

# AWARE

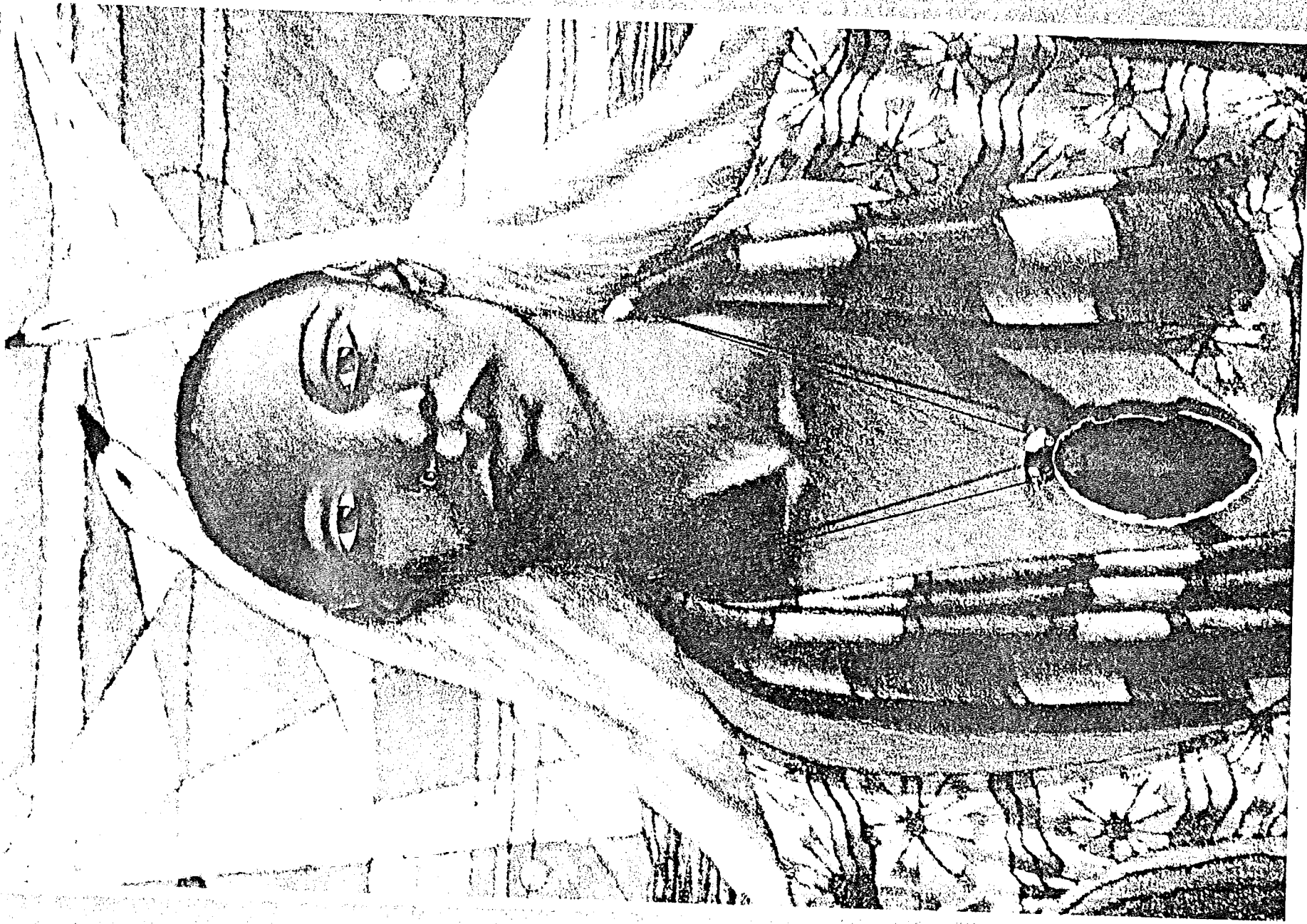


NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE ANTIGONISH WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 1 RESOURCE CENTRE 863-6221.

APRIL 1988.

SPRING 1988



*"Bend down the tree of knowledge, and you'll unroost a strange bird," from Nightwood by Djuna Barnes, oil painting 20" x 14", 1986, photo by Sheila Thomas.*



## FEBRUARY 12 SPECIAL MEETING TO FOCUS ON

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS OF A.W.A.

A meeting was held at Anjela Miles house to focus on what have been the strengths of the center, and what we would like to see happen on a regular basis in the future, particularly the up-coming year. We went around the room to comment and share ideas. There were many and varied comments starting with a need expressed to see more public service projects and community oriented co-sponsoring. Some women felt that too many meetings were being held at the center which was offputting when women dropped in. This brought us to the question of space and accessibility. The fact that we do not have a room for projects and meetings aside from the social room. The fact that we are not at street level or wheelchair accessible. Regular drop ins should be encouraged so that women can keep in touch with whats going on. All women must be made welcome. We must find time for celebration, and keep the alternative vision of a Women centered space in view. --share and expand on that. Some women felt that these comments are all well and good, but when translated to work and getting things done that there was much to be desired. In response to this other women felt that we seem to rely on a core group of women (who are active in many other areas) to work on the board and organize events. This was again taken up by Rikey in seeing lack of energy and commitment because women are overworked and again it is the same core group doing the work. Rikey also said that the strengths of the womens center is meeting the needs of women especially poor women as seen in Stars work with the monitoring committee on service delivery from social services. (which was set up by agencies who were concerned about the poor and sometimes disrespectful service delivery at Social Services, particularly to poor women)

Lucy Harper felt that first and foremost we are a womens organization and this is very important in her life and in many womens lives. Feminism puts her life in focus - women are each others strength and each others hope. Janie Humphries suggested more women from the membership putting in time at the center to keep in touch with whats happening. She felt that there are some skilled and powerful women but process is important. Anjela Miles, we need more communication between the center and the members we have few active members, why? In pamphlet "Why would a woman be a feminist the philosophy on the pamphlet, principles on the back still hold good. Members need to meet and talk.

SARAS :-

I would like to add we do need to meet and talk, we have been bandying about words like "Feminist Process" "non hierarchy / collective sharing / women centered approach". What does all this mean? We have been given a set of rules and ways of working where there is unequal balance of power. Where skills are not shared, where feelings, resentments, and conflicts are not dealt with in a constructive way.

