



N.O.W. NEWS

BAY AREA CHAPTER

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

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From The President

Well Group, we haven't made it through all the elections yet, but we did survive the League City Fair. Just think next month we can participate in the Friendswood 4th of July celebration. For those of you who did not have the opportunity to join us in the League City Fair I will try to capture some of the fun and excitement which those of us shared. First of all we must take this time to thank Al Salazar and Roger Latham for the booth that they constructed for us. For those of you who did not see the booth it is a portable structure that we will be able to use over and over. A large NOW symbol is at the top with the words Bay Area NOW. It sure gives you a sense of pride. We decorated the booth with green and white crepe paper and had green and white balloons floating from all over it. It was colorful.

The ride from Clear Creek High School to the fair-grounds along the parade route was fun, hot and long. Luckily the cooler full of soft drinks, beer and ice was the only thing that saved all of us from dehydration. We decorated the truck of Hedy & Al Salazar in record time. Green and White streamers flowed from the truck and with the lung power of all the people who rode in the truck, green and white balloons flew high above our heads. Along the parade route we were met with really great support. Maybe our area is not quite as conservative as we thought or maybe it was the great signs we had hanging off the truck. Anita and Rogers children helped make signs and banners for the truck on Friday night and they looked great on Saturday morning. What fun we had waving and talking to the people who lined the route. The reception was positive and one man yelled at us "Hey, you'll got any men on that float"? We replied, "Damn right, we believe in equality for all persons look at these fine young men!" We had the sons of Hedy and Al Salazar, Josh and Jason, and the son of Ellie and Johnny Castillo, John. The people in the crowd loved it and responded with applause and laughter. The sign that drew the biggest response was the one on the rear of the truck that said "Every Mother is a Working Mother". Fact of the matter is that we made an awful lot of bumper stickers in the two days with that statement. We made an awful lot of friends and I hope new members from the fair, but before I thank all of those people who worked so hard to make it a success I must relate one incident. A gentleman came up to us on Saturday and we found out that he was the chair of the Resolutions Committee for the County

Convention on Dist. 11 in Galveston. He had an ERA resolution that had come in from the preceinct convention and wanted to make sure it was worded well enough to pass the county convention and be a powerful statement. He believed that we were the one group that would have all the right answers. Makes you feel real good when you begin to realize that NOW is recognized as a leader by the people in your own community. (Incidentally, the resolution passed without any opposition at all). Thanks must go to Anita Marcos, Roger Latham, Hedy Salazar, Al Salazar, Ellie Castillo, Kathleen Dail, Judy Snyder, Betty Polifka, Kerry Ellison, Liz Mast, Caroline Perez, Judi Hoffman, Josh, Jason, John, and the children of Anita and Roger. Thanks to each and every one of you.

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The program meeting June 7th will be a work session. Bring paper, pen and ideas. We will be planning the rest of the years activities. Several things that will need to be discussed and planned are the Friendswood 4th of July celebration, the event that several friends of Marilyn Mieszko are planning, the workshop that is being considered for the young high school women in the area, a major fundraiser and all kinds of other things. Your input is needed. We will begin at 7:30 PM.

Well we made it through the primaries. We made it through the county and senatorial conventions. Now comes the runoffs, the state convention and the national Democratic convention. On June 2nd get out and VOTE. Let me remind you that NOW/Equality PAC has endorsed and supports Lloyd Doggett for Senate. Those of us here in Texas are aware that Lloyd has worked long and hard for over ten years fighting for the rights and freedoms of all people. Lloyd deserves our support and votes.

Congratulations to all of you who got elected to the senatorial and county conventions from your precincts. On June 15th and 16th Bay Area NOW will be well represented at the state Democratic convention. Sonia Doty, Janice Brooks, Bonnie Huval, Bill Royster, Marilyn White and Phyllis Tucker are some of our members who will be at the convention.

Minorities, women prove successful in judicial races

By MARY FLOOD
Post Reporter

All six of the women who sought judicial nominations in Harris County primaries survived easily in a political phenomenon that caused both women and minority candidates to come out on top.

Two women, both black, beat out white male incumbents. Two other women, one black and one Chinese-American, together out-totaled a white male incumbent and will be in a runoff against each other.

And the remaining two women candidates were top vote-getters in their four- and five-candidate races and will head into runoffs.

