

Feminists as filmmakers

Using the camera to make the personal political

by Stacy Goldate (Peabody '94), filmmaker, and assistant to the executive director of the Sinking Creek Film/Video Festival

When Allie Light suffered a severe depression, she didn't become a victim without a voice. Instead, she took out a video camera and directed an award-winning documentary. *Dialogues With Madwomen*, winner of the Best of the Festival Award at the 1994 Sinking Creek Film/Video Festival, does more than describe the highs and lows of mental illness. It proves that a woman can tell her story her own way without the sometimes patronizing "objectivity" of an outsider.

In *Dialogues*, Light puts herself in front of the camera to give a first-hand account of her depression and the struggle she underwent with doctors and institutions. She also interviews several women friends who share their stories and bring their creative input to certain segments of the documentary.

Maggie Hadleigh-West takes filmmaking one step further. She uses it as a weapon against men harassing her on the streets of New York. Exhausted and frustrated from her inability to walk through the city in a dress without being grabbed and taunted, Hadleigh-West arms herself with an inexpensive Super-8 camera and turns it on anyone who tries to invade her physically or verbally.

Her film, *Warzone*, which the Cunningham Women's Center brought to Sarratt Cinema last year, documents these run-ins and her reflections on them. By taking this graphic documentary on the road and speaking in person to her audiences, Hadleigh-

West uses her filmmaking skill as a tool to stimulate discussion, not only about street harassment, but about the other forms of abuse women are subjected to everywhere, everyday, simply because they are women.

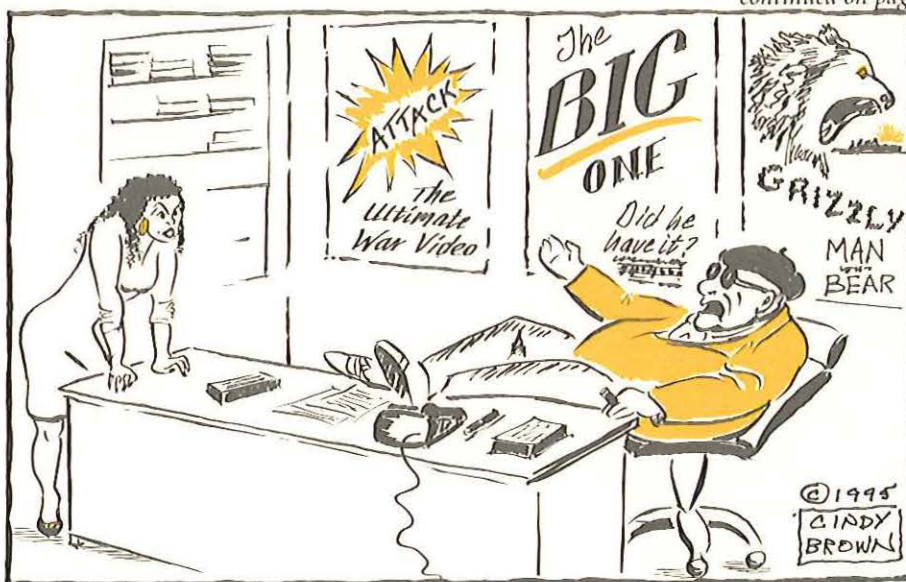
Since the beginning of film, women's lives have been depicted by male filmmakers. Though many of these cinema classics paint beautiful and touching portraits of female characters, they can hardly be adequate to understand a woman's experience.

In the 1970s, a new wave of feminist filmmaking got its start in large part by women who decided the best subject for a film was themselves. Joyce Chopra and Claudia Weil (*Joyce at 34*, 1972), Maxi Cohen and Joel Gold (*Joe and Maxi*, 1978), and Amale Rothschild (*Nana, Mom, and Me*, 1974) told first-person tales of their intimate lives and shared them with the world. By

filming themselves and their interactions with others, these women used the camera to make the personal political. These were not romanticized or sensationalized fictional accounts of a woman's world; rather, they were real-life moving journals — powerful for their immediacy and honesty.

