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WOMANSIGHT

NEWS FOR TEXAS WOMEN

March 1982 Vol. 2 No. 9

FIFTY CENTS

Sarah Weddington On Leadership 'Some Leaders Are Born Women'



Sarah Weddington recently spoke about women and leadership at North Lake College in Dallas.

Nancy Peterson

At age 21, Sarah Weddington received her law degree from the University of Texas at Austin. When she was 26, she argued *Roe vs. Wade* before the United States Supreme Court and won the right for women to have abortions legally in this country. She has served three terms as a state legislator in Austin. When she was 32, then-President Jimmy Carter promoted her to the senior White House staff as his assistant, responsible for political liaison and women's issues.

Weddington's credentials are impressive. Plus she has won the respect of her colleagues—male and female alike—in every position she has held. It comes as no surprise, then, that Weddington is devoting herself to educating people about leadership. She is well-qualified to speak on the subject. And she is especially concerned with motivating more women to accept leadership positions.

A native Texan, Weddington spent January 28 and 29 at North Lake Community College in Ir-

ving lecturing, visiting classes and conducting workshops on leadership. Her Thursday evening lecture entitled "Some Leaders Are Born Women" was attended by an attentive audience of approximately 275 people. Interestingly enough, about half of those attending were men.

Weddington organized her address around four questions she considers crucial to an understanding of leadership.

- Why is leadership so important?
- Why are there so few women in leadership positions?
- What is leadership?
- How can we better prepare women for leadership?

"When you think about it, we live in groups, we work in groups, we play in groups, we study in groups," Weddington said. "And some of the most frustrating experiences we have are when we are part of groups that have leaders who are not very successful, who are not very effective."

To successfully weather the current stormy economic and political times, Weddington stressed the need to utilize the very best leaders available.

"Leaders are important, and yet how seldom it is that we consider how to make people better leaders. We make assumptions that are not always accurate," Weddington said she believes the American public mistakenly assumes that

March 22, 1972—Single Women Win Right to Contraceptives



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"Leaders are important, and yet how seldom it is that we consider how to make people better leaders. We make assumptions that are not always accurate," Weddington said she believes the American public mistakenly assumes that good leaders will always be available when they are needed.

Weddington noted four reasons many women are not found in leadership positions. First, lack of self-perception as leaders inhibits women from aspiring to leadership positions. Weddington mentioned the "Texas Women: A Celebration of History" exhibit, currently on display in Austin, as a much-needed effort to alter this perception.

Lack of practice in leadership roles is another reason Weddington gave for the scarcity of women leaders. Without this practical experience, women cannot develop the skills necessary to make them confident leaders, Weddington said.

Weddington also said she believes there is a socialization problem that keeps women out of leadership positions. She explained that women are raised to be supportive, and this upbringing can make it difficult for women to assume roles in which they will not always get along or agree with everyone else.

Women tend to exaggerate the difficulties of being leaders while diminishing the positive aspects, Weddington offered as her final reason for there being so few women leaders. Her own experience, however, has taught Weddington that being able to accomplish something meaningful for people outweighs the difficulties.

Weddington does not agree with the "Great Man Theory of Leadership" which says that certain people are destined or born to be leaders. In place of the old saying "Some men are born leaders" Weddington prefers to say that leaders
(continued on page 11)

March 22, 1972—Single Women Win Right to Contraceptives

Mary Gilmore

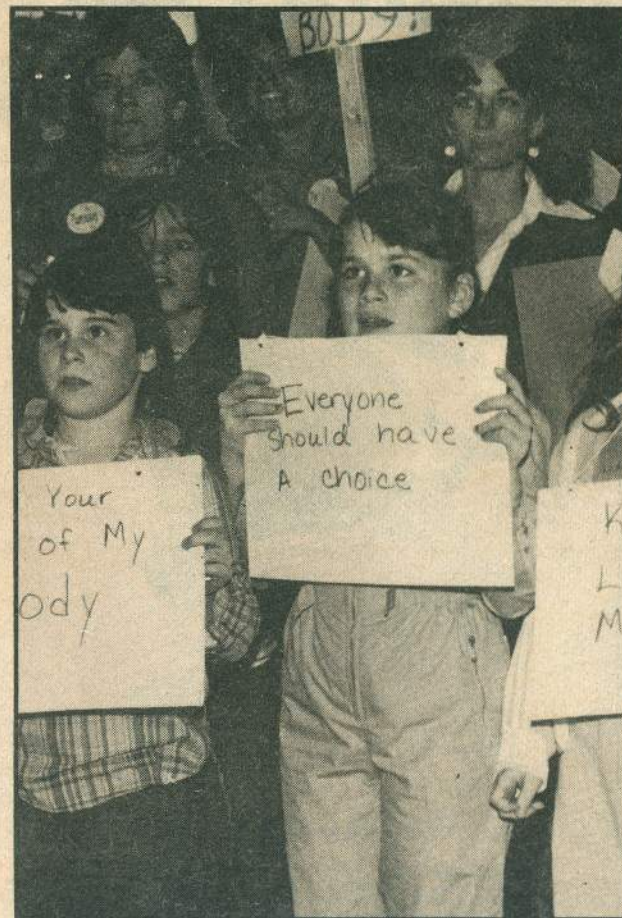
Not so long ago, providing single persons with birth control devices was an illegal act. On March 22, 1972, the Supreme Court ruled that a state cannot bar dissemination of birth control devices to single persons if it permits married couples to obtain them.

The 6-1 decision in the case of *Baird v. Eisenstadt*, struck down a Massachusetts law banning distribution of such devices as the pill. The Supreme Court ruled that the law violated equal protection under the law by treating unmarried persons differently than married couples. Similar anti-contraception statutes in 25 other states were overturned by the decision.

Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., in the majority opinion, stated: "If the right of privacy means anything it is the right of the individual, married or single, to be free from unwarranted governmental intrusion into matters so fundamentally affecting a person as the decision whether to bear or beget a child."

Massachusetts had argued that its law deterred fornication and protected public health. But Brennan responded that if public health were a consideration, the law would be discriminatory. He noted that federal and state laws already regulated the distribution of drugs which must be prescribed by a doctor, and also rejected the claim that the law could be upheld simply as a "prohibition on contraception." The case made clear that individual rights must be the same for married and unmarried persons alike, and if the distribution of contraceptives to married per-

(continued on page 4)



While anti-abortion forces met inside the Dallas Hyatt Regency Hotel, outside demonstrators of all ages carried pro-choice picket signs.

Photo by Linda Finnell

LETTERS

To the Editor:

I am a recent participant in the Explore Course for women. As Nancy Peterson pointed out in her recent article (Jan. 1982) about the course, new opportunities for growth and self-discovery are made possible to participants in the class. The article was an excellent account of the positive aspects the class offers. The facilitators were all well-trained, prepared, supportive, and took an interest in each woman in the class. The class was always well-structured, with good interpersonal workshops and activities planned.

The article did not address what I felt were problems in the course. My criticisms stem from my convictions as a feminist, and I was surprised that **Womansight** did not cover this aspect of the program. I would like to share my feelings about what I perceived as the shortcomings of the Explore Course for women.

- The Explore class focused almost solely on the problems, conflicts and needs of married women. Little attention was devoted to single women, divorced women or widows. No attention was devoted to lesbian or bisexual women.
- The class consisted entirely of white women. None of the material addressed the needs of women of color. I am unaware of efforts to involve minorities in the Pro-

gram, but I believe the course content would have to change before the class make-up could.

- The class was highly elitist. Most of the women were wealthy, and this was reflected in the course focus and content. For example, one section was devoted to volunteerism as an alternative to working full-time, which for many women is an unrealistic economic possibility.
- The reading material in the class was mostly outdated and old news. I felt the overall content of the material was below the intellectual level of the women in the class. The focus of the readings was primarily for married women with children.

I grew personally a great deal from participation in the Explore Course. I enjoyed sharing and meeting with other women. I think I would have learned more about myself, however, if there had been a wider variety of women involved in the class for me to learn from. I also think the needs of women in the Dallas community would be better served if Explore could expand its focus to include a broader scope of issues and concerns for women.

Thank you, **Womansight**, for providing the forum for women to exchange ideas and insights about activities such as the Explore Course for women. Thank you also for intelligent, reliable and informative news every month. But most of all, thank you for stimulating, enlightening and challenging me more and more after each new issue.

Sincerely,
Phyllis Pittman

Correction

Last month the photo of Her Say was incorrectly credited to Anne Miller. It should have been credited to Anne Milner.

Women's Media Directory Increases Communication

The **1982 Index/Directory of Women's Media** is now available from the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press (WIFP).

The **Directory** is published to increase communication among women nationally and internationally. About 350 women's periodicals are listed (more than 100 from outside the U.S.) with addresses, telephone numbers, contact people and descriptions. The **Directory** also contains listings for women's film groups, music groups, bookstores, presses, publishers, news services and distributors. One section is devoted to names of individual media women.

The resource **Directory** of women's media is

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OF DALLAS

Dallas AAUW Offers 'Money Talks' Seminar

Money Talks To Women, a day-long seminar for women interested in the fundamentals of investing and financial planning, will be sponsored by the Dallas branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Brookhaven College.

Keynote speaker for the seminar will be Kay Bailey Hutchison, former senior vice president of the Republic of Texas Corporation. Hutchison will speak on the roles of women in the community as businesswomen and leaders.

