



BROADSIDE

HOUSTON AREA NOW BROADSIDE--VOL. 12, No. 11 November, 1981

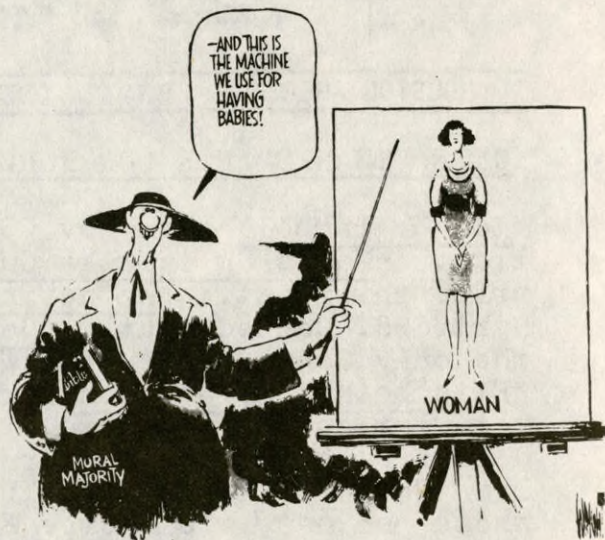
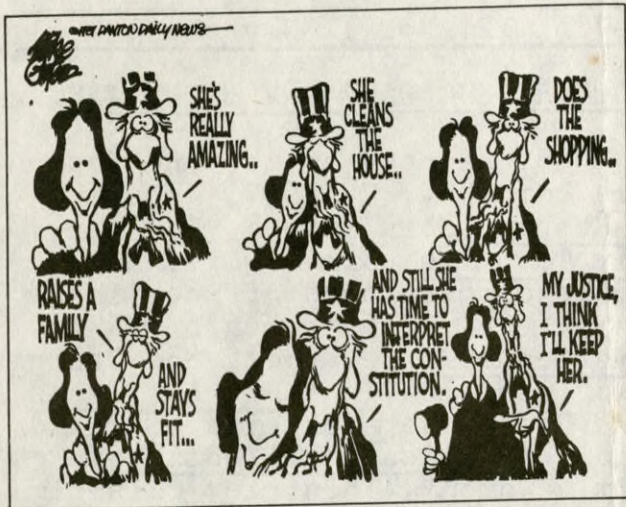
GIVE "THANKS" FOR OUR FOREMOTHERS WHO HAVE PAVED THE WAY...

*Ida M. Tarbell born Nov. 5, 1875, pioneer editor and journalist. *Marie Sklodowska Curie born Nov. 7, 1867, Nobel-prize physicist. *Katherine Hepburn born Nov. 8, 1909 in Hartford, Connecticut. *Sally Tompkins born Nov. 9, 1833, the only Confederate Army female commissioned officer in 1861. *Elizabeth Cady Stanton born Nov. 12, 1815, women's rights activist and suffragette. *Marianne Moore, poet, and Georgia O'Keeffe, artist, both born Nov. 15, 1887. *Mary Ann Evans born Nov. 22, 1819 in Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire, England whose pen name was George Eliot. *Louisa May Alcott born Nov. 29, 1832, author of "Little Women". *Shirley Chisholm born Nov. 30, 1924 in Brooklyn, New York, first black woman to be elected to U.S. Congress in 1968; the only woman and the only black American to serve on the House Rules Committee; the first black woman ever to run for President of the United States (1972). *Marlo Thomas born Nov. 21, actress, producer, businesswoman and feminist; her two major interests are St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and passage of the ERA... And many more too numerous to mention on this page, but too important to forget. They have brought us closer to the light at the end of the tunnel, although we are not there yet.



COALITION OF GREATER
HOUSTON NOW CHAPTERS

HERIZONS--Vol. 6, No. 9
November, 1981



Q.
What country, besides South Africa, treats the majority of its population as second class citizens.?

A.

