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Feminist Voices (Spring-Summer 1997)

Greater Bangor Chapter of the National Organization of Women Staff

Greater Bangor Chapter of the National Organization of Women

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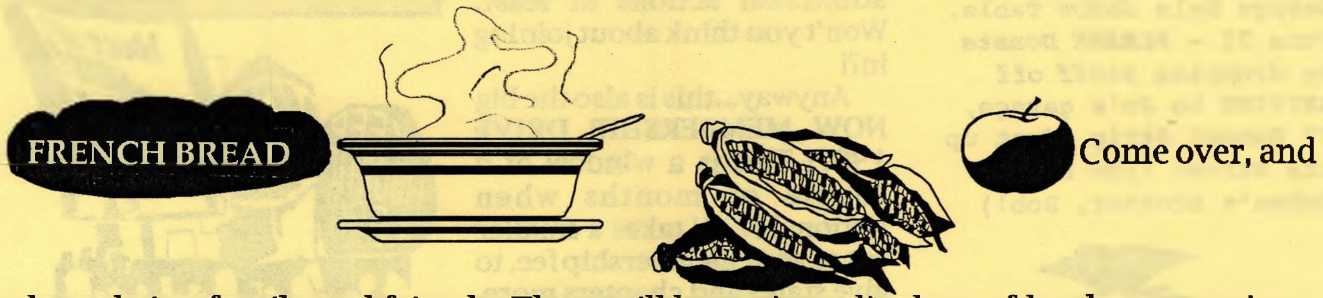
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Feminist Voices 1997

SPRING And SUMMER


Greetings!

Mark your calendar for some feminist fun! Monday, May 6th is International NO Diet Day. GBNOW's Annual POT  LUCK will be at JoAnne's, 6pm, 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer (off Parkway South).



please bring family and friends. There will be various displays of books, magazines, handouts, and such, promoting size acceptance and opposed to both looksism and dieting. In between munching & mixing, conversation & games (pool, pingpong, horseshoes...), JoAnne may burst forth briefly on Fat and Food and Feminism.

Inside this issue of *Feminist Voices* is a review of GBNOW activity since our last newsletter, and upcoming events such as:

- Take Back the Night, April 18, 7pm, UM Folger Library
- H.O.P.E. Festival, April 19, 10am-5pm, Brewer Auditorium
- Take Our Daughters to Work Day, April 24, UM Women's Center
- International NO Diet Day Celebration, Monday, May 6 
- Mother's Day Action, Bangor [to be planned], May 11
- GBNOW Meetings, every 2nd Monday— May 13, June 10, July 8...— 6-8pm, Peace & Justice Center, 128 Main St, Bangor
- Women's Rights Day event, Bangor, August 26th

**Greetings !
from your Coordinator
Happy Spring &
Summer!**

Oops. We missed that pesky Winter edition of *FV* and moved right along into this Spring edition. I do apologize to those who've been dashing to their mailboxes every day in anticipation of this sparkling commentary.

GBNOW fundraising isn't high on my list of favorites and the well got a tad low. But, those memberships and renewals continue to trickle in, and there are several possible money-makers coming up!

A H.O.P.E. Festival
GBNOW Table, April 19,
10am-5pm, Brewer
Auditorium.

**A Take Our Daughters to
Work Day First Annual
Breakfast**, April 24, UM,
Orono.

**A World's Largest
Garage Sale** GBNOW Table,
June 21 - **PLEASE Donate**
by dropping stuff off
ANYTIME to Jo's garage,
87 Sunset Strip (just up
the street from Bill
Cohen's brother, Bob!)



I'm sure we'll make millions hundreds dozens of dollars whith which to carry on the cause. Meanwhile, like women generally, women's rights activists have done so much for so long with so little, we can do almost anything with almost nothing almost anytime!

MEETINGS & MEMBERS



Attendance at GB meetings has perked up nicely since our last newsletter! One meeting had 8 attenders!

More importantly, commitments to be active at some level in '97 have come from Joyce Blakney, Deanna Partridge, K.C. Edes, Sharon Barker, Amanda Blake, and I think April Burke, Kathleen Worcherster, and Margaret (?) would do additional actions at least. Won't you think about joining in?!

Anyway...this is also the big NOW MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 1997! This is a window of a couple of months when National NOW takes a smaller cut of your membership fee, to give states and chapters more. Big prizes for chapters who recruit the most members and such too. If you ARE a GBNOW member, THANK YOU!!

Since GB always makes and even mails quite a few extra *Feminist Voices* to try to entice people to join, many of you reading this can help NOW by joining NOW!! This entitles you to a minimum of four *Maine NOW Times* mailings per year, and I believe it's a minimum of four *National NOW Times* too. Of course, *FV* will be there too!

If I am alert when I put this *FV* together, there will be a special membership form for YOU or, if you are already a GB member [your label# ends in 25], you can get a friend a membership! BE SURE TO CHOOSE GBNOW (chapter ME 0025) as your chapter or we get none of your membership fee.

