

Feminism in the Third World: Women in Haiti

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Efforts toward equality in developing nations often go unrecognized

by Myriam J.A. Chancy
Assistant Professor of English

Myriam Chancy is a Haitian-born feminist scholar who notes that many of her students and colleagues are "amazed at the thought" of a feminist movement in Haiti. This article is excerpted from her forthcoming book *Jou Va, Jou Vien: Haitian Women's Literature of Revolution, 1934-1994*. Because so few are aware of literature by Haitian women or of their efforts toward emancipation, Dr. Chancy hopes that her work will prompt more people in the West "to look further at women of the Third World as serious feminists."

The token inclusion of Third World women in Western feminist discourse has long resulted in a homogenization of women's experiences cross-culturally, globally. This is a harm which only serves to undermine each woman's ability to proceed with a political agenda consonant with her own social and cultural exigencies. These social factors will differ from country to country and further be mediated within any particular social context by issues of race, sex, sexuality and class. Contrary to Western feminist myths, feminism in the Third World is not an isolated effort focusing only on issues of access for women (to wealth, health and legal rights). Third World feminists also must focus on the disruption of patterns of hegemony

which bind whole groups of people to poverty, illiteracy, and lives filled with violence.

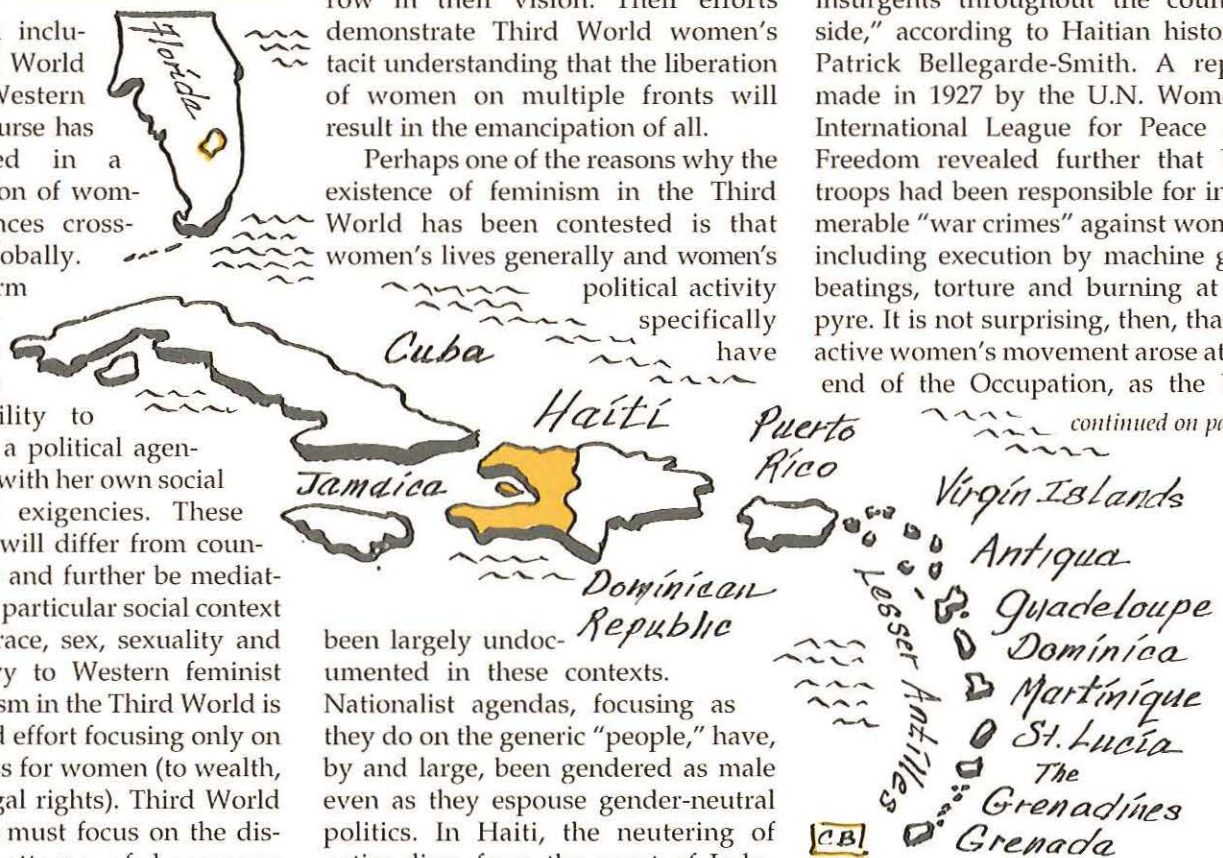
A case in point is Haitian feminism which presents itself as a defiant strain of Third World feminism in the West hinging on socialist reform, a belief in the universalization of human rights, and a steadfast dedication to the uplift of woman in nationalist and global agendas. Faced with finding solutions to such diverse issues as well as to the problems of limited education, inaccessible careers, voting rights, and protection under the law at the beginning of the twentieth century, Haitian feminists could not afford to be narrow in their vision. Their efforts demonstrate Third World women's tacit understanding that the liberation of women on multiple fronts will result in the emancipation of all.

