

The journal for a feminist globe

# WOMEN & ENVIRONMENTS

WINTER 1997 ISSUE NO. 41 \$8.00

## MOTHER HERB

An Interview with  
Waltraut Richter

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Feminist &  
Environmental Quiz

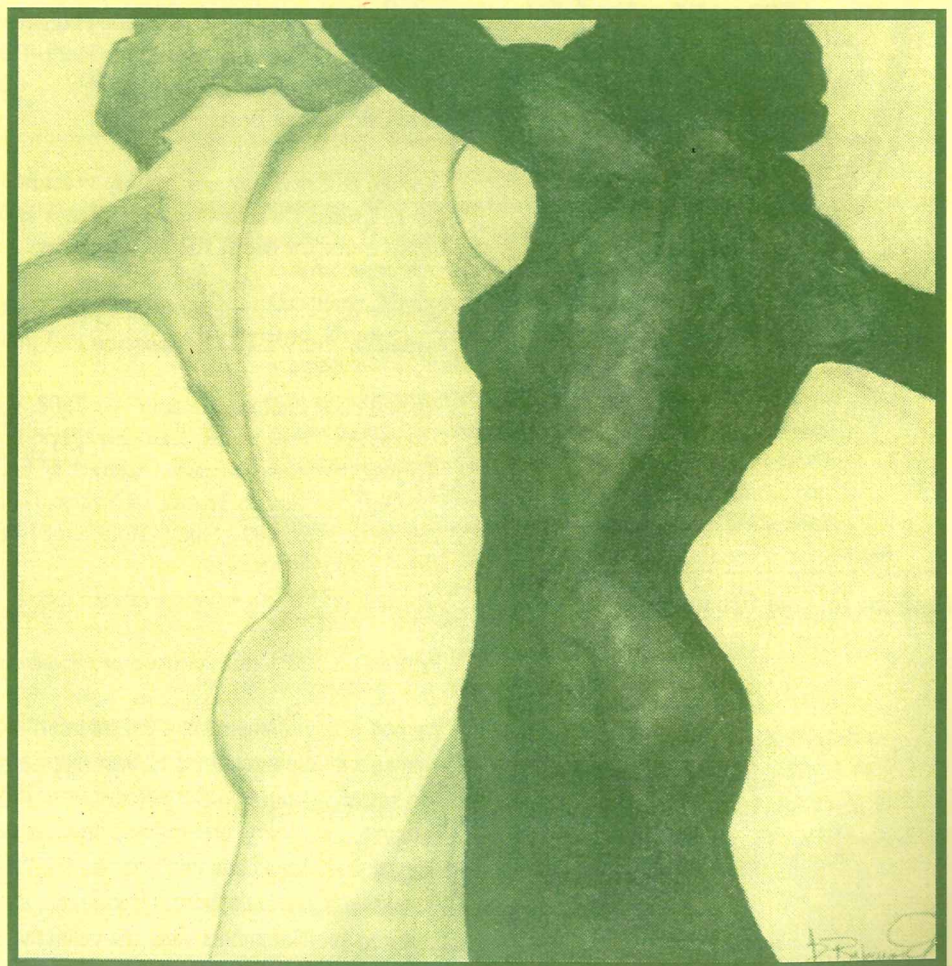
## HABITAT II CONFERENCE

— A Gendered  
Perspective

## WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

Seven Profiles

## INDEX OF PAST ISSUES



THE NETWORK DIRECTORY

# WOMEN & ENVIRONMENTS

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Women & Environments is a unique international magazine which examines women's multiple relations to their many environments — natural, physical, built and social — from feminist perspectives. It provides a forum for academic research and theory, professional practice and community experience. The magazine is owned and published by the WEED (Women and Environments Education and Development) Foundation, a non-profit, voluntary organization. Editorial board members view the collective editing and production of Women & Environments as a contribution to feminist social change.

## Thank You for your financial support

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Illustration by Vivian Peachey

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## A Word From Us

Six years have passed since our last Network Issue. During that time, *Women & Environments* has continued to reinvent itself. As faithful readers, you have probably noticed the metamorphosis of the magazine and its contributing members. Watch for an even newer and fresher look in our upcoming issues.

Over 100 of you completed the reader's survey. Thank you for taking the time to make this issue possible! We encourage you to browse through the resulting pages of profiles, learn about the interesting and varied backgrounds of our readers, and to take the time to connect. Throughout the issue, we also present a selection of mini-biographies of women around the world who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to their communities and to their environments. A special thanks to those of you who submitted photographs and personal histories for all of us to share.

In keeping with the biographical theme of the issue, we have compiled a few facts about the magazine and its readership. *Women & Environments* is 20 years old and is one of Canada's first feminist publications. Our circulation is close to 2000 worldwide. The magazine travels around the globe to Indonesia, China, Japan, the United Kingdom, U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand, Malawi, Botswana, Turkey, Germany, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Brazil, Africa, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland. . . The majority of our subscribers are professors, university students and planners. The rest of you are doctors, architects, biologists, researchers, social workers, artists, writers, homemakers, mothers, lawyers, librarians, gardeners, and geographers (to name a few!).

In June of 1996, Regula Modlich trekked all the way to Turkey to give our magazine its special 20th anniversary launch at the International Habitat II Conference in Istanbul. This conference was an important event for the rights of women worldwide, and we are proud of our participation. Please take the time to read "Habitat II — From A Gendered Perspective" for more analysis of the conference and its objectives.

This fall, *Women & Environments* cooperated with the Women's Network on Health and the Environment to become chartered members of a newly formed charity — Earth Appeal. Earth Appeal is an umbrella group of eighteen members founded to facilitate the flow of core funding to environmental groups, all struggling against the financial realities of operating for cause in a profit-driven society.

*Continued...*



*A Word From Us continued...*

Earth Appeal is modeled after the highly successful Earth Share in the United States. Working through independent, targeted or general donations, as well as through corporate employee automatic payroll deduction programs, its intention is to foster grassroots involvement. We will begin our corporate access this spring, but would like to thank Mountain Equipment



Illustration by Vivian Peachey

Co-op for being the first to sign on as participants in this venture.

Through the years, *Women & Environments* has relied on grants and funding for ongoing publications. While we will continue to do so, we are pleased to let our readers know that W&E is expanding to include selective advertising, a project which has already taken root in this issue. We will preserve the same quality of our content. A collaboration between two existing operations: *Women & Environments* and the Women's Network on Health and the Environment, has resulted in the WHEN Fund (Women's Health and Environmental Network) which will have core fundraising as its sole mandate. We are now actively posting calls for volunteers, planning raffles, art auctions and corporate approaches. Thanks to the commitment and hard work of our Magazine Manager, Lisa Dale, for initiating this agreement.

Our editorial board has just expanded to include two journalists, a graphic designer, editors, environmentalists, lobbyists and business women, as well as those with financial and corporate contacts and acumen, and those who are young and unimpeded in their enthusiasm. The energy at the board level has zoomed!

