

Bay Area Chapter

National Organization for Women

Volume 5, Number 8, August 1977

N.O.W. NEWS

OUR FACES BELONG TO OUR BODIES

Our faces belong to our bodies.
Our faces belong to our lives.

Our faces are blunted.
Our bodies are stunted.
We cover our anger with smiles.

Our anger is changing our faces, our bodies.
Our anger is changing our lives.

Women who scrub have strong faces
Women who type have strong faces
Women with children have strong faces
Women who love have strong faces
Women who laugh have strong faces
Women who fight have strong faces
Women who cry have strong faces
Women who die have strong faces.

Our love is changing our faces, our bodies.
Our love is changing our lives.

Our anger is changing our faces, our bodies.
Our anger is changing our lives.

Our power is changing our faces, our bodies.
Our power is changing our lives.

Our sisters are changing our faces, our bodies.
Our sisters are changing our lives.

Our struggle is changing our faces, our bodies.
Our struggle is changing our lives.



"Does this mean I have to assume the lithotomy position?"

Several years ago, a representative from the cervix group of California spoke at the University of Houston, main campus, discussing her group's experience in forming a Women's Health Collective. From that meeting the Women's Health Collective of Houston was born. The Health Collective is a self-help organization which meets monthly.

Brenda Pope, who is studying at this time to be a mid-wife, will be our guest speaker at the August 4 meeting. Ms. Pope will be discussing the Women's Health Collective of Houston, the services offered and the plans for the future.

- July 28, 8-10 p.m. - Informal Cocktal Reception for Kathy Whitmire - 5730 Grape - Cash bar
- July 30, 8:30-12 p.m. - Women's Concert & Dance - First Unitarian Church - 5210 Fannin - \$3.00
- July 31, (afternoon) - Craig Roberts Campaign Hdq Opening - 2323 Watts#B(668-5341)
- July 31, 12-5 p.m. - Merylyn Whited Campaign Hdq Opening - 2007 Westheimer (521-9065)
- July 31, 1-8 p.m. - Kathy Whitmire Campaign Hdq Opening - 2405 San Jacinto (654-7147)
- July 31, 6 p.m. - party by J. E. McNeill - 1951 W. McKinney
- Aug. 2, 7:30-11 p.m. - Kathy Whitmire benefit - Gypsy Market - Buffet (optional) - Surprise Raffle
- ** Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m. BAY AREA NOW PROGRAM MEETING - Uniting Church - El Camino Real at Reseda
- Aug. 13 - White Elephant Sale - 2007 Westheimer - proceeds to Merylyn Whited campaign
- Aug. 15 - Fundraiser cocktail party for Kathy Whitmire - Bocaccio 2000 (402 Lovett) - evening
- ** Aug. 17, 18, 19 - TEXTBOOK TESTIMONY IN AUSTIN - for more information contact Twiss Butler (333-4764) or Marjorie Randal (488-4396)
- Aug. 23, 9a.m.-1 p.m. - UHCLC - Re-Entry Orientation Seminar - for more information or registration call the Women's Resource Center (488-9270)
- Aug. 23, 7:30 p.m. - CLUW (Coalition of Labor Union Women) - CWA Hdq - 1520 Pease - *MEMBERSHIP Mtg*
- Aug. 23, 7 p.m. - Clear Creek Independent School Board meeting - Clear Creek High Admin.
- Aug. 26, (eve) - Houston Area NOW fundraiser cocktail party - to raise funds for suit against Houston Police Dept. - for location call Rene Raab (862-4091)
- Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m. - CLUW - film "Union Maid" and fundraiser social - 1815 Walker
- Aug. 18 - 7:30 p.m. - WRCC (Women's Rights Coordinating Council) - World Trade Center Lecture Hall - Texas at Crawford

I'm o.k. You guys are all nuts.....

Otto Weininger, a young Austrian philosopher, wrote a book attempting to prove that women were incapable of genius and had virtually no mind at all. Otto later *COMMITTED* suicide after not being acclaimed a genius for writing the book.

