

## Can a real man support feminism? © Copyright 1995 Michael S. Kimmel

*A pro-feminist man questions his questioners*

by Michael S. Kimmel, professor of sociology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook

I support feminism. As a man. I don't believe that feminists are those media-created man-hating harpies seeking to dethrone academic standards and demolish democracy and individual freedom. The feminists I know seem to be "reasonable creatures," as feminist essayist Katha Pollitt titles her newest book, capable of sound judgement, informed opinions and justifiable outrage at continued injustice. They're feminists because they know that feminism will enlarge the arena of individual freedom for women and ensure their equality and safety under the law. Those ideals seem as American as apple pie and fatherhood.

I also support feminism because of what it means for men. Feminism encourages men to change, to become more active fathers, loving husbands, attentive and supportive colleagues and coworkers, nurturing friends — both to women and to other men. The feminists I know don't hate men; they love us enough to be angry at these unnecessary inequities and believe in our ability to change.

To support feminism as a man means, of course, that some people will wonder about me — about my social life, my sexuality, and most of all, my manhood. Somehow we've come to believe that "real" men cannot support feminism.

It happened again last week. There I was, giving a lecture at a small liberal arts college about why I support feminism as a man. It's a speech I've given more than a hundred times, at colleges and universities around the

country.

And "he" has been there at many of those lectures, sometimes silently dismissive, occasionally overtly hostile. Last week, he was a burly student, sitting in the back row, arms folded across his chest, the brim of his baseball hat turned around. At the end of the question-and-answer period, I had time for one more question. He raised his hand.

"What makes you such an expert on men?" he began with a challenge masquerading as a question. "The way you talk about listening to women, you must be a faggot or something. You sure aren't a real man."

I shifted to a kind of mental remote control, and tossed his question back to him. I asked what was it about my support for feminism that made him think I might be gay. He declined to pick up the question and disengaged, mumbling inaudibly. The lecture ended.

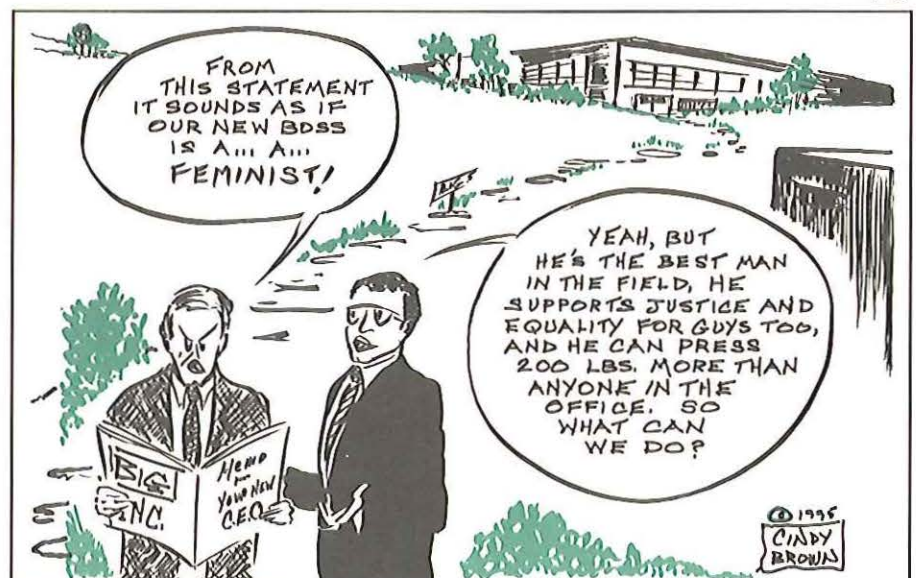
No matter how many times I've been gay-baited, been rhetorically or

literally called out, my manhood questioned, I'm still somewhat startled by it. Why would some people believe that supporting feminism is somehow a revelation of sexual orientation? I offer no clues to my sexuality in my lectures or in my writing, no references to the gender of a "friend," "partner" or a "lover." All I do is agree with women that inequality based on gender is wrong, and that women and men should be equal in both the public and private spheres.