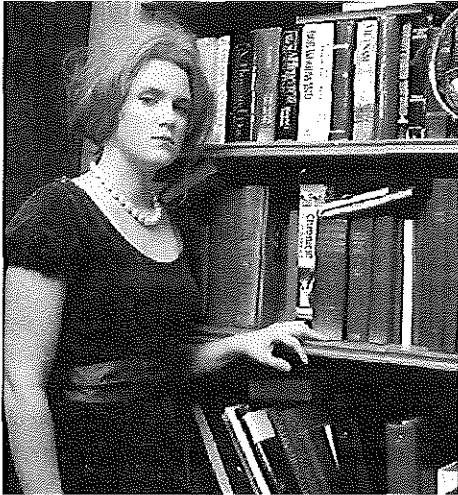
Playing the Part, a 30-minute personal documentary by a Harvard undergraduate and winner of the 1994 Sinking Creek Film/Video Festival's Best Documentary Award, is a real-life example of a young lesbian's struggle to come out to her traditional family. The tension between the filmmaker and her parents is evident in a way that no fiction film could ever grasp. Maybe it is the lack of smooth conversation and carefully designed pauses or perhaps it's the way the filmmaker reads her voice-over without professional training. It does not matter

— continued on page 2



"Sweetheart, your video, 'The Family,' is great — humane, realistic, beautifully photographed. But we can't use it. We want *universal* themes."

what filmmaker Mitch McCabe did to make this film a success, but rather how it affects her audiences. You do not have to be battling your own sexuality to understand this film. You don't even have to be at odds with your parents. All you need is to have ever felt afraid of being yourself. You



Mitch McCabe in *Playing the Part*

will then understand exactly how McCabe feels as she tries to tell her parents she is a lesbian, but stops short upon sensing their apparent inability to listen to or understand her in any meaningful way.

So authentic is McCabe's tale that

we may well question how a filmmaker can ever really tell anyone's story other than her own. It's hard to imagine how a filmmaker — even the most discerning, sensitive and talented of filmmakers — can tell a story with the honesty of the one who actually experiences it. No doubt much of the power of the personal documentary comes from this intimacy, from the candid reactions of the person behind the camera who does not pretend to be a god-like, unaffected machine whose emotions and actions remain separate from the events on the other side of the lens.

Barbara Bader's video, *Beautiful Piggies*, is a profound, in-your-face account of the director's life-long battle with her weight. The images she presents are not attractive or polite. They are graphic and detailed and they force the viewer to look her in the eye and listen to her thoughts.

The documentary begins with a toe-to-head shot of Bader, overweight and dressed in a bathing suit. This is not a flattering video, but it does not take advantage of or mock Bader, because she is in charge: Director. Editor. Producer. And although she does not tell the other subjects in the video what to say or do, in the editing room she has complete control, choosing every image that the audience sees and every word it hears. *Beautiful Piggies* is about Bader, by Bader, and therefore, though it is harsh, it is also believable and compelling because it is so deeply personal and so unabashedly biased.

As Bader's piece demonstrates, the personal documentary is a powerful voice for a woman not only because it

comes directly *from* her, but also because it is usually done entirely *by* her — a one-woman show. In fact, some successful women filmmakers prefer small, hand-held video cameras



Filmmaker Barbara Bader

because they can shoot unassisted and so have the freedom to explore new territories.

Ellen Spiro captures interesting and unusual images from all over the Southern U.S. in her travelogue, *Greetings From Out Here*, which screened last year at Sinking Creek. In this video, Spiro journeys solo by car through the "strangely straight, or so we thought, South." She finds many different queer communities, folks and events, including Tennessee's Fairy Festival. In completing this project, Ellen does more than entertain and educate the audience. She proves that a young woman is capable of traveling the country, and directing a documentary, all on her own.

On her own, perhaps, but by no means alone. More and more female filmmakers are touring the world in the company of their cameras and the people they meet along the way, documenting their experiences and reflections along with the thoughts of those they come to know. ■

M

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@ctrvox.Vanderbilt.edu.