Many receiving this are "At-large" members of NOW [your label# ends in AL]. You too can help by contacting National NOW anytime using your membership number [on your membership card or National NOW Time label] and tell 'em you want to transfer into GBNOW Chapter ME0025!

By the way, several of you DID transfer in after the last newsletter appeal. MANY THANKS! Your extra effort does mean a LOT to me!

GBNOW TAKES ACTION!



AUTUMN ACTIONS '96
Since our last newsletter GBNOW has taken action on many fronts! Last Fall, we participated in Maine NOW's Get Out The (Feminist) Vote March and 25th Anniversary Celebration in Augusta. What a blast!

Deanna (from the CUREs Project), Joyce, Ilze (Peace & Justice Center Program

Director), several folks from the Clean Clothes Campaign - Bjorn, Concie, Evie, Nancy,... I, and others from the Bangor area joined in the very successful festivities. It was a special joy for me to see so many "old" NOW friends, some true pioneers of the Maine NOW movement: Lois Galgay Reckitt, Paulette Dodge, Nancy Dibner, Deb Stahler...

Also last Fall, we had a small, but in its own way successful, **Candidate's Night**, with CUREs and Peace & Justice Center cosponsoring. And, many NOW members participated on election day for various causes and candidates!

We had a GREAT turnout last November for our **TAKE BACK THE NIGHT!** Our speakers at the pre-march rally were wonderful - Many thanks to NOW members and State Representatives Jane Saxl and Tina Baker. Thanks too to Yvonne Mazerole of the University College Resource Center, co-coordinator of the event, and to Kathy Walker

(Rape Response Services) and CUREs, Penobscot Maine Won't Discriminate and Peace & Justice Center, cosponsors. NOW activists from several Maine Chapters marched with locals through beautiful downtown Bangor! Note that there is a TBTN coming up in Orono April 18, 1997! Meet 7 pm, in front of UM Folger Library.

1997 Begins With [a threat of] a Bang!

In January, after a bomb threat at a local doctor's office, CUREs - Communities United for Reproductive Safety organized a **Speak Out Against Violence**. As NOW's CUREs activist, I did what I could to help Deanna with this very successful event!

Elected officials, and representatives of several organizations and churches spoke out. Speakers included several people either not

strictly pro-choice or even anti-choice. Special thanks from me to **Senator Buddy Murray** for speaking out.

Big thanks to all who stick their necks out on a regular basis (most of them also NOW members!): **Sharon Barker** of UM's Women's Resource Center, **Senator Mary Cathcart**, **Rep. Tina Baker**, **James "J.V." Varner** of the NAACP... and, of course, the incomparable **Ruth Lockhart** of the **Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center**, and the dynamic **Deanna Partridge** of the CUREs Project!

February, You're My Little Valentine



GB was active in two major events in February.

On Valentine's Day we staged a play "Here Come The Brides", about a same-



In 1995, 75 percent of women with children over six years old have jobs.

sex-oops!- same-gender [we're told it's better not to use the "s" word...geez] wedding. Our lovely brides were played by the ever popular Joyce Blakney and Wilde-Stein activist, Kathleen Worcester. Both are students at UM, and Joyce teaches at Bangor High.



NOW activist, K.C. Edes played the minister, and Amanda Blake played the "Marriage Police Officer". We couldn't have done it without even more help tho, which was provided by Sharon Barker, John Hoyt, Margaret, Phil, and several kindly members of the Unitarian Universalist Dance Committee, whose dance followed our action. Thanks too to Channel 5 who taped the whole shebang, and gave it good coverage over two days! Author! Author! [:) me!]

NOW was also responsible for the Black History Month display at the Peace & Justice Center, which remained up through March, since the emphasis was on Black women, for Women's History Month...

March, In Like A Lion



On International Women's Day, March 8th, GBNOW, the CCC-Clean Clothes Campaign, PICA, P&J, Main Association of

Interdependent Neighborhoods, Rape Response Services, Spruce Run, CUREs...sponsored an action at the Bangor Federal Building, "Myth America - Honoring International Women's Day". [see article this issue] Ilze, Valerie Carter, April Burke, K.C., and I did the lion's share of work. It may have been Bjorn's idea to start with, since rumor has it the idea hatched at a CCC meeting? But, with a nice push from Ilze (who was relaxing at the beach in Florida that day), we put it together, figured out a final version from several good suggestions, and performed it — TWICE! Once for Channel 5 and the Bangor Daily News reporter, and again for Channels 2 & 7. A Great time was had by all, and media treatment of the event was most favorable.

Women's History Month was also celebrated at the regular NOW meeting on the 10th with a viewing of "Call to Action: '89 March on Washington for Women's Equality/Women's Lives". In attendance were Joyce, Deanna, K.C., and I.

On the 25th, I ventured off to Damarascotta's Senior Spectrum for an AARP lunch and to give a talk on U.S. women's suffrage intrigues. Did you know that Maine

The results of a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics study show how little working mothers are valued. Its 1991 findings for women aged 27 to 33 show that women without children earned 88 cents to the dollar compared to men. But women with children made only 50 cents to the dollar.

In 1996, one in five of all working women held a secretarial or clerical job. Seventy-five percent of working women earned less than \$25,000 a year.