Does this make me less of a real man? The reviewer of one of my books, a collection of men's writings examining the feminist debate about pornography, called me a "traitor." Another wrote that anyone who supports equality for women or for gays must be a wimp.

Fortunately, I'm in good company. I spent five years researching the history of men who have supported women's equality in the United States. Since 1776, these "pro-feminist" men have included a pantheon of respected

—continued on page 2



Americans who supported women's rights to equality in the workplace, the classroom and the polling place, who believed that women had the right to control their own bodies, their own names, and their own property. Men like Thomas Paine, William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, Walt Whitman, Wendell Phillips, Robert Dale Owen, W.E.B. DuBois, John Dewey, Matthew Vassar and Rabbi Stephen Wise.

And they were consistently vilified by other men, jeered as they marched in demonstration, mocked in the media and occasionally, even physically attacked. Men who marched in the grand parades for woman suffrage were reviled as "Aunt Nancy Men" or "man-milliners" — turn-of-the-century terms for "Mama's boys." Samuel Eliot recalled that when he was a Harvard student, and marched in suffrage parades with the Men's League for Woman Suffrage, onlookers shouted "Look at the skirts!"

Playwright George Middleton recalled being heckled with such cries as "Take that handkerchief out of your cuff" and "You forgot to shave this morning." And the anonymous author of a pro-feminist pamphlet called "How it Feels to be the Husband of a

Suffragette" noted that he did not wash the dishes in his home (neither did his wife) despite the fact that "something over 11,863 of you requested me to go home and wash them on the occasion of that first suffrage parade." Even the *New York Times* anticipated that male marchers would "be called endearing names by small boys on the sidewalk," but extended to the male suffragists their "sympathy and admiration."

Opponents of feminism always questioned the virility of any man who supported women's rights. In 1913, Senator Heflin of Alabama (grandfather of the current Alabama senator) made this charge explicit. "I do not believe that there is a red-blooded man in the world who in his heart really believes in woman suffrage. I think every man who favors it ought to be made to wear a dress."

Such sentiments contain two false equations. There's the implicit equation of manhood with oppression and inequality — real men support injustice. And there's the equation of supporting gender equality with effeminacy — as if only "failed men" could learn how to listen.

Should unanswared assumptions like this guide policymakers, let alone everyday decision making? Must we continue that age-old habit of attacking an opponent's manhood instead of engaging with his ideas, acting like a bunch of six-year-olds in the play-

ground calling each other sissies to ward off our own fears and anxieties?

It's that, and more: It's about the meaning of manhood itself. It's no longer so clear what it means to be a man. The old models seem insufficient, but no new rules are in place. No wonder books about redefining manhood become bestsellers.

And no wonder there's been such a parade of men — from Clarence Thomas to Bob Packwood, William Kennedy Smith to Mike Tyson and O.J. Simpson, Tailhook to Spur Posse — who collectively symbolize many of the defining issues of our time. American masculinity is undergoing enormous changes.

And men can begin to envision a new ideal. Supporting feminism requires men to stand up for "unpopular" principles — like justice, fairness and equality. It demands that men undertake the heroic quest to become more compassionate and nurturing friends, lovers and fathers. It requires that we stand tall against those who will invariably bait us, those to whom the phrase "gender justice" sounds more like a threat than the fulfillment of democracy's promise.

Perhaps the turn-of-the-century writer Floyd Dell said it best in an essay he wrote in 1917. "Feminism will make it possible for the first time for men to be free," he wrote. By supporting feminism, men can realize the best of what it means to be a man. ■

Women's VU is published monthly September through June at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. Campus address: 316 West Side Row. Mailing address: Box 1513 Station B, Nashville, TN 37235. Phone: (615) 322-4843. Fax: (615) 343-0940. E-mail address: womenctr@ctr.vax.vanderbilt.edu.

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## Kimmel to speak on March 29

You can hear more of Michael Kimmel's views on men and feminism on March 29, when he speaks at Vanderbilt as part of National Women's History Month. "For the Common Good: Men, Women and Feminism" begins at 7:30 p.m. in Furman 114, followed by a reception.



