

WOMEN'S LIBERATION COLLECTIVE
2100

Susan Nicols
Ava Makalasky
Charlyn Wright
Ruth Nelson
Carolyn Meide
Elyn Garanoff
Melinda Cobb
Pia Robins
Chris Mac Farlane
Pam Gardner
Diane Ray
Loreta Argue
Alice Newman

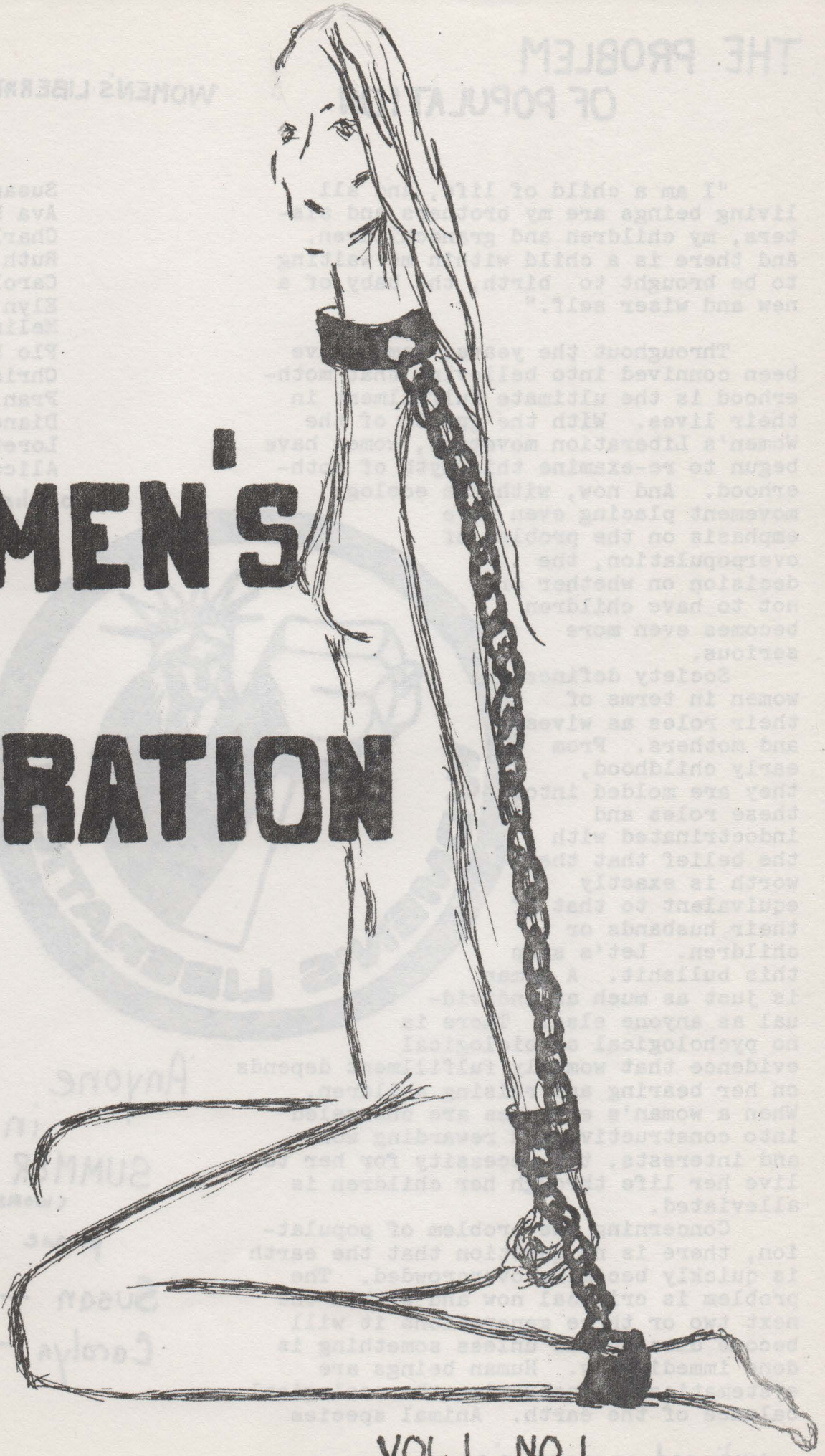
"I am a child of life and living beings are my brothers, my children and my parents, and there is a child within me to be brought to birth and a new and wiser self."

Throughout the years we have been convinced into believing that the ultimate goal of our lives is to be happy. With the advent of the women's liberation movement we have begun to re-examine this goal. And now, with the emphasis on the individual, the decision on whether or not to have children becomes even more serious.