THE SIMPSONS DAILY NEWS

STAIN GLASS

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 2---7:30 pm Northwest NOW meeting at the Cypress creek Library.
- 5---7:30 pm HANOW meeting at the World Trade Ctr., 1520 Texas Ave. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1982!
- 9---7:30 pm Kingwood NOW meeting. Contact Debbie Tate, 358-0356.
- 8---Montrose NOW meeting. Contact Peggy Hall, 522-4468.
- 12--7:30 pm HANOW program meeting at the World Trade Ctr. "Lesbian Rights".
- 14--STATE COUNCIL meeting in College Station, TX by Brazos County NOW. Contact Mary Calk, 512-883-4469.

****Greater Houston NOW Council meeting during November. Call Elaine Kimzey, 376-2736, for date, time and location.**

****Kingwood NOW Rap Session to be held in November. Call Debbie Tate, 358-0356 for date, etc.**

****"HOMEMAKER'S RIGHTS" Task Force Chair, G.K. Sprinkle, will be at various places during the week of the 18th. Contact your local Chapter for information.**

VOTE NOVEMBER 3rd!

"Shoulder to Shoulder" is a book by Midge Mackenzie which follows, in their own words, the suffragettes' personal account of their fight for the vote. It is published by Alfred A. Knopf and is available in hardcover and paperback.

D.C. sex law struck down

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House, reacting to pressure from fundamentalist religious groups, killed a District of Columbia law Thursday that would have legalized most sexual acts between consenting adults. The action, on a 281-119 vote, means the city retains laws permitting sex only between married partners in a face-to-face position. It was the first time Congress had overturned a law passed by the D.C. City Council that did not clearly tread on federal prerogatives.

2) To invalidate the District of Columbia's new sexual assault reform law, which set off a storm of controversy by decriminalizing homosexual acts, sodomy, fornication and adultery between consenting adults. It also would allow wives to press rape charges against their husbands, remove all references to the sex of the victim from assault laws and lower the penalty for rape from life imprisonment to 20 years. Invalidated 281-119.

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 |
| Archer, R-Houston | N | Y |
| Brooks, D-Beaumont | N | Y |
| Collins, R-Dallas | N | Y |
| De la Garza, D-Mission | Y | Y |
| Fields, R-Humble | N | Y |
| Frost, D-Dallas | Y | N |
| Gonzalez, D-san Antonio | Y | Y |
| Gramm, D-Bryan | Y | Y |
| R. Hall, D-Rockwall | N | Y |
| S. Hall, D-Marshall | Y | Y |
| Hance, D-Lubbock | Y | Y |
| Hightower, D-Vernon | N | Y |
| Kazen, D-Laredo | Y | Y |
| Leath, D-Marlin | Y | A |
| Leland, D-Houston | Y | Y |
| Loeffler, R-Kerrville | Y | N |
| Maffox, D-Dallas | N | Y |
| Patman, D-Ganado | Y | Y |
| Paul, R-Lake Jackson | A | Y |
| Pickle, D-Austin | N | Y |
| Stenholm, D-Stamford | A | Y |
| White, D-El Paso | A | Y |
| Wilson, D-Lufkin | A | Y |
| Wright, D-Fbri Worth | Y | Y |

SYMBOLS

Y — Yes; N — No; O — Absent but paired yes; X — Absent but paired no; P — Voted present; A — Absent.

***** A HISTORY OF ABORTION PRACTICES *****

By Yvonne Broach

This is the seventh in a series of excerpts from Yvonne's speech regarding past abortion practices.