Nancy R. Sarch, account executive with E.F. Hutton will conduct a session on Featherweight Investors, or how to make your petty cash work for you. An Estate Planning session will be provided by Sue Tindell, president of Tindell & Associates. Rebecca B. Knickel, CPA, will offer a session on Personal Income Taxes.

The seminar will also provide a variety of information from financial institutions, financial planners and stockbrokers. A hands-on demonstration of microcomputers and other financial planning software will be available.

The seminar will be Saturday, March 13, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. at Brookhaven College. A registration fee of \$25 includes coffee, lunch and materials. All proceeds will benefit the AAUW Education Foundation's programs of fellowships and grants to women.

For more information contact Brookhaven College Community Service.

Professional Services Directory

PSYCHOLOGISTS

Joan Robertson Cross, Ed.D.
(214) 385-9526

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The resource **Directory** of women's media is updated annually and also provides a five year (1977-1981) index to the monthly **Media Report to Women**. This annotated index of women's media activities and research offers a history of the women's media movement. **Media Report** systematically records the actions and thoughts of women who are changing the world's communication system.

WIFP, publisher of the **Index/Directory** and **Media Report**, was founded in 1972 as a research and publishing organization concerned with the expansion and restructuring of the communications system. To order the **Index/Directory**, send \$8 to WIFP, 3306 Ross Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008; (202) 966-7738.

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Malorie Tolles, M.S.W.
Feminist Therapist
(214) 827-4549

Joyce Ann Tepley, A.C.S.W., L.P.
Licensed Psychotherapist
(214) 526-0840

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Ety Friedman, D.D.S.
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If you're interested in reaching Texas women through the Professional Services Directory, send your name, profession, specialty and telephone number, with payment to **Womansight**, P.O. Box 64974, Dallas, TX 75206. The Directory is open to women attorneys, physicians, certified public accountants, dentists, optometrists, psychologists, psychiatrists and veterinarians. Rates are \$10.00 per month or \$25.00 for three consecutive months.

ALL AROUND NEWS

Compiled by Amme Hogan

VOTES FOR WOMEN

Icelandic women will offer an all-female slate of candidates in the country's fall elections. A major plank of the women's platform is a demand for adequate child care.

Her Say

GETTING WHAT SHE EARNED

Last March, the Supreme Court ruled that military retirement pay could not be considered community property in state divorce courts unless Congress says so. Texas 5th District Representative Jim Mattox is co-sponsoring a bill to correct the problem.

News for 5th District Women

HOPE FOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Faye Young, former pro player, reports a new league is being formed.

The Women's Basketball League (WBL) went under last November, plagued, Young said, by poor management and the public's "traditional viewpoints" on the playing of basketball. Young explained that women's basketball emphasizes grace and fitness, rather than brute power and speed.

Her Say

WOMEN EXECUTED IN IRAN

Spare Rib, a British magazine, recently reported that more than 300 women were executed in Iran during the second half of last year. The executions were for "crimes" such as being a lesbian, having a lover, or participating in anti-government protests.

Her Say

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THE COLLECTIVE

HAVING NUN OF IT

A group of West Coast nuns has turned thumbs down on Pentagon plans to house wounded soldiers in their ten hospitals if World War III breaks out.

The Department of Defense (DOD) asked hospitals around the country to plan on providing at least 50 beds each to be used in the event of nuclear war.

Sister Lucille Dean, Provincial Superior and Chairwoman of the Sisters of Providence's governing board, said the order believes cooperation with the DOD would be another step toward "developing acceptance of the inevitability of nuclear war. By participating in such preparation, we might well add to the belief that we could 'win' a war. No one will win a nuclear war. We must all speak out so such a war doesn't happen by default."

Her Say

A FEW GOOD WOMEN

The National Women's Political Caucus is shifting its emphasis. Instead of supporting ERA proponents, male or female, as candidates, the Caucus is gearing up a "Win With Women" campaign.

The campaign reportedly intends to not only elect, but also recruit, train and finance women candidates, especially on the state level.

Kathy Wilson, head of the Caucus, said, "My main goal is to get the women's movement off the defensive, and the best way to do that is to get back to our original purpose—increasing the number of women in office."

Her Say

JAILING PROTESTED

Civil rights leaders across the country are denouncing the jailing of two women civil rights workers, on what they claim are trumped-up charges of voting fraud.

The two black women, Julia Wilder and Maggie Boceman, were sentenced to four and five years, respectively, in a case stemming from their participation in a 1978 election in Carrollton, Alabama.

The women were charged with soliciting and illegally casting 20 absentee ballots. Wilder and

WILL HE SAY SHE LIKED IT?

Wisconsin Judge William Reinecke has apologized for remarking that a 5-year-old girl, who was the victim of a sexual assault, was "unusually sexually promiscuous." The judge said he will not resign, however.

Her Say

JUSTICE DELAYED

In January 1981, Administrative Law Judge Rhea M. Burrow recommended that Harris Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago's third largest bank, pay \$12.2 million in back wages to 1,800 women and minorities who were victims of discriminatory hiring, pay and promotion policies. Harris Bank appealed, and the assembled briefs have languished on the labor secretary's desk since August.

In These Times

BLEEDING HEART JUSTICES

The Social Security Administration has warned its hearing judges that they may be targeted for special scrutiny if they rule too often in favor of people seeking disability benefits.

John Costello, who has specialized in disability cases for 25 years, said a comparable situation would be the Supreme Court telling a local judge that he or she isn't finding enough people guilty.

In These Times

PERMANENT UNDERCLASS

A new report on women and poverty confirms that government programs are not designed to get women off welfare.

Diane Pearce, co-author of the report, said, "The welfare system actually treats all recipients as if they were men . . . It assumes the only problem poor people have is they don't have jobs."

Poor women's special hardships—wage discrimination, segregation into "pink collar ghettos," and single parenthood—are ignored.

Her Say

NO SECRETS

A Canadian rape crisis center has been ordered to open its confidential files for inspection, or face the loss of its government funding.

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THE COLLECTIVE Editorial

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Subscription rates \$10.00 per year
Newsstand rates \$.50 per issue
Advertising rates \$9.00 per column inch

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The two black women, Julia Wilder and Maggie Boceman, were sentenced to four and five years, respectively, in a case stemming from their participation in a 1978 election in Carrollton, Alabama.

The women were charged with soliciting and illegally casting 39 absentee ballots. Wilder and Boceman claim they were aiding elderly and illiterate blacks to vote, and were not, themselves, casting fraudulent votes.

The two were convicted separately of voting fraud by all-white juries. The Supreme Court refused to review their convictions. In mid-January, the two women were denied their request for probation or suspended sentences, despite testimony on their behalf by 15 character witnesses.

Civil rights leaders are vowing they will hold economic boycotts, daily picketing and a march to Montgomery to protest the jailing of the two women. Wilder is president of the Pickens County Voters League, and Boceman is a former local president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Her Say

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Her Say

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A Canadian rape crisis center has been ordered to open its confidential files for inspection, or face the loss of its government funding.

The British Columbia Rape Relief Clinic operates on a \$150,000 annual contract with the government of British Columbia. Now, that government claims it must check the files of rape victims to see if the clinic's contract deserves to be renewed.

Rape Relief admits it signed a clause last year, giving the government "reasonable access" to its records. The group claims, however, the clinic has a prior duty to its patients to keep their records confidential, even if it means losing all its funding.

Her Say

PRO-CHOICE CAMPAIGN

The National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) is launching a media campaign aimed at heading off major political anti-abortion forces.

The pro-choice organization is spending \$500,000 on a television advertising campaign aimed at enlisting volunteers to work against congressional and state candidates who oppose abortion rights. The ads will reportedly be broadcast in Iowa, Massachusetts, Washington state and Connecticut.

Another major target of NARAL's pro-choice media campaign is the Hatch proposal which would give states and Congress the joint authority to restrict abortion.

Her Say



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Proposal Will Require Parental Notification When Minors Seek Contraceptive Devices

Mary Gilmore

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is drafting a proposal which would require family planning providers to notify the parents of teenagers when prescription drugs or devices are provided for contraception or treatment of venereal disease.

The draft of the proposal states that family planning providers must notify, within ten days of service, the parents of unemancipated minors (i.e., 17 years of age or younger).

The proposal not only violates the confidentiality of medical and counseling services, but also acts as a deterrent to teenagers who would seek good contraception information and services. National statistics show that teenagers are sexually active for nine months or more before they seek help from a family planning clinic.

Alan Guttmacher Institute reports that more than half the adolescents seeking family plan-

ning/birth control services do tell their parents of their visits to a clinic.

With Texas ranking fifth highest of all states in

'New Federalism' May Effect Abortion Rights

An abortion rights activist has charged that Reagan's proposed "New Federalism" is actually a mask for banning all abortions for poor women.

Under the new proposal, states would take over welfare administration, while the federal government would handle Medicaid programs. Gail Kaufman of the Coalition to Defend Reproductive Rights in California, said, however, that a major effect of this program would be to end abortions for poor women in 11 states.

Kaufman charged that Reagan discussed his proposal when he met with the leaders of the anti-abortion movement in January. Ending access to abortions, she said, "was one of Reagan's major motivations" for supporting the switch to federal funding of Medicaid.

Margaret Beck-Rex of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), said that NARAL lawyers believe it's too early to tell what effect the Medicaid change will have on abortions for poor women. She added, however, that "common sense" indicates it is "not very likely" the administration will go out of its way to add abortion rights for poor women to its "New Federalism" program.

