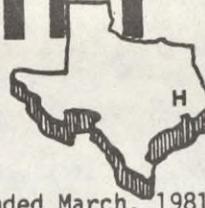


UNIVERSITY NEWS



NOW at the University of Houston, Founded March, 1981

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.

(complete text)

M. J. Sommerfeld - President; E. G. Feld - Treasurer; R. Daumas - Membership;
J. Evansgardner - Public Relations; S. Forschler - Action Team Coordinator.

March 1982
Volume 2, #3

Newsletter Layout and Pasteup by Rossann Daumas

UH Feminists Fight Back

February proved why the University of Houston needs a NOW chapter on campus. As many of you know, Lambda Chi Alpha posted a banner advertising a topless party to be held. NOW in conjunction with TEXPURG protested the sexism of their advertising by hanging a sign next to their's which said 'THIS IS OFFENSIVE TO WOMEN.' NOW's presence on campus challenged a traditional way of thinking and advertising that objectifies women. Without NOW raising consciousness and providing a focal point for feminism, this type of advertising would probably continue unquestioned.

Key in raising the consciousness of this campus were Judy Swinney, the NOW member who had the idea for the protest, Kelley Griffin, Cougar News Editor who wrote a feminist editorial on the subject of images of women in advertising, and Rossann Daumas, NOW Membership chair and Composing Room Supervisor for the Cougar who insured that the photo of the protest would be taken. Marie Tighe, another NOW member, answered a letter in the Cougar which minimized the effect of sexist advertising on women thoughtfully and managed to skillfully insert the entire (all 52 words) text of the Equal Rights Amendment into her reply. Deborah Bell, a NOW member who works on campus also wrote to commend the Cougar and Kelley for their coverage of the protest.

NOW at U.H. has adopted a policy of working to get increased emphasis on Women's Studies on campus. In the last newsletter, a petition for women's studies

was enclosed. Please try and get signatures and return the petition to the office. At the last business meeting, it was suggested that NOW at U.H. form a committee to study alternatives, strategies, etc. necessary to accomplish this goal. If you are interested in working on this, please contact Rossann or me (see note below re contacts during Feb. and March).

Another issue that surfaced last month at the University of Houston was the use of student funds to sponsor the showing of pornographic films on campus. Traditionally, X-rated films have been the most heavily attended and biggest money makers. However this time due to pressures, no fee was charged. Therefore no expenses were recouped and student fees paid for the movie completely.

Pornography is a feminist issue. In order to develop formal policy for NOW at U.H. on the issue of pornography, a meeting, cleverly titled, Policy on Pornography has been set for March 31. In this meeting, we will explore the meaning of pornography to women and feminists, and try to arrive at a policy position that can be presented at the April business meeting for chapter consideration. Please attend. As a special bonus, you can also have the pleasure and privilege, so far experienced by only a select few, of collating the newsletter.

Jeanne Sommerfeld

COME ON! LET'S GO! ERA ALL THE WAY!

It's February - just 4+ months left to Ratify America. There are many who argue we can't win. In similar times, in the depths of the depression, FDR said the only thing we have to fear is fear itself. What ERA workers fear is that ERA supporters will be taken in by the can't win strategy of our opposition. If we accept the idea that the fight is already lost, than WE WILL lose. BUT WE WILL WIN if each of us does as much as she or he can.

That conservative minority which opposes equality has much to gain if you accept their ERA-can't win strategy. They will maintain their unearned prerogatives. We all, men as well as women, have the rest of our human lives as equal persons to lose. Which is by way of announcing why Jeanne Sommerfeld and Jo Ann Evansgardner will be spending the next few weeks in Oklahoma. The fight is still very much ON in the OK state.

It is expected that the next all out work will be in Illinois. If you can get away in March to work in Illinois, call Julie Lapham at the national Action Center, 202/347-2279 for information.

MARCH NOW at UH PROGRAM MEETINGS - TWO SESSIONS ON:

ACADEMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

Tuesday, March 23, 1982

1:00pm Castellon Room
7:00pm Castellon Room

Invited Speakers will examine three major questions:

1. Are Women's Studies academically valid?
2. Should Women's Studies be departmentalized or academically "mainstreamed"?
3. What are the barriers against feminist research and/or research by women?

This program is being organized by Ellen Seaton, Susan Marlow and Cynthia Reyna.

(see Questionnaire on back cover.)

In the world of NOW, all groups seeking to become chartered NOW chapters must abide by all National and State NOW Bylaws.

In the world of the University of Houston, all groups seeking formal status as a Student Group, must abide by the rules of the University.

NOW at the University of Houston has problems --

NOW national bylaws Article III Membership state:

"Any person who subscribes to NOW's purpose shall be eligible to become a member of NOW and upon payment of national dues shall be enrolled as a member, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities thereof. All members of subunits of NOW must be members of the national organization. No person who subscribes to NOW's purpose shall be excluded from membership, segregated, or otherwise discriminated against within the organization."

The Organizations Handbook, Section VII. Members and Offices (sic) of Registered (Student) Organizations states:

"A. Members

1. Registered student groups have freedom of choice in the selection of members, provided that there is no discrimination on the basis of race, handicap, creed, ethnic origin, or sex; except that a waiver of this section may be granted if membership restriction is necessary to achieve the lawful stated purpose of the organization.

2. Membership in registered student groups is restricted to currently enrolled University of Houston Central Campus students, faculty, staff and alumni."

We already have members who do not meet the University rule because people who join NOW nationally by mail may elect to join any chapter and we have gotten several dues paid members in this way. Also, we anticipate that some of our members are students who may be forced to temporarily drop out to earn enough money to continue their education. Additionally, there are faculty, staff and student spouses who feel they are members of the University "community" in the most literal sense who would be denied membership by this rule.