In 1970, Hawaii, Alaska, and New York repealed criminal abortion laws and liberalized abortion during the first three months. Also, in 1970 a single pregnant woman, with the pseudonym of Jane Roe, sued Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade to prevent him from enforcing the Texas anti-abortion statute. In 1971 and 1972 the case was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court and January 22, 1973, the court ruled that the Texas anti-abortion statute and all others like it were unconstitutional. This portion of the decision would have left the nation with an abortion policy more tolerant than the common law had been 200 years earlier. The Justices quickly made it clear they did not intend this. They expressed three concerns: the right of privacy in intimate matters affecting a person's life and future; maternal health; and the state's right to protect developing life. The 1973 decision thus declares that during the first three months, the decision to abort is a woman's right and cannot be denied; during the second trimester, the decision to abort is still a woman's right and cannot be denied, but the state may regulate the practice to ensure her health and safety. In the third trimester, the state can exercise its legitimate interest in life by prohibiting abortion except to preserve the life or health of the woman.

This is the law of the land concerning the choice and practice of abortion. About one million abortions are performed each year, but far fewer women die or suffer longlasting effects than when abortion was illegal. Abortion-related deaths dropped nearly 600% by 1974!

However, we have recently begun to experience an erosion of the right to choose an abortion. Anti-abortionists are using every tactic they can seize to outlaw abortion again. Already, abortion is denied to almost all women who are poor and need public funding for the procedure. Employees of the military and most government agencies overseas must resort to local facilities, if they exist, as they often are not easily available to Americans in foreign countries.

State and local laws requiring parental consent, intimidating counselling sessions, excessive waiting periods and generally singling out women, who seek abortion for harassment are passing all over the country. Waiting for the courts to strike down these laws takes too long and has an uncertain risk. It is better to prevent the passage and enactment of such laws.

 In conclusion to Yvonne's speech, below is a recent article about her, and an article taken from our National NOW Times.

Working in a lab where the extraordinary is the ordinary is what makes Yvonne Broach's job interesting. "We never know what type of chromosome arrangement we will see," said the assistant chief medical technologist in the cytogenetics lab. "Leukemia patients undergo a battery of tests, including a bone marrow specimen. We culture the bone marrow and grow cells. Then we look at the chromosomes for abnormalities."

There are some established patterns for chromosome abnormalities in leukemic diseases, but not all the specimens fall neatly into a pattern. "Sometimes all we are able to say is that the arrangement is abnormal," she said. "It may belong to a pattern sequence that we don't yet know about. The discovery of the patterns is relatively new, so it is probable that there are many others we won't detect until we have a much larger specimen sample."

Broach has a master's in genetics. "During my work on the master's, I got interested in cytogenetics. There was no formal program in it, so I read everything I could and attended any lectures on the subject. When I got out of school, I took a job in cytogenetics to get experience and some on-the-job training."

In that job, she did get the experience, but the routine of the work made her look for something more challenging. "The specimens in that lab were rarely abnormal. It was extremely rare to come across the kinds of things we get here every day."

Broach and her co-workers do the cultures on all leukemia patients in the clinic and hospital. "We do the tissue culture, photograph the specimen and then do the karyotypes of the chromosomes," she said. It is in the karyotype, an arrangement of the chromosomes in descending order by their size and shape, that the technicians are able to detect abnormalities.

Away from the lab, Broach is active in the Gulf Coast chapter of the Association for Women in Science. "The organization is open to women in science at all levels and encourages them to enter the field and their advancement in it," she said. To encourage young women to enter the field, Broach often speaks to high school classes and other groups.

She also is a past president of one of the Houston-area chapters of the National Organization for Women (NOW). "I guess I've been a feminist from an early age," she said. "My interest in science isolated me in some ways from other women and strengthened my beliefs for equality for women. Houston has an active feminist community and I've enjoyed working in it." Her special interests include the Equal Rights Amendment and women's health issues. "I think there is still a lot of education to be done on both issues," she said.

In what little spare time there is, she enjoys jogging, playing the piano and going to the movies, especially science fiction. She admits to sitting through five sci-fi movies in one day, "although it's not something I'd do again real soon." □

Tom Braden (Taken from National NOW Times)

A Father and Sen. Helms

I have been wondering whether to tell you a personal story that seems to me to have general implications. This is one of those sad family stories that normally you don't find fathers talking about in public, or even very much with close friends.