Perhaps one of the reasons why the existence of feminism in the Third World has been contested is that women's lives generally and women's political activity specifically have been largely undocumented in these contexts. Nationalist agendas, focusing as they do on the generic "people," have, by and large, been gendered as male even as they espouse gender-neutral politics. In Haiti, the neutering of nationalism from the onset of Inde-

pendence in 1804 contributed to the general exclusion of women from the nation's historical record. Our ability to reconstruct the forging of a feminist politic in Haiti is thus always a piecemeal endeavor, filled with gaps. Nonetheless, what evidence survives points to the on-going involvement of women in Haiti's internal struggles to remove from itself the remnants of colonialism.

For instance, women were instrumental in organizing against the U.S. Occupation of 1915-1934 as they used their mobility as market-women to "[smuggle] ammunition and intelligence on U.S. troop movements to insurgents throughout the countryside," according to Haitian historian Patrick Bellegarde-Smith. A report made in 1927 by the U.N. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom revealed further that U.S. troops had been responsible for innumerable "war crimes" against women, including execution by machine gun, beatings, torture and burning at the pyre. It is not surprising, then, that an active women's movement arose at the end of the Occupation, as the U.S.

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hold on Haiti diminished.

In 1934, the *Ligue féminine d'action sociale* was formed among women of the upper classes. According to Hait-

"A successful lobbying campaign in 1934 provide[d] an equal minimum wage for men and women and three weeks paid maternity leave for women."

ian historian Madeleine Boucherau, Ligue members chose to move away from their usual model of individualized patronage to a more communal one of inter-class cooperation which would attack Haiti's greater social problems. The Ligue founded the Association des Femmes Haïtiennes pour l'Organisation du Travail/Association of Haitian Women for the Organization of Work in 1935, a foundation for homemakers in 1937, and an organization working on behalf of children's rights in 1939. The children's rights organization pursued legislation for the protection of children and published a journal entitled

l'Aube [Sunrise]. A fund for social assistance was also brought into being in 1939, following a successful lobbying campaign in 1934 to provide an equal minimum wage for men and women and three weeks paid maternity leave for women. In 1943, their efforts resulted in the opening of a high school for young women in Port-au-Prince and by 1944, girls were admitted to traditionally male high schools in the capital. In the country, literacy was perhaps the dominant educational issue and, statistically, it appears the Ligue's efforts contributed to significant growth in functional literacy. Sociologist Errol Miller found that literacy among the general Haitian populace rose from 12 percent in 1920 to 44 percent in 1980-86.

The Ligue's two most prominent achievements were the passing of constitutional amendments in the 1940s validating women's rights as fully emancipated citizens of the State which culminated with suffrage in 1950, and their promotion of cross-class unity through the literary/political journal *Voix des femmes* (1934-1945). The Ligue took seriously its mandate to disseminate information on the realities of women's lot in Haiti and internationally to perpetuate an overtly feminist politic. In effect, the Ligue's main purpose was to act as a bridge between the global and the local.