Enough about us! Who are you? Read on and find out, for here is our first Networking Directory since 1991. For our ever growing number of subscribers, here's to you!

As a final note, we always welcome your suggestions, submissions and your readership. We look forward to many more years of contributing to the feminist community.

# Letters

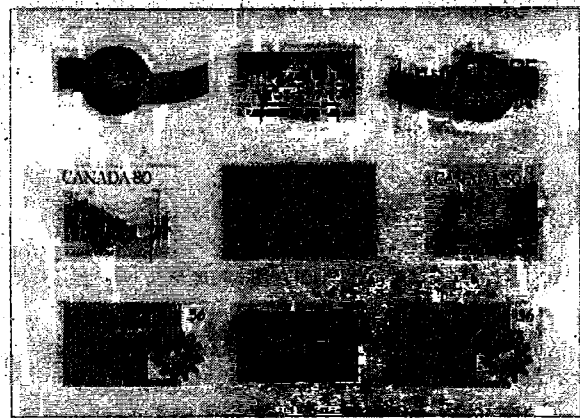
*Ginger Mason  
Vancouver, B.C.*

*October 21, 1996.*

*Dear Lisa:*

*...And please also accept my heartfelt appreciation for your publication which I pass on to my partner first (a university student), and then a mutual friend who finds it just as inspirational and enlightening as we do! It's read cover to cover and provokes and stimulates discussion as well as notes in the margins! Please keep up the valuable and important work of Women & Environments, as well as, The WEED Foundation.*

*Yours truly,  
Ginger Mason*



We kicked off the Fall season with "Word on the Street", an annual book and magazine fair on Queen Street West in Toronto. The fair habitually draws 100,000 people and spills onto four city blocks closed to traffic and dedicated to the carnival-like event.

"Word on the Street" is a grand celebration of the joy of literacy and reading. Authors and publishers were plentiful, the clowns and the face-painters colourful and the food was remarkably delicious. It is gratifying to know that the City can pause for a day in honour of the printed word and wordsmiths. If there is something similar in London or Sydney, New York or New Delhi, let us know! *Women & Environments* was there with our Feminist Quiz and our Environmental Quiz, giving out instant prizes for on-the-spot answers, and enjoying the contact with those who gathered at our booth. Below is a sampling of our quiz. Test your knowledge!

### Feminist Quiz

- 1 Who was the first woman to have a television show named after her?
- 2 Which gender does more than two thirds of the world's work?
- 3 Who said "Power is a great aphrodisiac, and I am VERY powerful"?
- 4 Which are there more of, animal shelters, or crisis shelters for women & children?
- 5 What is the ratio of women sexually assaulted before the age of 17: 1 in 50; 1 in 100; 1 in 12; or 1 in 8?
- 6 In what year were Canadian women first declared "persons" under the law?
- 7 In what year was a corporation first ruled as having "personhood"?
- 8 What is the current estimated conviction rate of reported rapes in Canada?
- 9 Which gender of business owner is responsible for the largest independent business growth in Canada?

# Word on the Street: Feminist & Environmental

## TRIVIA

- 10 In Canada, may same sex couples receive spousal benefits from PRIVATE employer-sponsored pension plans?
- 11 What percentage of the world's wages do women earn: 2%; 5%; 10%; 25%; 35%; or 50%?
- 12 What ratio of families does female infanticide touch in Salem, India?
- 13 What percentage of the world's property is owned by women: 30%; 20%; 8%; 4%; 2%; 1%; or 0.8%?
- 14 Roughly what percentage of the world's population lives in the northern hemisphere?
- 15 What percentage of the world's non-renewable resources do people living in the northern hemisphere consume?

### Environmental Quiz

- 1 In Canada and the U.S. which industry dumps 300 million pounds of chlorene-based perchloroethylene into our sewers annually: dry cleaning; pulp & paper; or sanitary pads?
- 2 Is perchloroethylene linked to cancer, reproductive and neurological damage in humans?
- 3 According to the World Health Organization, cancers due to environmental carcinogens exceed which percentage: 80%; 45%; 26%; or 14%?
- 4 Has there ever been a large scale famine in a country with a democracy and a relatively free press?
- 5 How many forums has the Breast Cancer Foundation held on the environment in the last 2 years: 6; 4; 1; or none?
- 6 What percentage of the national Cancer Institute of Canada's Funds went to the examination of environmental impacts on cancer: 50%; 25%; 10%; or 4%?
- 7 Of their \$243 million to distribute, how much is earmarked by the Medical Research Council for environmentally-linked cancer research?
- 8 Which is more likely to cause you cancer — lifestyle choices (tobacco, sun, fatty foods) or environmental and chemical carcinogens?
- 9 What do white paper and taking showers have to do with cancer?
- 10 Does early detection through mammograms decrease the rate of breast cancer fatalities?
- 11 In the past 30 years the U.S. has poured \$30 billion into the search for a cancer cure. Are we today closer to a cure?

TRIVIA ANSWERS ON PAGE 32

"Roll Over the Ocean, Roll Over the Sea, It's You-Me-Us that Build Communities..." This chant had come to symbolize women's spirit at the UN Habitat II conference on Human Settlements in June of 1996.

# HABITAT II — From a Gendered Perspective

by Joyce Brown, Regula Modlich and Pamela Sayne

Long before arriving in Istanbul, many of us met with local groups to formulate our issues. Community-based meetings in Canada included the homeless, housing agency workers, government bureaucrats and activists. All questioned "What is this Habitat II, United Nations meeting in Istanbul going to do to solve any of our housing problems? Devastation due to poverty? Our unsafe communities?"

Istanbul, a city of 12 million people, is full of mystery. Chants float down in not-quite-synchronized waves from the minarets of mosques calling Muslims to pray. The crowded streets, busy markets, unusual goods and smells, unfamiliar language, ancient fortifications, opulent palaces, wooden houses, churches and mosques; all testify to the city's incredible history and culture. All this unfolded in the warm Mediterranean climate with its lush flora and fauna, and formed the backdrop for the momentous Habitat II event.

As in many international cities, Istanbul women displayed an intriguing array of attire, from the latest western fashions to the traditional black chaddars. The election of a more conservative government during the conference made many of us, visitors and Turkish women alike, wary of how long this diversity would be tolerated.

This was the context in which we experienced the UN Habitat II Conference on Human Settlements, where each of us made unforgettable friends, and gained insights and links to our networks. The heavily guarded downtown "Conference Valley" with its several major hotels and university buildings housed the many-faceted event which was attended by 6,000 representatives of 1500 accredited NGO's, as well as government delegations. Innumerable NGO's and CBO's offered their displays, workshops and discussions in the Taskisla, the University of Istanbul's Faculty of Architecture and Planning. It was also the place where the last of the targeted one million signatures to recognize "housing as a human right" were collected — a battle the US conceded only in the last days of the conference.