But I picked up the newspaper the other day to read that a Senate committee had voted to abolish payments for abortions for the poor, even when the pregnancies are the result of rape.

Now this was not a question of cutting the budget. Abortion costs for poor women who are raped do not amount to a large sum. Rather it was a question of morality. Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, and the Moral Majority, which follows him around, are convinced that abortion is wrong even when the woman who wants one wants it because she has been raped.

So I don't think it will be very long before Jesse and his friends are going to come after the unpoor.

In this instance, I am not very comfortable about being unpoor. I object to what the Senate committee did. But I have the human instinct to object even more strenuously when I reason that, by the same standard with which the senators dealt with the poor, they will shortly deal with me.

So let me tell you my story. A few years ago one of my daughters attended an enormous Fourth of July celebration at the Washington Monument. It was a free show with fireworks and flags and entertainment, and, according to the newspaper account, the large crowd behaved well.

But as my daughter strolled alone off the Monument grounds and en-

tered a side street, a car rolled up next to the sidewalk. Three men emerged from it, seized her roughly and, before she could do more than utter a half-stifled cry, put her into the back seat where two more men held her to the floor.

She was tied, gagged and taken to a house, the location of which she cannot now identify. She was kept in the house for the rest of the night during which time she was repeatedly beaten and raped.

The next morning she was blindfolded, driven back to the Monument grounds and shoved out of the car. Eventually, sometime about midday, she made her way home.

During the time she was gone, there was, of course, a great deal of worry and anxiety at that home. And I must confess, anger.

Her arrival was followed by various interviews with policemen who tried to be helpful to a hysterical girl. But couldn't be. Because the hysterical girl could only estimate the time she had been in the car, describe the inside of a house and sob out some meaningless first names.

That's really the end of the story. Except, of course, that within a very short time, my daughter knew that she was pregnant.

Now I would like to ask Sen. Helms what he would do if he had been the father of the girl. I know what I did. And I can promise the senator and the Moral Majority and all the shrill voices of the Right to Life Movement, that no matter what law they may pass and how stringent the penalty, I would do it again.

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I wish to join _____ chapter of NOW.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

I enclose dues: _____\$30.00 Regular _____\$16.00 Hardship

I wish to pay either of the above in two installments and I enclose
 _____\$15.00 Regular _____\$8.00 Hardship

This is my first installment _____ This is my second installment _____

Make your check payable to the chapter of your choice, and send to
 the appropriate address as listed above. Dues include membership
 in the local chapter, Texas NOW, and National NOW.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSTON NOW CHAPTERS CALL 947-9678

***** Houston Area NOW Committees *****

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|-------------|--------------|----------|
| Programs | Jackie Rice | |
| Newsletter | Deborah Bell | 681-9507 |
| Membership | Deborah Bell | 681-9507 |
| Fundraising | VACANT | |

***** Houston Area NOW Task Forces *****

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| ERA | Jan Stevens | 445-2220 |
| Reproductive Rights | Yvonne Broach | 664-4282 |
| Consciousness-Raising | Deborah Dubose | 988-1844 |
| Legislative | Yvonne Broach | 664-4282 |
| Lesbian Rights | Leslie Reston | 528-2105 |
| Media Reform | Lynda Fillmore | 495-0033 |
| Nuclear Energy | Linda George-Smith | 522-5957 |
| Violence Against Women | Linda George-Smith | 522-5957 |

***** Northwest Houston NOW Task Forces *****

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|
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| Reproductive Rights | Charlene Milkey | 469-0762 |

WOMEN'S LOBBY '81 ALLIANCE COORDINATOR - Jeanne Saletan
471-2862

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 358-0356.

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MILLION!

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO
FOR THE ERA
SINCE TEXAS IS ALREADY
RATIFIED?

