

LUBBOCK **NOW** TIMES

The Newsletter of the
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

In Lubbock
May 1978

Press Hostile to Press Freedom

In the last issue of the Lubbock NOW Times we ran an article which revealed the discriminatory actions of Duncan Press against the Gay People of West Texas newsletter. As a consequence of its policy, we terminated our business with the press and took our newsletter to Quik Print for reproduction. Initially, Quik Print took the job, but after its manager read our article castigating Duncan Press, he refused our work, explaining that his decision was based on a revulsion at the idea of printing an article that singled out one of his competitors for wrongdoing.

He insisted that his policy was not anti-feminist nor anti-gay, and
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Gay Rights & Feminism

Gay Rights and Feminism will be the subject of the NOW June 6, 1978 meeting at the Wesley Foundation at 7:30 pm. Paula Greenlee, Director of Gay People of West Texas, along with Donna Seay and Allen Dandy, will hold an informal discussion on gay rights, gay lifestyles, and their views on feminism.

Feminists, gay and straight, have much to share and learn from each other, so this meeting will be a learning experience for all of us.

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GRODGE SAIL

SUPER GRODGE SALE!!!! June 17th. Clean out your garages, closets, drawers! Collect your potential Treasure-Junk for the NOW Grodge Sale to be held June 17th in an undetermined garage.

You will be contacted with further details. Please let Elaine Bagley 795-1156 or Cecelia Owens-Beckham 747-0029 know if you have a willing garage.

Practical Plans for Political Power

Voter apathy, no. Political ignorance, yes. Several weeks ago I was completely unaware of political workings. The obvious things to do were to 1) pick a candidate, 2) campaign, 3) vote. This is as far as many of us get, but things are changing thanks to a local political figure who has tutored NOW in the inner workings of local and state politics.

For those of us who followed his advice and went beyond voting, a new realm of involvement has challenged us. We have seen, first-hand, the depth of the opposition's organization and we must match it if women are to achieve full rights in Texas.

Below is a description of the post-election activities which start in our own neighborhoods and go on to help shape state-party politics. 1. Anyone who votes in the primary election can go to the Precinct

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PRESS FREEDOM

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we will give the Quik Print manager full benefit of the doubt for his reasons, but not without pointing out, however, that in themselves they are reprehensible.

We feel a deep responsibility to our reading public to inform them about all racial and sexual discrimination going on in our community, yea, even if it comes from the hallowed reproductive services of this town. And the implications of this decision are terrifying to imagine in a nation which assumes that freedom of choice is based on the possibility of receiving information. How can people make intelligent choices if the means of communication are censored? And Quik Print's refusal to print our newsletter was most definitely an effort at censorship.

We are lucky and greatly relieved to find that not all printing services in Lubbock feel the same twinge of misdirected loyalty as Quik Print.

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LUBBOCK NOW TIMES

is published monthly by the Lubbock chapter of the National Organization for Women.

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Articles, poetry, etc., should be submitted to the editor, 2123 17th, Lubbock 79401, typed, double-spaced on a 35 character line. Articles may be subject to re-write.

Practical Plans

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convention held on the same day, in the polling place immediately after the polling hours. There is generally a poor turnout either because people do not know or care. At the precinct convention, two important things happen:

- a. Delegates and alternates are chosen to go to the County Convention on the following weekend. (Chances of being a delegate or alternate are good because of low attendance.)
- b. Resolutions are presented and voted on. If passed, they are forwarded to the County Convention Resolution Committee. The anti-feminists were strongly represented in each precinct with a barrage of their resolutions which generally passed due to lack of feminist representation.

county committee

2. On the following Tuesday, May 9, the county executive committee, made up of the precinct chairs, met to appoint the committees to serve at the County Convention: Rules and Procedure, Credentials, Platform and Resolutions, Nominations.
3. Since many of the precinct delegates were 'new kids', a meeting was called in midweek so we would know what to expect from the conservative Democrats at the County Convention. It was decided that since we were outnumbered by the Workman-Sheats coalition we would concentrate on defeating their anti-feminist resolutions rather than trying to pass our own.
4. At the County Convention Saturday, May 13, we did not succeed in defeating the anti's as we hoped, but the count was surprisingly close on the issues of abortion and recision. What if we hadn't been there?!!

Then came the minority resolutions and our victory of the day! Jesse George authored a resolution against recision as a "waste of time and money." This resolution passed and many said it had the effect of
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Feminists, Pundits, and Fools

For many Lubbock NOW members, the past few weeks have provided an opportunity to participate and to learn about the political process and to become aware of the duty to this process that extends past the voting booth. We have run for office, worked for candidates, voted, attended precinct meetings, and finally the County Democratic Convention, both as delegates and observers, and NOW members will go to the State Convention in September. But not without strain.