Michael S. Kimmel

Professor Kimmel has become a national authority on this highly charged topic, appearing regularly in such forums as *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal* and ABC's *World News Tonight*. A former contributing editor for *Psychology Today*, Kimmel is the national spokesperson for NOMAS (the National Organization for Men Against Sexism) and author or co-author of seven books, including *Against the Tide: Pro-Feminist Men in the United States, 1776-1990*. He has degrees from Vassar, Brown and the University of California at Berkeley, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1981.

Co-sponsors with the Women's Center are Women's Studies, University Lectures, Residential and Judicial Affairs, the Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Council, Students for Women's Concerns and the Sociology Department.

# “NEWS QUOTES”

...a compilation of news excerpts from the national press. Some stories have been edited for clarity, consistency or brevity...

## SAT gender gap closing slowly

Test scores from the Scholastic Assessment Test show that the gap between men and women shrank slightly last year, continuing a trend that began in 1987. The actual narrowing is small, according to FairTest, a group which has been monitoring the gender gap in standardized tests. "At the current pace, it will take another 25 years to eliminate the SAT gender gap."

*About Women on Campus*  
Winter 1994

## Female students duped into bogus pelvic exams

Police in Springfield, Mo., are investigating a bizarre case involving a man who allegedly offered scholarships to female students at Central Bible College in exchange for pelvic examinations.

Police refused to identify the man except to say that he is not affiliated with the college. He allegedly advertised the scholarships there by placing flyers on the cars of at least three female students...

Two women filled out applications and agreed to be examined by the man in a hotel room last month, according to Lieut. Steve Hamilton, who investigated the case. Mr. Hamilton said the man had allegedly checked the women's blood pressure, taken their temperature, and given them a kind of pelvic exam. He did not give them the money promised.

*Chronicle of Higher Education*  
Jan. 27, 1995

## Targeting women for guns

The Violence Policy Center, a research foundation in Washington, recently released a report titled "Female Persuasion — A Study of How the Firearms Industry Markets to Women and the Reality of Women and Guns." The report explained how the leading trade association of the industry, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, created a series of shooting competitions called the Ladies Charity Classic Events as a way of introducing women to guns.

The report said, "By utilizing mainstream charities as beneficiaries, the NSSF entices non-gun-owning women to participate ... Charities range in size and scope from the 1988 Classic, which benefited a Houston shelter for abused women and children, to 1994's benefit for the Houston chapter of the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer research and treatment."

*New York Times*  
Dec. 7, 1994

## Smoking makes elderly women feel even older

Elderly women who smoke have significantly poorer muscle strength, agility and balance than their non-smoking contemporaries, according to the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The study measured how 9,704 white women over 65 performed basic tasks like gripping an object, walking, rising from a chair and climbing stairs.

Smokers performed assigned tasks more poorly than nonsmokers in 11 of 12 categories tested, said Dr. Heidi D. Nelson, chief author of the report and an assistant professor of internal medicine at Oregon Health Sciences University's School of Medicine.

She said that in each case, test results for the smokers, who averaged 16 cigarettes a day, were similar to what would have been expected for women years older.

*New York Times*  
Dec. 22, 1994

## Birthdays of Notable Women **March**

- 7 1875 Congresswoman Mary Norton, first woman to head a congressional committee
- 7 1938 Auto racer Janet Guthrie
- 11 1849 Eliza Nicholson, first woman newspaper publisher in the South
- 13 1882 Bertha Malony Miller, co-founder of "Horn Book Magazine"
- 14 1833 Lucy Hobbs Taylor, first woman to earn a dental degree in the U.S.
- 15 1905 Margaret Webster, first woman director at the Metropolitan Opera House
- 23 1857 Fannie Farmer, who standardized cooking methods
- 25 1934 Author Gloria Steinem, co-founder of *Ms.* magazine
- 26 1930 Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

## New group to start in April

Beginning April 5, a new women's group will meet at the Cuninggim Center on the first Wednesday of each month. Called "Women's Time Out," the group provides a forum to reflect on women's issues, life enhancement and personal growth.