There is not much else to try out, This could not be much further from the truth. There is a wealth of information on these methods of working together and I feel we could all learn a lot and solve many dilemmas. We have information in the form of handbooks on the shelves of the Womens Center and I must say I have been as guilty as any one else in not bringing them to the attention of the board of the A.W.A. or the Womens Committees. etc.

Well you know what they say about us here in Nova Scotia we are years behind behind the times but never too late to start!!!

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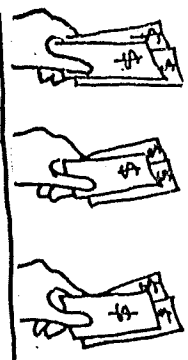
It can only happen if women are willing to try it. It is ~~my~~ <sup>our</sup> suggestion that we seriously consider it and I am sure we can bring some one in to talk to us and get us started. It has been my observatiopn that we are incredibly behind the times as a womens organization which has not opened ourselves to the valuable experience of a collective and women empowering approach. Feelings have to be dealt with, methods we use to get work done must be examined and questions asked "Is this respectful, inclusive, does it allow A power balance for shared responsibility and decision making, does it increase our skills and acknowledge our contributions?"

*Process is of vital importance. feelings and responsibility must be dealt with*

## WHY OPERATE COLLECTIVELY?

Working collectively is difficult for people used to managing in a hierarchical individualistic society. Those of us working collectively do so because we are looking for respectful and kind ways of working together. Learning co-operation and sharing is difficult when our experience is individualistic and competitive.

Collectivity offers us more control over our lives, helps us learn to respect others ideas and contributions and allows us to share tasks, rewards and mistakes. All work positions in a collective are treated equally. There is no hierarchy of positions. All collective members are paid the same salary.



## MEETINGS

*CENSURED DECISION MAKING!!!*

collective cannot operate efficiently without both process and task. They are interrelated. Ignoring elings or problems in working together means the problems are there, but are not being dealt with and working efficiency will decrease. Spending a lot of me on feelings means the work is not getting done. here needs to be a balance.

s the collective going to have a statement of what brings us together?

Any collectives have a basis of unity. A basis of nity is a statement of political or value agreements elated to the work and/or service being done. The asis of unity is usually the first piece of work that is one together.

1. We value emotional support as a means of empowering women to counteract their negative social conditions and oppression.

2. We are committed to education around power with reference to sex, race, class and sexual preference. We will attempt to be sensitive and responsive to issues of power imbalance in our work.

3. We value working in groups as a means to power sharing. We are committed to empowering all group members equally.

4. We recognize the importance of addressing and making visible the issue of child care as part of any group work with women.

We would appreciate comments and feedback letters to the editor We need to hear from members!!!!

Our society is so individualistically oriented that we all have some difficulties adapting to a collective structure. Often the practice we've had at fitting into hierarchies is a further problem.

## POWER IMBALANCE

A power imbalance can be the result of an inadequate sharing of knowledge or skill within the collective. The individual differences in knowledge and skills that each person brings to a collective can be a source of strength and growth, as long as the information and skills are shared.

## CONFLICT

Sooner or later conflicts are going to arise. If they are dealt with as they arise, and not left to build, they are easier to handle. Try:

### CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

State as concisely as possible the action or circumstance of which you are critical  
State your feelings

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Groups form to achieve stated goals. To reach the goal it is essential that individuals within the group complete specific tasks. Because collectives lack a central authority, it is sometimes difficult to keep track of who is doing what, and when the task is to be completed.



APPRECIATIONS -  
Tasks that are completed and done well should be noticed and applauded.

People who choose to work collectively are usually committed and concerned individuals. That is the good news. The bad news is that the commitment and concerns can create an atmosphere of pressure and urgency which allows no time for fun or play. To do our best work we need to take care of ourselves and have some fun.

Try:  
1. DISTRIBUTING THE FUN WORK

2. CELEBRATIONS

3. APPOINTING A RITUAL AND CARETAKING COMMITTEE

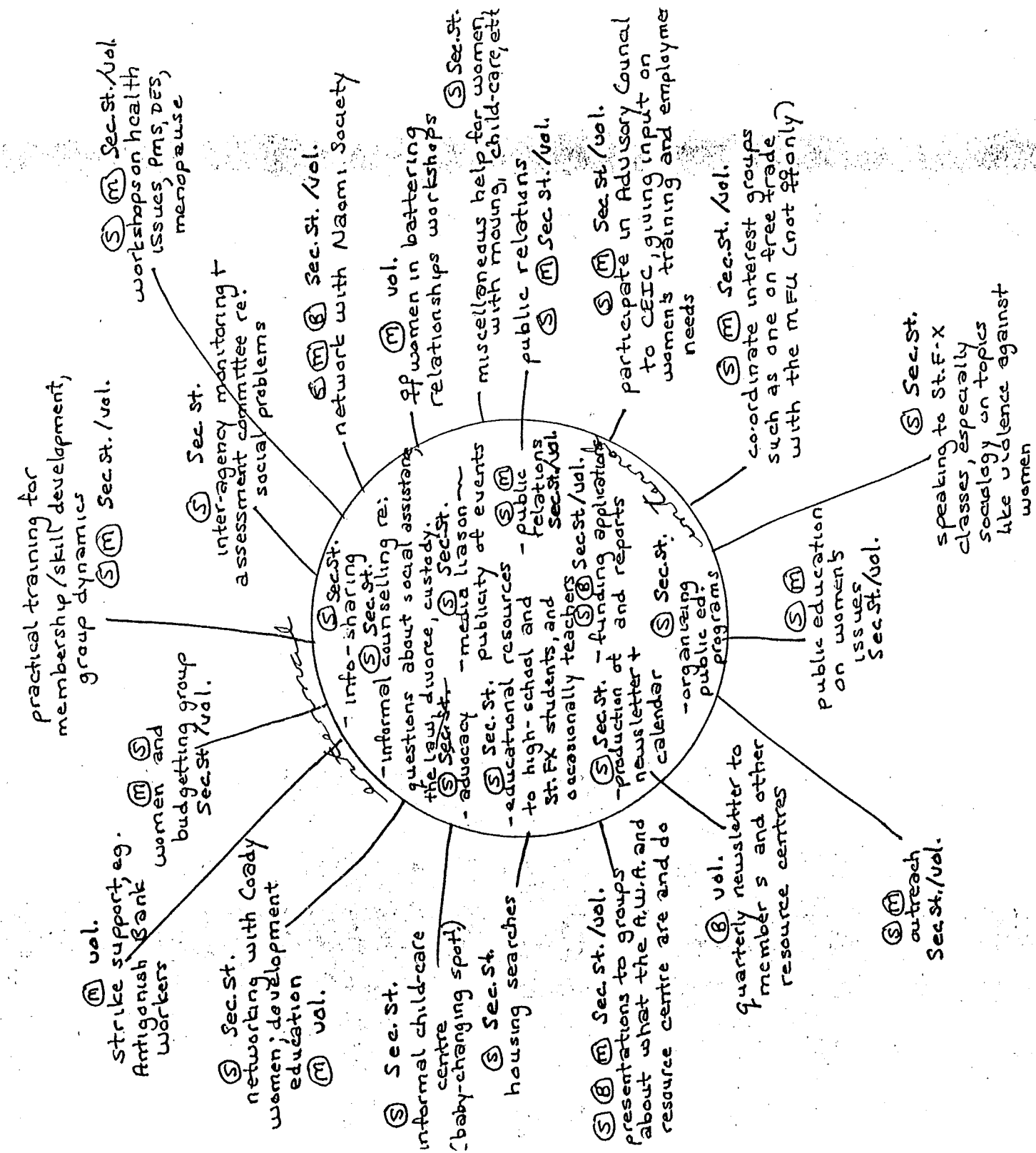
## Who is doing what job?

