

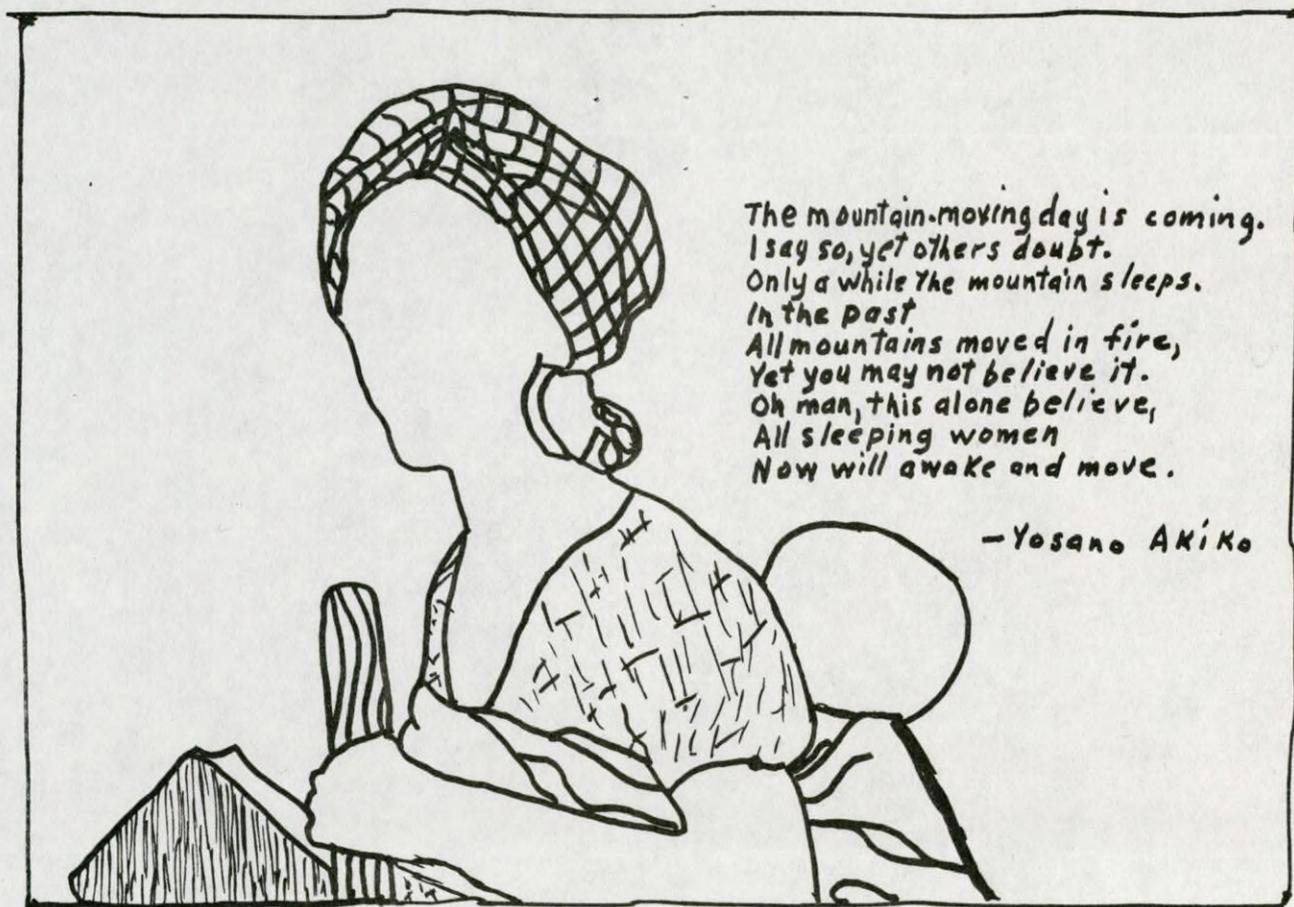
N.O.W. Bay Area Chapter

NEWS

National Organization for Women



VOLUME II, Number 11 - November, 1974



Program Meeting - 7:30 P.M. November 7 - Uniting Church, Reseda & El Camino,
Clear Lake City

CHILDCARE, A FEMINIST PROBLEM N.O.W.