Present law bars federal funding of abortions for the poor, even in the cases of rape or incest.

Her Say

the number of adolescent pregnancies, Texas Family Planning Association predicts that such a stumbling block as the parental notification requirement will force some teenagers to resort to less effective birth control methods. The results could be additional pregnancies and the negative social and educational consequences that follow.

Once these new rules governing federally funded family planning services for minors are published in the Federal Register, there will be a 60-day comment period.

Letters to Secretary of Health and Human Services, Richard Schweicker, and to Marjorie Mecklenberg, Acting Deputy Assistant for Population Affairs, are urgently needed. Urge them to reconsider the medical, social and educational consequences for teenagers and their families if these proposed rules are implemented.

Copy your letters to Senators John Tower and Lloyd Bentsen (Washington, D.C. 20510) and to your U.S. Representative (Washington, D.C. 20515). Also write to your local newspapers in an effort to alert the public about these restrictions.

For more information about the parental notification proposal, contact Mary Gilmore or Charlotte Taft, North Texas Abortion Rights Action League, 3107 Routh Street, Dallas, TX 75201; (214) 742-8188.

Addresses: Richard E. Schweicker, Secretary of Health and Human Services, 330 Independence Avenue Southwest, Washington, D.C. 20201; Marjorie Mecklenberg, Chief, Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Programs, Acting Deputy Assistant for Population Affairs, 200 Independence Avenue Southwest, Suite 725H, Washington, D.C. 20201.

Single Women Win Birth Control Rights

(continued from cover)

sons could not be prohibited, a ban on distribution to unmarried persons would be equally impermissible.

The case stemmed from the arrest of birth control advocate William R. Baird. Baird handed a package of vaginal foam to an unmarried student after a lecture at Boston University in 1967. To test the Massachusetts law, Baird then insisted on being arrested. He was convicted of violating the state law which permitted single persons to obtain contraceptives only to prevent disease.

Baird subsequently spent 36 days of a three-month sentence in a Boston jail. On the day of the Supreme Court decision, Baird said, "Abortion law repeal is only a year away."

He was not far off the mark. Baird v. Eisenstadt



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Birth Control Rights

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He was not far off the mark. Baird v. Eisenstadt provided the basis for the Supreme Court's 1973 decision, Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion nationally. That case was founded on the right of privacy.

In their best-selling book, *The Brethren*, Bob Woodward and Scott Armstrong reported that Justice Brennan hoped the language of the Baird decision would help establish a constitutional basis, under the right to privacy, for a woman's right to abortion.

Baird v. Eisenstadt dealt only with contraception—the decision to "beget" a child. Brennan, according to Woodward and Armstrong, included the reference to the decision to "bear" a child with the abortion case in mind.

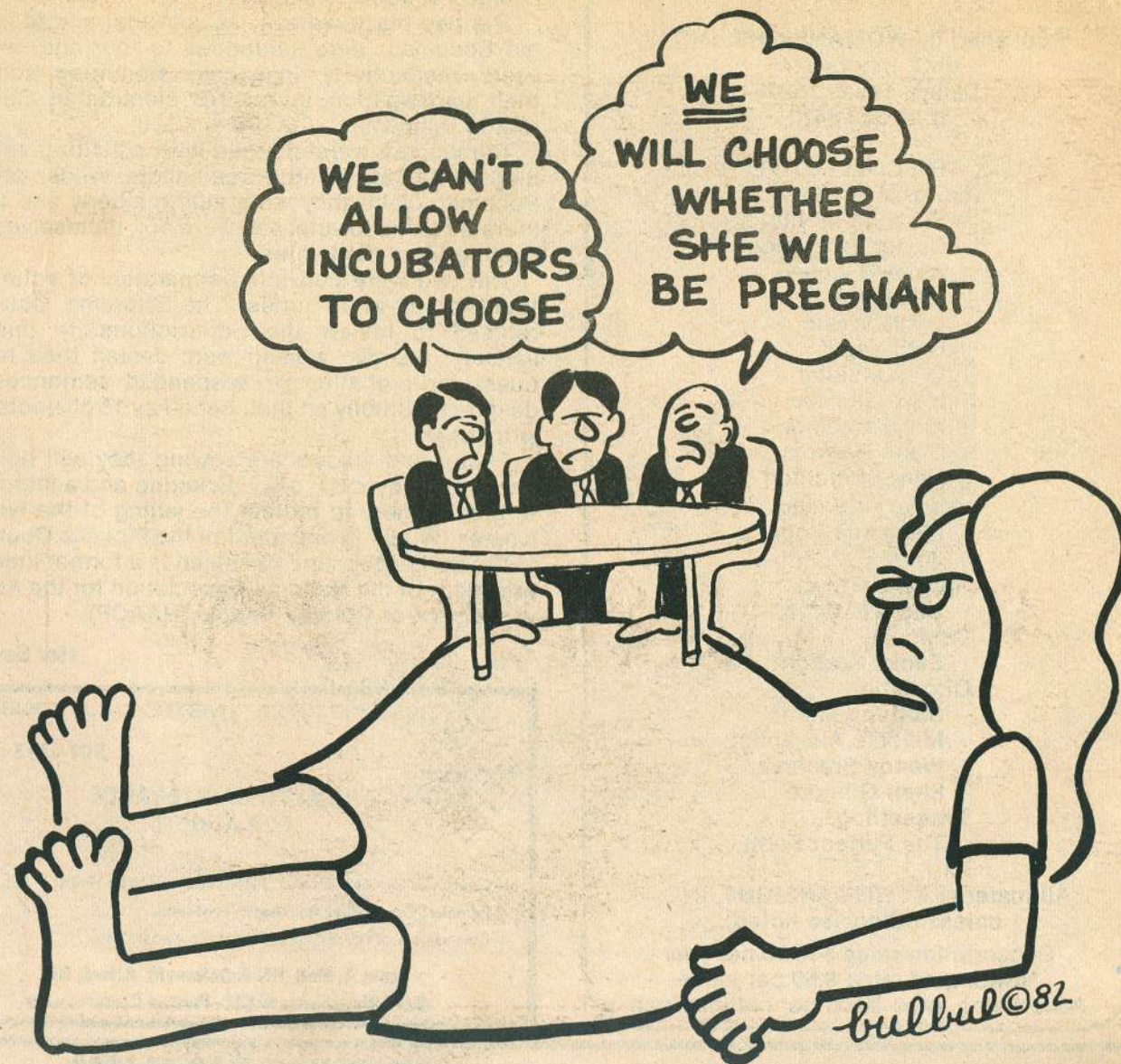
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A Woman's Journey Down the Rio Grande

(Mary Humphrey is a guide for Artemis Wilderness Tours, based in Austin. This article originally appeared in *New Texas*, an Austin-based publication.)

The river carries its load of earthen particles past us following its ancient journey to the sea. We watch from shore, knowing that soon we'll be sliding boats into the water, and like the silt and sand suspended in the current, will be taken by the river.

The river is the Rio Grande, or the Rio Bravo del Norte as it is known to the people in the southern reaches of its watershed. We sit on its banks at Solis Landing, in the shadow of Mariscal Mountain and the Sierra San Vicente; the needles and spires of the Chisos Mountains stand sentinel in the distance at our backs. This is part of the Big Bend country, a slice of the Chihuahuan desert bounded by the Rio Grande as it makes a broad sweeping arc in the desert, carving canyons and creating a green ribbon of life in the arid landscape. Already this group of ten very unique women, many of whom were strangers to each other just yesterday, have become a "we."

Our purpose is a river journey, always something of a magical experience. This time, the excitement of the trip is compounded by the fact that we will flow closer daily toward the moment at which spring is born. In 1981, the equinox occurs momentarily after the March moon waxes full. Some of us see this as a noteworthy event; others think of it only as a neat coincidence. Regardless, we will end our journey some 60 rivermiles downstream when the days have become longer than the nights.

We arrive at the river on a Monday, fully aware that it is spring break in Big Bend National Park (which is somewhat better than spring break at Port Aransas). Paved parking lots everywhere are full and stereos blare forth the cacaphony of Christopher Cross, Led Zeppelin and the Pretenders simultaneously. Fortunately, we opt

for gravel and rock over asphalt and wind our way into the desert to our put-in spot. Once there we still have to wait for solitude. Several surplus army troop trucks pulling water tanks are sprawled over the grassy banks at Solis; 60 ROTC students and officers are excited by the very recent public execution of a hapless rattlesnake.

Their attention is quickly focused on us as we unload our canoes and gear and complete the details of our shuttle. Many of them sit and stare as we discuss the river, the force of moving water, and how the play of paddle strokes on the water takes all the mystery, but not the excitement, out of downriver boating. We slide our boats into the water and head downstream. As soon as we round the bend out of the reach of roads, we relax into our trip. For the next five days we will be on the river.

The first days are spent learning, accepting. First some women have to learn how to deal with water, with obstacles in the middle of the river; how to steer straight into a wind, ferry from side to side on the river and catch an eddy to catch a breath. The power of the river is always undercurrent; to be one with the river in a boat is to understand and respect that power, to understand and accept one's own power and the limitations of it, and to let the two forces compliment each other. As in all aspects of the physical realm of life, there is cause and effect on the river. Successful canoeing is not a matter of mystery, brute strength or blind luck; it is a learned and acquired skill. Once it is learned then the river is easier to enjoy, and the total effect of the landscape becomes more vivid.

