



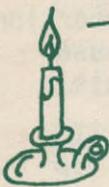
BROADSIDE

HOUSTON AREA NOW

BROADSIDE--Vol. 11, No. 12

DECEMBER, 1980

 Merry Christmas

 Happy Chanukah

Warm Winter Solstice



HERIZONS

peace on Earth

Good Will to

people!!

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

COALITION OF GREATER HOUSTON NOW CHAPTERS

HERIZONS--Vol. 5, No. 12
DECEMBER, 1980

HLA--THE "HUMAN LIFE AMENDMENT"--Put Women in their "Place"

--by Jan Stevens

The so-called Human Life Amendment as proposed by the National Right-to-Life Committee reads as follows: Section 1. With respect to the right to life, the word person as used in this article and in the Fifth and Fourteenth Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the United States applies to all human beings irrespective of age, health, function or condition of dependency, including their unborn offspring at every stage of their biological development. Section 2. No unborn person shall be deprived of life by any person; provided, however, that nothing in this article shall prohibit a law permitting only those medical procedures required to prevent the death of the mother. Section 3. The Congress and the several states shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Comments:

1. The hard-core anti-choicers, according to LIFE ADVOCATE, an anti-abortion anti-women's rights paper published in Houston, are opposed to the clause permitting abortions to save the life of the mother. They consider this a "loophole" and will fight to have this clause removed or changed so abortions will be prohibited under any circumstances.
2. Because of the clause giving Constitutional rights to the unborn, at "every stage of biological development," many forms of birth control, which function by expelling an egg which may or may not be fertilized, will be outlawed, because no fertilized egg may be expelled. These forms of birth control include the IUD and the Pill, which are used by the vast majority of women who use birth control.
3. How could such an amendment be enforced? Women could be ordered to live on reservations during pregnancy, or perhaps even during their entire child-bearing years. Because women do not have the protection of the U.S. Constitution themselves, such laws could be held constitutional.
4. During Hitler's reign in Germany, abortion was illegal, and many women who had miscarriages were asked to prove that the miscarriages were not abortions. Guilty until proven innocent.
5. Big government? Want to have government agents in bed with you?
6. Talk about the "master race" or population control--how does this strike you: Men are ordered to rape women--because NO abortions are allowed, the women MUST have the babies--the men are either only symbolically penalized, or perhaps they just "get away."

YES, WE ARE IN DANGER. HOUSTON AREA NOW is declaring a state of emergency for Women's Rights. Please join our effort to keep abortion safe and legal. Contact the Reproductive Rights Task Force.

HOUSTON AREA NOW HELD ELECTIONS for the 1980-81 year on November 6. New officers are President, Jan Stevens; Vice-President, B.J. Lancon; Secretary, Michelle Pujols; Treasurer, Patricia Bastidas. Thanks to officers from the previous year for their dedication and effort.

NEW TASK FORCES AND COMMITTEES FOR THE 1980-81 year for HANOW include: ERA Task Force, Jan Stevens, 445-2220; REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS Task Force, Yvonne Broach, 664-4282, and Aileen McMurrer, 524-0439; MEDIA AND PUBLICITY, B.J. Lancon, 481-2806. Linda George Smith is both NUCLEAR TASK FORCE Coordinator, and Liason to the TAKE BACK THE NIGHT movement.

SEVERAL TASK FORCES AND COMMITTEES STILL NEED COORDINATORS:

FUNDRAISING Committee--originate fundraising ideas, and coordinate other people's ideas

PROGRAMS Committee--make arrangements with speakers; solicit ideas for programs from members.

CIRCULATION Committee--for BROADSIDE/HERIZONS. Keep card file up to date; provide labels for mailing; set up phone tree.

MEDIA REFORM Task Force--bring to our attention instances of sexism in advertising, newspapers, television, etc.; write letters to let offenders know of our objections; possibly coordinate some actions.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR--put together BROADSIDE/HERIZONS. May be from any Houston Chapter.

If you are interested in working on these task forces or committees, contact Jan Stevens, 445-2220. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY, just a willingness to help.

* * * * *

TEXAS NOW is looking for a lobbyist for the 1981 legislative season. Applicants should be prepared to be a full-time resident of Austin during the season. Send your resume to Phyllis Tucker, Texas NOW Coordinator, 243 Empress, Houston, Texas 77034. Please respond by December 8.

* * * * *

NORTHWEST NOW NEWS: by Susan Blanchard

Our November meeting was very successful. It was good to see so many new people from as far away as Conroe, Huffman, and Humble. I want to thank Phyllis Tucker, State Coordinator, for coming and giving us information on what State NOW is doing as well as thoughts on what we can do in our chapter. We already have some good ideas for programs and fundraisers. All interested persons are invited to our meetings.

