



WOMEN'S CENTER

208-885-6616

Corner of Idaho and Line Streets

Vol. 25, No. 6

April-May 1997

Unsolved Mysteries

by Susan Palmer

Each April, the Women's Center observes Sexual Assault Awareness Month and schedules programs to raise awareness with regard to this issue.

Not long ago, my 70-year-old mother reported to me that she received a phone call from an unfamiliar man. The conversation went like this.

Hello?

Is this Evelyn?

Yes.

Evelyn Chaudoin?

Yes.

Evelyn Chaudoin of 806 Valley View Drive?

Yes.

I am watching you. CLICK.

In an article entitled, *The Invisible Intruder: Women's Experiences of Obscene Phone Calls*, Carol Sheffield identifies this as sexual terrorism, "the system by which males frighten, and by frightening, dominate and control females." Sheffield claims that her analysis "rests on a theoretical premise that violence and its threat are the foundation of male domination...Sexual terrorism is manifested through both actual and implied violence and takes many forms."

Sheffield observes that "while the obscene telephone call does not seem to engender the feelings of guilt, shame, and self-blame common to physically and sexually assaulted women, they remind women and girls that they can be intruded upon by known or unknown males at any time or in any place."

I am confident that men experience fear in a variety of contexts, just as women do. None the less, it is disturbing that the construction of fear by using violence or the threat of violence is systematic and gender-based.

In the fall of 1973, I enrolled in college at the University of Toledo in Ohio. One evening, a close friend of mine, Philip Hazard, and I decided to purchase fresh bread, cheese, and a bottle of wine to indulge in over a conversation in a neighborhood park in a residential area. It was dusk when we arrived. We parked on the

south side of the creek and planted ourselves in the middle of the foot bridge for our usual animated exchange.

It was the early 70s, and like so many young women and men, we had a similar appearance, both in bell-bottom jeans, t-shirts, and long hair that rested on our shoulders and back. From a distance it would have appeared that two women sat on the foot bridge talking.

Within about 20 minutes I noticed, as I looked beyond Philip's shoulder, a Ryder rental van periodically cruising by on the north side of the creek. After several passes back and forth, the driver parked and shut off the engine. A small Anglo man about 35 or 40 years old got out of the van and approached the foot bridge. I sat facing the man while Philip's back was to him. As the man neared, Philip rose to his feet out of chivalry and to allow the man to pass with ease, and we each mumbled a "hello" or "good evening."

By this time night had fallen. After the man had passed, I looked up at Philip who remained standing. There was a distinct look of fear on Philip's face as he whispered to me, "Let's go...let's leave now." "Why...what's wrong?" I asked. Philip spoke swiftly and tersely, urging me to follow his direction. Cautiously, he pointed out that the man had a handgun in his back pocket. I turned to look and, indeed, I observed the gun as well.

Quickly, we picked up our food and drink preparing to return to the car. My heart began to pound since the armed man walking through the park was now between us and our car. By this time the man had a flashlight aglow in his hand. As we headed to the car, he turned toward us. I remember a street-wise Philip cautioning, "Let's go this way...I know better than to get caught between a man and a fence." As we changed directions, so too did the man as he continued toward us. When he neared, we halted.

The exchange was suspicious. The man pulled out a badge and identified himself as a law enforcement officer with the vice squad. Neither Philip nor I experienced relief because we didn't believe him. Philip knew the five-and-dime 5-point-star badge with no accompanying identification was fraudulent based on

his previous experience ("run ins") with law enforcement. I was certain that the local police department had a minimum height requirement which this man, shorter than I, surely did not meet. And why would the police department have someone on duty in a Ryder rental van? He wore street clothes, and the thick grease under his nails indicated that it was more likely that he was a mechanic or machinist.

He asked us what we were doing in the park. We told him. He asked our ages. Because I was frightened, underage, and possessed wine, I lied. I'm not proud of that, but it seemed prudent at the time. Then he cautioned us about drinking and driving and indicated that we were free to go.