Society defines women in terms of their roles as wives and mothers. From early childhood they are molded into these roles and indoctrinated with the belief that their worth is exactly equivalent to that of their husbands or children. Let's take this belief. A woman is just as much a person as any man. She is not a psychological entity. Evidence that we are on her bearing of her life as a woman's life is not necessarily for her and interests.

Concentration on the problem of population, there is a problem that the earth is quickly becoming overpopulated. The problem is not that we will have a next two or three billion people. Human beings are being formed. Animal species of the earth.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION



VOL 1 NO 1

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(contact us)
contact
573-7921
Carolyn - 881-0992

Continued on page 2

THE PROBLEM OF POPULATION

WOMEN'S LIBERATION COLLECTIVE
SICC

"I am a child of life, and all living beings are my brothers and sisters, my children and grandchildren. And there is a child within me waiting to be brought to birth, the baby of a new and wiser self."

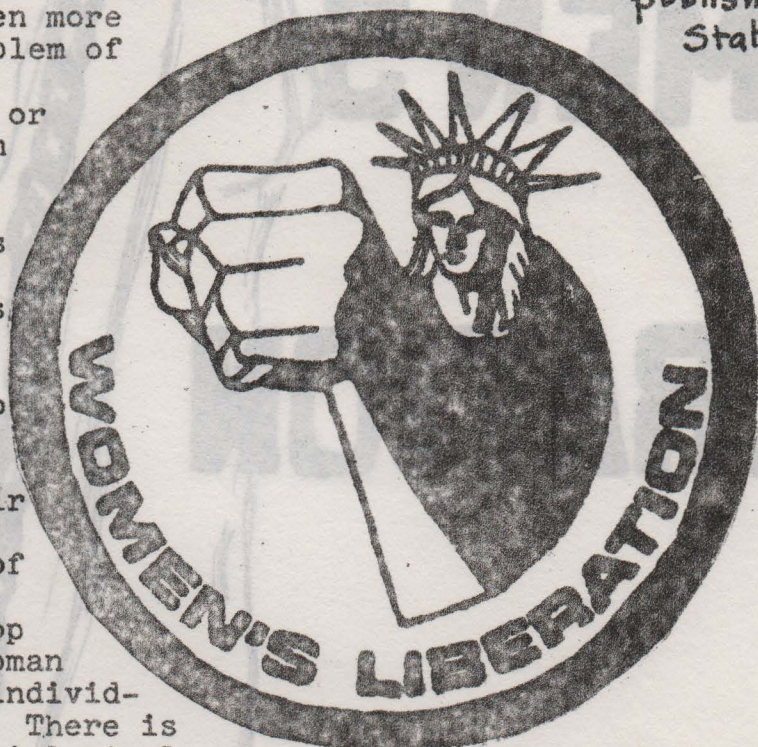
Throughout the years, women have been connived into believing that motherhood is the ultimate fulfillment in their lives. With the growth of the Women's Liberation movement, women have begun to re-examine this myth of motherhood. And now, with the ecology movement placing even more emphasis on the problem of overpopulation, the decision on whether or not to have children becomes even more serious.

Society defines women in terms of their roles as wives and mothers. From early childhood, they are molded into these roles and indoctrinated with the belief that their worth is exactly equivalent to that of their husbands or children. Let's stop this bullshit. A woman is just as much an individual as anyone else. There is no psychological or biological evidence that womanly fulfillment depends on her bearing and raising children. When a woman's energies are channeled into constructive and rewarding work and interests, the necessity for her to live her life through her children is alleviated.

Concerning the problem of population, there is no question that the earth is quickly becoming overcrowded. The problem is critical now and within the next two or three generations it will become disastrous unless something is done immediately. Human beings are systematically destroying the ecological balance of the earth. Animal species

Susan Nicosia
Ava Makalsky
Charlyn Wight
Ruth Nelson
Carolyn Melde
Elyn Baranoff
Melinda Codd
Flo Robins
Chris Mac Farlane
Fran Sardone
Diane Rey
Loretta Argue
Alice Newman

