

Women's VU

Margaret
Cunningim
Women's Center

V A N D E R B I L T U N I V E R S I T Y

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MARCH 2000

BREATHING ROOM

The Changing Face of Feminism

by **BRONWEN BLASS,**
Senior, College of Arts & Science

Rebecca Walker, co-founder of Third Wave Direct Action Corporation, a national multicultural organization dedicated to facilitating and initiating young women's activism and empowerment, is giving feminism a new look. A Third Wave Feminist (as opposed to the First Wave Feminists who won women the right to vote in 1920 and the Second Wave Feminists of the 1960s and 70s), Walker recognizes that the feminism of today's generation of young women need not be a mirror image of the feminism of our mothers.

To say this is not to criticize or disrespect Second Wavers, but simply to affirm and celebrate a new generation of feminist activism. She recognizes that, "the ever-shifting but ever-present ideals of feminism can't help but leave young women and men struggling with the reality of who we are. Constantly measuring up to some cohesive fully down-for-the-cause identity without contradictions and messiness and lusts for power and luxury items is not a fun or easy task." As a result, today's young feminists are caught between the reality of our own generation and the pressure to be "good feminists" in paying homage to the legacies of our mothers' generation.

The fact that a term which, at its core is about choice, has become so constraining for some, is both ironic and tragic. Thus, Walker is striving to open up the definition of what a feminist is, dispelling myths and combating the "media's generally horrific characterization of feminists." To do this, Walker has taken on multiple roles: from activist to writer to entrepreneur to visionary. She is the editor of *To be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism*, an anthology of articles

which explore the contradiction and ambiguity that can be associated with female empowerment. Walker wants young women to know that they can want to be treated "like a lady," get married, have a BMW, be Christian, be a supermodel, even like music with misogynistic lyrics, and still claim the word feminist. As she says, "If feminism is to be radical and alive [it needs] to respond to new situations, needs, desires and incorporate all those who swear by it."

Walker has written articles for magazines such as *Essence*, *Sassy*, *Harper's*, *The Black Scholar*, and *Spin* and has been a contributing editor to *Ms.* magazine since 1989. In 1996, she opened a Cyberlounge/Espresso Bar/Bookstore in Brooklyn, designed to provide Internet access and education to urban multicultural communities. She was named Feminist of the Year by the Feminist Majority Fund, and as one of 50 Future Leaders of America by *Time* magazine. She also tours the country lecturing on young women and feminism.

Walker has certainly not been content to sit idly by while, as the Third Wave Web Page reads, "An entire generation of women is coming of age to find a future less optimistic than our mothers' vision; a future where women are NOT equal and their lives are increasingly filled with obstacles and restrictions." Instead, she helped to create Third Wave to "harness the energy of young women and men by sharing information and resources between young women, together creating a community in which members can coalesce, network, strategize, and ultimately take action around issues that affect us all." The organization strives to be "the thread that connects young women to the resources necessary to counter attacks on their personal freedoms," and, "to combat inequalities that



Rebecca Walker will speak Tuesday, March 21 in Wilson 126 at 7:00pm.

we ourselves face as a result of our age, gender, race, sexual orientation, economic status, or level of education."

As a young feminist activist, I am excited by Walker's message. I often feel like I must be on call for the movement 24/7. Frankly, it can be exhausting to feel I must always tow the p.c. (politically correct) line and take the appropriate feminist stance. I think Walker is right: we do not want fitting into the mold of an ideal feminist to become as constraining for women today as fitting into the mold of ideal womanhood was for previous generations. Walker is giving us some breathing room inside the definition of what it is to be a good feminist and activist. I can claim and support my feminist convictions with every ounce of passion within me, but still just be myself rather than worrying about who I should be as a 'good feminist.'

Sure, I live feminism every day of my life; it's a crucial part of who I am. If someone

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The Changing Face of Feminism *continued from page 1*

makes a sexist, racist, elitist, heterosexist, etc. comment around me, I'm going to call them on it, but by the same token, there's a point where I'm going to look out for my own sanity. I refuse to allow every choice that I make to be held up to a litmus test that rates my feminism. Feminism is about choice, after all. That fact should be an attraction to young women today, not a deterrent because one has to worry about making the "right" choices. In preparing for her upcoming lecture at Vanderbilt on March 21, I was thrilled to be able to ask Ms. Walker several questions about her feminist activism. Her answers only added to my anticipation of her visit and my interest in her message.

What was your college experience like? Where did you go to school and what was the activist environment like?

