

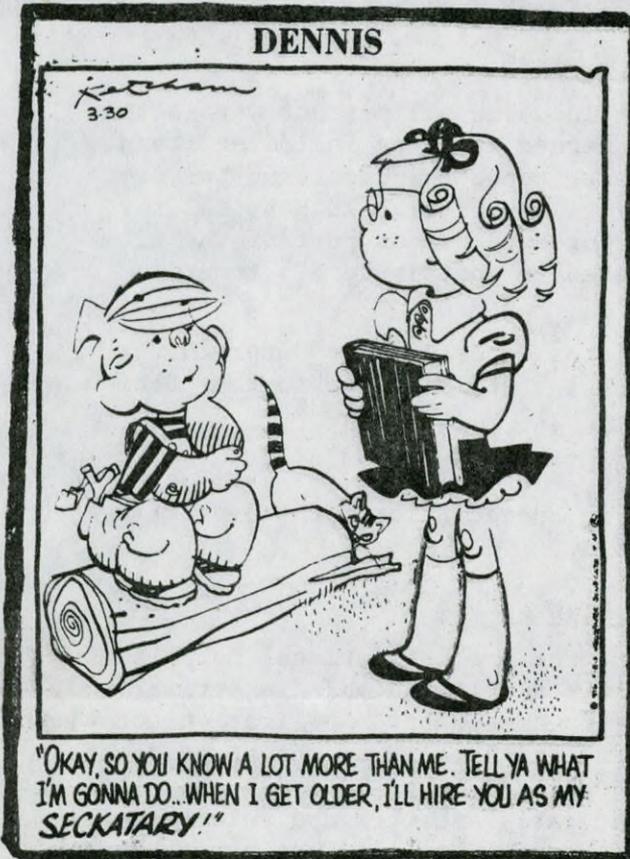
N.O.W. Bay Area Chapter
NEWS

National Organization for Women



Volume IV, Number 5 - May, 1976

Sociology of SEX Roles



Program/Business Meeting

8 p.m.

Thursday, May 6, 1976

Uniting Church

El Camino & Reseda

Clear Lake City, Texas

Janet Chafetz, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology of the University of Houston, will speak on the Women's Movement and the Sociology of Sex Roles.

Presiding Officers for May: Sonia Doty (474-2691) and Jeanne Saletan (471-2862)

NOW CALENDAR

- May 6 Bay Area NOW Chapter Meeting - 8 pm - Uniting Church - Clear Lake City
- May 15-16 ERA National Mobilization - Springfield, Illinois - a national demonstration of support for the Equal Rights Amendment
- May 29-30 "Spirit of Equality '76" - State Convention of Texas NOW - Abilene, Texas - Guest speaker: Sarah Weddington
- May 13 Meg Christian, poet and singer - 8 pm - Unitarian Church - 5210 Fannin - \$3 donation - advance tickets Univ. Blvd. Bookstore - Bring own seating - Child care provided - On May 16, Meg Christian gives a benefit performance in Dallas for Mary Jo Risher.

Presiding Officers for June: Tessa Stutts (488-0932) & Linda McCollum (488-0950)

Bay Area NOW Chapter Meeting - April 1, 1976

The program, a spirited and wide-ranging rap session in which all present were active participants, was followed by a business meeting concerned with the following items:

- 1) Bay Area Task Force on Rape (BATFOR) - Evie Whitsett reported processing telephone calls from local rape victims, completing agreement with Clear Lake Hospital for treatment of rape victims, preparing a checklist for evidence as part of the kit used in treatment of rape victims. The Chapter voted to contribute \$25 toward expenses of continuing the BATFOR program.
- 2) Houston Area Council of NOW Chapters - Jeanne Saletan reported that determining degree of formal structure for organization is still a stalemate to further action.
- 3) ERA National Mobilization - Marilyn Kinard expects to attend. Chapter voted to provide \$50 toward expenses of chapter delegate(s).
- 4) Uniting Church - Chapter voted a donation of \$25 in appreciation for the privilege of holding meetings in the church throughout 1975.

NOW's National Rally For Equal Rights

Across the country, NOW members are gathering support for the ERA National Mobilization on the weekend of May 15-16, 1976. Thousands of feminists will assemble in Springfield, Illinois to demand the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Mobilization activity will include district work, canvassing, a major march, and a rally on the steps of the state capitol. The bus from Houston will leave on the afternoon of Saturday, May 15 and arrive in time to join the march and hear all the rally speakers and entertainers. The bus will arrive back in Houston the afternoon of Monday, May 17. Cost per person round trip is about \$50. Contact the Women's Center, 524-5743, if you can go, and join the poster and banner party Tuesday, May 11 at the Women's Center at 7:30 pm.

American Women's Bicentennial Essay Contest

NOW Legal Defense & Education Fund invites all high school students (female, male) to help discover the "Lost History of America's Women" through participation in an essay contest. The contest is intended to stimulate research on the lives of individual women or classes of women - your grandmother - indentured servants - pioneer women - business women.