Philip and I left the park without delay. We returned to my family's home, calmed down, reviewed the event with one another, and assessed what we ought to do. Although we agreed that the man was prepared to prey on us as two females, only to be startled when he discovered that one of us on the foot bridge was a male, Philip hesitated to report the incident since he had a "history" with the police. My greatest regret is that we didn't report it immediately.

The following day I disclosed the incident to the police officer who moonlighted as a security guard at my workplace. He persuaded me to report it officially and, within the hour, investigators arrived to interview me about what had transpired. They assured me that the man was *not* a law enforcement officer for the very reasons that Philip and I had identified.

They never found or apprehended that man. I often wonder where he went or what he might have done after we left that evening. What was once fear later transformed into anger that select males "frighten, and by frightening, dominate and control females."

During sexual assault awareness month, we will examine these issues and offer practical strategies for reducing the risk of assaults.

Each time I see a Ryder rental, my memory is triggered. I do, by the way, only rent U-Hauls.

No Rest for the Wicked

Dear Sisters,

As the rest of the spring newsletter focuses on very serious matters, my editor, friend, and unindicted co-conspirator, Auntie Nuke, has asked me to keep this column light. I will try, but you know how difficult it is for me to remain silent on the pressing issues of the day. War, famine, poverty, my picks for the Oscars—these are all off limits.

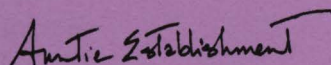
You know how *Seinfeld* is a show about nothing? Well, ladies, just call me Aunt Jerry.

So, instead, I have decided to reminisce. As many of you know, baseball season is nearly here, and, in eager anticipation, I've been getting back in touch with my inner tomboy. (No, do **not** put the newsletter down. I said inner tomboy, not inner child. My venue is pop culture, not pop psychology, remember?) I have oiled my mitt, cleaned my spikes, and at least two hours a day, I stand in my front yard tossing a ball high into the air and catching it again. What bliss! If only I could wear a Seattle Mariners' uniform to the office, I might be able to reconcile myself to not getting a pay raise. Well, maybe not, but we don't have to tell Phil that, do we?

Why are some girls tomboys and others, in the parlance of one of my favorite subcultures, femmes? I don't know. My sister once did a stunning, department store impersonation of Linda Blair in a vain effort to force my mother to buy her a pink crinoline dress. I, on the other hand, forced my Auntie Macassar to buy me a Big Wheel before I'd agree to be a flower girl in her wedding. When I got a look at the dress I'd have to wear—an ankle-length floral with a here's-my-butt bow—I held out for thirty minutes in the church dressing room until she coughed up another twenty bucks. Cash.

It still wasn't worth it.

Waiting for the first pitch,



Auntie Establishment

P. S. My own pick for best film wasn't even nominated. I vote for *Bound*, with Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly. For those of you who've seen the film, this is enough information about my true identity to allow you to pick me out in the phone book.

Savory Moments with Auntie Pasto

Greetings My Culinary Cousins,

As spring approaches, and I know it will, I offer a delicious, healthy dip recipe for your springtime patio parties. You will have to trust Auntie Pasto that it is possible to make a fat free guacamole that passes the taste test even among her most wary colleagues. Despite their disbelief, they snarfed it up in one inhale.

To share your family recipes with Auntie Pasto, write to: Auntie Pasto, c/o Women's Center, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho 83844-1064. You can find Auntie Pasto's recipe box on the web. Surf to the UI Women's Center Home Page <<http://www.uidaho.edu/~wcenter/>>.

FAT FREE GUACAMOLE

10 oz. frozen guisantes, cooked and drained	1/2 medium tomato, diced and drained
1/4 medium onion, diced	4 oz. can of diced jalapenos, drained
1 T. + 2 tsp. lemon juice	1 1/2 tsp. onion salt
1/2 tsp. garlic salt	1 cup fat-free sour cream

Puree guisantes in food processor or blender with lemon juice until smooth.

Add pureed guisantes to fat free sour cream and mix well. Stir in remaining ingredients, chill and serve.

