



University of Idaho Women's Center

corner of Idaho and Line streets 885-6616

Director: Betsy Thomas
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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.

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

"If you love this planet, you are going to have to change the priorities of your life. People from all walks of life, many of whom identify themselves as non-political, have discovered that hopeful action is better than hopeless inaction."

(Helen Caldicott)

SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS 1991

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 open to the public. If you have any suggestions for future programs, please call or stop by.

September 3rd
Tuesday

BATTERED WOMEN AND LEARNED HELPLESSNESS: A woman is beaten by her husband and he tells her that he would not have to do this if she was a good wife. A woman stays with a man who is abusive and others think she must just like being abused. The woman herself is blamed for what has been done to her. What happens to her feeling about herself as a result of battering and blame? It is difficult for a battered woman to grasp the power she has to make a better life for herself. TONI NESLEN, UI Student, presents this very important program.

September 10th
Tuesday

WOMEN AND TRADITIONAL CULTURE: Males and females constitute two vastly different cultures. Ideas of gender roles and responsibility are rapidly changing. But are traditional, cultural, and societal notions of women's roles keeping pace with the changes in society, community and family? An international panel of women and men from Spain, Czechoslovakia, China, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and Iran will confront stereotypes, explore gender roles and the emerging role of women in a global society.

September 11th
Wednesday

THE POWER OF SINGING: This video with BILL MOYERS features BERNICE JOHNSON REAGON, founder of Sweet Honey In the Rock, an a cappella group rooted in African-American tradition. A curator at the Smithsonian Institute and a musician, Reagon has made the music and cultural story of African-Americans her life's work. This is a wonderful hour of congregational singing and cultural sharing.

September 17th
Tuesday

AIDS AND COLLEGE CAMPUS COMPLACENCY: Today two of every 1,000 college students test positive for HIV. Prevalent attitudes on college campuses ignore the very real danger of contracting AIDS/HIV. Consider that when you engage in sexual activity with one person, you're also having sex with everyone they've had sex with for the last 5 to 7 years. TISH RYAN, a Moscow resident whose life has been personally touched by AIDS, will discuss the realities of risk and strategies for having safer sex.

September 24th
Tuesday

KILLING US SOFTLY: ADVERTISING'S IMAGE OF WOMEN. Using hundreds of ads from magazines, newspapers, album covers and storefront windows, this film provides a concise analysis of the \$50 billion dollar advertising industry that preys on sex-role stereotyping of women in America. The film demonstrates how ads that seem harmless and funny by themselves add up to a powerful form of cultural conditioning--and their message is deadly serious.

September 25th
Wednesday

STALE ROLES AND TIGHT BUNS: A companion slide show to "Killing Us Softly" presents stereotyping of men in America. These are thought provoking yet entertaining films and should provide ample material for discussion following each.

WE KNOW THE TYPE ON THE NEWSLETTER IS SMALL. WE HAVE RECORDED IT ON AUDIO TAPE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE A SIGHT IMPAIRMENT. LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT TO BORROW THE TAPE AND WE WILL SEND IT TO YOU.

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS: The Women's Center will continue our retention program for Non-Traditional Students. We define that student population as anyone who does not attend college immediately following high school. Feel free to refer any student you feel needs to take time out from studies for meeting friends and getting some extra emotional support. Our regular programs include *Brown Bag Friday's*, a drop-in social/discussion opportunity at the Center, a time for students to meet others, share ideas, ask questions, etc. It's every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and students may come and go anytime during the two hour gathering. We also offer a *support group* for Non-Traditional Students. In addition, a *monthly potluck* will be scheduled where you can share in good food, conversation and fun. Stop by or call the Women's Center at 885-6616 for more information.

WOMEN AS VOTERS: Since the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote was passed in 1920, women have been learning to use the power of the ballot box. It is only since 1980, however, that women have used their votes to speak differently (on candidates) than their fathers, brothers and husbands. This "gender gap" in candidate preference between men and women first appeared in 1980 and has been an important factor in American politics ever since.