Essay length: 1000 to 2000 words. Deadline for submitting essays to Bay Area NOW: June 11. Winning essay, to be announced in July, will receive an award of \$25 and will compete in a state-wide contest in August. The national winner, to be announced in September, will receive \$1000. Chapter contest coordinator is Marjorie Randal (488-4396). Judges are: Gretchen Mieszkowski, PhD (Yale), Professor of Literature, Univ. of Houston, Clear Lake; Laura Oren, PhD (Yale), Professor of History, Lee College, Baytown; Anne Sherrill, MA (University of Texas), Professor of English, College of the Mainland.

TEXAS N.O.W. STATE CONFERENCE - Abilene, May 29-30

Registration Embers Motel beginning Friday evening, May 28. Proof of membership in a NOW Chapter required to avoid payment of extra fee. Persons having membership in more than one chapter will designate the one in which they wish to be counted. Membership in Texas NOW required. Escrowed dues require certification by member's chapter treasurer. State NOW council has voted not to waive registration fees.

Workshops (3 sessions):

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|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| I. Rape | II. Rural Organizing | III. Newsletter |
| Third World Women | Reproductive Freedom | Chapter Growth & Devel. |
| Lesbian Rights | Education, Title IX | Masculine Mystique |
| Criminal Justice | Marriage and Divorce | Consciousness Raising |
| Education, textbooks | Women's Health Care | Education, Preschool |
| ERA | Radical Feminism & Active Dem. | Women and Money |
| Women's Health Care | Employment | |

Elections: 5 ballot boxes, ballots kept until next State Council. Self nomination as usual.

Motels: Average \$4.00 per night per person, some slightly more. Scottish Inn, Embers Inn, Downtowner Motel, all located at some distance from Conference site. Make own reservations.

Conference location: All sessions at Abilene Convention Center. Send Conference registrations to Abilene N.O.W.: Linda Wright, 2002 S. Clack, #106, Abilene 79605.

Fees: \$5.00 advance registration; \$10 at door; \$20 non-members.

WOMEN'S COALITION ORGANIZED

The Coalition, an outgrowth of cooperation directed toward promotion of ERA, has been formed to foster legislation in Texas for women's causes. Members are Texas N.O.W., WEAL, AAUW, Texas Nurses, LWV, NWPC. Barbara Duke of Austin will serve as NOW's representative for matters concerning education, an area for which NOW has undertaken particular responsibility. Other priorities are: child care, criminal justice, employment, and Commission on the Status of Women.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST TEXAS NURSES

The recent decision of the Univ. of Texas Regents to place the formerly autonomous School of Nursing under the control of six separate campus administrations is a women's issue. The decision was made by male regents on a resolution offered by a man, dissolving a system within the University which enrolls 99% women and which was headed by a woman who had achieved the level of President within the University. Other administrative staff was predominantly female. Four days' notice was given the staff, who had previously had no opportunity to contribute to the deliberations. The women administrators of this largest school of nursing in Texas are convinced that University systems administered by men would not have received such summary treatment. As they have pointedly observed:

"Isn't it interesting that the Board of Regents' decision came at a time when tax-supported institutions - including those of higher education - are being held accountable for their number of women in administrative positions. The six women to be Nursing School Deans will enter component institutions whose administrators are mainly men, thereby increasing the number of female administrators without increasing their influence over spheres traditionally administered by men."

A petition to rescind the decision of the Board of Regents will be brought to our May meeting.

Herewith, a Little Tribute To WOMAN In Her Great All-Encompassing Stereotypical Sex Role: THE OBJECT OF RIDICULE

A Moving Picture That Really Is

We unexpectedly were able to obtain the film, "The Emerging Woman," so without much advance planning possible, worked to get a showing together for Friday night, April 30. For those who missed it, or for those who know someone who would like to see this fascinating documentary on the American women's struggle for human dignity and independence from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day, the film will be shown at College of the Mainland Tuesday, May 4, at 8 pm, in the teaching auditorium, opposite the library. We will have the film until nearly the end of May, so there's still time to arrange a showing in your area. Call 534-6244 for information.

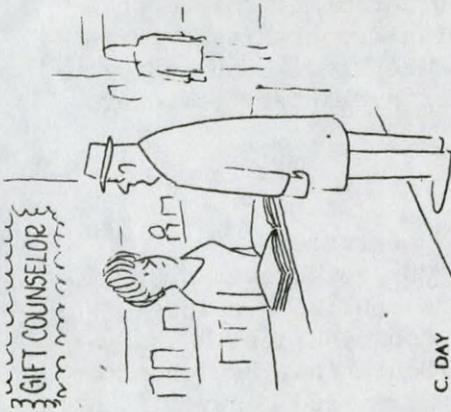
- Betty Yancy

Interested In Running Your Own Business?