The collective decides together what jobs there are to do and how to do them.

Andrea Curry, project co-ordinator with C.C.L.O.W. is researching stable funding for Women's Centres in Nova Scotia. The initial phase of her work was to visit with various womens centres, to discuss their activities, funding and who does what.

Andrea's meeting with the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre is recorded in the following diagram.

Antigonish Women's Association and Resource Centre



LEGEND

- who does the work (S) staff

(B) board members

(M) A.W.A. members

~ - where the \$ comes from

When Conference 88  
Theme is Access

When conference begins Friday, April 29, 1988, continuing through Saturday, April 30, and coming to a close Sunday May 1, at lunch time.

The following is an outline of the When Conference:

Leah Nom- Coping with Chronic Illness.

Madeline Comeau- Aids:

Implications for Women.

Florence D'Leon- Adult Women

Children of Alcoholics

Johanna Cash- Alternative

Health Care: Homeopathy

Heather Douglas- Reflexology

Brook Hill- Aids: Discussion & Film

Holly Irons- Massage

Jan Catano- Women's Literacy:

The issue of readability

Lois Hare- Naturopathic Health Care

The Nova Scotia Midwifery Coalition

The Canadian Foundation for the Study of Infants' Death

Grace Maternity Hospital

Planning Commission- consumer

representative report

Karen Plasse- Health Education for Teenagers; Spryfield

single parents centre

teenage pregnancy classes

Jeanette Auger- Aging

Anne Bishop- Group Dynamics

Heather Douglas- Surviving

Poverty

The conference organizers

also hope to make available

presentations or workshops

on the following topics:

Women and aging parents;

Women and Addiction;

Feminist Counseling;

Reproductive Technology and

Racism; Menopause; Writing

From Personal Experience;

Women and the Law

Women: barriers to

equal access.

For further information

call Star at the Womens

Center 863-6221 or write to

Barb Curry, P.O. Box 2246

Windsor, N.S. B0N 2T0

(798-5274)

## CONFERENCE THEME ACCESS!

Workshops will address the concept of accessibility as it applies to a broad range of topics: childcare readability, support groups, physical disabilities, maternity care services, alternative medicine, political power, and social assistance. It seems important that we help women get to conferences like this who would not normally go, for whatever reason, lack of money, lack of contact and information, disability. If you know a woman in your area who is isolated, disabled, depressed, low self esteem, needs to be perked up, supported, validated, encouraged, empowered, (don't we all) urge them to come to the Conference. There is subsidy for women who have financial constraints. If they need a little push to get them going give it to them. We all need a break and these gatherings are so much fun!!!!

If women need subsidies please contact:  
Barb Curry, P.O. Box 2246  
Windsor, N.S. B0N 2T0  
Phone 798-5274 Barb is also contact person for registration. Do it soon..



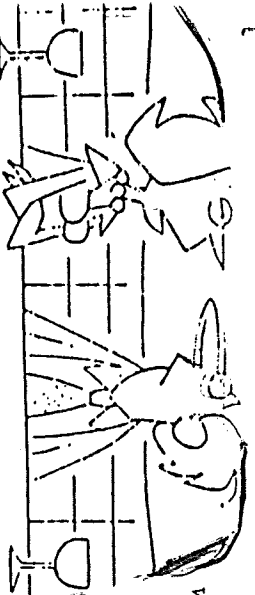
**Deborah Hoffmann** is a film editor in Berkeley, California whose work includes editing the Academy Award winning film, "The Times of Harvey Milk." Much of her still photography has focused on images of disabled women. The photographs shown here were taken during several weekend retreats of disabled women and at a demonstration against a theater that was showing the film "Coming Home," but which had no wheelchair accessibility. Many of these

photographs have appeared in the book, No More Stares, published by The Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund Inc., 1982, about disabled women and girls...  
Photographs © Deborah Hoffmann, 1987.



Deborah Hoffmann

elvin, I am self-supporting, articulate, and have never split up on you. So why do you call me 'baby'?"



Cartoon by...

Sane  
replies

Extracted from 'Women of Power'  
Toronto 1988

# WOMEN AND FREE TRADE

by Lorraine Michael, rms

**T**he National Action Committee on the Status of Women is calling on women across Canada to become involved in the struggle to fight the Mulroney free trade deal. It is vital that women speak out on this deal because we'll be most affected and can least afford bearing the "cost" of free trade adjustments.

