



MEDIA IS GETTING THE MESSAGE

"I do not use the term 'women's liberation' to refer to the movement. I don't because the media has made it a perversion.

Have you heard broadcasters use the phrase 'Black Lib' or 'Chicano Lib' or 'Indian Lib' to describe these civil rights movements? Or describe the participants in these movements as 'Libbers'?

I don't really have to tell you that the language used by broadcasters is in itself critically influential in determining how the public perceives movements such as these and the language used to describe the women's movement until fairly recently was without any semblance of respect...

It is perhaps particularly important for media people to recognize this larger agenda, these long-range goals of the women's movement. I suspect that many in the media regarded 'women's liberation' as a one-season spectacular. But we have no intention of fading away -- we are here to stay. It is also, I might add, because of our broad platform for social change that we believe feminists have a fresh perspective to bring to discussions of national issues in the broadcast media.

I will point out that women are not a special interest group in the usual sense of the term. We are half the population. When the image of women presented in the media is offensive, it is offensive to women of all social classes, races, religions, and ethnic origins. Aside from 'equal pay' the offensive image of women in the media has been our most unifying issue with which to recruit women."

--- Remarks made by Virginia Carabillo,
NOW Vice President for Public Relations,
before the Radio Code Review Board
in November 1973

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Reproduction and its Control	Nancy Kuykendall 664-4152
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Dear Reader:

We are happy to welcome to these pages Hal Davis, local architect and well-known raconteur. His art work appears on Page 7.

Pat German, our Advertising Manager, has less time than she would like to devote to soliciting ads for the BROADSIDE. If you are interested in assisting us in this area, please contact me at 783-5829. The job requires a little telephoning and a minimal amount of legwork. Good leads have been supplied by some of our members.

It is with a great deal of pride that we present the work of two local poets in this issue. Response to our request for poems was impressive both for its quantity and quality. Keep sending them in and we'll make poetry a regular feature.

Here's one of my own:

My whole future
is penciled in
but that's all right,
Jack.

There can't very well
be a change of plan
if there ain't no plan
at all.

Besides, just think
of the trouble it is
to erase words chiseled in
granite
or recorded at the county
courthouse
or preserved forever in
somebody's
not
too
accurate
memory.

Jan

TASK FORCE REPORTSREPRODUCTION AND ITS CONTROL

As this issue of the BROADSIDE goes to press we are keeping a "low profile" on the abortion issue on a State level. We are prepared to counter any move for an anti-abortion amendment to the new Texas Constitution, but do not want to stir up the Right-to-Lifers by any noisy public demonstrations. Therefore, at this time we are asking each of you to write as an individual citizen to your Senator and Representative in Austin, so that they will have some idea of the feelings of their constituents.

Also, please write your Senators and Congresspersons in Washington - again and again and again - especially if you are in Bill Archer's district. Archer is the only Texas delegate to endorse any of the proposed anti-abortion amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Also protest the Buckley amendment (anti-abortion discrimination against welfare recipients) to the Medicaid bill.

Nancy Kuykendall

FCC

The big news at BIG 2 NEWS is that Carole Kneeland has been hired as a news reporter. Since Elsa Ransom left Channel 2 over a year ago, there has been no woman doing the "hard" news. Susan Wright has been their consumer affairs reporter. With Kneeland's background in investigative reporting -- KAUM radio and the Houston Journalism Review -- and her impeccable academic credentials (Phi Beta Kappa, etc.), the Houston community of men and women will have a strong voice coming from that news department. She will work with Ray Miller, news director at Channel 2, one of the most respected and fairest newsmen in television. She will also be working with anchor Larry Rasco, quoted by Tina Morgan in the January 1974 HJR as admitting the idea of newswomen has been bothering him. "He does not object to women in news, he just hasn't seen many he thinks are effective communicators. After more than a quarter century in broadcasting he says, 'I've only seen one woman (in TV news) who could really communicate, did the news in a way I could concentrate on it.' He says he finds himself looking at a woman's hair, makeup and he doesn't listen to what she is reporting. 'Most women, for some reason, don't have the authority, the conviction in their voice and manner', he adds."

We want to meet with news departments and public affairs moderators and talk show hosts during the month of March. Are there any volunteers for Rasco? Cilia Estrada and Olga Soliz met with Luis Cano, host of Mexican American Dialogue. I walked into an unexpected CR session with Steve Edwards and Jonni Hartman at Channel 11 when I delivered a news story and was asked to defend my written remarks in the February BROADSIDE.

Photographer Sandra Gerth is heading the Public Service Announcements Committee and needs woman brain-storming power from you. Please call her if you would like to work with her developing local PSAs for NOW. 524-8093 or 522-7997.