Topics will be framed as questions, which participants are encouraged to consider in terms of their experiences. The topic for April 5 is "Can you be an adult and a 'good daughter,' too?" A list of topics for future meetings will appear in the April newsletter.

The meetings will start at 5:15 and end at 6:30. For more information, call 322-4843.

## PROGRAMS ON CAMPUS

### March 2-24: "Natural Connections"

Sculptures by Arlene Becker of Chicago and woodcut prints by Mary Owen Rosenthal of Oberlin, Ohio, are on view in Sarratt Gallery through most of March. An artists' lecture, with complimentary lunch, takes place in the Gallery on March 24 from 12:15-1:15 p.m. Please call 322-2471 to r.s.v.p. for the lunch.

### March 16: "Searching for Sojourner Truth: Black Feminist Thought and the Politics of Location"

12:15-1:30 p.m. in Buttrick 114

Patricia Hill Collins is a professor of sociology and African-American studies at the University of Cincinnati. Her first book, *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness and the Politics of Empowerment*, established Dr. Collins as an authority on race and gender. This lecture is a further analysis of some of her findings.

### March 20: "Professionalism in a Different Voice? Gender and Professional Roles"

12:00 noon in Law School 105

Deborah L. Rhode, a Yale-educated lawyer and director of Stanford University's Keck Center on Legal Ethics and the Legal Profession, has written several books, including *The Politics of Pregnancy* and *Justice and Gender*. Her speech is the 1995 Florrie Wilkes Sanders lecture. For info: 322-0027.

### March 22: "Beyond Gender Roles: The Women Hunters of Luzon"

7:30 p.m. in Furman 114

Now dean of the College of Arts & Science, biologist Madeleine Goodman worked for many years at the University of Hawaii, where she studied the Agta women hunters of the northern Philippines. Her talk considers, among other things, the unique social structure of this remarkable community of hunter-women.

### March 23: "Women, Earth, and the Glory of God"

7:30 p.m. in Furman 114

Feminist understandings of justice

## March is ...



# National Women's History Month

... join in the  
celebration!

top to bottom: Mother Jones, labor leader; Margaret Sanger, birth control pioneer; Lucy Stone, suffragist; and Helen Keller, author and lecturer

should include the natural world, says Dr. Elizabeth A. Johnson, C.S.J., professor of theology at Fordham University and author of *She Who Is: The Mystery of God in Feminist Theological Discourse*. Her talk is the 1995 Antoinette Brown Lecture, named for the first woman ordained in America (1853).

### March 29: "For the Common Good: Men, Women and Feminism"

7:30 p.m. in Furman 114

Michael S. Kimmel, professor of sociology at the SUNY-Stony Brook, believes feminism is good for men. See page 2 for details of his lecture.

### March 13-May 12:

#### "Suspicious Circumstances"

The compelling works of Marilyn Murphy, associate professor of fine arts, go on view March 13 in the Women's Center gallery. A reception for Ms. Murphy is March 21 from 5-6 p.m.

Ms. Murphy, who has fine arts degrees from the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State, came to Vanderbilt in 1980. In addition to her teaching, she also has wide experience in illustration, design, and architectural and geological drafting. Locally, her work is handled by Cumberland Gallery.

"Suspicious Circumstances" is on display through May 12.

## OTHER PROGRAMS

### March 15: Rally for Ratification

5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Hermitage Hotel

Celebrate the 75th anniversary of Women's Suffrage at the historic Hermitage Hotel, site of many suffrage and anti-suffrage gatherings in 1920. The event includes speeches, music, refreshments and memorabilia, as well as a drive for new voters. Admission is \$5 (FREE to the first 10 volunteers to staff the voter registration desk). To volunteer or just to inquire, call Patricia Smith at 741-4979 or 662-0293.