Note: Seasonings may be adjusted to taste. For those of you for whom merely thinking about jalapeno peppers set your mouth ablaze, I recommend substituting them with green chilies. You may also consider reducing the amount of the jalapenos recommended.

You may be wondering how you will make this recipe if you do not speak Spanish? Auntie Pasto was unable to bring herself to say frozen "peas," ergo "guisantes."



S.A.F.E. NEWS WOMEN'S CENTER

208-885-6616

Sexual Assault Facilitated Education (S.A.F.E.)

April-May 1997

UI Sexual Assault Educators Stress Prevention

reprinted with permission from The Boomerang, Sept. 12, 1996

As women learn more about date rape and its prevention, Valerie Russo and Don Lazzarini emphasize that men should also become more aware of potential risks and perhaps modify their dating behavior. Both victims and rapists often cite miscommunication and differing expectations as factors in date rape situations. Yet corrective strategies often fail to address the male point of view.

In their presentations, Mr. Lazzarini and Ms. Russo refer to the "Date Rape Tool Kit," a collection of enticements frequently used by rapists. The tool kit dramatizes warning signals for women, but gives men guidance on when they should "watch it" in terms of their own behavior, as well.

Items in the "tool kit" include flattering words, money and meals, access to privacy, and liquor. While many women see candlelight dinners and romantic private time as opportunities to get to know their dates better, men often have sex on their minds and see time spent together beforehand as little more than extended foreplay.

"A date rapist plans to have sex, and that can turn into a rape situation," explains Ms. Russo.

She stresses the need for awareness, noting that men need to know that lack of clear communication can result in legal action. "The biggest piece of prevention is communication between people." A man needs to be straightforward about his expectations in a dating relationship, even if that means saying something other than what the woman wants to hear.

He should also be cognizant of the woman's viewpoint and her goals for the relationship. Additionally, he needs to resist the urge to misinterpret her words so that they support his own desires. Some rapists justify themselves, claiming that the women "didn't really mean no." If they had listened to the women's words without placing their own spin on them, they might not have found themselves in court facing rape charges, according to the educators.



Chances are, most men who find themselves utilizing one or two of the items in the "tool kit" are not rapists. They are often well-intentioned men, aiming to please women whom they admire. If they heed Mr. Lazzarini and Ms. Russo's advice by listen-

ing to these women, speaking to them honestly, and respecting their points of view and desires, they will likely succeed at pleasing them both in and out of the bedroom.

Men or women who want to learn more about date rape and related issues will benefit from Russo and Lazzarini's peer-education class at the University of Idaho. For more information, please call Valerie Russo at (208) 885-6616.

Potlatch Educator Does Oprah Show

reprinted with permission from The Boomerang, Sept. 12, 1996

The chances of most people appearing on the "Oprah Winfrey Show" are generally slim to none, while the chances of being date raped tend to be more probable. When the two unusual situations happened to Annie Dakins, the University of Idaho senior and her story appeared before millions of television viewers in early September.

"We packed so much stuff in," said Valerie Russo, the Sexual Assault Education Program Advisor from the U of I who accompanied Ms. Dakins and her mother to the "Oprah" studio in Chicago. "We taped on the 28th and flew back that evening."

With the national show focused on date rape, Annie was selected after program producers learned of her story via the Internet. Further interviews led to an invitation to appear, and suddenly the college coed, her mother and Ms. Russo found themselves on a jet to "The Windy City."

"We were in the lap of luxury," Russo recounted. "A limo, a greeter at the airport, a fancy hotel room and \$75 a day in food vouchers."

The subject matter, however, was far less pleasant. Annie, who was forced to have sex with a man who had been considered a buddy, recounted her story for Oprah fans. The ordeal, which happened on a California campus, took place when she was a freshman.

"The program was aimed at young freshmen and their parents," said Ms. Russo. "The idea was 'what can you learn?—the prevention angle.'"

With her mother and Ms. Russo backstage, Annie appeared before a live audience along with two other date rape victims and a man who had date raped while in college. The open discussion format was augmented with a somewhat manipulated audience sprinkled with fraternity men and freshmen women who frequented the party scene.