Monitoring is in progress. Thanks for the wonderful response.

Janice Blue

1974 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The seventh National Conference of NOW will be held in Houston May 25-27, 1974. This will be a working conference where policy and action programs will be formulated for the coming year. We expect 3500 of our members to attend.

We are now accepting bids for the following services in connection with the conference: office workers, child care, parliamentarian, and verbatim reporting services. Please contact Poppy Northcutt, 2103 San Sebastian #310, Houston 77058 (telephone 333-4610) for further information on bid specifications.

NEW NOW CHAPTERS FORMING

Houston Northwest (Spring Branch/Memorial) will meet at the Unitarian Fellowship, 1320 Wirt Road, at 8 PM on March 5.

Houston South (Pasadena) will meet at the Sherwood Club, 909 Sherwood Drive, March 12 at 7:30 PM. Discussion will be followed by a self defense class. Wear comfortable clothes and bring quilt or blanket. 949-2340 for additional information.

CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING

There will be a meeting on March 18 at the Women's Center to form new CR groups. Members who want to participate need to come to this meeting.

A general overview of CR and some suggestions and guidelines will be presented. Groups will then form and have time to organize, meet one another and their facilitators.

Anyone interested in facilitating a new group please contact Helen Copitka at 526-5547 (office) or 664-2598 (home). A meeting of all facilitators will be held at 4013 Lanark Lane on Sunday, March 17 at 7 PM so that we can share ideas.

SPINNING AND WEAVING

Is anyone interested in learning to spin yarn for crocheting or weaving? Linda Sulpacio is starting a spinning workshop to meet at the Women's Center on Saturday, March 9, at 2 PM. Equipment needed: 1/4" dowel (12 inches long), 3-1/2" - 4" round wooden drawer pull, and a 1" round wooden drawer pull. Fleece will be provided for the first workshop for a 25¢ donation. Call Linda at 523-3502 for further information.

JOIN NOW (members receive free issues of the BROADSIDE)

- I would like to become a member of NOW (\$15)
 I want to join but can only afford \$_____ (\$7.50 minimum)
 I am not a member but would like to receive the BROADSIDE (\$3.00)
 I would like to make a contribution of \$_____ to NOW
 I pledge \$_____ per month for the Women's Center

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____

Mail to: National Organization for Women
 3602 Milam
 Houston, Texas 77002

DEEP THROAT

A Feminist View

by Linda England

I recently had the opportunity to attend a private showing of DEEP THROAT, a movie that is not available in Houston. This film has drawn widespread criticism for being exceptionally vulgar and obscene, in short - "pornographic".

The film concerns the unusual sexual appetites of a woman (Linda Lovelace) who, not being able to find satisfaction in the "usual" way discovers that her clitoris is in her throat. (Deep down in her throat.) Therefore to obtain satisfaction she develops a remarkable talent in oral sex. A psychiatrist (male) specializing in sexual problems helps her solve her problem. The remainder of the film concerns the happy mutual gratification of Ms. Lovelace, the doctor and various other individuals.

Granted this is not much of a plot and on the surface this film may appear to be sexual exploitation. However there are many aspects of DEEP THROAT which give it redeeming feminist values. First of all the subject of the film is the sexual appetite of the main character, a woman. There was little importance attached to Ms. Lovelace's appearance. She did not even once show off her breasts. At one point in the action a number of nameless men are called on to try to satisfy Ms. Lovelace and are judged accordingly. But the most important thing from a feminist point of view is that there is no suggestion anywhere in the film that Ms. Lovelace is a fallen woman or is in any way bad. The assumption made is that she has the right and the freedom to seek satisfaction in any manner she wishes. Perhaps this is what really bothers the denouncers of DEEP THROAT. The sexual freedom of women is too much to accept.

There is another "pornographic" movie in Houston, THE DEVIL IN MISS JONES, which has not been banned but is far more objectionable from a feminist point of view than DEEP THROAT. This film contains just as much explicit sex as DEEP THROAT so by rights it should have been confiscated by now if this is really the issue. And yet it has not. Anyone may see it.

THE DEVIL IN MISS JONES also concerns the sexual appetites of a woman but with an important difference in approach. Miss Jones is a degraded woman throughout. She had been sent to hell for suicide (she had an unsatisfying life, sexually). In a short waiting period before entering hell she is "allowed" by a mediator (male) to live for lust. A male teacher shows her everything and she is grateful. He curses her and she passively accepts it. He criticizes her lack of attractiveness and she agrees. She expects contempt throughout and receives it in abundance.

The chauvinism in this film is truly offensive. This is perhaps why it has not been shut down. It has a very traditional attitude about female sexuality. This film is obscene not because of explicit sex but for explicit sexism.