### March 30: Athena Awards

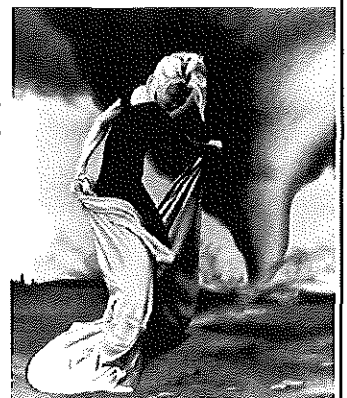
6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Parthenon

The Athena Award is given annually to a woman who is a leader both in her profession and in the Nashville community. Nancy A. Ransom, director of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, is one of this year's 12 nominees. Others include Commissioner Sara Kyle, Sheriff Gayle Ray and Judge Barbara Haynes. Tickets (\$15) include cocktails and hors d'oeuvres; call Patricia Pierce (322-4705) for reservations.

### Career Connections

Applications due by March 8

This program unites graduating senior women with members of the Nashville Women's Breakfast Club. Participants learn more about their chosen careers while establishing a network of professional contacts. Applications are available at the Cuninggim Women's Center and the



*The Vortex*, graphite by Marilyn Murphy

# M A R C H

## Calendar of Events

Margaret  
Cuninggim  
Women's Center



Please save and post. Individual flyers for these programs may not be sent.

March 1 (Wednesday)

**Women's Time Out.** 5:15-6:30 p.m. This is a planning session for a new group that will meet for the first time on April 5 and first Wednesdays thereafter (*see related item on page 3*). Contact Nancy Ransom at 322-4843 for more information.

**Young Professional Women's Discussion Group.** 6:30-7:30 p.m.

March 8 (Wednesday)

**Writers Workshop.** 5:15-7:15 p.m. New members welcome.

March 13 thru May 12

**"Suspicious Circumstances."** Exhibit of paintings and drawings by Marilyn Murphy, associate professor of fine arts. Reception for the artist is March 21. *Please see related article on page 4.*

March 15 (Wednesday)

**Young Professional Women's Discussion Group.** 6:30-7:30 p.m.

March 16 (Thursday)

**"Searching for Sojourner Truth: Black Feminist Thought and the Politics of Location."** Lecture by Patricia Hill Collins, professor of African-American studies at the University of Cincinnati. 12:15-1:30 p.m., Buttrick 114. Sponsors are Women's Studies and the Cuninggim Women's Center. *Please see related article on page 4.*

March 17 (Friday)

**Brown Bag Lunch for Staff and Faculty.** Each month throughout the year a time is designated for guests to meet the Cuninggim Center staff and learn about activities and programs. Men as well as women are invited to bring a lunch from 12-1 p.m.

March 20 (Monday)

**Dissertation Writers Group I.** 4:30-6:30 p.m.

March 21 (Tuesday)

**Artist's Reception for Marilyn Murphy.** 5-6 p.m.

March 22 (Wednesday)

**Writers Workshop.** 5:15-7:15 p.m. New members welcome.

**"Beyond Gender Roles: The Women Hunters of Luzon."** Lecture by Madeleine Goodman, professor of biology and dean of the College of Arts & Science. 7:30 p.m. in Furman 114. Reception to follow. Co-sponsors with the Cuninggim Center are the Women's Faculty Organization and Women's Studies. *Please see related article on page 4.*

March 23 (Thursday)

**Women's Health Series: Your First Gynecological Exam.** Speaker is Kathy Jantz, nurse practitioner in Student Health Services. 4-5:30 p.m.

March 27 (Monday)

**Dissertation Writers Group II.** 4:30-6:30 p.m.

March 29 (Wednesday)

**"For the Common Good: Men, Women and Feminism."** Lecture by Michael S. Kimmel, professor of sociology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. 7:30 p.m. in Furman 114. Reception to follow. Co-sponsors with the Women's Center are Women's Studies, University Lectures, Office of Residential and Judicial Affairs, Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, Students for Women's Concerns and the Sociology Department. *Please see related stories on pages 1-2.*

*Unless otherwise stated, all programs are held at the Cuninggim Center, Franklin Building, 316 West Side Row. For more information, please call 322-4843.*

# In the library...

*One writer defends pornography; another attacks feminist "extremists"*

Barbara Clarke,  
Women's Center  
librarian



The controversial *Defending Pornography: Free Speech, Sex, and the Fight for Women's Rights* (Scribner, 1995) is by Nadine Strossen, a professor of law and the first woman president of the American Civil Liberties Union. Strossen declares that "in light of the increasingly influential women's rights-centered rationale for censoring pornography, this book focuses on the women's rights-centered rationale for defending pornography."

