

LUBBOCK NOW TIMES

The Newsletter of the
National Organization for Women

In Lubbock
July 1978

100,000 Marchers: House Committee Votes Extension

100,000 marchers in Washington on July 9--the second largest exercise in our history of the right of the people "peaceably to assemble and petition the government for a redress of grievances" -- evidently persuaded enough members of the House Judiciary Committee of the justice and power of our cause. Lubbock participants in the march came home thinking that the chances for extension were "not good," but on July 18 the Judiciary Committee approved a compromise resolution that would extend the ratification deadline from March 22 of next year to June 30, 1982.

(continued on page 6)

ANNUAL ELECTIONS, AUGUST PROGRAM

The Lubbock NOW Nomination Committee has submitted the following slate of officers for 1978-79:

Policy Coordinator	Jane Twyman
Action Coordinator	Cathie McWhorter
Operation Coordinator	Carole George
Recorder	Darlene Jones
Treasurer	Joanne Grubbs

The election was held at 7:30 pm, August 1, at the Wesley Foundation, 2420 15th, and was followed by our August Program: "The Status of Black Women in the Community." For members who were unable to attend, there is an absentee ballot on page 11.



Lubbock Contingent Back row left to right: Maria Mercado, Jo Stewart (Houston NOW), Elaine Bagley, Charlotte Guinn, Dennis Van Dusen, Ken Lawler, Carol Haber, Cathie McWhorter, Jane Twyman, Front row: Lynn Van Dusen, Vicki Foster, Susie Sappington, Dorothy McLarty, Tina Strouble. Not pictured: Nancy Caywood.

EQUALITY DAY

Women's Equality Day is August 26th, the fifty-eighth anniversary of the constitutional amendment that gave women the right to vote. Across the country, NOW will celebrate the women's movement to renew enthusiasm for the fight for equal rights.

Lubbock NOW's celebration will be held at the Unitarian Church, 2104 36th Street, from 2:00-6:00 pm. There will be baked goods and soft drinks, as well as crafts and literature, for sale, and our program will feature feminist songs, skits, and readings.

REESE OPPORTUNITIES

On June 27, Elaine Bagley and Dannie Botros met with Ms. Vangie Elizondo at Reese Air Force Base. Ms. Elizondo was visiting Lubbock from the Air Training Command at Randolph AFB in San Antonio where she is Chief of the E.E.O. Division. Her purpose in visiting Lubbock was to determine the amount of contact local women and minorities have with the Base. She asked how women in Lubbock view the Base and how they feel about Federal employment. She wondered if women see the Base as a possibility when they are job-hunting.

Ms. Elizondo stated that the Air Force is firmly committed to E.E.O. principles and guidelines and that there are many and varied job opportunities at Reese AFB. Some jobs require the Civil Service Exam and some not. If you are seeking employment call the Civilian Personnel Office at Reese, 885-3801.

--Dannie Botros

LUBBOCK NOW TIMES

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

Editor	Pam Brink
Editorial Staff	Nancy Barr Briggs Twyman Jane Twyman
Art Staff	Lynn Buechele Bob Sappington Susie Sappington
Circulation	Marge Blackburn Bob Sappington Susie Sappington

Articles, poetry, etc., should be submitted to the editor, P.O. Box 83, Lubbock 79408, typed, double-spaced on a 35 character line. Articles may be subject to re-write.

CRAFTS for EQUALITY

If you have talent in the area of handicrafts and would like to contribute some of your work to the Women's Equality Day celebration, please contact Elaine Bagley at the NOW number: 795-4637.

Annual Banquet

September 8, 1978 we will have our annual NOW Banquet starting at 7:00 pm at the Pelican Restaurant. Members will be called for reservations. Mark your calendar for this important event. We will recognize outgoing and incoming officers and have several speakers. Dr. Rod Schoen will speak on the ERA and extension of the time for ratification.

Letter from Washington

Today I walked in the National ERA March, and it was very impressive. The initial estimates were that there were going to be 30,000. During the rally at the Capitol, it was announced there were 50,000, then 65,000. I just heard on the radio that eventually over 100,000 people marched in support of the amendment--almost all of them wearing white. There were a number, an impressive number, of contingents from Texas--and in fact the showing from the West was very strong.

(Letter to BLT from Dr. Frank King)

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Areopagitica: March Reflections

In Washington D.C. on July 9, 1978, Gloria Steinem said it for us all: "...There is not another place we would rather be."

