

# BROADSIDE

**THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE!**

**Do you want:**

- Equal Pay?
- Iron-Rich Blood?
- Equal Educational Opportunities?
- Your Own Swimming Pool?
- Your Own Right To Choose?
- A Snappy Sports Car?
- To Be Included in the U. S. Constitution?

FOR A FOOL-PROOF PLAN TO GET ALL OF THESE, FOLLOW THE DOTTED LINES TO PAGE 4 . . . . .

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VOL. 8 NO. 3

HOUSTON AREA N.O.W.

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## THE VOICE OF THE TURKEY

Be ye not deceived by the fine spring weather of recent days, for lo, the winter is not past, the rain is not over and gone, the time of the singing of birds is not yet come, and it is the voice of the turkey that is heard in our land.

To wit: Representative Clay Smothers of Dallas, sponsor of HCR 35, commenting on his argument for rescision of the ERA in Texas, "I've got enough rights in 1977 to choke a goat."

If you would like to add a few well-chosen words for Mr. Smothers to choke on along with his surfeit of rights, send them to his attention at

Box 2910

Austin, Texas 78769.

His bill is in the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, whose members include Representatives Tim Von Dohlen, Chair; Luther Jones, Vice Chair; John Bryant; Bill Clark; Bob Close; Bob Hendricks; Eddie Berniece Johnson; Joe Robbins; and Tom Schieffer. Write to them at the same address.

The concurrent bill in the Senate, SCR 24, is sponsored by Houston's own Walter Mengden. On February 7, it was referred by the Committee on Jurisprudence to the Subcommittee on Civil Matters. Subcommittee members are Bill Braecklein, Chair; Ray Farabee, Gene Jones, Raul Longoria and Max Sherman. The Senate address is

Box 12068

Austin, Texas 78711.

For every benighted legislator like Smothers and Mengden who would perpetuate the long winter of inequality, there are others ready to respond to the insistence that winter be past. Write to the House and Senate Committee members and to your own representatives. Let the voice of the turkey be silenced by the harbingers of spring, roaring in numbers too big to ignore.

## **broad·side**

- 1: a sheet of paper printed on one or both sides and folded
- 2: any strong or comprehensive attack, as by criticism
- 3: the simultaneous discharge of all the guns on one side of a ship

OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

ABORTION: Two restrictive abortion bills have been proposed in the Texas Senate: SB 585, a "right-to-life" measure sponsored by Jack Ogg; and S 416, sponsored by Walter Mengden. The latter deals with the "rights of medical personnel and health care facilities not to perform abortions."

Write to members of the Texas Senate Human Resources Committee and urge them to vote against these bills: Chet Brooks, Chair; William Braecklein, Betty Andujar, Ron Clower, Lloyd Doggett, Ike Harris, Gene Jones, Frank Lombardino, Bill Meier, Bill Patman, and Carlos Truan.

BURKE-BAYH BILL: On the federal level the Burke-Bayh bill would appropriate money to be spent in the nation for 50 centers for displaced homemakers on a first-come, first-served basis. The funding would be 90% federal and 10% local. Write to your national representatives and to Senators Lloyd Bentsen and John Tower urging early hearings for HR 28 and S 418.

TEXAS DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS: HB 444 is a combination of the House and Senate versions. Two centers (see Burke-Bayh above), one urban, one rural, will operate for 2 years as a pilot program, providing counseling, training and placement for women who have lost their jobs as homemakers. Write members of the Texas Senate Human Resources Committee & members of the Texas House Health & Welfare Committee and urge them to vote this bill out of committee speedily. Members of the House committee are: John Wilson, Chair, Frank Madla, Emmett Whitehead, Michael Ezell, Wilhelmina Delco, Buck Florence, Ernestine Glossbrenner, Arnold Gonzales, Chris Miller, Fred Orr, Chase Untermeyer, Kenneth Vaughan, and Tim Von Dohlen

Commission on the Status of Women: HP 875, the Wilson-Weddington proposal to establish a state Commission on the Status of Women is now out of committee and on the House floor.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY (MARCH 23) to Jan Pierce - From 40,000 of your closest friends and most ardent admirers.

- . . . Do you want to see Texas' ratification of the E.R.A. stand firm?  
Do you want to see the E.R.A. ratified by 3 more states and become a reality?  
Do you want to keep a woman's right to choose whether or not to continue a pregnancy?  
Do you want to see attitudes changed concerning rape victims, battered women, and displaced homemakers?  
Do you want equal credit opportunities, equal education opportunities, equal employment opportunities (with equal pay)?

If so, then renew your dues now. There is a membership form on the back of this BROADSIDE. Fill it out and send it in now. You will no longer be a member of the largest feminist organization in the world if you do not renew your dues by March 31. Nor will you continue to receive the BROADSIDE!

(As for the iron-rich blood, swimming pool and sports car, we'll work on those as soon as we get a few other things taken care of.)

#### NATIONAL BY-LAWS AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The new NOW National By-laws have passed by a vote of 1405 to 170. Option B passed by 969 to 606; this means that we are now members of the South Central Region, which also includes New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado. The by-laws stipulate that we must have a regional conference to elect our National Board members within 60 days after the National Conference. The Conference must be held within the region in either May or June.