The writer criticizes pro-censorship feminists, particularly Catharine MacKinnon and Andrea Dworkin, who believe that pornography contributes to sexism, discrimination and violence against women. These two well-known activists have drafted a model law defining pornography as a type of sex discrimination, but few places have attempted to pass such a law. Strossen feels that laws of this type would lead to the suppression of much more than pornography. She refers to pro-censorship feminists as "MacDworkinites" and is very concerned that an alliance has been formed between them and conservatives who oppose women's rights as well as pornography.

The writer presents evidence designed to show that pornography does not harm or degrade women and is not related to sex discrimination or male violence toward females. She points out that many women enjoy pornography and that growing numbers of women produce it. Strossen suggests ways of reducing discrimination and violence against women and believes that attempts to impose censorship divert attention and effort from the real causes of the problems faced by women and girls.

Rene Denfeld's *The New Victorians: A Young Woman's Challenge to the Old Feminist Order* (Warner Books, 1995) is another critical volume about today's feminism. The author explains why most young women do not wish to identify themselves as feminists, though they espouse women's rights.

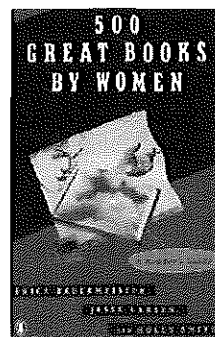
In Denfeld's view, the "New Victorians" put women on a pedestal, consider females to be helpless victims, and promote Victorian attitudes about sex. She writes that "the women's movement has come to duplicate Victorianism in all its repressive glory: the woman revered on the pedestal, charged with keeping society's moral order yet politically powerless — and perpetually martyred."

The writer believes that women's studies classes expose students to radical theories and that many prominent feminists are extremists who do not represent the views of average women. Denfeld is very critical of goddess worship, of feminists who seem anti-male, and of those who wish to ban pornography. She also questions feminists who appear to have outdated ideas about gender differences, and who believe that women are helpless creatures in constant danger of being raped.

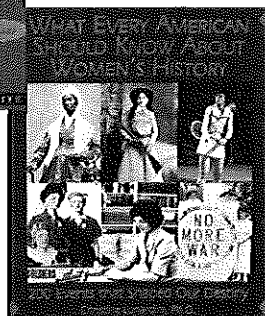
According to the writer, women would accomplish more by organizing around single issues, such as child care, rather than by joining or forming broader-based organizations. She feels that young women should speak out against New Victorianism and discusses how young women might reclaim feminism. She also advocates that women oppose censorship and that colleges discontinue women's studies programs.

*500 Great Books by Women: A Reader's Guide* (Penguin Books, 1994) is a handy little volume by Erica Bauermeister, Jesse Larsen and Holly Smith. All of the volumes are available in English; about half the authors are from the United States.

The compilers chose to include only books that are in print, so that they can be readily found by readers. (A great many notable works by women are out of print.) While the books date back as far as the 13th century, many are from the past 50 years, as these are most likely to be still available. The authors made an effort to include works by women of different ethnic and racial groups and by and about working-class women. The entries, most of which are just over half a page long, are arranged under 21 themes.



*What Every American Should Know About Women's History*



*What Every American Should Know About Women's History: 200 Events that Shaped Our Destiny* (Bob Adams, 1994) by Christine Lunardini includes important events that occurred from 1607 to 1993. The entries, which are arranged chronologically, are a couple of pages in length; they encompass events of all types, ranging from the founding of the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania to the introduction of tennis to the United States by a socialite from Staten Island.