Nearly 100,000 people marched down Constitution Avenue to demonstrate--no, to insist that discrimination against women in this country must come to an end. Women must be included in our Constitution. Fifteen of those proud marchers represented Lubbock NOW, and, indeed, there was no place else we would have been!

Malignant Force

There is a persistent and malignant force that has successfully kept women from knowledge, achievement, and opportunity; a force that has confined women to a form of slavery, has bound their minds,



Liberty Leading the People

has kept them "in their place." This is the force that we observe opposing a concept so basic that it should be an assumption. Yet those behind this force do not consider women equal, do not believe they deserve to be equal, and are venomous in their determination to exclude women from equal representation under the Constitution of the country that those very women have helped to create.

To paraphrase a current slogan, persons of quality are not threatened by the concept of equality. For every person who marched in Washington, many more longed to march, still more could not financially afford the long trip, and even more do support and are sympathetic to this cause.

Schlafly and Others

Must I accept the fact that intelligent citizens are listening to and believing Phyllis Schlafly, a woman who is anything but a typical homemaker, a typical working woman, a typical example of one who must struggle under bonds of adverse economic and social discrimination? Must I accept the apathy of the knowledgable, but safe and lazy, uncommitted person who cruelly ignores this struggle to achieve the goal of equality under the law for all women? Must I respect the pertinacious congressperson who considers the ERA to be a "game" on which to make a wager?

Who of us has not experienced the uneasy feeling of impotence at the realization that our lives seem to be manipulated by uncontrollable, rigid, inhuman rules? Know then that the lives of many women are spent struggling and sometimes dying under restrictive rules of a "game" they have been powerless to change, and they have even been criticized and humiliated when they reacted to the agony

(continued on page 4)

Surrogate Wife

Emma Fried registered her company's name as "The Surrogate Wife" and began to take out ads in New York publications. Response was immediate, and now the idea is spreading across the country.

And what is a surrogate wife?

"A wife for hire," says Ms. Fried. "It's much more than just a secretary.

"A wife will do whatever needs to be done for a man. I'm not talking about sexual things, of course...I'm talking about things like getting the refrigerator fixed if it's broken. Think about that. If you don't have a wife, that's a real crisis.

"The things I do are the things that a quote, wife, unquote does. Not a husband...Men just are not in the habit of coming home and taking care of things. Wives are.

"The most unusual thing happened right after I started placing ads. I found a lot of people who called to inquire about renting a wife were women...then I realized that women need wives too."

The Washington Star, July 13, 1978
Submitted by Cathie McWhorter

MEDIOCRE MEN

"When we start honoring mediocre women, we will have achieved total equality with men."

Midge Costanza on the Lady's Home Journal Women of the Year Awards. Quoted on CBS Morning News, June 14, 1978.

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AREOPAGITICA

(continued from page 3)
that they suffered.

Now a brave majority makes a pledge to end this wasteful and senseless oppression: They will change not only the rules, but this unnecessary and sick game that has been so limiting to the human quest for a better world. Women have labored too hard and too long to abandon this love child named equality.

I choose to listen, to accept, to respect those thousands of brave and committed souls who marched beside us and for us all through the streets of this nation's Capital.

--Elaine Bagley

Wage Statistics

According to the never-before-compiled figures released in December by the Labor Department, although women make up 42% of the nation's labor force, they receive only 25% of the total earned wages going to American workers.

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NOW in Coalition for Equal Justice

On June 24, Dannie Botros, Jane Twyman, and Elaine Bagley attended a meeting of the Coalition for Equal Justice. The CEJ is a loosely structured organization of individuals concerned with human rights issues. Fourteen organizations are represented, including the ACLU, Association of Mexican American Women, LULAC, NAACP, the National Lawyers Guild, and NOW.

Previously, CEJ filed suit against Lubbock District Attorney, Alton Griffin, over minority participation on juries, and now the Coalition feels the need to address itself to the problem of racial discrimination in local accommodations.

Reports have been received for many years charging local nightclubs with excluding minorities, but prosecution under the Civil Rights laws involves a pattern of discrimination which is difficult to prove.

Old Dominion

Bonnie Cord, a lawyer in Washington D.C., was denied permission to take the bar examination in a rural Virginia county because she is living with a man to whom she is not married. CBS News, which carried the story on June 23, reported that several Virginia lawyers said the same decision would not have been made had she been a man living with a woman. A writ of mandamus is pending before the Virginia Supreme Court.