1970s Women workers earn, on the average, only 59¢ for each dollar earned by men.

women got to vote on whether or not women should have the right to vote? It all had to do with the "Antis" and their whacky referendum drives! You didn't think that was a new twist, did you!?!

The 30 or so AARPers were wonderful, full of great questions and comments on past & present feminist escapades, and there was even a polite "heckler" in the group!

will be heard by the Legislative Judiciary Committee. As I'm sure most of you know, this would amend the Maine Human Rights Act, so that "sexual orientation" will become suspect as a reason why people discriminate, and, will make such discrimination unlawful. As of today, it seems I will deliver the testimony for Maine NOW. This bill was first introduced 20 years ago, in 1977!



April is a Shower of Activities! Some will have passed by the time you get this newsletter, some still ahead.

On April 5, the Clean Clothes Campaign [CCC] plans a petition drive in Bangor — Stop Sweatshop Day — to collect 1000 more signatures for presentation to the Bangor City Council this Fall.

NOW has been very active in the CCC, including the kick-off last Fall, articles for *Maine NOW Times* and *JAM-Jo's Action Message*, steering committee (& sub-committee) meetings, "Roadshow" training & slideshow presentation, and actions!

April 12, 9am, Winslow Library, is the next Maine NOW Board meeting. This will be a working meeting, to put a mailing together, so extra hands are especially welcome!

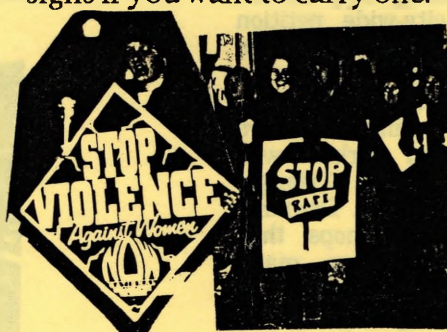
- Greater Bangor NOW •••••
- April 14 •••••
- 6-8pm •••••
- Peace & Justice Center •••••
- 128 Main St, Bangor •••••
- (under EPI's Sub Shop) •••••
-

April 19th is also HOPE Festival Day, 10am-5pm, Brewer Auditorium! [flier in this FV]

April 24 is Take Our Daughters to Work Day. Beginning at 9am, Women's Resource Center, 101 Fernald Hall, UM Orono, events are planned for women and girls.

GBNOW will have a table with info there. Kelly Stubbs, and possibly others from the women's basketball team will be on hand. The ever-popular Sharon Barker, WRC Director will say a few words. Mid-day promises a ride in the policewoman's car! [There may be a flier in this FV if I can get it in time].

April 18, 7pm, steps of Folger Library, UM, we will Take Back the Night. Bring flashlights or candles, and signs if you want to carry one!



April 19th there are events happening at UM, Orono, for "the Beautiful Project". It's all about accepting ourselves, and more, learning to appreciate the beauty of us — inside and out!

For more information on that, contact Willow at the Women's Resource Center 581-1228

Amendment

On April 8, 1:30pm [better to show up an hour or so early tho], at the Augusta Civic Center, the Lesbian & Gaymen's Rights bill, AKA, the Anti-Discrimination bill,



PRESENTS

"BANGOR, SETTING A TREND: WASHING OUT SWEATSHOP STAINS"

an evocative, informative and engaging
slide presentation

for more information call the Bangor Clean Clothes Campaign at 947-4203



Remember April 5: Stop Sweatshop Day

3-29-97

By K.C. Edes

Had President Franklin D. Roosevelt been present in Bangor of 1997, there is little doubt he would have been a firm supporter of the Bangor Clean Clothes Campaign. In 1937, Roosevelt stated that "Goods produced under conditions that don't meet a rudimentary standard of decency should be regarded as contraband and ought not to be able to pollute the channels of interstate commerce." Now 60 years later, about half of the clothes sold in the United States are made in "sweatshops," "polluting" channels of global commerce. The women and girls who make these clothes work for poverty wages in unsafe, degrading and abusive conditions. Often the sole breadwinners of their families, they live in absolute misery — in crowded one-room homes, drinking sugar water to blunt their hunger, lacking medicines for illnesses, unable to afford even the tiniest present for their children.

The Bangor Clean Clothes Campaign is a community effort against sweatshops in the global clothing industry sponsored by Peace through Interamerican Community Action, the Maine AFL-CIO, the Bangor chapter of the National Organization for Women and the Greater Bangor NAACP. The campaign agrees with and expands on Roosevelt's vision. Engaging both consumers and retailers, the campaign's dream is that no individual anywhere be subject to working in sweatshop conditions.

Toward this end, the Clean

Clothes Campaign has collected more than 5,000 signatures on a petition asking people to support the idea of Bangor going on record as the first Clean Clothes community in the United States. Using an informative and engaging slide presentation, the campaign has found enthusiastic support from many sectors of our community: youth, schools, labor, religious groups, women's groups and civic groups. The regional and national interest in the campaign is also strong; if successful, it could be replicated in cities across the country.