It takes some of us time to accept where we are. The sun is a major factor; in the clear arid air, it starts to burn by mid-morning. The desire to be naked is tempered by the desire to be comfortable. No motors buzz at the edge of consciousness. Instead there is the wind, the water and an assortment of canyon wrens, swallows and prophetic raven to provide our music. Our

noses become functional and overwhelmed by the yellow blossoms of huisache which line the banks. Aside from encounters with people at the termini of the roads which crisscross the desert, and visits with the local vacqueros as they tend their cattle and ponies, we are alone with each other. It is very clear that we are responsible for our lives; the freedom of that responsibility is exhilarating in its clarity.

The river takes us through canyons and deserts. We travel through the western edge of the Sierra San Vicente in the crack carved a million years ago by the grandmother of the water we play with today. From there the river meanders through the desert in the shadow of great mountain ranges, the Chisos far to the west and the Sierra del Carmen ever closer to the north. We approach the Carmens with excitement, watching striations of limestone become stunning pinks and blues at sunset.

On Wednesday, we finally come to their gateway; a crack in their massive blocking, known as Boquillas. This canyon is 18 miles of beauty; the only access is via boat or foot (or horseback). Boquillas welcomes us according to custom, with a headwind. We camp well within the canyon, opposite a sheer wall where moonlight creates dazzling shadows, and adjacent to a great drainage which can be followed up into the headlands of the mountains we are in.

Our first night in Boquillas becomes a testimony to those of us who have never known wind, and a confirmation in the powers of mother nature to those of us who have known such a wind. It howls down the canyon, perhaps a harbinger of winter's demise.

Once in the canyon we slow our pace, and take time to walk into the canyons and hills of the Boquillas. The landforms amaze the New York natives with us. One canyon becomes to them another world momentarily, until they realize it is all within this world. It only takes the seeing to realize it, and to feel it. Wildflowers are in full bloom. The recent wet year in this country has provided grassy banks on which to lie and watch the passing of the clouds and the sinking of the sun.

The days pass, not quickly, not slowly, they



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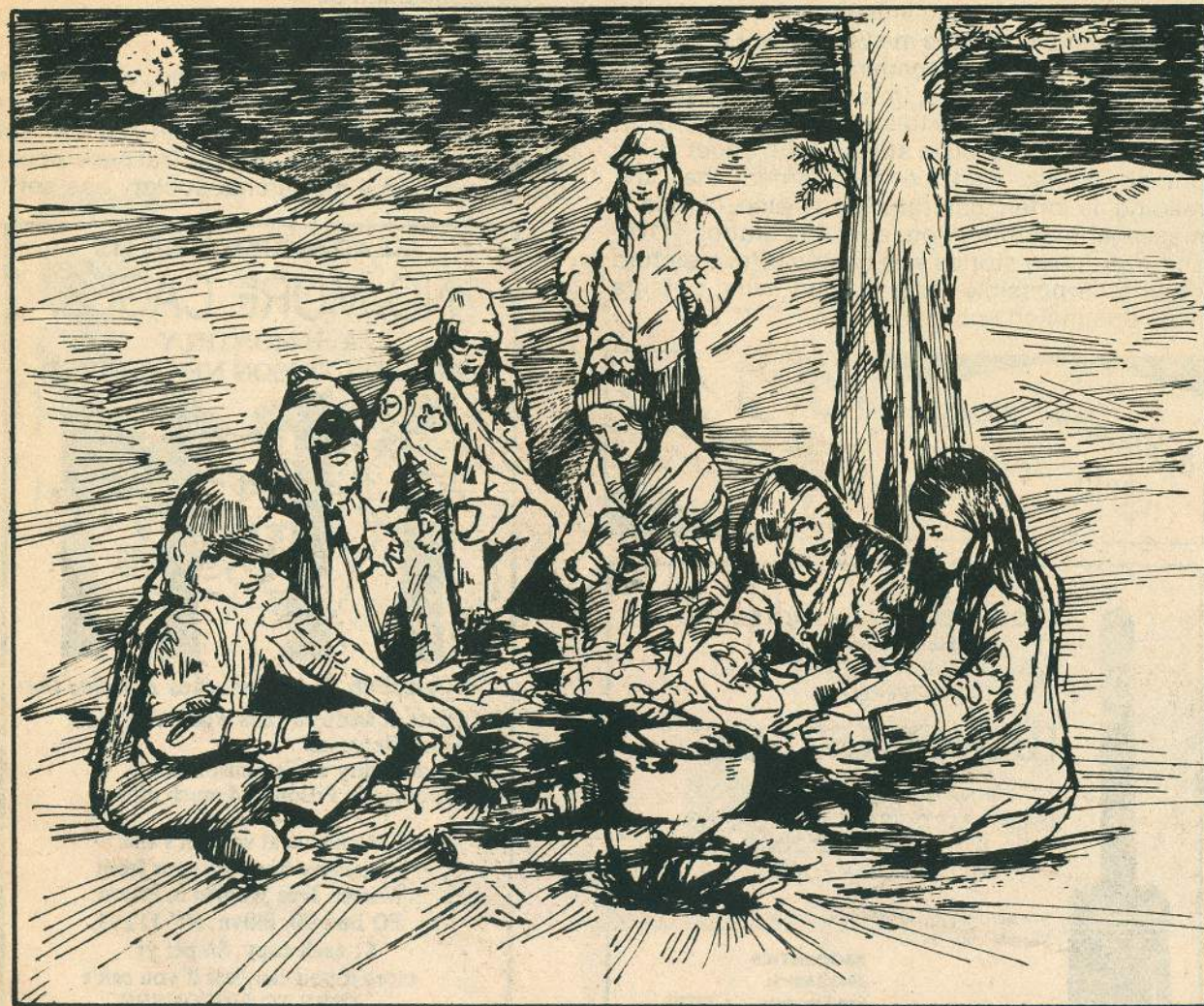
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The days pass, not quickly, not slowly, they just go. Time becomes a moot point, and measured by the hunger pangs in stomachs. We silently and very unceremoniously observe the birth of spring in the hot sun of Friday morning. As if on cue, suddenly our idyllic solitude is shattered by another group of boats. We pack up and float out of the canyon where we will spend our last night in the full glory of the full moon. We stop just downstream of the canyon exit. The ridge of the sierra just behind us provides a dramatic backdrop for an incredible crimson and lavender sunset which softly focuses into a moonrise.

All of us sit-up for awhile at the risk of a moonburn. The morrow will bring us back to vehicles and concrete; our little unity group will soon dissolve once again into ten very unique women. All of us sense the impending culture shock. Meanwhile the river will continue carrying her load of earthen particles down to the sea.

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Graphic by Linda Daboub

WOMANSIGHT DISTRIBUTORS

AUSTIN: Bookwomen; Paperbacks Plus.
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FORT WORTH: Century Books.
HOUSTON: The Bookstore.
SAN ANTONIO: Las Mujeres Women's Bookstore.

Coming Home

Lesbian Poetry: an Anthology

ed. by Elly Bulkin and Joan Larkin
Persephone Press
296 pages; paperback; \$10.95

Lesbian Fiction: an Anthology

ed. by Elly Bulkin
Persephone Press
295 pages; paperback; \$8.95

Diane Bertram

The tendency persists, in approaching an anthology, to look for a "definitive work" rather than a reading experience. In the case of lesbian poetry and fiction, the term "definitive" may be rendered invalid by the very history and current status of lesbian writing. It is, in any event, not what the editors had in mind, as indicated by Elly Bulkin in the introduction to **Lesbian Poetry**. Let's say, then, that as anthologies these sister volumes from Persephone Press are probably the most comprehensive to date, at least, and offer a wide sampling.

Adopting a broad definition of "lesbian," each volume begins by attempting to explain what, for the editors, constitutes "lesbian poetry" and "lesbian fiction;" and each includes a section on teaching lesbian literature in the classroom—which may also serve, for many non-lesbian readers, as a guide to appreciation. But the collections need not be "studied" to be thoroughly enjoyed. They represent a wide range of perception, and reaction will be diverse, based on each reader's unique set of attitudes and experiences. While much, if not most, of the material was written with a lesbian audience in mind, I venture to say that what for some may be identification—the rare feeling of relief at having "come home"—for others will be revelation and insight.

Lesbian Poetry grew out of an earlier Bulkin/Larkin effort, **Amazon Poetry: An Anthology of Lesbian Poetry** (1975, Out and Out Books). Like the earlier volume, this one confines itself to contemporary poets who are willing to be identified as lesbians. It includes many familiar names—Adrienne Rich, Judy Grahn,

in two weeks we will have a union election. we will vote yes and no. we will win or lose. it will make a difference. in two weeks she may be even thinner. if she is alive, her hands will grip a nurse's hands. if she is alive, her hands will beat against my dreams, all pulse, all assertion.

From Pat Parker we have the driving political anthem "Movement in Black," as well as "For Willyce," a very funny poem about women making love:

& your sounds drift down
oh god!
oh jesus!
and i think—
here it is, some dude's
getting credit for what
a woman
has done,
again.

Lesbian Fiction exhibits essentially the same strengths and weaknesses as the poetry volume. Here Bulkin begins with a definition of "fiction" which includes work of autobiographical origin and "incorporates the blurring between genres—poetry and prose, fiction and non-fiction—that has been characteristic not only of lesbian/women's writing but of much other contemporary writing." Drawing heavily on material previously published in the magazine **Conditions**, of which she is a founding editor, Bulkin has brought together 28 pieces which speak to the diversity of lesbian experience. The average non-lesbian reader will find fewer familiar names here, but the quality does not suffer; outstanding, in my view, are the extremely moving "Maria Littlebear" by Jo Carillo and "Oxblood Shaws" by Lynn Michaels, and Judy Grahn's sometimes hilarious account of "passing" (as males) in "Boys at the Rodeo."