A 51-page booklet listed the countless workshops being offered. They ranged from transportation to the spiritual, from the sociological to the ecological, and from housing to planning issues. An Indian, Kenyan, Canadian and US panel on "Women and Homelessness" brought forward themes common to women in each of these countries: violence,

conflicting multiple roles, economic disadvantage and discrimination. *Women & Environments* and Women Plan Toronto were a part of linking local situations to a global critique. The launch of the *Women & Environments*' 20th Anniversary Issue attracted almost 100 participants and the attention of several local and international media. As part of the launch, women from different regions of the globe outlined their specific conditions and actions. For most conference participants the \$20.00 subscription for *Women & Environments* was a great sacrifice, but 40 individuals did subscribe to this unique and struggling publication for and by women.

Only in retrospect is it possible to get an appreciation of the process, achievements and failures of such an enormous event, particularly from a gendered perspective. At a recent Women Plan Toronto meeting Joyce Brown, Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS), Pam Sayne, Chairperson of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC) Housing Committee and Canadian representative on the Habitat International Coalition Women and Shelter Network (HIC/WAS), and Regula Modlich, *Women & Environments* and Women Plan Toronto, shared their impressions about Habitat II. "At the 1995 Beijing Women's Conference Wally N'Dow, the secretary general of the Habitat II Conference, was presented with a list of women's issues because we realized that gender would remain on the Habitat II agenda only if women were highly organized," Brown stated. That is why the Women, Homes and Communities Super-Coalition was formed. It consists of HIC/WAS, the International Council of Women (ICW), GROOTS, Asia Women and Shelter Network (AWAS) and Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO). After years of lobbying by the Habitat International Coalition, NGO and CBO delegates were able to participate in the official conference groups to an unprecedented extent.



Illustration by Vivian Peachey

According to Prema Gopalan, active with SPARC, an organization working with pavement dwellers in Bombay, India, and co-founder of HIC/WAS, "The Super-Coalition has come up with a model that is more flexible and effective compared to older networks. Each member network can contribute what it does best and also draw on particular strengths of the other networks." The Super-Coalition sponsored a Women's Habitat, a home base for relaxing, and viewing art exhibits and a space for daily debriefings, strategy sessions and workshops. The coalition also organized the first Child Care Centre at a global conference, run by the Turkish Foundation for the Support of Women's Work and the German Mothers' Centres.

Throughout the extensive "Prepcom" process which led up to Habitat II, women were consistent and persistent in "mainstreaming" a gendered perspective in the Habitat Agenda, which had sadly lacked such content in the initial draft stages. During every twist and turn of the evolving Global Action Plan, women had to reassess the gender position and keep it unified as well as stay abreast of their governmental delegations' struggles and negotiations — a tough and time-consuming task. "We worked intensively on every word and phrase of the Global Action Plan which was finally adopted after we suspended time to meet the formal deadline. This is how the dramatic recognition of gender was

achieved in one third of all 238 articles of the Global Plan of Action, including 11 of the 22 comments which GROOTS had forwarded to the Women's Caucus back in the fall of 1995," recounted Brown.

Sayne explained how many of these struggles focused around a single word. The definition of the family, for example, pitched Iran, Algeria and the Vatican against the rest of the world. The term "family in all its various forms" had at the insistence of some conservative governments to be linked with marriage. Although stating marriage "must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses, and husband and wife should be equal partners", in many countries this definition leaves out a host of families, including gay, lesbian and common law relationships. Getting recognition of "equal" rather than "equitable" to the rights of women in several key passages, including the right to inheritance was a victory for women. "Equitable" is far less definable than "equal" and more easily manipulated by reactionary forces. In some instances both terms were retained.

Everyone agreed that the Canadian delegation played an extremely positive and progressive role. The majority of the Canadian negotiating teams were women and feminists,

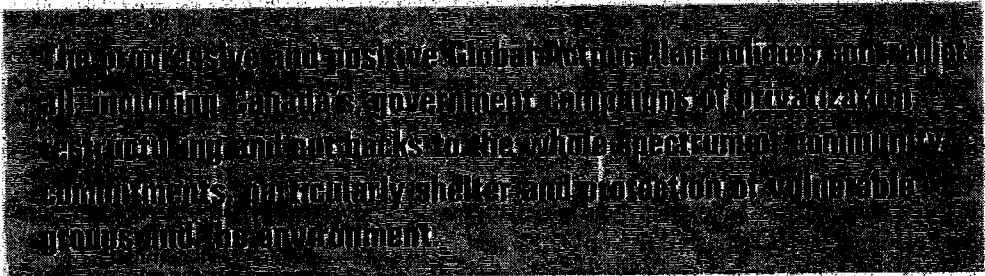
good at brokering for compromise and open to suggestions from the NGOs. "Together we succeeded in fighting back the onslaught of reactionary governments and held onto the language of Beijing".

The final Global Plan of Action endorses:

- empowerment of women and their full and equal participation in political, social and economic life as essential to achieving sustainable human settlements.

The final Global Plan has a commitment to:

- undertake reforms, to give women full and equal access to economic resources, including the right to inheritance and ownership of land;
- support community projects, policies and programs that aim to remove all barriers to women's access to affordable housing, land and property ownership, infrastructure and social services;
- generate and disseminate gender disaggregated data and integrate the results in policies on human settlements development;



- foster economic policies that improve employment and income for women workers in both formal and informal sectors;
- integrate indigenous women, their perspectives and knowledge; on an equal basis with men, in decision-making regarding human settlements;
- enhance women's safety in communities through the promotion of gendered perspectives in crime-prevention policies and programs by increasing knowledge on the underlying causes of violence against women, and;
- facilitate participation by tenants in the management of public and community-based housing, and by women and those belonging to vulnerable disadvantaged groups, in the planning and implementation of urban and rural development.

A by-product of this strong NGO and women's voice was the dominance of northern groups, consciously or not, extending the values of their cultures if not their governments. Representatives from NGOs had to have "recognized profile," time, certain resources and freedom from domestic commitments to participate. The groups they represented had to be strong enough and/or accepted enough to afford to send a delegate.

Further evidence of this was the almost exclusive use of the English language. The concepts, thought patterns, and particular cultural and material circumstances of marginalized groups, including aboriginals and minorities, remained relatively silenced. Where indigenous communities were addressed, it was in a context of integration rather than respect for their right to self-determination. When the Conference dealt with property rights, it focused solely on establishing the right to private ownership, inheritance and credit, ignoring the validity and appropriateness of collective and cooperative solutions. The Vatican's patriarchy had not only representation but also an extremely loud voice in coalition with several of the most reactionary Muslim governments.