If you would like to be considered as a candidate for the National Board, please get in touch with me at 523-5970 before March 19 so that I may submit your name to our state coordinator. More details on the when's and where's of the regional conference will be presented as they unfold.

Renee Rabb

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The NOW National Conference will be held Friday, April 22, through Sunday, April 24, in Detroit. We are now on a delegate system and our chapter is entitled to 8 delegates and two alternates. The new system should facilitate the voting procedure and make it possible to vote at a reasonable time and take part in other activities too.

The Convention will include a rally for the E.R.A. in downtown Detroit; workshops on Battered Women, Displaced Homemakers, the Older Woman, Feminist Parenting, the Single Parent, and many more; entertainment by Ivy Bottini, The Deadly Nightshade, and Lori Jacobs.

This Conference will be an important one for the future of NOW. If you plan to attend, be sure to fill out the pre-registration and housing forms in the February issue of DO IT NOW. If you do not have such form, one can be acquired for you. Tentative travel plans call for us to leave Dallas at 8 AM on Friday, April 22, and to arrive in Detroit around noon. If you want to go, please contact Renee Rabb at 523-5970 before March 18, our deadline for group flight fares. The tentative fare is \$157 from Dallas, roundtrip.

## HOLD THE PRESSES!

Deadline for the next Broadside will be March 25. Copy should be called in to Joy Goodman at 524-0057 or 723-6769 by that date, or dropped off at the House of Coffee Beans, 2526 Rice Blvd. We should not have to call you; you call us.

If writing, typing, and laying out the copy appeal to you, save Tuesday night, March 29, and call either of the numbers above to volunteer.

For the most fun of all, join the folding, collating, and stapling group - March 31. Everyone so welcome you'll be able to stand it just right. Same telephone numbers to learn time and place apply.

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On Saturday, March 5, there will be a march and rally commemorating International Women's Day. We will meet at City Hall, 900 Brazos, at noon, march down Main Street and through downtown Houston, and end up at Sam Houston Park for a 2 PM rally in support of the E.R.A., women's right to choose, and other feminist issues. Dr. Nikki Van Hightower, Women's Advocate for the City of Houston, and Ms. Zoia Jones of the National Council of Negro Women, are two of the scheduled speakers. Stand Up Sisters will entertain.

On Friday, March 4, we will have a POSTER- AND BANNER-MAKING PARTY for the parade. This fun work will begin at 6:30 PM at the Houston Area Feminist Federal Credit Union, 2418 Travis. Bring your poster board, magic markers, poster paint, and creative ideas.

## PROGRAM MEETING

Judy Powell of Houston Rape Crisis Coalition will speak on "The Crime of Rape." The program meeting starts at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, March 2, at Clayton Library, 5300 Caroline. Come and bring a friend - or even a casual acquaintance.

## BUSINESS MEETING

The business meeting on March 9 will be at Renee Rabb's home, 1519 Indiana, Apt. 1, at 8 PM. Among the many fascinating subjects to be discussed and world-shaking decisions to be made, we will elect our delegates to the National Conference.

## THIS AND THAT

Spare copies of "Stop Household Violence," which appeared in the June, 1976, issue of DO IT NOW, are needed by the Y.W.C.A. Committee on Women in Crisis and by the NOW Task Force on Domestic Violence. Please mail or deliver them to Catherine Livingston, 1818 Fairview, or Jo Stewart, 2207 Bissonnet, or the Y.W.C.A., 3315 Allen Parkway.

THIS AND THAT (continued)

The NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund is sponsoring its second annual essay contest for discovering lost women, unsung heroines of American history. The contest, which will end April 15, is open to any student enrolled in a U. S. high school where a local NOW chapter has agreed to participate. Houston Area NOW has so agreed, and instructions for local schools will soon be distributed. In the meantime if you know of students likely to be interested, ask them to call Joy Goodman at 524-0057 or 723-6769 for more information.

In a recent letter to area school superintendents and textbook committee members, Marjorie Randal and Twiss Butler, NOW State Coordinators of the Continuing Task Force on Education, call attention to the sexist content of a number of books being considered for adoption. Final selection of textbooks is beyond the control of most of us, but nearly everyone buys a dictionary sometime. Dictionaries, as the reviewers point out, are not necessarily objective or accurate accounts of meaning. Examples from Webster's New World Dictionary BSE Prentice-Hall, 1976: feminine - like women or girls; gentle, weak, soft, etc. p. 261; masculine - of or fit for men or boys...like a man; strong, brave, etc. p. 431; manly - having the qualities that a man is supposed to have, as strength or courage. p. 426; prostitute - a person who does immoral things for money; especially a woman who offers herself to men for money. p. 532.

The Task Force considers that "bias and inaccuracy of the kind cited above are characteristic of the Prentice-Hall dictionary and render it unfit for use in Texas schools."

It doesn't sound like a good choice for home use either. Don't buy the Prentice-Hall Webster for your child.

W.I.R.E.S.