National ERA Message Brigade

National NOW has developed the message brigade precisely to answer this question. The Message Brigade will link the millions of ERA supporters into a national network that will be able to affect the decisions of the key state leaders who are able to get the ERA ratified in the unrattified states. (They will be "able" only if they are convinced that ERA supporters are not only in the majority but organized.)

The ERA is close to being ratified. In Illinois, which requires a two-thirds majority, ratification failed by two votes. Virginia did not pass it by one vote. The closeness of these votes shows that there is not a consensus concerning the "evil" of the ERA as many right wing organizations would have the public believe. Eighty percent of the population has been shown in polls to support the Amendment. The message brigade allows this majority to let their voice be heard where it will be most effective.

HOW IT WORKS:

1. You, a NOW member, sign up an ERA supporter for \$2.
2. As a member of the ERA Message Brigade, they receive 5 action alerts.
3. Action Alerts contain campaign updates, a sample letter, and a pre-addressed envelope or postcard.
4. They sign the sample message or develop their own and mail it on to the targeted leader.
5. The key leader receives a flood of letters urging him to aid the passage of the ERA all in the space of a very few days.

National's goal is to sign up ONE MILLION people to the ERA Message Brigade. This number works out to twenty-five message brigades for each chapter member. So far in Houston, we've found that on the average we are able to sign up TEN people per hour per member. That's TWENTY DOLLARS an hour for the ERA. If you are unable to find time for any other action this year, find time for the Message Brigade. The ERA must and can be ratified but only by letting our leaders know that their political futures depend upon their active support for the ERA.

Are You FOR The Equal Rights Amendment?

For \$2 now and 10 minutes' time during the coming year, you can help get the amendment passed, no matter where you live.

May we tell you about it? To join the E.R.A. Message Brigade

Write your name and address on the ERA Message Brigade envelope

Put \$2 in the envelope to receive 5 Action Alerts

Then, each time you receive an Action Alert, you send a Message

Here's How It Works:

1. You get an Action Alert from NOW when messages to key political leaders are needed.
Each Action Alert will include an ERA campaign update, a sample message, and an envelope or postcard addressed to an influential leader.
2. You sign the sample message, or substitute your own, and send it to the leader designated.
(ERA is a national issue. Political leaders frequently aspire to national office—many presidents previously served as state governors.)
3. Your message with thousands of others from ERA Message Brigade members reaches the key leader who can influence passage of the amendment.
This national declaration of support for the ERA cannot be denied!

Everybody can help. Together we can put the Equal Rights Amendment into the Constitution.

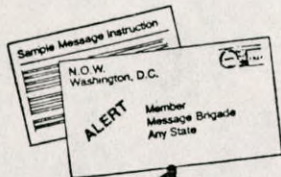
Will You Join Us?

The Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

- Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.
- Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.
- Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

EMERGENCY NOV. 7, 1981

15 Unratified
states—only 3
more are needed
to pass ERA.



CALL TO ACTION

WE
NEED
YOU
NOW

NATIONAL
ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN



EASY ACTION

On November seventh, all eight NOW chapters in Houston will be providing training for doing the Message Brigade and setting up teams to go out that day and see how effective this idea can be. Each chapter has pledged to have ten members participate. We will be meeting at the law offices of Charles Brink on the

tenth floor of the NBC Bank Building on Sharpstown Mall (near Walgreen's) and will be canvassing in that busy area. This will provide you with an excellent opportunity to learn exactly how easy the Message Brigade is to do and if you are new at doing public actions, will be one that guarantees you a positive result.

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National Organization for Women

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3rd!

TEXAS NOW STATE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
NOVEMBER 14th!

10:

Defend a Woman's Right to Choose!

HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
HANOW
P. O. BOX 66351
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006



THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

SECTION 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

SECTION 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

SECTION 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

BOYEDOTT
CAMPAIGN

ALABAMA
ARIZONA
ARKANSAS
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GEORGIA

ILLINOIS
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
MISSOURI
NEVADA

N. CAROLINA
OKLAHOMA
S. CAROLINA
UTAH
VIRGINIA

ERA