I went to Yale at a time when there was a lot of campus activism. My freshman year I was involved in the divestment from South Africa movement and continued to be involved in speak outs and rallies on several issues, from retaining faculty of color to date rape. Ultimately, though, I ended up trying to address issues through art, founding with other students a journal for students of color, and making a documentary about the experience of being a student of color in a mostly

white Ivy League school. I enjoyed college, but looking back wish that I hadn't felt so obligated and drawn to rail against the administration quite as much. College is a time of reflection and learning and is really critical developmentally. It is sad that so many students have to spend much of that time fighting for something as simple as their right to feel comfortable.


Encounter many women here at Vanderbilt who, to a great extent, come from a background of both socioeconomic and white privilege, and who not only do not consider themselves feminists, but do not see a need for a modern feminist movement. What would you say to these women?

I don't think it is necessary for them to "consider themselves feminists" for them to be human beings with conscience, human beings who act on that conscience when they come to understand certain realities of the world in which we live. I think it is less important for young women and men to personally identify with feminism than it is for them to actually do something about injustices and inequalities and, to put it even more simply, problems they see in their world. Hunger, homelessness, sexual abuse, limiting and psychically wounding definitions of race, class, gender or sexuality, environmental destruction; I could go on, each of these has found advocates within the feminist movement. Whether you want to work against all of these things using the tools or under the umbrella of feminism or not, the most important thing is to recognize they exist and to feel that it is part of your responsibility as a being on the planet to respond and address these things that hurt us all. Bylye Y. Avery, founder of the National Black Women's Health Project says, "Just because you are not sick doesn't mean you should close the hospital," and I think this is certainly applicable to people who feel their lives to be untouched by these issues. However, generally I find that there is no one who is untouched, no one who doesn't have an eating disorder, or a cousin who had an abortion or a relative or friend who can't afford decent housing. What we are talking about isn't feminism so much as it is taking responsibility for some of what goes on in the world. It is being committed enough to challenge the status quo and make a difference, no matter how seemingly small.


As rewarding as activism can be, I know it can also be exhausting. What gives you your drive and energy?

The truth is that my activism right now is located in my writing work, and in raising a child. I just finished a book about growing up black and Jewish and what it means to have many different organic reference points to define you. I think the book reflects the kind of time we are living in now, in which few of us grew up in one place in one way. Our identities are more collage, more post-modern than ever before, and yet we long for the meaningful connection of family and long-term relationships. My book explores these feelings.

Raising a child is also where I find that I work the hardest. Parenting a boy, especially, is a challenge in a culture that feeds and distracts kids with video games which teach to capture and destroy, and with social mores which tell a boy that crying or feeling vulnerable at all is a weakness, a defect. My job protecting my son's emotional and psychic space, insisting that he be allowed the whole range of his feelings is enormous. And then negotiating the process of raising a child with brown skin in a culture which imprisons most of its brown-skinned males, is terrifying. How do I teach him to feel good about himself and not be paranoid while at the same time teaching him to be extra careful around police because they might harm him, kill him even, as he reaches for his registration?

There is still the specter of burnout though, of course. I handle it by trying hard to eat healthy organic food (lots of soy chocolate milk!) and getting a lot of rest and exercise. I also take good long breaks, where I go somewhere beautiful and recharge. I try to live a full, healthy, happy life. I don't believe in self sacrifice for the movement, I believe that the movement, if there is going to be one, has to be for me as much as it is for anyone else. 

Bronwen Blass, a proud feminist and a senior in the College of Arts and Science is a political science major with a women's studies minor. She is also president of Students for Women's Concerns.



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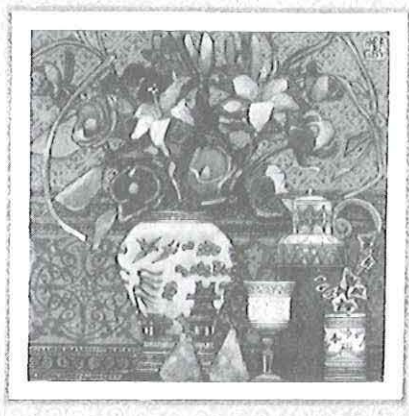
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ON EXHIBIT: *Complex Patterns, Complex Lives*

Anne Bagby likes the activity she sees in patterns. She positions patterns in opposition to or as enhancement to principal images of still life in her paintings. Bagby appreciates the precise repetition inherent in patterns and incorporates them in her paintings through stamps she designs herself. She is constantly looking for new patterns and even has friends engaged in this pursuit. She receives fabric swatches and wallpaper samples from friends for inspiration.