published at
Staten Island
Community College

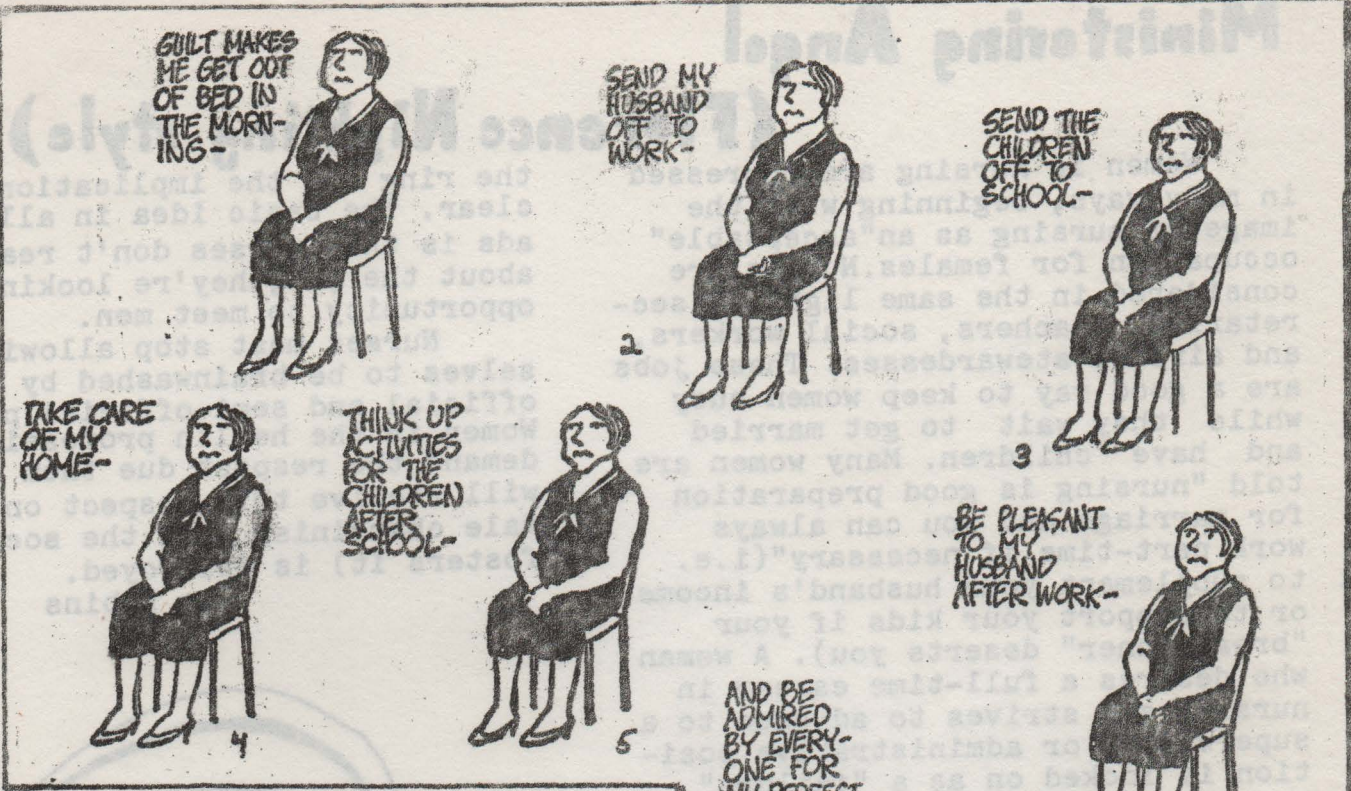


women's lib
meetings
thursday's at
six
all women invited

Anyone interested
in
SUMMER STUDY GROUPS
(WOMEN'S LIB)
please contact

Susan — 273-7921
Carolyn — 981-0992

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WOMEN'S CENTER
susan nicosia

New York has it's first Women's Center. Women of various affiliations came together because they saw the need for such a center as a headquarters of activity.

The women rented a loft, at 36 W. 22nd Street which has four large rooms and a huge meeting room that can easily hold 150 people.

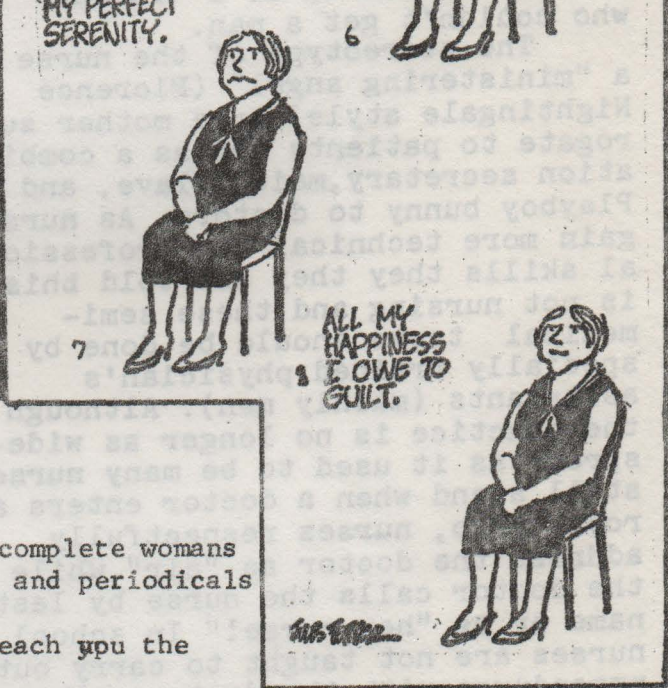
The Women's Health Collective, starting May 5th, will offer classes every Tuesday night at the center. Such topic in health care as the pill, birth control, abortion, child care, and sexuality will be discussed.