*68 Percent of Women (63.5 million) are registered to vote, as compared to only 65 percent of men (55.1 million). 54 percent of all registered voters are women. (Data as of November 1988, source: U.S. Census Bureau)

*The percentage of women voting has been greater than the percentage of men doing so since 1964, giving even greater potency to the gender gap.

*In 1988, 58.3 percent of women voted (54.5 million), as compared to 56.4 percent of men (47.7 million). Women were 53.3 percent of all voters that year.

*The gender gap first appeared in the presidential elections of 1980. Women were 6 percent to 9 percent less supportive of Ronald Reagan than were men.

*The first time that a majority of women differed from a majority of men in their preferences for presidential candidates was in 1988, when 52 percent of women favored Michael Dukakis and 54 percent of men favored George Bush.

*Women's votes often mean the difference between victory and defeat for a candidate.

*Number of successful candidates who's elections depended on women's votes:

1986 9 senators and 1 governor

1988 3 senators

1990 2 senators and 3 governors

*The gender gap is based on the different realities of men's and women's lives. These differences in experience lead to different perspectives on public policy issues. (*Factsheet on Women's Political Progress*)

GRITMAN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CLASSES: The following is a list of classes offered by Gritman Memorial Hospital during the month of September: Sept. 3 - Living Wills, Sept. 4 - A 7 hour class on AIDS; Sept. 10 - Quit Smoking; Sept. 12 - CPR, Adult, Child and Infant; Sept. 17 -

Infant CPR. For more information on these classes please call Gritman Memorial Hospital, Margaret Beals, 882-4511.

THE MOVEMENT TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; ENTERING THE THIRD DECADE: The movement in the United States opposing violence against women originated with consciousness-raising groups and "speakouts" in New York City as early as 1971. For the first time, rape and incest victims made public their pain. For centuries, women's isolation had prevented them from bonding in their common experiences; the violence done to their bodies and spirits by men, and the guilt they had learned to accept for it. This isolation, more psychological than physical, began to dissolve when early feminists found the courage to speak out, opposing a tradition hundreds of years old.

Two decades later, it is hard for many of us to appreciate the sense of isolation and helplessness that raped and battered women must have felt before our movement began. Rape crisis centers and shelters for battered women are now fairly common. Their efforts have brought about institutional changes which have eased, to some degree, the experience of raped and battered women.

As we enter the third decade of saying no to violence, we see clearly that we have had an impact. Institutions which once had no sensitivity to our issues now listen to us, and the community expects a more sensitive institutional response. Many community members are beginning to understand the experiences of survivors of male violence, and we are more likely to hear informed discussion of the subject. As a movement, we have credibility.

Whatever success we have had, we now find ourselves at a crossroads and must choose our next direction. Do the "reforms" of victim service programs (including rape crisis centers and shelters), better laws, improved law enforcement, and more prosecutions, in and of themselves, mean that social change is happening? Do we see less rape and battering as a result of these reforms? What is our overall strategy? What is the relationship between victim services and social change and how do we go about allocating our energies between the two? These are old questions, but they hover over us still as we enter our third decade. (*From The River IX(3), 1990*)

FACTS OF LIFE FOR OLDER WOMEN: The Older Women's League would like all women to be aware of the facts: More than 70% of the nearly 4 million persons over 65 living in poverty are women; fewer than one older woman in five currently receives any pension income; most women over 65 depend on Social Security as their only significant income; millions of mid-life women have no health insurance. (*Women Oughta Know, January 1991*)

WOMEN & COMPUTERS: Women and computers is a unique newsletter for women using computer technology in their lives. The publication presents articles, events, want ads and how-to's, all from a woman's perspective. The 24-page, monthly newsletter is available for a \$48 annual subscription. Write Women and Computers, P.O. Box 161775, Cupertino, CA 95016. (*Women Oughta Know, January 1991*)