This program will be presented by Marie Oser of Houston, Southwestern Chairperson of the National Daycare and Child Development Council. We will explore the public issue caused by the serious deficiencies in childcare facilities in this country, in quality as well as quantity, and strategies for improving the situation. Particular attention will be given to legislation now proposed on public childcare.

YOU CAN'T STOP NOW, by Frances Hicks.

This theme-line from the National Conference last May also characterized the Southern Regional Conference in Memphis, Oct. 18-20, which I attended. Productive workshops and caucuses started Friday night and continued through Sunday. Together with some 35 other Texas NOW representatives, I learned the facts about an upcoming attempt to rescind our ERA ratification in Texas, from Liz Cox, National NOW Legislative Coordinator. I also attended a fascinating workshop on "How to work with your School Board." On Sunday I was able to hear a woman minister from Georgia present a workshop on Women in Religion. But much time was taken up by several presentations of our own (with Kay Whyburn of Houston Chapter) workshop on Sexism in Textbooks. This was well attended, and we sold about two-thirds of the hundred press-kits that members collated at our last business meeting. A resolution against the standard use of generic "he" in the English language was presented to the Conference.

I found the Conference inspiring to me as a feminist. I appreciated being able to attend, and the opportunity to bring useful information back to you.

Movin' On with NOW

A new NOW Chapter is coalescing in the Lake Jackson area of Brazoria County, not so very far away. A meeting will be held on November 3rd. If you are interested in being among those representing Bay Area Chapter when requested by this group, please call Frances Hicks at 482-7840.

EDUCATION TASK FORCE

The State Board of Education will meet in Austin, November 8, to begin deliberation on the list of textbooks recommended by the Textbook Selection Committee of the T.E.A. Continuing Task Force coordinators Mary Buxton, Marjorie Randal, and Kay Whyburn will testify before the Board preceding final decisions on 1974 adoptions. Anyone wishing to participate in the Austin meeting or to contribute ideas on strategy should call Mary Buxton (333-3872) or attend a strategy session at her house (18302 Point Lookout, Nassau Bay) on Tuesday, November 5, at 7:30 pm.

Following are the books recommended by the state textbook committee:

<u>Language and Grammar</u>	Harper & Row	Heavily sexist
	Webster Div/McGraw	Mildly "
	Macmillan	" "
	American	" "
	Laidlaw	Heavily "
<u>Elementary Science</u>	Ginn	Some sexism
	Harcourt	" "
	Houghton	Mildly sexist
	Addison-Wesley	Heavily "
	Silver Burdett	" "
<u>Basal Reading Gr. 7&8</u>	Ginn	Mildly sexist
	Scott Foresman	" "
	" "	" "
	Houghton	Heavily "
	Economy Co.	" "

A PERSONAL NOTE -- Mary Buxton

I wish to express my appreciation for the thoughtfulness expressed by the award plaque - a gorgeous sculptured feminist symbol on rough-finished wood. Thank you all. I, however, am the one who benefitted most from holding the office, and I am grateful for having had the opportunity to do so.

TITLE IX, PASADENA STYLE -- Linda Eichblatt

3.

On Tuesday, October 2, approximately 1,000 citizens gathered in Pasadena's Central Gymnasium to express their sentiments about Title IX, a new law designed to end sex discrimination in any school which received federal aid. The law was described by the Pasadena PTA as "a real threat to our children's moral values, safety, and privacy."

A panel of four white males, each one a good-ole-boy, explained in detail, albeit inaccurately, the ramifications of the new law. An up-for-election school board member lamented the fact that Title IX would render illegal the famous Pasadena Dress Code. "This law states, in effect, that if a girl can wear long hair, then so can a boy; if a boy can wear pants, then so can a girl." The crowd hissed its disapproval.

A coach from the University of Houston spent 45 minutes reading a transcript of a briefing at U. H. given by an HEW official. Every few minutes, he would chuckle and say, "Don't worry if you can't make heads or tails of it, folks. It's not clear to me either." It was perfectly clear to every feminist in the audience (all 9 of them).