The candidates on Sunday found it easier to explain the women winning than the minority males winning.

"We had to get out and campaign hard because those people don't know us," said Carolyn Hobson.

Hobson, a black former Houston City Council candidate, will be in a runoff against Hannah Chow, the first Chinese-American to run for office in Harris County, for the Democratic nomination for County Civil Court-at-Law No. 3.

The women knocked incumbent Russell Drake out of the running. "Maybe the men just take it all for granted but I went everywhere and so did Hannah. So did most of the women," Hobson said.

Sheila Jackson Lee, a black woman, commanded 59.63 percent of the vote in a three-way race for the 215th Civil District Court Democratic race. She beat two men including incumbent Charles Price.

"Competent women and minorities have always been around. What we have here is a recognition of that," she said.

13493 Capitol Station, Austin, Tx.
78711 or call (512) 475-1178. You may also contact the commission through the EEOC office in Houston at 405 Main, 6th Floor, Houston, Tx. 77002 or call (713) 226-2601. Because one of the goals of the commission is to encourage the formation of locally managed commissions with enforcement

people would have voted for me in Harris County including the women," Kegans said.

Another woman who fared well in Saturday's races was black candidate Betty L. Bell, who is not a lawyer but beat incumbent Cecil P. Bush for the Democratic nomination in the Precinct 7, Place 1, justice of the peace race.

Elinor Walters came in first in her race against three men for the Democratic nomination in the 333rd Civil District Court and Alice Trevathan nearly topped 50 percent in her race against four men for the 127th Civil District Court. Trevathan and Walters will go into runoffs.

In two area appellate benches that cover Harris County and 13 other counties it appeared one Filipino woman candidate was defeated and another female, Michol O'Connor, was headed for a runoff.

Barbara Stanley, chairman-elect for the Harris County Democratic party, said she feels this trend has been coming for awhile.

"I can only speculate that it is part of the undoing of sexist stereotypes that folks are willing to give women and minorities a chance," she said.

WANTED: For State, City Boards 5

Women

Houston Woman/March 1984

The only mandated prerequisite for appointment is residency, Cashion said, but she also seeks out women "who fit our vision of the city" and have the time to study and learn about the job. "Education and experience are looked at for some boards, depending upon the work involved."

How to apply

For the most part applying includes sending a resume with a cover letter to Cashion telling her about your interest in serving on a city board. She urged women who only have volunteer work rather than on-the-job experience to state that and to also let the administration know if you've worked in the mayor's or on any city council member's election campaign.

"Don't be reluctant to include that information. Also, if you have access to a council member, ask them to recommend you. The mayor confirms all appointees, but they must be approved by city council."

Because most of the terms on city commissions and boards are staggered, a particular administration appoints about a fourth of the total members needed, Cashion said.

Anyone interested in finding out what openings are available or serving on a city board or commission should write Cashion at P.O. Box 1562, Houston, Tx. 77251.

List at libraries

If serving on a state board or commission is your goal or interest, start at the public library because that's where a list of positions open is available, according to Sharon Lovick, member of the Governor's Commission for Women.

"In an effort to make the governor's office aware of women who would be good candidates for these positions, the Governor's Commission for Women has placed Talent File Sheets in all public libraries," Lovick said. "Interested women can list their qualifications on it and mail it to the Governor's Commission for Women, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, Tx. 78711."

She said interest and prior experience including volunteer work are the main requirements. "Women don't need to work for pay in any particular field to be considered for a particular board or commission.

Appointment resource

The Talent File Sheet which is a resource for gubernatorial appointments asks interested women to state their length of Texas residency, state senator, educational, employment and organizational background, special qualifications, volunteer/community service and areas of interest and ability.

A disclaimer at the bottom of the sheet says "due to the eligibility requirements of some of the state boards and commissions, the Governor's Commission for Women finds it necessary to request such information as age, length of Texas residency, Texas driver's license number. The information required on this talent file is used for 'qualification purposes' and for no other reason."

The positions are filled monthly by the governor. Dwayne Holleman, special assistant to the governor, co-ordinates the appointment process.