The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Small Business Administration, is sponsoring an orientation seminar, "Basics of Running a Small Business," May 20, University of Houston Continuing Education Center, Solar Room #130, 4800 Calhoun - Entrance 1. It will run from 8:30 - 4:25 and topics covered will be: Personal Factors and Self-Training; Capital Requirements - Financial Factors; Sources of Capital; Business Regulations, Taxes, and Insurance; Organizing Your Business; Business Opportunity - Is It For You?; Art of Management; Business Records and Their Importance. Cost is only \$2 (lunch not included). Reservations can be made by mailing your name, address, and \$2 to SCORE TREASURER, One Allen Center, Suite 705, 500 Dallas, Houston, Texas 77002.

"Today the myth of female weakness is losing its credibility, as women demonstrate again and again that they are capable of functioning above the level of the private or the subordinate. Unfortunately, such demonstrations don't do much to defuse the other myth.... With the old rules for masculine superiority fading in the public sphere, how can men face the feminine superiority they have posited in the private world? Gilder raises this point with some anguish. If women are able to earn as much as men, men will lose their only claim to superiority in the modern world; and since (in his view) women are endowed with magical power in personal relations, men are thereby condemned to soul-destroying inferiority. Poor engineer, hoist with his own petard! And strangely unable to imagine that men and women might ever stand equal and level, that inferior/superior might not be a necessary part of male/female relationships." - Elizabeth Janeway

"Between Myth and Morning: Women Awakening"



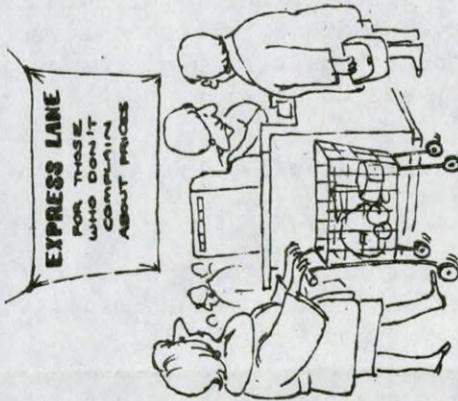
C. DAY

"What would you suggest for a woman who returns everything?"



M. YAUK

"Yoo-hoo! I've changed my mind!"



G. EMERSON



B. LEVINE

"What do you mean where am I going? I've been to Mother's for two weeks and just got back!"

Parade - Houston Post - 5/2/76

it's TO LAUGH

Join The Fight For Four More (States For ERA)

Send \$5 or more to the NOW ERA FUND, National Organization For Women, National Action Center, 425 Thirteenth St. NW, Suite 1001-7, Washington, DC 20004 and you will receive in return for your contribution a handsome solid pewter medallion commemorating women's struggle for their rights, 1776-1976. Make your checks payable to NOW ERA FUND and include your name and address. This medallion demonstrates its wearer's tangible involvement in the current struggle for the ERA.

Forum: Child Care For Working Parents

A day-long "Child Care Forum For Working Parents" (Shouldn't that be EMPLOYED parents??) is set for 8:30 am - 3:30 pm, May 26, at St. Philip Presbyterian Church, 4807 San Felipe Rd. The program is free and is co-sponsored by Texas Child Care '76, a nonprofit state-wide organization established to identify and promote development of services, programs, and legislation needed by children and their families. Marie Oser is the group's executive director. To register, call 772-3752, the office of Texas Child Care '76, 6711 Harnwood. Co-sponsors include the state Department of Public Welfare and some 25 national and local organizations.

Bay Area Task Force on Rape - Report

The members of Bay Area Task Force on Rape give hearty thanks to Bay Area NOW for its contribution of \$25.

We are continuing to take crisis calls. More BATFOR members are in training with HRCC to do crisis intervention, and we are strengthening our affiliation with Crisis Helpline. An inservice training program to share what we have learned with the emergency staff of the Clear Lake Hospital is pending. In April, BATFOR participated in an interview on radio station KLYX.

To continue expansion of our service to the community, we will need more help. If you can work with us to meet this need, call Evie Whitsett, 488-1777. ---Nora Mertz

Textbook Task Force Needs Reviewers Now

Textbooks up for adoption by the state of Texas in 1976 are due to arrive in Region Centers by April 30, where they are available to citizens for review. There will be a great number of books to be checked for sexist content this year and the Continuing Task Force on Education For Women welcomes help with the task. The format for reviewing books and writing Bills of Particulars (protests) on their contents is well worked out and should assist every novice reviewer to do an expert job. For information on this significant feminist project, call local Task Force coordinators Marjorie Randal (488-4396) or Twiss Butler (333-4764). If you have expressed interest in participating in this effort, now is the time to come forward.

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

_____ I would like to become a member of Bay Area N.O.W. and National N.O.W. (\$15)

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

_____ I am not a member, but would like to receive the NEWSLETTER for a year. (\$3)

_____ I would like to make a contribution of \$_____ to N.O.W.

_____ As a N.O.W. member, I authorize my name and address to be published on chapter roster.

NAME _____ Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

ADDRESS _____ City and Zip _____

Occupation and Employer _____

Interests and/or skills which I can contribute to Bay Area N.O.W. projects:

Criticism of Bay Area N.O.W.'s program, organization, goals:

