



N.O.W. NEWS

National Organization for Women

Vol. 9 No. 7 JULY 1981

BAY AREA CHAPTER

Women Are Worth More Than 59¢

ERA

HOW IT WILL AFFECT

MINORITY
WOMEN

HOMEMAKERS

MEN

PROGRAM MEETING, JULY 2, 1981

A Uniting Church
979 Reseda at El Camino Real
Clear Lake City
7:30 p.m.

BRING FRIENDS!

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH AUDIENCE
PARTICIPATION. WE NEED YOU!

Who are the truly needy? This \$*@/ phrase has been used by Reagan's fiscal axe swingers to identify who should be helped by federally funded social programs. Is it children, women, the aged, minorities who have struggled with discrimination for centuries? Hell no! On 60 Minutes June 14, they identified those who benefit from federal funds that are to be used to bring employment opportunities to small towns--K Mart, MacDonalds, and Richard Viguerie! Yes, ole get gov't out of the market place Viguerie. The truly needy.

Let's stop trying to force ^{Houston Chronicle} our beliefs on one another ^{June 15 1981}

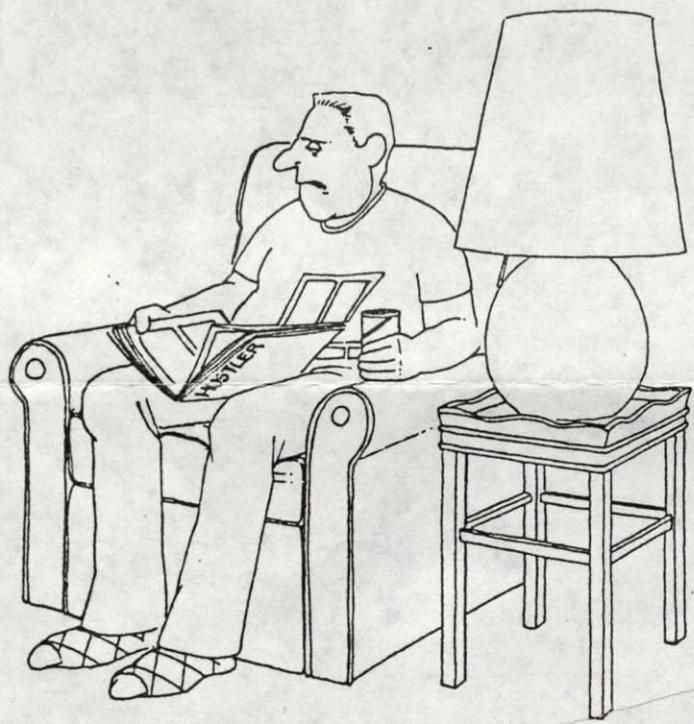
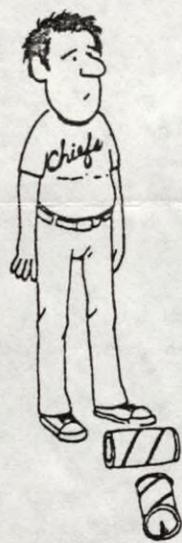
From David Stewart, 8701 Town Park.
A Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service article (Chronicle, June 8) indicated that about two-thirds of the population still favor women's right to abortion. Yet most of the recent front page coverage has related to legislative and council decisions to

curtail public funding of abortions, at the federal and local level.
I call attention to the fact that these decisions relate only to the public funding of abortions and not to the basic right of abortion. However, an obvious disapproval of abortions is being voiced in these decisions, and care should be taken lest these legislative and counciling bodies overstep the boundaries of authority and responsibility.
It is my opinion that publicly funded abortions should be given the same consideration as any other form of public health care. When the county commissioners eliminate one form of health care (such as abortions) in favor of others, then they are making decisions of a medical nature and not those of a budgetary nature. The question should not be whether or not to fund abortions, but rather how much or how little of the taxpayer's dollar the budget can allow for such medical care.

I believe that life begins at birth and not at conception, but that is my belief, and I don't try to push it on others. We live in an age where we should be very careful not to let our individual religious preferences infringe upon the constitutionally protected rights of one another. I believe the Constitution has indicated the correct stand on abortions as well as prayer in public schools, because whose prayer are we going to render -- mine or yours?
Let's maintain our freedom of religion on all frontiers and stop trying to politically force particular beliefs on one another. Isn't that what this country is all about?

There's a message sent to Coors! Thank you Betty Yancey!

TRAVELING



"You came out of the end of my dick; that's where you came from!"

108 DECEMBER HUSTLER 1979

Man plants the seed, or "woman as flowerpot." *Mari Randal*

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Attention on killings of 38 females in Atlanta

June 15, 1981

BY JEFF PRUGH
© 1981, Los Angeles Times
Washington Post News Service

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

ATLANTA — A series of at least 38 unsolved killings of Atlanta-area girls and women — most of them black and in their teens and 20s — has taken place since late 1978 and has gone almost unnoticed because of the attention focused on metropolitan Atlanta's case of 28 murdered young blacks, 26 of whom were males.

These additional homicides have aroused so much alarm at City Hall that Mary Davis, who heads the City Council's Public Safety Committee, said she has now asked Lee P. Brown, the city's public safety commissioner, to give the committee a list of all unsolved slayings in Atlanta, "male and female, black and white."

"We were concerned about so many women being killed that we wanted to look at the other side of the coin," said Davis, whose committee asked for and received from Brown a list of homicides of black females here for 1978 through 1980.

It is believed by some observers that the number of unsolved slayings of females would exceed 38 if victims whose bodies were found in all suburbs and neighboring counties also were counted. That procedure is already used in the widely publicized case of black youths, ages 7 to 27, whose slayings here since July 1979 are being investigated by a special police task force and FBI agents.

"The potential number is so staggering that it's likely to be the worst problem of unsolved murders in the history of any

Look at the language of this editorial! 9 unaccountable/unelected men have made an untenable intrusion into the marketplace. Their decision trivialized the court which is to act only on the largest and most important issues. The Supreme Court should "leave people alone and let them go back to handling their own affairs." I wonder if the Chronicle would feel the same if the issue were to do with freedom of the press? Oh, that's an important issue and discrimination against women isn't. I hadn't realized.

U.S. city" Georgia state Rep. Mildred Glover, D-Atlanta, said Sunday.

Glover also urged Mayor Maynard H. Jackson to relieve Brown of his command to the task force.

"We need to treat this as a crisis now," she said. "It's no different than baseball. When you're in the fourth or fifth inning and you're losing badly, you change pitchers."

Brown, a target of frequent criticism because of the inability thus far of the task force to solve the cases, has been steadfastly supported by Jackson, who appointed him in 1978.

Of the 28 young blacks whose slayings are now assigned to the task force, only two were girls. Angel Lanier, 12, was strangled, and LaTonya Wilson, 7, whose cause of death was undetermined.

Most of the other 38 female victims, who range in age between 14 and 60, were strangled or stabbed to death. Four of the 38 were white, including three young women who were found strangled in apartments during the last seven months and a girl, 15, who was found shot to death in 1979 — all in suburban DeKalb County, where bodies of some of the officially listed black males were discovered.

The headline should read that President Reagan immediately mobilized the Federal Bureau of Investigation to enter the investigation of this ghastly slaughter just as he did the the other murders that have taken place in Atlanta. It should, but it didn't--and it probably never will.

1981 HUMANITARIAN AWARD NOMINEE

In re Tom Bass, Harris County Commissioner for Precinct 1: In a two page statement sent to Pat Kuhlmann he accepts the position that life that must be protected is present at conception, but castigates Pro-Life for single issue politics. Then he states that as an elected official he must represent his constituents and should not impose his religious beliefs on the public, but enough of them oppose abortion to withhold tax money from Jeff Davis' abortion clinic. In the midst of this is a statement that begs to be quoted: "We all hold life precious, but it takes strong religious beliefs in the afterlife to believe that ultimately the abused child is better off than the unborn child."

Will the Supreme Court never quit intruding?

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

JUNE 16, 1981

When is the U.S. Supreme Court going to get out of people's lives and quit intruding into every detail of how Americans work and live?