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1991 NETWORKING CALENDAR

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat/Sun |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Women's Center Open House 8:00 - 5:00 | 23 NTS Reception 4:30 - 6:00 SUB Silver Galena Rm. | 24/25 Women's Center Open House 9:00-4:00 |
| 26 Classes Begin Women's Equality Day | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 NTS Brown Bag 11:30 to 1:30 | AUG 31/ SEPT. 1 |
| 2 | 3 Women's Center Program 12:30 GALA Support Group | 4 | 5 5:30 to 7:30 Athena Social | 6 NTS Brown Bag 11:30 to 1:30 | 7/8 |
| 9 | 10 Women's Center Program 12:30 GALA Support Group | 11 Women's Center Program 12:30 6:30/7:30 AAUW | 12 | 13 NTS Brown Bag 11:30 - 1:30 *INTSVAW 9-4 Boise | 14/15 |
| 16 | 17 Women's Center Program 12:30 GALA Support Group | 18 | 19 | 20 NTS Brown Bag 11:30 to 1:30 | 21/22 GALA Dance 9:00 - 1:00 335-4311 For Info. |
| 23 Last Day To Register | 24 Women's Center Program 12:30 GALA Support Group | 25 Women's Center Program 12:30 | 26 | 27 NTS Brown Bag 11:30 to 1:30 | 28/29 Vandal Stride for Gold 9:00am Kibbie Dome *IWN-State Mtg. Lewiston |
| 30 | | | | | |

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

*Idaho Network To Stop Violence Against Women
*Idaho Women's Network

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW): AAUW is a large grantor of fellowships/grants for women. Most fellowship grants are specifically designated for graduate work with preference given to "non-traditional" careers. However, the Career Development grant is available to any woman reentering the work force, making a career change or advancing her current career through higher education. Community Action grants provide seed money for projects or non-degree research that addresses the contemporary needs of women and girls. International fellowships are available to allow non-U.S. citizens to study at U.S. universities. Fellowship's range from \$1,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

Deadlines for application are early in the academic year, so interested women need to take action quickly. Applicants need not be members of AAUW. More information is available from the Women's Center 885-6616, Jama Sebald 885-6312 or Opal Gerwig 882-0888. All women and men holding a bachelor's degree are eligible to join AAUW. Moscow branch meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of the month. Dinner is at 6:30 and the program begins at 7:30. Programs are free and open to the general public.

ATHENA: Athena is an association supporting the interests of faculty and other professional women at the UI. It is an organization which provides a means for professional women to become acquainted with each other and to share mutual interests, activities and concerns. The group meets monthly for a catered dinner and to consider campus issues, share research, discuss books or articles and to meet colleagues

informally. Child care is provided at nominal cost for most meetings.

Athena's Welcome Social for all new and returning faculty and professionals will be Thursday, September 5, at the Best Western-University Inn from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This is also an opportunity to meet with UI Administrators and Deans. If you would like more information about Athena, contact Kathryn George, President, 885-5999; Julie Blohm-Grinolds, Vice President, 885-6163; Janice Capel Anderson, Secretary, 885-8950 or Mary W. George, Treasurer, 885-6276.

WORLD AFFAIRS: The problems facing today's world citizens are global in nature. Rapid changes in technology, telecommunications, our political environment, and multinational business community enable us, indeed require us, to operate on a global scale, in an international arena with an intercultural perspective. This series will explore emerging issues focusing on the cultural influences that shape differing approaches to problem solving. This series, offered by the UI International Programs and the Moscow/Latah County Library System, will be held on Tuesday evenings in the UI SUB Gold Room from 7:30 to 9:00; all are free.

September 17-World Religion & Culture: Identity & Conflict;
Sept. 24 - Our Global Environment: The International Scientific Community and Cultural Bias;
Oct. 1 - Deforestation: Issues in Global Natural Resource Management;
October 8 - Women and Traditional Culture;
October 15 - Global Communications and Electronic Media.

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