Free Trade with the United States will mean:

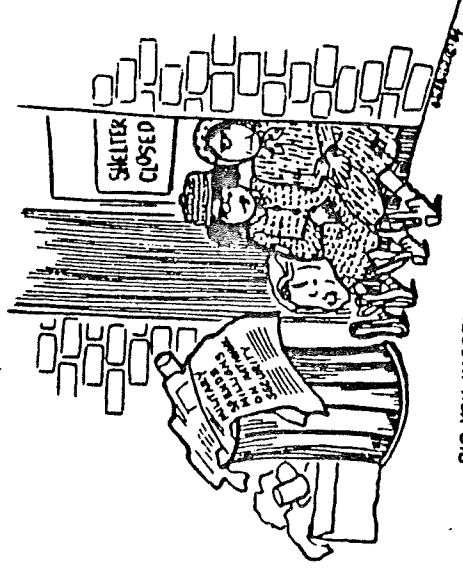
## JOB LOSS

The reason women will lose more from free trade is because working women are concentrated in industries which will be most adversely affected.

In manufacturing most women work in textiles, clothing, food processing, electrical and electronic products, and other consumer industries. Even government studies admit that the jobs in these industries are most at risk.

In the service sector, where the majority of working women are concentrated, jobs are threatened because many restrictions on the provision of services from outside the country will be removed. For example, in the case of data processing, there are many laws which require that data be processed and stored in Canada. When these are removed, many clerical jobs for women will be lost. U.S. firms will be given almost complete access in Canada and therefore will create a greater trade deficit in services for Canada.

Lorraine Michael is a social activist with the Social Action Commission of RC Church in St. John's.



DID YOU HAPPEN TO NOTICE...  
AN INCREASE IN OUR SECURITY?

## LOWER WAGES AND POORER WORKING CONDITIONS

Even in those places where women don't lose their jobs, increasing competition will force firms to reduce costs through cutting wages, ignoring health and safety, and fighting legislative protection which ensures equal rights for women.

They will do this because their major competition under the agreement will be located in U.S. states with no minimum wage, poor labour legislation and very low levels of unionization.

## Women's Programmes

Women will be the hardest hit in this squeeze between economic and social priorities. Equal pay for work of equal value legislation is badly needed, and this has been recognized by governments at all levels in Canada. There is no way to improve women's wages without increasing the overall wage bill — you can't just take it directly from higher-paid men. But the whole idea of free trade is to lower wages in order to become more competitive with U.S. imports and to get access to their markets. Canadian employers will therefore, from their perspective, be understandably hostile to any enforced increase in their overall labour costs. The other solution would be a wage supplementation programme funded directly from tax revenues, but this is out of the question within the "free trade environment."

Women make up the great majority of workers who receive minimum wages. For a family of three in a major urban area, the poverty line is now estimated to be over twice the minimum wage rate: With or without free trade, a single parent supporting a family at or near the minimum wage cannot realistically expect her wages to grow enough (that is, to double) to get her family out of the poverty situation. The answer to this problem, many agree, is a guaranteed annual income programme, in tandem perhaps with subsidized housing. But it is precisely these things that will not happen in the great world of free trade, because an adequate income supplementation programme would obviously affect labour costs and trade competition.

In a host of other areas, such as maternity benefits paid by UIC, or subsidized work-place day care, women and low-income people generally will gradually find their situations more and more constrained and uncertain as the free trade noose tightens around our necks.

## POORER ACCESS TO SOCIAL PROGRAMS

The Canadian tradition of providing services to people through publicly supported facilities is jeopardized.

The agreement says that U.S. firms must be given equal treatment in Canada and implies that they must be given equal access to public funding. The result will be a great drain on our tax dollars and an increased tendency for certain services, such as health care and child care to be shifted to the private sector. In the chapter on investment in the agreement U.S. child care firms are granted the right to invest and establish in Canada and to be treated just as any Canadian firm.

When services are delivered through private means, they tend to be less accessible and more expensive. This means Newfoundland's bad situation becoming worse.

For more information contact:  
Lucille Harper at 8634327

OR

Nasha Murphy at: 863-3560



#### International Womens Day

Ah! yes another year to celebrate with our sisters.. Our expectations in March are always high, Spring is on its way!!!!The Sun getting stronger!!The yearning in our souls for green grass and Spring flowers!!!!Where you might ask does this fit in with I.N.W.day? It was truly a day of challenges ,Icy stormy conditions,frigid conditions even some of our more fearless drivers(like Diane Mackinnon) were loth to brave the roads (in returning home that night)

A goodly group of women (brave and true) met at the Venice restaurant to eat, and celebrate another year in our lives and struggles as women..who are working for Social change..

All right no more words like struggle etc. more words like celebration, Joy ,Sisterhood, fun ,laughter,relax and have a good time.We did all of the above. Women exchanged flowers during the course of the day,we had a major trauma at the Naomi office when the new computer devoured a document and refused to return it!!!Strange beasts these machines!!By six o clock having consulted everycontact in the local computer world ,one step away from morse coding a mayday to the internationalcomputer community we finally retrieved the said document and muttering

Invocations to the Goddess for release from foul ups of technology we sped over to the Venice to join the merry making ...

From 9 o clock onwards we repaired to Anjela Miles house to show

our appreciations to each other as feminists..We brought readings,that had been inspiring to us as women in the past year..We passed around

Mary Dalys "WEBSTERS FIRST NEW INTERGALACTIC WICKEDARY"of the English language which is an incredibly wild and humour filledsource book of new words and and Weird essaysfor wise women..Each women opened a page at random and ran her finger down to stop wherever she fancied and then read the extracts ...Great fun lots of laughs,

Lucy H,talked about Free Trade to remind us what serious consequences it has for women and because

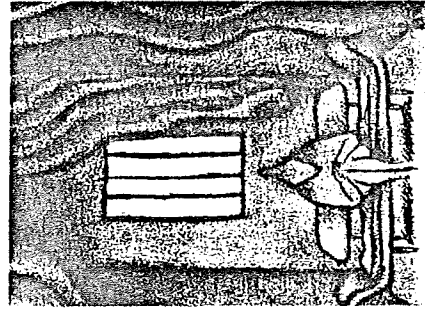
she promised Marion Matheson(Extremely inspiring and canny crone) that she would remind women about Free Trade on I.W.D. So Marion if you happen to read this "She Did It"as promised.....!!!!