There are several possible ways to cope with these problems -

- 1. Seek changes in the University Rule through the Organizations' Board. Since exceptions can be made to allow discrimination, perhaps we can get an exception to prevent discrimination.
2. Seek changes in National NOW's policy for a special case for college/university based chapters.
3. Stop being a student group and become (say) "University NOW" and meet in some nearby church or home.
4. Stop being a NOW chapter and continue as (say) "Feminists at the University of Houston".

To change NOW bylaws, we need to solicit support for a change from other University/college based groups. If two state organizations put it forward, a bylaw change will be considered at the next national conference in October 1982. We need to go to the next state council meeting, (March 20 in Austin) to seek support from Texas NOW. It seems likely that Pennsylvania NOW and California NOW would also support us.

Please be thinking about what to do about this and come for discussion to the next business meeting, March 3rd, 7:30 Judicial Room, UC.

Jo Ann Evansgardner

Problems, Problems, Problems --

Organizing a Council of NOW chapter in Houston is still in an early stage. The dictionary definition makes it clear that the term "council" has several meanings --

'coun-sil \'kaun(t)-sil\ n [ME council, fr. OF concile, fr. L concilium, fr. com- + calere to call -- more at LOW] 1: an assembly or meeting for consultation, advice, or discussion 2: a group elected or appointed as an advisory or legislative body 3 a: a usu. administrative body b: an executive body whose members are equal in power and authority c: a governing body of delegates from local units of a federation 4: deliberation in a council 5 a: a federation of or a central body uniting a group of organizations b: a local chapter of an organization c: CLUB SOCIETY

but at least one of the usages explicitly includes the idea that members of a council should be "equal in power and authority". However, when some chapters are small and others are large, when some have a dozen committed workers and others only one or two, equality in "power and authority" for chapters in a Council of NOW must be negotiated. And the negotiations will take time. Such negotiations also require a commitment to one or more of the following:

- 1. the more viable NOW chapters there are in the Houston area the better, (since the more chapters, the more leadership that will develop)
2. every NOW chapter is stronger if each NOW chapter is strengthening - each chapter will be strengthened by the loyal support and cooperation of all the others
3. support and cooperation among chapters is necessary and achievable - if we don't hang together we shall hang separately, twisting slowly, slowly in the wind
4. there are work areas that can be supported better financially by a council than by chapters working independently - e.g. newsletter, NOW telephone, P.R., fund-raisers such as Walk-a-thons, etc.,
5. by working together in a Council, the leadership persons of each chapter get to know and appreciate the strengths and difficulties of the leadership persons of each other chapter, and thereby learn to cooperate more effectively.

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, at the University Center, at 7:30 pm. If you'd like to be a part of a developing and important effort in Houston feminism, be sure to come. We in NOW at the University of Houston are committed to a strong Council of NOW chapters because we believe that the surest road to equality between women and men is a strong National Organization for Women and that cooperation among NOW chapters is essential to that end.

JoAnn Evansgardner

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

1. I wish to join the National Organization for Women, NOW at the University of Houston, Central Campus.
(Dues for NOW are on a sliding scale from \$11.00 to \$35.00. This amount is divided among the Chapter, Texas NOW, and the National. Please send an amount for your dues according to your circumstances.)

2. Enclosed are my dues in the amount of \$

NAME

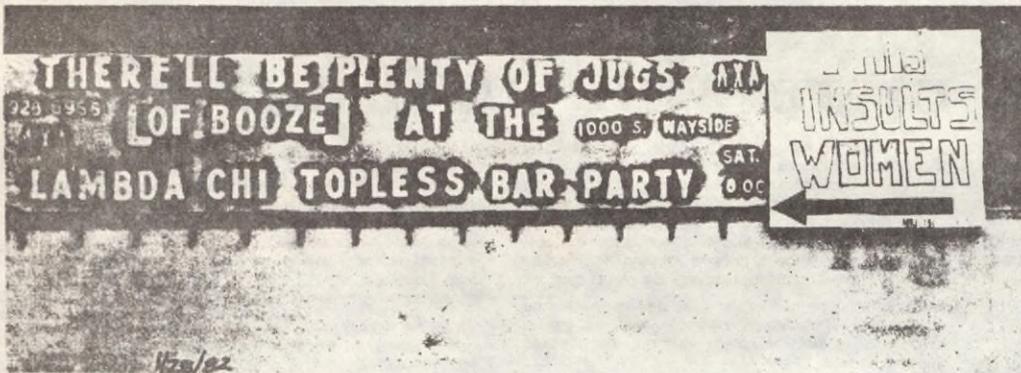
MAIL ADDRESS

TOWN, STATE, ZIP

PRECINCT NUMBER (from voter registration card)

HOME PHONE OTHER

Make your check payable to: NOW at the University of Houston and send to: NOW Box 509, University Center 4800 Calhoun, Houston, TX 77004



Flap over poster causes controversy

Controversy erupted last weekend among three campus organizations when the UH Chapter of the National Organization for Women and the Texas Public Interest Research Group (TexPIRG) objected to a banner posted in the UC Arbor by the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. The groups were fighting over what Lambda Chi Alpha president Brent Uzzell said was "meant to be all in fun." Uzzell added, "I

don't think we'll let things get so tasteless in the future... We'll be more careful in the future." Fraternity member Nat Adams said the advertised party featured topless men, not women. "We don't discriminate on any basis... and we're real proud of that fact." In photo at right, Ken Rollo (left) and Abdul Abdulla (right) were behind the bar at the party at the Lambda Chi Alpha house.



Fraternity hijinks degrade women

Kelley Griffin
1/29/82

Those crazy fraternity guys are up to their hijinks again. What a play on words they put together for a sign in the University Center Arbor announcing a topless bar party. Plenty of Jugs. Ha.