On Saturday, April 5, the campaign is sponsoring Stop Sweatshop Day, a city-wide petition drive. On April 5, 1911, more than 120,000 people marched in a funeral procession in New York City, commemorating the more than 100 locked-in workers who died in the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire. Demanding an end to sweatshops, they obtained minimum wage, maximum hour and other protective legislation. In the age of the global sweatshop, this Stop Sweatshop Day is your chance to become part of history by adding your name to thousands of others and helping to stop the "contraband" that "pollutes" our store shelves. Put April 5 on your calendar, adding another important date to those already on it. And if you take an hour or two to help collect signatures, you may work with some exciting people. Or a future U.S. president. Step out or sign up on April 5.

K.C. Edes lives in Hampden. Active in the Clean Clothes Campaign, she is a member of PICA.



"I'm just pleased and proud of this effort that you've pulled together and supportive of this petition."
- Rep. John Baldacci

"...and certainly the children throughout the world should be allowed to be children and women should be paid a decent wage."
- James Varner, co-sponsor NAACP

"The AFL-CIO is proud to join the citizens of Bangor in this important cause. We believe like Mrs. Clinton that it does take a village, and we hope in this case that it's the city of Bangor, that speaks out against this moral wrong."
- Charles O'Leary co-sponsor AFL-CIO



Photos by Jim Harney

"It may seem like a sort of hopeless effort to effect change in these places but the only way we can do it is if we work together in community."
- Joanne Dauphinee co-sponsor National Organization for Women

International Women's Day 1997

International Women's Day had its beginnings in 1908, when the U.S. Socialist Party accepted the recommendation of its Women's National Committee to Campaign for the Suffrage to set aside one day each year to campaign for women's suffrage. Beginning in 1909, all over the United States women had gatherings, large and small, with over 2000 meeting in NYC to hear orators like garment worker & union organizer **Leonora O'Reilly** call not only for the right to vote but for equal rights for women in all spheres of life.

By 1909, there were millions of women (and 10s of thousands of children) working in U.S. sweatshops. Conditions were **abysmal**. Old wooden buildings were dimly lit, overcrowded, smelly, cold in winter, sweltering in summer. The women and girls, many young immigrants, were required to work 10 to 12 hours per day, six days a week, not allowed to speak, harassed, and sometimes physically assaulted, made to sit or stand on boxes (no chairs), with limited bathroom breaks, extremely low wages, some starting as low as \$1.50 per week.

As early as 1828, 400 women workers went out on strike in Dover, NH. Wives and mothers of male workers also often walked picket lines, enduring the frequent beatings and arrests by police. But, the most famous strike occurred **November 22, 1909**, in the NYC garment district, when teenage worker, **Clara Lemlich** called the strike vote to uproaring cheers in **Cooper Union Hall**. The strike came to be called by most the "**Uprising of 20, 000**", tho as many as 30,000 joined in before it was done in 1910. In honor of this great women's strike, which touched hearts around the globe, what had been a national call for women's freedoms, became, in 1910, an annual **International Women's Day** of demonstrations around the world. IWD also has come to remember the tragic **Triangle Shirtwaist Factory** fire of 1911, where 146 women and girls (& 3 men) died needlessly. Their average age was 19.

In 1997, nearly 100 years later, women and girls are still organizing to end sweatshop conditions, in the U.S. and around

the globe, especially in so-called free trade zones. These young women and girls are being abused, use up, and then cast aside by the greedy CEOs who collect 8, 9, even 10 figure salaries - yes, 100s of millions of dollars per year for one individual from the lives and labor of millions working for pennies.

Most women now have the right to vote, but women and our children still suffer vast inequalities, abuse, and indignities. Worse, the greedy would have us blame each other - often trying to turn men and women against each other, fueling racial tensions, blaming mothers on welfare for causing the national debt, scapegoating immigrants, lesbians and gaymen, union organizers, teenagers, feminists, and so on.

Maybe they are hoping we won't notice **one of the most massive transfers of wealth ever from poor and middleclass folks to the richest 1% - through tax breaks, subsidies, military contracts, interest payments on the federal debt, union busting, and exploitation of trade and labor laws.** Hoping we won't notice **who benefits when we turn on each other.**

•Today, we join together to say, **we noticed!**

•Today, we are **AIRING OUR DIRTY LAUNDRY** - to say **NO** to the myths used to try to divide us!

•Today, we join together to **expose the myths as lies!**

•Today, we express our outrage at the **dirty truths** they try to hide from us!

•Today, on **International Women's Day**, in solidarity with women and men through the century and around the world, we propose to work together to make a better world for women and children!



**MARCH
ON!**

OpEd

Mother of all feminists

JoAnne Dauphinee is president of the Greater Bangor National Organization for Women and has been a feminist activist for nearly 30 years.

Every day, I see articles and issues in the Bangor Daily News on which the National Organization for Women might write. In January, there were several articles mentioning NOW. But, the issue that sent me to the computer was Linda Rier's Oped commentary (BDN, Feb. 15), "Motherhood is a full-time job."