FEBRUARY BUSINESS MEETING

The following major points were covered at the February business meeting:

1. WEAL has accepted our invitation to rent part of the Women's Center. They will be having one meeting per month, will provide at least one center sitter per month, pay \$10 rent and one third of the telephone bill.
2. After a report by Kay Whyburn, the membership agreed to become party to a complaint filed with the EEOC concerning sex discrimination in the Spring Branch school district.
3. Women In Action, a coalition of Houston women's groups, has invited NOW to join them. Dues are \$5.00 per year. It was voted to accept the invitation.
4. A new chapter has been convened in Spring Branch to be known as Houston Northwest.
5. Joan Ritter announced she is seeking ideas for fund raising at the convention.

FUZZ

The HCWPC has established a Police Department Advisory Committee. We are interested in knowing of all feminists who are seriously considering making an application to the Houston Police Academy. If you fit this category, please call Sharon Moline-Vincent at 661-3231 or Allison Korn at 749-3388 or 747-1934.

WOMEN AND THE LAW

The Fifth National Conference on Women and the Law will be held in Austin March 29-31. Workshops will be held beginning on Friday afternoon and continuing through Sunday morning. Workshop topics include Reproductive Freedom, Marriage and Divorce, Gay Relationships, Sex Discrimination in Education, Financial Disabilities of Women, Women in Institutions, Rape, ERA, Employment Discrimination, Pregnancy, Welfare, etc. Rooms will be available for spontaneous raps. Registration fee is \$10 for law students and legal workers and \$20 for lawyers and professors. The fee includes the Saturday night meal and printed material for workshops. Arrangements for carpooling are being made. Contact Debbie Danburg, UH Student Association, or Clemmie Cummings at 471-3157.

LESBIAN TASK FORCE

It was decided at a meeting on Thursday, February 14, that the lesbian group will join NOW as the Lesbian Task Force (S.O.S. - Sisters of Sappho). The task force decided on future meetings March 14 and March 28 to be held at the Women's Center at 7:30 PM.

On March 15 there will be a talent show and a movie entitled "Home Movies". Those who wish to participate in the talent show should contact the Women's Center. The show is open to all women. Those who have already volunteered claim they have no talent, so why don't you participate and display your lack of it, too.

The Lesbian Task Force will be responsible for the Program Meeting at the UH Student Center, March 8 at 8 PM. Speakers will be followed by a discussion period.

Untitled, but Not Unfelt

It's toward the end of October now.
 I remember our pies and plans for turkey dinner, the
 tablecloth I made.
 I remember you laughing....it must have been gaily.
 I love you still.

But STILL it is. Unmoving, Unyielding.
 You tried to kill me once. Beat me, kicked me.
 Because I had struggled through
 25 years of desperation and could not love you with
 wild abandon.

You wanted lace-black Bodily contortions,
 Acted out, one-sided fantasies.

And then, that once,
 I called you sick.

You struck
 And
 Struck.

And I strike back.

Alone now.
 Unmoving.

Elizabeth Gammon Masterson



When I was six
 I was sexless.
 On Saturdays
 My father made pancakes
 While my mother weeded
 And I made mudpies in my overalls
 Without a shirt
 Squatting in the driveway with Stevie
 Who wore bows in his hair
 Because he liked them.

I was still sexless
 When I was ten.
 And played statues and hide-and-seek
 All up and down the street
 With Marcy and Suzy and Stevie
 And caught fireflies between my hands
 To let them go
 And wondered why Nancy's big sister
 Acted so silly about Elvis Presley.

When I was fifteen
 I was sexy
 And wore dresses
 The shorter the better
 And was afraid to look at boys
 Because they might see me looking
 And I didn't talk much
 Because I never knew what I might say.

When I was twenty
 I knew I was sexy
 Because the men were around
 Like dogs around a bitch in heat.
 And I talked about the art of loving
 And learned to have orgasms
 To please.

I'm twenty-five
 And sexless again

And I like it.

Ann MacNaughton

STATE BOARD OF NOW

The State Board of NOW met Saturday, February 16, in San Antonio. This was the first time the board met. The meeting convened promptly at 10 AM and adjourned promptly at 4 PM, thereby distinguishing itself in the annals of feminism.

The board agreed to make FCC, Rape, and Education the three priorities for 1974. The statewide coordinator for Rape will be Fran King, 2571 Waits, Fort Worth 76109, and for Education - Peggy Hall, 416 Willard, Houston. The Education task force will look particularly at textbooks and athletic equalization.

The members were urged to remind each local chapter to donate \$1.00/member to the State. The Board will meet once more before the conference in Waco on April 20, 1974.

