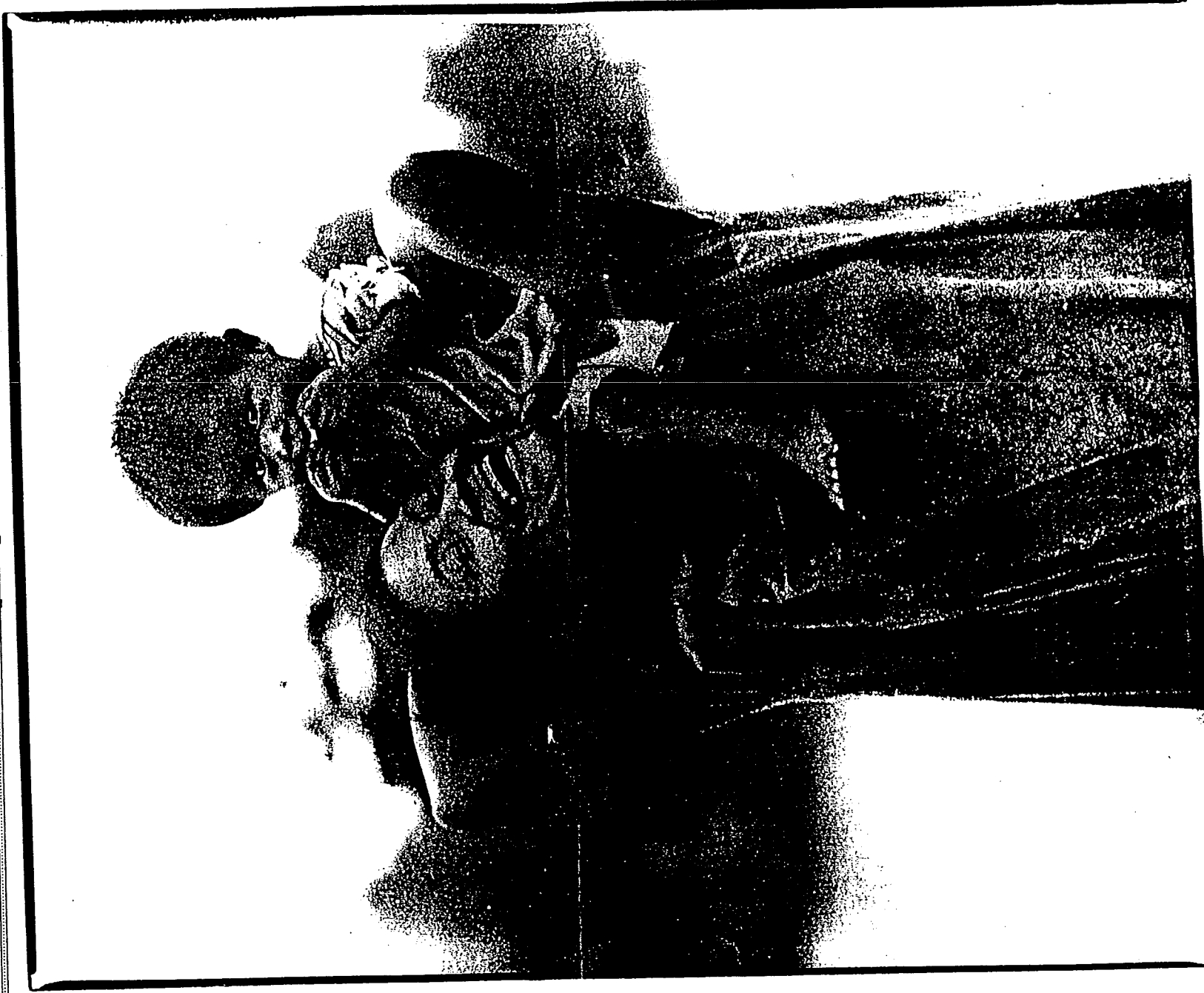
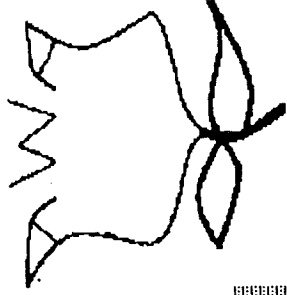


AWARE

Published By Antifeminist Women's
Association Resource Center

863-6221

Spring, 1997



Mother's Day can be a profitable day for florists, restaurants and telephone companies. But despite the consumer hype, do we honour motherhood? What does it mean to honour motherhood and mothers? Perhaps it means to make the elimination of child poverty a real political priority. Perhaps it means that health care and education