Many other activities are planned such as karate lessons and dance classes.

The center is now collecting literature for a complete womans library, including many periodicals and magazines and periodicals and invites women to utilize them.

A printing press is available and someone to teach you the mechanics.

The woman's center is essentially the place for any woman interested in joining a Woman's Liberation group, a place to make new friends, and a paaace for those women in the Women's movement, to continue their effort. Tel # of the center 691-1860



Forum at SICCC
May 14

SISTERS FROM THE WOMAN'S CENTER
WILL SPEAK

"Ministering Angel"

(Florence Nighting style)

Women in nursing are oppressed in many ways, beginning with the image of nursing as an "acceptable" occupation for females. Nurses are considered in the same light as secretaries, teachers, social workers, and airline stewardesses. These jobs are a good way to keep women busy while they wait to get married and have children. Many women are told "nursing is good preparation for marriage and you can always work part-time if necessary" (i.e. to supplement your husband's income or to support your kids if your "breadwinner" deserts you). A woman who desires a full-time career in nursing and strives to advance to a supervisory or administrative position is looked on as a "failure" who couldn't get a man.

The stereotype of the nurse is a "ministering angel" (Florence Nightingale style) or a mother surrogate to patients and as a combination secretary, maid, slave, and Playboy bunny to doctors. As nurses gain more technical and professional skills they are told this is not nursing and these semi-medical tasks should be done by specially trained physician's assistants (mainly men). Although the practice is no longer as widespread as it used to be many nurses still stand when a doctor enters a room. Also, nurses respectfully address the doctor as "sir" while the doctor calls the nurse by last name or as "hey nurse!" In school nurses are not taught to carry out procedures with the doctor - they are taught to assist the doctor.

Some of the most anti-female, sexist advertising in existence can be found in nursing journals. Pay, benefits, educational opportunities and working conditions are secondary attractions - the pictures show a beautiful nurse looking adoringly at a handsome doctor, an attractive swimming pool or a nearby beach (abounding with handsome men) or a nurse displaying a large engagement ring. The last ad states "we can't promise the

the ring but the implications are clear. The basic idea in all these ads is that nurses don't really care about the job, they're looking for an opportunity to meet men.

Nurses must stop allowing themselves to be brainwashed by this official and semi-official propaganda. Women in the health professions must demand the respect due them and they will receive this respect only when male chauvinism (and the society that fosters it) is destroyed.

Flo Robins



Title divine - is mine!
The wife - without the sign!
Acute degree - conferred on me -
Empress of the Calvary!
Royal - all but the crown!
Betrothed without the swoon
God sends us Women -
When you - hold - Garnet to Garnet -
Gold - to Gold -
Born - Bridalled - Shrouded -
In a Day -
The Victory
"My Husband" - women say -
Is this - the way?

Emily Dickenson
1862

THINK ABOUT IT

The problem with American girls is that they're not oppressed. So the next time you're powdering your nose for the big date where he spends all his bread and you flutter your eye-lashes protecting your virginity, thinking all feminists are fucked up start worrying about becoming a woman. Think hard. You can't have long nails and clean floors. You can't go out to dinner if your putting a husband through grad school working as a nurse or a secretary. You can't buy yourself a new dress if the kids need new shoes and kids shoes cost a hell of a lot. Your husband won't give up a night of bowling with the boys to buy them because he works hard all week and needs a night out. After all, why do you have to impress some gossips at a bridge party - he thinks you look fine.