NEWS**INFORMATION##MISCELLANEOUS**ET CETERA##NEWS**INFORMATION

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HOUSTON AREA NOW BUSINESS AND PROGRAM MEETINGS WILL BEGIN AT 8:00 pm, on the first and second Thursdays of each month at the World Trade Center Bldg., 1520 Texas Ave. COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE MEETINGS will be held from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Hopefully, this will save some of us some extra driving; Committees or Task Forces may call extra meetings during the month, as necessary, of course, but a regularly scheduled meeting time will facilitate some of the work these committees and task forces will do.

* * * * *

The movie, MY BRILLIANT CAREER, is returning to Houston for another engagement. Look in the paper for where and when. It is an excellent movie about the life of a woman.

* * * * *

ANITA BRYANT HAS A CHANGE OF HEART. She still opposes homosexual and lesbian rights, but has adopted something of a "live and let live" attitude since her recent divorce. She even said the church needs to "wake up and find some way to cope with divorce and women's problems." And she has "about given up on the fundamentalists." She still does not support the ERA, yet said, "There are some valid reasons why militant feminists are doing what they are doing."

* * * * *

On Monday, November 17, 17 women chained themselves to the iron gates of the new \$12 million Mormon Temple in Bellevue, Washington, to protest the Mormon Church's opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment. Among those seventeen women who were arrested was Sonia Johnson. The demonstration was timed to block the beginning of a week long dedication ceremony.

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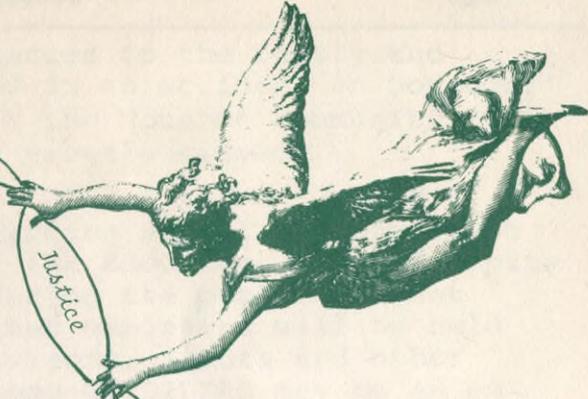
Also on Monday, November 17, over 1,500 people demonstrated the the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. They protested renewed militarism, the increasing arms race, and violence against women. About 100 were arrested.

* * * * *

Jerry Falwell, leader of "Moral Majority," said in New York Sunday that that group is going to pressure for the "human life" amendment. He says they have the majority in both houses of Congress now to get the amendment to the states.

Liberty
Equality
Sisterhood

Justice



AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR SISTERS IN THE
RIGHT WING--AND TO ANYONE WHO HAS EVER
SAID, "I'M NOT A FEMINIST, BUT..."

by Debbie Tate

NEVER ANOTHER SEASON
OF SILENCE

WHEN YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR CARE FOR YOUR CHILD because you must work outside your home, we'll be the ones working for quality child care to benefit, not deprive, your child; to GIVE something, not take something away. We will be the ones standing next to you, demanding the BEST for our children.

WHEN YOUR LAND IS BEING TAKEN AWAY FROM YOU after your man has met death, we will be the ones standing beside you denying the tax collector the inheritance penalty, which will be exacted only from you.

WHEN OPPORTUNITIES ARE DENIED TO YOU, and your position in work remains the same, we will be the ones standing with you, showing your qualifications to all, and fighting for equal employment opportunity for you.

WHEN YOU HAVE SPENT HALF A LIFETIME with a man who has left you with nothing, because he no longer sees your beauty or talents, we will be the ones fighting for benefits and training so you can get a job to sustain yourself. We will be the ones in front of you with open arms.

WHEN YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN HAVE BEEN BEATEN, left with nowhere to turn, we'll be the ones giving refuge in homes and centers we've established. We'll be the ones fighting for more of them, because we can't bear to turn you away. We'll be the ones assuring you of your own worth, and we'll be helping you regain your dignity. We will be the ones embracing you when you enter, and we will be the ones in back of you, watching you walk away proud and whole.

WHEN YOU HAVE BEEN RAPED AND TOLD IT WAS YOUR FAULT, we'll be the ones supporting you in the courtrooms, seeking justice for us all. We'll be the ones listening to your rage at the violation done to you. We will be the ones standing in front of you with open hearts.

WHEN YOU CAN STAND IT NO LONGER; WHEN THE SUPPRESSION IS TOO MUCH; when you've had all you can take, we will be the ones waiting for you with open minds. We will be the flame igniting the spirits lost over thousands of years. We are the ones with tear-stained faces and weeping hearts, asking freedom from injustices. And we are strong enough to lend you our aid, for our strength and determination are endless.

WE ARE YOUR SISTERS, and we are Feminists.

BROADSIDE/HERIZONS extends condolences to the family and friends of Donna Vollmer, who died in an accident on November 12. She was an active feminist in the Houston community, whose dedication and work will be greatly missed.