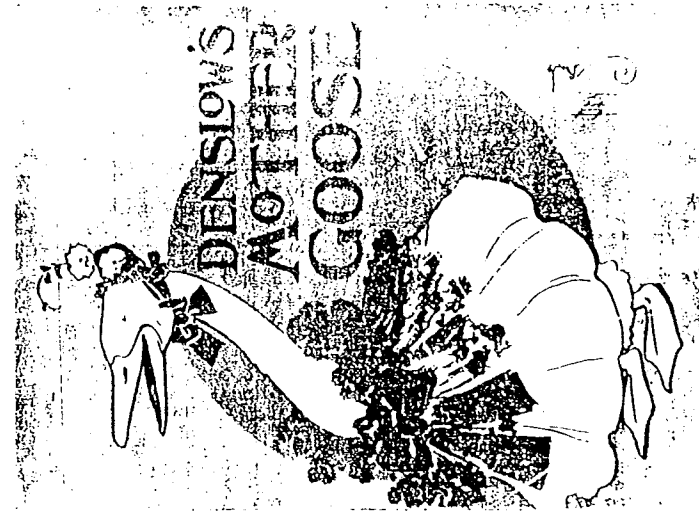
funding should be considered sacred and inviolable, immune to cuts. Maybe it goes so far as fearlessly examining our language, our actions, our media for expressions of subtle or overt violence and replacing these with the quieter and less splashy expressions of nurturing and acceptance.

(continued on page 2)

When "motherhood issues" are at stake, passionate conviction can be our power. In the race between Roseanne Skoke and Francis LeBlanc, for example, two sets of passionate convictions were tossed into the electoral air (in, appropriately enough, the basketball court at the Oland Centre). "Liberals" - with either well worn or newly minted cards- chose Francis LeBlanc. The influence of Pictou- Antigonish- Guysborough women did not go unnoticed. Roseanne Skoke's stand on women's centres and her particular view of family values became enough of a "motherhood" or fundamental issue that people were moved to collective political action (...and effective too.) Perhaps motherhood is like the elephant in the old story where three blind men try to figure out what the elephant is. One feels the tail and decides the elephant is a snake; the other feels the leg and decides the elephant is a tree, etc. In other words, where you're positioned affects your definition which can therefore only be partial.

Recently an Alberta woman was interviewed on CBC because she had been a foster mother for many years until Social Services discovered that she was a lesbian. Suddenly she was deemed to be unsuitable as a foster mother despite her long and respected history with Social Services. Two of her former foster children spoke in her defense. One said that of course her biological mother was her mother, but that the foster mother was "Mom". It was delightful to hear the affection and common sense inherent in that remark. No one has a corner on motherhood. When we love and accept unconditionally yet nurture with a guiding hand, maybe we are mothering. When we support concretely the things that enhance the health and well-being of all Earth's children- young, old, human or non human- then we are honouring motherhood.

(Diane Walsh)



Two Lives—two worlds—two sets of values

Gabriela is a peasant farmer and the mother of five children living in the Andean highlands of South America. She works long hours to care for her family, her animals, and her land. Every day, she makes numerous trips to the stream at the bottom of a steep hill to fetch heavy pails of water. She cuts wood, tends the fire, and cooks. She also helps care for the family's crops of potatoes, wheat and quinoa, and raises small animals and a few sheep.

Gabriela is normally engaged in numerous activities at the same time. Even when she is conversing with a neighbour, she is spinning wool by hand or knitting. She is constantly tending to the youngest child strapped to her back. For Gabriela, there are no holidays. She loves her land, its plants, and the animals she raises. She nurtures them as she does her own family. She creates and cultivates many things of value; yet, she is very poor.

Life has always been hard for Gabriela, but in recent years things have become even more difficult. The food that she sells in town has actually fallen in price as cheaper imports have flooded the local market. At the same time, the cost of agricultural supplies, health care, and schooling have risen steeply. While several of her own children have been able to go to primary school (requiring immense sacrifices by her husband), she worries that in the face of rising prices for books and school supplies, her youngest daughter may never attend classes.

Gabriela's oldest daughter, Juanita, left home a year ago to work in a clothing factory in a city on the coast. She sends a small sum of money home every month, something which helps the family make ends meet. Still, Gabriela is worried about the long hours and difficult living conditions her daughter must endure. She had always hoped life would be better for her children than it has been for herself, but she now fears that they may be even poorer.

...

John works as a trader for a large Toronto bank. He earns a six-figure income and has accumulated significant personal investments of his own. John rises early and turns on his home computer to check the overnight action on the Asian and European markets before going in to work. He works alongside other traders in a room with a special air-conditioning system. It keeps the computers from overheating and pumps extra oxygen into the room to keep the traders alert.



He carefully analyses all the latest market trends to make the profitable investments for his bank. He uses sophisticated mathematical formulas and a high-speed computer programmed to spot price differentials faster than any human could.

During market hours, John sits in front of his computer executing trades in a number of North American bond markets. It's stressful work, but also thrilling and challenging. His colleagues specialize in other financial instruments such as derivatives, interest rate futures, and community markets. Together, they make a highly skilled team who generate millions of dollars in yearly earnings for their employer.