Nancy A. Ransom, director

Judith Tefft Helfer, assistant director for programs

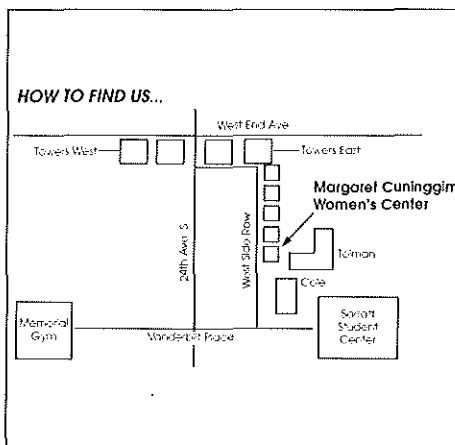
Marjorie Davis, editor (direct dial 343-4367)

Barbara Clarke, librarian

Gladys Holt, office manager

Cindy Brown, cartoonist

This is a copyrighted publication. Articles may be reproduced with permission of the editor. Letters to the editor are welcome. Send them (typed, signed, and with a daytime phone number, please) to the above address.



Sinking Creek '95 spotlights "Women on Film"

Several documentaries by women will be screened at this year's Sinking Creek Film/Video Festival, Nov. 7-12, at Sarratt Cinema. On Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 8, a special program called "Women on Film" will highlight films by and for women. It starts at 3 p.m. For more information, call the Sinking Creek office at 322-4234.

“NEWS QUOTES”

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

Gender affects learning styles

In the April 1995 issue of *Sex Roles*, four University of New Mexico women published results of a survey asking 72 real people in the real world about their preferred learning styles.

They confirmed that there is a “significant difference in learning styles between the genders,” and that “traditional educational settings may not be the best learning environment for females.” In fact, the traditional learning style in higher education, based on analyzing abstract information and testing hypotheses, was the style that fewest women selected, and most males selected.

“Traditional education is directed toward and appeals more to males since it is primarily abstract and reflective,” the authors say. “Females learn better in hands-on and practical settings, emphasizing the realm of the affective and doing.” Based on their results, females learn best if they are watching and feeling or doing and thinking. Males learn best if they are thinking and watching.

Women in Higher Education
October 1995

“Potty parity” study

The City University of New York has requested \$200,000 to study the feasibility of adding more women’s restrooms. Although nearly two-thirds of the students at the university’s 11 senior colleges are women, about two-thirds of the toilets are for men.

About Women on Campus
Fall 1995

Wooster students demand answers

Students at the College of Wooster (Ohio) staged a protest during last month’s convocation, demanding a further explanation of Susanne Woods’ withdrawal from the presidency this summer. She and the Board of Trustees announced a day before she was to take office that she would not do so, because of “differences concerning the role of the president.”

But sources said the trustees were upset to learn of her long relationship with a woman.

Chronicle of Higher Education
Sept. 22, 1995

Eating disorder rates surprise the experts

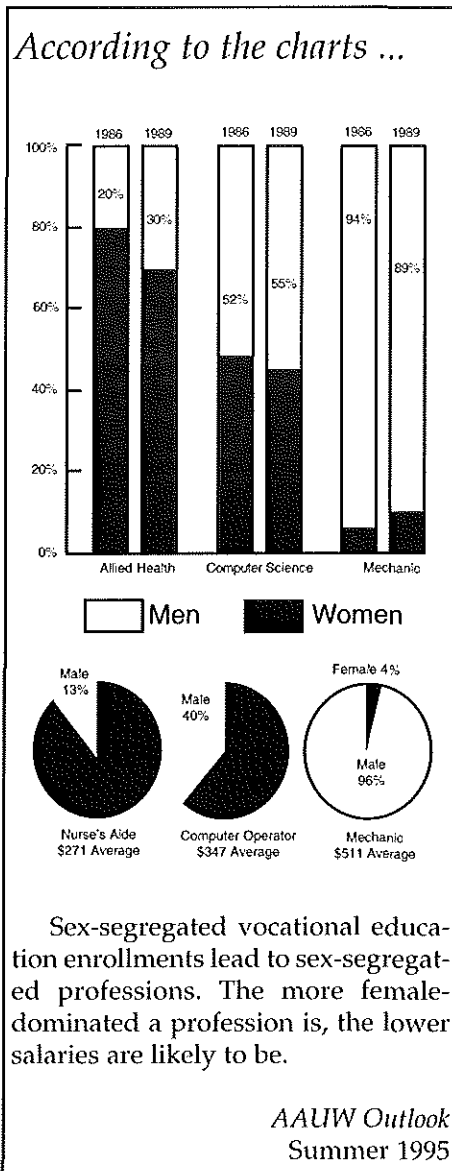
New studies suggest that both anorexia and bulimia are twice as frequent as shown in earlier studies and that the incidence is increasing steadily. The single most likely culprit of the rising rates of these disorders, experts say, is the spread of dieting.