Also appearing during the program were date rape experts Mary Koss, Andrea Parrot and Camille Paglia. Ms. Russo, Ms. Koss and Ms. Parrot all expressed disappointment in having to share the forum with the controversial Camille Paglia.

"If we'd have known about her we wouldn't have gone to the show," Russo admitted.

According to Russo, Paglia contends that women fought for the right to be raped by insisting on coed dorms and other "rights," and that society is not educating its young women to be street-smart. Her controversial approach is to teach psychopathology, the study of criminal minds, to school-age youngsters.

The real disappointment with Paglia came from Annie herself, however, who questioned whether the nationally-known author had experienced date rape herself.

"Here we had the two biggest experts in the country—and her [Paglia]," said Ms. Russo. "I left the show angry. We didn't get to talk about any prevention message."

Though Annie and Russo enjoyed visiting with Oprah, they expressed disappointment with the TV star's summation as well. Both felt she'd short-changed the viewpoints of the women who had been date raped.

"We were told this was truly aimed at prevention but we didn't realize it was our responsibility to drag the show in that direction," Russo commented. She added later that she left feeling the show was unfinished. Yet she had high praise for Annie, who is now a senior in sports science/wellness at the Moscow campus.

"You can't call Annie a victim. You have to call her a survivor, and I admire that she can reach across the pain in her own life and deliver that message."

S.A.F.E. Update

by Valerie Russo, Sexual Assault Prevention Advisor

The University of Idaho Women's Center introduced several new sexual assault prevention programs to the campus and community this year. The majority of peer educators who presented these programs are graduates of Health and Safety 311, *Acquaintance Rape*. This three-credit course takes an in-depth look at issues surrounding the crime of rape, and enhances students' peer education presentation skills. One class requirement is to offer presentations on and off campus. We also have an active peer education group called S.A.F.E. (sexual assault facilitated education) and volunteers.

When asked about her experience in the class, 1996 Health and Safety graduate Angela Rauch, chair of the UI Safety Board said, "It made me grow as a person and learn my own dating habits, while giving me the opportunity to teach something important to other people." One new program that was presented on campus and at Moscow High School was called *New Face*. This program presents many aspects of date/acquaintance rape ranging from definitions to prevention, with an added component of a male peer educator portraying the stages of intrusion of a date/acquaintance rape in an acting format. When asked about her experience presenting this program Angela Rauch said, "People were very open to the program and watching the new face character really opened my eyes. In fact after being involved with this program I was able to identify and stop a potentially dangerous situation I found myself in."

Delta Gamma member, Sarah Howard added, "one of the more valuable parts of the *New Face* program was learning the self defense move at the end. I also thought the video portrayed a drinking situation that can lead to a rape pretty accurately."

A survivor of sexual assault reflected, "I wish I would have seen the program before I was assaulted. The program is a good way to acknowledge this [sexual assault] is going on, and a good way to start healing if you haven't."

We also introduced a new program for men on campus called, *How Not To Be The Accused*. This is an informational program on the legal issues of this crime and prevention strategies for men. Ed Lodge, Rush Chair of the Interfraternity Council said, "I thought it was a great program; the honesty of the presenter was one the best parts; there was no sugar coating. The information was clear and we know exactly what is appropriate behavior and what is not." Ed said, "There is no excuse for our house, we do not have to make decisions in the

moment, we have the information now."

The Women's Center also presented a program on *Sexual Harassment in the Schools* to a College of Education class. Dr. Jerry Tuchscherer, Director of the Division of Adult, Counselor, and Technology Education remarked that, "The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for future vocational teachers and graduates from the university to discuss harassment issues that may occur in an educational setting. It also was an awareness program of what is considered harassment and what is not. It was nice to see the interaction and concern among the students. The discussion on the topic among the students will undoubtedly continue as they prepare for student teaching."