John is basically an honest man. He plays by the rules of the game. He laughs at the stereotype of "the boys in red suspenders", which he never wears. He'd like to spend time in community activities, but finds he has little extra time given his stressful work schedule. Still he is able to spend some time with his family each day. He hopes that, in a few more years, he can win a promotion to a managerial position before he burns out.

At first glance, John and Gabriela seem to live in completely different worlds, and in some sense that is true. Yet their activities are not unrelated. The trades that John and his colleagues execute in the world's financial markets in some way affect Gabriela. The pressure exerted by international money markets has resulted in the structural adjustment policies that have raised the cost of education and health care for Gabriela and her family.

Trading in commodities and pressure for "open markets" affect the price of food imports and agricultural supplies, pushing Gabriela's income down. Gabriela is affected by the global market and the decisions of people like John, yet she has no control or voice in the direction of the world economy.

No one would doubt that Gabriela's activities are valuable. What could be more fundamental to the sustenance of life than the production of food and the care of children? Yet she receives little or no monetary remuneration for this work. In the eyes of the global economy, what she does is virtually worthless.

John, on the other hand, produces nothing of intrinsic worth. His activities are basically speculative, analogous in some way to gambling. True, he works hard and employs considerable skill and expertise. There is no evidence that he desires to harm people like Gabriela. Yet, in the end, many of his activities prove destructive when seen from the perspective of actually enhancing the quality of life. Despite this, he is rewarded handsomely. He is considered a valued player in the global economy.

(from the CCPA Monitor, contributed by
Marion MacDonald)

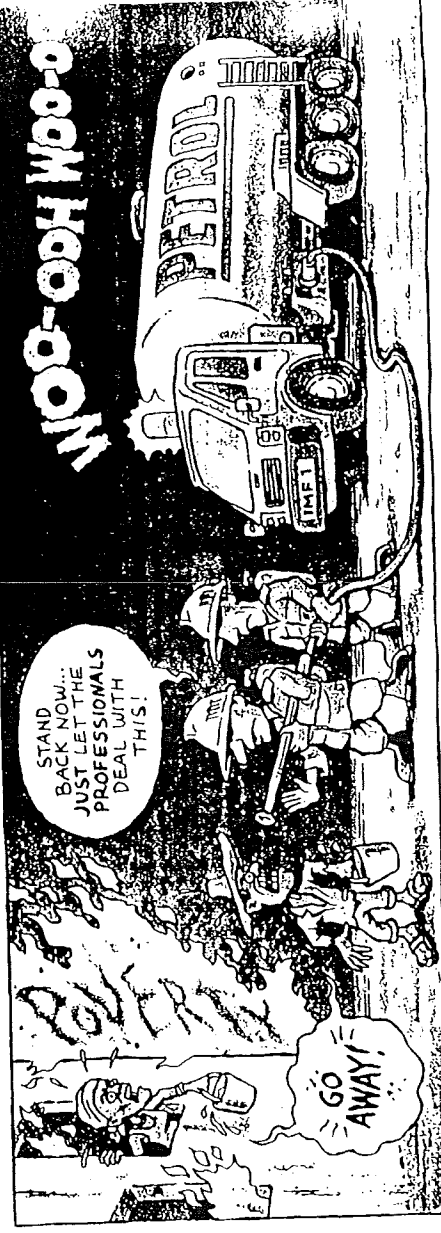
Mothers Who Die: Why Nobody Cares

According to an article by Peter Adamson in New Internationalist (Jan/Feb. 1997) , a conspiracy of silence surrounds one of the most neglected tragedies of our times: approximately 600,000 women die each year in pregnancy and childbirth. The causes? Hemorrhaging, self-induced abortions, eclampsia, poisoning of the bloodstream, anaemia, obstructed labour that may last for days... these are not the deaths of the ill or of the very old but of healthy women upon whom others depend. But mortality alone is not the full extent of the tragedy. Despite the scanty research into this issue, the ratio of injuries to deaths is estimated at about 30 to one. This means that at least 12 million women a year suffer injuries that will have a lasting effect upon their lives.

(Continued on page 4)

POLYP
big Bad World

STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT FIREFIGHTERS



FOR THE RESCUE!

One of the most distressing of these injuries is fistula, which occurs when birth canal tissues die and fall away, leaving holes. Bladder and rectum material may leak through these holes into the vagina, causing incontinence. Without an operation to repair the fistula, the woman will remain incontinent, making do with cloths and rags. Because of the constant leaking, she develops a rash in her genital area, making it painful to wash. Because of this messy situation, the woman is banished first from her husband's bed, then from the home, and made to live in an outside shed. Many women decide that suicide is preferable to such an outcast life. Approximately 800,000 women develop fistula each year, and most cases go untreated.

Another injury which may arise from the trauma of hemorrhage, is hypopituitarism or Sheehan's syndrome. At first women think their tiredness is temporary, but it turns into chronic weakness, monthly periods stop, pubic hair disappears, there is confusion and forgetfulness, and in effect the woman grows old while still young. Sheehan's syndrome is assumed to be rare, but it may currently affect over three million women.