To ensure that the Global Plan of Action does not become a cynical or utopian statement, several challenges remain to be addressed by activists and feminists:

- The progressive and positive Global Action Plan policies contradict all, including Canada's, government campaigns of privatization, restructuring and cut-backs to the whole spectrum of community commitments, particularly shelter and protection of vulnerable groups and the environment. Canada may be rated number one by the United Nations, yet the growing number of homeless and hungry — especially hungry children — reflects the sorry state of the global reality.
- How can these policies be implemented when international accounting is based on GNP's or GDP's that exclude the massive unpaid economic contribution of women, and ignore environmental costs, while including the economic activity which occurs as a result of environmental disasters and depletion of natural resources and wars? As presented in the HIC/WAS statement to Habitat II in June 1996: "We must stop discussing capital and resources as if more has flown from the rich to the poor — than from the poor to the rich — both among countries and within countries. We must stop abusing words like "sustainable" and "partnerships" when we do not include in our discussions those peoples who have practiced sustainability long before the United Nations adopted this concept."
- How can the right to housing or sustainable development be realized when housing is just one economic sector in a "free enterprise" economy; when the cost of housing is seen as a private responsibility, that loads families and future generations with horrendous debts, while throwing increasing numbers of poor, sick, and vulnerable humans — mostly women and children — into homelessness?
- It was a victory to get the US to concede "housing as a human right" and thus accept it in the Global Plan of Action. It is fundamental to all other human rights, and women as the primary caretakers of the family are particularly affected by it. While this hard-won right implicitly rejects forced evictions, these were not explicitly

dealt with by the Conference. "Forced evictions take place in many different venues with many different evictors," according to the HIC/WAS statement. "The destruction of homes and communities by bulldozers and military force is a reflection of a governance without conscience or regard for United Nations agreements. Men who violate women's physical and mental well-being in the home are practicing forced eviction. States who remove citizens from streets in their communities, who are voicing a demand for basic human rights, are practicing forced evictions. Military practices destroying natural resources and planting land mines are creating forced evictions. Violence equals evictions. Violence at any level reinforces violence in our homes, in our work place, on our streets and among Nation States..." This was clearly illustrated by the way Turkish police and the military quelled any public show of opposition, be it that of the Saturday Mothers (relatives of people "disappeared" in custody of Turkish security forces), Kurdish or Tibetan groups, or environmentalists protesting oil shipments through the Bosphorous.

It will be up to all activists, with their persistent analysis, stubborn optimism and ability to organize, to ensure that the Global Plan of Action, based on fairness, sharing and equality, prevails over equally determined global trends of concentrating power, wealth and resources in ever fewer and uncaring hands and institutions. In the words of Clara Angel, Colombia HIC/WAS, it is our responsibility "to put into practice the words we have said, in concrete steps, so that a new reality emerges for the women who have sent us here".

#### Biographies:

*Dr. Pamela Sayne, Community educator and researcher, also teaches "Women and Development" at the University of Toronto. She is co-founder of HIC/WAS, co-chair of the National Action Committee Housing Committee and founder of Women's Perspectives on Housing and the Environment (WoPHE)*

*Joyce Brown is on staff at the Women's Street Survivor Project in Toronto, Canadian member of GROOTS, and a researcher on women and homelessness.*

*Regula Modlich is a planning consultant, active in Women Plan Toronto and member of the editorial board of Women & Environments.*

#### Further Reading:

The Habitat Agenda: Goals and Principles, Commitments and Global Plan of Action, UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) Istanbul, Turkey, 3-14, June 1996; the final UN document is available from <http://www.undp.org/un/habitat> or from host: [gopher.undp.org/pass/directory/1unconf/habitat](http://gopher.undp.org/pass/directory/1unconf/habitat); *Women & Environments* Special 20th Anniversary Issue "Women & Habitat, Vancouver — Istanbul" Issue No. 39/40, Summer 1996, available from 736 Bathurst St., Toronto, ON, M5S 2R4, Canada. Splash, Women, Homes & Community Super Coalition Newsletter, Room 944, UN/DP2, UN Plaza at 44th St. New York, NY 10017, USA





# Network Directory

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- co-founder of Women's Network on Health & Environment
- co-founder of the Breast Cancer Prevention Coalition
- WEED board member

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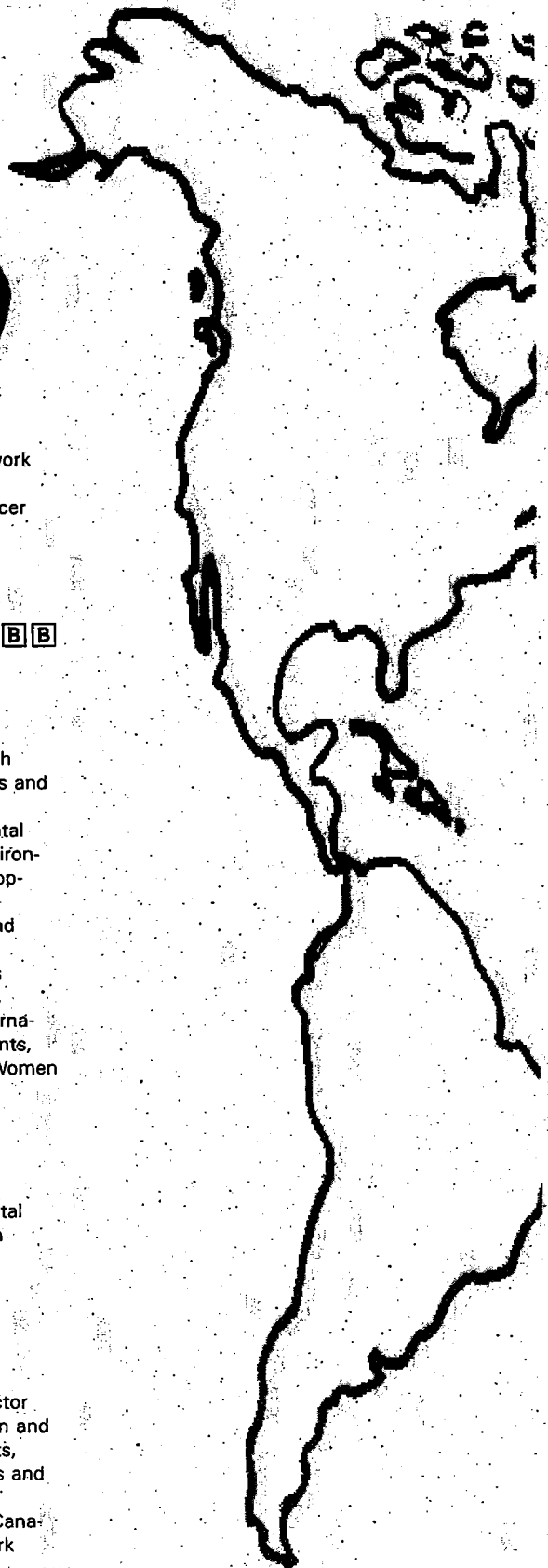
- environmental consultant with graduate degree in economics and urban/regional planning
- socio-economic / environmental impacts, women and the environment and international development
- worked in Turkey, Pakistan and Barbados
- Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Ecotourism Society, Canadian Association of International Development Consultants, and Worldwide Network of Women in Environment