Then there was the lawyer who outlined all of the Civil Rights legislation in existence, from the 14th Amendment of 1871 to the E.R.A. "These anti-sex discrimination laws will have the same effect for women as the Civil Rights laws had for the colored people," he declared. (At this point, Burdy Miskimin glanced incredulously around at the hundreds of white faces and asked quietly, "What colored people?")

Lastly, there was the silver-tongued superintendent of Pasadena schools, who urged the good people to write to HEW, the Congressman, and, yes, even to the President himself in an attempt to modify Title IX.

A question and answer period followed, but only written questions were accepted by the panel. Examples: "Can boys and girls use the same bathrooms if they want to?" "How can we keep girls off the football team?" "Why don't we give up our federal funds and run the schools our own way?" (The last question was loudly applauded.)

Several Houston and Bay Area N.O.W. people submitted questions; but, alas, it was 9:30 p.m., and "we need to get home to our children." The crowd filed out, muttering angrily about the government.

WOMEN IN SPORTS -- Linda Eichblatt

Jocks Wanted Maureen and George Giacchino are coaching a girls' soccer team in Clear Lake City. Since there's not much public awareness as yet of soccer as a fine sport for girls, it's not surprising that more girls in the 8-9-year-old age range are needed to fill out the roster of this new team. If there is a potential female soccer player (i.e. someone who likes to run around a lot and kick things) in your home, give Maureen a call at 488-4163.

Little League Liaison The NASA Area Little League has elected a new Board of Directors for next season. The new officers are experienced and capable. They assure us that girls are welcome in the League and will be treated fairly and equally.

However, many coaches and parents are refusing to participate in Little League next season, rather than play "with girls." Here is a good opportunity for parents of free children to establish community rapport. People with daughters between the ages of 6 and 12 (as of August 1) who dig baseball should consider working with the teams in some way. We could make next season a real experience in non-sexist child-rearing.

TASK FORCE RECRUITS (AND OTHERS):

Rachel Reed has volunteered to be our Fundraising Task Force Chairperson. To contribute ideas and information, call her at 488-4261.

Burdy Miskimin and Julie Walker will now Co-chair the Employment Task Force. Call Burdy at 337-2968 or Julie at 488-3854 concerning discrimination problems or suggestions.

Ann Smith wants to hear from persons interested in forming a new Consciousness-Raising Group. Call her at 488-6213.

Jonnelle Owen will maintain information resources on the Equal Rights Amendment; she will help in composing letters to our Congresspeople and Legislators.

Julie Walker is our new librarian. For donation or loan of books, please see her at meetings. Julie was also our Chapter's representative at a meeting of the newly-formed Advisory Committee on a Center for Continuing Education for Women at College of the Mainland on October 28th.

Carol Burke, Doctor of Jurisprudence, has joined the law firm of David Lopez in Houston. Call her at 526-5682 if you need to employ a feminist attorney.

BAY AREA CHAPTER

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

- President: Frances Hicks 482-7840
- Vice-President: Marjorie Randal 488-4396
- Documentarian: Twiss Butler 333-4764
- Treasurer; Linda Eichblatt 488-4382

Task Forces:

- Education: Mary Buxton 333-3872
- Childcare: Pamela Linbeck 482-1558
- Legislative: Grace Baker 482-7094
- Alternatives for Young Women: Julie Walker 488-3854
- C-R: Linda McCollum 488-0950
- Women in Sports: Linda Eichblatt 488-4382

Speakers' Bureau

- Jonnelle Owen 471-5208

Newsletter

- Twiss Butler 333-4764
- Marjorie Randal 488-4396

Publicity

- Etta Richards 488-5546
- Rema Lou Brown 488-1896

JOIN N.O.W.

- _____ I would like to become a member of NOW (\$15)
- _____ I would like to join but can only afford \$_____
- _____ I am not a member but want the Newsletter (\$3)
- _____ I would like to contribute \$_____ to NOW

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Home Phone _____

Occupation & Employer _____

Business Phone _____

LWV LOOKS AT TITLE IX

The November program meeting of the Bay Area League of Women Voters will be concerned with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, an examination of the long-awaited Guidelines for implementing it, and comments by Mr. Griffin and Mr. Carlyle of the Clear Creek School District on the District's proposed response to its requirements. The meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m., November 14, Uniting Church of Clear Lake City. Public is invited to attend.