Anne Bagby



New Years Eve

As a college student, Bagby majored in art at Queens College and then pursued a teaching degree at UNC-Charlotte. She shared her love of art with 8th graders for seven years while living in Atlanta. Bagby settled down in Winchester, TN to raise a family, but kept her art alive by painting at home and entering watercolor painting competitions. For the past 20 years she has been balancing family and career while maintaining a studio, participating in individual and group shows, and having her artwork printed in national art publications.

Bagby is very conscious of the relationship between the values of dark and light in her work. As long as she focuses on the contrast of these values, she feels free to experiment with busy and complex patterns, knowing they will not overwhelm the painting or the viewer.

"I feel my work is similar to that of women making quilts.... It's their way of being creative. All the women in my family have been house-proud; my mother was a great gardener. I feel I'm following in their footprints - but my work will last longer! It always made me sad to see Mom's garden die at the end of the year."

"Bagby admires, even envies, the designers of art quilts. 'The most creative thing being done in America now is the art quilt,' she says, admitting that she doesn't feel suited to tackling fabric. 'I know my limitations, and I like control. With fabric, the fabric's in control.'"

Bagby's exhibit will be at the Women's Center from March 13 to May 26. The artwork can be seen during the center's business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Women's Center is hosting an opening reception for Anne Bagby on Thursday, March 30 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is free and open to the public.

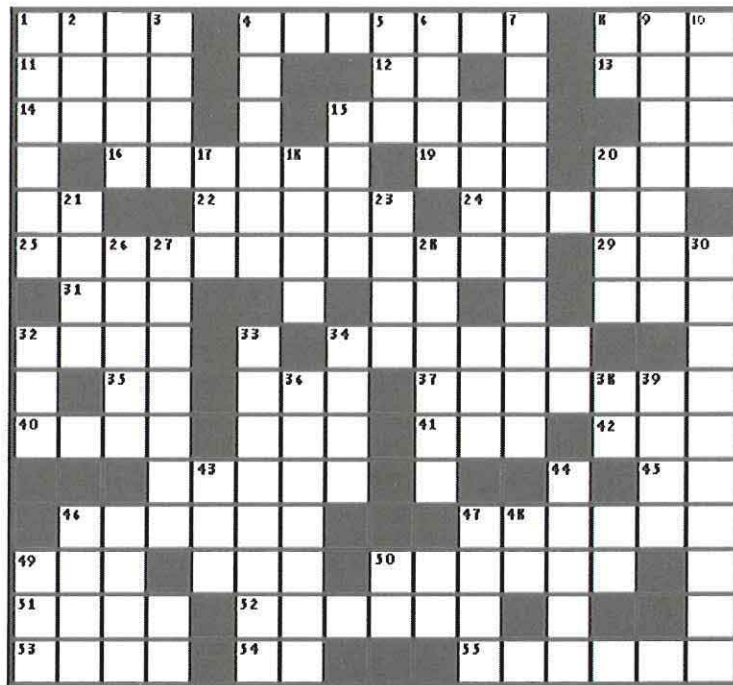
March is Women's History Month... Test Your Knowledge!

ACROSS

- 1 Woolf's "A ___ of One's Own"
- 4 "Ms." Founder and feminist leader
- 3 1966 Formation of this leading women's organization
- 11 Katherine ___ Porter, writer
- 12 "___ With Me What You Will" by Joyce Carol Oates
- 13 Coalition representing 78 women's colleges in the U.S. and Canada
- 14 1976 Olympic Gold Medalist Coma ___
- 15 Famous first Montgomery bus boycotter
- 16 Children's Defense Fund Founder Marian ___ Edelman
- 19 Sarah Shankman's "I Still Miss My Man but My ___ Is Getting Better"
- 22 "Why Wars Must ___" by Carrie Chapman Catt
- 24 Real-life Evita
- 25 1979 Nobel Peace Prize Winner, "The Living Saint"
- 29 Mother, for short
- 31 1982 Defeated equality act
- 32 "Hello" to Ker Conway
- 34 Nobel Winner Curie, founder of ___
- 35 "___ Multiculturalism Bad for Women?" by Susan Moller Okin
- 37 First woman to fly the Atlantic
- 40 1960 FDA approves this form of birth control
- 41 Controversial 1973 Supreme Court Decision
- 42 "She" to Anne Frank
- 45 U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, (initials)
- 46 McLean's Girl who sang the blues
- 47 Kathleen Neal Cleaver, Keynote speaker for MLK Commemorative ___
- 49 1943 ___ test is recognized as a way to detect cervical cancer
- 50 1936, ___ was there.
- 51 1997 ___ finishes first season
- 52 Key in computer revolution, first woman to earn doctorate in mathematics from Yale.
- 53 Rebecca Walker, "To Be ___: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism"
- 54 Last state needed to ratify the 19th amendment, 1920 women's suffrage
- 55 India's "idealist without illusion"