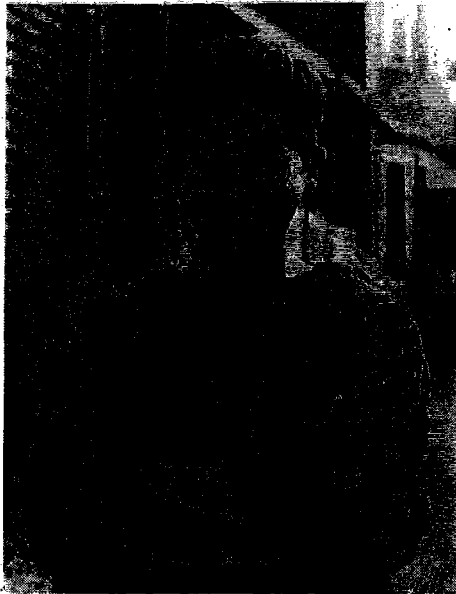
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- Women Inventor's Project

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**CAROLYN GREEN  
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With a combined background in architecture and philosophy, I currently work as a staff architect for the Physical Plant at Dalhousie University and teach sessionally at the School of Architecture, Technical University of Nova Scotia. I teach a course called "Women and the Built Environment", for both architecture and planning students. The course covers history and theory, feminist analysis of the design and planning process, analysis of the design of private and public space, ecofeminism and includes field trips. The course was originally developed with colleague Maria Somjen. I prefer to co-teach the course and follow feminist teaching methods as much as possible. My personal areas of research include the feminist analysis of "home" and "work", and ecological planning and permaculture.

Past volunteer work has included The Women's Action Coalition of Nova Scotia, The Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, The NDP Women's Caucus, and Alice Housing (second stage housing). More recently, I have focused my energy on environmental and farming/agricultural issues. I am a member of Solar Nova Scotia, the Straw Bale Association of Nova Scotia, and the Nova Scotia Organic Growers' Association. I am part-owner of a co-op farm, working towards self-sufficiency and the sharing of resources in a co-housing situation. Areas of research and experimentation on the farm include organic farming methods, ecological structures, and permaculture.

In my teaching I am always open to new ideas and reference materials that I could use in my course as outlined above. I am also interested in sharing information with any others involved in enterprises similar to the co-op farm.

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- wrote a survey report "Greening of the Campaign Office" for the Liberal Party

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**MARY CHAKASIM**  
MOOSONEE, ONTARIO, CANADA

Mary Chakasim is a 25 year old Mushkegowuk Cree from Moosonee, Ontario at the southern tip of James Bay. She attended the University of Ottawa for seven years earning a B.A. in Linguistics and her law degree in April of 1996. Mary was a member of the official Canadian delegation as the Aboriginal youth representative at the United Nations conference on sustainable development in Istanbul, Turkey in June of 1996.

Mary is now working for Environment Canada. She is mentoring Northern Lights Secondary School in Moosonee under Action 21 for a national project entitled "Rescue Mission: Planet Earth". The school will assess its environment and the findings will be taken to the United Nations (Rio +5) in June of 1997. Ms Chakasim hopes to pursue a career in environmental law.

"I pursued the education I have for a specific purpose. I grew up in a society very different from the rest of Canada. The environment played a significant role in the lives of my grandparents. Their reality greatly influenced the way they raised me. My grandparents depended entirely on the environment for their survival in a very real sense — in a sense I know I will never fully appreciate. But I am aware that it is because of the environment and their knowledge of the environment that they are here today — and that I am here today. As Cree people we have a unique concept of what environment means. Our language dictates our values. My linguistics background is there for me to help maintain the greatest gift my grandparents have given to me — our language. I pursued my law degree to help protect what is so important to my grandparents. Whatever work I will do in the future will be in tribute to them. It will be my way of saying thank you. Maybe I am native but I hope that one day I will help bring about a change to the grand scheme of things and make at least one person's life a little bit better."



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WNH&E is a project of the Women and Environments Education and Development (WEED) Foundation.

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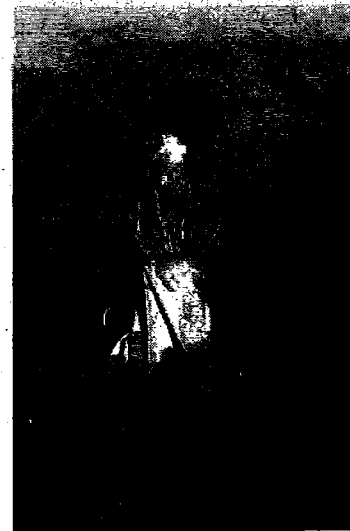
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**DANIELLE SCHAMI**  
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Born into the cosmopolitan area of Montreal, I grew up in the company of people from a wealth of cultural backgrounds. On a more intimate level, regular visits with my three sisters to our father's Middle-Eastern relatives added spice to our 'bland' suburban upbringing by an essentially British mom. I AM MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE INFLUENCE OF MY FOREMOTHERS: my mother's spirituality and my grandmother's feminism, as well as the strength, humanitarianism, and wisdom of both, have played significant roles in my development.

In 1990, at the age of nineteen, I participated in an international exchange involving 42 youths from across Canada and Indonesia. The 8 months abroad initiated me to international work and I later pursued my studies in Agriculture and International Development. Two years of study in Ontario and Belgium were complemented by work on an organic farm in California and with rural communities in El Salvador. Apart from travel for work and study, I have been fortunate to travel to other magnificent parts of the world in Canada, the U.S.A., Europe, Egypt, Israel, Palestine, and Cuba.

I am currently working on an undergraduate degree in Anthropology and Environmental Studies at McGill University, in Montreal. Following this, I hope to continue my studies in graduate school, in doing research that will combine my interests in agriculture, people, and the environment. Further along the road, I imagine myself growing food to provide my family and community with a healthy nutrition. This project would be combined with a centre which will also address social issues; For example: a birthing centre where midwives could work; a retreat centre for urbanites; a workplace for the homeless; a centre for senior citizens, the disabled, or anyone who may find this lifestyle to be an attractive alternative.

*The photograph was taken atop Mount Sinai (aka Mt Ste-Catherine) in the Sinai delta of Egypt*

# NETWORK DIRECTORY



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"I feel very fortunate to have 'landed' at Carleton University, in a position I love, as a faculty member cross-appointed between Geography and the Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's Studies. I have especially enjoyed the opportunity to supervise students with interests in gender and environments.

I have had quite a circuitous career, spending almost 10 years finishing a dissertation about the political economy of land use change in Toronto, and discovering feminism along the way. Soon after completing my thesis, I became Advisor to Carleton University's President on the Status of Women's Issues. In 1991, I was appointed Director of the Institute of Women's Studies.

Prior to and during my tenure as Status of Women Co-ordinator, I wrote extensively about the housing dilemmas of single parent families. More recently my research has been centred on women's municipal initiatives against violence, and has been coupled with my participation in an organization that I helped to establish: the Women's Action Centre Against Violence (Ottawa-Carleton). My current research involves comparative work on the local politics of housing in Ottawa and Winnipeg, with a focus on the housing needs of low and moderate income households and incorporating a gendered and racialized perspective.