The American people did quite well for around 200 years with minimal attention in this respect from nine unelected and unaccountable men. But for some years now it seems that the Supreme Court has taken unto itself the position that it must be involved in the hour-by-hour functioning of American life.

The court could hardly have provided a more vivid illustration of this meddling than in its recent 5-4 decision involving pay for women. The court has placed itself and the rest of the federal judiciary squarely in the position of assuming a right to judge how much an employee is worth, or conversely, is not worth. This was made inevitable when the court went beyond the question of equal pay for identical work and ruled in favor of a federal court right to make decisions in the vague realm of equal pay for

non-identical work. It is an untenable intrusion into literally millions of individual judgments and decisions made weekly in the marketplace.

In addition to all the other roles it has assumed, the Supreme Court has now set itself up as the national personnel manager.

This is trivializing the Supreme Court. It was set up as a court of last resort to resolve only the largest and most difficult problems. The court has over the years now changed that concept to involve itself in the most minute facets of everyday activities. That is an endless, self-generating process. Each time the Supreme Court does it, there is opened up a whole new area of probing for federal court authority over ordinary private life and decision-making.

The more the Supreme Court has intruded in this manner, the worse things have become. It should leave people alone and let them go back to handling their own affairs.

An Appeal to the Members of the Mormon Church

Women are discriminated against in the United States.

Women have always been discriminated against. But gradually, step by step, this country has moved away from the old English common law doctrine, which regarded women as the *property* of their husbands, and moved toward treating women as individual human beings.

A giant step toward women's equality was the winning of the right of women to vote on August 26, 1920.

Now we must take another giant step and win ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by June 30, 1982.

What Will ERA Mean?

ERA will mean that all individuals, regardless of whether they are women or men, will be treated equally under the law.

That is all ERA means; nothing more, nothing less.

Unequal treatment means that:

- As homemakers, women have no economic rights, only dependent benefits. Frequently, homemakers have no social security or pension in their own right for their retirement years. Dependent benefits are often inadequate, less than benefits of paid workers, and all too often, in the case of divorce, benefits are lost.

- As workers outside the home, when women retire they receive social security checks which are much lower than men's.

The average social security benefit for employed women retiring in 1978 was \$215 per month compared to \$325 per month for men. Of all older Americans living below the poverty line, 75% are women.

- As wage earners, women earn only 59¢ for every \$1.00 men earn, and 9 out of 10 women will work full time for pay sometime during their lives.

Minority women earn even less.

Women who are college graduates earn less than men who did not complete high school.

- In promotion, women have far less opportunity than men—i.e., as a school teacher, (women are 70% of the teachers) a woman's chance of becoming a principal is 19 times less than a man's.
- Women who live in a state which has recently enacted its own equal rights provision in its state constitution, such as Pennsylvania, have, under the law, equal rights but only under *state* law. Women have no protection under *Federal* law—until the ERA is in the U.S. Constitution.
- The Federal Government can discriminate against women—and now does in pay, jobs, education, opportunity, social security, to mention a few areas—until the Equal Rights Amendment is ratified.

Why is There Opposition to ERA?

Who does not support equality under the law for women and men?

The Mormon Church is one institution which actively opposes ERA.

Why is the Mormon Church opposed to the Equal Rights Amendment? Could these be two reasons?

- Women work, and they work for less wages than men. Nationally, and in Utah, more than 50% of the women 16 years of age and over are in the work force full time.

Women, on the average, earn 59¢ for every \$1.00 men earn. In Utah, women earn just 52¢ to every \$1 men make.

The Mormon Church owns and operates businesses, ranging from farms and food processing plants to broadcasting and merchandising companies. Their worth runs into billions of dollars.

It pays these church-owned businesses to have a cheap source of labor—women—just as it pays any corporation in America to be able to get away with low pay scales at the expense of women.