SHOW TIME

On Friday, March 1, Sissy Farenthold, Barbara Jordan, Bobbie Kilberg, Gloria Steinem, and Julia Zozaya will speak at the Houston Music Theater. Their remarks will be followed by a question-and-answer period. The evening begins at 7:30 PM and tickets are priced at \$1, \$5 and \$20. If you've been to the HMT, you know that a \$1 seat will be as good as a \$20 seat. Tickets can be ordered from Political Caucus Forum, 8100 Westglen, Houston 77042, or you may purchase them at the door.

UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD BOOKSTORE

2437 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77005

(713) 527 - 8522
MARY ROSS T. RHYNE

BE A HANDYWOMAN

The Women's Center is looking for people to teach us home repairs, electrical, automotive, appliance repair, carpentry, plumbing, and general fix-it. The immediate aim is to start a liberation school of repair and and liberated repair business. Call Linda Sulpacio at 523-3502. First meeting will be held March 21 at 8 PM at the Center.

TIME ON YOUR HANDS?

We need a Legislative Task Force Representative. Duties will be to receive NOW lobby kit and legislative alerts, disseminate information from NOW national legislative office, and stimulate chapter members to act. We also need people to do a couple of one-time jobs such as setting up a file for orientation meetings and putting together a brochure on Houston NOW. Call Joan Ritter, 645-9378, or Jeanne Necaie, 772-4843.

Woman's Work

You are the last straw in my broom.
But I still cling to it,
Paltry thing that it is.

Sweep clean.
The last commitment.
When the one straw is gone
I must find a new broom.

Or give up the cleaning.

Elizabeth Gammon Masterson

CALENDAR

WOMEN'S CENTER
3602 Milam
524-5743

Open Monday-Friday, 7-10 PM
Saturday 12-3 PM
Sunday 12-3 PM

1974		MARCH							1974	
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²⁴ 31	25	26	27	28	29	30				

CENTER SITTERS:

- Mar. 1 Mattie Sue Athan
- 2 Betty Smith
- 3 Melva Burnham
- 4 Harla Kaplan
- 5 Virginia Lovejoy
- 6 Deborah Minatra
- 7 Sally Melville
- 8 Harriett Kilbourne
- 9 Barbara Brown
- 10 Ruth Milburn
- 11 Nancy Kuykendall
- 12 Mary Jane White
- 13 Patti Payne
- 14 Kay Whyburn
- 15 Sally Hancock

- Mar. 16 Pam Lewis
- 17 Joan Ritter
- 18 Linda Bayer
- 19 Phyllis Rowsey
- 20 Beverly Horton
- 21 Jenny Coon
- 22 Bonnie Atkinson
- 23 Ola McLoughlin
- 24 Gail Carstens
- 25 Pat German
- 26 Ann Smith, Margo Bishop
- 27 Brenda Cooper
- 28 Linda England, Dianna Vejtasa
- 29 Toni McLellan
- 30 Clara Willing
- 31 Myrna Khan

COMING EVENTS

- Mar. 1 - Steinem, et al, Houston Music Theater, 7:30 PM
- 4 - NOW Orientation, "Intro to HCWPC", Ricky Rosenberg & Harriett Coleman, 8 PM
- 5 - Houston Northwest NOW, 1321 Wirt Road, 8 PM
- 6 - NOW Program Meeting, 8 PM, UH Student Center
- 10 - Garage Sale, Common Market, All Day
- 11 - NOW Orientation, "Legal Rights", Elliott Tucker, 8 PM
- NOW Board Meeting, 8 PM
- 12 - Houston South NOW, 909 Sherwood Drive, 7:30 PM
- 13 - NOW Business Meeting, 8 PM, UH Student Center
- 14 - Lesbian Task Force, 7:30 PM
- 17 - CR Facilitators, 4013 Lanark Lane, 7 PM
- 18 - NOW Orientation, "Consciousness Raising", Helen Copitka, 8 PM
- Conference Planning Committee, UH Student Center, 8 PM
- 23 - National Conference Planning Committee, Rice Hotel, 9 AM
- 25 - NOW Orientation, "History of NOW", Joan Ritter, 8 PM
- 28 - HCWPC Membership Committee, 7:30 PM
- Lesbian Task Force, 7:30 PM

Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held at the Women's Center. Adult-supervised child care is available at all meetings.

broadside

Houston Chapter

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN

March 1974

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
3602 MILAM
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

broad·side n 3b: a sheet of paper printed on one or both sides and folded 4: something (as a ballad) printed on a broadside 5a: the simultaneous discharge of all the guns on one side of a ship

Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary

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