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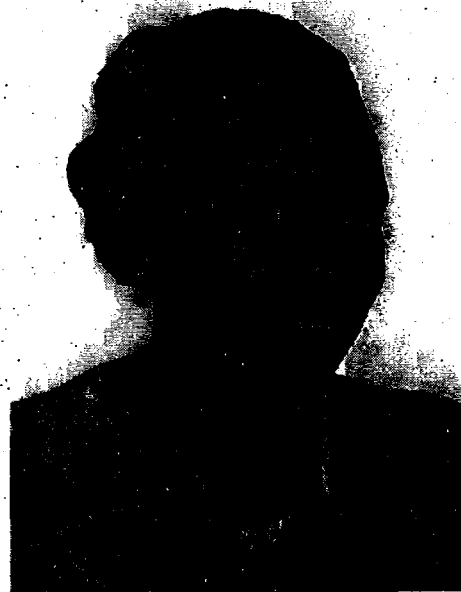
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**MRS. NIKWIGIZE VENERANDA  
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Dedicated to promoting women's lives and their healthy environments, Nikwigize has spent most of her life committed to empowering women. Mrs. Veneranda graduated from Rwanda National University with a Master's degree in Social Sciences and Economics in 1986, and has an impressive list of many international activities. Some of her activism has included work with National Environmental Strategies and Environmental Plan of Actions of Rwanda, USAID, CARE, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Rwanda, Head of Delegation for the Global Assembly of Women and Environment to Miami, and a participant in the Global Summit of Women Leaders in Development in Taiwan. Most recently Nikwigize participated in the "Habitat II Conference" that many of our readers participated in last year.

Nikwigize continues to contribute to women's lives in Kenya working directly with women refugees. With six children and a busy professional life Mrs. Veneranda serves as a great example of the dedication that many women exhibit around the world.



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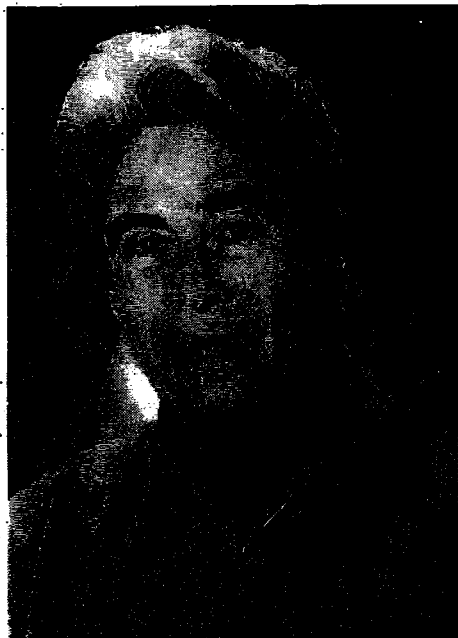
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## RUTH VON JAHNKE WATERS CALIFORNIA, USA

Born in Seattle, Washington in 1933. Stanford University (on scholarship), graduated in 1955 with bachelor's degree in Journalism. Parallel careers in journalism (technical writing/editing, teaching, newspaper editor, etc...) and sculpture (started carving hardwoods in 1957, first solo exhibition in 1961, added marble in mid-60's, exhibit regularly in national and regional juried exhibitions as well as solo exhibitions in museums and galleries). Three children, all grown and flown, thank goodness. Two grandchildren. Married for 42 years. Anything else? Just ask... Cheers, Ruth

Ruth spoke as guest lecturer at the following conferences: University of California, Berkeley, Anthropology Department; Women's Caucus for Art, National Conference; "Public Art in San Mateo County", Leadership Symposium, and; National Sculpture Conference in Cincinnati. Her professional affiliations include: Women's Caucus for Art (founder and president); American Institute of Architects, San Mateo County, Professional Affiliate; 1870 Art Centre (founder and director); and the Non-Profit Gallery Association of Northern California.



## UNITED STATES

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- author, academic, documentarian
- director of Women Organized Against Homelessness
- awarded national humanitarian Giraffe Foundation award 1995; awarded commendation by the US Veterans Administration for assisting homeless veterans for four years, 1995; belong to Women in Film, Authors' Guild and Press Club

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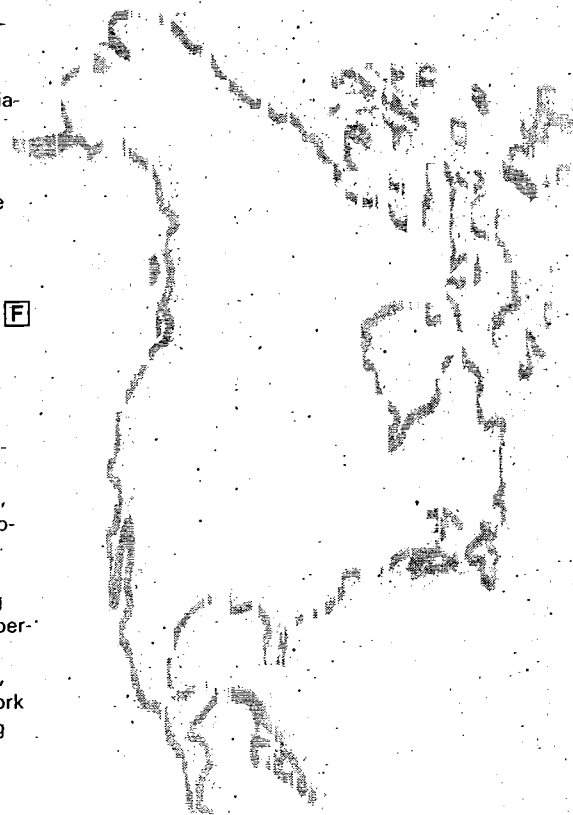
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- sculptor interested in issues contributing to public art and sense of community
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- presenter at NGO forum, Istanbul Public Art: Building a Community



**JANET KALVEN — OHIO, U.S.A.**

I am a feminist educator, writer and conference coordinator at Grailville Education and Conference Center, Loveland, Ohio, and a long time member of The Grail, an international women's movement. Born in 1913, I graduated from the University of Chicago (B.S. 1934, Phi Beta Kappa) and Boston University (M. Ed. 1971). In recognition of my work as an educator and community activist I was elected to the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in 1990.

I have been actively involved in issues of women and housing since 1986, when Maureen Wood and Leslie Kanes Weismann showed me the dire housing situation most women face. In 1987 I helped them organize "Sheltering Ourselves: Developing Housing for Women and Children", a three-day conference that drew more than 200 participants nationwide. I am a founding member of Sheltering Ourselves, A Learning Exchange, a national group of architects, builders, planners, social service providers and housing activists who meet periodically to educate each other and the public.