- A primary mission of the Mormon Church is to expand. In 1980 it had 2,700,000 members in the United States and 1,130,000 foreign members. The foreign membership appears to be growing three times as fast as the United States membership and if the Mormon Church is to remain an American institution, it must expand here. The missionary outreach of the LDS Church is well known. What is less well known is the increase in the Mormon birthrate. In Utah, whose population is 70% Mormon, the number of annual births per 1,000 population rose from 25 to 30 during the period 1970 to 1977, while the national average during this same period fell from 18 to 15. Thus, Utah had twice the national birthrate in 1977. First President of the Church, Spencer W. Kimball, instructed women in his book, *My Beloved Sisters*,

"Let other women pursue heedlessly what they selfishly perceive as their interests. . . God has given to you the tremendous tasks of nurturing families. . . Do not make the mistake of being drawn off into secondary tasks."

But women do not work outside the home for frivolous or selfish reasons. Most women work because they must. In these days of high inflation, one income is often inadequate to house, clothe, feed, and care for a family. Many females are the sole paid worker for their households. In Utah, the divorce rate is actually higher than in the nation as a whole—in 1977, in Utah 5.5 per 1,000 population to 5.0 for the nation.

The facts are clear that the Mormon Church has worked actively against ERA. No woman may ever become a priest, which one must be to aspire to leadership in the church. Hence, all decisions, such as the anti-ERA position, are made by men. Women, whose very livelihood is at stake, have nothing to say about such issues.

**The Equal Rights
Amendment**
(complete text)

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.

How can YOU help to change the position of the Mormon Church?

How can YOU help ratify the Equal Rights Amendment?

- Send a postcard to President Kimball asking him to reconsider his position against ERA.
- Sign the petition to President Reagan asking him to change his position to one of support for ERA.
- Talk to your friends and neighbors and your own family, urging their support of ERA.
- Join us in our efforts to convince the LDS Church of the incorrectness of their position.

*An Appeal
to the
Members of the
Mormon Church*

**Mormon Forebears and
Women's Rights**

It is time the women of the Mormon Church spoke up on their own behalf. Eliza R. Snow, wife of Joseph Smith and of Brigham Young, said it all many years ago. Writing in the *Woman's Exponent*, the first magazine published by women west of the Mississippi, she pointed out that women were denied many rights by custom and law, and one right that each woman should have was "access to every avenue of employment for which she has physical and mental capacity."

Brigham Young stated it clearly: "We believe that women are useful, not only to sweep houses, wash dishes, make beds, and raise babies, but that they should stand behind the counter, study law, or physics, or become good bookkeepers and be able to do the business in any counting house, and all this to enlarge their sphere of usefulness for the benefit of society at large. In following these things they but answer the design of their creation."



ERA Missionary Project
1361 S. State Street
Suite 230
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
801-487-1757



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AT CLEAR LAKE CITY

OR CALL 488-9511 FOR INFORMATION

CLASSES BEGIN JUNE 23RD, JULY 14TH, AND AUGUST 4TH

From: The Search, newsletter of an Ecumenical Church in Ft. Atkinson,
Wisconsin, June 7, 1973.

...it is each individual woman's problem. No abstract philosophy, no high legal phrases, no sanctimonious dogma or liberal jargon has anything to do with it. Every woman who ever considers terminating a pregnancy has her reason. It is her personal reason, it is her personal agony, and it should be her personal decision.

But since many men, and some few women, have arguments, let's look at some I've heard recently.