A common unreported injury is dyspareunia, or painful sexual intercourse, which may last for up to a year after childbirth in some cases. Even if this pain is severe, some women have no choice but to endure it, as one more abuse in what Adamson describes as "...a lifetime of abuses that are linked, in one way or another to the different ways in which different societies make a woman suffer for her reproductive role". Women are for the most part conditioned to cope, not to complain, thus they will usually continue looking after children, fetching wood, carrying water, working in the fields, all the while hoping that the pain will just go away. According to Adamson, little is said or done about this problem because it is a "woman's problem". He quotes one midwife with 25 years' experience in developing countries who says: "If hundreds of thousands of men were suffering and dying every year, alone and in fear and in agony, or if millions upon millions of men were being injured and disabled and humiliated, sustaining massive and untreated injuries and wounds to their genitalia, leaving them in constant pain, infertile and incontinent, and in dread of having sex, then we would have heard about this issue long ago, and something would have been done".

Adamson points to another, perhaps surprising reason for the failure to break the silence: the women's movement in industrialized nations has not raised its voice on this issue. Some women who work with

maternal death and injuries in the developing world offer the theory that for most Western women, "feminism is in large part a fight against the circumscribing of a woman's opportunities by her reproductive role; many who are engaged in that struggle have therefore been reluctant to take on an issue which seems to centre on women as mothers rather than women as women.

Adamson cites research that shows that the solution to this problem is obstetric care. He suggests that properly trained health workers and midwives with access to inexpensive equipment and relatively cheap drugs can usually cope and know when to call in obstetricians if absolutely necessary. The financial cost of this would be only a small proportion of the \$85 billion a year that governments of developing countries currently spend on health services, or of the \$5 billion a year in international aid that is allocated to those services. "Reducing maternal deaths and injuries is therefore not a matter of possibilities but of priorities" The issue must be forced into public consciousness and onto the political agenda. Failure to raise our voices amounts to "tacit complicity with the forces of silence, an acquiescence in the long reign of the idea that these issues should not be spoken about too loudly because they are faintly embarrassing and because, after all, they affect mainly women and mainly the poor".

(Diane Walsh)



Momilies- motherly mottos that stick!

"That's a spoon not a shovel"

"If you can't find anything kind to say don't say anything at all"

more momilies...

"Feed a cold, starve a fever"

"Don't cross your eyes, they'll stay that way"

"Tired? I'll give you something to do."

"A watched kettle never boils"

"Wash your hands, wipe your nose, sit up straight and cover your mouth when you cough."

"Wish with one hand and work with the other and see which one is full first."

"Waste not, want not"

"More haste, less speed"

"A stitch in time saves nine"

"Beauty is only skin deep and ugliness is right to the bone"

"Don't put anything in your ear smaller than a breadbox"

"You've made your bed, now lie in it"

*"Let sleeping dogs lie"
"let sleeping babies lie"*

"You reap what you sow"

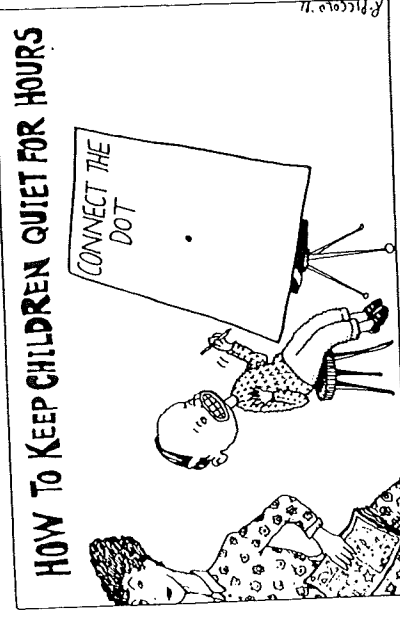
"You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear"

"A broken heart or injury- like fabric- will be stronger for the mending"

"Too many are in love with the idea of being in love"

"If you must pick your nose go in the closet"

(Contributors: Gillian McCulloch, Theresa Ryan)



Rina Piccolo

No EGgageration...

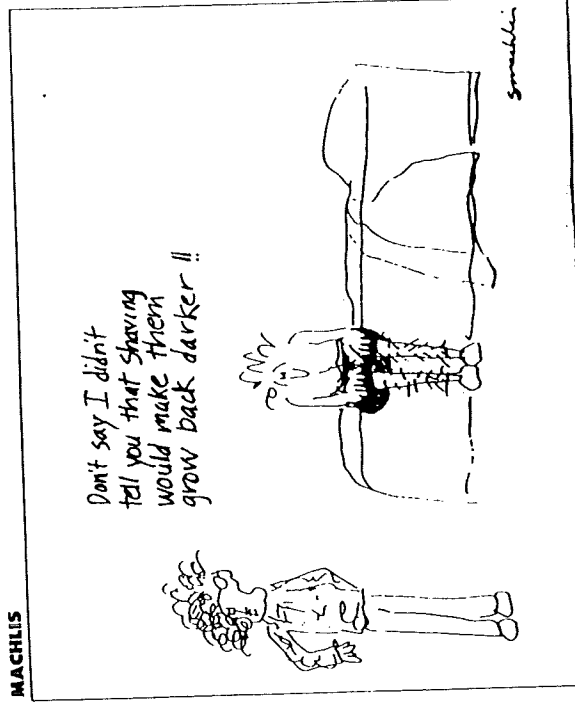
The following story by Brett Smith-Hanlon was "edited" for a school publication because of a certain reference. Here is the original (contentious?) version:

Mr. Eggarama was in show biz because of his ability to dance on 10 meter high brick walls. He could do ballet and rock on the walls. Mr. Eggs and Mrs. Toasts would come from miles around just to see him dance. Mr. Eggarama was in his late twenties and was single. All of the toasts fell for him and even some eggs! (Eggs are boys and toasts are girls.) He had black hair and a very tanned shell.

Well one day there was a gorgeous piece of toast and Mr. Eggarama was doing a magnificent number on jumping in ballet. She was so beautiful, that while he was doing a double twisting jump, he fell off of his wall and landed on an egg. Mr. Eggarama felt so bad because he had killed the egg that he fell on. Mr. Eggarama was badly hurt. The beautiful piece of toast that he had seen before rushed over to see what had happened that was so important. Mr. Eggarama's manager called 911 and they rushed him into the hospital. Dr. Eggie told Mr. Eggarama that he could not dance for at least 6 months. The doctor also told him that he would have to have someone to look over him. As quick as lightning Miss Toast volunteered to look after him.

Soon they were happily omeleted and had one toast and two eggs. Then they lived happily ever after but sometimes Mrs. Toastarama would get worried because the egg he killed was gay and his ghost would try to steal a kiss from Mr. Eggarama every now and then. (But sadly one day they were cooked and eaten by Brett!)

MACHILIS



Gail Machilis

A WOMAN'S DAY OR A MAN'S DAY?

Which would you prefer if you could choose? The Swedish International Development Agency outlined a typical day for a man and a woman in a family that grows both cash crops and its own food supply, in its journal, *Striking a Balance*. The family lives "somewhere in Africa".

The woman's day does not change if she is pregnant. There is little time to spare to visit a medical centre for regular prenatal care.

A WOMAN'S DAY A MAN'S DAY

rises first	
kindles the fire	
breast-feeds the baby	fixes breakfast/eats
fixes breakfast/eats	breast-feeds the baby
washes and dresses the children	eats
walks 1 kilometre to fetch water	walks 1 km to field
walks 1 km home	works in the field
gives the livestock food and water	walks 1 km home
washes cooking utensils, etc.	eats when wife arrives with food
walks 1 km to fetch water	works in the field
walks 1 km home	walks 1 km home
washes clothing	rests
breast-feeds the baby	
walks 1 km to field with food for husband	
walks 1 km back home	
walks 1 km to her field	
weeds field	
breast-feeds the baby	
gathers firewood on the way home	
walks 1 km home	
pounds maize	
walks 1 km to fetch water	
walks 1 km home	
kindles the fire	
prepares meal/eats	
breast-feeds the baby	
puts house in order	
goes to bed last	

Call to Action

The Patient Advisory Committee for the Environmental Health Centre is organizing a lobbying campaign concerning the government's recent cuts to the centre's budget. As you probably have heard, the new center, which has yet to be officially opened, has already had to lay off the majority of its staff. It had requested \$ 1.8 million to cover operational costs, but instead received \$1 million. The \$ 1.8 million would have paid for two full-time and three part-time doctors, a dietician, a psychologist, extra secretarial and research staff. Instead the centre will have to rely on only one doctor, four nurses and one rehab counsellor to serve its 800 clients and the 1200 who are on the waiting list may never get in!

They are hoping that you will be as concerned about this as we are and will let your views be known to both Minister of

Health Bernie Boudreau and your M.L.A.

Boudreau's Email address is:

HLFXJOSE.HEAL.HEALMIN@gov.ns.ca

You could also phone him at 425-3377 or 424-7570 or Fax him at 424-0559

Also phone your local M.L.A.

The patient advisory committee is also trying to keep track of calls and faxes. You could let them know at 860-0070.

Please pass this information on to anyone you know who might also be concerned.

Promises, Promises!

During the next few weeks the politicians will be campaigning for voters and spewing out promises for when they get elected. Like the proverbial bucket with a hole in it, promises go in and then pour out the bottom in a meandering stream leaving everyone thirsty and wondering why someone doesn't fix the bucket.

This is our chance to fix the bucket! Listen carefully to each candidate from the different parties, and then, if you need to dig further, read about their party policies and their personal stands on issues important to you. Ask yourself if this person has his/her own opinion or does she/he follow party line without question. Which party has a past record of fulfilling its promises? (Is there anyone who didn't choke over that one?) Are you going to vote the way that your family has voted for generations? Be careful about this. Look at the mess we are in now.