2 Anna Quindlen's "___ True Thing"

- 3 "Mother Israel", 4th Prime Minister and first/only woman
- 4 Planned Parenthood founder
- 5 Born into slavery, outspoken civil rights advocate and journalist (first name)
- 6 Writer, film director, producer, Wellesley College alum- "When Harry Met Sally" ___ Ephron
- 7 Carol Tavris- "The ___ of Woman"
- 8 19th C. Tennessee Native American, warned settlers of attack (initials)
- 9 Reagan appointee to Supreme Court - first woman.
- 10 Prohibition women's social movement
- 17 "Black ___" by Lorene Cary
- 18 Misogyny, the ___ of women
- 20 "The Wandering ___" by Lana Thompson
- 21 Fall 1970, Vanderbilt experiments with first ___ dorms
- 23 Homemaker, humorist, columnist, (first name)
- 26 Lyn Webster Wilde's "On the ___ of the Women Warriors"
- 27 Vietnamese "Heaven and Earth" author
- 28 Removed U.S. Surgeon General
- 30 Italian primary education pioneer
- 32 Eleanor Smeals' "gender ___"
- 33 First female Secretary of State
- 34 Second female appointee to Supreme Court, feminist, women's rights advocate (first name)
- 36 Valedictorian of 1969 Wellesley class, named head of National Health Care Task Force, running for US Senate



- 38 "U.S. History ___ Women's History" ed. by Linda Kerber, famous historian
- 39 First woman in space
- 43 Simone de Beauvoir's "___ Said and Done"
- 44 First African American woman elected to the Senate
- 46 Addams, Fonda, Goodall
- 48 Screen/movie dancer of 1930s and 40s, (initials)
- 49 Female Strength: Wmn ___

The answers to the crossword will be printed in next month's newsletter. Disclaimer: This crossword is a first-time endeavour for Women'sSVU and a dedicated student worker. Have fun with the puzzle.

DOWN

- 1 Founding director of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

MARCH HAPPENINGS

Carol Tavris Speaks at Vanderbilt

In trying to describe the differences between men and women, many psychologists, biologists, and other researchers tend to think about the sexes as opposites, in most cases defining males as the standard or "normal" sex and females as the abnormal "other" sex. But are men really from Mars and women from Venus, or are they just occasionally from different neighborhoods? Social psychologist, lecturer, and author Carol Tavris will discuss alternatives to the "sexes-are-opposite, but one is better" vision of gender in a public lecture entitled "From Penis Envy to Promiscuity: Our Changing Theories of Women and Gender" on March 14th at 4:00 p.m. in Wilson Hall room 103.

Tavris, author of *The Mismeasure of Woman* and co-author of *The Longest War: Sex Differences in Perspective*, has studied the implications of these gender definitions for women in psychology, science, law, and medicine. She suggests that "in this century, there has been a massive transformation in the leading explanations of gender differences: from psychoanalytic metaphors in Freud's time to an emphasis, today, on the power of biology and evolution. Some psychologists embrace the biological revolution uncritically, while others vehemently reject it. Psychologists committed to gender equality have long had an understandable antipathy toward biological research, which historically has fostered conservative agendas and theories of one group's biological superiority over another. But today the important role of biology in understanding much of human behavior is indisputable, and many of these findings have been truly liberating. Unfortunately, some enthusiasts would reduce all complexities of men's and women's behavior to biological or evolutionary forces."

Using the example of gender differences - especially arguments about sex differences in the brain and claims of evolutionary origins of differences in sexual behavior - Tavris will offer alternatives to the currently polarized thinking that dominates discussions of the role of biology in human behavior, showing both the contribution of biology and the dangers of reductionism.