Interestingly, there is less overt political statement in the fiction anthology than in the poetry. As politics has only very recently begun to be considered fit matter for poetry at all, I take this as evidence that the "blurring between genres" has, among this group at least, succeeded.

If I occasionally failed to see what relevance a particular author's lesbianism might have to the work at hand, it worries me very little. I was more bothered by the preponderance of images of rape and male violence, in the poems especially,

The Pain of Cognizance

A Wild Patience Has Taken Me This Far: Poems 1978-1981

by Adrienne Rich
W.W. Norton
paperback; \$4.95

Cuyler Etheredge

"Frame," a poem from Adrienne Rich's tenth and newest collection, is cinematic in technique, with events documented by a speaker who is "outside the frame," who is "not supposed to be present," but who is "trying to see." Here is what she sees: A young female student, waiting for the bus that will take her home from the lab, seeks refuge from a cold winter wind in a newly-constructed building. She is preoccupied with her studies, with next month's rent, with the possibility that her male professors, looking at her, might see "a biochemist or a marine biologist," or even "see her at all." Her thoughts are interrupted by the watchman, who accuses her of trespassing and summons a police officer. She tries to leave, but already "the handcuffs are on her/wrists he is throwing her down his knee has gone into/her breast he is dragging her down the stairs." The montage of images excellerates to keep pace with the increasing violence of the scene, for which there is no soundtrack because

it is meant to be in silence that this happens—
in silence that he pushes her into the car
banging her head in silence that she cries out
in silence that she tries to explain
she was only waiting for a bus
in silence that he twists the flesh of her thigh
with his nails in silence that her tears begin to flow
that she pleads with the other policeman as if
he could be trusted to see her at all

She is thrown into a cell, Maced, charged with assault and battery. The poem can be interpreted

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There is the eroticism of Audre Lorde’s “Love Poem”:

And I knew when I entered her I was
high wind in her forests hollow
fingers whispering sound
honey flowed
from the split cup
impaired on a lance of tongues

and the complex interweaving of personal and political in Karen Brodine’s skillful “Making the Difference”:

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has brought together 20 pieces which speak to the diversity of lesbian experience. The average non-lesbian reader will find fewer familiar names here, but the quality does not suffer; outstanding, in my view, are the extremely moving “Maria Littlebear” by Jo Carillo and “Oxblood Shawls” by Lynn Michaels, and Judy Grahn’s sometimes hilarious account of “passing” (as males) in “Boys at the Rodeo.”

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scene, a scene for which there is no soundtrack because

it is meant to be in silence that this happens—
in silence that he pushes her into the car
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he could be trusted to see her at all . . .

She is thrown into a cell, Maced, charged with assault and battery. The poem can be interpreted as an allegory of the ways men fail to “see” women “at all” unless women trespass beyond the boundaries a patriarchal society has set for

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them. Then, like criminals, they are punished—all in silence. The speaker, however, like Rich herself in this collection, will not be silent. She has witnessed and recorded the event. And though **"What I am telling you/is told by a white woman who they will say/was never there, I say I am there."**

"Frame" is an illuminating poem for a couple of reasons. It explores fairly explicitly a theme which could serve as the theme of the collection as a whole: the struggle, sometimes violent, of women to exist in a world dominated by men. And it defines Rich's role in that struggle. She is its seer and recorder; hers is the consciousness which—at whatever pain to herself or others—refuses to forget or deny for even one moment the oppression and victimization of women.

In this collection, as in **The Dream of a Common Language**, Rich's attention is compelled not only by present struggle but by more silent struggles of the past to which she gives voice: the poet Emily Dickinson, whose life is now "pawed" by scholars but who during her lifetime

was regarded as little more than the village eccentric; the novelist Willa Cather, a "lesbian/whose letters were burnt in shame . . . who could not tell her own story as it was"; Ethel Rosenberg, executed as a traitor, whose death "becomes a natural prey for pornographers/her death itself a scene/her body **sizzling half-strapped whipped like a sail**"; Susan B. Anthony, Jane Addams, Simone Weil, others.

The poem addressed to Weil, called "A Vision," is especially pertinent to Rich's role of seer and recorder. Weil was a Parisian of privileged background, precocious and intellectual (and therefore not unlike Rich herself) who became a passionate champion of the oppressed French worker. Her insistence that she work with common laborers in the fields and on the Renault factory assembly line, her refusal of any rations denied to those in occupied France, finally led to ruined health and starvation at 33. In "A Vision," Rich sees Weil's courage in her "capacity to keep in focus" and imagines her eyes "blazing" while her will enforces "loss of self/in a greater thing." Rich's own capacity to keep in focus—to see no matter how searing the vision—and the psychic cost of such seeing, is poignantly clear in other poems.

In "What is Possible," a moment offering the miracle of beauty and simplicity, the kind of moment that prompts one to exclaim

This is how I would live if I could choose:

This is what is possible

is rejected by the speaker, who has a "different mission in the universe." Her mind is "wrapped in battle," and beyond the warmth of the room in which she reads she recognizes the world as

"poised to kill." In "Images," the speaker envies the city beyond the arms of her female lover as one of "cruelty and helplessness." Though the lover must go into the city each morning, the speaker's anxiety is communicated through images of "bondage and crucifixion," of lynchings "on the queasy electric signs of midtown," of becoming the "masturbator's fix/emblem of rape." No place is safe because "no-man's land does not exist." The images of female victimization permeate not only the streets of the city but also language and art as well, leaving the speaker mute and "starving for images" that can be "true for us." But only at night, embracing her lover, can she "recollect" and "remember" herself, "even as we are dismembered/on the cinema screens, the white expensive walls/of collectors, the newsrags blowing the streets." In "The Spirit of Place," dedicated to Rich's lover, Michelle Cliff, a clear winter night in New England prompts the speaker to claim the world "as it is if not as it might be/then as it is." But those eyes still see the world as one of "male dominion, gangrape, lynching, pogrom." Even the constellations "look violent to me." The speaker will not allow herself to be seduced by a pure night "when pollution/seems absurdity when the undamaged planet seems to turn/like a bowl of crystal in black ether." Instead, she wills herself to remain cognizant of those women "who did not/survive what was done to them whom we ought to honor/with grief with fury with action." She wills for herself the pain of "knowing knowing knowing."

Adrienne Rich's poetry has become increasingly polemical since her alignment with the women's movement, and though one must lament the appearance in this collection of ideological rhetoric and prosaic, perfervid statement, criticizing her vision is trickier. The lens through which she views the world is a distorting one, but whose isn't? She may be on occasion humorless and dogmatic, violent in her expression and ungenerous in her antipathies, and to some, paranoid. Still, the vision is hers, and she has paid a high price for it, like any saint or fool.



Photo by Johnny Mundo

"I have taken a lot of chances in my life," said author Maya Angelou, 53, while visiting Dallas in January. "I risk. I risk everything all the time. Nothing scares me. I realize I have nothing to lose." Angelou has been given a lifetime appointment as Chair of American Studies at Wake Forest Univer-

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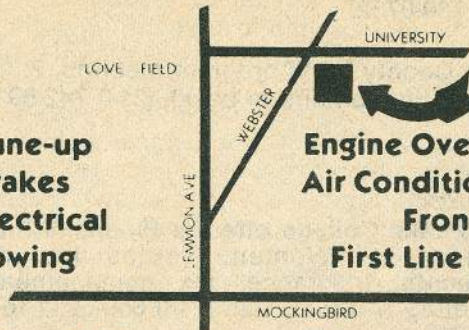
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First Annual Lesbian Celebration Weekend Logo Contest

The Lesbian Rights Task Force of Dallas County N.O.W. is sponsoring a Celebration Weekend in June. There will be a day of sporting events, a day of workshops and learning and a Women's Dance. There will also be a concert with Holly Near, co-sponsored by the Task Force and Little Feather Productions of Dallas.

So the Task Force wants a Logo to express the spirit of women together; something that could be used for the 2nd annual, 3rd annual, etc. weekend.

What's in it for you? Besides the delight of seeing **your** work everywhere, we are offering a prize: 2 tickets to the weekend's events.

Don't delay. The Task Force needs your Logo design by April 1. Send entries to: LRTF-N.O.W., Logo Design, P.O. Box 140158, Dallas, Texas 75214.

DO NOT SIGN YOUR WORK! If you win, you can sign later. In order that the decision be unbiased, include, with your entry, your name, address and telephone number in a sealed envelope. Entries not adhering to this requirement will be disqualified, regretfully.

Your artwork can be picked up at a Task Force meeting. Watch this space for further information.

CALENDAR

AUSTIN

1 MONDAY

Texas Women: A Celebration of History on display at LBJ Library through April.

ERA Week at the University of Texas. Contact Pat Niewienhuizen for information about activities.

Austin Networker meeting. 6:30 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. Call Jane Dinsmoor, (512) 458-5010.

2 TUESDAY

Austin Chapter of the Women's Political Caucus meeting. 7:30 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. (512) 472-3775.

3 WEDNESDAY

Austin NOW meeting. 7:30 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. (512) 472-3775.

