMAN

According to documents in the Birmingham (Ala.) Public Library, Mary Anderson patented her invention called a window-cleaning device in 1903. This manually operated model was the forerunner of today's windshield wiper.

Next time it rains, or snows, remember Mary Anderson. As the wipers flash back and forth, back and forth think - Woman Power, Woman Power, Woman Power - It's much too good to waste!

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The term "castrating female" is indicative of male paranoia.

DEBORAH'S PLACE

Using property owned by Luther Place Memorial Church, several downtown churches are working together to establish and provide a temporary home for a limited number of single women who are unemployed or marginally employed. These women will be referrals from downtown churches and synagogues or social agencies.

The building, at 1327 N St., N.W., was formerly occupied by a laundry. Volunteers have been renovating and the building should be ready now. A Thrift Shop is planned for the front of the building.

Needs for the project are many: Furnishings for the Home--beds, chairs, chests, lamps, tables, a vacuum sweeper, freezer--things needed for a twelve bed home; Items for the Thrift Shop--good used clothing, arts and crafts, growing plants, saleable white elephants; VOLUNTEERS--to work on renovation and to help in the Thrift Shop; Director(s)--perhaps a retired professional woman or a couple of students (nominal salary plus room and board); Money--for food, operating costs, utilities and maintenance.

Any help--advice, materials, goods, or time will be appreciated. Linda Peterson, 893-4335, or Sissel Olson at Luther Place Memorial Church will be happy to talk to you. And do come by and visit Deborah's Place, named for Deborah, a judge of the Old Testament times.

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FLEXIBLE HOURS EMPLOYMENT

The proposed Flexible Hours Employment Act, S.2022, "would institutionalize the practice of providing part-time (less than 40 hours per week) employment opportunities for 10% of all positions at all levels of Federal Civil Service. According to Sen. Tunney, women with children who are able to work only a limited work-week are directly discriminated against by present employment practices, that actively avoid hiring part-time help....Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY) stressed the need for such legislation as 'it would increase the opportunity for the Federal government to employ the skills, resources, talent and brain power of many segments of the population that, because of the current rigid system...are denied'". (quoted from "Women Today")

NEW MEMBERS - FOR YOUR DIRECTORY

Virginia M. Balserak
9814 Hampton Lane
Fairfax, Va. 22030
273-4719

Janet Uttinger Vallester
5616 Bloomfield Dr. #101
Alexandria, Va. 22312
864-5658

Annette T. Blase
7938 Central Park Circle
Alexandria, Va. 22309
360-6813

Helen Camp Bowman
4705 Richmarr Place
Alexandria, Va. 22304
370-1817

Katherine E. Bruce
1200 Martha Custis Drive
Alexandria, Va. 22302
280-8120 (H), 768-5700 (W)

Judith Butler
2501 Fairview Drive
Alexandria, Va. 22306
765-4656

Barbara H. Byrum
3704 Merlin Way
Annandale, Va. 22003
560-3968

Curtis E. Chadwick
3321 Beech Tree Lane
Falls Church, Va. 22042
JE 2-8794

Adelina Figueroa Chalmers
7306 Dartford Drive, #7
McLean, Va. 22101
790-9496

Ruth M. Coleman
909 Olympian Circle
Vienna, Va. 22180
928-4189

Charlene M. Costello
1476 Greermont Court
Reston, Va. 22090
437-8780

Donna F. Decker
2300 S. 24th Rd., #124
Arlington, Va. 22206
920-4279

Beverly Doty
5415 Broadmoor Street
Alexandria, Va. 22310
971-7989

Paula M. Effertz
1505 N. Kenilworth St.
Arlington, Va. 22205
536-1787

Margaret Evans
5004 S. 10th Street
Arlington, Va. 22204
820-4055

Sandra L. Fitts
313 N. Kenmore Street
Arlington, Va. 22201
JA 2-5287

Carol Ann Gay
303 S. Johnson Road
Sterling, Va. 22170

Constance B. Hale
1922 Martha's Road
Alexandria, Va. 22307
765-4257

Mary E. Hunter
10507 Assembly Drive
Fairfax, Va. 22030
591-6174

Jerry Knebel
4848 S. 7th Street
Arlington, Va. 22204
892-6638

Sarah K. Lamade
9166 Barrick St., #303
Fairfax, Va. 22030
280-3546

Susan B. LaPointe
1600 S. Eads St., #1037-N
Arlington, Va. 22202
920-1009 (H), 557-3275 (W)