*The Women's Center is a cosponsor for this program.
Article written by Alisa Palmisano, Graduate Assistant in Women's Studies.*

INSPIRATION: ELIZABETH SPRAGUE COOLIDGE

Three female faculty with the Blair School of Music are celebrating the life of music patron Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge on Friday, March 31 at 8:00 p.m. in the Turner Recital Hall in the Blair School of Music. Violist Kathryn Plummer and pianist Amy Dorfman will interpret the two prominent viola works from Coolidge's 1919 competition: Ernest Bloch's Suite for viola and piano and Rebecca Clarke's Viola Sonata. In addition, Cynthia Cyrus, a musicologist, will discuss both the inspiration behind Coolidge's interest in music and the inspiration Coolidge provided to composers and musicians of her time. This event is part of the Blair Concert Series. Tickets (\$8) are sold at the Blair office (322-7651), from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Girls Town

Is it possible for young women to have meaningful cross-cultural friendships? Can young women struggling with their identity find strength and support in sharing their stories and being real to themselves and their friends? *Girls Town*, winner of the Filmmaker's Trophy and Special Jury Prize at Sundance, is an honest movie about three female high school students that rejects the treatment of teen life generally presented by Hollywood. A friend's death forces these young women into a soul-searching conversation about friendship, victimization, and solidarity. *Girls Town* will be



Girls Town starring, l to r, Anjanue Ellis, Bruklin Harris, Emma Grace, & Lili Taylor.

shown Wednesday, March 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sarratt Cinema. A discussion following the movie will be facilitated by students, Juliana Sanchez (Senior, Arts & Science) and Kelli Bogard (Senior, Peabody).

Cosponsored by Project Dialogue

ANTOINETTE BROWN LECTURE

Renita J. Weems, this year's Antoinette Brown lecturer, will speak Thursday, March 16, at 7.30 p.m. in Benton Chapel. Her talk is titled *Huldah, the "Lady Prophet" in 2Kings 22.14: Writing a Woman's Life*. Professor Renita Weems received her B.A. from Wellesley College and her M.Div. and Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary in Old Testament Studies. Before her appointment at Vanderbilt University where she is an associate professor of Hebrew Bible, Weems worked as a public accountant in Boston and a stockbroker in NYC. She is the author of *Battered Love: Marriage, Sex and Violence in the Hebrew Prophets* (1995). Her latest book, *Listening for God* (1999), documents her journey as a Protestant minister and scholar. She is currently at work on a book on suffering and evil in the Hebrew Bible for Fortress Press. Among her professional activities, Professor Weems serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Feminist Biblical Scholars*. She has been invited to speak at a *Feminist Exegesis and Hermeneutics of Liberation* conference held in Ascona, Switzerland in July 2000 (organized by Elizabeth Fiorenza and Sylvia Schroer). She is a much-sought-after speaker on college campuses and at religious conferences.

This program is free and open to the public. A reception will follow in Tillett Lounge of the Vanderbilt Divinity School.

The Women's Center is a cosponsor for this event.



MARCH 2000

Tuesday, March 7, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Creative Life Planning Group meets over lunch every Tuesday to share problem-solving information and provide support for life changes. New members welcome. Also meets March 14, 21, & 28.

Thursday, March 9, 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.

Dissertation Writers Group for Women

Dr. Darlene Panvini, Assistant Director of the Center for Teaching serves as facilitator. Also meets March 23.

Monday, March 13, 5:15 p.m.

Book Group will read *Lady Moses* by Lucinda Roy, facilitated by Elsie Pettit.

Tuesday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.

Carol Tavris, Wilson Hall - Room 103

"From Penis Envy to Promiscuity: Our Changing Theories of Women and Gender." See article on page 4.

Wednesday, March 15, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Brown Bag Lunch for Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Women's Issues
Domestic Violence in the Lesbian Community presented by Susan Nordmeyer.

Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.

Girls Town (film, followed by discussion)- **Sarratt Cinema**
See article on page 4.

Thursday, March 16, 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Reading Sisters will read *Blanche Among the Talented Tenth* by Barbara Neely. Everyone is welcome to participate. Books available at the VU bookstore. Contact Hilary Forbes, 2-6518 or hilary.forbes@vanderbilt.edu with any questions.

Thursday, March 16, 7:30pm

The Antoinette Brown Lecture, 1974-2000, - Benton Chapel

Professor Renita Weems, Vanderbilt Divinity School, will present a talk entitled "Huldah, The "Lady Prophet" in 2Kings 22:14: Writing A Woman's Life ." See article on page 4.

Tuesday, March 21, 7:00pm

Rebecca Walker - Wilson Hall, Room 126

"What Do We Know about the F-Word?

The Changing Face of Feminism" cosponsored by Project Dialogue, the Women's

Studies Program, the Opportunity Development Center, Residential and Judicial Affairs, and the University Lectures Committee. See article on page 1.