A new book puts lecherous professors to the test and finds they don't make the grade

By Rochelle Chadakoff

Getting a higher education can have its low points. Each year, far too many college women find that point defined by a professor, say the authors of a new book. The professor will test the female student's trust and self-esteem through sexual harassment. He may say that a woman has no business being in her chosen field, or that she's too pretty to be so bright or too smart for young men. He may brush up

against her or make a pass or say a bad grade can be improved if she does "extra work after class." On campuses across the U.S., this wolf wears a tweed jacket with patch pockets and his little lambs are often 19-year-old girls.

Although they acknowledge the campus joke, "Where there has been a student body there has always been a faculty for love," Billie Wright Dziech and Linda Weiner claim that the lecherous pro-

fessor must be taken seriously. They even peg him as a problem of epidemic proportions.

In *The Lecherous Professor* (Beacon Press, \$16.95), Dziech and Weiner cite campus-conducted studies reporting that 20 percent of their women students claimed sexual harassment. Of the 6,374,005 women enrolled in the class of '86, as many as 1.27 million could fall into the hands of a lecherous professor.

"This book came to be because you can watch people in agony only for so long before you realize that you owe them protec-

tion," says Dziech, a professor of English at the University of Cincinnati, where Weiner is vice provost for student affairs.

"Movies, TV and books romanticize the professor/student relationship," Dziech continues, "but that's not what I see when a young woman comes into my office hysterical because a professor's squeezed her breast and she doesn't know what to do. Campus queens aren't the usual prey in these cases: We found that lecherous professors tend to pick on the most vulnerable women. Think of the ego boost when a 50-year-old man tells this girl who's had maybe three dates that she's the most gorgeous thing he's ever seen. And then imagine her shock when she realizes that the same line has been used on a long line of coeds."

There's a sense of bitter betrayal when a professor comes on like a mentor. "A professor attempting intellectual seduction singles out the student for praise, flattering her immensely but estranging her from the rest of the class," explains Weiner. "The coffee date to discuss her term paper can melt down to seduction, creating a topsy-turvy situation for the student. She'll wonder whether his praise of her work is a sham, and she'll worry whether rejecting his advances will anger him into giving her an unfairly low grade. So the student will try to slide out of the situation, allowing the professor to prolong the harassment."

Some professors seem merciless in their manipulation. They'll take advantage of a student who

confides in them or will coerce a terrified coed into trading sex for a better grade. A student having difficulty in a course told the authors: "The professor gave me a choice—either to be with him or take the F. I was attracted to him a little, but there was no way I could take the F. So I met him at his house and I spent three hours in bed with him. I had to close my eyes and pretend that I was with my boyfriend. I felt dirty, but I didn't get the F. He gave me a D. Was it worth it? Yes and no. I felt it was something I had to do to save myself."

"Getting laid to make the grade" is usually a desperate sacrifice. The student claims responsibility for her success in school without realizing that she's become a victim. The campus stereotype of the very forward *femme fatale* who's willing to do anything for an A does exist, agree Weiner and Dziech, but they argue that her pursuit of professors is more "sexual hassle" than sexual harassment.

"I feel that sexual harassment is never the student's responsibility," Dziech insists. "These professors are grown men. They're bright enough to earn Ph.D.'s and if they can't control their sexual energies or verbal outbursts, then they don't belong in my profession!"

She points out that a philandering professor also harms male students. "If the professor is a role model, they may pick up his denigrating attitude to women. Or the male students may feel outraged because the women can exert an unfair advantage—that is, 'Women

can use their bodies to get a better grade and I can't.'"

Why do lecherous professors misuse their power? One explanation is that the professor is making up for lost time—like many "book-worms," he may not have been a social success during his own college days, so he now tries to exert his masculinity and prove his attractiveness through romantic conquests.

The authors also believe that academia can be a cloistering experience, with a repetitive workload and few rewards. Chasing coeds becomes a way to break out of the ivory tower existence. If the lecherous professor is middle-aged, the liaison with a student often becomes a way to hold on to youth.

"Sometimes a student will report with great horror that the man is old enough to be her father," says Weiner. "And like incest victims, the women fear that confessing will get this parental figure into trouble."

Most sexual harassment victims whisper about their predicament rather than file a formal complaint. Finally, fear of flunking gives way to desperation and anger. The victim may not want to go it alone or she may want to protect others from her lecherous professor, so she goes to her parents, her counselor or her dean.