Ms. Rier urges us to grant to mothers the respect and dignity they have long deserved, including mothers who are, by chance or choice, full-time. So far, this is the message of the feminist movement. But, Ms. Rier, inexplicably, spends much of her article "shooting the messenger." She blames feminists for the lack of respect for mothers, and claims we denied women the choice to be full-time mothers.

Feminists have a long and proud tradition of criticizing the institutions of marriage, motherhood and the workplace for the lack of respect society show for women in those roles. Nineteenth century feminists tried to improve marriage by changing the idea that wives and children were the property of the husband; they often struck the word "obey" from marriage vows. Suffragists such as Lucy Stone kept their own names after marriage to symbolize the humanity of women. Meanwhile, feminists fought (and continue to fight) sweatshop working conditions and a sex-segregated labor market.

Many feminists sought reform in the late 1800s. But, the issue of women as chattel was even more directly addressed by "sex radicals" and "free love" advocates. They were not advocates of promiscuity. Rather, feminist and free-love advocate Victoria Woodhull was among those who believed sex should only be without coercion. That is, she was an early opponent of marital rape.

Feminists are the undisputed proponents of a right to violence-free marriages. When I first started lobbying the Maine Legislature, in the early 1970s, about rape and violence inside marriages, they said it was nobody's business what a man did inside his own marriage. It was a long, slow public relations campaign that has finally begun to change public (and lawmakers') opinions about the rights of women and children to violence-free families.



ANTHONY D'ADAMO/OP ART

Feminists never had either the power or desire to deny women the choice of full-time mother and homemaker. Attempts by feminists to increase the availability of quality child care options, and to improve women's lot as wives, mothers, and in paid employment, are all meant to have the exact opposite effect!

It is feminists who believe in supporting and respecting mothers regardless of society's "hyphens": so-called "welfare-mothers," "lesbian-mothers," "teen-mothers," "single-mothers," "minority-mothers" (many of whom have suffered from government-sanctioned sterilization abuse) — mothers who are "imperfect" by someone else's standards, by some "ideal family" value.

It is feminists who have advocated, for example: wages, Social Security, IRAs, and other financial protections for primary homemakers; financial protections such as credit in her own name, and the right (and expectation) to inherit property;

access for full-time homemakers to their husbands' pensions, social security and military entitlements in the event of divorce or his death.

Even Ms. Rier admits that feminist Adrienne Rich's 1976 book, "Of Woman Born," makes "the distinction that the institution of motherhood" was the object of criticism, not actual "maternal childbearing and caring for children." The distortion of this distinction is central and critical, not incidental. That the distortion was the deliberate product of feminist opponents, not sloppy feminists, is also critical. Early portrayals of feminists in the second wave (1970s onward) were far from flattering and often purposely and gleefully distorted.

Ms. Rier and feminists ought to be on the same side. Sentimental notions of the good old days do not wash. Respect for wives and mothers must be concrete. It should include: rights as human individuals, as well as rights as marriage partners; financial rights and access; and freedom from fear and violence in her home. Actions speak louder than words.

**NOW Members
in the 118th Maine Legislature**

Maine Senate



Mary R. Cathcart

District 7 Mary Cathcart
Orono 866-3054

District 28 Anne M. Rand
Portland 772-7704



Anne M. Rand



Rochelle M. Pingree

District 12 Rochelle Pingree
N. Haven 867-0966

District 11 Susan W. Longley
Liberty area 589-4644



Susan W. Longley



Peggy A. Pendleton

District 31 Peggy Pendleton
Scarborough 883-5414

District 18 Sharon Treat
Gardiner 582-6702



Sharon Treat

Maine House

District 98 Pamela Hatch
Skowhegan 474-3435



Pamela H. Hatch



Elizabeth Watson

District 82 Elizabeth Watson
Farmingdale 582-2068

District 37 Michael Brennan¹
Portland 773-1995



Michael F. Brennan

District 53 David Shiah
Bowdoinham 666-5902

District 123 Kathleen Stevens
Orono 866-3697



Kathleen Stevens



Jane W. Saxl

District 120 Jane Saxl
Bangor 945-5786

District 117 Christina Baker
Bangor 942-4137



Edward J. Povich



Christina Baker

District 127 Eddie Povich¹
Ellsworth 667-7116

¹Significant other is NOW member

This flier was not authorized by any candidate.
Paid for by Maine NOW-PAC, 87 Sunset Strip,
Brewer ME 04412 JoAnne Dauphinee, Treas.] 997

**CHANGING THE FACE
OF
MAINE
GOVERNMENT
SINCE 1978**

MAINE NOW PAC
National Organization for Women
Political Action Committee



MAINE NOW-PAC

- MNP is the political arm, the "Political Action Committee" of Maine NOW, composed of widely respected citizen lobbyists, legislative hearing organizers, campaign managers, and political strategists.

- MNP researches, creates and distributes, each election season, Maine's most comprehensive and accurate candidate analysis on progressive and feminist issues.

- MNP raises thousands of dollars for distribution during election campaigns for feminists and other progressive candidates running for state or local office.

- MNP does outreach and education encouraging Maine feminists — especially women and minority men — to run for the Maine Legislature and serve in campaigns.

WHY FORM A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE?

Maine NOW PAC was formed in 1978 to compliment Maine NOW's other feminist activities. Since 1971, Maine NOW has engaged in such actions as

- Lobbying & Education
- Legislative analysis
- Demonstrations
- Marches
- Consciousness Raising "CR"
- Speak-outs

By 1978, the law required non-profit organizations to create PACs if they wished to engage in election activities. Maine NOW needed to create the Maine NOW PAC umbrella in order to make formal endorsements of candidates, take a stand on referendum questions, and to contribute to those campaigns.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Maine NOW PAC endorses only those candidates who support our four basic issues:

- Reproductive rights**
- Equal Rights Amendment and Economic Justice**
- Lesbian and Gay Rights**
- Racial Equality**

If these basic values are reflected in candidate public records, then they are **considered** for endorsement based on their positions on many feminist and progressive issues. **Only** if formally endorsed may a candidate be **considered** for a monetary contribution. Whether and how much money a candidate receives also depends on many variables, such as:

- Positions on other issues of concern
- Ability to influence
- Prospects for election
- Opponent's qualities & standing
- Gender or minority status
- Community work on feminist issues
- Level of respect in the feminist/progressive community

Referendum campaigns, such as *Maine Won't Discriminate*, are on a case by case basis

So that Maine NOW PAC may support our feminist, progressive candidates and engage Rightwing extremists in their referendum harassment campaigns..

So we can help create a more just and humane world for ourselves and our children...

Please give as generously as you can.

Thank you!

EVERYONE PLEASE!

Name _____

Address _____

Town, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

Please don't **DO call me** about actions and lobbying efforts so I may help!

 Enclosed is a **ONE TIME contribution.**

 I wish to contribute every month as a sustainer & Receive monthly *JAM Jo's Action Message*. Please contact me!

**Maine NOW PAC 87 Sunset Strip
Brewer ME 04412 207-989-3306**



HOPE

HELP ORGANIZE PEACE EARTHWISE

FESTIVAL Earth Day, 1997

Saturday, April 19, 10 AM-5 PM

Brewer Auditorium, Brewer, ME

(State and Wilson Streets near Brewer Shopping Center)

Very Special Guests:

Singer Dave Mallett
Performs His Own Music

Environmentalist Cherie
Mason Speaks: "Wildlife:
Rights and Wrongs"

Jo Eaton/Penobscot
Riverkeepers Shows
Slides of the River

Special Events Include:

Earth Day 5K Fun
Run at 11 AM

Outdoor Displays under
the Earth Day Tent

FREE ADMISSION



Organizational Fair with
over 60 Non-Profit Groups
Learn about Peace, Justice
& Environmental Resources
in Our Community

Live Music by:
Hoose Family/Variety
Lidral Trio/Jazz
Marsh Island Band
Contradance Music

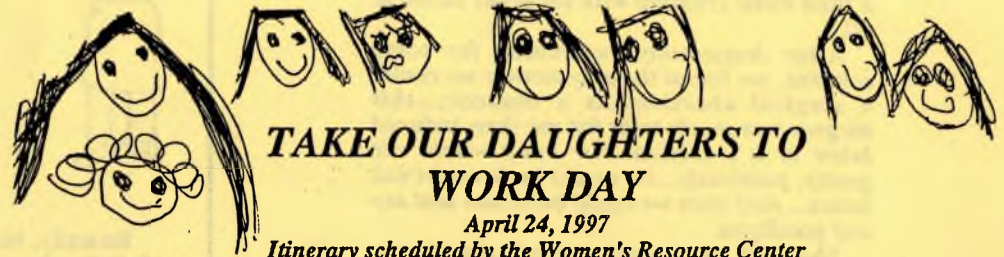
Awesome Program for
Children of All Ages
Pam Flood/Music
Gussie Vaughn/Stories
Bingo & Other Clowns

Theater/Dancing
Much, Much More

Food for Many
Diets and Tastes

For More Information, Contact

Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine, 942-9343



TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY

April 24, 1997

Itinerary scheduled by the Women's Resource Center

Although the purpose of this day is to show girls what it is really like to work a job, it is also a day for girls to discover new interests and possible careers. The following (optional) free activities are scheduled to not only expose girls to different careers, but to provide a break from the normal 8 hour day. Meet at the Women's Resource Center for all events- 101 Fernald Hall. Guides will be available during the day to accompany the girls and escort them to events.

9:00a.m. - 9:30a.m.

WAKE UP! Come join us for a light breakfast with several celebrity UM women basketball players.*****

9:40a.m.-10:30a.m.

Go on a tour with several UM women basketball players to their locker room and learn some fancy moves!*****

11:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Police cruiser rides anyone? Deb Mitchell, crime prevention officer, UM, will be available to speak on safety and give cruiser rides.*****

2:00p.m.-3:00p.m.

Tentative activity*****

ONGOING

Art anyone? "Panama's Dynamic Art" exhibit at the Hudson Museum. Come learn about the rainforest animals!

