



# University of Idaho Women's Center

corner of Idaho and Line streets 885-6616

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The Women's Center Newsletter is published six times during the academic year. It includes announcements and information about the many services and programs offered by the Center to the University and Moscow communities, as well as items of general interest about women's issues. If you have announcements or information you would like included in subsequent issues, please let us know. Suggestions for changes, improvements, or additional items are welcome.

"I was transfixed with horror, and over me there swept the sudden conviction that hanging was a mistake — worse, a crime. It was my awakening to one of the most terrible facts of life — that justice and judgment lie often a world apart.

— Emmeline Pankhurst  
(1858-1928)  
in *My Own Story*, 1914

Women's Center Hours  
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

## March 1986 Programs

*Women's Center programs educate, enrich and entertain. Bring your lunch and join us! Unless otherwise specified, programs begin at 12:30 in the Women's Center lounge and are free and open to the public. If you have any suggestions for future programs, please call or stop by.*

Tuesday  
March 4

**REASON VERSUS SOCIAL ACTION: Elizabeth Wolgast**, noted philosopher and author of *Equality and the Rights of Women*, is a visiting scholar from California State University, Hayward. This has all the ingredients of being one of our very special programs of the year. One you won't want to miss.

Wed.  
March 5

**WOMEN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, A 100-YEAR HISTORY: Keith Peterson**, the UI Pictorial Historian, will present many little-known facts about women in the early years of our University. Come and discover among other facts of the late 1890s that the first woman UI graduate was a Black Woman.

March  
10-17

Spring Break. ENJOY. We will be open as usual.

Tuesday  
March 18

**HOW TO SPEAK CAR: Nolly Schmidt**, a Moscow business woman and a seller of automobiles, will discuss the how-tos of buying a car. What to look for, what to ask and tell, and how to finance will all be discussed. Time will be allowed for questions from the audience.

Wed.  
March 19  
3-5 p.m.

**ART AND ENTERTAINMENT: A learning and social time. Sarah Teofanov**, a Seattle-based artist whose works center around Female Mythology with Women's Mythmaking as its central core, will be with us to share her work and ideas. She will share an excellent slide presentation of her political/spiritual growth through her imagery. Some of her works are now hanging at the WSU University Gallery.

Tuesday  
March 25

**THE CIVIL RIGHTS RESTORATION ACT: Leaders of groups who are seeking passage of this bill in Congress will explain the U.S. Supreme Court Grove City Case and what it has done to civil rights legislation in the areas of race, sex, age and handicapped status. Strategy to obtain passage of the new legislation will be discussed.**

Tuesday  
April 1

**EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT BIRTH CONTROL**



# Networking News

The National Organization for Women reports a great success in the Mardi Gras Parade. Thanks to all who participated. They have cancelled their March 11 meeting because of Spring break. Their business meeting with the nomination for officers for next year will be held March 25 at 7:30. As always, free child care will be provided. Call 882-4210 to reserve child care.

The Moscow and Pullman branches of the American Associa-

tion of University Women will have their annual joint meeting on March 12. Dinner at Cavanaugh's will begin at 6:30. The program, which will feature Mary Trail, former President of Boise City Council and longtime AAUW activist, will begin at 7:30. She will discuss Women in China. She visited there last year and is organizing a trip for next year. Call 882-7181 in the evenings for dinner reservations or for more information.

Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse regrets that it must announce the departure of its Executive Director Cynthia Scanlin. Their best wishes go with her as she accepts a prestigious position with the United Church of Christ in Pennsylvania. Good-bye and Good Luck, Cynthia!! ATVP Training is continuing. They are meeting each Saturday morning in the SUB from 8:00 to noon.

"Sweet Land of Liberty" 10 years later: Jim Wright of the Idahoian/Daily News is preparing a special report on Gays on the Palouse. He would like to interview members of the gay community. He says he will provide absolute anonymity. There is also the possibility of having a winning essay printed by the paper. The essay should be 200 words or less and should address "What It's Like to be Gay on the Palouse." March 14 is the deadline. For further information or to assist in this special section, call Wright collect at 509-334-6397.