I myself haven't paid much attention in the past to politics, but now it is more important to me. I am starting a new phase in my life where I am becoming more aware of what is happening in my country and on the international scene. Now that I am over 30, I am finally getting my dream of going to university to come true. Just by this action, I am making myself take note of how Nova Scotia and Canada factor into the state of the world's affairs. There is much for me to learn, and I'm starting with finding out about the way our political system works or doesn't work. I strongly urge you, if you are not already doing so, to monitor closely the upcoming election here in Antigonish and then in Nova Scotia. Our democratic system doesn't work unless the people—that is us—use the process and get knowledgeable about the issues and the people that make up our government.

I hope to see you at the polls on June 2/97 and make your vote count!

(Connie Langille)

Messages from the Candidates...

All local candidates for the upcoming federal election were asked to contribute statements to this newsletter concerning their positions on women related issues. We received the following two responses, one from Charlene Long of the NDP, and the other from Henry Van Berkel of the Reform Party

NDP:

My name is Charlene Long and I am running for Parliament in Pictou-Antigonish-Guysborough under the NDP banner. I am a

registered nurse, living and working in Antigonish for the past 26 years. In spite of 23 years of intensive care nursing I take a broader view of medical miracles than the technology that I've seen in that time. That technology has its place— but the greatest modern miracle in health care in the past thirty years has been that of clean drinking water, adequate nutrition and housing, access to healthcare and education, meaningful paid employment and a social safety net for times of trouble in our lives.

I am running for office because Ottawa is not listening to the concerns that affect us in our everyday lives— issues like healthcare, education, and employment. Having a government member sitting has only brought Ottawa's message to us, and what a horrible message that is:

- disappearing UI benefits— they use the fund instead to pave their way to reelection.
- less money for education; closing of community schools

- the decimation of universal medicare with private clinics being the first step
- increased university tuition— Atlantic

Canada has the highest tuition fees

- increasing prescription drug costs with the Liberal affirmation of C-91, a Tory Bill they promised to amend if elected last time
- skyrocketing fisher licence fees
- abysmal unemployment records— the worst since the 1930's and particularly no hope of employment for our youth leaving us to export our most valuable asset

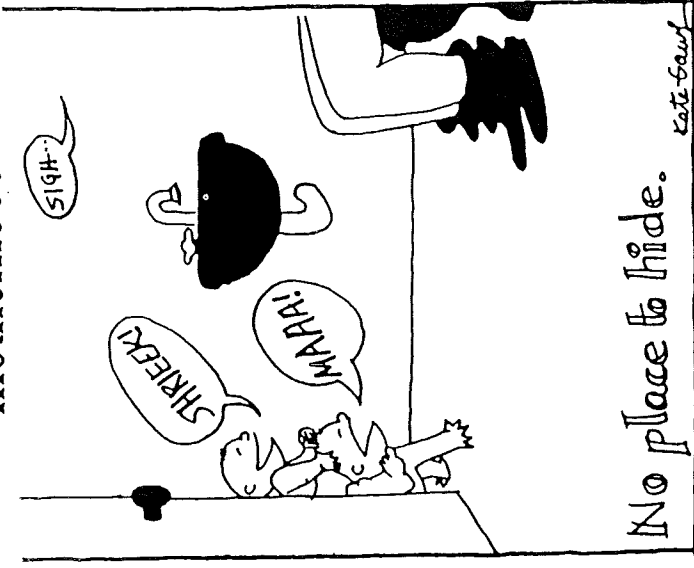
- first the hated Tory GST and now the hateful Liberal BS Tax

- the gutting of the social assistance safety net
- horrific levels of child poverty— but they say they'll help in 1998 if re-elected

I want to bring the message of Pictou-Antigonish-Guysborough to Ottawa instead— a message of **"We've had enough!"** Even federal Finance Minister Paul Martin Jr. admits that social spending didn't cause the deficit; it represents only 7% of it. **So why are we cutting the deficit by reducing the very programs which make Canada the caring compassionate society it has become?**

The role of government is to be efficient. The opposing argument would be that government should be *inefficient*. I'll leave that argument to those who would cut the public service to the point where it cannot do its job. Efficient in that context means cheap for the sake of cheap— perhaps to make privatization look more attractive. **I think a more worthy goal of government is to be effective.**

This means government that works for the people who elected it— not for those who financed their campaigns. Effective government is inherently efficient... it really depends on what you measure.



Effective government would trim what should be trimmed- like a tax system that allows Imperial Oil to defer \$ 1.5 BILLION on taxes- or 200, 000 profitable corporations to escape taxation entirely while you and I, the citizens of Pictou- Antigonish- Guysborough, pay ours.

Effective government would fund true research and development. In areas that have recognized our strengths as a resource-based economy. One which would allow us to add value to those resources.