Suffrage, however, did not give Haitian women the human face they yearned for; it was a right, which hard-won, was denied under the

Duvaliers (1957-1986) in order to exploit a vast labor force. Haitian women have since been used as political pawns between male-dominated political factions, their bodies occupying the nexus of racial and sexual oppression. "Before, the military didn't kill women. They raped them and humiliated them. They humiliated them in all forms," says a spokeswoman for the contemporary feminist organization SOPHA, according to a report in the journal *off our backs*.

"Haitian women have since been used as political pawns between male-dominated political factions . . ."

"They humiliated the women who are more organized than others. In the last few weeks, they have killed many women. You find the body in the street without the head. They separate the body and the head and the arms and the legs."

It is just this sort of persecution of women which demands that feminists unite globally to hear the cries of their Third World sisters. For though we may not be free of our oppressions, we articulate them through daily acts of resistance and political activism. Contrary to the common belief of many Western feminists, the "subaltern" can speak: it is whether or not others choose to hear her voice, or silence it, which determines her fate, which, in the end, is the measure of us all. ■

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.

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New editor assumes role at Women's VU

by Nancy A. Ransom
Director

The New Year, always a time of endings and beginnings, produced a transition in *Women's VU*. Marge Davis made the bittersweet decision to devote all her time to her increasingly successful and demanding free-lance work. All of us at the Cuninggim Women's Center have enjoyed her collegiality, and we will miss her.

The new editor, Lynn Green, was

chosen from a strong field of applicants. Lynn was co-owner of The Alphabet Shop, Inc., a typesetting and graphics arts company, from 1980 to 1989. Prior to that she was a writer for *The Tennessee Journal* and a reporter, copy editor, and assistant city editor for the *Nashville Banner*.

Along with the Women's Center staff, I welcome Lynn to Vanderbilt. We look forward to working with her, and readers will enjoy the new perspective she brings to *Women's VU*.

“NEWS QUOTES”

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

Shedding light on women's records dispels stereotypes

Many employees at the Bank of Montreal — like other companies — for years had assumed that cultivating women employees wasn't worth the effort because they just have babies and quit.

Then the bank took the trouble to expose the myth through employee focus groups, surveys and investigations of personnel files. The company found that women employees had longer service than men at all levels except senior management, where women only recently made inroads.

Women weren't quitting at any faster rate per capita than men, nor were they abandoning their careers after childbirth.

"Being a woman does not mean reduced commitment," the bank told its employees in a 24-page report.

Wall Street Journal
December 20, 1995

Study suggests hormone levels linked to ovarian cancer

A new study links relatively high or low levels of certain hormones to ovarian cancer, raising questions about using hormone therapies to lessen the risk of other ills.

"I think we need to really look at what is happening with our own hormones before we jump into trying to manipulate them," said the lead researcher, Dr. Kathy Helzlsouer of Johns Hopkins University.

Associated Press
December 27, 1995

Fears, suits and regulations stall contraceptive advances

Efforts to create a new generation of contraceptive devices are being stymied by lawsuits, the lengthy Government approval process and fears on the part of both consumers and pharmaceutical companies, according to interviews with family planning experts and a new report by a group that studies reproductive health.

As a result, experts in the field said, it will be many years before any genuinely new methods of contraception become available in this country, despite years of contraceptive research and many promising new approaches.

"There's clearly a need for better contraceptive methods, when well over half the pregnancies to U.S. women are unplanned," said Susan Tew, a spokeswoman for the Guttmacher Institute, a strong advocate for family planning. But it doesn't look like we'll see much on the market any time soon," Tew said.

New York Times
December 27, 1995

Advertisement spurs debate over 'dynamic' professors

California State University at Chico didn't think it was looking for only a few good men when it advertised for a few "dynamic" teachers.