March 28, Tuesday, 6:00pm

ABCs of Car Maintenance - North Hall, Terrazzo Lobby

Pat Claybaker, from The Workshop, will give her ever-popular program which shares basic tips for good car maintenance. This evening is cosponsored by Jamie Kim, North Hall resident adviser as part of the North Hall FA.C.E. (Females Allied in the College Experience) Series. Open to the public. Register with Hilary Forbes at 322-6518 or hilary.forbes@vanderbilt.edu.

March 31, Friday, 8:00pm

Inspirations: Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge - Turner Recital Hall, Blair School of Music

This multi-media, lecture-recital will be presented by Cynthia Cyrus, Kathryn Plummer, and Amy Dorfman. See article on page 4.

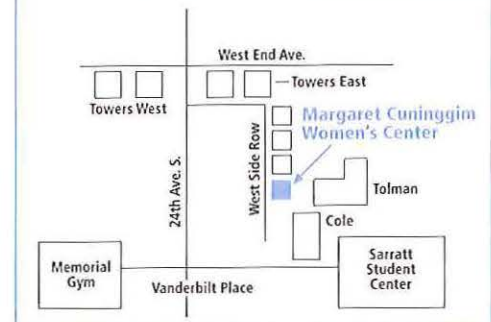
Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center Calendar of Events

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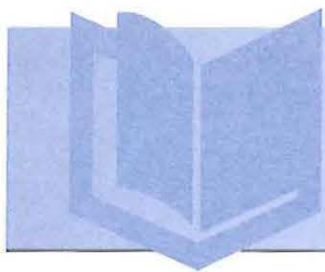
Unless otherwise stated, all programs are held at the Cuninggim Center, Franklin Building, 316 West Side Row.

For more information on the events listed, call 322-4843.

How to find us . . .



The Cuninggim Center is located in the Franklin Building at 316 West Side Row.



IN THE LIBRARY

BARBARA CLARKE
Women's Center librarian



Redefining women's roles in the past and the present

Though American women had reported on wars since the uprisings in Italy in 1848 it was only in the World War II era that female war correspondents grew in number and prominence, some becoming well-known and respected. Journalist Nancy Caldwell Sorel relates the stories of dozens of these notable reporters, writers and photographers in *The Women Who Wrote the War* (Arcade, 1999).

Among the many people interviewed for this comprehensive study were a number of the surviving women and their colleagues.

Sorel's narrative commences with the 1920s, when some of the correspondents were in Europe reporting on developments that were eventually to lead to war.

There were many opportunities for reporters in this era as there were more newspapers, news magazines and wire services than there are today. Not surprisingly, the female correspondents frequently encountered prejudice and sex discrimination.

The women showed great courage, strength and determination in the face of the tremendous hardships and horrors of war. Some reported from combat zones. Many disobeyed orders or went to extraordinary lengths in order to obtain their stories or photographs. Margaret Bourke-White, who worked for *Life*, took a series of dramatic photographs from inside a B-17 on a bombing mission; this opportunity arose

shortly after her escape from a ship that was torpedoed and sank on the way to North Africa. Just after D-Day Martha Gellhorn of *Collier's* stowed away on a hospital ship which crossed the English Channel and picked up wounded soldiers in Normandy. Her article on the journey was published but she was arrested and confined to a training camp from which she soon escaped. Bourke-White, Lee Miller and several other women were among the first Americans to document the horrendous conditions in the newly-liberated concentration camps.

After the United States entered the war accredited women correspondents were issued uniforms, which made them look professional and feel that they were part of the U.S. Army. All of them survived this war but photographer Dickey Chappelle was later killed by a land mine while covering the Vietnam War.

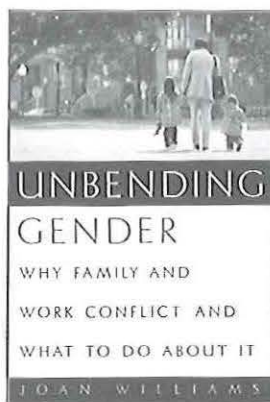
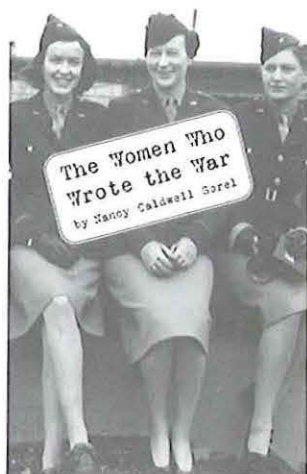
Many of the problems facing families with children are closely linked to one another and can be traced to the way the workplace is organized, according to Joan Williams, the co-director of the Gender, Work and Family Project at the American University Law School. In *Unbending Gender: Why Family and Work Conflict and What to Do About It* (Oxford University Press, 2000) she

illustrates how domesticity continues to be the norm, despite the changes in gender roles over the past few decades. The writer avers that "domesticity's peculiar structuring of market work and family work hurts not only women but also men, children, politics, and our emotional life."