The library has a number of new videotapes available for loan. Three of them are devoted to the Clarence Thomas / Anita Hill controversy; others include "Girls Can!" by the American Association of University Women; "Sexual Harassment and Schools"; "Women's Health"; "When Abortion Was Illegal: Untold Stories"; and the three parts of the television presentation "A Century of Women." ■



# Health matters

## *Date rape: medical and psychological implications*

by Kimberly Testa

Sue and Mark had been dating for about a year. One night they went out to dinner, then back to Sue's apartment to watch television and talk. Sue's roommate was out, so they were alone. One thing led to another, and soon they were kissing and making out just as they had many times before. Suddenly, Mark began to pull Sue's clothes off. "What are you doing, Mark?" Sue asked sharply. "Stop it!"

But Mark wouldn't stop. He continued to undress Sue, then himself. He held her down and wouldn't release her until they had intercourse. At first, Sue begged him to stop. Then, as she grew more fearful, she ceased to plead. When it was all over, Sue locked herself in the bathroom and cried, while Mark tried to figure out what had gone wrong.

What just happened here? Unlike most of the examples of date rape we are accustomed to, Sue and Mark had not just met. They had not been drinking, and Sue had welcomed the initial physical contact. So was she raped?

Yes, according to the definition offered in *Date rape: what would you do?* This excellent brochure, produced by the Office of Residential and Judicial Affairs and available at the Student Health Center, defines date rape (or "acquaintance rape") as "forced, manipulated, or coerced sexual intercourse by a date, friend, or acquaintance. It is an act of violence, aggression, and power. A person is forced to have sex through verbal coercion, threats, physical restraints and/or physical violence. Protests are ignored by the assailant."

Date rape can occur on a first date; it can happen after you've dated for a long time. It can happen even if you've had sex with that person before. If you say "no" and are forced to have intercourse anyway, you have been raped.

### What should I do if I've been raped?

First, you need to get to a safe place — anywhere with people that is away from your attacker. Contact a close friend who can stay with you for a few hours. This friend can be with you during the medical exam, or if you decide to talk to the police.

Second, try not to disturb any physical evidence. Much as you might wish to shower, change clothes or douche, try to resist this urge until you have received medical attention. Even if you do not want to press charges, it is a good idea to preserve any potential evidence in case you change your mind later. (If you don't press charges, the evidence is discarded.)

Third, get medical attention as soon as you can, preferably within a few hours. At the very least, you will need to be examined for injuries, sexually-transmitted diseases such as gonorrhea and chlamydia, and pregnancy. These tests can be performed at Vanderbilt's Student Health Center. If you think you may want to press charges, you will be referred to the emergency room at Vanderbilt Medical Center or other area hospital for a more thorough exam, including collection of semen or other specimens which may be used as evidence in court.

Finally, you should talk to a counselor about what has happened to you. A trusted teacher, a priest, minister or rabbi, a psychologist, or one of the

trained volunteers on a rape crisis hotline are all good possibilities. Even though you may think the rape has not affected you, it has. You have been violated and mistreated; your trust in another has been shattered. Only you will know when you are ready to talk with someone about your feelings, but you will feel much better about yourself after you have taken this step.

### What if a friend has been raped?

The most helpful thing you can do for a friend who has been raped is to listen, support and not judge. Be understanding; don't rush her into talking. Acknowledge how difficult it must be for her to recount the rape and let her know she can trust you. Tell her: "It's not your fault; you aren't responsible for another's misconduct." Urge her to seek immediate medical attention, and refer her to one of the counseling resources listed below. Finally, get help for yourself. You may need a professional with whom to discuss the rape, its effects on your friend, and its impact on your own sense of security and well-being. ■

*Kim Testa (A&S '92) is a student in Vanderbilt's Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program. Her previous article for Women's VU — on preparing for a pelvic exam, written with Molly Amick — appeared in November 1994.*

### Important phone numbers:

#### Medical Care

322-2427 VU Student Health  
322-3392 Vanderbilt Hospital ER  
862-4357 Metro General Hospital ER

#### Counseling: Campus

322-2427 Student Health  
322-2591 Residential/Judicial Affairs  
322-2571 Counseling Center  
322-2745 VU Security  
322-2457 University Chaplain & Affiliated Ministries