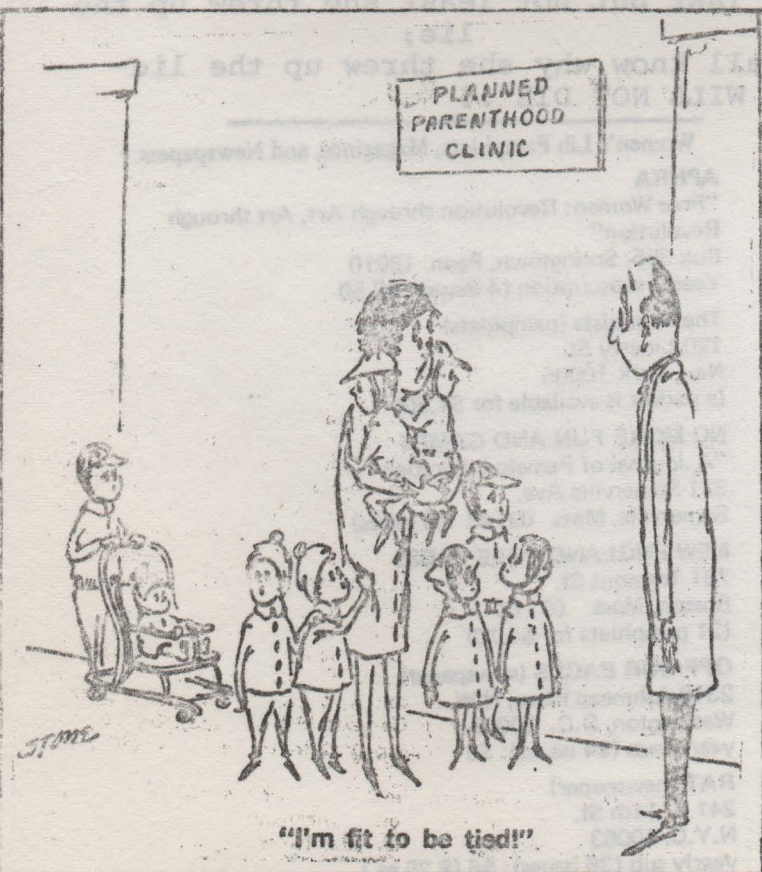
Think about him now. Does he want you to get good grades in math (his children's mother must be educated, right?) But does he ever ask your advice in business? Does he tell you how to wear your dresses? Do you hopefully suggest he grows or shaves

a beard (or do you jokingly tease him and pray that he takes the hint). But never mind him for a second and think about yourself. Define mankind (meaning people) - facing the challenge of life: striving to move progressively forward. Now define womankind - what do you get keeper of the flame, protector of children and traditions. Now go around in a circle. When did women stop being people?

Be honest. How does your mother spend her spare time? Would you enjoy doing it? Do you believe your mother was ever young and enjoyed having a good time the way you do now? Do you believe that time alone made her adopt her soap opera, bridge party, PTA, Bingo third rate novel way of life? How much of a choice did she have? Do you consider her way of life typical? If yes, do you believe most of the women her age (once yours) chose this type of life because it sounded interesting? You better answer yes if you believe they had a choice. Would you chose it? Are you so different or only younger?

Your father will open the door and let in a probably charming young man whom no one can blame you for wanting to be with, but sit a little longer - it's still your prerogative to be late and if you chose, it will always be (unless his boss is expecting you for dinner or you him) Prerogative comes with privilege and privilege doesn't last forever. Remember housework is rewarding but people hire maids. And big dinners are fun to prepare, but not every night. Children's cries and ups and downs can kill you (think about your mother again) When you get married what do you give up? What does he give up? Love may be worth it, if it lasts fifty years. When it lessens (it may never end) his life will be in his business and your life will be in the kitchen, unless you have a maid and if you have a maid your only life will be lost (remember the bridge parties)

I'm not telling you what to do or not do, what is wrong or right, I'm suggesting you ask a few questions. If you get your old answers fine, if you don't then it's a good thing you asked.



THERE WAS A YOUNG WOMAN WHO SWALLOWED ALIE

There was a young woman who swallow-
ed a lie,
We all know why she swallowed that
lie,
Perhaps she'll die.

.....
There was a young woman who swallow-
ed a rule,
"Live to serve others" she learned
it in school;
She swallowed the rule to hold up
the lie,
We all know why she swallowed that
lie,
Perhaps she'll die.

.....
There was a young woman who swallow-
ed some fluff,
Lipstick and candy and powder and
puff;
She swallowed the fluff to sweeten
the rule
"Live to serve others" she learned
it in school....
(repeat)

.....
There was a young women who swallow-
ed a line,
"I like 'em dumb, baby, you suit me
fine
She swallowed tha line to tie up the
fluff.
Lipstick and candy and powder and
puff.
She swallowed the fluff to sweeten
the rule.....
(repeat)

.....
There was a young woman who swallow-
ed the pill
Might have said nobut she hadn't
the will,
She swallowed the pill to go with
the line,
"I like 'em dumb, baby, you suit me
fine"
She swallowed the line to tie up the
fluff.....
(repeat)

.....
There was a young woman who swallow-
ed a ring,
Looked like a princess and felt like
a thing,
She swallowed the ring to make up
for the pill,
Might have said no, but she hadn't
the will.....
(repeat)

There was a young woman who swallowed
some Spock;
"Stay at home mother, take care of your
flock.
She swallowed the Spock to go with the
ring,
Looked like a princess, felt like a thing..
(repeat)

.....
One day this young woman woke up and said,
"I've swallowed so much I wish i was dead"
I've swallowed it all to go with the
Spock,
"Stay at home mother, take care of your
flock";

.....
Iswallowed the rule to hold up the lie,
Why in the world did I swallow that lie?
Perhaps I'll die.