Throughout the day the Women's Resource Center will be open for arts and crafts. Come add to our "Take Our Daughter's To Work Day" banner! There will also be videos about and for girls playing during the day for girls and grown-ups, written materials on display on various topics pertaining to girls, and various surprize give-a-way items.

Please call for further questions- the Women's Resource Center, 581-1508.

Catastrophic Pregnancies & Late Term Abortions

Letter in Bangor Daily News last Fall
(by JoAnne)

I was in my third trimester... at 32 weeks...everything fell apart... [D]octors... diagnosed nine minor anomalies, including a fluid-filled cranium with no brain tissue at all...

After desperately searching for some solution...we found the only answer we could: a surgical abortion...As a diabetic,...this surgery was much safer for me than induced labor or a C-section...our baby would die gently, painlessly...He would be brought out intact... And then we could hold him and say our goodbyes.

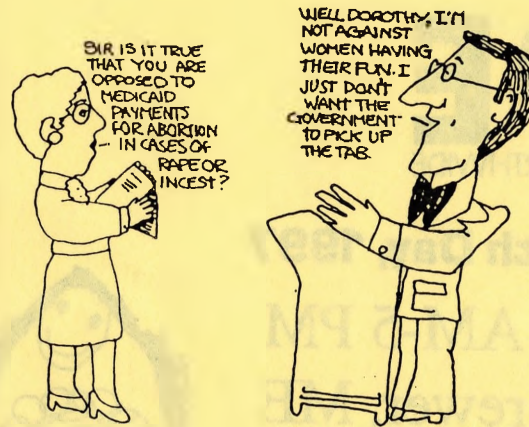
This isn't an easy story to tell...finally our outrage at the lies and misinformation being spread about this procedure grew too great...Since then ...I've tried to make sure the truth was heard, not the right-to-life propaganda...

Excerpt from testimony by Vikki Stella opposing the proposed ban on late term abortions.

The anti-choice leadership has reached a new low. They invented a political term, "partial birth abortion", claiming it is a common but evil medical procedure. Then they wrote legislation banning rare but lifesaving late-term abortions, like the one Vikki Stella had.

Anti-choice leaders claim spoiled mothers-to-be choose third trimester abortions for frivolous reasons. In one notorious ad, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops listed the reasons they think women choose a late term abortion which included, "Won't Fit Into a Prom Dress, Hates Being Fat, Had An Unhappy Childhood." Have the Bishops no shame?

As outrageous as that depiction of women is, they do not stop there. Their horrible fiction includes the implication that women and physicians, half way through a normal delivery, are killing healthy babies. It takes an especially cruel heart to know the truth, and make such awful claims.



Recently, Maine Right to Life, The Knights of Columbus in Maine, and The Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland sponsored political ads in which some group called "PHACT" supports the proposed ban. The ads are more subtle than the graphic church handouts I've seen. Still, they describe the "never...medically indicated" procedure as "the killing of an infant who has already been almost completely delivered..." The inflammatory language creates a climate of suspicion that politicians are allowing abortion providers and dimwitted or uncaring women to kill babies. This, of course, is hogwash.

The bill, HR 1833/ S 939, vetoed by President Clinton, is opposed by all sensible concerned people, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Medical Women's Association, numerous feminist and pro-women groups, Rep. John Baldacci and, hopefully, we can count on Senators Snowe and Cohen as the bill now moves to the Senate. Have all these people lost their minds? Are they part of some child killing conspiracy? No. They simply refuse to be misled by those who wish to destroy women's right to choose.

For the record, *less than one tenth of one percent* of all abortions are performed after 24 weeks. These rare abortions are only performed to save the life or health of the woman, or in tragic cases where *wanted* pregnancies have gone terribly wrong and fetal deformities are *incompatible with life*. To even imply otherwise is shameful political manipulation.

D&E (dilation & evacuation), a safe, effective, widely-recognized medical procedure, is the dominant method used in 2nd trimester abortions. The legislation would, at the very least, ban one variant of the D&E called D&X (dilation & extraction), the main variation being that the fetus is removed intact. D&X is often used in 2nd, as well as 3rd trimester abortions. Without D&X as an option, a woman may lose the ability to have other children, or suffer potentially deadly health problems.

The anti-choice political strategy has always been to isolate vulnerable female populations - the young, the poor, rural women, women serving in the military overseas, and now, those facing catastrophic pregnancies in the 3rd trimester - and try to do away with women's right to choose, one group at a time, one procedure at a time, one burning clinic at a time, one murdered doctor at a time. What can we do?

The National Organization for Women urges readers to speak out in defense of choice and the President's veto. Encourage Senators Snowe and Cohen to stand their ground. Maine NOW PAC has voting guides about state legislative candidates, and Bangor area candidates will be invited to a question & answer forum at the Peace & Justice Center, October 27th. This November, vote as if women's lives matter. Vote as if your life depends on it.

March 28, 1997 p.s. ASAP, let your reps know where you stand! Thanks!

APRIL 8 p.s. D&E!