We also had a marvellous discussion on Sonia Johnson,s new book"Gone out of our minds",a fabulous Feminist inspiring,hopefull,creative,visionary book ~~we~~ showing us ways to go out of our patriarchal mind frame andcreate new life affirming ways now..Every

women should read this It is being passed AROUND CALL ME IF YOU WANT TO SEE PUT on the list 863-5361  
BAGB

## Labelling women as "sick"

**D**uring 1986, forces within the American Psychiatric Association (APA) pressed for the adoption in the APA's internationally-used handbook of psychiatric nomenclature, of two new categories that entail profound dangers for women.



Psychologist Paula Caplan, Head of the Centre for Women's Studies in Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), explains that the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM III) 1980 is an extremely important book. The bible of psychiatrists and many other mental health professionals, its diagnoses are generally recognized by the courts.

hospitals and insurance companies, she notes.

The revised version of DSM's third edition, due out in 1987, will include the new categories: "self-defeating personality disorder" and "perilous phase dysphoric disorder". The former is a new name for 'masochistic personality', while the latter is a label for pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS) as a psychiatric disorder.

"Some women do have severe behavioural and mood changes around the time of their periods, but the DSM definition turns it into a psychiatric disorder," points out Dr. Caplan. "The APA is taking a condition which applies only to women, and which is hormonally based, and making it a psychiatric disorder."

While psychiatrist Robert Spitzer, proponent of the new categories, acknowledges that psychiatrists have no treatment for PMS, Dr. Caplan notes that designating PMS as a psychiatric disorder will cause women who suffer from it to seek psychotherapy. She warns that since there is no psychotherapeutic treatment, these women could be in therapy indefinitely.

Equally pernicious, according to Dr. Caplan, is the description "self-defeating personality disorder".

She argues that much of the behaviour included in the criteria for this "disorder"

reflects a woman's adaptation to the misogyny in our society and an obedient execution of the traditional female role. "Women trying to avoid or minimize rejection and risk in our culture learn to put other people's needs ahead of their own and to ignore their own needs... It seems bizarre and destructive now to call such behaviour an indicator of serious psychopathology, to label as sick what women have been trained to do and punished for not doing." Research shows that females are far more likely than males to have poor self-esteem and low levels of aspiration. Dr. Caplan complains that this "virtually ensures that 'self-defeating personality' will be overly applied to females".

In the case of women diagnosed as having "self-defeating personality disorder", the woman is either normal or her problem lies elsewhere. But if the diagnosis presupposes that the woman brings all her problems on herself, the psychiatrist does not look for the real causes of the patient's unhappiness, but continues to blame the patient. This, according to Dr. Caplan, causes additional depression. "It creates a mental health problem."

Dr. Paula Caplan may be contacted at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1V6, (416) 923-6641. ■

# Women's self-doubt called 'illness'

## Sociologist says male traits used to define good health

The definition of women and femininity is a definition of ill health in our male-dominated society, says University of Waterloo sociologist Susan McDaniel.

"The most profound illness that women have is being women," she told a conference on women and fitness sponsored by the London Status of Women Action Group Saturday. "Health feminists see the health care system riddled with sexism."

McDaniel said the problem starts with women being created as the negative images of men. "Men are the standards — women are the negative of those standards." She said characteristics used to define good health such as physical strength, confidence, autonomy and decision-making are also basically the definition of the male in our society. Women are diagnosed as ill because they don't exhibit male characteristics which have been drummed out of them since birth, McDaniel said.

to establish self-help groups in areas of health from birth control to alcoholism. "With self-help women can liberate themselves from the socially constructed illness."

In another section of the conference, Ann Hall, a sports sociologist in the physical education faculty of the University of Alberta, said women should build an alternative rather than try to reform the male-dominated arena of sports. "Sports has become this incredible big business."

"(That) illness is socially constructed," she said.

For example, she said, studies show baby boys are tossed around more than baby girls even though male infants suffer a higher mortality rate. Verbal skills and social interaction are reinforced in young girls, she said, whereas independence and physicality are stressed in young boys.

"Boys are taught to over-value their accomplishments and girls to undervalue," McDaniel said, adding later that entrenched self-doubt is one of women's largest problems.

That self-doubt shows up in tranquillizer addiction, McDaniel said, citing studies that sedative use matches acute periods of role conflict between the woman as individual and as wife and mother.

Women are far more likely than men to be prescribed tranquillizers or put in hospital when they complain of mental or emotional problems, McDaniel said. Depression is known as a woman's illness be-

cause when women are upset they turn to "despair, depression and mental illness," she said, but men turn to alcohol, violence toward others or simply keep quiet and die from stress-related diseases.

McDaniel said women are still hampered by the old notion that their reproductive systems are sources of weakness and illness.

"The notion that women shouldn't be active because they're not made for it."

She said that notion translates into continuing high rates of hysterectomies and the myth that pregnant "women should sit there and be pregnant — that's what they're good for."

The current health care system "prevents us from being fit," she said. "It's disease management not health promotion... It's not a care system, it's a cure system."

To get around that system, she said women have started and con-

Hall said a proposal by the action group to set up a feminist fitness centre is one of the first such proposals in North America. She said there is still "virtually no connection (being) made between feminism and sports."

She said the women's movement must look beyond sexuality and procreation in dealing with their own bodies.

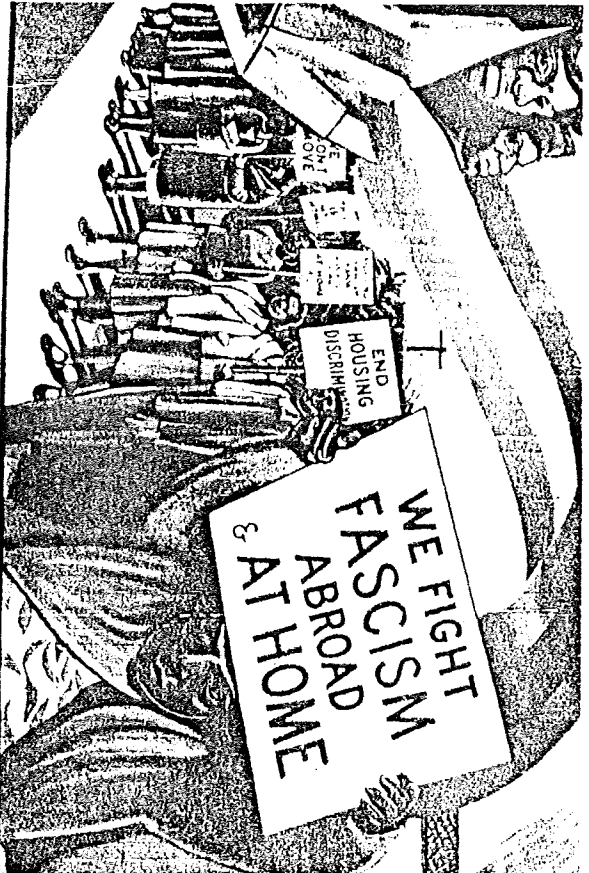
She said it is more important for women to create their own place in sports "to do their own thing" without having to explain or reason why with men. "We don't need the men in... we simply don't need the men in this regard."