When the UH chapter of the National Organization of Women and Texas Public Interest Research Group (TexPIRG) made the simple statement that "This Insults Women" on a sign next to the aforementioned Lambda Chi Alpha sign, those crazy frat guys got caught with their pants down instead of their tops off.

Lambda Chi Alpha members called The Daily Cougar the night before publication of a picture that captured the two signs together. They wanted to see about "rectifying" the situation.

They said that the photograph would be "derogatory" to their organization.

Never mind that their original sign was derogatory to the women on this campus, and to the men who don't share the sophomore humor of the fraternity.

Rectifying the situation would mean rearranging the thinking of those Greeks and others whose sense of humor can't go beyond worn-out gags that degrade anyone except themselves.

Tony Esparza, one of the members who called, tried to justify the poster by saying, "It was advertising."

It's not clear to me whether he meant that the sign could be as sexist as his group wanted it to be as long as it was advertising, or

whether he thought that if our staff would agree it was just advertising, we wouldn't run a news photograph of it.

At any rate, it is clear that an ad can be offensive to women. One only has to look at commercials that portray women as befuddled shoppers who cannot select their own laundry detergent or underarm deodorant to recognize that fact... or ads that show women in any number of damaging stereotypes — i.e., the woman in a beer commercial who serves only to make the beer-drinking men sigh long, blatant sighs. She doesn't give the viewer any additional information about the product.

Lambda Chi Alpha members may feel embarrassed, ridiculous,

immature; but, unfortunately they need not feel alone in their thoughtless perspective.

At a black-tie banquet at UH last week, honoring the people who have given over \$11 million to the university, the master (fitting term here) of ceremonies was kind enough to identify the women who were, as he put it, making the head table so nice to look at. He used this ploy to introduce the wives at the table — as if adorning head tables is the most important role these women play in life.

The list of examples could go on, and the occurrences probably will.

While members of Lambda Chi complain that the picture which ran in The Cougar was bad press

for them, I doubt they stopped to consider how much bad press women get.

Or maybe they don't care. Perhaps women who don't see the humor in using inventive words for breasts aren't their type. I know those women would not want to be.

I can't give examples of all the things insulting to women. But the important thing is to preserve the right of anyone to point them out as long as insults to women are so pervasive.

When members of Lambda Chi and the Interfraternity Council said in a belligerently macho way that running the picture in The Cougar would be degrading to them, the cliché "taste of your own medicine" came to mind.

NEW COUGAR NEWS

We have all noticed the increase in women related stories printed this semester in The Daily Cougar. In part this is due to editor-in-chief Marilyn Hogarty, who is the decision maker of what is to be published. Much thanks should be directed to Ms. Hogarty for a

fine job. Our thanks should also be directed to the News Editor, Kelley Griffin. She has covered stories from abortion to degradation of women in advertisement. Kelley is truly an inspiration to the readers of our University newspaper.

Rossann Dumas

Law limiting university funding is struck down

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A law cutting off funds to state universities that allow homosexual groups on campus has been struck down as unconstitutional by the Florida Supreme Court.

The controversial 1981 amendment to a budget bill cut off money to state universities that recognized groups advocating sex between unmarried people.

"The right of persons to express themselves freely is not limited to statements of views that are acceptable to the majority of people," Justice Joseph Boyd wrote in his opinion.

No Guts - No Glory

BARNEY GOOGLE and SNUFFY SMITH/by Fred Lasswell



Sciences get more women, minorities

WASHINGTON (AP) — The percentages of women and racial minorities employed as scientists and engineers have increased markedly since 1974, but the actual numbers remain relatively small, says a National Science Foundation report.

The report to Congress issued Saturday, termed the most comprehensive of its kind, said minorities and females are making gains in technical fields, but the progress is slow.

Each group makes up less than 10 percent of the science and engineering work force, makes less money than comparable white males and is under-represented in management positions, the figures indicate.

The foundation, which funds much of the country's basic research and monitors the state of the nation's science, was directed by Congress in 1981 to do such a manpower report every two years.

The report primarily covered data from 1974 to 1978 from many sources, but also included some information up to 1980.

Dr. John B. Slaughter, foundation director, said there has long been a concern about the scientific talent the nation loses in the underrepresentation of women and minorities.

Pre-college preparation, the lack of role models, expected job opportunities and other social and cultural variables seem to be factors in keeping women and minorities out of technical training, the report said.

These groups tended to take fewer math and science courses in high school and college, and tended to study in the social sciences rather than the physical sciences, it said.

Despite difficulties, the number of women scientists and engineers employed at all degree levels increased almost 32 percent (to 232,000) between 1974 and 1978. But this increase brought women up to only 9.4 percent of the total scientific work force, the report said.

During the same period, employment of engineers and scientists from racial minorities rose almost 25 percent, to 39,000. But this increased their share of the

science and engineering work force only to about 4 percent, said the study.

Taken by themselves, blacks represented only 1.6 percent of the total technical workforce by 1978, it continued.

Like women, blacks tended to be concentrated in the social sciences and psychology. In these fields, blacks represent about 5 percent of the total, but in engineering they make up only about 1 percent.

In terms of salary, women scientists and engineers received about 80 percent of the amount paid to men. Unemployment figures also were higher for women, 2.4 percent compared with 1.3 percent for males.

Racial minorities also received lower salaries than whites in most cases. Among those in the labor force since 1970, blacks got an average of \$24,900 annually compared with \$27,300 for whites.

Black engineers were an exception in that they generally received slightly higher salaries than whites, the report noted.