.....
She ran to her sister; it wasn't too late;
To be liberated, regurgitate.
She threw up the Spock and threw up the ring
Looked like a princess but felt like a
thing;

.....
Threw up the pill and threw up the line,
"I like 'em dumb, baby, you suit me fine
She threw up the fluff and threw up the
rule,
"Live to serve others, she learned it
in school;
And last but not least she threw up the
lie;
We all know why she threw up the lie-
SHE WILL NOT DIE!!!

Women's Lib Pamphlets, Magazines, and Newspapers

APHRA

"Free Women: Revolution through Art, Art through
Revolution"
Box 355, Springtown, Penn. 18010
Yearly subscription (4 issues); \$3.50

The Feminists (pamphlets)

120 Liberty St.
New York 10005
(a packet is available for \$1.50)

NO MORE FUN AND GAMES

"A Journal of Female Liberation"
371 Somerville Ave.
Somerville, Mass. 02143 (3 issues)

NEW ENGLAND FREE PRESS

791 Tremont St.
Boston, Mass. 02118
(21 pamphlets for \$4.70)

OFF OUR BACKS (newspaper)

2318 Ashmead Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
yearly sub (24 issues): \$6

RAT (newspaper)

241 E. 14th St.
N.Y.C. 10003
yearly sub (36 issues): \$6 (\$0.25 ea.)

WOMEN: A Journal of Liberation

3011 Guilford Ave.
Baltimore, Md. 21218
yearly sub (5 issues): \$5 (\$1 per issue)

We Don't Usually Hire Married Girls

This article, by an anonymous author, first appeared in the Quicksilver Times.

I am twenty three years old, I have a B.A. in Spanish literature, I am well traveled, I can speak Spanish and French, and I am a prostitute... I am a secretary, a wastebasket, a file-cabinet, a hostess, a messenger boy, and a slave. I am everything but a woman and a human being.

The Interview - During my interview for this job my entire body was numbed. My interviewer kept looking at my legs and talking about how interesting he thought the job would be for me because I would be around men doing interesting work. (not mentioning that my work would be boring)

He then looked at my legs again and looked up and gave me a very paternalistic smile. "We usually don't hire married girls," he said. "We like to have young, pretty and available girls around the office. You know," he added, "it cheers things up a lot."

No wonder so many women fall apart in job interviews-our minds and our abilities are not questioned. It is our bodies and our smiles that are checked out to see if they will fit properly behind a mahogany desk.

I was hired and took the job because I was desperate. I was told I was awfully pretty and would certainly be an asset to the office. For the first two weeks all the older women did was smile at me with their hugewide plastic smiles. They are not young, pretty or available anymore, so all they can offer is their smiles.

The Job - When I was hired, I was told that two people constitute a team that would work on a specific project. "Teamwork" and "togetherness" were the key words used. It didn't take long to realize the real situation- racism, male supremacy, prejudice (you name it) all in one carpeted IBM-filled office.

The "team" turned out to be a male, making around \$15,000, and a female making \$6,000. Most girls have the same degrees as the men, or higher ones, but are still in the lower positions. The reason for this, I was told, was that most foreigners (whom the office deals with) don't respect women and would feel slighted if they had to deal with "one". (Wasn't that the reason for not hiring blacks in offices and shops?-blacks would turn away customers!)

My job consists of serving coffee, answering the telephone, typing boring letters, and taking constant orders from my male "partner". I love taking letters from him. This gives him a chance to show me how really important he thinks he is. He leans back in his chair, takes a deep breath, and tries real hard to use the biggest words he knows. Dictating letters is a real ego trip for these guys. It is incredible that the brainwashed females in this office will not admit that they have terrible jobs.

I have now been at this job for two months. My partner has never asked me anything about myself nor asked me to lunch. All he knows about me is that I type and take shorthand. Once in a while he will joke with me, but I am unable to respond. I would only be more of a whore if I did.

Lunchtime - We secretaries, nurses, and administrative assistants have one hour to enjoy the day lunchtime-and we usually are not even paid for that period.

I tried taking my lunch and a book and going to the park for lunch. A chance to be outside and read and enjoy the sunshine was very appealing. One day a man masturbated behind me in the bushes as I tried to read. The next day a guy asked me to come to his hotel. On different days I was told various parts of my body were "really fine". For four days I was followed, touched, and generally harassed. On the fifth day I ate lunch at my desk.

The only thing that is open for us to do during that time is shop-whether its food, clothes, or shoes, the stores are all waiting and (panting) with cash registers ready. These stores are the only places where we can be comfortably accommodated during that hour. The only drawback is that we must buy.

At the end of my working day I am tired and depressed. The entire day I have been used as an instrument. So I get on an pollution-emitting bus and go home. There I find the baby, the dishes in the sink, dinner to be made, and a husband who wants me to look like Twiggy. And people ask why women want to be liberated.