* * * * *

The draft of final guidelines regarding sexual harassment on the job was due to be voted on by the EEOC Sept. 23. In spite of employer's objections voiced during the public comment period, the EEOC is maintaining that employers will be held responsible for the acts of supervisors, agents and other employees. Even the actions of some OUTSIDERS may be an employer's responsibility, a newly added section says, if the employer knew, or should have known, of their behavior. Where the interim guidelines defined sexual harassment as SUBSTANTIALLY interfering with an employee's work, the final draft substitutes the term UNREASONABLY. The guidelines also state that "where employment opportunities or benefits are granted because of an individual's submission to the employer's sexual advances or requests for sexual favors, the employer may be held liable for unlawful sex discrimination against other person who were qualified for but denied that employment opportunity or benefit." The term employer as used in the guidelines includes employemnt agencies, unions and joint apprentice committees.

* * * * *

NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE SUN: During the past few years, industry interest in the area of solar energy has grown and so have the job opportunities. A recent study indicates that the estimated 22,500 persons specializing in solar work in 1978 will more than triple by 1983. The greatest demand is expected to be for engineers, assemblers and installers.

* * * * *

A Houston woman who was raped managed to track down the man who raped her, who was then brought to trial. He received only a probated sentence. (Relate this to comment #6 on page 2) Not only did this woman track down the offender herself, which the police should have done, but she had to bear the frustration of seeing him walk the streets again.

* * * * *

The Houston police department reports a 6.8% increase in rapes reported this year. Of course, if a woman is raped here, she may have to track down the creep herself, and he goes free.

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 4---7:00 pm. HANOW Committee and Task Force meetings, World Trade Center, 1520 Texas Ave.
- 8:00 pm. HANOW Action meeting, World Trade Center.
- 6---HANOW GARAGE SALE AND CRAFT SALE
9 am to 5 pm, 4620 Norhill
- 11--7:00 pm. HANOW Committee and Task Force meetings, World Trade Center, 1520 Texas Ave.
- 8:00 pm. HANOW Program meeting, World Trade Center. Phyllis Tucker, Coordinator of Texas NOW, will talk about commitment to the Women's Movement.
- 16--7:30 pm. NORTHWEST NOW chapter meeting, 11619 Jaycreek, 376-5486. Combination business and socializing. All interested persons invited.
- 18--7:30 pm. HANOW RAP SESSION.
Place to be announced.

JANUARY

- 10--10 am - 4 pm. TEXAS NOW State Council Meeting, World Trade Center, Houston. All NOW members urged to attend.

WAIT! Don't punch a hole in your Susan B. dollar!



Luna Cat

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Rose
Houston, Tx.
77086

Call
445-2220

Putting a hole in a coin considerably lowers its value. Instead, order your pendant from *Luna Cat* feminist silversmith. Includes dollar, silver-tone holder and chain.
\$5.00
Key Ring, \$3.00

NOW'S PHONE NUMBER IN HOUSTON:
(713) 947-9678

LOOK FOR THE NEW WOMEN'S INFORMATION NETWORK CALENDAR. IT LISTS MONTHLY MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS OF MANY ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST TO NOW FOLKS. THE CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE AT MANY LOCATIONS: ONE IS The Bookstore, LOCATED AT 1728 BISSONNET.

Please see the enclosure in this issue of BROADSIDE/HERIZONS. This letter to our sisters in the right wing was written by Northwest NOW member Debbie Tate. You might make copies of it to send, in place of greeting cards, to your neighbors and others to whom it might speak.

**INFORMATION FOR INCLUSION in the next BROADSIDE/HERIZONS newsletter should be submitted by the 15th of each month for the next month's issue. Material may be mailed to Jan Stevens, 6726 Desert Rose, Houston, Tx. 77086, or you may give it to Jan at the HANOW program meeting, 2nd Thurs. each month.

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Views and opinions expressed in BROADSIDE/HERIZONS are those of individual authors and do not necessarily express those of any NOW chapter or National NOW.

Now is
the Time...

HOUSTON AREA NOW
P.O. BOX 66351
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

to join
NOW!

President Jan Stevens 445-2220
Vice-President B. J. Lancon 481-2806
Secretary Michelle Pujols 458-2196
Treasurer Patricia Bastidas 827-9739

NORTHWEST HOUSTON NOW
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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

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President Peggy Hall 522-4468
Vice-Pres. Kay Whyburn 667-8556
Secretary Peggy Mazeika 981-1074
Treasurer Burnet Oliveros 526-0664

I wish to join _____ chapter of NOW.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

I enclose dues: _____\$30.00 Regular _____\$16.00 Hardship

I wish to pay either of the above in two installments and I enclose
_____ \$15.00 Regular _____ \$8.00 Hardship

This is my first installment _____ This is my second installment _____

Make your check payable to the chapter of your choice, and send to the appropriate address as listed above. Dues include membership in the local chapter, Texas NOW, and National NOW.

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HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
HANOW
P. O. BOX 66351
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

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.*



National Organization for Women

I'm worth more than 59¢...

JOIN



AND HELP CLOSE THE WAGE GAP!!



Defend a Woman's Right to Choose!