UNSUNG LOCAL HEROINE

"A paraplegic woman, assigned to routine clerical tasks--despite a masters degree--on account of discrimination based on her physical handicap, should be retroactively promoted with back pay, according to the Houston Division of the U.S. District Court for southern Texas. The court orders the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to grant Charlotte R. Smith the difference between her current GS-9 salary and what she would have made as a GS-13 since February 1974." - This article was released 5/26/75.

One of Charlotte's supervisors had made the assumption that she could not travel (although she drives a car and has a pilot's license)--and that she could not perform lab work with manual dexterity (she has since worked in the lab). He supported his assumption on the basis that it was "obvious to the eye."

Charlotte still works in a lab at NASA, still drives a car, still flies a plane, and is presently working on her doctorate.

----AND --- NASA is still appealing the case.

Address for Evie Whitsett until mid-September: 3616 Cedar Plaza #214, Dallas 75209 (214-521-6765) - She has been to a Dallas NOW meeting already, and is working with two HEW women who are interested in the TITLE IX work that has been performed in this area.

COALITION FOR ABUSED WOMEN c/o 1737 Indiana, Houston, TX 77006 (790-0190 or 529-5308)

The Coalition in Support of Abused Women is seeking funding to open and maintain a 24-hour emergency residential and counseling center. Through our efforts we hope to open a shelter within six months that will house at least 20 women a night and their children.

The program will offer 24-hour hotline and crises intervention, secure shelter, food, legal information, professional and paraprofessional counseling, resource referral, community outreach and research.

By "abused women" we refer to women who have suffered physical injury, sexual abuse or forced imprisonment by another who is related by blood, marriage or intimate cohabitation, women who are thrown out of their homes (but not necessarily physically beaten) and find themselves stranded with no means of support, and women who have been raped and are afraid to return to their residences.

Consider the facts:

Some woman in this country is beaten by her husband every 30 seconds.

A woman is raped every two minutes.

At least one in every four women have been assaulted by their spouses.

One out of every five U.S. police officers killed in the line of duty in 1974 died while trying to break up a family fight.

40% of all calls to the Houston Police Department are for domestic intervention.

The goals of the shelter:

Offer an immediate, safe, positive refuge for abused women and their children.

Assist women in the development of personal resources empowering them to direct their own lives.

Intervene in the cycle of children of violent homes becoming the next generation of abusers.

Increase community awareness and understanding of household violence, encourage the development of resources for abused women, gather data on the extent and nature of domestic violence.

The shelter will serve approximately 2500 women and children per year and another 2000 on an outreach basis.

We need \$200,000 to do it.

YOU CAN HELP BY:

Encouraging abused and battered women to support each other through ongoing YWCA groups, led by trained counselors. - Call your local branch of the YWCA for meeting times.

Volunteering your time. - Call the Coalition for Abused Women.

PLEDGING YOUR ECONOMIC SUPPORT:

Monthly _____ \$10 _____ \$15 _____ \$20 *OR* _____

A single contribution of _____

As a Sustaining Supporter _____ \$100 or more

JOINING THE COMMITTEE OF 1000:

Help to raise \$100,000 by pledging \$2 a week for one year to equal \$100 a year.

Weekly _____ \$2 Monthly _____ \$8 Bi-annually _____ \$40 Annually _____ \$100

____ Please send me notification of your tax exempt status so that my contribution can be tax deductible.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Send your pledge today! Please call if you have any questions. We appreciate your support.

PAR (People Against Rape) (formerly BATFOR) will train volunteers in five Saturday sessions beginning September 10. Psychiatric nurses Anne Boyajeau and Kathy Jewell have designed a strong curriculum which draws on outside professional, PAR, and Helpline talent.

Taking PAR training does not imply obligation to be an on-call rape victim's advocate. However, there will be a charge of \$15 for applicants who do not wish to join and serve PAR in some capacity. Training includes twenty hours of crisis intervention, rape counseling, and legal and sociological aspects of this subject affecting all of us, woman or man. - Nora Mertz

UHCLC - Women's Resource Center - Carolyn Waddell reported that she had received some good information on grants at the Texas Women's meeting.

