

CITY SISTERS



NEWSLETTER



Vol. I, No. 5

Issued Irregularly

October 1980

OCTOBER 26 IS SOJOURNER TRUTH DAY

At 2 P.M. on October 26, 1980 at 1700 Mishawaka Avenue, South Bend, people from the Michiana area will gather to celebrate Sojourner Truth with song, ceremony, refreshments, and awards. The event is jointly sponsored by City Sisters and the Women's Studies Committee of IUSB.

A ceremony specially written for the occasion involves audience participation. People who would like to be one of the readers should give their names to Eugenia Braboy at 233-5202 (before 11 A.M. or after 5 P.M.). The ceremony is similar to the birthday celebration of Susan B. Anthony that took place in February.

CASH AWARDS. During the ceremony, cash awards will be presented to the winners of the poster contest in local elementary, middle, and high schools. The judges for the contest are Carol Ann Carter, Art Department, St. Mary's College; Tommy Green, Delos House; and Alan Larkin, Art Department, IUSB. There will be awards in all three divisions. In addition, posters will be put on display at the IUSB Library.

LIBRARY DISPLAY. In conjunction with the celebration, a special exhibit will be at the IUSB Library for the week of October 20th. Mary Sue Freitag, Reference Librarian, has already spent months, writing around the country for items to go into the exhibit.

The celebration has been designed not only as an event that will be enjoyable to all of the Michiana community, but also an event in which all ages can participate. Refreshments appropriate to the season will be served after the ceremony. The event will be short and sweet, so don't come late!

CITY SISTERS NEWSLETTER is issued by the Women's Studies Program at Indiana University South Bend as a service to the Michiana community. It aims to put us into contact with women's issues both here and around the world. Comments and suggestions should be directed to the Women's Studies Committee, Arts & Sciences, IUSB, South Bend, Indiana 46615.

CITY SISTERS OF SOUTH BEND is an organization of women in the Michiana area that is sponsored and encouraged by the Women's Studies Program at IUSB. CITY SISTERS participates in a variety of programs related to women's affairs.

WOMEN'S CAUCUSES ORGANIZING AT IUSB

Judith Redwine Elected Coordinator of Faculty Women

IUSB Faculty Women met on September 23 for their annual supper buffet, social, and organization meeting. They were the first of the IUSB Women's Caucuses to get organized. See below for meetings of student and staff caucuses. All three caucus groups belong to the larger Women's Caucus of IUSB. The larger caucus meets together for social occasions and for issues that effect ALL IUSB women. Otherwise each meets according to its own needs, desires, and schedule. Dues for Faculty Women are \$2 per year.

STUDENT WOMEN'S CAUCUS TO MEET OCTOBER 20, NOON-1 P.M.

All students interested in belonging to the women's caucus will meet for an organizing session over brown bag lunch at the Women's Center, 913 S. 20th St. Dues are 25¢ per year. Officers will be elected and interest groups formed. Last year's major topic was sexual harrassment. The group will follow up on interests of its members, whatever they be.

STAFF WOMEN'S CAUCUS TO MEET OCTOBER 22, NOON- 1 P.M.

All staff women interested in belonging to the women's caucus will meet for an organizing session over brown bag lunch at the Women's Center, 913 S. 20th St. Dues are 50¢ per year. Officers will be lected and agenda discussed. Come and scoailize!

EDITORIAL

Our Comment on the 1980 Presidential Campaign (see pie chart at left): Well, WHERE IS SHE!???

With the current field, she'd be an easy winner.

Would You Vote For a Woman For President?

Actual wording

1937: "Would you vote for a woman for President if she qualified in every other respect?"
1949: "If the party whose candidate you most often supported nominated a woman for President of the United States, would you vote for her if she seemed qualified for the job?"
1958: "Would you vote for a woman for President?"
1967-78: "If your party nominated a woman for President, would you vote for her if she were qualified for the job?"

Sources: The Gallup Organization, courtesy of The Roper Center

1937 31%
"YES"

1949 48%
"YES"

1958 52%
"YES"

1967 57%
"YES"

1978 76%
"YES"



"Did the cow jump over the moon,
because the bull couldn't make it?"