LESBIAN/GAY CIVIL RIGHTS

Hearings were held on January 28 on H.R. 1454. This bill is called the Weis/Waxman Gay Civil Rights Legislation. It would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of "affectational or sexual orientation" in employment, housing, public facilities, and federally-assisted programs.

While this bill does not stand a good chance of being passed by the House, it does provide an excellent opportunity to raise the issue with legislators and provide some education. Hearings are one of the primary methods legislators use to learn about issues.

Some key points to include when writing your congressman are

- Discrimination against any group in a society affects all people living in that society adversely.

- A majority of Americans support Lesbian/Gay civil rights (for information on the polls, see Lesbian Rights Resource Kit at NOW's desk in Campus Activities, Underground UC.)

- The economic impact of Discrimination is disastrous. Twenty million Americans face the threat of losing their jobs regardless of job performance should their sexual preference become known.

(We are including the addresses of Texas Congresspersons so you can write to yours about this. Heterosexual women must - in their own interest - write also. There is no defense against being labeled "Lesbian" and uppity feminists surely will be. For anyone who needs more information on why this is important to all feminists, we have articles and position papers at NOW desk on campus.)

Re Senate Vote reported on page 7: Who do they think they are kidding? Millions of rural children are bused many more miles and many more minutes to give them a quality education. It's only when we try to achieve integration-quality that rides are too long.

* LATE NEWS FLASH *
* Sunday, 2/21/82 *

* NOW at UH members *
* ACTION TEAM raised *
* \$360+ today for the *
* Florida Media campaign *

* D. Bell *
* R. Daumas *
* N. Doyle Mason *
* J. Evansgardner *
* G. Gardner *
* E. Seaton *
* S. Seré *
* M.J. Sommerfeld *
* D. Stevenson *
* L. Tate *



The Battle's not Over

Rep. Chisholm says Reagan tactics destroying quality of life

BY CLAY ROBISON
Chronicle Staff

U.S. Rep. Shirley Chisholm, D-N.Y., has accused the Reagan administration of "destroying the quality of life for America," particularly for the poor, ethnic minorities and women.

"Many of the things we (blacks and women) have gained in the past 15 years are on the legislative or executive assault," Chisholm told a luncheon audience Friday at the Shamrock Hilton. The meeting was sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus and the Minority Women's Association.



Chisholm

At a news conference later, she stopped short of calling President Reagan a racist, but said his actions "lead me to think there are some racial overtones."

Chisholm, who in 1968 became the first black woman to win election to the U.S. House, announced earlier this week that she would not seek another term. On Friday, she indicated her future activities would include organizational work for female political candidates, but she declined to specify her plans.

"This is not my funeral," she said.

Chisholm, who campaigned in 29 states during a presidential campaign of her own in 1972, said there was a bloodless "revolution" taking place in Washington.

"The restructuring of the federal government under the guise of the New Federalism concept is actually destroying the quality of life for America," she said.

She also called Reagan's New Federalism "another name for a return to states' rights" and blasted the administration-sponsored tax cuts as "fraud and deception being perpetrated on the American people."

"They are designed to benefit primarily those individuals in the \$50,000 per year bracket or better," she said.

Chisholm warned that the Republican administration has embarked on a military spending program that could result in federal expenditures of \$1 trillion, or almost 60 percent of the budget, on defense by 1985 to the further detriment of social programs.

"How can you be like Rip Van Winkle when this type of program is moving and we are in peacetime?" she asked, urging her listeners to wake up, do their "homework" and study congressional voting records.

The congresswoman said sexism was "alive and kicking" in Washington and cited administration plans to change Title 9 of Education Act. That legislation was enacted in 1972 to prohibit discrimination based on gender at schools and universities receiving federal funds.

One proposed change, she said, would require that only programs receiving federal funds, not the entire university affected, comply with Title 9.

District	U.S. Representatives		Washington, D. C. 20215	
1—Sam B. Hall, Jr.	Room 318 Cannon House Office Bldg.	202-225-3035	13—Jack Hightower	Room 120 Cannon House Office Bldg. 202/225-3706
2—Charles Wilson	Room 1214 Longworth House Office Bldg.	202/225-2401	14—William N. Patman	Room 1408 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-2831
3—James M. Collins	Room 2419 Rayburn House Office Bldg.	202/225-4201	15—E. Kika de la Garza	Room 1434 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-2531
4—Ralph M. Hall	Room 1223 Longworth House Office Bldg.	202-225-6673	16—Richard C. White	Room 2266 Rayburn House Office Bldg. 202/225-4831
5—Jim Mattox	Room 1127 Longworth House Office Bldg.	202-225-2231	17—Charles W. Stenholm	Room 1610 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-6605
6—Phil Gramm	Room 1609 Longworth House Office Bldg.	202-225-2002	18—Mickey Leland	Room 1207 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-3816
7—Bill Archer	Room 1024 Longworth House Office Bldg.	202/225-2571	19—Kent Hance	Room 1039 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-4005
8—Jack Fields	Room 510 Cannon House Office Bldg.	202-225-4901	20—Henry B. Gonzales	Room 2252 Rayburn House Office Bldg. 202/225-3236
9—Jack Brooks	Room 2449 Rayburn House Office Bldg.	202-225-6565	21—Tom Loeffler	Room 1213 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-4236
10—J. J. Pickle	Room 242 Cannon House Office Bldg.	202-225-4865	22—Ron Paul	Room 1234 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-5951
11—Marvin Leath	Room 1331 Longworth House Office Bldg.	202-225-6105	23—Abraham (Chick) Kazen, Jr.	Room 2411 Rayburn House Office Bldg. 202/225-4511
12—Jim Wright	Room 2459 Rayburn House Office Bldg.	202-225-5071	24—Martin Frost	Room 1238 Longworth House Office Bldg. 202/225-3605