Since the *laissez-faire* attitude of administration and colleagues often cushions if not condones the professor's behavior, the student may find that her complaint gets a cool reception.

"Higher education is still so male-dominated," says Weiner, "that sexual harassment is dismissed as a female problem, one that will go away in four years." Adds Dziech, "That's slowly changing as the community's attention is directed to the problem." Recent cases have been reported in papers and tried in civil courts, and lecherous professors have been reprimanded, financially punished, deprived of tenure or forced to resign. Some campuses, such as the University of Michigan—and the authors' University of Cincinnati—have created programs geared to help both student and professor. Others may find *The Lecherous Professor* a guide to cleaning up the ivory tower.

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1982 University of Florida study during the 1981-1982 school year found 31% of women graduate students and 26% of undergraduate women reported that professors had made unwanted advances.

1983 Harvard University study. 49% of non-tenured faculty women and 41% of women graduate students said they experienced sexual harassment. 34% of the undergraduate women said they received unwelcome advances.

This poem was found in the Waco Shelter newsletter and we would like to share it with you. The author is unknown:

After a while you learn the subtle difference between
 holding a hand and chaining a soul.
 And you learn that love doesn't mean leaning and
 company doesn't mean security.
 And you begin to learn that kisses aren't contracts
 and presents aren't promises.
 And you begin to accept the defeats with your head up
 and your eyes ahead with the grace of a woman not
 the grief of a child,
 and learn to build all your roads on today because
 tomorrow's ground is too uncertain for plans and
 futures have a way of falling down in mid-flight.
 After a while you learn that even sunshine burns if
 you ask too much.
 So you plant your own garden and decorate your own
 soul instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers.
 And you learn that you really can endure
 that you really are strong
 and you really do have worth.
 And you learn and you learn with every goodbye
 you learn.

Woman-Power

MAY 27, 1984 • PARADE MAGAZINE

Women are responsible for the major change in the lifestyle of this nation. Their march upward in the fight for equal rights is inexorable. Inevitably, because of their number, their intelligence and the righteousness of their cause, they will play larger and more influential roles in the arts, politics, science and, of course, the vital economy.

A recent report from the Census Bureau shows, for example, that

26.3 million married couples—62% of all the married couples in our 50 states—have two incomes.

In 1960, only 40% of the married couples boasted two incomes. By 1970, the figure had increased to 50.1%. By the end of this century, 80% or more of our married couples will have two incomes.

Historians writing about the United States 100 years from now may well point to the last half of the 20th century as the final era in which men ran the show.

THE HIPPOCRITICAL OR HIPPOCRATIC OATH

The above was a title of an article by Nikki Van Hightower in Center Line, the magazine of the Houston Area Women's Center in Apr., 1982. The article was about the fact that in the case of rape there are very few hospitals in the Houston area which will treat rape victims. According to a Women's Center survey in 1983, nearly 2/3rds of all area hospitals refuse to provide full treatment for rape victims. Full treatment being defined as including internal examinations and evidence collection for later use in criminal prosecutions.

Hospitals are legally obligated to accept only trauma cases-that is, physical illness or injury. Rape is not considered "trauma". Therefore, hospitals have the legal right to refuse to treat these victims if they did not, in the course of the rape, suffer life-threatening injury. Hospital officials contend that the decision not to provide evidence collection is the preference of the physicians, many of whom fear the possibility of being dragged into lengthy court appearances. Hospital officials also contend that the rape kit, a 15-minute procedure in which blood and hair samples, fingernail scrapings, and vaginal cultures are collected for evidence, is a time-consuming and not profitable.

There you have it. Rape victims, it seems, are just too troublesome, time-consuming and costly. This insensitive handling of rape victims is having detrimental effects upon not only the victim, but also our police department, district attorney's office and all of us who are potential victims of rape. Policies will change only when the public will no longer allow their hospitals and physicians the privilege of turning their backs on rape victims because they are perceived as too much of an inconvenience with which to be bothered.

What can be done? For starters, pick up the telephone, call your physician and local hospital and find out if they would treat you if you were a rape victim. Let them know what you think about their policy - good or bad and how you believe it coincides with the Hippocratic Oath. Let's all participate in the effort to stamp out hippocracy in our health care system.

Susan Turell, director of the Women's Center Rape Crisis Program... "If a woman gets raped between Baytown and the Medical Center she can forget it. There are just no services available in that area."