But that's the way a female professor and Chico's affirmative-action director interpreted the ad. Harriet Spiegel, an associate professor of English, and Zaida Firaldo, the affirmative-action director, said dynamism was a style most associated with white males, not with members of minority groups or women. They said the ad was biased.

In response, the administration changed the word to "excellent" in subsequent ads. The move has prompted a debate about what a dynamic professor is, and whether the university caved in to political correctness.

Chronicle of Higher Education
January 5, 1996

Biographer to speak on Harriet Beecher Stowe

Harriet Beecher Stowe's Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer will give a lecture at Vanderbilt on the author's life and work Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Joan Hedrick, director of Women's Studies at Trinity College, will give an updated view on Stowe and the making of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in the 4 p.m. presentation in Wilson 126.

Hedrick is the author of the 1994



Joan Doran Hedrick

book *Harriet Beecher Stowe: A Life*, for which she won the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for biography and the *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year award. Her book is the first biography of Stowe

since the coming of the civil rights and women's movements.

Hedrick notes that Stowe's reputation has declined in recent years and says, "People thought they knew her without having read her."

SMU sets 31st annual women's symposium

Southern Methodist University has announced plans for its 31st women's conference, "Lifting as We Climb," March 5-6 in Dallas.

This year's symposium looks at the responsibility of women to help those behind them as they advance professionally and personally.

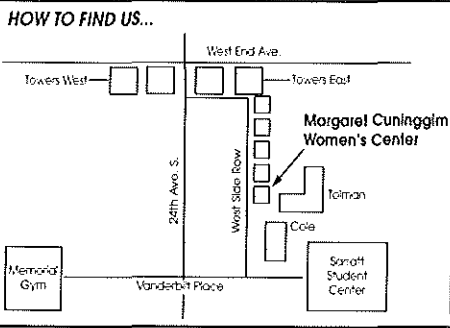
Registration forms are available at the Women's Center and must be submitted by Feb. 26. The center will cover the cost of registration for one or two students; anyone who is interested should plan to meet with Nancy Ransom, director. Payment for airfare to the symposium, which will be held during spring break, is available from the chancellor's office for one or two students from outside Dallas.

Birthdays of Notable Women February

- 1 1878 Hattie Caraway of Arkansas, first woman to be elected to the U.S. Senate
- 8 1869 Maud Slye, a pathologist who proved that cancer is not contagious
- 9 1944 Alice Walker, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Color Purple*
- 15 1820 Susan B. Anthony, lecturer and suffragist who was a leader in the women's rights movement in the 19th century
- 17 1902 Marian Anderson, black contralto who sang to an audience of 75,000 at the Lincoln Memorial
- 27 1869 Alice Hamilton, the first woman on the Harvard medical faculty

Clay, copper works exhibited

"Two Artists in Three Dimensions," an exhibit of works by Susan DeMay and Carole Robinson, continues at the Women's Center through February. DeMay describes her hanging platters as "really clay paintings: the clay is the canvas, and the glazes are my paints." Robinson's work is enamel on copper, with many pieces fired 20 to 30 times.



The world through women's eyes:

Conference in China reveals shared goals, experiences

by Patricia A. Pierce, Director
Opportunity Development Center

Women from 200 countries who met in China in September joined a fast-growing worldwide network of women determined to achieve equality, economic development and peace. The gathering included two significant events: the 1995 Non-Governmental Organization Forum on Women (NGO) and the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. I attended the ten-day NGO Forum that was located in Huairou, 45 minutes by bus from Beijing.

The NGO Forum offered more than 5,000 events for women of all ages to share their ideas and experiences and voice their views on global issues affecting women and girls. Participants assessed how women's lives have changed over the past decade and proposed steps to keep issues of concern to women on the international agenda.

For many women the road to China was very difficult, marked by problems of getting funding and obtaining appropriate visas. I received my visa only three days before my departure date. Vanderbilt sponsored my trip to the Forum, and I represented several NGOs, primarily the Nashville YWCA. On the first day of the conference, I presented a workshop titled, "Sexual Harassment: Is It an International Problem?" Forty women from other countries attended the first session. They asked that I repeat the workshop immediately following the first session, and 20 women attended the second session. The obvious conclusion was that women, whatever country they were from, experience all forms of sexual harassment. I also served on a panel that discussed "Economic Empowerment of Women: Constraints and Solutions." I shared some information on "glass ceiling" issues.