Judy B. MacDonald
11607 Vantage Hill Road
Reston, Va. 22090
437-3296 (H), 573-7000 (W)

Bertha A. Maguire
904 Olympian Circle, S.W.
Vienna, Va. 22180
938-7842

Donna S. Mazzella
205 S. Court House Road
Arlington, Va. 22204
920-0613

Kathleen A. Messina
305 E. Duncan Avenue, #8
Alexandria, Va. 22301
549-1063

Kathryn Grover Nelson
6912 Newman Road
Clifton, Va. 22024

Linda A. Pedone
8 E. Monroe Avenue, #303
Alexandria, Va. 22301
683-6924 (H); 254-9620 (W)

Sue Shilling Polansky
9240 El James Drive
Fairfax, Va. 22030
978-5823

Elizabeth M. Price
906 S. Washington St., #306
Alexandria, Va. 22314
683-6424 (H); 549-8722 (W)

Brenda L. Radford
1117 N. Randolph St., #310
Arlington, Va. 22201
527-6251

Carolyn Wade
4004 Woodland Road
Annandale, Va. 22003

Nancy Rasmussen
3301 Valley Drive
Alexandria, Va. 22302
683-2169

Linda O. Wade
3330 Spring Lane, #D-34
Falls Church, Va. 22041
671-7817

Patricia A. Sawyer
3925 S. 9th Street
Arlington, Va. 22204
979-3015 (H); 628-1200 (W)

Dianne L. Whall
5614 Bloomfield Drive, #4
Alexandria, Va. 22312
941-1633

Beverly L. Schindler
304 Roosevelt Court
Vienna, Va. 22180
938-2975

Dorothy M. Winstead
8372 Penhurst Drive
Springfield, Va. 22152
455-5944

Elizabeth Kennedy Schwartz
3321 St. James Place
Falls Church, Va. 22042
573-5973

TRW Systems
Washington Women's Committee
Bldg. W-1, Room 5683
Westgate Park
7600 Colshire Drive
McLean, Va. 22101
893-2000

Beverly Seman
5597 Seminary Road, #902-S
Falls Church, Va. 22041
671-1853 (H); 893-3600 (W)

Susan Shore
4214 De Haven Drive
Chantilly, Va. 22021
378-6907

Colleen Robison Spencer
5330 Knole Court
Alexandria, Va. 22311
379-9021

Rea K. Tyler
4814 N. 13th Street
Arlington, Va. 22205
527-3501

Sydney Von Seggern
1705 Shenandoah Road
Alexandria, Va. 22308
765-6237

NAT'L

NAT'L ACTION ON THE CULT OF YOUTH

from- Karen DeCrow

The National Board voted in San Francisco in July to have a National Action to put an end to (to put a dent in) the cult of youth as it applies to women. I am the coordinator of the action, and in this memo, I hope to share some ideas with you and make some suggestions which will make our combined actions historymaking, and consciousness-raising for the nation.

Any sensitive person knows that the cult of youth applies to men, as well as to women. But, it applies to women much more, much harder, and much earlier. If we divide life into Love and Work, it is easy to see that in each, women are terrified of age.

If women are discriminated against in employment, so-called older women are more discriminated against. The median income of employed persons between the ages of 25 and 34 was \$6,175; but for women between 45 and 54, the median was \$5,790. Women between 45 and 54 earned only 54% of what men of the same age earned. (1972, U.S. Government Statistics)

In addition, since women are carefully taught to stay home with children, and given a lot of psychological punishment if they do not, by the time most women enter, or re-enter, the work force, they are already "too old" to get a decent job.