Little Feather Music Distribution will present a program on women's music. 7:30 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. (512) 472-3775.

4 THURSDAY

Austin Chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction meeting. 5:30 P.M. Call Judy Canion, (512) 282-2831 for location.

5 FRIDAY

Travis County Women's Lawyers Association presents Francis "Sissy" Farenthold at the monthly luncheon meeting. Noon. Texas Law Center, 14th and Colorado Streets, Rooms 101-102. \$5 for lunch.

7 SUNDAY

Austin Action for Former Military Wives meeting. 2 P.M. Austin Public Library, 4th floor auditorium. Call Vivian Frielmemyr, (512) 928-1718.

8 MONDAY

Capitol City Business and Professional Women's Club meeting. 7 P.M. Call Margarine Beaman, (512) 451-4802 for location.

25 THURSDAY

Austin Mexican-American Business and Professional Women's Club meeting. 7:30 P.M. Koeing Lane Christian Church, 908 Old Koeing Lane. (512) 454-7679.

EVERY FRIDAY

Austin Womenspace Coffeehouse. 7:30 P.M. 2330 Guadalupe. (512) 472-3053.

Travis County Democratic Women's Committee meeting. Write to Edith Buss, 3318 Perry, Austin.

DALLAS

1 MONDAY

Brookhaven College's Theater Gallery exhibits watercolors and drawings by Dallas artist Dorothy Poulos. Poulos has exhibited her semi-abstract works for the past 25 years in such collections as the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts and the Smithsonian Institute Art Archives. Call the Theater Gallery at Brookhaven for exhibit hours.

Central YWCA offers Heavy Duty Ladies Support Group for overweight women. Mondays through April 5, 6-7:30 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$15.

White Rock Business and Professional Women's Club meeting. 7 P.M. Wyatt's Cafeteria, 200 Northlake Shopping Center. Call Nancy Mares, (214) 739-0732.

Dallas County NOW program meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

6 SATURDAY

Reproductive Services presents a symposium about "Reproductive Freedom: Threat for the Right." Speakers will include Mary Crisp, former co-chairperson of the Republican National Committee; Mark Hanna, Austin attorney and lobbyist for Texas Abortion Rights Action League; Uta Landy, executive director of National Abortion Federation; Charlotte Taft, president of Texas Abortion Rights Action League. 9 A.M.-Noon. SMU Student Center, Room 108. Call (214) 350-7026. Free.

Central YWCA offers Mind Your Own Business, a nuts and bolts course for those who want to start and manage their business. 9 A.M.-Noon. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

International Women's Day Celebration. Featured speaker will be Dallas City Councilwoman Elsie Faye Heggins. 7:30 P.M. SMU Student Center assembly room. Display tables for women's organizations and groups are still available. Call Kim Batchelor, (214) 824-4717.

8 MONDAY

Dallas County NOW business meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

Central YWCA offers Rape Prevention. Learn how to recognize the profiles of the potential rapist. Instruction in ways to prepare yourself to be alert for dangerous situations. 7-9 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. Free.

9 TUESDAY

Dallas Mexican-American Business and Professional Women's meeting. 7 P.M. Call (214) 361-1431 for location.

Dallas County NOW ERA Task Force meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

(Complete text)

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law

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Austin Chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction meeting. 5:30 P.M. Call Judy Canion, (512) 282-2831 for location.

5 FRIDAY

Travis County Women's Lawyers Association presents Francis "Sissy" Farenthold at the monthly luncheon meeting. Noon. Texas Law Center, 14th and Colorado Streets, Rooms 101-102. \$5 for lunch.

7 SUNDAY

Austin Action for Former Military Wives meeting. 2 P.M. Austin Public Library, 4th floor auditorium. Call Vivian Frielmemyr, (512) 928-1718.

8 MONDAY

Tradeswomen of Austin meeting. 6:45 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. (512) 472-3775.

16 TUESDAY

Austin Chapter of the Women's Political Caucus meeting. 7:30 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. (512) 472-3775.

17 WEDNESDAY

Austin Commission on the Status of Women meeting. 7 P.M. City Hall Annex. Call Human Relations Department, (512) 472-7722.

Austin NOW meeting. 7:30 P.M. Austin Women's Center, 711 San Antonio. (512) 472-3775.

18 THURSDAY

Austin Legal Secretaries dinner meeting. Call Lou Van Cony, (512) 474-4704 for time and location.

Town Lake Chapter of American Business Women's Association dinner meeting. Call Marie Curler, (512) 476-2686 for time and location.

23 TUESDAY

ALGPC (Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus) meeting. 7:30 P.M. Austin Lambda, 603 West 12th. (512) 478-8653.

Dorothy Poulos. Poulos has exhibited her semi-abstract works for the past 25 years in such collections as the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts and the Smithsonian Institute Art Archives. Call the Theater Gallery at Brookhaven for exhibit hours.

Central YWCA offers Heavy Duty Ladies Support Group for overweight women. Mondays through April 5, 6-7:30 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$15.

White Rock Business and Professional Women's Club meeting. 7 P.M. Wyatt's Cafeteria, 200 Northlake Shopping Center. Call Nancy Mares, (214) 739-0732.

Dallas County NOW program meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

2 TUESDAY

North Lake College offers a Financial Planning Seminar for Women. Topics include investments, insurance, tax management and budgeting. 7-9 P.M. Call (214) 659-5231 for location. \$10.

The University of Texas at Dallas Health Science Center will sponsor an Open Forum on Breast Cancer. Moderating the panel will be Dr. Al Roberts, co-host of the PBS "Here's to Your Health." 8 P.M. Gooch Auditorium on the Health Science Center campus.

3 WEDNESDAY

Central YWCA offers Fix-It: Remodeling and Home Repair. Topics include insulation, paints and stains, locks, glazing, sheetrock, tape and bed, texture and wall-covering. Wednesdays through March 24, 7-9 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$12.

Dallas County NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

4 THURSDAY

Dallas Gay Alliance's Department for Lesbian Issues meeting. 7:30 P.M. Call (214) 528-4233 for location.

be alert for dangerous situations. 7:30 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. Free.

9 TUESDAY

Dallas Mexican-American Business and Professional Women's meeting. 7 P.M. Call (214) 361-1431 for location.

Dallas County NOW ERA Task Force meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

(Complete text)

- Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.
- Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.
- Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

STATES THAT HAVE NOT RATIFIED

Alabama	Illinois	North Carolina
Arizona	Louisiana	Oklahoma
Arkansas	Mississippi	South Carolina
Florida	Missouri	Utah
Georgia	Nevada	Virginia

RATIFICATION DEADLINE

JUNE 30, 1982

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CALENDAR

12 FRIDAY

Professional Secretaries International will sponsor its annual workshop, Secretaries Make America's Business Grow. Through March 13. Hilton Inn, Mockingbird and Central. Contact Elsie C. Morgan, (214) 352-2205.

13 SATURDAY

Central YWCA offers Vocational Testing for those who want to know how to relate their interests to different job fields. 9 A.M.-Noon. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

Dallas County NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force Educational Forum. Informal discussion. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918. Free.

15 MONDAY

Dallas County NOW Reproductive Freedom Task Force or North Texas Abortion Rights Action League (NTARAL) meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh. (214) 742-6918.

Central YWCA offers Encore, for women recovering from mastectomy and seeking help to regain physical and emotional strength. Mondays through April 19. 1-2:30 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$24.

White Rock Business and Professional Women's Club dinner meeting. Buffet dinner and informative educational program. 7 P.M. Wyatt's Cafeteria, 200 Northlake Shopping Center. Call Nancy Mares, (214) 739-0732.

16 TUESDAY

Duncanville Branch of the American Association of University Women meeting. March's program will be Special Services Available to Women in Dallas County. 7:30 P.M. Republic Savings and Loan, 103 North Cedar Ridge Drive. Call Diane Cunningham, (214) 296-4629.

North Dallas NOW meeting. 7:30 P.M. Brookhaven College, room B220. (214) 690-8971.

Duncanville Branch of the American Association of University Women meeting, open to women degreed from a four-year college. February's program will be Higher Education for Women: The Whys and Hows. 7:30 P.M. Republic Savings and Loan, 103 North Cedar Ridge Drive. Call Diane Cunningham, (214) 296-4629.

17 WEDNESDAY

Dallas Hispanic Organization of Women meeting. 7:30 P.M. (214) 634-0641.

Dallas County NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force meeting. 7:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

18 THURSDAY

Dallas Gay Alliance's Department for Lesbian Issues meeting. 7:30 P.M. Call (214) 528-4233 for location.

20 SATURDAY

Central YWCA offers Second Careers for Teachers and Counselors, a workshop designed to assist teachers and counselors in examining career alternatives. 9 A.M.-4 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$15 for members, \$25 for non-members.

22 MONDAY

Dallas County NOW Political Action Committee meeting. 6:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

Dallas Women's Coalition meeting. A representative from your organization is welcome. Call in advance. 7:30 P.M. Central YWCA, 4621 Ross Avenue, room 204. Call Gretchen Geodecke, (214) 661-2891.

23 TUESDAY

Central YWCA offers Employment Support Group, designed for women in the process of job search or career change. 7-9 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$10.

The 17th Annual Women's Symposium at

JUNE 25

Holly Near in concert at the First Unitarian Church in Dallas. A Little Feather/Lesbian Rights Task force production.

DENTON

1 MONDAY

GLAD (Gay/Lesbian Association of Denton) meeting. 7:30 P.M. Maple and Avenue B. (817) 387-6419.