Clean Clothes Campaign

It was a beautiful sunny day! On April 5, the CCC mustered a few dozen troops to go door-to-door in Bangor for petition signatures. Our goal was to raise 1000 (more) signatures to present to the Bangor City Council on June 6th. Well over 1000 were added to the 5000+ we already collected! (If you haven't signed yet, just stop by the P&J, attend a NOW meeting...

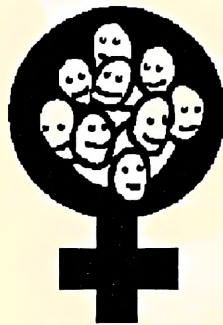
A festive day, tho our mission is serious. CCC will ask the Council to echo the sentiment that clothes made in sweatshops are not welcome in our community!

PRESENTE!

On April 5th, we also lost to cancer a very special activist. Consie Kirby worked with us on many Peace & Justice Center projects over the years. She threw herself into events such as the H.O.P.E. Festivals and economic justice actions.

In the tradition of honoring the enduring spirit of a fallen comrade, we dedicated our April 5th action to Consie by saying her name and everyone yelling, **PRESENTE!**

Greater Bangor NOW, a Distinguished Group!



- Current GBNOW activists include
- Joyce Blakney, high school math teacher and Ph.D. candidate
 - Amanda Blake, UM student leader in Peer Education
 - K.C. Edes, a leader in the Clean Clothes Campaign
 - Deanna Partridge, Coordinator of Bangor CUREs

- Janet May, a leader in Penobscot County Maine Won't Discriminate
- Sharon Barker, Director of the Women's Resource Center, UM

Karen Hartnagle continues as Treasurer, and I think Micaela McCarthy [Director of Shaw House] is still with us. As I mentioned elsewhere, April Burke [UM student] may also become active - she was crucial to the International Women's Day action at the Federal Building.

Publications of Note!

The current updated edition of the Yellow & Green Pages III, invaluable listings of non-profits and agencies, is ready!

Also available is the Citizens Guide to the 118th Legislature by MPRC. Both available at P&J, or call for information.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN • Use this form 2/15/97 to 7/1/97 only

Chapter # ME0025

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ PHONE (____) _____

Check one:

1-year \$35 (sliding scale \$ _____)

Lifetime \$1,000

Check one:

New member Reinstating member
(former member expired 1/96 or earlier)

SPEC97

For Chapter Use:

Recruited by: JoAnne Dauphinee
(name)

ME0025 Greater Bangor
(chapter)

Assign to chapter number: ME0025

(if different from recruiting chapter)

Keep copy and mail original to: NOW Membership Dept., 1000 16th St NW, Suite 700, Washington DC 20036

NOW • NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN • NOW • NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN • NOW

MAIL TO: GBNOW 87 SUNSET STRIP BREWER ME 04412

YARD SALE ITEMS (& helpers) NEEDED
 for June 21st, the World's Largest Garage Sale:
 BOOKS, BRIC-A-BRAC, COOKING &
 KITCHEN STUFF, FURNITURE, TOYS,
 TOOLS...Bring anytime to JoAnne's garage
 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT MARCH
TO PROTEST SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS
APRIL 18, 1997 AT 7PM
ON THE FRONT STEPS OF FOGLER LIBRARY

BRIEF SPEAK OUT WILL PRECEDE THE MARCH
 MEN AND WOMEN INVITED
 BRING FLASHLIGHTS
 BANNERS AND POSTERS TO CARRY WELCOME

FOR MORE DETAILS, CALL
 AMIE AT 942- 8807 OR VANESSA AT 866-4727

Annual

HOPE Festival

(Help Organize Peace Earthwide)

Earth Day

Saturday, April
 19, 10 AM-5 PM
 Brewer Auditorium



Full day of Earth Day Celebrations:

- *Organizational Fair w/60+ Groups
- *Live Music, Theater, Dance
- *Awesome Children's Program
- *Outdoor Activities
- *Food, Crafts/Books. Fun for All

Free Admission

Sponsored by the Peace and Justice
 Center of Eastern Maine, 942-9343

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

National Organization for Women, NOW
 87 Sunset Strip
 Brewer ME 04412

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- April 14 GBNOW 6pm, P&J, 128 Main St
- April 15 Tax Day actions (in Bangor, War Tax Leafletting, 4pm Post Office, Harlow St)
- April 18 Take Back The Night, 7pm, UM Orono
- May 6 International NO Diet Day 6pm, 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer [Jo's little blue house]
- May 12 GBNOW 6pm, P&J, 128 Main St
- May 11 Mother's Day (Bangor action)
- June 6 Clean Clothes Campaign presents petitions to Bangor City Council
- June 9 GBNOW 6pm, P&J, 128 Main St
- June 13-15 L/G Symposium XXIII, S.PtInd.
- June 16-22 Southern Maine Pride Week, PtInd.
- June 21 World's Largest Garage Sale GBNOW Booth
- July 12-13 Blues Festival, Rockland
- July 14 GBNOW 6pm, P&J, 128 Main St
- August 16-18 "Gay Times" Bar Harbor, COA
- August 26 Women's Equality Day (Bangor action)
- Sept. 19-21 Common Ground Fair Maine NOW booth