...“The increase is directly proportional to the numbers of people going on diets,” said Dr. George Hsu, director of the Eating Disorders Program at Tufts University School of Medicine. “For example, in developing countries like Taiwan, Singapore and China, dieting is becoming a fad, and eating disorders, once little known, are now becoming more common.”

Eating disorders are about 10 times as common in women as in men, reflecting the greater prevalence of dieting among women, Dr. Hsu said.

... Previous estimates had put the rate of anorexia at one to five cases each year per 100,000 people; for bulimia, that rate had been pegged at 5.5 cases each year per 100,000 women up to 24. But a new, more careful epidemiological study in the Netherlands, published in the September issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, found higher rates: 8.1 for anorexia and 11.5 for bulimia.

New York Times
Oct. 4, 1995



Woman top of West Point class of 1995

This June, Rebecca Elizabeth Marier graduated at the top of her class at West Point.

She was the first woman to do so since women were admitted to West Point almost two decades ago. To become the top graduate, Marier led 987 other cadets in academic, military and physical programs. In the fall, Marier will attend Harvard Medical School.

Minerva's Bulletin Board
Summer 1995

Vanderbilt seniors make Career Connections

Each spring, members of the Nashville Women's Breakfast Club invite senior women at Vanderbilt to meet with them and learn about careers in a variety of fields. Each student is introduced to a local professional woman in the student's field of interest. They meet, talk about the day-to-day realities of the chosen career, establish a network of contacts, and together begin to plan the student's career development.

The most recent Career Connections attracted 21 Breakfast Club members and 22 Vanderbilt senior women. While a few students never made formal contact with their assigned club members, 17 students did connect with their mentors, in meetings that lasted about an hour.

According to participating Club members, these meetings proved both positive and enthusiastic. And at least one student has already seen tangible benefits: After working for her Breakfast Club partner as an intern last summer, she moved on to a job with the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., this fall.

Applications for this spring are available at the Career Center and the Cuninggim Women's Center.

Scholarships in women's studies available

The National Women's Studies Association invites applicants for a range of awards in women's studies.

These include: \$500 scholarships in Jewish women's studies and in lesbian studies; the Pat Parker Poetry Award (\$250 for a work by a black lesbian feminist); the Illinois-NWSA manuscript award (\$1,000 plus publication for the best book-length manuscript in women's studies); and the Pergamon-NWSA awards (\$1,000 and \$500) for students who in the fall of 1996 will be writing a master's thesis or dissertation germane to women's studies.

For an application form, call the NWSA (301-403-0525). The deadline for most awards is Feb. 15, 1996.

Help with eating disorders

Students for Women's Concerns is again sponsoring a discussion group for anyone with an eating disorder or concerns about body image. It meets Sundays at 4:30 p.m. at the Women's Center and is open to all — women and men, students and non-students — and newcomers are welcome. For more information call Christa at 421-6646 or e-mail mcdermc.

Position available

Director of Women's Studies

The College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University invites applications and nominations for the position of Director of Women's Studies. Candidates must have strong administrative skills, a commitment to the study of gender in the context of interdisciplinary programs and a substantial record of excellence in teaching, service and scholarly achievement within their respective fields. The appointment will be at the associate or full professor level in Economics and Business Administration, Political Science, or Sociology.

The position involves administration, research and teaching, with teaching responsibilities divided between Women's Studies and the home department. Administrative duties now include overseeing an 18-hour minor, chairing the Women's Studies Committee and working closely with the Director of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center. We especially wish to identify individuals who are enthusiastic about expanding both the breadth and depth of the current program.