# Social and Public Arts Murals Los Angeles "Education opportunities for city's disadvantaged youth" "multi-cultural history"

"Olympic Champions, 1948-1964: Breaking Barriers,"  
a section from "The Great Wall of Los Angeles."



"We Fight Fascism Abroad And At Home,"  
a section from "The Great Wall of Los Angeles."



16 "Hitting The Wall: Women In The Marathon,"  
20 x 100' mural, Harbor Freeway North, Los Angeles, 1984.



"The Great Wall of Los Angeles (top two photos) is one of the city's most valuable cultural landmarks. It is both a powerful public work of art and a unique educational opportunity for the city's disadvantaged youth. The Great Wall mural, already the longest mural in the world and still growing, depicts California's multi-cultural history from prehistoric through contemporary times. Ethnic groups, minorities, labor groups, and special interest groups are represented as participants in the major events, practices and achievements which have shaped the state's history. Today the Great Wall of Los Angeles measures two-thousand four-hundred thirty-five feet in length by thirteen feet high. It has consumed over six-hundred gallons of paint and employed over two-hundred youths from varied ethnic backgrounds. A number of professional artists, historians, and youth aged fourteen to twenty-one are hired each working year as mural-makers. The mural has been in progress since 1976 and has given many young people involved in gang activity a chance to develop strong pride in themselves and in their heritage, while making a positive contribution to their community. However impressive the Great Wall may appear today, it is only part of a work in progress. The completed mural will run nearly a mile and will follow history to the present and into the future. The Great Wall of Los Angeles is a project of the Social and Public Arts Resource Center (SPARC), 685 Venice Blvd., Venice, Ca, 90291, (213) 822-9560." (Excerpts from SPARC informational literature)...

**Judith Baca**, holds an M.A. from California State University at Northridge and is Assistant Professor in Studio Arts at the University of California, Irvine. She is a founder of SPARC as well as its Artistic Director. As Artistic Director of the half-mile long "Great Wall of Los Angeles" outdoor mural, she has coordinated the efforts of eighteen historians, forty artists, and over two-hundred-fifty youth who have participated in its production so far. Baca's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, featured in numerous periodicals and journals, and documented in several films. Artwork © Judith Baca, 1987.

Escalated from 'Women of Power' to 'Toward U.S.A.'



#### A.W.A. Brief to the task Force on Aids

Janie Hemphries, Lucelle Harper, prepared a brief to the Task Force on Aids which came to Antigonish. Luille presented the brief and it was very well received and applauded. The brief introduced the Antigonish womens association, and explained the work we do. The opening statement "How societies treat HIV infected people will test our fundamental values and the moral strenght of our cultures " and the following statement which urged us to accept this challenge in responding with intelligence ,compassion in a coping and loving way. The need to destigmatise the desease ie. Asians against Westerners, Europeans against Africans, North Americans against all aids victims, especially homosexuals. dispelling the myth that aids is a gay disease, or that it is spread by casual contact.

The brief went on to say that aids is not an easily transmitted disease but rather a specifically transmitted one. Through infected blood, semen and vaginal secretions which come in contact with another persons blood stream, that it is most often transmitted through penetrative sexual activity and that there is no 100% safe sex. It went on to describe how this related to women in saying that "Non genital sex is an option that women can consider, however non genital sex is not an option looked upon favourably by men. A women choosing to protect herself by abstinence or requesting that her partner use a condom opens herself to possible ridicule or violence, and that society is once again placing the responsibility for safe sexual practices on womens shoulders which is clearly shown in increased pressure by churches for unmarried women to be celibate and by the advertising media for women to purchase condoms. It then went on to address the important issue of education of young children in the schools all through the grades, starting with girls learning they have a right to say no to personal infringement and boys encouraged not to impose ... We should have extensive sexuality education in later grades with emphasis on factual information and need for caring responsible relationships where sexually active young people can make informed choices to protect themselves and have access to condoms no questions asked. The brief pointed out that ignorance of the facts on aids is lethal- we must educate our communities so that Aids can be treated as a community problem to be faced in a caring and involved way, and not let ourselves be carried away by blind panic and bigotry.

For further information and or a copy of the brief call Star at the centre.

863-6221

The Royal Commission on Health Care, created to examine Nava Scotias health care system, will be travelling across the province between April 1 and June 9 accepting briefs on the related topic .Again I think it is important that we address issues of importence to Womens Health Care. The commission will be in Antigonish in May. If you have input concerns you wish included please let Star know at the center.



Calendar Of Events

April 7 1988 Annual Meeting  
Nova Scotia Advisory Council  
on the Status of Women 7 to  
9.30pm Public Archives of Nova  
Scotia. (University Ave at Robie  
Street. Guest Speaker Robert Ellis  
Grunfield Manitoba pay equity  
commissioner. For more info call  
424-8662.

April 9 10 11 1988  
Womens Action

Coalition of Nova Scotia  
Annual General Meeting. For  
more information contact  
Marion Macdonald (863-4611) or  
Cheryl Aucoin (564-5926)

April 21 to the 24  
Childcare Meet the Challenge  
A National conference  
addressing the issue of Child  
care in Canada For info  
contact C.D.C.A.A. 323 Chapel  
Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N  
7Z2.