continued from page 8

12. Women's studies courses have proliferated on campus in the last 10 years. Over 1,400 departments or schools of education prepare students for careers as teachers, school counselors, and educational administrators. Of the 5,000 women's studies courses offered in schools or departments of education?
- a. 700 b. 315 c. 184 d. 1000 e. 4000
13. Women earned only 1/4 of the doctorates awarded in schools of education in 1972-73. What % of them was earned in educational administration?
- a. 93% b. 10% c. 47%
14. Women comprised 66% of elementary and secondary teachers in 1974. What % of them were school principals?
- a. 75% b. 50% c. 15%
15. A direct correlation between the number of women faculty and the number of women students who subsequently became career achievers has been established. What % of the faculty in schools of educational administration are women?
- a. 51.3% b. 23% c. 10% d. 2%
16. How many references to the need for attention to sex-role socialization and sex discrimination in education programs are made in the 1975 Proposed Revisions of Standards of Accreditation of Teacher Education?
- a. 46 b. 17 c. 10 d. none
17. The word "sex" was added to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 because
- a. A Southern Congressman thought it would help defeat the bill.
 b. Pressure from feminist groups made it necessary.
 c. The country wanted to make up for past injustices.

QUIZ SOURCE:

"Comment on Research/Action About Wo/men" Volume 1C, Number 1 April 1977 Washington D.C. issue published in cooperation with US DHEW by American Council on Education Office of Women in Higher Education 1 Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036

QUIZ ANSWERS:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. a. 10% | 10. c. 9 days |
| 2. a. fell 1% | 11. a. gap is wider |
| 3. c. 154 | 12. c. 184 |
| 4. c. 13% | 13. b. 10% |
| 5. b. over 50% | 14. c. 15% |
| 6. a. 4 of 5 | 15. d. 2% |
| 7. c. males 9 times better prepared | 16. d. none |
| 8. b. males talk 2/3 of the time | 17. A Southern Congressman thought it would help defeat the bill. |
| 9. c. 20% less | |

**A Man of Quality is not Threatened
by a Woman for Equality**

Calendar

continued from page 8

March 7 - 13 NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK

Sunday, March 7 - noon - 6:00pm Women's History Week Rally, Hermann Park. Call 522-6673 for information.

Monday, March 8 - 7:30 (sharp) Women's Health Group topic is Sexuality Houston Area Women's Center 4 Chelsea Blvd. 528-6798 (one time only donation of \$5)

Tuesday, March 16 - Gayle Marie Concert - Fitzgerald's

Tuesday, March 23 - 7:30pm - NOW at UH PROGRAM MEETING ON ACADEMIC STATUS OF WOMEN - Castellan Room, UC

Wednesday, March 24 - 7:30pm - Houston Council of NOW chapters - UC - check for meeting room on announcement board.

Saturday, March 27 - 9:00am to ? - NOW at UH News-letter writing, typing, paste-up, etc. Call 741-4009 for information.

March 29-April 2 - Women's Week at UH-ClearLake Campus

Wednesday, March 31 7:30 - Newsletter Collating & mailing session + "NOW Policy on Pornography" discussion - call Jeanne Sommerfeld for location.

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 - NOW at UH Business meeting, Judicial Room, 2nd floor UC

OOPS

For a variety of reasons (list on request) we have missed out on an important date -- beginning the election process for secretary, Membership, Public Affairs and Community Group Liason. Our Operating Rules state that these elections for these offices should have been held during the thrid week after the beginning of the Spring Term.

We need a Nomination/Elections Committee to carry out this work. Please call RossAnn Dumas for further information, or come to the next Business Meeting, Wednesday, March 3, in the Judicial Room, 2nd fl, UC

REPORT FROM MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

This month marks the anniversary of our first chapter meeting. We are proud that we NOW have 68 dues paid members and a full year's action and consciousness raising to our credit.

But we need more -- more members, more actions, more consciousness raising. What can you do? Become a "membership committee" of one. Members receive an updated membership list every month. This month we have printed our "potentials" list on the back - people who in one way or antoher have shown interest in joining our chapter - people we have been sending the newsletter to. Our fond hope is that members will use this list to recruit at least one new member. Look it over for people you know who may need just that little extra - a personal invitation - to join up. And don't forget to ask your instructors, friends on the staff and other students to join. NOW is an equal opportunity "employer"! As you can see from the stories in this newsletter, the Cougar and the establishment media, there is a lot of work to be done.

Proposal would drop confidential sex-related help to teen-agers

BY KIT MINICLIER
© 1982, Denver Post

Sunday, January 17, 1982
Houston Chronicle

Teen-agers under 18 could no longer get confidential help from the nation's 5,000 federally assisted family planning clinics under a regulation proposed by Secretary of Health and Human Services Richard Schweiker.

The proposed rule would affect more than 675,000 sexually active teen-agers who annually seek confidential birth control help from clinics that get federal funds.

Family planning officials fear that the proposed loss of confidentiality could cut in half the number of teen-agers seeking family planning help, provide a bonanza for abortion clinics and ultimately increase the welfare roles through unwanted pregnancies among parents who cannot support children.

Under the proposed new regulation, a copy of which was made available to the Denver Post, family-planning clinics would be required to notify parents of children seeking help within 10 days after the patients had received birth control devices or prescription drugs for treatment of venereal diseases.

The proposal, approved by Schweiker Dec. 21, has not been published in the Federal Register, the journal in which changes in government regulations formally are announced. The public will have 60 days to comment on the new rule after publication, and the agency then can adopt a final regulation.

A 1980 national survey of unmarried patients under the age of

18 found that 46 percent had not told their parents they were seeking help at family planning clinics, according to Aida Torrez, senior research associate at the Alan Guttmacher Institute in New York.