We received a small grant this year from the State Department of Health and Welfare to develop a program for the elementary schools. We will present a program called *Body Image and Eating Disorders* to the Moscow elementary schools in March and April. It has been a very busy year for the Sexual Assault Prevention Program. We thank all of you for your continued support and countless hours of volunteer time. We will look for you at the many programs planned for Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

Tuesday, April 1—Mifepristone (RU486) and the "Morning After Pill," 12:30 p.m., Women's Center Lounge.

Tuesday, April 15—Self Defense for Everyone, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Sei Shin Ryu at Eastside Marketplace.

Wednesday, April 16—Protection Orders, 12:30 p.m., Women's Center Lounge.

Wednesday, April 16—Safety March/Clothesline Project, 6:00 p.m., begins in front of Wallace Complex.



Tuesday, April 22—Rohypnol ("Roofies"): The Date Rape Drug, 12:30 p.m., Women's Center Lounge.

New Books

A Woman Scorned: Acquaintance Rape on Trial, by Peggy Reeves Sanday, 338pp., \$23.95 hardcover.

Date Rape: Feminism, Philosophy, and the Law, edited by Leslie Francis, 186pp., \$29.50 hardcover, \$13.95 paper.

Rape on Trial: How the Mass Media Construct Legal Reform and Social Change, by Lisa M. Cuklanz. 135pp., \$28.95 hardcover, \$12.95 paper.

The question of consent is often the most difficult issue in date and acquaintance rape cases. Each of these books looks at the complexity of the social and legal definitions of consent in date and acquaintance rape.





BROWN-BAG LUNCH PROGRAMS WOMEN'S CENTER

Free! Public Welcome 12:30 p.m. Women's Center Lounge

April-May 1997

885-6616

APRIL 1
Tuesday

MIFEPRISTONE (RU486) AND THE "MORNING AFTER PILL" STEPHANIE MORGAN, education associate of Planned Parenthood of Spokane and Whitman Counties, will discuss the medical facts, availability, legality, and recent controversy regarding these forms of pregnancy prevention and termination. The FDA-approved morning after pill, a special type of birth control pill, is highly effective in preventing pregnancy when taken within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse. Mifepristone (RU486), on the other hand, is not widely available in the United States outside of research use, but has been available and used in Europe for fertility control. Recent studies indicate mifepristone may be instrumental in treating breast and ovarian cancer, some brain and spinal cord tumors, endometriosis and fibroid tumors, Cushing's Syndrome, and possibly HIV.

APRIL 9
Wednesday

FIELDS OF FEMINISM MARTHA EINERSON, Communications, and GINNA BABCOCK, Sociology, discuss feminist research and scholarship in their respective fields. Martha Einerson will examine "when feminism meets the press" in the public sphere, in addition to feminist scholarship in interpersonal relationships. Ginna Babcock will explore postmodernism and feminism, as well as the shortfalls of research that isolates gender from race and class dimensions of analysis. *This program is sponsored by Women's Studies and is scheduled from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. in the Women's Center Lounge.*

APRIL 15
Tuesday

SELF DEFENSE FOR EVERYONE AMBER JADE, sensei of Sei Shin Ryu (truth and honesty school), will guide us through techniques that anybody can use since they don't require power or strength. Amber demonstrates positive, assertive ways to respond to awkward social situations as well as life threatening ones. Amber, an experienced teacher of traditional martial arts, karate, and jujitsu, emphasizes safety and awareness which lead to avoidance. *This program is free and takes place from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at Sei Shin Ryu between Safeway and Kinko's in the Eastside Marketplace on Highway 8.*

APRIL 16
Wednesday

PROTECTION ORDERS CHRISTINE WALL, Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, and VALERIE RUSSO, Women's Center, review the use and effectiveness of obtaining protection orders in Idaho and Washington. Learn what an order for protection is, who is eligible for one, the types of protection orders, how to change or drop an order, and what happens when protection orders are violated.

APRIL 22
Tuesday

ROHYPNOL ("ROOFIES"): THE DATE RAPE DRUG CHAREE BOULTER, Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, and VALERIE RUSSO, Women's Center, provide the latest information about Rohypnol, a tasteless, colorless, odorless, addictive drug that has been linked to date and acquaintance rapes. They will discuss the effects of "Roofies" on the victim, as well as offer safety tips about how to reduce your risk and what to do if Rohypnol is administered to you or someone you know.