**Support Groups:** • **Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** continue to meet on the first and third Tuesdays at the Campus Christian Center, 822 Elm Street, from 7-8:15. • A new group is starting on March 25. It is for **single mothers**. The group is forming to share resources, emotional support and tips for single parenting. Call 885-6616 for a pre-admission interview. The group will meet at 7:30 on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the Women's Center. • **The Returning Women Student Group** meets on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 6:00 at the Women's Center. The subject for March 20 is Improving Personal Communication Skills; April 3 will be Left/Right Brain Laterality; and April 17 is Building Self-Esteem. All groups are free of charge and open to participants who fall into each category.

**Rape Awareness:** Shelley Monahan, Spokane TV news reporter, will be in Colfax on the evening of April 10 at 7:30 at the High School Auditorium. Her appearance is being co-sponsored by the three Colfax Beta Groups. A small admission will be charged and proceeds will go to Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse.

**Pending Legal Cases:** Sexual Harassment: For the first time, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear a sexual harassment case. Bank employee Michele Vincent is suing a Washington, D.C., savings and loan, complaining her boss harassed her. Is an employer liable for the actions of its supervisors?

**Domestic violence** is twice as likely to recur in families where police try to mediate a dispute than in households where a suspected attacker is arrested, according to a new study. The study shows that "the police should use arrests quite frequently in typical domestic violence cases if they want to reduce assaults," James K. Stewart, director of the Justice Department's National Institute of Justice, said. The institute-sponsored study, conducted in Minneapolis in 1981-82, found that a domestic violence assault arrest, even if not followed by conviction, was a far more effective deterrent than the traditional police response of providing advice and mediation and removing the attacker for eight hours. In 35% of the cases in which police did not make an arrest, victims surveyed later said there was a recurrence of violence within six months. But in those cases where police made an arrest, only 19% of the victims reported repeat assaults. The study also found that when police officers took time to listen to the victim before making an arrest, the deterrent effect doubled. The study suggested that this procedure lets the suspect know the victim

can influence police behavior. Of the 136 arrests in the study, only three resulted in convictions, prompting Stewart to conclude that "arrest appears to deter violence even when the courts take no action."

**U.S. Commission on Civil Rights** Chair Clarence M. Pendleton Jr. said this summer that it might make sense to consider abolishing the commission when it comes up for Congressional reauthorization in 1989. He said that he questioned whether it would have any work left to do by 1989 and added that he welcomed discussion about the commission. (We're sure the leaders in the civil rights community will be glad to hear that all civil rights will be settled and cared for by 1989. But, then again, this is the same man who said comparable worth was the looniest idea to come down the pike since "Looney Tunes.")

**Christine Craft**, who twice won jury verdicts for sex discrimination against Metromedia only to have them overturned by judges, has appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court to reinstate an award of \$325,000 for damages from her former employer. Craft's lawyer contends that the appeals court that reversed the verdict violated her Seventh Amendment right to a trial by jury. Craft was in Pullman in autumn of 1984; she has been hired to co-anchor a new late-night news show in Sacramento.

**Women's Colleges.** Marilyn Arp of McCall AAUW recently reported a study detailed in the 1985 Environmental Scanning Report of the Girl Scouts. It addressed the role of all-women colleges and that 10 years ago they were facing extinction. Today those colleges that chose to remain all-women are showing renewed vigor and prepare proportionately more women for medical school and science doctorates than do coeducational colleges. The study concluded that women who act as role models are more likely than men to encourage women to go into traditionally male-dominated careers. It went on to say that "whereas men's academic accomplishments may be enhanced by the presence of women, women's academic accomplishments may be compromised by the presence of men."

**The Pain of Abuse:** More than half the women who suffer from chronic pain have been found to be victims of severe spousal or sexual abuse, according to a presentation at the World Congress on Pain in Seattle. A preliminary study done by Joel Haber (clinical director of the Pain Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham) found that 53% of the women being evaluated for chronic pain reported being sexually or physically abused for an average of 12 years. Most had been abused by a husband, and the most commonly reported complaints were of headache or pelvic pain (the latter was particularly common in sexually abused women). Haber stressed the importance of training doctors to question chronic pain patients about abuse in order to treat them more effectively and to deter "doctor-shopping." It was stated that women did not discuss their victimization unless specifically questioned. (Off Our Backs, Feb. 1985).