In "love", we begin to age at 21. This is perhaps why college women rush to marry, before they have developed themselves. They, like Marjorie Morningstar, fear a declining "market value".

The tragedy of the cult of youth is not that men prefer young women, it is that we women begin to hate ourselves as we grow old. A century ago, women tied themselves into corsets until they repeatedly fainted. (Any modern woman who wore a Merry Widow to the proms of the 50's can testify to that!).

One must be desperate to mutilate oneself, and desperate indeed we have been. Chinese foot-binding has its counterpart today: women have their noses bobbed, their ears pinned back, their jaws reshaped, their skin sandpapered, their hair straightened, their breasts enlarged, and their faces paint-

Cult of Youth (Cont'd.)

ed. Why? So men will love us. Apparently men expect us to love them without major or minor surgery.

On December 19, 1853, Gerrit Smith, wealthy landowner, whose daughter Elizabeth first wore the bloomer dress, wrote to Elizabeth Cady Stanton: "So long as woman remains in her clothes-prison, she will be dependent and poor." This year, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of that letter. Here are a few suggestions:

(1) Check with your local colleges and universities to see if they have special programs, scholarships, or other encouragement--so that women who have been home with children can go back to school with a minimum of hassles.

(2) Demand not only that there be more women leads in TV shows, but that the women they portray not necessarily be young and beautiful. (Mary Tyler Moore, Adam's Rib). Remember, the men leads are often neither young nor beautiful--some are old and in wheelchairs.

(3) Create reverse commercials. Example: where a wife agrees to "keep" her husband because he drinks a bogus tonic which keeps him in shape.

(4) The popular culture thinks it very sexy for an older man to go out with a younger woman, but considers the opposite "sick". End all that on December 19: Ask out a younger man.

(5) There is nothing wrong with make-up, but think about why men only wear it on the stage, and women wear it all the time. Life need not be a stage for us. Demonstrate in front of a cosmetic company, or a beauty fair, or where face lifts are performed. (Real women are beautiful).

(6) There is nothing wrong with clothes, but why do we all know so many couples where the man has 3 suits and the woman 300 dresses? Are women shopping to fill a void? Do we think buying a beautiful outfit will make "everything great"? In the spirit of the Christmas buying season, demonstrate to protest, not clothes--but that women feel the need for fashion to make them worthy and acceptable.

(7) You will invent actions, witty and imaginative. Please send them

Cult of Youth (Cont'd)

to me, so I can disseminate (share) the ideas. Karen DeCrow, 116 Benedict Ave, Syracuse, New York 13210.

BEFORE YOU SHOP STOP

The December issue of Ms. magazine has an excellent article entitled "Toys For Free Children". It includes a list of non-sexist toys but also points out that toys are not enough. Before you begin (or continue) shopping for Christmas read this article! Then think before you buy. Give your children the gift of freedom for Christmas this year. Isn't Christmas really the celebration of One free soul?

RESEARCH PROJECT ON STATUS OF WOMEN

"In an effort to stimulate research on the status of women in the American nations, the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States is sponsoring a contest for the best unpublished research project on themes related to the status of women. The objective of the contest is to encourage university and professional women (up to 35 years of age) in the American countries to conduct research on the role and status of women and the means which can be used to assure a greater measure of participation by women in the different fields of activities both at the national and the hemispheric level. The theme of the contest is "The Political Participation of Women in the Americas --Means to Promote More Political Participation by Women," and entries must be submitted no later than May 1, 1974. The winner will receive a cash award of \$2,000. Publication of the work will be done by IACW with the author retaining all rights to her work. For more information, contact Contest Award Information, Inter-American Commission of Women, Organization of American States, Washington, D.C. 20006." (quoted from "Women Today")

"To tell you about my thoughts is to locate myself in a category. To tell you about my feelings is to tell you about me. (from the book Why Am I Afraid To Tell You Who I Am?)