15 MONDAY

GLAD meeting. See listing above.

FORT WORTH

13 SATURDAY

Gray Panthers of the Fort Worth, Dallas Metroplex meeting. 10 A.M. Arlington Girls Club Unit #1, 604 New York Avenue, Arlington. (214) 941-0121 or (817) 460-8548.

16 TUESDAY

Fort Worth NOW meeting. 7:30 P.M. YWCA, West 4th and Burnett Streets. (817) 388-4456.

22 MONDAY

The Van Cliburn Foundation presents Ruth Laredo, pianist. 8 P.M. Scott Theatre, 3505 West Lancaster. (817) 738-6509.

23 TUESDAY

The Van Cliburn Foundation presents Ruth

(214) 827-5600. \$24.
White Rock Business and Professional Women's Club dinner meeting. Buffet dinner and informative educational program. 7 P.M. Wyatt's Cafeteria, 200 Northlake Shopping Center. Call Nancy Mares, (214) 739-0732.

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North Dallas NOW meeting. 7:30 P.M. Brookhaven College, room B220. (214) 690-8971.

Calendar Listings

Let other women know what your organization is doing and planning.

All calendar listings for women's events are free, except those sponsored by profit organizations which charge an admission fee. Listings for those events are \$10 for one month, and must be prepaid.

When sending in your listing, be sure to include a brief description of the event and the name of the sponsoring organization or individual. Also include a contact name and telephone number, as well as date, time and address of the event.

Send your listing to **Womansight**, P.O. Box 64974, Dallas, TX 75206, or call (214) 823-6423 or 826-8368.

**Calendar Items
for April Issue
Due Wednesday
March 10**

22 MONDAY
Dallas County NOW Political Action Committee meeting. 6:30 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918.

Dallas Women's Coalition meeting. A representative from your organization is welcome. Call in advance. 7:30 P.M. Central YWCA, 4621 Ross Avenue, room 204. Call Gretchen Geodecke, (214) 661-2891.

23 TUESDAY

Central YWCA offers Employment Support Group, designed for women in the process of job search or career change. 7-9 P.M. 4621 Ross Avenue. (214) 827-5600. \$10.

The 17th Annual Women's Symposium at Southern Methodist University. The theme for the Symposium is To Live Equally: Issues and Strategies. Keynote speaker will be Eleanor Holmes Norton, Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1977-1981. Closing address will be by Nannerl Keohane, President of Wellesley College. Through March 24. Registration is \$25 for both days, including meals. For more information contact Emmie Bain at SMU, (214) 692-2720.

27 SATURDAY

Dallas County NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force Last Saturday Coffeehouse. Performances by local musicians, comics, etc. Refreshments served. Womanspace only. 8 P.M. 3107 Routh (upstairs in back). (214) 742-6918. \$1.25 donation.

29 MONDAY

Brookhaven College presents a video interview, "On Death and Dying," with Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, author, and counselor of the terminally ill. 11 A.M. and 6 P.M. Room T328. Free.

UPCOMING

APRIL 30

Meg Christian in concert at the First Unitarian Church in Dallas. A Little Feather Music production.

13 SATURDAY

Gray Panthers of the Fort Worth, Dallas Metroplex meeting. 10 A.M. Arlington Girls Club Unit #1, 604 New York Avenue, Arlington. (214) 941-0121 or (817) 460-8548.

16 TUESDAY

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22 MONDAY

The Van Cliburn Foundation presents Ruth Laredo, pianist. 8 P.M. Scott Theatre, 3505 West Lancaster. (817) 738-6509.

23 TUESDAY

The Van Cliburn Foundation presents Ruth Laredo, pianist. 8 P.M. AMFAC Hotel East, D/FW Airport. (817) 738-6509.

27 SATURDAY

The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra presents piano soloist Alicia de Larrocha. Through March 28. Call (817) 921-2676 for time and location.

GEORGETOWN

16 TUESDAY

Georgetown Women's Network meeting. 7:30 P.M. Georgetown Public Library, 609 Main. Call Mary Ellen Kersch, (512) 836-7174.

SAN ANTONIO

7 SUNDAY

Women in Non-traditional Employment, a first-of-its-kind conference, will be sponsored by The Texas A&M University System, Texas Engineering Extension Service. Through March 10. For more information contact Kathryn M. Delaune, Box 40, San Antonio, 78291, (512) 227-1573.

On Understanding Musical Scales and Sexism

Amme Hogan

When I first heard Kay Gardner play at the Second Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, I knew her music was unusual, meaningful. The music has a quality to it that does not require musical expertise, although the music does not preclude knowledge. For the first time, I was able to understand where music originated; I understood almost unconsciously the source of this woman's music.

The joy, the energy of the festival were wonderful. But the music is what I remembered. No one expected me to know a thing about music, from a technical angle. Music conversations were possible. Communication beyond words.

Before that time, listening to classical and compositional music had always been something of a chore. In the overwhelmingly male realm of such music, most pieces were complicated. If you listened to such music, you

Plato thought the Lydian scale was too feminine. Gardner pointed out that when you ban a certain scale from use you are cutting off certain expression. I began to understand how music can be sexist.

were expected to have an infinite knowledge of composers and musical tactics. You were supposed to know scales, notes, treble, bass, harmony, instruments ad nauseum.

Sappho invented the Mixolydian scale, which Gardner refers to as the Lesbian mode, which still exists today in Appalachian, Scottish and a lot of Irish music. It was also used by Paul McCartney in "Norwegian Wood." The Lesbian mode is a major scale with a flatted seventh. (OK, I can follow that, I thought, reading.) Plato banned the Lydian mode in his idea of a Platonic society. (Huh? Why's that?)

Plato thought the Lydian scale was too feminine. Gardner pointed out that when you ban a certain scale from use you are cutting off certain expression. I began to understand how music can be sexist.

Then, Pythagorous, best known for mathematical information, also identified the scale that we use today. "He, too, believed that particular modes have particular powers," Gardner said in her interview. "The Ionian mode was a fine mode to use when marching to war." She pointed out that Stevie Wonder has said the same thing about disco: that it is a march to war. "This is the music of our time," Gardner said.

(My mind is working now; if we stop using the major scale and/or stop listening to disco, will it stop our drift toward war?)

So, according to Gardner, all these different scales have different effects on our minds and bodies. Again, when the Church took over, they banned certain scales from being played.

"The music of the people, the religions of the people" were banned by the church, said Gardner. (I read about the banning of religions, the

destruction of the matriarchy—but never knew the music was also banned.)

So, music is tied to politics as much as words are; they are all part of whether you get to control yourself, or if someone else gets to stifle your expression for you. I'm sure this will sound oversimplified to people who already know their musical scales, but for those of us who are just beginning to understand, I hope this helps. And lest anyone think that Gardner is elitist about her music, here is her final statement in the interview:

"Political music—that's what they used to call it. And I expect that the whole coffeehouse scene will be starting up soon again, because the more repressed a society is the more they have to get it out in their art. Whatever makes us recognize our strength is important, and we can't all do it the same way—we don't all come from the same backgrounds. There's been too much of a tendency to say this kind of music is politically correct and that kind isn't, and that to me is bullshit. It's all going to touch somebody. It's all valid."

Well, nobody said that understanding music, or Kay Gardner, was going to be easy. But she opens up whole new vistas to explore.



Women's Writing Retreat Planned for Summer '82

Hope, Courage, Inspiration and Creativity is the theme for the 11th Women's Writing Conference/Retreat which will take place Aug. 13-20, 1982.

The week-long Conference/Retreat, sponsored by the International Women's Writing Guild, will be at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. It is open to all women regardless of professional writing accomplishments.

More than 30 workshops will be offered, and all will be geared to stimulate creative energy. A

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were expected to have an infinite knowledge of composers and musical tactics. You were supposed to know scales, notes, treble, bass, harmony, instruments ad nauseum.

I am not, nor ever desired to be musically expert. That statement should in no way imply that I don't like music. What I never liked were all the expectations attached to music-listening. At the festival, Kay Gardner seemed to be able to speak both with the experts and the ignorant. I kept listening whenever I had an opportunity.

Almost a year ago, Ms. Gardner was in Dallas, and people flocked to see her. We expected, I think, a concert with this excellent performer. Instead, we got an evening with a woman who could carry on a conversation with us by means of a flute or a piano. She talked about chakras and modes, and I felt myself losing track—where's the music, the performance? But still when the evening was over I felt as if I had had a long conversation with a very warm and caring woman. I felt good about the conversation, if not entirely intellectual about it all.

Reading a recent interview with Gardner in **Gay Community News**, I began to understand how music can be sexist, or oppressive.

Our major Western scale (or mode) in music is also known as the Ionian scale. Ionians, Dorians and Lydians were among the people who settled in ancient Greece, bringing their cultures with them. The musical scales were part of the culture, Gardner said in the interview.

"Depending on who was running these cultures or how they were set up—matriarchal, or gynandrous, or androgenous—determined which scale they used," said Gardner. "And that scale was indicative of and a characteristic of their culture." (Well, I thought, I can follow that.)

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More than 30 workshops will be offered, and all will be geared to stimulate creative energy. A portion of the workshops will focus on expected writing subjects such as the short story, fiction, nonfiction, script writing, publishing and poetry. Others will concentrate on such topics as storytelling, oral history and writing commercial song lyrics. Some workshops will offer approaches to journal writing.