(From Polly Austin, Education Task Force Chair-Texas NOW)

It is once again time for Texas NOW members to prepare for our annual participation in the state textbook review process. We have seen many changes since we began reviewing textbooks 12 years ago. Many publishers now adhere to the policy of using non-sexist language in their textbooks. Most publishers now provide textbooks which depict females in a positive manner in both traditional and non-traditional roles. We must continue our quest to see that girls and women are treated fairly and positively in the educational material used in our state.

If you can read and critique one or more textbooks between May 1 and June 22, please write or call Polly Austin Education Task Force Chair, 734 N. Merrill #234, Ducanville, Tx. 75116 (214) 296-0122. You will also need to write to the Textbook Division, Texas Education Agency, 201 East 11th St., Austin, Tx. 78701. Ask to be put on the citizens' list and request a copy of Proclamation 60 to be sent to you (it is free).

You will also receive a list of the textbooks we will be reviewing. In the meantime, you may use the list at your regional center so that you can begin reviewing now. If you have a specific subject area and grade level you plan to review, please notify me as soon as possible so that I can coordinate the reviewing. We want to be able to cover as many areas this year as possible. If I know your interests it will enable me to do a better job of coordinating the reviewing. I have enclosed a list of centers. Please go to the center closest to you to check out books. (Ms. Sue Pittel Instructional Materials Center 7200 West Tidwell Houston, Tx. 77092)

Send three copies of your comments to the Texas Education Agency and one copy to me. Please type your comments on 8½x11 paper and leave a 1½ inch margin on each side and a 1 inch margin top and bottom. Please sign your name and include your chapter name and your home address.

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TUNE IN TO WOMEN ON KPFT - 90.1 FM Radio
 Women's music, sports, news & information, listener-participation
 Tuesdays - 8:00pm - A Woman's Place with Clara Kern
 4th Tuesday of each Month is NOW night
 Fridays, 8:00am to 10:30am, BREAKTHROUGH with Pokey Anderson & Cherry Wolf

Bay Area N.O.W. Officers

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President	Phyllis Tucker	(713)	944-0033
Vice-President	Anita Marcos	(713)	482-6515
Secretary	Donna Berend	(409)	948-8896
Treasurer	Judy Snyder	(713)	486-5565

Calendar

- June 1 Gayle Marie Concert, Hazelwitch Productions
(for information call 864-4534)
- 2 TEXAS PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTIONS VOTE!!!
- 7 Bay Area NOW Program Meeting 7:30 pm
- 8-10 AAUW State Convention, Beaumont, Tx.
(Our own Rema Lou Brown is running for
President. Our Respect and Love to the
next AAUW State President-Rema Lou)
- 9-10 Tx. NOW State Council, San Antonio, Tx.
- 15-17 Texas Democratic State Convention, Houston
- 15-18 Texas Republican State Convention, Ft. Worth
- 20 Bay Area NOW Business Meeting
- 29-1st National NOW Conference, Miami Beach, Fla.
- July 4 Friendswood Independence Day Celebration
- 5 Bay Area NOW Program Meeting

WHO CARES ABOUT WOMEN? NOW CARES!!! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
Join NOW, now. Clip and mail to Judy Snyder 16310 Mill Point
Houston, Texas 77059

- I want to be a member of Bay Area NOW, Texas NOW and
National NOW (\$40.00)
- I want to be a member of Bay Area NOW, Texas NOW and
National NOW and can afford dues of \$ _____
(Dues for NOW are on a sliding scale from \$15 to \$40)
- I am already a member of National NOW and want to
join the BAY Area Chapter (\$8.00)
- I am not a NOW member but want to receive the news-
letter for one year (\$5.00)
- I am making a contribution of \$ _____ to NOW.
- I authorize my name and address to be printed on the
NOW roster for members.

NAME _____
HOME ADDRESS _____
TOWN, STATE ZIP _____
PRECINCT NUMBER _____ (FROM VOTER REGISTRATION CARD)
HOME PHONE _____ OTHER PHONE _____

BA-M

BAY AREA NOW



DAY AREA N.O.W. NEWSLETTER
c/o PHYLLIS A. TUCKER
243 EMPRESS
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034

WHERE DO WE MEET?

IN CLEAR LAKE CITY