To most employers ideal workers are those who are available to work long hours, to travel and to transfer to another location. Such workers are valued and rewarded the most highly. Positions requiring such flexibility are unsuitable for many mothers and easiest for those who have someone else to take care of their household. Williams shows how working mothers are marginalized and how it appears that those who avoid caregiving are rewarded.

The "ideal-worker norm" can be reconciled with policies that are family-friendly and that benefit all workers, according to the writer. The workplace could be restructured so that masculine norms no longer predominate and that all workers have the flexibility to combine work and family.

Williams discusses the harm caused by prevailing notions that ideal workers own their salaries while their caregiver spouses work at home because of their love for their family. She advocates that the ideal-worker norm be eliminated in family entitlements, especially those involving divorce. If the wages of ideal workers were considered to be joint property, fewer divorced mothers and their children would face economic distress.



CAMPUS SAFETY: BASIC INFORMATION

At a recent meeting of the Women's Center Advisory Board several people in the Vanderbilt community brought up questions about safety on campus and what services are available. We went straight to the source to answer our questions - Vanderbilt's Police and Security Department's Office of Crime Prevention.

Shuttle/Escort Services

VUPD operates a SafeTrips program, which consists of two free services. The first component is a van, which makes six stops on campus continuously from dusk until 2 a.m. The other component is a walking escort on campus during hours of darkness. The telephone number for the walking escort service is 1-8888.

Emergency Phones

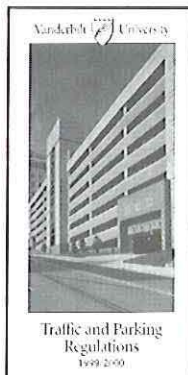
More than 100 emergency telephones are located throughout the University campus and Medical Center parking areas. Most emergency phones look like pay phones without dial faces and are clearly labeled "Emergency." Some of the phones are enclosed in red metal boxes with a light on top, and some of the phones will activate a blue strobe light when the receiver is picked up. When someone picks up the receiver or presses the emergency button on any of these phones in an emergency situation, the phone automatically dials the Police and Security Department dispatcher. Touch-tone speakerphones equipped with a red "Emergency" button are located at the main entrances to all dormitories.

Activation of an emergency phone will connect the caller directly with the VUPD Communications Center. An open line on any Emergency phone will activate a priority response from an officer. An officer will be sent to check on the user of the phone, even if nothing is communicated to the dispatcher. Cooperation is essential in maintaining the integrity of the emergency phone system. These phones should be used only for actual or perceived emergency situations. Phone locations are based on recommendations from the University community. Suggestions are welcome.

The locations of the emergency phones are identified in the *Traffic and Parking Regulations 1999/2000* brochure. When using the emergency phones, trust your instincts. If you feel safe, continue talking to the dispatcher giving them as much information about the situation as you can. If you believe an assault is imminent, make as much noise as you can and run to a location where you feel safe.

University and Medical Center

The issues of safety and security are generally the same for both sides of the Vanderbilt community. Stay alert and trust your instincts. You should be aware of your surroundings and use the resources available, such as the escort service or the Medical Center shuttles. Keep in mind the safety tips supplied in this article. VUPD is responsible for both University and Medical Center security, and can be reached at 2-2745 or in an emergency, 1-1911.



Safety Tips

Personal Safety

- Walk or jog in groups of three or more.
- Avoid isolated or dark areas.
- Travel with confidence and purpose.
- Do not wear earphones while walking or jogging.
- Know the locations of emergency phones.
- Do not use ATMs at night.
- Stay alert, and plan ahead for "What if...?"

Residential/Workplace Safety

- Know your neighbors or co-workers; you are the best one to determine who does not belong.
- Do not prop open exterior doors.
- If you come in through an electronic card key access door, do not allow strangers to enter with you on your code. They should have their own cards and codes.
- Always lock your doors when you leave.
- Lock your door while you sleep or when you work late.
- Get involved. If you see someone you consider suspicious or out of place, CALL POLICE AND SECURITY IMMEDIATELY.