APRIL 24
Thursday

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY: SELF ESTEEM AND ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUSAN SEEFELDT explores the relationships among adolescent girls, self esteem, and gender equity. Susan home schools her daughters for gender equity reasons, drawing from the principles of "unschooling." She will examine the effect of transforming this annual event into a Take Our Children to Work Day, what the implications are for women who work in the home, and alternative strategies for raising the self esteem and self confidence of adolescent girls. A reading list and other handouts will be available at this program.

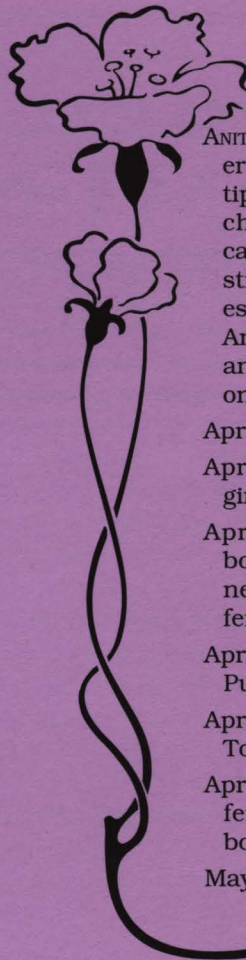
APRIL 30
Wednesday

MYTH, METAMORPHOSIS, AND RECLAIMING THE GODDESS PEARLA MOLER, artist and UI MFA student illustrates the theme of reaffirming the strength of women depicted in her art work. Drawing from old myths, ancient symbols, and storytelling, Pearla stretches and paints lycra on shaped forms that break loose "out of the rectangular enclosures" in masculine forms. Unlike countless fairy tales which end with a man coming to the rescue, Pearla's art exhibits female strength. *This program will take place at 12:30 p.m. in the Prichard Gallery on Main Street. Her exhibit opens April 18.*

MAY 7
Wednesday

AUNTIE PASTO'S PASTA EXTRAVAGANZA CONTEST It's another Aunt Farm standoff. Third generation of Italian descent, Auntie Pasto claims to be the primo pasta chef! Auntie Nuke cautions that one should not be fooled by names—that *she* has the definitive winning pasta recipe! Perhaps they are both wrong...*again*. Enter your favorite pasta recipe in this contest for a chance to WIN PRIZES! AUNTIE PASTO will provide her own antipasto to accompany your dish. VERA WHITE will be among the distinguished panel of judges on hand for the tasteoff. To enter, send your TYPED RECIPE with your name, address, and phone number to the Women's Center, University of Idaho, Moscow ID 83844-1064 by May 1st. On May 7, bring your pasta dish to the Women's Center for the pasta tasteoff.

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 regional communities. There are also items of general interest about women's and men's issues. If you have announcements or information to include in subsequent issues, please let us know. Suggestions for changes, improvements, or additional items are always welcome. Disability access is on the north end of the building through the TAAC. A taped copy of the newsletter is available on request for the visually impaired.



ANITA MARIAS invites interested readers to join a craft group to exchange tips, ideas, and craft rules for crocheting, knitting, and sewing on canvas. Learn about yarns, hooks, stitches, colors, patterns, and tapestry needles by calling 883-1856. Anita is willing to teach beginners and work with the more experienced on enhancing their skills.

April 4, 1928—Maya Angelou born.

April 6—Daylight Savings Time begins. Set your clocks *forward*.

April 10, 1882—Frances Perkins born, first woman in the U.S. Cabinet, kept her birth name and defended it in court.

April 18, 1983—Alice Walker wins the Pulitzer Prize for *The Color Purple*.

April 24, 1997—Take Our Daughters To Work Day.

April 27, 1759—Mary Wollstonecraft, feminist writer and philosopher, born.

May 11—Mother's Day.

Women's Center

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