The Vancouver journal *Kenesis* reports: "A flasher approached a Vancouver woman, Carole Carl, as she was painting the outside of a hotel. He walked up to her, pulled down his pants, and grabbed her leg. Carl took her roller and painted him up and down. The man fled, but police had no trouble picking him up. His bright-orange coat of paint was flashing."

WOMEN'S STUDIES MINOR AT IUSB

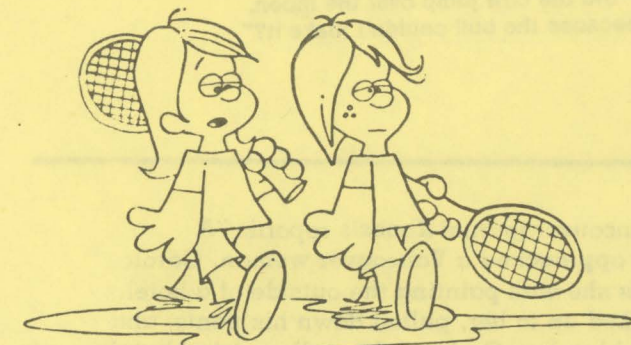
Every month, in addition to the academic program, the Women's Studies Minor has a special program to which the public is also invited. The October program is the Sojourner Truth Celebration (see p. 1), and all minors are urged to attend. The November program will concentrate on American Indian women, and it will be a presentation by Ellen Quick of her independent research in that area. (See below.)

ELLEN QUICK'S PROGRAM - NOV. 10 - NOON

Ellen Quick, a psychology major at IUSB, has been doing independent research, as a part of her academic program on Native American women. She has worked with the Sioux Indians in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and is currently doing work on three tribes in Watervliet, Michigan--where, she reports, there is an Indian population of three to four thousand.

Ellen has already presented her research at the National Women's Studies Association annual meetings in May, 1980, with Dr. Jonelle Farrow, her research supervisor. Her exciting work is a good representation of the possibilities for undergraduate work in psychology and in women's studies. Her work is also an Honor's Thesis.

The presentation will take place during a BROWN BAG LUNCH at the Women's Center, 913 S. 20th Street. Please come as early as you can so that Ellen can begin the program and people can get to their 1 PM classes. The program is scheduled for 11:50 A.M. to 12:50.

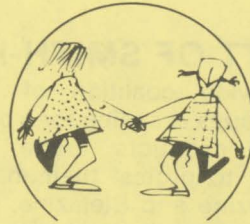


"So what if Columbus discovered America,
Queen Isabella gave him the money."

Women's Studies attempts to give us a sense of the importance and richness of our minority cultures. This is an exceptionally good opportunity for us to look at Indian culture in our own area. Ellen's presentation, therefore, is the November program of the Women's Studies Minor.

October 13 is the publication date:

Pulling Our Own Strings



Edited by Gloria Kaufman and Mary Kay Blakely

Advance copies of PULLING OUR OWN STRINGS are already available at the IUSB Bookstore and other local stores. The book is a collection of feminist humor and satire.

CITY SISTERS will remember Mary Kay Blakely for her presentation of the "I'm Sorry Boycott" at our kickoff meeting in 1979. (That piece is in the book.) Mary Kay is a journalist from Fort Wayne. Gloria Kaufman teaches at IUSB. Indiana University Press is the publisher.

CAROL VOGEL ORGANIZES RESOURCES

Students and faculty doing research in women's studies will be increasingly delighted as the semester progresses by the work that Carol Vogel is doing in the Women's Center. She is busily at work classifying the sundry forms of data so that it can be easily accessible. Resources of the Women's Center that are NOT available in regular libraries include specialized bibliographies (of graduate students and others), outstanding student papers, newspaper and magazine clippings on a single subject gathered together in a single file, listings of underground publications and films on current topics, pamphlets, government documents, personal testimonies, etc.

The Center also has many books (not in the IUSB Library) and backruns of several important newspapers, newsletters, and magazines that the library does not carry.