Nominations should be sent as soon as possible, and interested individuals should send a letter of application, *c.v.*, and names and addresses of three references to Professor Maureen Powers, Women's Studies Search Committee, Box 86 Station B, Nashville, TN 37235. Application review will begin in mid-December 1995. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Vanderbilt University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Birthdays of Notable Women November

- 4 1864 Physician Anita McGee, founder of the Army Nurse Corps
- 8 1900 Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone With the Wind*
- 11 1744 First Lady Abigail Adams
- 13 1897 Paleontologist Tilly Edinger
- 17 1878 Grace Abbott, social worker who helped plan the Social Security System
- 20 1910 Pauli Murray, Episcopal priest and first black person to earn a doctorate at Yale Law School
- 25 1865 Businesswoman Kate Gleason, builder of low-cost homes
- 25 1900 Helen Gahagan Douglas, Congresswoman and women's rights advocate
- 29 1832 Author Louisa May Alcott

Notes from Beijing

Last month's newspapers were full of reports from the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, in September. Now, Vanderbilt folks can hear a first-hand account of the experience from Pat Pierce, director of the Opportunity Development Center, who attended the NGO (non-government organizations) portion of the global gathering.

"The Road to China and Back: 30,000 Women" begins at 4 p.m. in Furman 209 on Wednesday, Nov. 1. It's sponsored by the Women's Studies Program and is open to the public. For more information, call Women's Studies at 343-7808.

N O V E M B E R

Calendar of Events

Margaret
Cuninggim
Women's Center



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

November 2 (Thursday)

Women & the Holocaust: The "Nasty Girl" Speaks Out. Anna Rosmus, the young woman who questioned the Nazi past of her hometown in Germany, talks about her experiences. Discussion follows by a panel of Nashville-area Holocaust survivors. Coordinated with Project Dialogue. 7:30 p.m. Wilson 103.

November 5 (Sunday)

Body Image and Eating Disorders Discussion Group. 4:30 p.m. Men, women, newcomers and non-students are all welcome. For more information contact Christa, 421-6646 or mcdermc@ctrvax.Vanderbilt.edu. *Also meets Nov. 12 and 19. See related article on page 4.*

November 6 (Monday)

Women's Time Out, a monthly forum for reflecting on women's issues, life enhancement and personal growth. This month's topic is effective communication with family and friends. 5:15-6:30 p.m. No need to register. For information call Nancy Ransom, 322-4843.

November 7 (Tuesday)

Chilly Climate for Women in Colleges. If you'd like to preview a 28-minute video, bring your lunch and join the Creative Life Planning Group from 12-1 p.m. Using interviews with women staff and faculty, this Canadian film reveals the subtle acts of discrimination common on college and university campuses. Call Judy Helfer at 322-6518 for more information.

Women's Health Q & A. "Women and Heart Disease: Unrecognized Risk." Speaker is Rose Marie Robertson, M.D., professor of medicine and vice chair of academic affairs in the department of medicine. 5-6 p.m.

November 8 (Wednesday)

Writers Workshop. 5:15-7:15 p.m. New members welcome. *Also meets Nov. 22.*

November 9 (Thursday)

Early Birds is a monthly informal gathering with continental breakfast and conversation for students, faculty and staff. 8-9 a.m. the second Thursday of each month.

Victim or Survivor? Explored through journal writing. Journal writing offers a tool for tapping the wellsprings of our lives. Those lives are shaped, in large part, by how we view ourselves: as victims or as survivors. This workshop affirms the model of the survivor, introducing journal writing exercises that highlight accomplishments and imagine possibilities. Led by Miriam Bassuk, L.C.S.W. 7-9 p.m. Wilson 113. Fee 10; \$5 students (scholarships available). Registration required and limited to the first 35 registrants. Call 322-4843 to register.

November 10 (Friday)

Brown Bag Lunch for Staff and Faculty. The second Friday of each month is designated as a time 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 noon to 1 p.m.

November 13 (Monday)

Book Group meets to discuss *One True Thing* by Anna Quindlen. Facilitator is Deborah Riat. New members welcome. 5:15-6:15 p.m.

November 14 (Tuesday)

Creative Life Planning Group. 12-1 p.m. New members welcome. Call Judy Helfer at 322-6518 for more information. *Also meets Nov. 21.*

Proposal Writing Group. 4-6 p.m. For more information call Nancy Ransom at 322-4843.

November 20 (Monday)

Dissertation Writers. 4:30-6:30 p.m.