1. "You are destroying a human life." This fetus, which let's say has existed for twelve weeks or so, is not yet, biologically, "a life." Potential life, yes, "a life," no. It is still an extension of the mother, as much as a twig is an extension of the tree. Its blood comes from the mother's blood, its nourishment is the mother's food, its oxygen is the mother's life. If the mother dies, her fetus dies as surely as her hands and feet and womb die. No, biologically, this is not yet a separate "life."
2. "This is a sacred human soul." That is a matter of opinion. However, I've never (thank heaven) known anyone who wouldn't approve of abortion if his (or her) thirteen year old daughter was made pregnant by the forcible rape of a mental defective. That, it seems, is different. How so? Is this union of sperm and ovum a human soul if the female consented, but not human if she didn't? You are certainly entitled to your belief, and I want to respect it, but I can't respect a belief that isn't consistent.
3. "It's against God's will." Nowhere in my Bible have I found an injunction against abortion. Did God tell you personally, or are you entering into an agreement with God without consulting God?
4. "God said, 'Multiply, and populate the earth.' OK, God, we've done that. Now what?"
5. "All life is sacred. God said 'Thou shalt not kill.'" Some people think that means you can't swat a mosquito and some think you can't eat meat and some think you can't remove an oxygen tent and let a ninety-year-old man die in dignity. In Christian America it generally means thou shalt not kill thy fellow human except when temporarily insane, or when justified, or when you are an officer of the law, or a member of the court, or when in self-defense, or when the government has ordered you to do so. This is all politics, anyway, since as I said in (1), the fetus is not yet a fellow human. It's just that this argument makes me mad because it usually comes from men who think we ought to bomb the hell out of Cambodia, shoot protesters, and bring back capital punishment.
6. "Women will use abortion instead of better birth control." Not likely. You'd have all that morning sickness, and fatigue, and weight gain, and then there would be that terrible strain on the endocrine system, and besides, it hurts. Aside from that, most of us are practical souls. Any woman would know that abortion is mighty expensive birth control, and furthermore, she'd realize that by the time she called for her second monthly appointment, her doctor might have a two-year waiting list. Now honestly, do you really believe women are that brainless?
7. Here's a popular one: "It's against life." Now what the heck does that mean?
"Life." Beautiful. Sunshine and breezes and laughter. How could any decent person do anything against life?
Let me tell you some other things that are against life: Crying all night for nine months, or giving away your fully-formed, fully human little child to strangers, or getting married at sixteen to a boy you're not even sure you like any more, or having a nervous breakdown, or bringing another helpless child into the ghetto, or seeing your children always hungry, or feeling your marriage die because there are too many people and never enough money or room, or giving birth to a defective "menopause baby," or being so tired, tired, tired with childbearing and child rearing that you plod dully and apathetically through God's days, and never hear the birds or see the flowers.
Now, that's against life!

So, gentlemen, why don't you go off somewhere and figure out a way to stop wars and keep drunken drivers off the roads. Let each of us women make our own decisions on our own bodies and lives. We are far more able than you to understand the consequences, either way.

Divorce workshop proves top draw at men's congress

By RICK NELSON - Houston Post
Post Reporter
June 14, 1981

Most delegates attending the National Congress for Men share a common bond. They were burned in a heated divorce.

It's a main topic of their discussions, although they also plan to tackle larger issues. Saturday, the delegates met in work sessions, hammering out proposed resolutions to form a statement of policy for the fledgling group.

Under discussion were such diverse topics as sexual stereotypes, the economic exploitation of males and the cultural portrayal of men.

But the core issue of the convention Saturday — the one which generated the most interest and attendance — was the workshop on the discrimination toward men in divorce and child custody battles.

"WE ALL HAVE THE same gripes, the same problems all over the U.S.," said Gerald Silver, head of the California Men's Rights Coalition.

A bitter divorce is "more disruptive than losing a spouse to death," said Justice Baird, chief of the Houston Health Department's epidemiology section, who chaired the workshop.

"A (divorce) judge can only decide on what is brought before him, only what the lawyer tells him. That translates into how much justice you can buy," he said.

Silver said he spent \$22,000 during a three-year divorce action that he still speaks of bitterly.

A central complaint in the workshop was that children often are used by battling spouses as weapons in a divorce proceeding. "A child has a right not to be divorced from either of his parents," one man argued during the conference.

CONVERSELY, SILVER SAID he's found that children most often prefer to live with the most lenient parent. "They don't realize until later that the parent

who had best interest of the child involved was the one who set the most limitations."

Another delegate argued that assertive women file for divorce but don't assert themselves when it comes time to be financially independent.

The Houston Area National Organization for Women sent a telegram Saturday offering congratulations and support for the men's rights convention. "We hope you will continue to solve the problems of inequality that face both men and women," Houston area NOW offered.

The convention is scheduled to continue at the Airport Hilton Hotel Sunday, at which time a host of resolutions will be considered including:

- Bills of Rights for families, children and children of divorce.

- Recommending the revision of federal laws on child support payments. Under the current system, men can be arrested for not paying child support "just on a wife's word," Baird said. The congress hopes to tie child support to visitation rights.

- Asking for an accountability of how child support payments are spent.