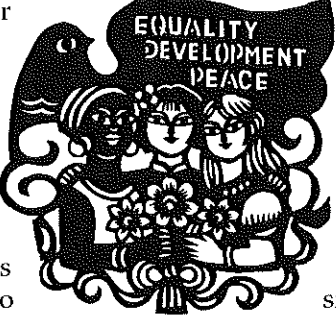
A typical day at the Forum includ-

ed an early breakfast at my hotel and a short walk to the shuttle bus that took passengers to the forum site. The 20-minute bus rides provided an opportunity to meet new people. Women on the bus shared where we were from, our occupation, and why we were attending the conference. I estimate that I met and talked with more than 500 women. Although we spoke in many languages, we found ways to reach out to each other and to communicate.

There were 200-300 programs each day to choose from, covering topics such as economy, politics, human rights, education, health, environment, religion, technology, media, arts and culture, race and ethnicity, and youth. Walking three to five miles each day traveling from one program site to another was not unusual.

Although my overall experience was positive, there were some problems. The remote location, the crowded seminars and workshops, the space constraints that prohibited many participants from attending major sessions like Mrs. Clinton's speech, the lack of accommodations for women with disabilities, the weather, and long bus rides were among the major problems I noted. However, these problems did not dampen my spirits. I was encouraged and inspired by the expressions of sisterhood and unity. The heightened awareness of our common problems provoked in us a determination to mobilize and fight discrimination and advance the status of women by the year 2000. ■

Pat Pierce will give a repeat presentation of her report with slides on the conference in China from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 7 in Sarratt 205.



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

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Calendar
of Events

Margaret
Cuninggim
Women's Center



February 6 (Tuesday)

Creative Life Planning Group meets weekly to focus on ways to improve problem-solving skills and make life changes, noon to 1 p.m. *Also meets Feb. 13, 20 and 27.*

February 6 (Tuesday)

So, You've always Wanted To Go To Med School. Panel of women medical students will discuss how to choose, apply and survive in medical school, 4:30 to 6 p.m.

February 7 (Wednesday)

To China and Back. Report with slides by Pat Pierce, director of the Opportunity Development Center, on her trip to the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. (Repeated from January 17.) Sarratt 205, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

February 8 (Thursday)

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

February 9 (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.

February 12 (Monday)

Book Group meets to discuss *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman. New members welcome. 5:15-6:15 p.m.

February 13 (Tuesday)

Proposal Writers Group. 4-6 p.m. For more information call Nancy Ransom at the Women's Center, 322-4843.

February 15 (Thursday)

Women's Health Q & A addresses "How To Plan For A Healthy Pregnancy," with Jane D. Dadderio, Assistant Professor of the Practice of Nursing and Director of Women's Health NP Program, 5 to 6 p.m.

February 19 (Monday)

Woman to Woman: A Conversation with Thadious Davis on Race and Gender. Presentation by the Gertrude Conaway Professor of English, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., followed by discussion and a buffet dinner. Bishop Johnson Black Cultural Center. Reservations by February 16 to the Women's Center, 322-4843.

February 19 (Monday)

Dissertation Writers. 4:30-6:30 p.m., Cuninggim Center.

February 20 (Tuesday)

Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Making of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Lecture by Joan Hedrick, Director of Women's Studies, Trinity College, 4 p.m., Wilson 103. Co-sponsors with the Women's Center are Students for Women's Concerns, Women's Studies, English Department, History Department, American Studies, and University Lectures Committee. *See article, page 3.*

February 21 (Wednesday)

What's It Like To Be A Woman In Law School? Panel of women law students discusses the application process and other information pertaining to law school and a career in law. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

February 28 (Wednesday)

Installation of "To Us At Twilight" in Sarratt Gallery. Alyson Pou utilizes black dresses to explore a heritage handed down through women in a southern family. Runs through March 12. Co-sponsored by Sarratt Gallery and the Cuninggim Center in honor of National Women's History Month.