November 29 (Wednesday)

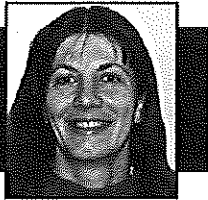
Advisory Board meeting. Sam McSeveney, chair. 4:10 p.m. Branscomb Dining Room.

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...

The importance of beauty, and the power of pornography

Barbara Clarke,
Women's Center
librarian



The Face of Love: Feminism and the Beauty Question (Beacon Press, 1995) is by Ellen Zetzel Lambert, who believes that appearance does and should matter, and that feminists need not feel guilty if they are concerned with beauty. The writer feels that beauty "matters just because outward beauty is the expression of the inner self, because it is the bearer of identity."

As appearance and the mind are so closely connected, all people can become beautiful when they realize that they are lovable. Women need not conform to a patriarchal image of female beauty, according to Lambert, and an emphasis on appearance is not necessarily associated with powerlessness.

The writer explains how older woman and those who have undergone mastectomies can feel positive about themselves and their looks. Several chapters are devoted to the works of 19th-century women

novelists, including Charlotte Brontë and George Eliot, whose characters, though they may not be attractive in the traditional sense, show that beauty comes from within.

Despite the increasing number of women in politics, little has been written about U.S. women's impact on international affairs. Rhodri Jeffreys-



Jones, a reader in history at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, hopes that his *Changing Differences: Women and the Shaping of American Foreign Policy, 1917-1994* (Rutgers University Press, 1995) will fill that gap. The U.S., unlike a number of other nations, has never had a female head of state, yet American women have exercised considerable influence on foreign policy over the years. Before women had the right to vote and when few held office, they were still very influential in the peace movements and in shaping public opinion.

The writer also discusses the achievements of such important women as Jeannette Rankin, Dorothy Detzer, Eleanor Roosevelt, Margaret Chase Smith, Helen Gahagan Douglas, Bella Abzug and others.

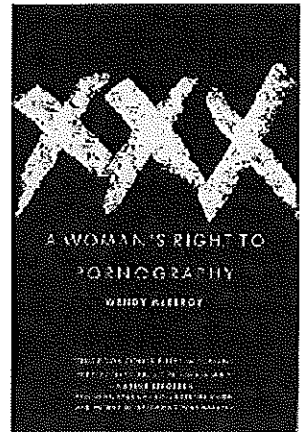
Jeffreys-Jones believes that women involved in foreign policy have been more likely than men to support peace, though this was less obvious in the World War II era. He discusses the "iron lady thesis," in which women in powerful positions are believed to become tough, aggressive and masculine. This, he feels, "is a myth based on a fiction."

In *XXX: A Woman's Right To Pornography* (St. Martin's Press, 1995) Wendy McElroy defends pornography, which she feels can be beneficial to women. She believes that women have every right to do what they please with their own bodies, and that includes the right to enjoy and participate in pornography. Feminism is about choice, and the writer, who was formerly the president of Feminists for Free Expression/Canada, says that pornography is never objectionable as long as those involved are consenting adults.

She discusses the arguments of anti-porn feminists, such as Andrea Dworkin and Catharine MacKinnon, and argues that pornography is not demeaning to women. On the contrary, she says, those who wish to con-

trol pornography are attempting to control women.

McElroy attended an adult video show, interviewed a number of women involved in the pornography business and conducted a survey of women working in various areas of the sex trade. She discovered that few women were coerced into pornography; most entered the business willingly as adults. McElroy also found no proof that pornography is



associated with an increased incidence of violence against females, and decided that no real violence is involved in the making of porn films, which are increasingly being produced and directed by women. Most of the women studied were shrewd businesswomen, who enjoyed most aspects of their work and were fairly happy with their lives.

Debating Sexual Correctness: Pornography, Sexual Harassment, Date Rape, and the Politics of Sexual Equality (Delta, 1995) is an anthology of more than 30 previously-published articles illustrating different aspects of sexual correctness. Adele M. Stan, the editor, hopes "that the essays included in this collection, chosen from across generational and ideological divides, will set the current debate into context and provide some wisdom for the future."