The new coordinator (title to be revised) will be selected by August 15.

See calendar for Re-Entry Orientation Seminars.

IWY - HOUSTON - committee coordinator - Amy Wilson (222-4581 or 749-1381)

Volunteers are needed for the following committees:

- | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Resources | First Aid | Hospitality & | Security | Special Services |
| Publicity | Parliamentary & | Information | Special Events | |
| Child Care | Procedures | Transportation | Fund Raising | |

Volunteers to any of these committees will be issued floor passes. It looks as though it may be the only way any of us who are not delegates will be able to get onto the floor.

BAY AREA NOW participation as chapter: If the price of a sale table is not prohibitive, do we want to reserve one for our chapter? Are there any volunteers for staffing the table? Please call Dorothy Pearson, 332-3993.

WRCC (Women's Rights Coordinating Council) - will meet on third Thursdays at World Trade Center Lecture Hall. At the meeting of July 21, all officer's positions were open except the chair; new appointees: Associate chair, Dee Harrison (524-8681); Membership, Patty O'Kane (526-4118); Treasurer, Donna Duerk (665-8682); Newsletter - J.E. McNeill (522-7534 or 749-3191 lv word). The position of Recorder is still open.

Mary Jane White announced that the proposed Women's Center is still seeking funding. Anyone interested in serving on the Women's Center Advisory Council, please contact her at 526-5416.

In addition to financing needed by the Coalition for Abused Women, they need a volunteer to act as coordinator; she must be unemployed and available one or two days per week during daytime hours.

BREAKTHROUGH is in FINANCIAL TROUBLE!!!! If you are not already a subscriber, or you know someone who needs to subscribe...slip \$5.00 into an envelope and send to Houston Breakthrough, P.O. Box 88072, Houston 77004.

Texas NOW Conference - San Antonio - September 30, October 1 and 2. We should be receiving registration forms in the next month. Do we as a chapter wish to have a sale table? If you would like to help with this call Dorothy Pearson (332-3993).

ALICE PAUL OBITUARY

Alice Paul, 92, leader of the women's suffrage movement, often called the author of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment, died recently in Moorestown, N.J. Ms. Paul founded the National Woman's Party in 1913. She was a social worker and a lawyer. The party introduced the ERA in Congress for 40 consecutive years before the measure cleared the House and Senate in 1972.

Please return this form to: People Against Rape
P. O. Box 57535
Webster, Tx. 77598

Include three references on the back.

PEOPLE AGAINST RAPE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Name _____ Date of birth _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

Occupation _____ Do you read and write English fluently? _____

Do you speak any other language than English? What language? _____

Do you have any training, education or experience that you believe will help you as a PAR volunteer? Please explain.

State briefly why you are interested in becoming a PAR volunteer. _____

Please read the following and sign in the space provided if you agree.
I recognize that information I receive, if accepted as a PAR volunteer, is confidential and is to be discussed with another rape victim's advocate only, and not with my spouse, friends, or relatives. I understand that release of confidential information without the consent of PAR staff could result in my release as a volunteer.

Date _____ Signed _____

editorial

(League City)

President right on abortion stand

President Carter should have the support of the taxpayers of this nation and their legislators regarding his position concerning government subsidy of abortions.

President Carter rightly opposes federal funding for elective abortions. His stand on the issue is being challenged by many groups, among them a group of women on his own staff of appointees.

Moral questions aside, there is no reason why this medical problem should be paid for out of tax money any more than any other medical problem. Tax-paid services to the "poor" are abundantly supplied, and the funds are scandalously misused as it is.

However, in this instance there is a moral question which must be considered if we are to continue to call our way of life a democracy: Using tax money to pay for abortions ignores the belief of a great portion of our tax-paying citizenry; to use the taxes these people pay to subsidize abortions is tantamount to compelling them to take part in an act which they consider to be the taking of a human life.