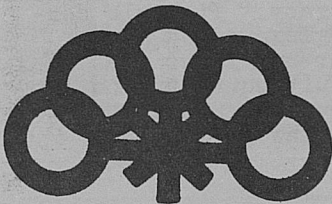
Since there are no state laws prohibiting this kind of discrimination, the CEJ feels that a local ordinance would be the logical solution to the problem.

The purpose of the June 24 meeting was to organize an effort to pressure the City Council into passing such an ordinance. Each member organization sent a letter to the Council, and Elaine Baley sent one on NOW's behalf. Plans were made to call a Press Conference and to address the Human Relations Commission on July 10. Both of these events took place as planned. Dannie Botros represented NOW.

At the present time, the CEJ is continuing its efforts to obtain an effective anti-discrimination ordinance, and feels confident that such an ordinance is feasible and will eventually be passed by the Lubbock City Council.



Waiting for the March to Begin at the Smithsonian. Left to right: Harry Rodes (formerly of Lubbock and the Washington host of six of the Lubbock contingent), Susie Sappington, Jane Twyman, Frances Hicks (Clear Lake City, Texas, NOW), and Jo Stewart (Houston NOW) a parade marshall.



Marchers, Extension, and Tower

(continued from page 1)

At this writing it is not clear whether the full seven-year extension originally proposed might be restored by amendment in the full House, where passage of the compromise resolution is certain, but Representative Don Edwards (D-Calif.), who chairs the Judiciary Committee, probably acted on behalf of the Democratic leadership of the House in arranging the compromise. In any case, four more years from now should be more than enough time to crack the opposition in Illinois, Virginia, North Carolina, Missouri, Florida, and Nevada, where only the belief of some legislators that the issue would soon be dead has thwarted ratification. The pressure of the economic boycott grows daily.

Threat to Extension

The extension could, however, still be blocked. Certain senators, not yet identified in available news reports, have threatened a filibuster (that is, endless debate) in the Senate, which must, of course, also pass the extension resolution. Debate in the Senate can only be cut off by cloture, which requires a three-fifths majority of those senators voting. Extension will certainly pass the Senate if it votes on the question, but in the event of a filibuster, if the necessary majority for cloture cannot be mustered, no vote will be taken on the extension resolution itself, and it will die.

Tower of Texas

Senator John Tower of Texas is opposed to extension. It seems at present very unlikely that he would vote for cloture should a filibuster be launched. You have then the opportunity and the duty to write what may well be the most important letter you will ever write. Write Senator Tower, immediately, urging him not to support any attempt to block a vote

by the Senate on the extension resolution and to vote for cloture, if that becomes necessary. Then write him again next week reminding him of your previous letter, and the week after that, and that. A sample letter follows. It also constitutes an open letter to Senator Tower, who receives this newsletter:

Open Sample Letter

Senator John Tower
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tower:

I urge you not to support any attempt to block a vote in the Senate on the proposed extension of the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and to vote for cloture, should that become necessary.

I am aware that you have opposed extension of the deadline for seven years as an unfair "change of the rules," and for other reasons that might have some merit were it not that the equality of more than half our citizens is at stake. Perhaps the compromise agreed to by the House Judiciary Committee will seem fair to you.

Despite my own belief that extension is both fair and necessary, I can understand your concern that the process of amending the Constitution should ensure a national consensus. I am sure you will agree that the free vote of the United States Senate is a most appropriate test of what the national consensus on any issue is. A filibuster in the Senate that blocked a vote on the question of extension would undermine the principles of representative democracy. It would convince millions of Texans and many million more other Americans that they had been denied full equality, not by the will of the people, but by the machinations of a few selfish and corrupt men.

ERA: FICTIONS; FACTS

The Equal Rights Amendment is much in the news these days, and it will remain a volatile issue as long as the amendment is unratified and the extension resolution is pending in the House and Senate. You are sure to be confronted with the shibboleths of the opposition, so here are some facts, just in case you are fortunate enough to discuss the ERA with a reasonable but misguided person. (Much of the information reproduced here can be found in a brochure printed by the Texas Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. 6100 Camp Bowie Blvd, H-7, Forth Worth, Texas 76116.)

Opponents Claim:

Women can be drafted if the amendment passes.

The Facts Are:

Women can already be drafted in Texas! In 1957, the Texas Legislature passed Article 5765, Vernon's Revised Civil Article Statutes, 1958 Supplement, Article 5765 provides that "all able bodied citizens, male and female...shall constitute the militia and be subjected to military duty." Furthermore, there is nothing to prevent Congress from passing a law to draft women with or without the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Likewise, if this should happen, all women would not serve in combat any more than all men do. In 1971, only 5 percent of eligible men were drafted and only 1 percent ever served in combat. There are physical requirements for combat; for instance, men with flat feet have never been eligible to fight. Whatever a particular woman was physically unable to do she would be exempt from doing--just as men now are.