"a good cigarette is like a good woman..."

All women--poor or rich, young or old--are degraded by the media. In advertising she is a dog food seller; a housewife without a brain talking to the arm in her washing machine, the dove in her kitchen, or the little dough boy in her packaged cookie dough. She takes her beauty shop home, worries about the "white glove test" and panics at the thought of what her mother-in-law will think of her streaky windows. She scrubs floors dressed in her playtex "five finger-control-panel" girdle, her stretchy living bra, her \$75 "house-dress", her non-run stockings, 2 1/2 inch heeled shoes, false eyelashes, and her \$5.00 a week hairdo.

Women are used to sell products in our capitalistic system. There is almost always a woman in every car and cigarette commercial. The ad for one such product says, "a good cigarette is like a good woman in every way--thin and rich." This is degrading to all women. We resent being compared to cigarettes, to office machines, and to beer. One commercial says "...no, it's not his wife--it's his beer." We resent being called a "martini maker" and a "coupon clipper." We are opposed to women being pictured as card partyish, gossipy, half-brained, non-thinking housewives. We object to the amount of importance and glamorous image advertising places upon housework.

Advertisers show women in ecstasy over her whiter-than-white, brighter-than-bright wash; her fluffy, soft towels, her "I-can-see-myself-in-you-dishes" dishes; and her "you-can-see-for-a-mile" windows.

Have we really come "a long way, baby"? The only right that we have today that we didn't have in the early 1900's is the "right" to vote and the "right(?)" to have our own cigarette. And even now we are pictured as either apolitical or as voting the same way as our husbands' or fathers'.

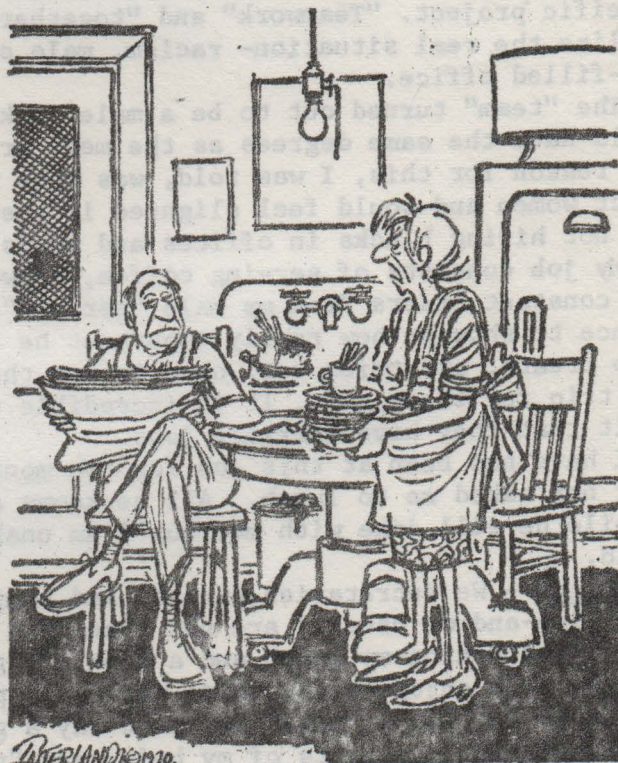
Women should show their solidarity and voice their objection

to the image and role of the woman, projected by advertising companies and the media.

Melinda Codd

Free Birth Control -
Board of Health
51 Styvesant Place - St. George
Call: SA 7-6000
MONDAY AND FRIDAY

Below Olympus by Interlandi



"Don't get too complacent about the Women's Liberation Movement. The Army couldn't take over if WE went on strike!"

"Salt of the Earth"
Film
May Twenty-first

SOCIETY'S WOMAN

The Women's Liberation movement grew out of an atmosphere of struggle for the liberation of all oppressed people, but more than that it comes from the changing position and awareness of women in society. The struggle of women has touched a large number of women who are beginning to realize their oppression in society.

An increasing number of women are rapidly entering the labor force. They have won, after years of fighting, only token economic independence. They earn what can sometimes be called a "living wage", yet women are still treated as inferior to men, paid less, offered the dullest jobs, and then are expected to go home, clean the house, cook dinner, be a good wife and mother and be beautiful.

Women's oppression goes back so far in history that it seems natural that there is male supremacy, but there was a time when women were not oppressed. Fredrick Engels, in his book "The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State", showed that in primitive societies where everything was owned in common women functioned as respected equals with men, and descent was traced through the mother. He goes on to say that only when men began to acquire wealth in the form of agricultural surplus that women began to be dominated by men. With this wealth and the beginning of a class society, women were forced into a position of household slaves, and their main function was to be child bearers.