I am founding member of Women's Research and Development Center, and a Board Member and Chair of the Fundraising Committee. We are the only all-women development corporation in the Cincinnati area. Despite the scepticism of funders and officialdom, we have developed the old Garfield School into Garfield Commons, 47 units of affordable housing, at a cost of \$4.7 million. Garfield has been planned especially for single parents and the elderly. We are now working on Chase Commons, another school building which we hope to convert into residential studios for artists and others. We have also launched WAGE, Women As Gainful Earners, a skill-building program to enable women to earn a family wage in construction, building maintenance and property management. We offer two basic programs: a six-session home repair training for women; and the Excel program which stresses personal growth and career development.

I have contributed articles to a number of journals and have co-authored and edited six books, including *With Both Eyes Open, Seeing Beyond Gender*. At present, I am working on a book tentatively titled, *Fast Women in a Slow Church*, a history of the Grail in the United States, 1940-1995.



**"I'm the walking example of what you can do with herbs,"**

**says  
Waltraut  
Richter,  
Canada's  
herbal  
pioneer.  
At 80,  
she is  
the  
picture  
of health,**

emanating an energy difficult to match even in youth. A woman of strength, courage and sensitivity, Richter

insisted on growing medicinal herbs during a time when Canadians knew "little more than chives, parsley and mint." Today, holistic herbal remedies have reached unmatched popularity, with *Richters* at the forefront of the movement as one of the first and largest suppliers of herbal propagative material in North America.

A native of Germany, Richter brought her ancestors' herbal traditions to Canada in 1953. "When we came from Austria with four little children we had a tough time just to live. We bought an old run-down place in the Markham area with some greenhouses. We started to grow petunias and marigolds to attract customers. The plants were very good and it went very well. Then I wanted to start growing herbs," she recalls. "We took seeds from Austria and Germany. A wonderful English lady gave me cuttings from scented geraniums, pineapple sage and lemon verbena. And I still keep them growing today."

Her passion for herbs and her desire to help people combined with her husband's horticultural knowledge to build the groundwork for their success. Otto and Waltraut Richter established *Richters* in 1967. Thirty years later, *Richters* grows over 700 varieties of herbs and distributes them to countries worldwide including Australia, Germany, Hungary, Austria, Brazil, South Africa and U.S.A. "We only grow organic herbs and vegetables. When chemicals have been

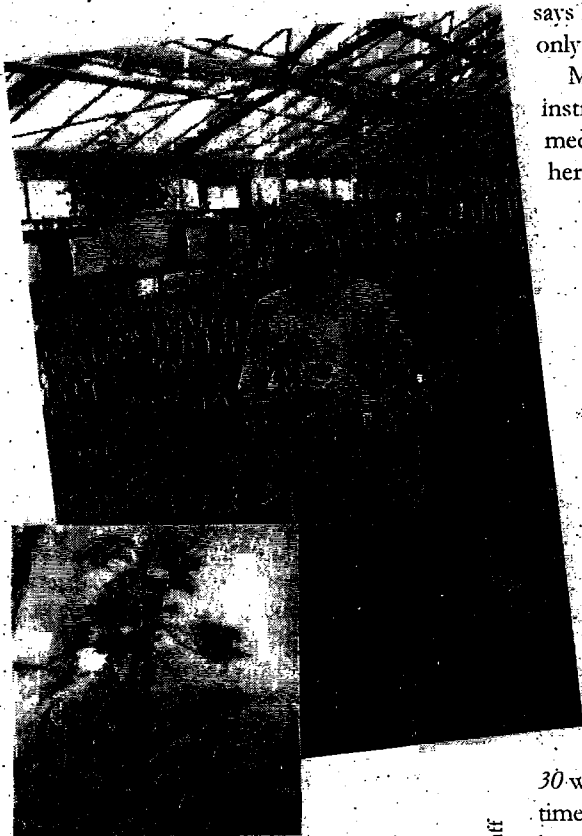


Photo: Birgit Ruff

used on the land, the soil is no good for ten years. It took us a long time to find our farm. We drove around for months," says Richter. Using organic growing principles, *Richters* relies only on manure, seaweed and botanical pesticides.

Madame Benoit, a Canadian author of cookbooks, was instrumental in bringing the Richter's herbal business to media fame in 1972. "Madame Benoit sent a long list of herbs, enquiring if we carried them. And we had them all!"

# Mother Herb

## An Interview With Waltraut Richter

by Birgit Ruff

Soon after she was asked if she wanted to be interviewed on a nationwide television show. "My knees were shaking," she recalls, "I appeared on CBC's *Take 30* with Madame Benoit and Adrienne Clarkson." At the time, not many Canadians knew about herbs and even fewer knew about *Richters*. After the show, they received an overwhelming response of 1500 letters and Richter continued to be invited as a speaker to various clubs and church groups.

She explains: "I started to tell people about the medicinal value of herbs. For example, savoury helps with digestion, catnip tea is a sleep aid, and St. John's Wort helps against stress. At first, people looked at me as if I was strange, but it didn't take long until they found out the truth. Especially the European people have experience with herbs. I remember my mother used to give us wormwood tea when we had a stomach ache." Richter also points to the culinary value of herbs, such as savoury and its notable flavour when combined with string beans, for an old German recipe.

According to Richter, "laughter is the best medicine." Her own stories are often embellished with humour. For example: "A doctor asks his patient, 'did you take your medicine?' She answers, 'Yes I took it and threw it out the window.'" This anecdote outlines Richter's own natural regime for good health. "I really watch my health. I'm a vegetarian and every morning I do 20 minutes of exercise. At noon I always have fresh organic carrot juice. I take eyebright, a herb good for the eyes, and yarrow tincture against shingles," she says.

Essiac, which flushes out accumulated toxins, is one of Richter's favourite herbal remedies. She recounts the story of Rene Caisse, a nurse from Bracebridge, Ontario, who in 1922 received the recipe for this powerful tea from the Ojibway



Indians. Richter sent *essiac*, reputed as a cure for cancer, to a sick friend in Germany. Richter received a letter from her friend who, after taking numerous bottles, told her that he was completely cured of cancer. But Richter always warns people that every cancer is different and every person is different. She takes a holistic view, "You have to look at the whole person. For example, if you lead a bad lifestyle, eat the wrong food and smoke: that makes a difference."

Richter has also created her own special healing blend of tea. "It's been known to help people with high blood pressure and even with arthritis." But Richter refuses to elaborate on the healing properties of her tea. "Because I can't play doctor," she says with a twinkle.

Another natural remedy that has stayed with her from the past is charcoal tablets. "I never forgot how they worked. All these years I've continued to use them, especially while travelling when the water is bad. They isolate the poison in the stomach and get rid of it. After two hours or so you feel good again."

Richter recalls how she was first introduced to these tablets at the end of the Second World War. During the war, Richter was separated from her husband when he became a soldier. She lived in Berlin and knew he had been released near his home town in Austria. "So many children had lost their fathers and I wanted my children to have their father. Alone, I took my children on a freight train for five days and five nights. Whenever the train stopped I ran out to get food and water for my children. The children became sick and a doctor on the train gave them charcoal tablets." Friends and family in Berlin had tried to convince her not to go to Austria to find her husband because as a German she was now the enemy. "But I had to go for the children to find their father. When it comes to your children you fight like a lion," says Richter.