The institute, a privately funded corporation for research on population issues, estimates that 400,000 unintended teen pregnancies were averted in 1979 because the clinics provided timely advice and assistance in preventing pregnancies.

A total of 4.5 million women, 77 percent of them in the low-income bracket — meaning a gross income of \$125 a week for a single woman living alone — visited family planning clinics supported by federal funds in 1979. Fifteen percent of them — 675,000 — were under 18, Torrez said.

Language in the Schweiker proposal says it was designed to implement an amendment to the Public Health Service Act, passed by Congress last August. That amendment says, "To the extent practical, entities which receive grants or contracts under this subsection shall encourage family participation in projects assisted under this subsection."

Schweiker's plan would make parental notification mandatory.

Exceptions to the mandatory-notification rule would be granted only in cases where a clinic director "determines that notification would have adverse physical health consequences on the minor."

Threat to Teenage Health Continues

This outrageous proposal rules that federally funded clinics will close their doors on teen-agers seeking confidential help and birth control methods. This means that not only abortions will be greatly increased, but also that many teen-agers will be forced into premature motherhood. This proposal is by now published in the Federal Register and is open for public comment. Your response is needed during the 60 day comment period after which Health and Human Services will decide on its final regulation. A large public outcry will influence their decision. Please contact Rossann Daumas at 924-5177 (10am-3pm) for information on where to send your written comments.

Rossann Daumas

Reagan's new world for women

By Georgie Anne Geyer

■ The administration has made it clear that it does not want the Equal Rights Amendment. In this, as in other areas of concern to women, it has worked quietly but effectively, tending to win by omission, by holding back pressure for action on women's issues and by appointing ultraconservatives to key posts that do the work for the White House.

■ Title IX, the crucial legislation that provided that educational institutions could not discriminate on the basis of sex, is being allowed, like so many other things, to wither on the vine. The administration has signaled to institutions that they need not comply with Title IX; and when there are no concerted pressures from Washington for implementation, legislation like this simply dies. This is what is happening with Title IX.

■ Women who have struggled the last decade to reach higher levels in federal employment have been swept away in extraordinary numbers by the job reductions under the Reagan administration. Affirmative action for women is basically dead. Ironically, the big women's appointment — that of Judge Sandra Day O'Connor to the Supreme Court — has turned out to be just the kind of symbolic or token appointment that the Reagan conservatives always criticized on the part of the liberals.

■ The right to abortion is being taken apart piecemeal. And close to criminal is the proposal now put forward by the Department of Health and Human Services. The proposal, which is being seriously considered, would require parents to be informed when teen-agers under 18 request prescription birth control products. **HOU POST 1-26-82**

Civil rights nominee against ERA, gay issues.

2/11/82 Chronicle

WASHINGTON (AP) — B. Sam Hart, nominated to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission by President Reagan, was quoted as saying he opposes the Equal Rights Amendment and busing for school integration and doesn't believe homosexuals have a civil rights cause.

Hart, a radio preacher and owner of radio station WYIS in Philadelphia, also said he agrees with Reagan's position that Congress, not the administration or the courts, should deny tax exemptions to private schools that practice racial discrimination.

Nominated Tuesday by Reagan, he spoke to the press Wednesday at the convention of the National Religious Broadcasters. Today's editions of The Washington Post contained an account of his remarks.

"I am all for equal rights (but) I do not equate equal rights with the amendment," Hart was quoted as saying. "I don't see the need for an amendment."

On busing, he said that while he supports school integration, the government "shouldn't force citizens to do anything they don't want to do."

Hart said a better approach to desegregation is integration of communities by providing guaranteed mortgages at below-market rates to people of one race who move into a neighborhood dominated by another race.

"I do not consider homosexuality a civil rights issue," he said, adding that all expert opinion holds that "homosexuals are not born" but are the product of their environment.

"I am black; I cannot change that. That's a civil rights issue," Hart said. A woman likewise may have a civil rights cause because she did not choose her gender, he said.

Homosexuals, however, "have chosen a way of life," Hart said. "They have to accept the consequences."

Asked if a homosexual has any rights, he replied: "He has the right to live. He has the right to eat. The right to work. The right to live someplace."

Hart said, however, that homosexuals should be kept away from children in order not to expose them to environmental factors that might cause them to become homosexual.

Frat sign indicative of what keeps women 'one step lower' than men

To the editor:

In response to Roger Geer's letter (Cougar, Feb. 10), as the editor pointed out, Ms. Griffin's ideas were in an editorial, not a straight news story. In fact, the title of the page is "Opinion," so why shouldn't she or anyone else use that column to give their opinion?

The "jugs" part of the sign announcing the fraternity's party was offensive to me and to many women I've talked to. There's no way of getting around it: when "jugs" is used in that context — jugs (of booze) — it implies women's breasts. I don't think men would appreciate jokes about their anatomy, any more than women enjoy being the brunt of jokes. The men that make the jokes usually don't understand how they could be offensive. One fraternity member and I were discussing the sign and the letters in the Cougar, and he said he didn't think the sign was sexist. In the same breath, he said, "Sex sells." Unfortunately, that's true. That seems to indicate a lack of concern of whom the advertising insults. I don't mean to imply that all men make degrading remarks about women or discriminate against them. There are a lot of

men who actively support the Feminist Movement. However, many men don't understand why women feel exploited because they have never been exploited themselves.

The same fraternity had a "bring your own bra" party a week or two after the topless party. That's just about as bad, because the female body was still the brunt of the joke. Somehow, the only counterpart to that that I can think of is a "bring your own jockstrap" party for women, and I think that's pretty disgusting.