- Supporting passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and insisting it be applied to both males and females equally.

- Finding "deplorable" the continued proliferation of stereotyped male and female roles in the media, fiction and advertising, including boycotts of such media.

- Recommending the government be required to provide equal financing for research into men's and women's issues, specifically studies to determine various aspects of child custody-related matters.

I hope these men remember their ex-wives as women had no hand in writing the laws these men are fighting nor are they responsible for the way the courts interpret the law since the judiciary has been a predominantly MALE.

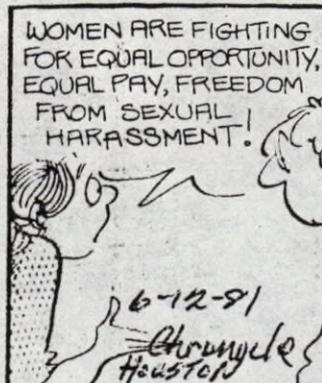


Ah, Yes!

Hollywood reporter Rona Barrett, who left *Good Morning America* only to run into problems with Tom Snyder as co-host of *Tomorrow*, has figured out the source of her problems. Men at the top of the television industry feel threatened by take-charge women, she told *Redbook* magazine, adding, "Most of them have wives who are figurines. The day women take charge of finances is when they will really be in control and have power."

Yah! Rona has the right idea!

For Better or Worse



Get out the Bom-boms & let's get the ERA ratified!
But we know the role "housewife" is part of

BAY AREA NOW CALENDAR:

June 26.....TARAL's "An Evening for Pro Choice"
 June 26-28..Texas State NOW Convention; Dallas, Texas
 June 30.....ERA Rally, Houston City Hall
 July 2.....BA NOW Program Meeting, Uniting Church, Reseda & El Camino Real
 July 14.....Maria Doest's Rape Prevention Classes begin (3 weeks)
 July 15.....BA NOW Business Meeting, 1579 Bonanza
 Deadline for August issue, BANOW NEWS

WORDS FROM PAT KUHLMANN, OUR COORDINATOR: "HELP!!! HELP!!!"

Your Chapter needs three people to stand-up and say, "I'll do the job." The jobs that need to be staffed are (1) Telephone Tree, (2) Reproductive Rights Task Force, and (3) Title IX resource person. Pat doesn't need these positions to be filled; you do! Don't just sit there and expect someone else to do it all for you. Take the responsibility that is yours to make this chapter function effectively. Pat's phone number is 488-3278. Call her NOW.

Business Meeting Notes, June 17: Those present were Pat Kuhlmann, coordinator, Marj Randal, Dorothy Howard, Rema Lou Brown, Bonnie Huval, Evelyn Brennan, and Peggy Cook. Questions in re our tax-exempt non-profit status were raised and Bonnie Huval is to research the issue and report to the members as soon as possible what remedies we have to be certain that our status is secure. Gov. Clements' call for a special session of the legislature was discussed. It was reported by Bonnie that the NOW lobbyist's contract expired at the close of the regular session of the state legislature and that action will be needed at the state convention to re-hire the lobbyist to keep a wary eye on the special session. So far, Gov. Clements has not indicated any issue on re-pro-rights for the attention of the special session, but he has not clearly indicated that he won't raise those issues.

Pat Kuhlmann announced that Meca Cable Television is currently running a membership promo as a Public Service Announcement (PSA) on channel 20. It states: "Women are worth more than .59 but women are paid only .59 for every dollar paid to men. National Organization for Women fighting sex discrimination. Join NOW. Call 488-3278." It runs for 15 seconds every two to three minutes.

Pat also emphasized the need for participation and help to prepare for the ERA Rally, June 30th. Further, there was considerable discussion of programs for the next few months. Ideas suggested were

AUGUST.....Marj Randal will try to arrange for a program on self defense.

SEPTEMBER.....Take Back the Night, no one to arrange details

OCTOBER.....TWPC and Women in Elective Office, no one to arrange it

NOVEMBER.....Moral Majority, NCPAC, and the Neo-fascists, Rema Lou Brown to arrange details.

DECEMBER.....Christmas/Holiday Party, no one to arrange details
 (Possible fund raiser.)