Women In Action has established a Women's Information, Referral and Exchange Service to assist Houston area women with problems in employment, child care, credit, housing, counseling, health services, and other areas of concern to women. This is telephone referral work, serving primarily to get women with questions to people with answers. Such a network will provide a valuable service to many women's rights organizations (like us!) who keep receiving calls for information that they do not have. Make a note of the W.I.R.E.S. number, 527-0718, and pass it along to friends. Volunteers will be needed; call if you are interested in helping.



**HOUSE OF  
COFFEE BEANS**

The Village  
2526 Rice Blvd  
524-0057

**Houston Area  
Feminist  
Federal  
Credit Union**

2418 Travis  
Houston, Texas 77006

**527-9108**

*Each member account is  
insured to \$40,000 by  
Administrator, National  
Credit Union Administration.*

## A MAN FOR EVERY WOMAN

(Reprinted from the Texas Women's Political Caucus newsletter)

For every woman who is tired of acting weak when she knows she is strong,  
There is a man who is tired of appearing strong when he feels vulnerable.

For every woman who is tired of being called "an emotional female,"  
There is a man who is denied the right to weep and be gentle.

For every woman who is tired of acting dumb,  
There is a man who is burdened with the constant expectation of knowing everything.

For every woman who is called unfeminine when she competes,  
There is a man for whom competition is the only way to prove his masculinity.

For every woman who is tired of being a sex object,  
There is a man who must worry about his potency.

For every woman who feels "tied down" by the children,  
There is a man who is denied the full pleasure of parenthood.

For every woman who is denied meaningful employment at equal pay,  
There is a man who must bear full financial responsibility for another human being.

For every woman who was not taught the intricacies of an automobile,  
There is a man who was not taught the satisfaction of cooking.

For every woman who takes a step toward her own liberation,  
There is a man who finds the way to freedom has been a little easier.

## POINTBLANK TIMES FEMINIST ART SHOW/SALE . . .

. . . March 12-13 at Sunshine Gallery of Art, a women-owned business, 8006 Park Place Boulevard. For information on entering your works (deadline is March 1st) call Liz Brimm, 524-3642, or Sunshine Gallery, 649-9710.

## MARCH CALENDER

- 2 Program Meeting
- 4 Poster Party
- 5 I.W.D. March & Rally
- 9 Business meeting; Vita Sackville-West's birthday
- 14 Annual meeting HAFFCU
- 18 Deadline for travel arrangements to National Conference
- 19 State Council Meeting, Dallas
- 25 April Broadside deadline
- 29 Compilation of Broadside
- 31 Broadside folding/collating, stapling party

Don't forget to put these on your calendar!

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE . . .

. . . is now writing a legal pamphlet for the battered woman and those who come in contact with her. The Task Force people are also working with Crisis Hotline, supplying information for their volunteers and planning an in-service training program scheduled for the end of March. They hope to work similarly with W.I.R.E.S.

Other activities include presentation of a program for the Rape Crisis Coalition on March 9 and preparing a more comprehensive general information pamphlet in the near future. For more information, call Catherine Livingston, 524-7149, or Jo Stewart, 522-5094.

# houston area now folk

## OFFICERS:

President	Renee Rabb
Vice President	Linda Jones
Secretary	Joy Goodman
Treasurer	Cynthia Millis

## BROADSIDE STAFF:

Joy Goodman	Linda Jones
Nancy Kuykendall	Carolyn Elliott
Jan Pierce	Denise Krause
Ginger Rockaway	Renee Rabb

ABORTION INFO  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

EMPLOYMENT COMPLIANCE

MASCULINE MYSTIQUE  
PUBLIC RELATIONS  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Nancy Kuykendall 664-4152  
Catherine Livingston 524-7149  
Jo Stewart  
Pamela Hamilton 526-5050  
Linda Smith 222-3281, 529-2156  
Craig Roberts 524-6517  
Helen Cassidy 748-5369  
Nancy Landau 783-8547

NOTE: To contact those persons whose phone numbers are not listed above, call 524-5743 and leave a message.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of Houston Area NOW or NOW, Inc.

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## CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED . . .

. . . for financing the sex discrimination suit against the City of Houston and the Houston Police Officers Association, et al. Make checks payable to Women's Advocates, Inc., and mail them to Houston Area NOW, 4021 Mandell, #8, Houston, Texas 77006.

. . . for sending chapter delegates to the NOW National Conference in Detroit in April. Make checks payable to Houston Area NOW.



Houston Area Chapter  
National Organization for Women  
4021 Mandell #8 Houston, Texas 77006

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Houston, Texas  
Permit No. 9902



# BROADSIDE

IS FREE WHEN YOU JOIN NOW.

- I want to join NOW and enclose \$25 for local & national dues.
- I enclose hardship dues of \$16.50 for local & national membership.
- I'll pay in two equal monthly installments of \$12.50 (regular) or \$8.25 (hardship).
- I want to subscribe to BROADSIDE and enclose \$4.
- I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a donation to Houston Area NOW.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to: Treasurer  
Houston Area NOW  
4021 Mandell #8  
Houston 77006