Advertising and jokes like this are what keep women one step lower on the ladder than men. In the Civil Rights Movement, no one ever said to blacks, "Come on, you can sit at the front of the bus, be served here, go to school here, etc." Blacks had to fight for the passage of the Civil Rights Amendment, just like women are having to fight for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. What is peculiar is that the majority supports the ERA, but are generally apathetic about it, so that the minority who oppose it seem stronger than they really are.

The public must be made aware of offensive advertising, especially commercials depicting women as

being good only for washing men's collars and cooking supper. Other offenses include women being called "girl." (How many men do you know are called "boy?") Awareness will bring about change, and that change will be accelerated by the passage of the ERA.

The following is the complete text of the ERA: "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."

Without this, women do not have any protection under the Constitution. It's amazing that an amendment so simple, so positive, and so supported by the majority of people, has not been passed since it was first introduced in the 1920s. America is supposedly a modern country, but 51 percent of the population (women) have fewer rights than the other 49 percent.

Marie Tighe
Student and NOW member
Feb 16, 1982

Aw shucks, it's only the law

by Anthony Lewis

A THREE-JUDGE federal court, in an opinion by a distinguished judge, decides an important question of federal law. The Supreme Court affirms the decision. Other courts follow it. The federal government incorporates it in rules, and three presidents enforce them over a 10-year period.

Then a new president reverses the rules. He explains to a press conference that he did so because they had "no basis in the law."

That is what President Reagan said at his press conference last week by way of explaining his decision to give tax exemptions to schools and colleges that discriminate against black Americans. The only thing more amazing than his explanation was the reaction of the reporters in the room. Nobody laughed.

"The Internal Revenue Service had actually formed a social law and was enforcing that social law," Reagan said. He was speaking of the IRS rules, adopted during the Nixon administration, against tax exemptions for discriminatory schools and colleges.

But the IRS framed those rules in light of court decisions saying what the law was. The leading decision was by the late Harold Leventhal, the highly respected judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington. He concluded: "Racially discriminatory private schools are not entitled to the federal tax exemption for charitable, educational institutions."

Reagan denied that any racism was involved. He said he was opposed to discrimination "at every fiber of my being."

But there is no doubt that racism was the moving force in the attempt to reverse the rules against tax exemptions. Southern institutions that exclude or segregate blacks, notably some connected with fundamentalist churches, have been the voices demanding the change.

Rep. Trent Lott, R-Miss., wrote the president urging him to act and got back his memo with a marginal note by Reagan saying "I think we should"; Lott sent that to high Justice Department and Treasury officials. Another active figure was Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., a trustee of Bob Jones University in Greenville, S.C. Bob Jones and Goldsboro Christian Schools had tax cases that were the particular spur.

The president said his action had been "misinterpreted." He did not really want to give tax exemptions to racist schools, he said. All along he had just wanted Congress to pass a statute with explicit language forbidding the exemptions, so "that will be the law of the land."

If you can believe that, you can believe anything. The Republican Party platform of 1980 called for an end to the tax rules "against independent schools." Can anyone suppose that the platform drafters wanted Congress to put the rules into a statute? Is that what Trent Lott had in mind when he wrote Reagan and got his encouraging reply? Yes, and goldfish can fly.

Even if Reagan's call for congressional action were not the afterthought it so obviously was, it would have grave defects. What the president is actually doing is this: taking a long-settled area of the law, reversing it by executive fiat and then inviting Congress to restore the status quo.

The effect of such a tactic is to reverse the burden of changing the law — and that is a heavy burden under our system. Even if a majority in Congress wants a certain statute, there are many ways in committee and on

No marriage for Barnard, Columbia: they're into free love

BOSTON — Last June, on one of those days that serve as lush background scenery for white graduation dresses, I found myself in a procession walking beside a trustee of a small private school.

It was something of a special occasion on this campus, because this was the last year for an all-girls graduation. The school was completing its merger. Next year even commencement, the last remnant of separate histories, would be coed.

"It will be kind of a shame to lose this," the trustee next to me said as the songs and speeches — the special events of this female ceremony — continued. His assumption, unspoken and unquestioned, was that next year the girls would become a part of the traditional male ceremony, that the females would give up their own rituals to gain access to male rituals.

I have thought of this day often in the past months. The trustee wasn't wrong in his assumptions. In fact, over the past dozen years, "going coed" has often meant the admission of women into existing and unchanging male institutions. The merging of men's and women's organizations has often resulted in the submerging of women.

You can see this in the business world, where women are allowed in, even up, if they'll play by men's rules. You can see it in the professional organizations, when the acceptance of women into men's groups has meant the end of the women's organization.

But it's most stark in the college world. Men's colleges like Yale, Princeton and Dartmouth admitted women, believing they could, indeed should, be treated the same as men. Brother and sister colleges like Brown and Pembroke



AT LARGE/Ellen Goodman

married, and the women lost their names. Once I went to Radcliffe College; now women go to Harvard.

Among women's colleges the urge to go coed (in 1960 there were 298 women's colleges, today there are 116) slowed and then virtually stopped as this evidence mounted. Separate was sometimes better for women's equality. Women's colleges are now less carried away by proposals, more interested in contracts.

I suppose the latest chapter in this curious history of coeducation was written just last week by Barnard and Columbia colleges.

Barnard, like so many other women's colleges, came into existence because Columbia wouldn't accept women. Almost 100 years later, Columbia ardently wanted women. But Barnard was reluctant.

This wasn't just a case of bad romantic timing. Barnard has, many believe, the best of both worlds. They have their own faculty (59 percent female), their own curriculum, their own finances. Admissions are up 51 percent; they are operating in the black. Yet they can also share Columbia's dorms and dining rooms, libraries and courses.

As Barnard's new president, Ellen

Futter, put it carefully: "One might describe as ideal the notion of two single-sex institutions with a relationship." But it was not ideal to Columbia. And as Futter said, "There's a difference between what is structurally ideal and practically ideal."