The selections originally appeared between 1976 and 1994, but most date from the past few years. Among the contributors are Anita Hill, Susan Faludi, Camille Paglia, bell hooks, Naomi Wolf, Catharine MacKinnon, Robin Morgan, Katie Roiphe and Katha Pollitt. ■



Health matters

Hysterectomy: from the optional to the essential

adapted with permission from Women's Health Advocate, May 1995

If you were to rank medical procedures according to their ability to create confusion and turmoil among women, surely hysterectomy — surgical removal of the uterus — would come out on top. The operation is vastly overused, many experts charge. Hysterectomy is No. 2 on the list of most-common major operations performed in the U.S., after Cesarean section. More than 590,000 American women undergo the operation each year, nearly 90% of them for non-cancerous conditions. Such statistics enrage many women and incited one physician to complain in a medical journal that "a cooperative patient with a uterus and good health insurance" is reason enough for many doctors to perform a hysterectomy.

However, the operation does save lives. Moreover, it can provide considerable relief from pain or bother caused by common noncancerous conditions. Findings from the Maine Women's Health Study, the largest prospective study of hysterectomy and alternate treatments to date, suggest that some women feel better after a hysterectomy than after a less radical treatment for a noncancerous disorder — at least at the one-year mark.

How many of the hysterectomies performed today are unnecessary? Estimates range from 16%-90%. Unfortunately, we don't really know for sure, says Karen Carlson, M.D., who led the Maine study. And because we don't have enough information on the comparative outcomes of hysterectomy and alternate treat-

ments, doctors often aren't sure when a hysterectomy is appropriate. Thus, the woman often bears the weight of deciding whether or not to have the operation. And most of the time, her preference should guide the conclusion, says Dr. Carlson, an instructor in medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Essential or Elective?

One point that's beyond debate: A hysterectomy is essential when certain cancers are involved, including uterine cancers, invasive cervical cancer, often ovarian and tubal cancers, and some cancers of the colon, rectum and bladder.

However, most hysterectomies fall into the gray area of elective surgery, performed for benign conditions such as fibroids, endometriosis, abnormal bleeding and pelvic pain. In large part, these surgeries are a holdover from the past, when there were few other treatments for these disorders.

Today, however, less-radical options exist. For example, fibroids — by far the most common reason for hysterectomies — rarely call for surgery when they aren't painful; women can simply wait them out until menopause, when they will shrink and disappear.

Last year, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) stated that a woman who has fibroids, endometriosis, abnormal bleeding, chronic pelvic pain or certain other benign conditions should try other treatments first. She should consent to a hysterectomy only if these treatments fail to work — and only if she is fully informed about the risks and benefits of a hysterectomy and

doesn't wish to preserve her fertility.

Moreover, evidence now indicates that a woman shouldn't give up her uterus or ovaries without a compelling reason, as they have important functions that transcend pregnancy.

Cancer Confusion

In the past, doctors justified removing the uterus — and the ovaries while they were at it — as a way to prevent cancer of these organs. But it now appears that the risk of developing uterine, cervical or ovarian cancer isn't high enough to justify removing the uterus or ovaries for that reason alone. Still, many well-meaning doctors prefer to err on the side of caution, recommending surgery "just in case" cancer develops. Even the ACOG guidelines haven't completely resolved this dilemma. And even when cancer is involved, a hysterectomy may not be called for. For instance, noninvasive cancer (carcinoma in situ) of the cervix can be cured effectively with a less-risky procedure known as cervical conization, in which the core of the cervix is surgically removed through the vagina. "By today's standards, nothing is necessary," asserts Katherine O'Hanlan, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology and associate director of the gynecologic cancer section at Stanford University.

Take Your Time

A hysterectomy isn't a "rush" operation even if cancer is diagnosed, says Dr. O'Hanlan. Thus, you can take the time to consider your options before consenting to the operation. Some steps to follow:

- ❖ Make sure the diagnosis is definite.
- ❖ Discuss alternate treatments.
- ❖ Understand the risks.
- ❖ Get a second opinion.
- ❖ Read the entire consent form.
- ❖ Remember that it's your choice.

A woman and her doctor should make the decision together, Dr. Carlson says, "but it should be driven by the severity of the woman's symptoms and her willingness to use other treatments." When all is said and done, these are issues only you can assess. ■

Announcements

Conferences

Women's Images & Realities, Nov. 4 in Atlanta, hosts Duke Univ Friends of Women's Studies. Info: 919-684-5683.