Members will be urged to accept responsibility to arrange programs or to offer alternative programs to those proposed.

The group also determined to undertake an ERA education project in conjunction with the August 26th anniversary of the ratification of the Women's Suffrage amendment. The scope of the effort will be determined by the number of volunteers. We will attempt to cover Baybrook Mall, Alameda Mall and shopping centers in Dickinson and League City--particularly since the stores are heavily trafficked by shoppers during the "back-to-school" rush. Materials for distribution should be compiled and reproduced as soon as possible. Members are to be asked for ideas and to participate fully and enthusiastically.

Rema Lou Brown

ERA RALLY--COUNTDOWN FOR '82

Get out your "GREEN & WHITE" liberation uniform and wear it to Houston City Hall, Tuesday, June 30th. We will gather at 11:30 and be there till approximately 1:30 to mark the fact that we have but 365 days to complete ratification of the ERA. Texas is NOT truly an ERA state until we have the other 3 states that we need by June 30, 1982. Bring the children and help to educate the public--we will not go away and we will not give up!

AN EVENING FOR PRO CHOICE: TARAL is holding an appreciation night to recognize those who helped--Representatives Clint Hackney, Henry Allee, Al Luna, El Franco Lee, Debra Danburg, Craig Washington, Paul Colbert, Ron Wilson, and ED WATSON as well as Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby. The celebration will be June 26 (everything is June 26 for some reason) at 11135 South Country Squire (South of I 10, West of Voss Road, and North of Memorial Dr.) Featured speakers will be Jan Friese, TARAL Exec. Director, and John Henry Faulk, humorist, civil rights activist, and TARAL Board member. The 8 pm gathering asks a \$5.00 donation and will have a cash bar. For information call Helen Rosen, 723-1826. [Go to convention if at all possible, but, if you can't, then go and give ED WATSON a reassuring pat on the back--we've seen signs of wavering and maybe this will demonstrate support for a continued strong stand.] If you go to convention, call him and congratulate him and thank him!

Women's coalition forms to oppose conservative trend

Houston Post June 17, 1981

A women's coalition Tuesday announced formation of the "Reproductive Rights Campaign" designed to oppose the anti-abortion movement credited with forcing the recent closing of the abortion clinic at Jefferson Davis Hospital.

While maintaining the "Moral Majority" is only a minority, leaders of the group said at a news conference the closing of the county abortion clinic was just the first step in a movement to "recriminalize" abortions.

Jeanne Saletan, chairwoman of the Women's Lobby Alliance, said the movement intends to educate women and "mobilize" them against the proposed Human Life Amendment.

The proposed constitutional amendment seeks to redefine the term "person" in the 14th Amendment to apply from the moment of conception.

The women's alliance -- an umbrella organization representing 16 women's groups with memberships totaling 17,000 people in the Houston area -- was formed in response to the conservative outcome of last year's elections.

The alliance was active in lobbying efforts during the legislative session. In addition, it is active in a variety of women's issues and services. Saletan said the group is seeking volunteers.

"We need to impress people to wake up now," said board member Joan Greiner. "There's a trend to infiltrate freedoms by moral beliefs."

Since the abortion clinic at Jefferson Davis Hospital was closed, indigent women have been referred to private clinics, said Pat Lane, an alliance board member and head of the Texas Abortion Rights Action League.

Women's coalition steps up fight against 'human life' bill

*Houston Chronicle
June 17 1981*

Triggered by Harris County Commissioners Court's recent decision to stop funding the abortion clinic in Jefferson Davis Hospital, an umbrella group for 16 area women's organizations has stepped up its campaign to oppose anti-abortionists who support the "human life" bill before Congress.

The Women's Lobby '81 Alliance, representing about 17,000 people in the Houston area, hopes to educate the public on the "legal and social implications" of Senate Bill 158 and its House companion, H.R. 900, which defines life as beginning with conception, Jeanne Saletan, co-chairwoman of the alliance, said Tuesday.

The bill, which would criminalize abortions, is an "assault on poor women," she said.

The alliance is training speakers to discuss the bill with area civic and community groups and hopes to draw others into its pro-abortion fold and to publicize widely its opposition to the bill, Ms. Saletan said.