The Conference/Retreat usually attracts about 250 women from every age and background, and from every part of the U.S. as well as Canada and abroad. In less than four years contracts made at the conference have produced 26 books, all by previously unpublished writers.

Cost for the conference is \$350 for a full week, inclusive of room and board. Weekend rates are \$180 (single) and \$160 (double). For more information contact Hannelore Hahn, Executive Director, IWWG, P.O. Box 810, Gracie Station, New York, NY 10028; (212) 737-7536.



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Photo by Linda Finnell

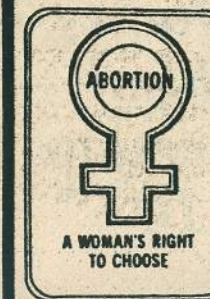
Kay Gardner—making sense of musical scales and sexism.

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Weddington Encourages Women in Leadership Positions

(continued from cover)

are made, not born, and that "Some leaders are born women"—hence the title of her talk.

Weddington's definition of leadership is simple and achievable for many people. She defines leadership as "the ability to get things done through influence on other people." Two key elements of this definition, Weddington said, are: to become a leader the individual must be talented; to remain a leader he or she must have followers.

Turning to the question of how people get picked to be leaders, Weddington said, "There are lots of people who have leadership abilities, who have leadership potential, and yet who never get picked to be leaders."

Leaders are chosen in several ways. According to Weddington, the most common way for someone to get picked for a leadership position is through a recommendation from someone they work with or someone they know. Weddington emphasized "getting to be in a position where you name comes up."

Another common way people are picked to be leaders is by doing something or volunteering for something.

Weddington told an anecdote about a friend of hers who arrived early for an organizational meeting in Fort Worth and decided to arrange the chairs in the room. As each person came in for the meeting and introductions were made, they helped her move chairs. By the time the meeting started, the early bird knew everyone and was completely in control of the situation.

Weddington offered a reminder to those who might not be so assertive. "There's an old saying that all things come to he who waits. And it may be true for he, but it's certainly not for she."

Weddington urged individuals to toot their own horns when leadership positions that interest them become available. She recommended a direct approach, asking the person in charge, "What about me (for the position)?"

Interest, however, may not be enough to get someone a leadership position they desire if they lack certain skills, Weddington cautioned. The most capable leaders possess the ability to set goals for themselves and their organizations, and to inspire confidence that these goals can be reached, Weddington said.

munication skills as another important asset for any leader, because communication skills are the leader's means of influencing people. Weddington said she believes Ronald Reagan's excellent communication skills are one of the critical factors that gave him an edge over Carter in the last presidential election.

In addition, human relation skills are also essential to good leadership, Weddington said. A leader must be able to work with people and motivate them. "How to use people well—this is a lesson I learned late," Weddington admitted.

Organizational skills and the willingness to take risks and face possible failure are other capabilities that a good leader should possess, she said.

She cited examples of leaders who risked

openly critical of the Reagan administration's stance on affirmative action.

Weddington pointed out that when Carter was president, there were always at least two cabinet members who were women. Presently, not one member of Reagan's cabinet is a woman. Weddington conceded that Jeanne Kirkpatrick, United States Ambassador to the United Nations, is of cabinet status. But Kirkpatrick does not have major responsibilities in terms of money or people that cabinet members have, Weddington added.

Weddington is most concerned that the federal government is setting a bad example for private industry by failing to appoint more women to leadership positions. And "the federal government is trying to bow out of enforcing

Weddington is concerned about the lack of successful leadership role models for women today. She is certain in the appointment of Sandra Day O'Connor to the Supreme Court will encourage other women to seek leadership positions. At the same time, however, Weddington is openly critical of the Reagan administration's stance on affirmative action.

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Weddington agreed that Reagan's goal to shift more responsibility to the states is a good strategy—although she does not agree with his

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Weddington regards well-developed com-

Supreme Court will encourage other women to seek leadership positions. At the same time, however, Weddington is openly critical of the Reagan administration's stance on affirmative action.

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CHARLOTTE TAFT, DIRECTOR

failure and eventually experienced success to bolster the importance of this capability. R.H. Macy tried seven times and failed before he opened a successful store. Babe Ruth held the record for the most home runs at the same time he held the record for the most strike outs. Barbara Jordan ran twice for the United States House of Representatives before she got elected.

Weddington is concerned about the lack of successful leadership role models for women today. She is certain the appointment of Sandra Day O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court will encourage other women to seek leadership positions. At the same time, however, Weddington is

equal opportunities," she said.

Weddington agreed that Reagan's goal to shift more responsibility to the states is a good strategy—although she does not agree with his reasons for doing so.

The best chance for women to succeed in leadership positions is at state and local levels, Weddington said. Reagan's defederalization program will shift importance to state and local leadership and, thereby, women will have more opportunities to run successfully for leadership positions of importance.

Above all, Weddington stressed, "It's up to us to take advantage of the opportunities there are. There is no doubt in my mind that leaders are very much needed in all groups. And there is no doubt that some of those leaders happen to have been born women."

Weddington urged women to take action today to learn about leadership, practice it, and offer themselves as leaders.

"The country will not survive without leaders," Weddington stressed. "And we could be part of that answer."

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Feminist Media Plans World Conference in April

The Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, in cooperation with the International Women's Tribune Centers, will sponsor the Fourth Annual Conference on Planning a National and International Communications System for Women.

The world feminist media conference is scheduled for April 17-18, 1982, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The conference will include general sessions about building a world news service for women, as well as workshops. The workshops will focus on ways to implement a worldwide women's news/information exchange.

Cost for the conference is \$65, which includes meals, but not housing. Rates for attending only parts of the conference are also available. For more information contact, WIFP, 3306 Ross Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008; (202) 966-7783.

WOMANSIGHT NEEDS TEXAS WOMEN'S ENERGY

The **Womansight** Collective wants to expand. Women are needed from all Texas cities for Advertising Sales, Writing, Photography, Artwork and providing calendar information. We also need women in the DFW area for proofreading and production.

For more information call (214) 823-6423 or write to **Womansight**, P.O. Box 64974, Dallas, Texas 75206.

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T. STURM '81

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Dallas County Rape Crisis Center (24 hr.)
(214) 521-1020
Women's Center of Tarrant County and Rape
Crisis Center (817) 338-4456
Women's Haven, a temporary shelter and
guidance for abused women and their
children (817) 336-1712
The Family Place, a shelter for battered
women and their children, (24 hr.)
(214) 941-1991
Denton County Friends of the Family, Inc.,
a shelter for battered women and their
children, rape crisis counseling, self-help
for abusive men (817) 382-7273 or
(817) 382-RAPE
Austin Family House, a residence for
alcoholic women and their children
(512) 441-2026
High Hopes Rehabilitation Center,
residential and day programming for
women with substance abuse problems
(214) 653-1104
Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-252-5400

ORGANIZATIONS

Women's Issues Network (WIN), Joy
Mankoff, (214) 361-6971
Business and Professional Women
(214) 691-2195
YWCA Women's Resource Center
(214) 827-5600
Women's Southwest Federal Credit Union
(214) 748-6820
Executive Women of Dallas, Beverly Gandy,
(214) 655-1311
Women in Communications, Inc. (WICI),
Susan Abrahamson, (214) 353-0120
League of Women Voters of Dallas
(214) 351-4125
SMU Women's Center (214) 692-3418
Explore, a woman's way to self-discovery,
Susan Reese, (214) 739-4529
Austin Tenants' Council (512) 474-1961
Texas Tenants' Union
Austin (512) 479-0987
Dallas (214) 823-2733
Ft. Worth (817) 923-5071
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women with substance abuse problems
(214) 653-1104
Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-252-5400
Parenting Guidance Center, counseling,
classes, speakers. (817) 332-6348
Austin Women's Center (512) 472-3775
Women's Resource Center of Richardson
(214) 238-9516
North Central Texas Legal Services, free
legal help for low income people
(214) 724-1631
Women and Prescription Drug Abuse
(214) 296-2511, ext. 6666
U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau
(214) 767-6985
UT Health Science Center Women's Action
Group (214) 688-2479
Women USA Hotline, up-to-date information
about reproductive freedom, the ERA,
health hazards and other women's issues
1-800-221-4945
Aging Information Office (214) 741-5244

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Ft. Worth (817) 923-5071
Houston (713) 528-0192
San Antonio (512) 433-5913
Women in Community Service, Inc.,
Job Corps, (214) 767-4983
Dallas Gay Alliance's Department for
Lesbian Issues (214) 528-4233
American Association of University Women,
Duncanville Chapter (214) 296-4629
Texas Women's Political Caucus
(512) 474-1798
National Organization for Women
Dallas County (214) 742-6918
North Dallas (214) 867-6155
or (214) 690-8971
Denton County (817) 387-4013
Fort Worth (817) 338-4456
Fort Worth Women's Political Caucus
(817) 926-6539
Dallas Mexican-American Business and
Professional Women (214) 361-1431
Comanche Peak Life Force, anti-nuclear
group (214) 337-5885
First Unitarian Church/Women's Alliance
(214) 528-3990
Everywoman Center, Richland College,
(214) 746-4664
Dallas Women's Coalition, Diana Navarrete
(214) 748-9631, ext. 309
or Gretchen Geodecke (214) 661-2891
B'nai B'rith Women of Dallas (214) 231-3925
Dallas Working Against Rape (214) 521-1020
North Texas Abortion Rights Action League
(214) 742-8188

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