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...

New collection highlights work of African-American feminists

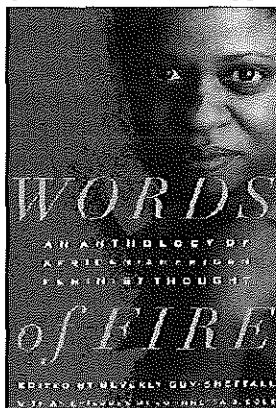
Barbara Clarke,
Women's Center
librarian



Words of Fire: An Anthology of African-American Feminist Thought (New Press, 1995) is edited by Beverly Guy-Sheftall, who documents an African-American feminist tradition going back to the early 1830s. The editor is a professor of English and women's studies and the founding director of the Women's Research & Resource Center at Spelman College.

Black women have suffered from the multiple oppressions of racism, sexism and classism. Guy-Sheftall includes nonfiction writings by African-American women of diverse backgrounds and opinions. They discuss "the complex nature of black womanhood, the interlocking nature of the oppressions black women suffer, and the necessity of sustained struggle in their quest for self-definition, the liberation of black people, and gender equality." Most of the selections in this volume have been previously published, though some have not been readily available. They are arranged in seven main sections, the first four of which trace the progress of black feminist thought from 1831 to the 1980s. The other three sections deal with the body politic, higher education, and black nationalism and white feminism. The editor has written an introduction to each section and includes a short biography of each of the contributors; several of the biographies were furnished by other scholars.

Among the many contributors are



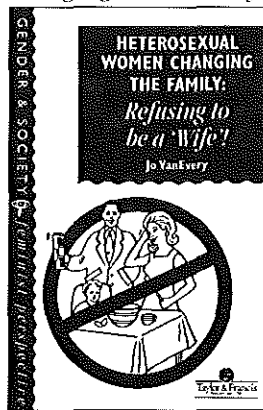
Maria Miller Stewart, Sojourner Truth, Mary Church Terrell, Lorraine Hansberry, Pauli Murray, Angela Davis, bell hooks, Audre Lorde, Shirley Chisholm, Gloria Joseph and Alice Walker. Guy-Sheftall includes two articles by some of the writers. The epilogue is by Johnnetta B. Cole, the president of Spelman College.

Sociologist Jo VanEvery's *Heterosexual Women Changing the Family: Refusing to Be a 'Wife'!* (Taylor & Francis, 1995)

is a study of anti-sexist living arrangements. The writer shows how women can put their feminist beliefs into practice and do away with the inequality that exists in most traditional families. As she does not feel that non-sexist behavior is possible she prefers to call it anti-sexist. She found that "the defining characteristic of anti-sexist living arrangements was the refusal to be a wife" and that the role/identity of wife is an integral part of women's oppression.

VanEvery undertook a qualitative study of 26 living arrangements of various types. Most of the participants were white heterosexual middle-class residents of Great Britain. The households fell into five categories: voluntarily childless couples, single mothers and reversed traditional roles, couples who shared roles and had children, and multiple adult living arrangements, some of which included children.

The members of these households describe how they try to counter oppressive relationships. In homes where adult men are present, anti-sexist living arrangements are possible only if the men are willing to accept them. Both genders must be aiming

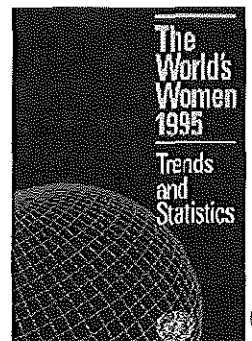


for equality. Men can permit a more equal division of housework and child care; they can also change their minds about these duties. The women in this study rejected many aspects of the role/identity of wife.