This system of private property and class structure that grew up, destroyed the equality that women once had. The family now was an economic unit that exploited women. Men began to use them for their own benefit. This kind of a society has persisted through history and exists now in our capitalistic society.

Women cannot be free in an unfree society. They will never be free until oppression by the capitalistic society is destroyed, a society that produces both psychological and

economic oppression of women.

In this system women are abused. They are projected as sex objects in order to sell products and to keep them in an inferior social, economic position. This advertising that exploits women, comes from the big corporations, the backbone of the system. Women are also discriminated against in employment practices. In the cases where they are hired, they are paid less than a male for the same job. And those women who don't work become slaves to the home. They work 7 days a week, for at least 10 to 12 hours a day, and their job is not even considered to be work. Thus, nearly every form of oppression of women in this country comes from the inferior economic position that the system of private property and capitalism force upon women.

Every "benefit" workers have in this country - the 8-hour day, paid vacations, time and a half for overtime were not freely given by the ruling class. The workers forced the corporations into giving them what they wanted by confrontation and hard struggle.

We women too, as the workers did, must fight for the rights of women and for reforms by the ruling class. We must realize that the system that gave us the right to vote and so-called "equal-rights", still exploits us all, both man and woman.

We are being used by an economic system that benefits only a few. Your full potential as a human being cannot be recognized under capitalism. Reforms in education, care, and medical care are but forms under the system? Unions are beyond the will be no

The Lumpits



an being recognized in abortion, and child essential these re-carried out present sys-less abor-free and the system looks profit, there reform.

Continued on page nine

THE PROBLEM

OF POPULATION - FROM PAGE ONE

are exterminated and forests are leveled to meet the increasing needs of man's increasing population. We, as women, have a responsibility to maintain life, not just human life, but plant and animal life as well. During this time of crisis, it is tragic for a woman to have more than one child; it would be beneficial if she had none. There is no doubt that a great deal of joy and fulfillment can be derived from raising children. But women should seek unselfish alternatives to this. For example, children could be raised in a commune-like set-up where many women and men share in the raising of children or another possibility is to adopt children.

Women have to free themselves from socially induced myths about childbearing and motherhood. We must make reverence for life and reverence for the feminine mean also a reverence for other species and future human lives, most of which are presently threatened.

--c.m.

SOCIETY'S WOMAN FROM PAGE EIGHT

Childcare facilities cannot be provided until the system is willing to pay workers a decent salary and see the importance of the mother's freedom and the well-being of the child. The system would have to give up its indoctrination of young girls to accept passive, inferior, stereotyped roles before the schools could be reformed.

It seems impossible for the system, as it now exists, to handle these reforms, which are an important part of Women's Liberation. We must work against the oppression, at the same time realizing that even though specific problems can be slightly relieved, there cannot be a complete liberation of all women and men until there is a change in the underlying social and economic systems.

--Melinda Codd

ON THE NEW ABORTION LAW polly kellogg

For years women have been trying to change the abortion laws. At last in New York State the Senate has passed a bill making it legal for a woman to have an abortion if a doctor performs the operation. The law does not go into effect until July 1 1970. If we're lucky no other restrictions such as residency requirements will be added.

But no woman should think that it's going to be easy to get an abortion. It's still going to be especially hard for women without money and for women under twenty one. Why?

1. Because lots of doctors and hospitals don't want to do abortions for religious and moral reasons. Many of them still think keeping women terrified of pregnancy is the best way to preserve the "family".

2. Because the demand for abortions will be great, doctors will be able to charge high fees. \$250.00 will probably be minimum for this easy 20-minute operation.

3. A woman under 21 needs her parents permission to have an operation (This protects doctors from malpractice suits.) If a woman is under 21 but over 18 and can prove she's an "emancipated minor" then a hospital or doctor might perform it. She can prove independence of parents by showing she a) has a job b) is living away from home c) is married.

Teenagers will not be able to get abortions without parents permission. They'll have to seek doctors who won't ask their age. The young and the poor will still be going to hack abortionists and die.

Women's suffering will not be eased until hospitals set up out-patients clinics and perform abortions free for women who can't afford high prices. Women's Liberation groups in the New York area are going to set up such "free" clinics and waive the requirements for parents permission and for women under 21. If you are interested in helping or in organizing around your own hospital, call the Women's Liberation Center of New York (212) 691-1800

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by Eve Merriam
World Publishing
(this may be out of print)
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by Tegner and McGrath
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by Karl Badnerik
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by Patricia McGinnis and Lena Phelan
Contact Paperbacks
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Beacon Press
(out on May 27, 1970)
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by Cynthia Fuch Epstein
U. of California Press
- Vindication of the Rights of Women**
by Mary Wollstonecraft
Norton
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- The Emancipation of The American Woman**
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