"We are presenting an alternative to the so-called right-to-life movement which captured a 3-2 majority of Commissioners Court, resulting in the closing of the only abortion service available to poor women in Harris County," Ms. Saletan said.

The right to an abortion was granted in a 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision, she said.

She said the alliance is awaiting a decision on the abortion clinic closing from Texas Attorney General Mark White, asked by the Harris County Hospital District to review the matter.

The alliance includes six chapters of the National Organization for Women, the Harris County Women's Political Caucus, Texas Abortion Rights Action League, American Civil Liberties Union, Gay Political Caucus, Women's Group at First Unitarian Church, Women's Equity Action League, Houston Area Women's Center, Coalition of Labor Union Women, Sisterhood of Temple Emanu El, Women's Law Association at the University of Houston and the Coalition of Women's Art Organizations.

Obviously no two reporters see or hear the same information the same way.

*GOOD WORK,
JEANNE!*

The latest development in this local war against the "truly needy" woman who wishes to terminate her pregnancy is a move to re-open the JESS DAVIS clinic using privately donated funds.

BAY AREA NOW POSITIONS/RESOURCE CONTACTS

COORDINATOR	Pat Kuhlmann	488-3278
Membership	Susan Lab	480-3356
Treasurer	Dorothy Howard	486-0752
Newsletter Editor	Rema Lou Brown	488-1896
Newsletter ads	Mary McFadin	332-5774
Telephone Tree		
Publicity	Peggy Cook	471-6353
Task Force Liason	Marie Stimson	534-4724
Handicap Assistance	Cynthia Sutton	486-1426
Fundraising	Jean Bettencourt	538-1271
Medical Information	Jo Shannahan	488-0190
BANOW Library	Dorothy Howard	486-0752
Texas NOW State	Rema Lou Brown	488-1896
Council Delegates	Pat Kuhlmann	488-3278
ERA Action Team &	Jeanne Saletan	471-2862
Legislative Task		
Force		
Aluminum for ERA	Betty Yancey	337-1383
Lesbian Concerns	Phyllis Tucker	944-0033
Reproductive Rights		
Title IX		
Consciousness		
Raising	Sandy Anderson	554-6416
Rape & Abuse	Mary McFadin	332-5774

VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE BANOW NEWSLETTER ARE THOSE OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY EXPRESS THOSE OF ANY N.O.W. CHAPTER OR NATIONAL N.O.W.

BANOW WELCOMES PHYSICALLY DIFFERENT PERSONS. OUR MEETING FACILITIES ARE NOT ALWAYS BARRIER FREE, BUT WE ARE ACCESSIBLE AND WILL BE PLEASED TO PROVIDE MOBILITY ASSISTANCE. GIVEN NOTICE, WE WILL TRY TO PROVIDE AN INTERPRETER FOR DEAF PERSONS AND ANY REQUIRED ASSISTANCE FOR THE BLIND. CALL CYNTHIA SUTTON AT 486-1426.

CONTACT REMINDERS

WIRES 792-4664

TEXAS NOW: 713-947-9678 contacts the state leadership (or the Houston or Bay Area chapters, also in the vicinity).

TEXAS LEGISLATIVE INFO: 1-800-252-9693

MATRIX (Published by Women's Information Network Services) 661-1251

WOMEN U.S.A. HOTLINE: 1-800-221-4945 offers economic, social and political info regarding issues of concern to women.

WESTERN UNION: 1-800-325-5300 (Public Opinion Messages of 15 words cost \$3.50 to Washington, D.C. and \$2.00 to Austin)

REMEMBER--800 numbers are toll-free!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? JOIN NOW. Clip and mail to Dorothy Howard, 1529 Bonanza, Houston, Texas 77062

- I want to be a member of Bay Area NOW and National NOW (\$30)
- I am already a member of National NOW and want to join the Bay Area Chapter (\$8)
- I want to join NOW and can afford dues of \$ _____
- I am not a NOW member but want to receive the newsletter for one year (\$5)
- 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 PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ WORK PHONE _____

ZIP _____

1529 BONANZA
HOUSTON, TX 77062