All this aside, do the opponents of the ERA really believe women are less patriotic than men? Do they really believe women are unwilling to serve their country in war?

Opponents Claim:

Women will lose their maternity benefits if the amendment passes.

The Facts Are:

They can't lose what they do not have! Neither Texas nor any other state in the Union has any law granting maternity benefits.

Opponents Claim:

If the amendment passes it will "do away with a woman's right to alimony" and will make the mother as well as the father responsible for the support of the children.

The Facts Are:

Texas and North Carolina have no permanent alimony for either man or woman, and the fact is that the ERA will have little or no effect on existing arrangements about the issue.

AMY—By Jack Tippit

After ERA, Just as now, divorce settlements will be based on fault and on need. The spouse with the greater financial



"Roger, ol' buddy, will you take care of the kid for me? I gotta go to an ERA meeting."

capacity will be required to contribute to the support of the spouse in need. In seventeen states there is already a provision for alimony for the husband as well as the wife and there is nothing to prevent any state from

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ERA: FICTIONS; FACTS

(Continued from page 7)
is nothing to prevent any state from passing a law giving either the husband or the wife or both alimony with or without the ERA. Child custody and child support would be determined, after ERA, just as it is now--on the basis of who can better meet the needs of the children.

Incidentally, statistics indicate that alimony and child support are women's rights more honored in the breach than in the observance. The Citizen's Advisory Council on the Status of Women cites one study which shows that one year after divorce 2 fathers in 5 (42%) had made no support payment at all; by the tenth year, 4 out of 5 (80%) were making no payments. These figures are particularly disturbing when one realizes that most support awards meet less than half the actual cost of supporting a child, to begin with.

In Texas, the Family Code, Section 4.02 places the duty of support of the children on both the mother and the father. Either or both can be jailed for failure to support the children. In fact, in all but four states, Arizona, Colorado, Montana and Utah, both the father and mother are responsible for support of the children, and surely, only irresponsible parents would object to any

law on the grounds that it requires a parent to support a child!

Opponents Claim:

If the amendment passes the mother will no longer have superior rights to child custody.

The Facts Are:

The mother does not now have such a right! Neither Texas nor any other state in the Union gives the mother preference by law in child custody cases. Article 463a Vernon's Texas Statutes provides in part, "...And such court shall make such order regarding the custody and support of each child or children as is for the best interest of same." Contrary to what many people think, custody by law is decided by the court solely on the basis of what is best for the child and more and more frequently custody is being awarded to fathers.

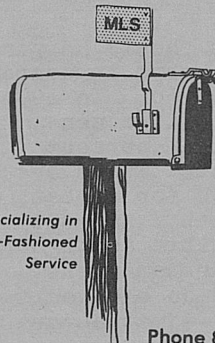
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HOGWASH

"The Case of the Courthouse Cuties," a booklet filled with cartoons about legal secretaries and their bosses, is being sold by the Lubbock Legal Secretaries to raise funds for their legal education projects.

The booklet, written by Mildred Sheffy of Hereford, humorously depicts secretary-boss situations, which she compiled during her past 36 years as a legal secretary.

Avalanche-Journal, July 21, 1978, submitted by Jane Twyman.

Sheats Gives Answers To Hard Questions

Pastor Morris Sheats, Senior Minister of Lubbock's Trinity Church, has announced a special evening summer sermon series. "Summer in full-steam ahead at Trinity Church," Sheats commented in announcing the sermon series for the 5:00 p.m. service.

Sheats commented that his recent campaign for Congress had caused him to be more aware of the "real problems" that we are facing in this country. "We are faced with some hard questions that demand hard answers," the minister declared when asked about what he had learned in the past few months.

The "hard question" to be tackled on Sunday Evening, June 26, will be: "Can our society accept the homosexual lifestyle as normal?" The proposed Equal Rights Amendment has opened the door for the homosexual and lesbian to receive recognition. This attempted recognition must be



faced by the American people," Sheats stated.

