

REMEMBER ROXANNE

Roxanne Gay was battered for years by her husband, Blenda Gay, a linebacker for the Philadelphia Eagles. Gay's violent behavior towards his wife and others was well known by the police. Yet repeated calls to the police for protection by the battered woman were futile. The most the police would do was to persuade Gay to leave their home to cool off.

On December 20, 1976, the six foot, five inch, 300 pound football player brutally beat his slender wife until HE was exhausted. When he swore he would "finish her off", the battered woman, fearing for her life and having no where to turn, struck back. Now Roxanne Gay is charged with the murder of Blenda Gay.

Roxanne Gay and her supportive family were unable to afford the bail of \$100,000. As is the case with too many women, Roxanne Gay is penniless despite her husband's very lucrative salary. She was left with no money or valuable possessions in her name. Even the car she drove was registered in his name.

Several women's groups became aware of Roxanne Gay's plight. A bail reduction suit was instituted and won. NOW-NJ provided the money necessary to secure her release on bail. After almost eleven months in the Camden County jail, Roxanne Gay is now out of jail and reunited with her four year old daughter and family. However funds are needed to repay the loan from NOW-NJ for her bail and to help pay for her legal expenses.

Roxanne Gay's plight is typical of battered women. Faced with brutal treatment, their pleas for help are unanswered by society. Although battering men are rarely punished for their crimes, women who defend themselves are. The case of Roxanne Gay dramatizes the situation of over one million battered women living in the United States. She needs our help and financial support to establish her right, and the right of all battered women, to defend themselves when all else fails.

Roxanne Gay, as Inez Garcia, Joan Little and Yvonne Wanrow, is a minority woman doubly oppressed by the racism and sexism in our society. As a symbol for all battered women, Roxanne Gay needs your financial help to insure that justice triumphs. Send your donations to: NOW-NJ Roxanne Gay Legal Defense Fund, 37 Sage Road, Toms River, New Jersey 08753.

Name _____ \$1.00 _____ \$5.00 _____
Address _____ \$10.00 _____ \$25.00 _____
_____ Other _____

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