Effective government would not fund computer upgrades for the big banks- increasing worker displacement- and call that research and development.

It is only when there has been a strong New Democratic opposition in Ottawa that the everyday concerns of our working lives- healthcare, education, housing, and employment have been addressed. Medicare was introduced when there was a minority government with the NDP holding the balance of power. When there have been majority governments of the other two main parties, the Tories and the Liberals- they immediately turn to the agenda of those who have financed their election and away from those who have elected them.

For those who say they would like to vote for me but do not want to lose their vote- my challenge is to prove that you are not wasting it now.

On June 2 I seek your support to be a real voice for Pictou- Antigonish- Guysborough, in Ottawa.

-Charlene Long, NDP candidate

Reform:

In response to your request for a statement you can use in your newsletter, I will briefly state the Reform Party position on a number of women related issues.

"Because of social and economic changes, many families are facing high debt, stress, bankruptcy and burnout. A Reform

Government will recognize the value of families as the most important building block in our society. So you can spend less time under pressure, and more time with those you care about most" (Preston Manning).

A Reform Government will ensure that government policies are family-friendly. The child care deduction of \$3000 and \$5000 will be extended to all parents including those who take care of their children at home. The Spousal amount will be raised from \$5380 to \$7900. These actions will allow parents, including single parents, greater freedom to spend more time parenting, and to succeed economically while doing so. These and

other tax changes will remove approximately 1.5 million low income Canadians from the tax roll.

The Reform Party believes that family violence shatters the trust that is fundamental to family relationships. Laws will be changed to make family assault a separate serious offence in the criminal code. An effective counseling process will become part of any sentence for family violence. Peace bonds and restraining orders will be strengthened.

The Reform Party will work with the provinces to establish nationwide guidelines for child support payments and Family Courts to broker disputes. Agreements for support and for access must be respected. A national registry of child support will be set up to ensure that there is compliance.

Reformers are passionately Canadian and determined to save and enhance the social safety net which has been the hallmark of Canadian society. We support an effective and efficient system of programs for those individuals and families who need help, including help to help themselves.

Families need to feel that they are safe and secure in their homes, in their schools and their communities. We all want to live in a country where our children can play in the park, go to school, and grow up without fear. Parents want to be in a home secure from poverty and violence. I believe that a Reform Government will do much toward the realization of these aspirations.

For more information on our policies you may contact me at home (863-2069) or come into our campaign headquarters located at 188 Main Street, Antigonish.

Henry Van Berkel, Reform candidate

News from the Centre

The centre continues to be a hub of activity, even during the fiercest snow and wind storms. The bulletin board is covered with announcements of upcoming events, job ads, and buy & sell messages. There has been an average of 20 visits per day and even more phone calls.

The main areas of concern brought to staff and volunteers' attention are health, sexual assault/ sexual abuse, education & training, poverty, parenting, and inquiries about various aspects of our women's centre and the network of centres in other parts of the province.

Volunteers have given an enormous number of hours of work to the center. In January, February and March a total of 1045 hours were logged.

Volunteers staffed the phones both in the centre and on the Sexual Assault Support Service. They helped with clerical tasks, artistic production, reception duties, library maintenance, special events coordination and much more.

April 21 to 27 was Volunteer Appreciation Week. Center volunteers were honoured with a special lunch and certificates of appreciation. It would be absolutely impossible for the Center to function effectively without the generous and enthusiastic help of volunteers.

A number of educational events went on through the past few months. Workshops, discussions and presentations dealing with women and addiction, eating disorders, self esteem, alternative health care, and Black women's history were offered. A therapy group for survivors of childhood sexual abuse is currently under way.

Networking at the regional and provincial level has been a going concern. Center staff, board members and volunteers have participated in sessions directed at addressing issues affecting youth, women suffering abuse in spousal relationships, and people affected by sexual violence. Issues around economic justice are a major focus as well.

We co-sponsored a workshop on suicide intervention in February which was extremely useful and well-attended. All center staff are trained in this area now as

The Sr Isabel MacDougall Library has acquired a number of excellent books over the past several months. Two examples are Hidden from History: Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past and Emotional Intelligence: Why it Can Matter More Than IQ. For more information or to make suggestions on borrowing and acquisitions please feel free to call us.

(Katherine Reed)

Linda Nixon of Guysborough won the AWA Mother's Day Draw. Thanks to all of you who sold tickets, and especially to Joan Stockley whose superhuman efforts resulted in our having enough money for three bursaries. If you are a woman returning to school, feel free to apply for one of these three bursaries established in memory of Sr. Mary MacLeod. Application forms are available at the Centre.