April 19 20 21 1988  
Empowering the Family: an  
Atlantic Canada Workshop on  
family Therapy Moncton New  
Brunswick Contact : Workshop  
88 Family Service Moncton Inc  
386 St, George Street, Moncton  
New Brunswick (506-) 857-3258

April 29 30 and May 1st 1988  
Womens Health Education Net  
Work (WHEN) Annual Conference:  
Access, Truro, Nova Scotia for  
more info contact Barbara Curry  
902 (798-5274) or Stephanie  
Nicolletti (902 584-3257.  
W.H.E.N., P.O. Box 99 Debert  
Nova Scotia, B0M 1G0.

April 29 to May 1st.  
Conference on Women and THE  
Church co-sponsored by Mount  
St, Vincent and the womens  
inter church council.

April 29 to May 1st  
N.D.P. Womens Rights  
Committee. Conference in  
Ottawa for Women who are  
seeking Federal nomination.  
Contact Maureen Vine 423-  
9217 Or 434-1573.

National Conference Of  
women in politics, organised  
by Canadian Women for Political  
representation, a non partisan  
group working to support women  
in politics. Contact Janie Fortier  
chair (613-567-8739.

LAMPPOON PUPPET THEATRE

A.W.A. FUND RAISER.

Lampoon Puppet Theatre

For Children and Adults

Folktales from around the

world, Showing at Immaculata

May 13 to 15 National Action  
Committee on the Status of Women  
Annual General Meeting will be  
held in Ottawa For info write  
344 Bloor St West, Suite 505  
Toronto Ontario M5S 1W9.

May 24 to 27  
No More Secrets: Conference  
on Child Abuse Toronto  
designed for people who  
work in the area of child  
abuse, Presenters include  
Lucy Berliner Sandra Butler  
Diana Russell, For info call  
416 (658-1752).

Women and Power  
( A Feminist Approach)

How we relate to Power and  
Powerlessness is directly  
influenced by our male def-  
ined view of Power and  
Competition. We would like to  
explore with women  
what a Feminist approach might  
be. Everyone Welcome

Please come and Join us  
We need all of your in-  
put and come prepared to  
have fun and increased  
knowledge and ideas, from  
pooling our resources and  
experiences.

WHEN APRIL 15. Friday  
7 to 10 at Riekys House  
near St. Andrews. see map!!!

Evening planned by Riekys AWA,  
and B.A.D. for AWA.

Riekys  
House  
(2 Kilometers from)  
TRANS CANADA  
Feltmakers store  
(shops - you  
gone too far).

DAVE WATTS  
with  
Geez  
Geez

Bungalo  
Feltmakers  
Barnie

Cashmere  
restaurant

Dairy Farm

Silos

Lines of

TRANS CANADA

children will LOVE IT  
PLEASE COME DONT MISS

The Wickedary  
World Web Two..

Play's Daily!!

Batty adj.: having the qualities of a bat-self directed, uncanny eccentric, and active by night, applied especially to crackpot crones and Old Bats examples: Ruth Gorden, Old Bette Davis, Calamity Jane.

Battle Ax n(slang): a quarrelsome, irritable, domineering woman (Websters) 1: a raging, dreadless, unconquerable crone, 2 double edged weapon of a women warrior, Labrys wielded by an A-mazing Amazon.

Nag n:(to affect with re-currant awareness, uncertainty need for consideration and concern: make re-currantly conscious of something (as a problem, solution, situation) Websters, this definition has been awarded the Wickedary's intergalactic seal of approval.

Spinster n: a women whose occupations is to spin, to participate in the whirling movement of creation: one who has chosen her Self, who defines herself by choice neither in relation to children nor to men, one who is Self-Identified.

Rage n(violent action of the elements (as wind or sea), furious storm tempest extreme force of feeling: passion, frenzy Websters): transformative focussing force that awakens transcendent E-motion: passion that unpots the potted passions, Passion when unleashed enables furies to sever our selves from the state of severence breathe Fire and fly into freedom.

Examples The righteous rage of Celie at Mr. in Alice Walkers The Colour Purple .I curse you I say.

Untill you do right by me everything you touch will crumble..

Untill you do right by me I say everything you dream about will fail, every lick you hit me you will suffer twice, You better stop talking because all I'm telling you ain't coming just from me, look like when I open my mouth the

air rush in and shape my words

I'm poor, I'm black, I may be ugly and can't cook a voice say to everything listening.

But I'm here!!!!!!