Columbia wanted women for its men and its classes; Barnard wanted a measure of independence for its women and itself. There was talk of merger and suspicions of submerger.

In the end they made what Futter called "a long-term stable arrangement." Others might call it a curious arrangement. Like two lovers who can't reconcile their separate needs, Barnard and Columbia will go on together, but Columbia will be free to go looking for other women.

Barnard will survive as a private liberal arts college with a special affiliation to Columbia (and more control over faculty tenure). Columbia will admit; women it can call its own.

Both colleges profess pleasure at this arrangement. Barnard will survive. Columbia will get its women. They will all live happily ever after in the same dormitories and dining halls.

But there is something odd in this, a peculiar example of the times, of ideals. Columbia longed for an intimate relationship, but never offered partnership. Barnard was wary of compromise.

Now, young women applicants can choose between the female institution of Barnard, separate but dedicated to equality, and the male institution of Columbia, integrated but not yet equal.

Somehow or other their choices seem familiar.

Goodman is a columnist for The Boston Globe.

Male institutions are not simply "integrated but not yet equal" they are basically "integrated but dedicated to inequality".

BIOLOGY IS NOT DESTINY

the floor to prevent its enactment. And this is not the only case in which the Reagan administration is using the tactic, "interpreting" long-established law effectively out of existence while saying blandly that Congress can act if it wishes.

The lawlessness of the whole affair is breathtaking. A president on his own motion upsets a decade of law. Then he says he will continue to apply the long-understood rules for a while in case Congress acts — but will go ahead and grant tax exemptions to the two institutions whose cases the Supreme Court had been about to decide, Bob Jones and Goldsboro Christian.

Tax exemptions were not the only legal subject treated in terms of fantasy at this press conference. Reagan also sought to justify his big new campaign against leaks of information on government policy by saying, "It is against the law for anyone to release this information." No it isn't — not in the United States. Presidents can try to silence their subordinates. But except for particular sensitive material, there is no "law" forbidding disclosure of government information.

If Richard Nixon had misrepresented the law in the same way, there would have been instant outrage. But Reagan gives us his aw shucks look, and we forgive him. There is just that nagging thought: Is it really "conservative" to play fast and loose with the law?

Lewis is a columnist for the New York Times and Pulitzer Prize winner for national reporting.

IN THE SENATE

Did he mean strawpersion?

Maybe he's thinking of the straw vote. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., stretching to avoid any appearance of sexism, corrected himself hastily in mid-sentence last week: "As far as I'm concerned, we're propping up a lot of straw men," he said, stopping short and stammering. "Er, uh, that is straw men and straw women, and knocking them right down," he went on.

How Texans voted

Chronicle Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Here's how Texas senators voted on the two major roll calls last week:

1. Busing. Approved 58 to 38 a ban to prohibit federal courts from ordering the busing of students for purposes of desegregation for more than 30 minutes or 10 miles roundtrip. The ban would be retroactive.
2. Broadcasting. Approved 92 to 3 a motion to consider a bill authorizing radio and television coverage of the Senate.

Tower, R 1 2
Bentsen, D 1 2



Calendar

MARCH, 1982

Monday, March 1 - 7:00pm - WLA meeting at Houston Area Women's Center

Wednesday, March 3 - 4:00-6:00pm - University of Houston Women's Network - Important organizing meeting, call Jackie Crowley X1212 for information.

Wednesday, March 3 - 7:00pm NOW at UH Business meeting in Judicial Room, 2nd floor UC

Wednesday, March 3 - 11am-1:30pm - NOW/ERA INFORMATION TABLE - UC Satellite - workers needed - Y'ALL COME.

Thursday, March 4 - NOW/ERA INFORMATION TABLE - same time, same place - workers needed - COME ON OUT

Calendar continued on page 5

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.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN, NOW, Inc.
 NOW at the University of Houston
 4800 Calhoun, Box 509 University Center
 Houston, TX 77004



STATUS OF WOMEN IN ACADEMIA

1. What percentage of full professors at institutions of higher education are women?
 a. 10% b. 51.3% c. 26% d. 5%
 2. During 1975-76, the % of women college and university faculty members
 a. fell 1% b. rose 2% c. stayed even
 3. Out of 2,926 accredited colleges and universities in the U.S., how many are headed by women?
 a. 1,463 b. 812 c. 154 d. 322
 4. What % of college and university trustees are women?
 a. 51.3% b. 22% c. 13%
 5. In a recent national survey, what % of 11th grade girls selected careers from only 3 job categories: clerical and secretarial, education and social services, and nursing and home care?
 a. less than 10% b. over 50% c. about 25%
 6. What proportion of working women are found in the following fields (7 professional fields): teaching, nursing, music, social work, accounting, auditing, and library work?
 a. 4 of 5 b. 3 of 5 c. 2.5 of 5
 7. How do female and male college freshmen compare in terms of H.S. preparation for mathematics?
 a. about equal b. females twice as well prepared
 c. males 9 times better prepared
 8. Research on male-female interaction in discussion groups shows that
 a. males and females talk about equally b. males talk 2/3 of the time
 c. females talk 2/3 of the time
 9. A current study of 17,000 administrative positions in 1,150 institutions of higher education found that, in comparison to men holding comparable position, women earn
 a. about the same b. 10% less c. 20% less
 10. Of all full-time, year-round workers in 1974, in order to earn roughly the same wages as a man, a woman must work
 a. 6 days b. 7.5 days c. 9 days d. 4 days
 11. How does this gap in earnings between men and women workers compare with 19 years ago?
 a. gap is wider b. gap is narrower c. gap is about the same
- (continued on page 5)