#### Counseling: Community

256-8526 The Rape & Sexual Abuse Center 24-hour hot-line (toll free: 1-800-879-1999)  
297-9933 YWCA domestic violence 24-hour hot-line  
862-7540 Metro police sex abuse unit

#### Legal Assistance

862-5500 District attorney

# Announcements

## Programs, etc.

Two programs at the Scarritt-Bennett Center: "Journey Toward Healing" is for adult survivors of sexual trauma, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 11; \$45. Call 340-7532 to register. "Embodying the Spirit: Women and Body Image" examines faith, media and other influences on women's body image. March 24-25; \$100 / \$75. Call 340-7557 to register.

Personal safety devices with VUPD detective Marlene Hall is the March 28 program of the Vanderbilt Women's Faculty Organization. Location to be announced. Contact: WFO, Box 6025, Station B.

Mary Daly's *Beyond God the Father* is the April 1 program of the Middle Tenn. Women's Studies Assoc. Laurel Schneider, Ph.D. candidate in religion, leads. It's at MTSU at 10 a.m. Call 615-372-3330 for information.

Rally to Stop Violence Against Women, sponsored by NOW, is April 9 in Washington. Buses are being organized from Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis. For information, call the NOW line at 269-7141.

Sex and Speech: War in the Workplace is the subject of a taping for *Freedom Speaks*, a television series sponsored by the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center. Panelists ask: At what point does free speech become harassing and hostile speech? Taping is Friday, March 17, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. For reservations call Dianne Thompson at 327-1970.

## Conferences

Women Being/Women Doing: Women's Studies in a Global Environment is the theme of the South Central Women's Studies Assoc.'s annual conference March 24-25 near Dallas. For info: Univ. of North Texas, CCECM, SCWSA Conference, PO Box 5344, Denton, TX 76203. Tel: 817-656-2600.

Young Feminist Summit on Violence is April 7-9 in Washington. Travel funds for women of color may be available. For information, or to contribute to the travel fund, contact NOW (National Organization for Women), 1000 16th St. NW, #700, Washington, DC 20036. Tel: 202-331-0066.

## Internships & studies

Women's Studies internship at Colgate pays to \$13,500, Aug. 94 to May 95. Send a résumé, transcripts and two letters of recommendation by March 15 to Joan Mandle, Director of Women's Studies, Colgate Univ., 13 Oak Dr., Hamilton, NY 13346. Tel: 315-824-7546. Fax: 315-824-7726.

NOW internships offer experience in government relations, lesbian rights, etc. with the nation's largest feminist organization. Positions are unpaid but college credit and low-cost housing are available. Contact Beth Beck, NOW, 1000 16th St. NW, #700, Washington, DC 20036. Tel: 202-331-0066. Fax: 202-785-8576.

The Creative Journey invites women to discover their voices in poetry, fiction, art and journal-writing, June 16-27 on the Greek island of Halki. Cost is \$1,100, not including airfare. For information, contact the International Women's Studies Institute, PO Box 1067, Palo Alto, CA 94302. Tel: 415-323-2013 or 415-931-6301.

## Call for papers

The Politics of Caring III: Creating Safe and Healing Environments is the focus of a Nov. 10-12 conference at Emory University. Papers should explore strategies for addressing poverty, abuse and other disruptions in women's lives. Send abstracts by March 15 to: Rose Cannon, Emory University School of Nursing, 531 Asbury Circle, Atlanta, GA 30322. Tel: 404-727-1374. Fax: 404-727-0536.

Tennessee's Business invites articles, profiles, essays, oral histories, etc., for a special June 1995 issue on women in Tennessee. Deadline is April 5. Send two copies of the manuscript (plus a Mac or DOS diskette) to Patricia Wells, managing editor, Tennessee's Business, College of Business, MTSU, PO Box 102, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. Tel: 615-898-2610. Fax: 898-5045.

WKU Women's Studies Conference is Oct. 13-14. Abstracts due April 14. Contact: Women's Studies Conference, 203 Wetherby Building, WKU, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Tel: 502-745-6477; fax: 502-745-6861.



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