By this time it is no news that the Democratic Party of Lubbock passed resolutions against the known interests and needs of the women of this country. Resolutions were passed against ERA extension, abortion, and child care for working mothers, and isn't it appropriate that this information was published on Mother's Day?!

democratic dicta

Still, individual and collective behavior is interesting to watch, and one thing is very evident to those of us who work actively toward bettering conditions for women: many persons in all levels of the Lubbock Democratic Party simply do not have a full understanding of what the women's movement is all about. Here are a sample of remarks that were overheard at the County Convention: ---"Problems concerning this country make the women's rights issue a moot issue." ---"Women's rights and killing unborn babies go hand in hand." ---"Feminists must have a very low opinion of themselves if they think that women are second class citizens under the law."

A confusion of more specific issues followed this same irrational pattern: There seems to be no meeting of the minds, no ground for communication with the Right to

Life group. These people have now decided that they too support a woman's "right to choose"--the right to choose whom she will have sex with is her contribution to her own reproductive freedom.

Once again the blame for unwanted pregnancy is placed on the woman while protecting the "rights" of the father. If a woman's body and reproductive system can't be controlled one way, then it can always be controlled another, but under no condition should a woman be the one to make the decision, except by choosing who she will sleep with!

middle morals

Since many of those who advocate this idea are middle and upper middle income folk who know that they have many options open to them (even the monetary option to change their moral stance when faced with an unwanted pregnancy themselves!), their main thrust is at poor women. They support no federal funding of abortions, and interestingly enough, many of these same people do support forced sterilization, a program aimed primarily at minorities and the poor.

1000 Children

In Lubbock alone, approximately 1000 children wait for a place in a day-care center while their mothers struggle to eke out some sort of existence. In Texas, "in home" day-care was recently removed from the funding programs. And Texas places fourth from the bottom of the scale in welfare programs, a fact that many citizens seem to be proud of.

These very women to whom abortion is denied are also denied any reasonable aid for child care while they work. Thus, they are expected to pay out almost all they

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HOGWASH

"Wives aren't like fishermen. They brag about the ones that got away and complain about the one they caught."

* * * * *

"Insurance Man: 'We won't give you the money, but we'll rebuild your barn.'

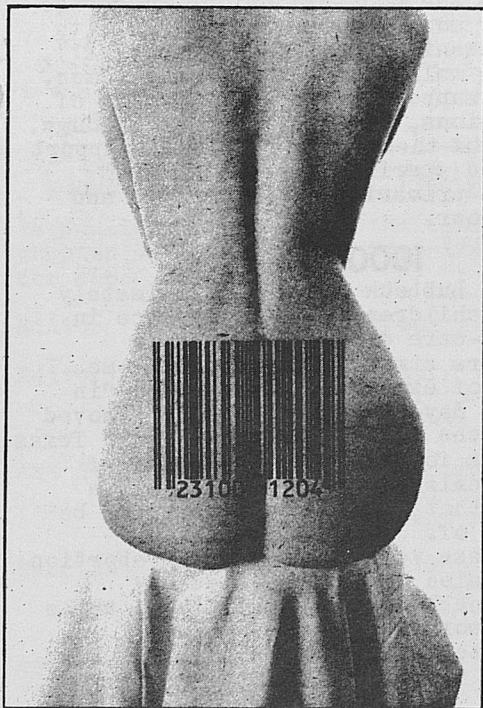
"Farmer: 'If that's how you do business, I'm cancelling the life insurance policy on my wife.'"

* * * * *

"Mrs.: 'It says that this new elixir of life will make a man live for two hundred years.'

Mr.: 'If I was a bachelor I'd buy a bottle.'"

All from Optimist Magazine, April 1978, submitted by Jane Twyman.



Extra!, June 1978, Submitted by Richmond Flowers.

A student response to the following question on a teacher evaluation: "What changes could be made to improve the teaching or content of this course?"

Please remember one thing: clean up your act. You are a woman, so dress and act like one.

submitted by Jinny Samuelson

"More babies multiply a woman's joy." Phyllis Schlafly The Power of the Positive Woman.

submitted by Cathie McWhorter

PRACTICAL PLANS

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undoing the previous "anti" resolutions. This was the last resolution of the day and it left us on a confident and determined high.

The learning process has begun and the necessity for political awareness, organization and action is clear. What will happen at the State Democratic Convention in September remains to be seen, but feminist women and men will be going as delegates because they got involved at the precinct level. This is just the beginning of a politically viable West Texas minority learning to operate within, around and over our ultra-conservative environment.