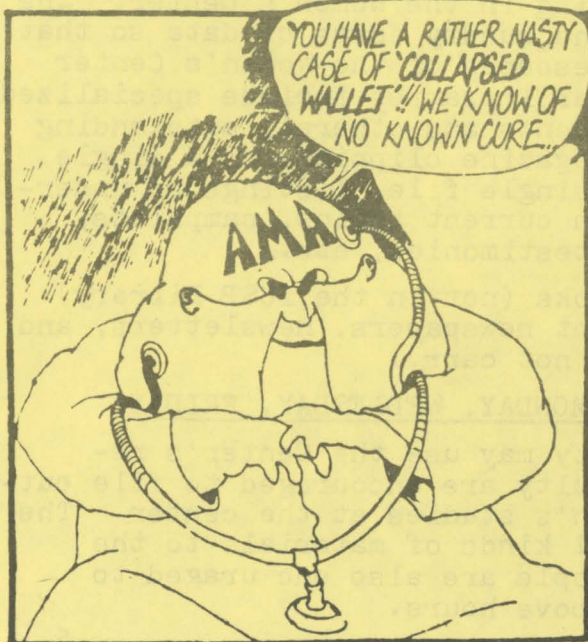
CENTER OPEN 8:30-11:30 A.M. ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

Students, public, and faculty may use the Center's resources at the above times. Faculty are encouraged to file outstanding student papers in women's studies at the center. The public is invited to present all kinds of materials to the Center, 913 S. 20th Street. People are also encouraged to stop by and browse during the above hours.

BOYCOTT OF SMITH-KLINE

A nationwide coalition of mental patients' liberation groups is calling for a boycott of all over-the-counter products made by Smith-Kline Corporation, to protest their manufacture of the drugs Thorazine and Stelazine, which have been shown to cause permanent brain damage (tardive dyskinesia). The main symptoms of tardive dyskinesia are grotesque and involuntary movements of the face and limbs. The products being boycotted are Contac cold capsules, Sea & Ski products, Allerty Relief Medicine, Sine-Off Nasal Spray, and Love Perfume.

Thorazine and Stelazine are used in psychiatric institutions, prisons, nursing homes, and reform schools to make inmates easily controllable. The majority of recipients are women and members of other oppressed groups—children and people who are poor, gay, Third World, elderly or disabled. For more information about the uses and effects of psychiatric drugs and the economics of the drug industry, send \$2 for "The Politics of Phenothiazines" to the Alliance for the Liberation of Mental Patients, 112 S. 16 St., rm. 1305, Philadelphia, PA 19102.



a modest disposal

NORTHERN IRELAND--Conditions in Armagh Prison are notorious. In a note smuggled out on April 8, which was reprinted in the *Republican News*, women in the prison described their living conditions.

"We ourselves are completely filthy. We have not washed nor have we had any change of clothes since February, so we are in a filthy state.

"Many of the girls already have infections, which, through time, will only get worse. Since it is six weeks since we were denied toilet and washing facilities, all of us have gone through our menstrual cycle in these filthy conditions. It is a dangerous time, the risk of infection is high. Sanitary towels are just thrown into us without wrappings."

Conditions in Armagh Prison are appalling. In addition to the lack of toilet paper and inadequate supply of sanitary napkins, prisoners must use chamber pots which are only emptied irregularly. On Sunday, March 26, while the prisoners were at Mass, guards entered their cells and emptied the chamber pots over their beds. Health care is virtually non-existent. The quantity of food is inadequate; what little there is is virtually inedible.

The women in the "A" wing of Armagh, although without the status of political prisoners, were arrested for fighting the colonial British Army. Amnesty International has condemned conditions in the prison.

Women in Armagh are demanding four basic rights: the right to wear their own clothing; free association with other prisoners; one food parcel, one letter and one visit each week; and educational and recreational activities. Margarite D'Arcy, an Irish playwright, and Liz Lagrue of Women Against Imperialism demonstrated at Armagh Prison on International Women's Day and were sentenced to prison terms when they refused to pay fines imposed on them for their activism.