WOMEN'S MEDICAL CENTER PICKETED

The Northern Virginia Women's Medical Center was picketed on three successive Fridays in Oct. and Nov. by the "Right to Life" people. On November 2 approximately 70 of their members, mostly men, showed up. The women in the group were, for the most part, peaceful but the men became very aggitated and screamed at patients leaving the clinic, calling them murderers. When the leader of our task force attempted to leave the clinic for lunch they shouted, "That's the one who was on T.V., get her." They also chased a doctor as he was leaving in his car calling him names. As a result of their actions a formal complaint was lodged against the demonstrators by Long and Foster, the owners of the building housing the Center. A counter demonstration was planned by our Task Force (Reproduction and Alternatives) for November 9. When the "Right to Lifers had not shown up by 9:30 AM their leader was called and we were told that they planned future demonstrations but would not release the dates because they did not want the radical faction of their organization to participate because of the November 2 complaint.

We need people who can be available on "same day" notice to wage an effective counter demonstration when they show up again. If you believe in a woman's right to choose what to do with her body and will demonstrate for that right, call Jill at the Center (280-1500) and give her your name and number. (by Fran Atkiss)

YOUR DUES ARE DUE

Your dues are due in December for membership in NOW for 1974. Since there is no December meeting (and before you spend all your money on Christmas) won't you please renew your membership now or at the November meeting. You can mail your renewal to Ethel Buc, 4414 Island Place, Apt. #104, Annandale, Va. 22003 (make checks payable to No. Va. NOW). Please don't procrastinate, we have accomplished much this year but we have much more to accomplish next year and we need your support.

NEW MEMBERS MEETING

Tuesday, December 4, 1973 8:00 PM

Please come!! Meet everyone!! Find out what NOW has been doing, and what you can do to help.

Regardless of when you joined, if you have never been to a New Members meeting, do come.

3007 Doeg Indian Court, Alexandria. Jackie Mittelman, 780-6232

DIRECTIONS

BELTWAY

Exit 1, Route 1 South - Ft. Belvoir (First ramp of Exit 1). Take Route 1 past endless scenic wonders such as: 300 gas stations, 34 discount stores and 71 supermarkets. There will be a breath-taking moment when three lanes diminish to two, and with the current construction here and there, may even turn into only one.

Begin keeping eyes peeled at Hybla Valley shopping center, where you will see signs for: Dart Drug, Georges, Thieves Market and Atlantic. Wend your way into the left lane, and turn left at Route 235, just past the Mt. Vernon Drive-In Theater. There is a left-turn signal.

Follow 235 about 1.5 miles until you pass the Good Shepherd Catholic Church on your right. Take the first left, Wessynton Way, and turn left again on Doeg Indian Court. House is second on right. (Numbers on mail boxes).

GEORGE WASHINGTON PARKWAY

Take Parkway through Alexandria, and to Mount Vernon (about 8 ½ miles). Immediately past the mansion circle, there is a stop sign. Take a right turn (This will be 235 North), and then the second right, on Wessynton Way. Doeg Indian is the first court on the left. House numbers on mail boxes.

If you would like to arrange a carpool, call Jackie Mittelman, 780-6232, except over the four-day Thanksgiving holiday, when I will be out of town.

ERA SPECIAL FEATURE

AFL-CIO SUPPORTS ERA

"RESOLVED: The Tenth Biennial Convention of the AFL-CIO endorses the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution as precisely the kind of clear statement of national commitment to the principle of the equality of the sexes under the law that working women and their unions can use to advantage in their efforts to eliminate employment discrimination against women and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state labor federations in states which have not yet ratified the Equal Rights Amendment urge their legislators to act favorably upon the measure."

With these words, the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) unanimously endorsed the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) at the organization's convention in Bal Harbour, Florida in late October. Many ERA advocates believe the AFL-CIO support will be of great help in efforts for ratification of the amendment.