Many taxpayers are in the position already of subsidizing a great deal of bureaucratic behavior of which they disapprove and it's wrong to continue blatantly to disregard the beliefs of whole segments of our population to satisfy the wishes of the rest of the population.

One of our local "watchers" found this article. She urges us all to repond to the editor!!!!

The Bay Area League of Women Voters are having "get acquainted" coffees. They feel we have much to share, and welcome you to any of these:

- 8/25 - 10 a.m.-12 - Judy Falk - 18407 Kingston Court - Nassau Bay (333-3719)
- 8/25 - 12:30-2:30 p.m. - Dot Tuite - 15911 El Camino Real - CLC - (488-1142)
- 8/26 - 10 a.m.-12 - Anne Carroll - 16451 Havenhurst - Middlebrook (488-7510)
- 8/26 - 12:30-2:30 p.m. - Carol Hodgson - 1006 Devonport - Clear Lake Forest (474-3103)

If there are any union members out there interested in adding a little clout to the situation-- contact Rusty Richards (488-5546) about joining CLUW (Coalition of Labor Union Women).

The subject of chapter roster has once more arisen. If there are objections to having your name and telephone printed on the chapter roster - please contact Marjorie Randal (488-4396) or Dorothy Pearson (332-3993).

Linda Eichblatt has taken a job with Zapata and has moved to Houston (524-2942). We'll miss her!!

Houston Post 7/21/77

Hitchhiker ruling

'warns' women

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A woman thumbing a ride in a metropolitan area should be prepared for sexual advances by any man who picks her up, a California appeals court has warned in reversing a rape conviction.

"The lone female hitchhiker in the absence of an emergency situation, as a practical matter, advises all who pass by that she is willing to enter the vehicle with anyone who stops and in so doing advertises she has less concern for the consequences than the average female," wrote Justice Lynn D. Compton in a unanimous ruling by the 2nd District Court of Appeals.

"Under such circumstances it would not be unreasonable for a man in the position of defendant here to believe that the female would consent to sexual relations," he added.

The decision Wednesday brought quick and angry reaction from women's activists.

"I don't think it's a very responsible statement because it's giving to license and permission for sexually assautive

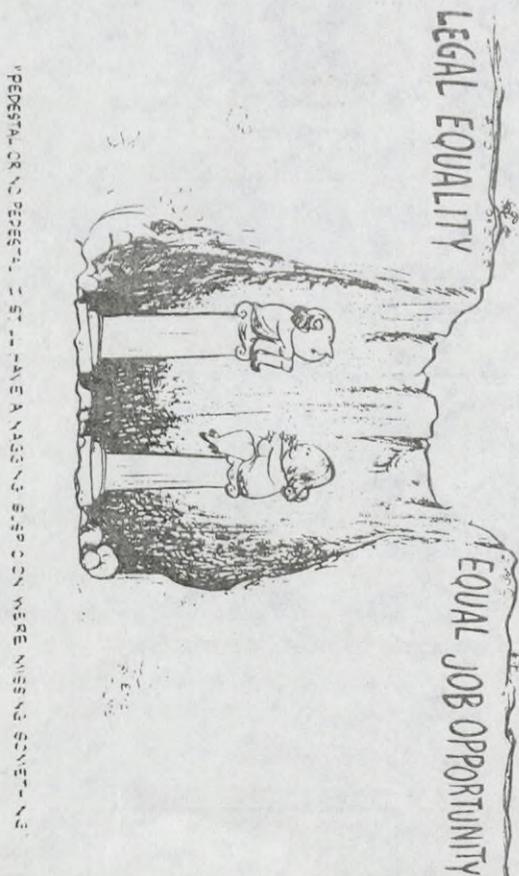
persons to act without any kind of social limit," said Connie Russell of the National Organization for Women and a volunteer rape counselor at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

A young Hollywood woman was asked as she was hitchhiking Thursday what she thought of the California ruling.