women

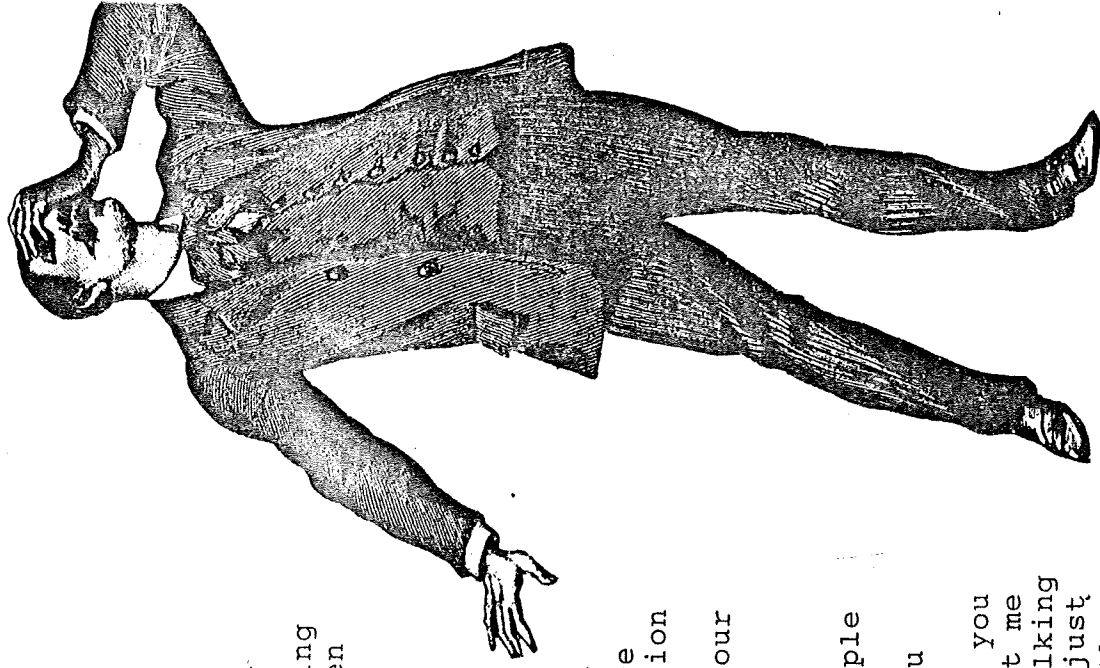


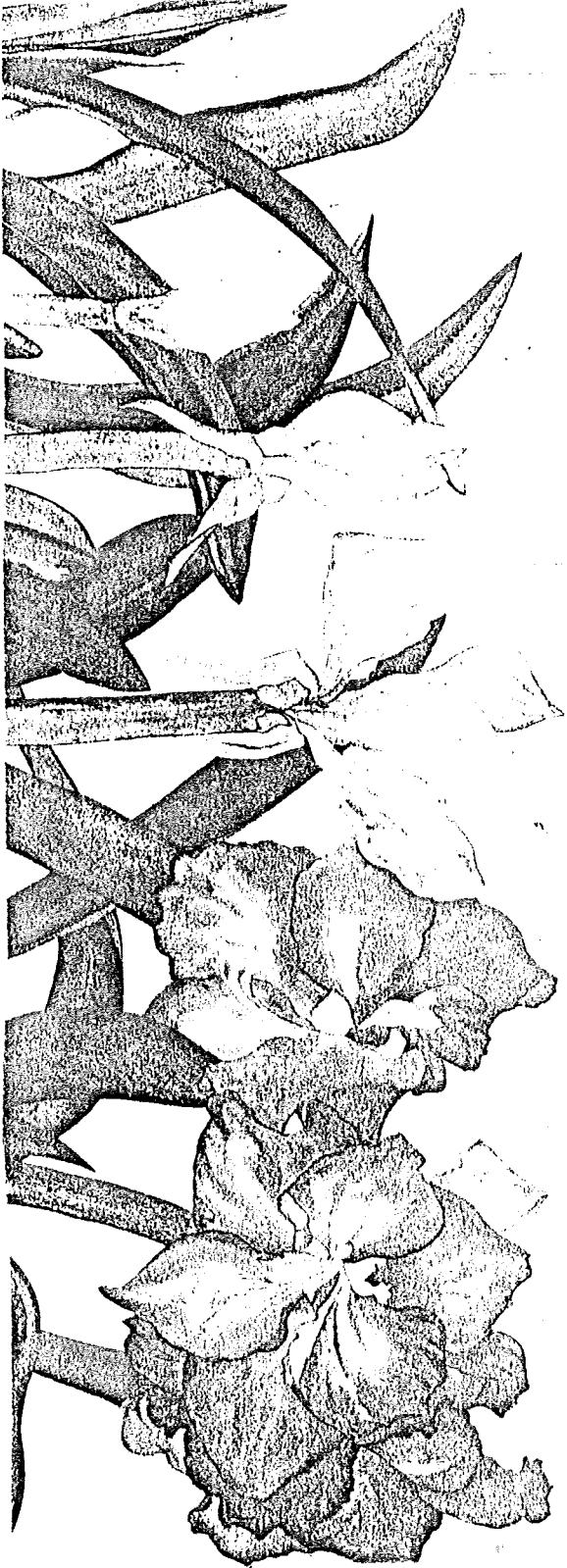
Forgoing  
Ahead.

of Dolphins

The righteous rage against rippers who massacred their sisters at Iki Island Japan in 1980

About 4000 Dolphins massed around this island today forcing fishing boats back to port a day after fishermen from the island slashed and stabbed 200 Dolphins to death after trapping them in nets.





#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 26, Tuesday Women and Health in Chile, Veronica Baez  
7:30, Elevated Classroom, St. Martha's School of Nursing.

April 28, Thursday Women in Chile, Veronica Baez 12:00-2:00, Resource Centre

May 14, Saturday Reflexology Workshop, Heather Douglas 10:00-5:00 Resource Centre

May 19, Thursday Common Ground, a slide/tape production which examines the common problems of Maritime and 3rd World farmers 12:00 Resource Centre

May 25, Wednesday WHO SAYS, a film which explores the negative impact of our own assumptions about Femininity 12:00 and 7:00 WRC

June 15, Wednesday To a Safer Place, a film on incest 12:00 and 7:00 WRC

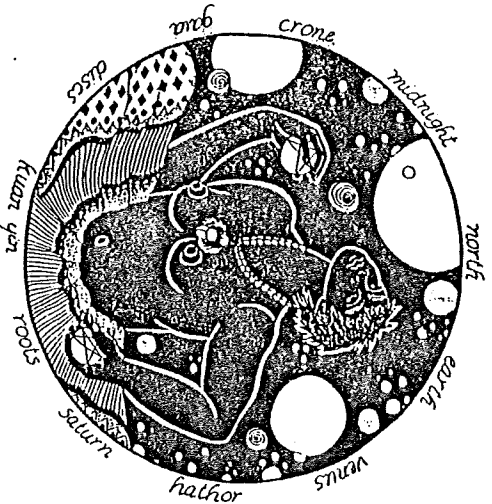
June 17, Friday SUMMER CLOSING OPEN HOUSE, 10:00-2:00 WRC

\* there will be a self-esteem workshop offered during May

For information on any of the above, please call the centre.

## Dreams and Shadows

Sudie Rakusin has created another beautiful book — 24.8" x 11" pages printed on quality vellum, featuring 10 new drawings and ample space for journal keeping.



Record your personal dreams and shadows in the latest of these beautifully illustrated books

To order send 17.95 + 2.00 postage to  
Sudie Rakusin/Journal, P.O. Box 88,  
Brooke, VA 22430

(for Canadian customers, please send a check or money order payable in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. financial institution.)

#### Upcoming conference

...and your daughters shall prophesy  
Mt. St. Vincent Halifax.  
April 29-May 1, 1988.

A Nova Scotia conference on women and the Christian Church.

#### POSITION AVAILABLE

Co-ordinator Womens Resource Center  
Applications will be accepted at box  
1812 Antigonish N.S.. Deadline for  
submitting application May 15. Application  
should include covering letter  
resume, and three references. For information  
on the job description contact  
Janet Trembley at 863-6510.



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