Reaction was immediate from the National Organization for Women (NOW) which has been working for ratification of the ERA since early in the organization's history. In a letter to George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO, NOW President Wilma Scott Heide and Legislative Vice President Ann Scott wrote: "This is indeed a momentous day. (The) AFL-CIO's significant role in the democratization of the basic legal document of this land will be of historic import."

"As we have in other areas in the past," the NOW letter continued, "NOW looks forward to one more endeavor where AFL-CIO will work with us in common cause for the completed ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. NOW's Legislative Office and the state legislative/ERA coordinators will welcome cooperative arrangements providing information to facilitate effecting speedy ERA ratification in at least a necessary eight of the states where ratification has not yet been accomplished."

According to Ms. Scott, two factors involved in the reversal of the previous

AFL-CIO position on the ERA were:

*The fact that "protective labor laws" would not necessarily be abolished under the ERA. Rather, truly protective labor legislation would be extended to men as well as women.

*Many organizations which oppose the ERA also have traditionally endorsed anti-labor views.

Genuinely protective labor laws, Ms. Scott points out, now include benefits for men. For example, Social Security benefits, which had begun at age 62 for women and 65 for men, now cover both sexes beginning at age 62 -- a change brought about by Congressional legislation.

Other laws -- such as state laws which keep women from working overtime (thus denying women the economic benefits of overtime pay) -- have been struck down as prohibitive in many courts. These laws are covered by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Prior to reversing its stand on the ERA, Ms. Scott says, the AFL-CIO found itself in unaccustomed company with anti-ERA and anti-labor organizations such as the John Birch Society, the American Party, the American Conservative Union, the Liberty Lobby and the Congress of Freedom. Other anti-ERA organizations include the Ku Klux Klan, the Communist Party, USA and the National States Rights Party.

In a separate statement calling attention to the timing of the AFL-CIO endorsement of the ERA, NOW President Wilma Scott Heide said, "While the news media has been preoccupied with organized violence (war) in the Middle East and executive 'violence' in Washington, something significant, not unrelated and more positive happened in Florida. The 13.2 million member AFL-CIO convention unanimously endorsed the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution ... While some view the Watergate phenomenon as a Constitutional crisis, the 197-year exclusion of women should be viewed as a continuing Constitutional crisis of omission."

(Cont'd pg. 10)

AFL-CIO (Cont'd)

The Equal Rights Amendment has been ratified by 30 of the required 38 states for it to become the 27th Amendment to the Constitution. Working for ratification of this amendment, in addition to NOW, are such organizations as Common Cause, the League of Women Voters, Church Women United, both the Democratic and Republican parties, the United Auto Workers, the NAACP, the National Association of Business and Professional Women, the National Council of Churches and many other leading national organizations.

The state legislatures of eight more states must ratify the ERA by 1979 in order for women to be included in the United States Constitution.

PRO-ERA CANDIDATES WIN

The Equal Rights Amendment, which will come before the 1974 General Assembly for ratification, got a big boost in last week's election.

The amendment, which would outlaw governmental discrimination on the basis of sex, was not a major issue in most House of Delegates races. But pro-ERA candidates tended to win. A clear majority of next year's freshman Delegates expect to vote in favor of ratification.

Of the 22 new members of the House of Delegates, 14 have stated their support for the amendment. Only 5 of those they replace had done so, while 13 had expressed opposition and 4 were neutral.

Three pro-ERA legislators were among the 13 defeated for re-election, but 2 of them fell to equally pro-ERA challengers. In Northern Virginia, all pro-ERA incumbents were reelected. Of the 6 who opposed the amendment, however, 4 were defeated by pro-ERA challengers.

Fairfax County Del. Dorothy S. McDiarmid, the amendment's sponsor in the House of Delegates, led the 11 candidates for the 18th District's 5 seats, finishing 10 percent ahead of the second candidate and almost 25 percent ahead of incumbent David A.