Women as Leaders offers student leadership training in Washington. It's held twice in 1996: Jan. 2-12 and May 13-24. Avon pays tuition and housing; the student pays transportation, meals and \$60 application fee. Info: Washington Center, 1101 14th St., NW, Ste. 500, Washington, DC 20005. 800-486-8921. Fax: 202-336-7609. Info@twc.edu.

Women in Higher Education International Conference is Jan. 4-7, 1996, in El Paso. For info: Women's Studies, U-Texas, 500 West University, El Paso, TX 79968. Tel: 915-747-5142/5538 fax.

Feminist Generations is Feb. 2-4 at Bowling Green State Univ. Speakers are artist Faith Ringgold and her daughter, feminist critic Michele Wallace. Info: Women's Studies, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43403. Femgen@bgnet.bgsu.edu. 419-372-7133.

Curriculum Integration Workshop is May 30-June 1 at the Center for Research on Women, University of Memphis. Fee is \$350 (\$400 after April 1) and includes six meals and a tour of the National Civil Rights Museum. For info: 901-678-2770/3652 fax.

Grants & fellowships

Program in Women, Leadership and Social Change has internships for Spring 1996. Study women's contributions to society while working with Atlanta-based organizations. Contact Isa D. Williams, Agnes Scott College, 141 E. College Ave., Decatur, GA 30030. Tel: 404-638-6886/5231 fax.

21st Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education offers intensive training in education administration to women administrators and faculty. Schools nominate and subsidize those who attend. It's June 23-July 19 at Bryn Mawr, Pa. For application material, call Betsy Metzger at 303-871-6866.

Call for papers, programs

The 9th Annual Celebrate Women Conference invites program ideas for "Expanding the Sisterhood: Feminism for the 21st Century," set for Mar. 5, 1996, at Murray State Univ. *Deadline is Dec. 15.* Contact Kimberly Barrett at 502-762-3016/6852 fax.

"**Changing the Faces of Mathematics**" invites materials and reviewers for the 6-volume series. *Deadlines are Mar. 15 and July 30, 1996.* Contact series editor Walter Secada, UW-Madison, 225 North Mills St., Madison, WI 53706. Tel: 608-263-2707/9992 fax. E-mail: Secada@macc.wisc.edu.

Programs, etc.

Dialogue with Women: Wills and Deferred Giving is Nov. 15 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Scarritt-Bennett Center. \$20 includes lunch. Pre-register by Nov. 3. Call 340-7486/7587.

The Role of the Nurse-Midwife is the topic of a presentation being offered free on Nov. 20 (and again on Dec. 18) at 6:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Hospital, courtesy of the hospital's nurse-midwifery practice. Speakers are Diane Taylor and Anne Miller, both certified nurse midwives. For information and registration, call 222-2056.

The Future of Affirmative Action is the topic of the Dec. 2 program of the Middle Tennessee Women's Studies Association. Speaker is Pat Pierce of Vanderbilt's Opportunity Development Center. The program begins at 10:30 a.m. at Fisk University (coffee and business at 10). For more information, call Jan Rosemergy, Vanderbilt campus representative, at 322-8240.

Call for volunteers

National Women's Health Initiative of the National Institutes of Health seeks volunteers ages 50-79 to take part in a clinical study of diseases unique or common to women. Women from all racial groups are needed. Call 800-549-6636 for more information.



printed on recycled paper

Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action

Women's VU

To subscribe, return this form to the Women's Center or call us at 615-322-4843 (fax: 615-343-0940).

Newsletters (published monthly except July and August) are sent free upon request to all students and contributors. Faculty and staff subscriptions are free to a campus address. Off-campus subscriptions are \$8 a year, \$15 if mailed first class. Please include your check, payable to Vanderbilt University, with your subscription.

Name _____ First Class (\$15) _____

Dept./Address _____
(please print)

_____ Med Ctr 4-digit ZIP _____

Student _____ Staff _____
(school & class)

Faculty _____ Administrator _____ Contributor _____ Other _____

Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

Vanderbilt University
316 West Side Row
Box 1513, Station B
Nashville, TN 37235

Address Correction Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

NASHVILLE, TN
PERMIT NO. 293