PRESS FREEDOM

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a loyalty that places personal camaraderie in business over essential human rights.

If a community cannot sustain minority opinions, there is no possibility for healthy human diversity which, in this editor's opinion, constitutes the essence of human freedom and therefore the essence of the American Dream.

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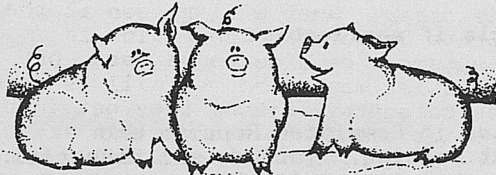
Where Are You Col. Quantrill?

(from the Wichita Eagle-Beacon
"Public Forum," April 1978)

In his haste to dedicate a new era of progress for the University of Kansas, Gov. Robert Bennett dropped a lead weight on the women's struggle for respect and equality. During the dedication of the new KU law school Bennett told an audience, which included former President Gerald Ford: "I can remember we used to sit on the steps of old Green Hall and whistle as things went by, marvel at God's creation and occasionally perused the dean's tort book."

Bennett's remark is significant because it is a prime example of the kind of two-faced treatment given women by politicians in particular and men in general.

For years Green Hall has been something of a proving ground, and as a result--a thorn in the side of most women.



A letter presented by women at the KU Law Day on April 26, 1971, recognized the 'daily crowds of men who, sitting on the steps of Green Hall, shout out numbers which evaluate the bodies of women passing by.'

The "tradition" began "in the good old days" when it was fashionable for men to walk with canes. Women students were given a sex appeal rating by a secret code tapped out with the tip of the cane.

Before the recent move to the new law building, women would deliberately avoid walking past Green Hall rather than subject themselves to crass

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The Bookshelf

Casey, John. An American Romance. Atheneum. \$10.00. This novel is an ambitious portrayal of the uncertainties that modern men and women experience as they redefine "romance." The female protagonist is assertive, goal-oriented, and ambitious; the male is maternal, attuned to primordial movements and feelings. Traditional gender roles are reversed, but each character progressively, and often with resistance, adopts traits of the other. The author foresees a blending of gender roles that will be both the cause and effect of the reforming of male-female bonds.

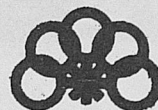
a manville goodbye

Manville, W.H. Goodbye. Simon and Schuster. \$8.95. Also available in paperback. Goodbye is also about the ambiguities of relationships as gender roles change. It is the story of the mysterious and violent death of a young woman in the wake of her struggle to control her work, her marriage, and her personal development. But Manville also follows her alcoholic husband's efforts to determine his contributions (direct and indirect) to her death, yielding a rounded picture of their relationship and of an adult male.

men in crisis

Markson, David. Springer's Progress. Holt, Rinehart Winston. \$8.95. This work is distressingly reminiscent of recent American novels about men in mid-life crisis. The principal character is a writer, unable to write. What makes this book different is that Markson's failed writer delights in the superior literary talent and achievement of his various female lovers. The latter women

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NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES

PLEASE RETAIN THIS PAGE FOR EASY REFERENCE

The Newsletter staff welcomes your generous contributions to the Lubbock NOW Times. The more information we receive from our varied membership, the more constructive and interesting our paper will be. However, we must beg your assistance in managing our publication.

This page contains the basic Newsletter guidelines to be followed when you contribute any kind of written information to the Lubbock NOW Times.

We ask you to abide by this format for lay-out purposes. Although the Newsletter is totally re-typed for printing, it is crucial that we have articles in correct form when we set up the pattern for this final typing; THEREFORE, we cannot accept anything for publication unless it adheres to the following guidelines:

1. All material MUST be typed--DOUBLE-SPACED
2. All material must be typed on a 35 character line (margins on 5 and 40 and/or 45 and 80). Do not go over margins more than 2 spaces nor under 2 spaces if at all possible.
3. Do not abbreviate:
 - a. Months
 - b. People's official names or titles
 - c. Your name
 - d. Words in general
4. Write out all numbers up to 101.
5. Include the following for each article if applicable:
 - a. Name of periodical
 - b. Day, month, year published
6. Mention general time and meeting dates in Committee Reports and include the time and date of the next meeting. Include all essential information (who, what, where, when, why) in the first paragraph of your article or report--most important information first--then expand.
7. Mail your contribution to:
Pamela Brink
2123 17th
Lubbock, Texas 79401
by the following deadlines and absolutely no later:

June - Monday, June 12

July - Monday, July 10

August - Monday, August 14

bookshelf

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easily separate sexual from emotional ties, and this is the dimension of their characters that Markson stresses. For some feminists, the novel may contain more male fantasy than understanding of contemporary women.