# March, 1986 Networking Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> ATVP Training 8 a.m. — noon SUB Russett
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Women's Center program 12:30	<b>5</b> Women's Center program 12:30	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> ATVP Training 8 a.m. — noon SUB Appaloosa
Women's History Week						
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> AAUW branch mtg. 6:30/7:30 Cavanaugh's	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> ATVP Training 8 a.m. — noon SUB Borah Theatre
Spring Break						
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Women's Center program 12:30	<b>19</b> Women's Center program/tea 3-5 p.m.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> ATVP Training 8 a.m. — noon SUB Silver/Gold
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Women's Center program 12:30  NOW business mtg. 7:30	<b>26</b> AAUW board mtg. 7:30	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> ATVP Training 8 a.m. — noon SUB Appaloosa
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					

For more information about these events, see this newsletter or call the Women's Center, 885-6616



**Birth Control Ads:** CBS, NBC, and ABC television networks have all finally agreed to broadcast the public service announcement prepared by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists about preventing unintended pregnancies. The ads were accepted after a reference to "contraceptives" was replaced. The original closing statement of "Unintended pregnancies have risks, greater risks than any of today's contraceptives" was deleted and replaced with an "acceptable" closing statement of "There are many ways to prevent unintended pregnancies." So much for the so-called liberal networks. Turner Broadcasting System had accepted the original spot and began airing it in September.

**Affirmative Action Works:** According to a 1985 study by the Potomac Institute, all groups of women and minorities made some increases in the job market during the decade of the '70s. Women increased their share of the job market from 34.4% to 41% with the largest increases in the top three white-collar categories. Women officials and managers rose from 10.2% to 18.5%, an increase of 81%. The number of women technicians rose from 26.4% to 40.2% and the number of professionals increased from 24.6% to 37.7%. Blacks' share of the job market increased from 10.1% to 11.6%, up 15%. Although their numbers at the official and manager level are still small at 4%, that's a 104% increase over their 1970 share of 1.9%. Latinos increased their overall employment participation from 3.6% to 5.4%, with a 120% increase in participation at management levels, rising from 1% to 2.2%. The Potomac Institute of Washington, D.C., concluded that there was no doubt that the changes were a result of affirmative action. An earlier study by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance of the U.S. Department of Labor surveyed 77,000 businesses employing over 20 million workers and found that women and minorities made

greater gains when the businesses were federal contractors (where AA programs were required) than in firms that had no federal contracts.

**Affirmative Action: Popular.** A Harris Poll released in October found record-breaking public support for the concept of affirmative action. According to the poll, a substantial 69% to 27% majority of the American people believe Attorney General Ed Meese is wrong to want to "do away with federal rules that guarantee affirmative action programs in the federal government and to end 53 affirmative action programs around the country." By 85% to 14%, an overwhelming majority agrees with the claim that "after years of discrimination, it is only fair to set up special programs to make sure that women and minorities are given every chance to have equal opportunities in employment and education." By 71% to 27%, a big majority agrees with the claim that "if there are no affirmative action programs helping women and minorities in employment and education, these groups will continue to fail to get their share of jobs and higher education, thereby continuing past discrimination into the future." Seven years ago, a closer 57% to 39% agree. In the past seven years, then, there has been an increase of 26% in support of affirmative action programs.

**Federal Court Appointments:** Six circuit court judges and twelve federal district judges were approved on December 15 in a wholesale confirmation process to clear the Senate calendar before adjournment. Among those confirmed was a new judge to our circuit court the 9th. He is John T. Noonan Jr. He is 58 years old, a professor at the Boalt Hall School of Law, has been an anti-abortion activist who not only wants the Roe v. Wade decision reversed, but has argued for a constitutional amendment declaring that life begins at conception. He has also served as a director of Americans United for Life.



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