Rebecca Walker is the editor of a new anthology, *To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism* (Doubleday, 1995). Gloria Steinem wrote the foreword and the afterword is by Angela Y. Davis. Walker, a writer and the co-founder of Third Wave, an organization for young activists, sought articles that would "explore the ways that choices or actions seemingly at odds with mainstream ideas of feminism push us to new definitions and understandings of female empowerment and social change." She hopes to break down stereotypes about how feminists should think and act as she feels that feminism should allow for individuality.

The contributors are young women and men from a variety of occupations and backgrounds. They include two well-known feminists, Naomi Wolf and bell hooks, as well as a lawyer, a supermodel, a musician, a professor and many others. They discuss female empowerment and show how their own lives and experiences have been empowering.

The World's Women 1995: Trends and Statistics (United Nations, 1995) illustrates the status and condition of women in different countries and regions. The publication includes detailed statistics and data on population and households, work, health, education, the environment, and women's power and influence. This second edition is more comprehensive than the first edition, which appeared in 1991. ■





Health matters

Eating disorders may strike half of women students

by Elena Hearn, a mental health clinician at Student Health Services and psychotherapist in private practice who specializes in treating those with eating disorders and alcohol and other drug problems

The following is a fictitious story that depicts the beginnings, progression and effects of a student's serious eating disorder.

Patty grew up in an upper middle class, close-knit family. She was a cheerleader in high school, made straight A's, and had lots of friends. Her parents were proud of her. She was everything they could have asked for in a child.

Patty came to Vanderbilt and immediately fell in love with it. She made good friends and had numerous dates and invitations to parties. Compliments continued as they had in high school with the most typical being, "You're so beautiful, I wish I was as thin as you." Patty was one of those lucky people who could eat whatever she wanted and never gain weight. She ran three miles at least three times per week on the treadmill.

At home for Thanksgiving break, her father and brother joked about how well they must be feeding her at school. She got on the scale and realized she had gained 10 pounds. Patty went back to school for three weeks, thinking the 10 pounds would be gone when she went home for Christmas break. But by Christmas, the scale showed a 15-pound increase; Patty was alarmed. Her father continued to crack jokes and her mother silently watched how Patty ate. Over Christmas, Patty resolved to go on a diet after the holidays.

During the spring semester, Patty got absorbed in her work and sorority. She made new friends, all of whom seemed thinner than she did . . . a new experience. She felt uncomfortable going out with her new friends since they were ordering salads and she was eating larger meals. The 15-pound gain felt like 50. She just couldn't seem to get going on her diet until one of her thin friends told her what she needed to do. Her suggestion was to eat nothing for three days — just drink water. Then she should count fat grams and not eat more than one fat gram per day. Her friend's diet consisted of a bagel and diet coke for breakfast, plain salad for lunch, fat-free frozen yogurt for a snack and plain rice with vegetables for dinner with an apple for dessert.

Her friend looked great, so Patty tried the new diet. She lost the 15 pounds before summer. Her parents and brother told her how great she looked. Patty was so proud of herself. She ate more during the summer but made sure she didn't go over five fat grams in a day. She maintained her weight and was happy starting her second year of school.

Sophomore year started off with tons of work and extra activities. Patty was starved all the time. She decided to eat more and compensate by increasing her workouts to one and a half hours daily. But the pounds started adding up again. Each day that she gained weight, Patty was depressed and irritable the rest of the day. The only solution was to go back on the diet.

The first week she lost five pounds. She stayed on it to avoid further

weight gain. She felt nauseous much of the time, but this was a small price to pay for being thin. By the end of the semester, Patty had lost 15 more pounds and was down to 90 pounds at 5'5". When she went home, her parents were aghast. Her mother tried to "fatten" Patty up over the two-week break. Patty didn't eat all day while her parents worked but ate what her mother made at night.

Back at school, it was easier to starve all day and eat a normal meal at night. Patty felt sick each time she ate. One night she threw up and felt a tremendous relief. What a great idea, Patty thought. She could go all day without eating, then eat foods she liked and get rid of it. By second semester, Patty was thinking all day about the meal she'd have that night. By mid-semester, her grades were slipping, her friends were getting on her nerves and she just wanted to be left alone. She felt sick all the time and didn't know if she could handle the stress of school any more. She just wanted to go home.

