

JANUARY 1970

PEDESTAL

By the time you get this newsletter, a meeting to start on publishing our 3rd Pedestal will have already been held. If you would like to help with this issue, please call Jean Rands at 298-8430 or Ann at our office (in the afternoon). There's lots of work to be done, so if you want to help, call immediately.

OFFICE

We really need a filing cabinet and typing table to make the office more efficient and nicer to work in. Also a kettle or coffee urn to make it a nicer place to be in. If any of you can donate these things, please bring them over or phone the office and someone can come and pick them up. There is usually someone at the office now in the afternoons, as well as Thurs. Evenings.

OFFICE PHONE – 879-9722

ABORTION PROJECT

The Tues. Night clinic has been going well. Counsellors have sent out a questionnaire to doctors in the Greater Vancouver area and are receiving replies steadily. From this information, they hope to find out what the medical professional is now doing or is willing to do to change (or eliminate) the existing laws, and they plan to follow up the questionnaire with personal interviews with some of the doctors who are most sympathetic to women, and who would be willing to help the clinic in its work.

There will be a meeting to discuss the political implications of the abortion project and to talk over possible public information actions, on Thurs., January 15th. See Calendar.

BOOK STUDY GROUP

This group is meeting on Wednesdays once a month to read books and discuss them. Eventually, some people in the group plan to write papers on aspects of Women's Liberation to be chapters of a book. But, as much as possible, this work and research should be done collectively, so the group is open to anyone who wants to do more reading in biology, economics, sociology, anthropology and psychology, specifically from a woman's point of view. So if you are interested in reading and discussing with others about the theory of Women's Liberation, come out.

See the Calendar for announcement of the next meeting, to be held Monday, January 19th. The book to be discussed is "The Family, Private Property & the State," by Engels.

S.F.U. WOMEN'S CAUCUS

The S.F.U. Women's Caucus, in collaboration with the Student Society, is entering one of our members, Janiel Jolley, in the Campus Queen contest to be held in Toronto on January 27. Janiel has written all the other contestants to explain why she is entering the contest, and to say she would like to talk to them all about Women's Liberation, and specifically about beauty contests and how they make women compete with one another and sell themselves. Janiel hopes to get a chance to show that is not the other girls we are attacking, but the contest and the ideology behind it. Our sisters in Toronto will be nearby to help Janiel so she won't be going through this alone. She hopes to get some of the other contestants to walk out with her, and I think she is strong and sincere enough to carry out this VERY delicate project.

V.C.C.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, a women's studies course is being offered at V.C.C. this semester, by the Women's Caucus and Prof. Robertson of the Sociology Dept. This course will carry no credit, but will be held once a week during the lunch hour (12:30 – 1:30) at the college and is open to the public generally. Anyone interested in attending this course should contact the college or V.C.C. Women's Caucus (c/o the Student Society). Both these phone numbers are listed in the Vancouver phone directory.

CHANNEL 8 T.V.

Channel 8 wants to do a half-hour show on the recent rise of women's groups sometime next month. Some of us are working on preparation of material for this show. It appears that we will have full freedom to determine the content of the presentation, so this is an excellent opportunity to use the media to reach all kinds of women. The producer of this show feels that women are the story of the year. Anyone interested in helping to work on this project, please phone the office.

EDUCATIONAL COURSE

Another educational course is being offered at the Labour Temple on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. This one is entitled "The Socialization and Education of Women." The course will trace the way that women learn to be who they are supposed to be through the family, the school, the media and society. The discussions will be geared to specific problems that arise from the socialization and possible issues for organization. For example, a discussion of text books the image of women that children learn through them could result in a campaign to change the content and style of texts in B.C. schools.

This course should be more interesting and useful to women and to our organizing than the last one, so please try to make it out to some of the sessions.

The first evening will be introductory, more or less, and will meet on January 14th (probably the day you receive this newsletter). The second meeting is Jan. 21st and is centred around a discussion of different methods of child-rearing in different societies, both historically and in the modern world, as well as alternatives such as day-care, communes, etc.

COMMUNITY GROUP

The new organization, calling itself the Community Education and Research Centre, has full facilities now at 434 Pender Street. This group has been formed by people from various groups around the city (Indians, unemployed, union workers, students, etc.) and will employ four of the fired S.F.U. faculty to do research that is relevant to the work these groups are trying to do. There are many courses and workshops being offered, and anyone in the community can join the centre and take part. Women's Caucus will be able to use the facilities and we are now in the process of suggesting some courses specifically on women to the centre, as well as attending and giving a female perspective on some of the already-planned workshops.

People who want to find out more about the centre should attend the opening party on Friday night, January 23rd, in the Fisherman's Hall, Cordova Street. The dance costs \$1.00 per person, and should be a lot of fun. There you can get literature on the centre, talk to other people in the group and see how the centre can serve our organization and our needs as women.

CALENDAR for JANUARY 1970 – A whole new year to continue the struggle!

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| January 14 | First meeting (introductory) of the course "Education and Socialization of Women, Labour Temple, West Broadway, 8 p.m. |
| January 15 | Meeting to discuss educational campaign and political strategy of the Abortion Project. |

Fairly important – so if you have strong views, come out. Labour Temple, 8 p.m.

- January 19 Meeting of Book Study Group. Read: “Family, Private Property and the State, by Engels. Labour Temple, 8 p.m.
- January 21 Second meeting of the course on “The Education and Socialization of Women.” Discussion of child-rearing in different societies, possible alternatives in modern society. Labour Temple, 8 p.m.
- January 22 GENERAL MEETING -- Labour Temple – 8 p.m.
General business and a speaker, Mort Briemberg, formerly of S.F.U. faculty, will talk about what the new Community Centre can do for women.
- January 23 Dance at Fisherman’s Hall, Cordova Street, to open new Community Centre. Everyone welcome. \$1.00 per person.
- January 28 Third meeting of the course on “The Education and Socialization of Women.” Topic as yet undecided.

OFFICE: Phone 879-9722