Sutherland, leader among 4 anti-ERA candidates, who finished 8th.

Most pro-ERA legislators make their support contingent on the report of the committee assigned by last year's General Assembly to study the amendment's effect on Virginia law and Virginians. The report is due Dec. 30. The committee is expected to conclude that the amendment would have little effect on Virginia law, which is already largely non-discriminatory. But in today's mobile society, few women can count on spending the rest of their lives in Virginia, and many will benefit from the elimination of grossly discriminatory laws still on the books in other states.

ERA CLEARING HOUSE FORMED

Members of several highly respected women's groups have formed a new organization to help coordinate statewide efforts toward ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Called Virginia ERA Central, it also serves as a clearing house for all kinds of information about the Amendment. Its No. Va. office opened last spring, and a Richmond office will be in operation before the 1974 General Assembly meets there beginning January 9, 1974.

Among the pro-ERA organizations whose members helped create Va. ERA Central are the American Assn. of University Women, Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Church Women United, League of Women Voters, NOW, Soroptimist Clubs, and Va. Women's Political Caucus.

Anyone in Virginia who has no convenient source of reliable information about this measure is urged to write to Virginia ERA Central, Box 962, Court House Station, Arlington, Va. 22216, or call (703) 528-8458.

The Amendment states that "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER
National Organization for Women
7833 Enola St., #211
McLean, Va. 22101
Phone: 280-3443

The Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Organization for Women meets on the fourth Thursday of each month except July and December. Board meetings are held once a month. All members may attend and vote at the board meetings.

Membership is open to all, women and men. ALL DUES BECOME RENEWABLE DECEMBER 31. Dues paid after October are applied to the next year.

This newsletter is issued 10 times a year, every month except July and December. Anyone wanting to know more about NOW may receive one free copy.

Items for publication should be sent to Susan Brack, Editor, 8613 Cushman Place, Alexandria, Va. 22308. Phone: 360-4774. DEADLINE IS THE 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.

This publication is on file at the International Women's History Archive, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, Calif. 94708, and is available on microfilm through Bell & Howell, Drawer 3, Wooster, Ohio 44691.

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2nd V.P.--Junior Bridge (528-9054)
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Treasurer--Ethel Buc (354-2527)
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I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN NORTHERN VIRGINIA NOW

Member: New___ Renewal___ \$15.00 Straitened Circumstances Member--\$8.00
Friend (newsletter only) ___ \$3.50

(All persons joining any chapter of NOW becomes a member of the National Organization for Women. \$10.00 of each member's dues goes to National. Dues are not pro-rated, but become renewable December 31.)

Name_____ Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Phone:_____ Date_____ School_____

Interests or special skills_____

I am interested in the following NOW committees:

Day Care___, Education___, Employment___, Religion___, Reproduction and Alternatives___, Legislation___, Separation & Divorce___, ERA___, Speakers Bureau___, Membership___, Rape___, Newsletter___, Consciousness-Raising___, Lobbying___, Professionals Referral___, Self-Defense___, Other_____.

I found out about No. Va. NOW from: Newspaper___, Newsletter___, Other___.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 25....."A Woman Is..."
November 29.....NOW Meeting
December 2.....Budget Board Meeting
December 4.....New Members Meeting
December 7.....Self Defense Workshop
December 15.....Breaking Into Management Deadline
December 19.....Nat'l Action on the Cult of Youth
January 5.....Newsletter Staff
(Get your Task Force Reports)
January 8.....Deadline for Newsletter Copy
January 24.....NOW Meeting

Call a new member and invite them to ride with you to the November Meeting. Thoughtfulness means a lot!

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER
National Organization for Women
7833 Enola St. #211
McLean, Va. 22101

PAID
BULK RATE
PERMIT NO. 1229
FAIRFAX, VA. 22030

Watch "A Woman Is..." Sunday November 25 at 10:30 PM on WRC-TV 4.