Protecting Your Property

- Register your bicycle with Security.
- Mark and record your belongings with the Police and Security Department through Operation ID.
- Keep your car locked. Store items of value in the trunk.
- Coats, backpacks, and purses should remain with you or be locked up.

Phone Numbers You Should Have

On-Campus Resources

Vanderbilt Police and Security

- Emergency, 421-1911 or 911
- Non-Emergency, 322-2745
- Crime Prevention, 322-2558
- Lost and Found, 343-5371
- Community Suggestion Voice Mail, 936-1555

Medical

- VUMC Emergency Room, 322-3391
- Student Health, 343-8943
- Occupational Health Services, 343-9438 (work related injuries or exposures)
- Poison Center Hotline, 936-2034

Off-Campus Resources

- Metro General Hospital Emergency Room, 862-4357
- Metro Nashville Police Department, 862-8000
- Crime Stoppers, 742-7463 (leave anonymous tip on crime)
- Crisis Intervention Center, 244-7444
- Rape and Sexual Abuse Center, 256-8526 or 1-800-879-1999

This is an abbreviated resource list. You can find the complete list on pages 14 and 15 of the *Security at Vanderbilt 1999-2000* brochure.

RAD (Rape Agression Defense) Class

The next RAD classes will be offered March 14, 21, 28 and will be held in Mr. Hebs, room 102, in the basement of Towers East. The registration fee is \$20 for Vanderbilt affiliates and their families, and \$40 for non-Vanderbilt affiliates. Call the Crime Prevention Unit at 2-2558 to reserve a space. The instructors generally limit class size to 12-16 people to ensure personal attention from the instructors. For more information, check out our website: www.vanderbilt.edu/VUPD/radclass.htm.

Thanks to Cindy Quirouette and all the other members of VUPD who took the time to answer our questions.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Feeling Safe, Feeling Strong

If you're not sure that you know how to protect yourself if attacked, or if you want to know yourself as a woman of strength this might be the course for you. Donna Chaiet of Prepare, Inc. in New York, is coming to Nashville for an intensive 2-day workshop on April 29 and 30. The cost is \$400 per person and enrollment is limited to 16 women. Call 279-5349 to reserve a spot. Chaiet has been teaching personal safety to women for 20 years. Her fundamental message is that each of us has an "internal protector," but most of us don't know how to call forth this power from inside us. A woman who takes Chaiet's class learns to identify fears that hold her back and fight off a padded attacker. Ultimately, she experiences herself as a person of power.

Volunteers Needed

Planned Parenthood of Middle Tennessee, Inc., is looking for volunteers of all ages. Please contact Rory Quintana at 345-0952 to learn more about available opportunities. Founded in 1916, Planned Parenthood is the world's largest and oldest voluntary family planning organization. Planned Parenthood is dedicated to the principles that every individual has a fundamental right to decide when or whether to have a child, and that every child should be wanted and loved.

Women in Higher Education

National Teleconference - *Women's Voices: Imagining Ourselves into the 21st Century* featuring live keynote speech by Johnnetta Cole followed by a panel discussion with Yolanda Moses (former president of The City College of New York) and Bernice Sandler (Senior Scholar in Residence with the National Association of Women in Education) on March 27, 2000 at 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Social Religious Building, room 201, on the Peabody campus. This event is free and open to the public, but only 50 spaces are available. Contact the Opportunity Development Center at 322-4705 to make your reservation.



CALL FOR WORKS BY WOMEN ARTISTS

The Women's Center is accepting proposals for exhibition for the 2000-2001 academic year. The gallery at the center is an intimate space with approximately 40 running feet. The Women's Center Arts Committee is interested in reviewing strong two-dimensional work by emerging female artists in the Middle Tennessee area who have not had much exposure. Proposals are due by March 31, 2000. For additional information, call 322-4843.



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Women's VU mailing list

Women's VU is sent free, on request, to all Vanderbilt students and to faculty and staff at a campus address. Subscriptions are available to off-campus readers for \$10 per year. Please include your check, payable to Vanderbilt University, with your subscription.

- Please send my free subscription to a campus address. (Student subscriptions are free to any address.)
- Please send my subscription to an off-campus address. Payment is enclosed.
- Please correct my name on your mailing list.
- Please remove my name from your mailing list.

Name _____

Address _____

Student (specify school & year) _____

Staff Faculty Administrator Other

Clip and mail to the Women's Center, Vanderbilt University, Box 1513 Station B, Nashville, TN 37235

Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
Vanderbilt University
316 West Side Row
Box 1513, Station B
Nashville, TN 37235

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