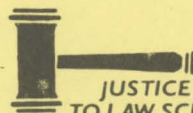
Those who would protest conditions at Armagh Prison or support Ms. D'Arcy and Ms. Lagrue write to the British Embassy, 3100 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

Drugs Still a Woman's Problem

(HER SAY)--Women are the most frequent users of mood-altering prescription drugs in this country. Of 160 million such prescriptions written in 1979, 60 to 80 percent were for women, according to author Muriel Nellis, who describes women's widespread addiction in her new book, *The Female Fix*.

Two factors which contribute to women's drug problems, Nellis says, are ignorance within the medical community, and slanted medical studies which are funded by pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Says Nellis, "Doctors are not knowledgeable about drugs." She adds they do have "a few hours" of training in the subject during their second year in medical school. The pharmaceutical industry afterwards becomes their lifetime advisor about drugs, says Nellis.



JUSTICE GOES TO LAW SCHOOL

In support of a divorced student, Linda Lou Tresnak, the entire law school faculty at the University of Iowa has filed an *amicus* brief in the appeal of a ruling that denied her the custody of her two sons. Judge James E. Hughes had ruled that Tresnak's proposed studies would not leave her time to be with her children, and that the boys would be happier with their father because they could engage in hunting, fishing, athletics, and mechanical activities—even though there was nothing in the record indicating that either father or sons were interested in such activities. The faculty based its *amicus* brief on the argument that the quality and diversity of the student body would be affected if such a ruling against single parents were to prevail.

sexual harassment ruled illegal

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The federal government's Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has ruled that sexual harassment in the workplace is equivalent to other kinds of discrimination such as race, religion or national origin. The rules apply only to employers, not co-workers. Like all EEOC regulations, the guidelines apply to all government employees and those who work in private businesses with 15 or more employees.

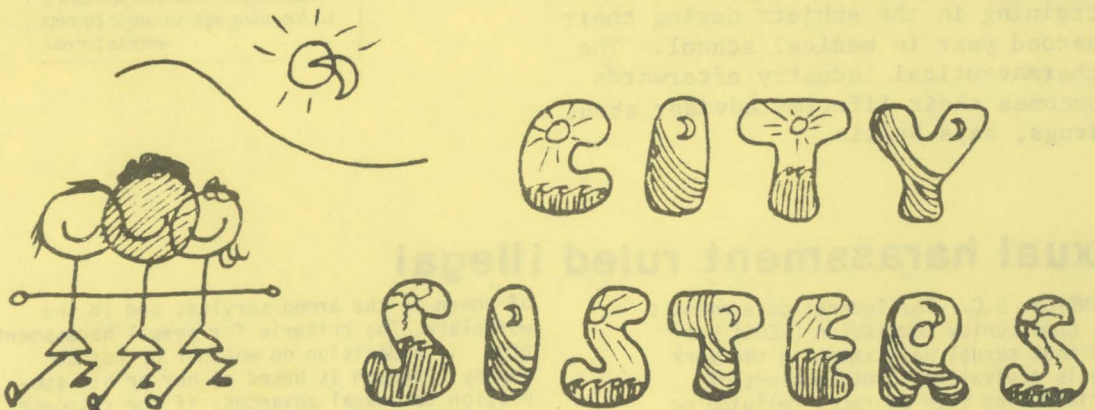
The guidelines follow a number of well-publicized reports of sexual harassment.

of women in the armed services and in the workplace. The criteria for sexual harassment are: if a decision on whether or not to employ a person is based on her or his submission to sexual advances; if the response to advances is a basis for employment decisions, or if the advances interfere with a worker's performance.

A member of the New York City-based Working Women's Institute which focuses on sexual harassment said that "our general sense is that the (guidelines) are quite good."

info from the guardian

Women's Studies Committee
Division of Arts & Sciences
Indiana University South Bend
South Bend, Indiana 46615



of South Bend

ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?

If you received this through the mail, the answer is YES.
If not, write to the Women's Studies Committee, Arts &
Sciences, IUSB, South Bend, Ind. 46615, & we'll put you on.