Markson's interpretation of and emphasis on female sexual liberation was disturbing to me. But, along with Goodbye and An American Romance, Springer's Progress is interesting as an attempt by a male novelist to treat women in a new and realistic fashion. More importantly, each author has transcended conventional literary stereotypes to present capable, self-reliant, and significant female characters.

These three novels, all written by men, were reviewed favorably in the March Ms. The reviewer, Sheila Weller, praised the full characterization of women in each work. All three are available at the Mahon Public Library. They deserve the attention of feminists as examples of changing male literary images of women.

Submitted by Marietta Morrissey

WHERE'S QUANTRILL?

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comments.

The move to the new building, which is located far west of the main campus, relieved much of the on-campus annoyance, and was seen by many as a change for the better.

That all went out the window with Bennett's ill-timed message.

There is no such thing as an "office hour" women's libber. The contradictions will surface easily, either at home or in front of a microphone, as in Bennett's case.

There are many vital issues of concern to women confronting the
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Feminists, and...

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make for the care of their children, they are also expected not to be on welfare, not to be a drain on the taxpayer, not to choose to have sex, not to complain, and above all, not to become feminists.

Arguments against ERA extension were familiar and expected. Extension would set a precedent by "changing the rules of the game," but equality is no game, and yes, women are indeed intent on changing the rules, the spoken and unspoken rules that exclude over half the adult population of this country from participating fully in constructive public and private activities. Women are intent on changing the rules that exclude them from serving.

Congress has the power to set time limits to amendments, to determine whether a proposed amendment has lost its vitality through lapse of time, and to extend the period for ratification if it seems that it is warranted. The time limit was set to prevent a proposed amendment from becoming "outdated" through lack of interest, and the ERA does not lack interest! Congress has this power and no rigid time limit can, or should, be set on equality.

It is apparent that many do not use logic, history, or even their
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NEW MEMBERS

Halcyon Baggett
3709 39th Street
Lubbock 79413
799-5123



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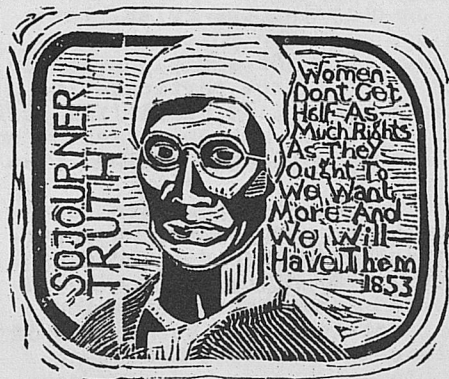
Quantrill

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state legislature. A progressive, open-minded governor is needed to see those concerns changed into law.

A politician, intent on living in the past, does not deserve to serve office in the present.

--Cath Clinger, Leesa Duby, Diane Erickson, Sheri Gilmore, Katherine Harris, Jennifer Roblez, Margaret Stolz, CONCERNED WOMEN AGAINST SEXISM, Lawrence, Kansas.

--Submitted by Midge Herd, Coldwater, Kansas



Feminists

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own experiences to make decisions that concern them and their children. Instead, they reject their individual judgment, their intelligence, their compassion for others, and accept the bias, selfish, discordant comments against the woman's movement propagated by unthinking minds; however, there is still a wee glimmer of light.

Although an Avalanche Journal reporter wrote that one Democrat at the convention wondered if he hadn't wandered into a John Birch Society meeting by mistake, two resolutions concerning ERA rescision were passed, one to rescind and the minority resolution NOT to rescind!

The minority ERA resolution was so expertly and intelligently worded that it made sense to many of those very people who had supported the earlier vague and emotion laden proposal, and it renews slightly one's faith in the community when reason at least runs irrationality a close second.

---Elaine Bagley

Join NOW NOW

MEMBERSHIP FORM:

Please fill out and return to Susie Sappington, P.O. Box 83, Lubbock, Texas 79408

NAME _____	PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____	ZIP _____
_____ \$22 year's membership (National, State & Local Dues) or renewal	
_____ \$13 special membership may be elected by those who cannot pay more (such as some retirees, and some students, etc.)	
_____ \$7 to join Lubbock chapter; already a member of National NOW	
_____ \$4 receipt of <u>Lubbock NOW Times</u> only (non-member)	
_____ \$3 receipt of <u>Texas NOW Times</u> (appears every two months)	
_____ \$5 and up Friends of NOW (for information call 795-4637)	

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