"Bull," she said. "They don't say guys are out for anything when they hitch. Nobody has the right to ravage anybody else's body under any circumstances."

Compton based the reversal on a technicality, stating the trial judge erred in his instructions to the jury about evidence of a prior sex offense by the defendant, Clifford Alan Hunt.

Hunt had picked up a waitress, Chris Tobian of Thousand Oaks, on the Ventura Freeway after she left her car with a mechanic. Tobian testified that when Hunt made sexual suggestions, she yielded to his advances because she feared he would rape and murder her. A friend of hers had been raped and killed in the same area, she said.



MORE on IWY - If you know of people who would be good as workshop leaders or resource people in the following areas, please send as much information as possible to Dr. Nikki R. Van Hightower, Women's Advocate, City of Houston, 1010 Louisiana, Suite 850, Houston, Texas 77002:

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Education | How to Start a Women's Center | Women & Power | Life Planning |
| Employment | How to Start Your Own Business | Assertiveness | History of Women |
| Health Care | How to Write Grant Proposals | Women Offenders | Racism and Sexism |
| Insurance | Violence Against Women | Child Care | Homemakers |
| Media | Alternate Life Styles | Rural Women | Younger Women |
| Lobbying | Low-Income Women | Older Women | International Women |
| | Campaign Techniques | | |

Since "FAIR PLAY" does not seem to be the name of the game - Since those with economic power are holding all the "ACES" - then we must BOYCOTT!!! BOYCOTT!!! BOYCOTT!!! BOYCOTT!!! BOYCOTT!!!

Singly we are nothing - together we would have considerable influence. Urge your national headquarters to select conference sites outside of those states who have not ratified the ERA!!!

Never knowingly buy anything from an unratified state! Do not vacation in unratified states! Write letters to manufacturers in unratified states - telling them that as much as you like their product, you must refuse to purchase from them as long as their state is unratified. (Lists of some of the manufacturers and their addresses will be available at the meeting.)

If you would like to slow down on your smoking - wait to light up until you see an advertisement with a middle-age woman!!! This - and other suggestions - from DO IT NOW.

BOYCOTT J. P. Stevens Textile Products - J.P. Steven's is the nation's most arrogant corporate law-breaker. It has been found guilty of tax evasion, discriminatory employment practices, the firing and threatening of pro-union employees and the coercion of employees through interrogation. Some of their products: Sheets & Pillowcases: Beauti-Blend, Beauticale, Fine Arts, Peanuts, Tastemaker, Utica, Utica & Mohawk. Designer Labels: Yves St. Laurent, Angelo Donghia. Towels: Fine Arts, Tastemaker, Utica. Blankets: Forstmann, Utica. Carpets: Contender, Gulistan, Merry-weather, Tastmaker. Table Linen: Simtex. Hosiery: Big Mama, Finesse, Hip-Lets, Spirit.

We need fuller participation by the membership. Please consider areas of interest and share with us. (Please bring this slip to the next meeting for our "suggestion box.")

I would like to help with the NEWSLETTER. I would like to help with the telephone tree.

I would like to work with the Older Women's Task Force (call Jean Saletan - 471-2862).

I would like to work on _____ (Task Force or Project).

I would like to conduct a program meeting (month) _____ (subject) _____.

I am interested in the Hospitality Committee Publicity Other _____.

I am interested in fund-raising _____.

Name _____ Telephone _____.

JOIN N.O.W.: Clip and mail with your check to - Marjorie Randal, 1922 Redway, Houston 77062

I would like to join BAY AREA N.O.W. and NATIONAL N.O.W. (\$20.00)

I want to join, but can only afford \$ _____.

I am not a member, but would like to receive the NEWSLETTER for a year. (\$4.00)

I would like to make a contribution of \$ _____ to N.O.W. (tax-deductible.)

Name _____ Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

Address and Zip _____ Occupation _____

Employer _____ . Please list interests and skills which might

contribute to N.O.W. projects *****