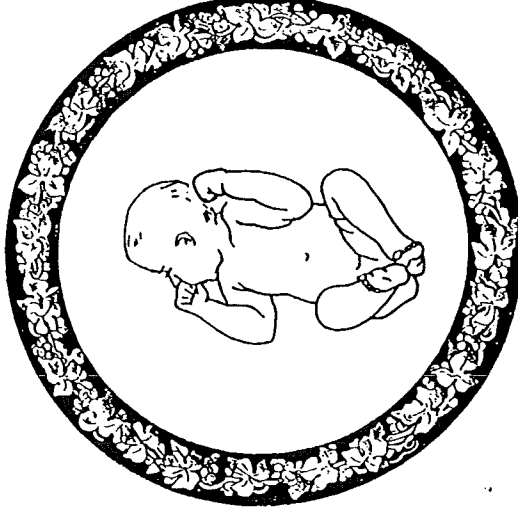
Dear Daughter

Dear Daughter of mine,

I love you.

You're young and kind
you were only three when we shouted
enough. I hope that you won't have to go
through abuse and all that stuff.
I hope that I pulled away in time,
and Kelly, I can promise you this:
I am now finally awake;
I won't get trapped again
in that cycle of abuse.
I'm going to put my life to better use.
Yes, I'm going to take a stand
for all women, and every man
to help end all abuse- there ain't no excuse!
Sisters remember these words
when we break the silence
we will end the violence.

(Theresa Ryan)



1997 PEI Women's Festival

May 30, 31, June 1, 1997.



Camp Gencheff
Bellevue Cove, PEI

D i v i n e D e c a d e n c e

Mother's Love

There is nothing on earth more pure than a mother's love.

God must have known this, as he watched from above.

He knew I would need someone forever there by my side,

to help me along the road,
always strong,

forever kind

To my mother on this day, I will take my pen,

from the bottom of my heart,

I will thank her for being my friend.

For believing in me, when no one else would!

For listening and knowing the truth,

when no one else could!

If I could pass down to my children one small piece of advice.

Along with the thought,

that their grandmother's really nice.

It would be to try and live your life

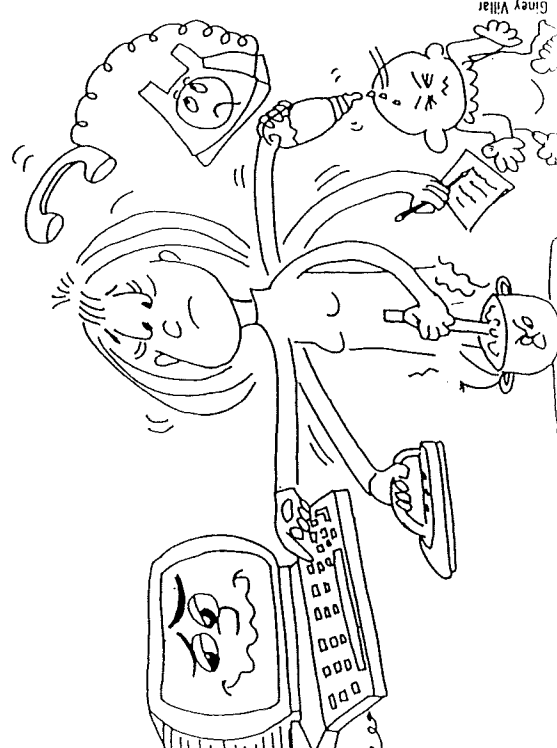
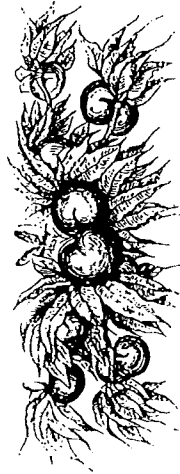
just the way she does!

For just follow her, and you will find,

God's

Unending love.

(Theresa Ryan)



Upcoming Events:

May 24 "Relay to Recovery: Coast to Coast for the Breast Cancer Solution" Jan Blades will be in Antigonish on her cross Canada run for Breast Cancer Research. Anyone interested in sponsoring a runner or in making a donation please contact Dawn Caughey at 863-2223. Congratulations to Theresa Ryan whose song was chosen as the theme song for this big event!

May 27 All Candidates Debate at the Museum of Industry in New Glasgow 7:00-9:00

May 30, 31, June 1, 1997 "Drive Decadence": PEI Women's Festival at Camp Gencheff, Bellevue Cove, PEI Brochures available at the Centre

June 5: The Antigonish Women's Association *Annual General Meeting* will be held Thursday, June 5. Please come! Refreshments will be available.. and maybe even some fun.

June 13, 14 The 14th Annual Topshee Memorial Conference, at St. FXU. This year's theme is "The Media And Power, Democracy, Social Justice". For more information call the Extension Department at 867-2433.

July 7 The annual picnic with Coady women (Rain date August 1) For more information on location and directions, please call the Centre.

The theme for the *Fall newsletter* will be "*Women and Language*". Your ideas, written musings, articles, cartoons, drawings etc. would be very welcome! You can drop them by the Centre anytime before the Fall. (Also, while we're on the subject... any little nagging peeves about this newsletter? Well then come and help us put together the next issue! The more contributors, the more interesting and diverse the articles.)