Alarming, this story is one that at least 50 percent of female Vanderbilt students can identify with. Their stories vary in severity, time frames and specifics but the underlying fear remains the same . . . being fat is worse than sickness or death. This message is enforced by peers, whose judgment is most influential.

Fortunately, the recovery rate is increasing and there is plenty of help available. Most importantly, awareness of the problem is increasing to the point where chances are slim that Patty and others like her would go unnoticed. Help is available for the eating disordered person as well as for families and friends through Student Health Services (322-3414), the Psychological and Counseling Center (936-0371), the Dayani Center (322-4751) and numerous agencies and experts in the community. ■

A campus body image and eating disorders group meets every week at the Women's Center. If you're interested, contact Christa at 421-6646 or e-mail mcdermc@ctrvox.

Announcements

Conferences

Today's Girls in Tomorrow's World, a symposium on issues related to the healthy social and intellectual growth of girls, is March 1-2 at Harpeth Hall School in Nashville. Keynote speaker is Judy Mann, author of *The Difference: Growing Up Female in America*. Cost is \$15 for the keynote address and \$25 for the workshop sessions. For more information, call 460-0245.

Women in Science and Technology is March 21-22 in Oak Ridge. The theme of this seventh annual conference is "Challenges and Opportunities in the Physical Sciences and Engineering." For information contact Elizabeth Kittrell at the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, 423-241-3319.

An Academic Arena for Women: From Dreams to Reality is Feb. 28-March 2 at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. Topics include current issues affecting women in higher education. Keynote address by Hazel O'Leary, U.S. Secretary of Energy. Cost is \$200; \$50 for students. Contact FAMU at 904-599-3930.

Women's Leadership Conference for Students to be held March 8 at MTSU. Contact the Women's Center at MTSU, 898-2193 for more information.

Grants

The Southeast Women's Studies Association invites applications from graduate and undergraduate students for funding to travel to the SEWSA Conference April 12-14 in Richmond, Va. Topic of the 20th annual conference is "Global Feminism: Beijing and Beyond." Applications, which are available at the Cuninggim Women's Center, are due by Feb. 23.

Internships

The Institute for Women's Policy Research in Washington, D.C. invites applications for summer internships for research assistants. An interest in women's issues is essential, and a background in social science or statistics is preferred. Applications are due by March 20. Contact Jill Braunstein, IWPR, 1400 20th St. N.W., Suite 104, Washington, D.C. 20036. Tel: 202-785-5100.

Call for volunteers

The Girl Scout Council of Cumberland Valley seeks classroom and camp volunteers for its Girls' High Adventure Program. Volunteers/mentors will work in the classroom and on a two-day wilderness experience camping trip to increase the self-esteem of 6th-9th grade girls. For more information, call Zenola Diggs at the Girl Scout Council, 383-0490.

Programs

The Lady Vanishes: Dilemmas of Feminist Historians in the Age of 'Theory' is the topic of the 22nd annual Antoinette Brown Lecture. Elizabeth A. Clark, professor of religion at Duke University, will speak at 8 p.m. March 21 at Benton Chapel. To make a reservation for free child care, call 322-4205.

Children's Peace Games is the Feb. 24 program of the Middle Tennessee Women's Studies Assoc. Speaker is Evguenia Nichols, a native of Siberia and owner of "From Russia With Love," a business that specializes in conflict resolution. It's at 9:30 a.m. in the Hazelwood Dining Room of the James Union Building at MTSU. For info, call Jan Rosemergy, Vanderbilt's campus representative, at 322-8240.

Etc.

With Body, Mind, and Spirit: a Woman's Retreat is March 8-10 at the Scarritt-Bennett Center. Led by Heather Murray Elkins, associate professor of theology and ethics at Drew University, and Suzanne Benton, sculptor, mask performer and printmaker. The retreat offers rest, renewal, reflection and a chance to share with others on a journey of faith. For more information, contact Judy Loehr or Becky Waldrop at 340-7557.



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