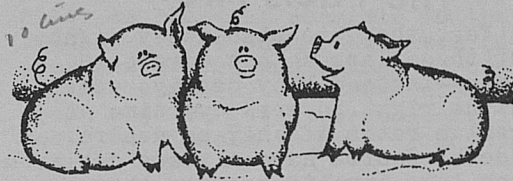
"Society must determine what its responsibility is to what the homosexual and lesbian say in their right," Sheats invited the public to examine the question with him. The Trinity Church, an interdenominational church, is located at South Loop 289 and Canton Avenue. The service begins at 5:00 p.m.

(Adv.)

Advertisement in the Avalanche-Journal, June 25, 1978. Submitted by Richmond Flowers and several other readers. Remember Morris, as Aristotle said: "Even the good is better when it is harder."

"Where would the team be without the pretty girls in the cheering section?"

Advertisement, Lu Rees of Lubbock. Submitted by Dr. James W. Harper.



WASHINGTON: July 18 (Associated Press)--Opposing the extension, Rep. Sam B. Hall, Jr., also a Texas Democrat argued, "The rights of women are secondary, in my opinion, to the rights of the amending process of the Constitution of the United States."

Submitted by Jane Seaver Twyman.

Gutter language is unnecessary for expression of views and ideas. Despite the women's liberation movement and the emphasis on giving a child free rein to explore 'the real world,' it would be refreshing if--on the airwaves, at least-- we could get back to the point where certain words are not used in mixed company.

There still are a lot of us, including the father who took the issue to the Supreme Court, who have a right to be spared the embarrassment we feel when such filth is aired in the presence of our children, wives and mothers.

Avalanche-Journal, Editorial, July 6, 1978, submitted by Dee McGraw.

August Action/Business

The next Action/Business Meeting will be held at Carol Smith's home at 7:00 pm, August 3. Please call the NOW Number for the address.

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ERA: FICTIONS; FACTS

(continued from page 8)

Opponents Claim:

"Protective" laws applying to women only, will be abrogated.

The Facts Are:

Yes, they are absolutely right, but these laws do not "protect" women--instead they deprive women of the right to work overtime at premium rates if they so desire. Federal Courts have already declared such laws invalid because they violate the Fair Employment Section of the Civil Rights Act. Furthermore, if a law is really designed to protect the health or welfare of the worker, it is just as necessary to protect men as it is to protect women and the law should apply to both. Statistics show men die earlier than women and are more subject to stress diseases, hence need protection as much or more than women.

Opponents Claim.

If the amendment passes, it will clutter up the Courts with litigation.

The Facts Are:

Every law and every constitutional provision and amendment is subject to court interpretation. The guarantee of freedom of speech was one of the first ten amendments to the Consti-

tution, yet cases are still being brought into court for interpretation of that amendment and no one claims that the amendment guaranteeing freedom of speech should be repealed because it generates law suits. Women have as much right as any other citizens to have their claims adjudicated in the courts and will keep appealing discriminations to the courts with or without the enactment of the ERA.

(continued next month)

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Ed Committee Lands Iles Slot

The NOW Education Committee is making an effort to define crucial areas of interest for the coming year, and, in response to Dr. Paul Dixon's initiative, we received this letter from Professor Robert H. Anderson, Dean of Education, Texas Tech University:

Dear Ms. Brink:

Dr. Paul Dixon has reported to me the discussion in which he participated recently, concerning possible involvement of NOW in the program at the Iles Elementary School for which we at Texas Tech are accepting major responsibility. I was pleased to know of your interest, and I

told Dr. Dixon that sometime during the fall we hope to establish one or more advisory committees whose members would represent various interests (such as yours) and with whom we could have fairly continuous dialogue about ways of making sure that the curriculum of that school comes as close as possible to the ideal. If you think this is a good idea and if you would like to designate somebody from NOW on such a group when we get it organized, I would be pleased to hear from you.

NEW MEMBERS

LUBBOCK NOW welcomes the following new members. Please clip and attach to your Call List.

Marleta Childs 2308 21st Street 79411 (744-2236)	Belle Weninger 4514 20th Street 79414 (797-7414)
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Newsletter Only:

Margaret E. Wilson 5411 46th Street 79414 (795-2898)	Sharla Shivers Route 4, Box 162 Seminole, Tx 79360
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Absentee Ballot

Absentee ballot for the August 1 election of officers:	<u>Policy Coordinator</u> Jane Twyman__
	Other _____
<u>Recorder</u> Darlene Jones__	<u>Action Coordinator</u> Cathie McWhorter__
Other _____	Other _____
<u>Treasurer</u> Joanne Grubbs__	<u>Operation Coordi-</u> Carole George__
Other _____	nator Other _____

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