Throughout the war, Richter fought to protect her children. "The war was terrible, especially during the bombings of Berlin. My daughter would wake up screaming. Many buildings were destroyed in my neighbourhood. When I ran with my family to the bombshelter, the spitfires shot at us like rabbits. I ran with my baby in my arms. A bomb just missed my mother. In the shelter some people laughed, some cried, some screamed. It gives me goosebumps talking about it," Richter shivers. One day as they emerged from the bombshelter they saw that her friend's house had been reduced to a pile of rubble, with all 12 family members inside.

Later the Russians invaded Berlin. Richter returned home to find her house swarming with Russian soldiers. "I came into the house and began screaming 'Get out! Get out!' like a madwoman. Every Russian soldier left. Can you imagine?" As the weeks passed, Richter continued to assert herself with the soldiers. She knew a certain Russian liked photographs. One day this soldier grabbed her at her garden gate. In defense, she hit him. He drew his gun. "Don't be silly. Show

me your photographs," she said, commenting, "You act very tough but it hits you afterwards."

Once in Canada, peace did not come to Richter immediately. A particularly hostile neighbour tormented Richter. During one such incident, Richter was outside watering her flowers when a bit of water splashed into the neighbour's garden. She in turn came over and poured a pail of water over Richter who was quick to retaliate. "Well, I had a hose in my hand. What would you have done?" The neighbour laid charges against Richter. Once in court the judge said, "You are a newcomer and you have to behave." Richter was found guilty of criminal assault. When the woman continued to attack Richter, she feared for her house and for her children. "This was my little Canadian war. I thought, where am I here?"

Today, Richter continues to fight for her rights. Canada's Bill C-7, a controversial Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, has imposed restrictions on the use and sale of medicinal herbs. Since some traditional herbs come under the classification of "stimulating and relaxing" (a clause in the bill), access to natural supplements is threatened. Although alcohol, nicotine and prescribed drugs are exempted from the bill, natural products are not.

Seen as too much of a threat to the monopoly held by pharmaceutical industries, herbs are under attack. Seeds are held at the Canadian border, and natural remedies have even been pulled off the shelves of health food stores.

"Herbs that have been used for years are now suddenly in question and in danger. One example is echinacea, a herb native to North America and traditionally chewed by its Aborigines. Comfrey is widely used in Europe.

Here we can grow it and sell it but not explain what it is for. Our catalogue is full of explanations. When you say a herb is for stress or something else it be-

comes a drug," explains Richter. Since the bill, the sale of 58 medicinal herbs has already been restricted, and the future of herb growers has become uncertain. *Richters* is organizing against government interference with the help of a lawyer. "We are telling the government to keep their fingers out of it," says Richter.

When Waltraut Richter turned 80 she was advised to slow down. Instead, she continues as President of *Richters*, consults clients, and remains active in the 33,000 square feet of her greenhouse facility. At home among the sweet aromas of the greenery, she continues with her life's work. "People have told me, 'Take it easy,' when they see me running through the greenhouse to get them a particular herb. I'm really strong. I've been called an amazing woman," says Richter.



**Since the bill,  
the sale of 58 medicinal  
herbs has already been  
restricted...**

# Book Reviews

## Life on the Line

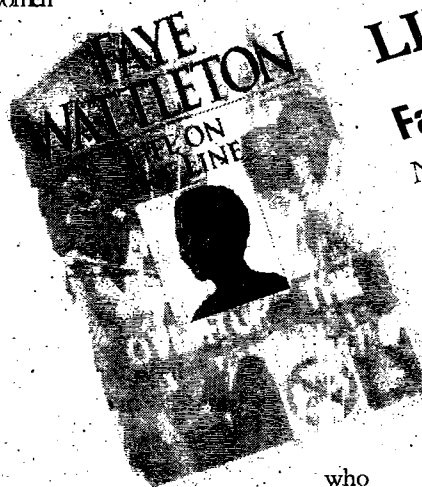
***Life on the Line* chronicles the life and times of Faye Wattleton. Wattleton was the only woman to lead Planned Parenthood of America since it was founded by Margaret Sanger in 1916, and the first African American to take on such an instrumental leadership role.**

Sanger, and her "fervent wish to empower women by freeing them from the limitations of uncontrolled childbearing" (121) initially founded the Birth Control Federation of America which was then changed to Planned Parenthood of America in 1942.

With strong role models to guide her throughout her childhood, Wattleton was always encouraged to do her best. She was one of the first African Americans to graduate from Columbia University with a Master's of Science Degree (in maternal and infant care with certification in midwifery). At the age of 34, Wattleton was offered an executive position of Planned Parenthood of Miami Valley where she expanded its services and eventually obtained the position of President of National Planned Parenthood of New York. Initial focus of service was on preventing unwanted pregnancies. Planned Parenthood began to broaden its services to include abortion referrals after the "*Roe vs Wade* decision declared abortion to be a legal medical procedure." (201) Government funds (i.e. Medicaid) were later restricted (by the Hyde Amendment) to required abortions for cases where the mother's life was at risk. Unfortunately, the Hyde Amendment sacrificed the rights of many poor and/or young women, who in many cases, would continue to

resort to illegal and often life-threatening 'back alley' abortions.

Through a series of complicated court cases, legal procedures, government shifts and changing societal values, Wattleton documents the historical events of Planned Parenthood's continued fight for women's ability to exercise their reproductive rights. In addition to accurate accounts of the legal battles that took place during the 70's, 80's and 90's, this book is punctuated with real anecdotes of women



who died or came close to death, due to coat-hanger abortions, the use of unsterile surgical tools, or other drastic methods; used by those desperate to end their pregnancies with or without government assistance or approval. Faye Wattleton poignantly describes the escalated verbal and physical attacks from ProLife organizations across the country during the time she held the position as President. Through a detailed discussion of talk shows, interviews, speeches, and debates in which Wattleton participated, she highlights the apparent mass disregard for the real issue at hand: the right of women and teenagers to control their reproductive lives — "an exercise of the most fundamental rights, nearly allied to her right to be, surely part of the liberty protected by the First Amendment" (238).

• For me the most emotionally charged passages of the book did not deal with Faye Wattleton's personal life; rather they were in the words she spoke for almost half a million demonstrators at the April 9, 1989 "March for Life" in Washington.

"And as a woman, I know that the power of the government to control women's reproduction is more frightening than any other tyranny, and more binding than any other

## LIFE ON THE LINE

Faye Wattleton

New York: Ballantine Books, 1996. 489 pp.  
US\$25, CD\$35 (hardcover)

Reviewed by Leigh D. Holm

prison. There can be no equal rights without abortion rights! If we cannot decide when we will bear children, what good is access to the boardrooms of corporate America? If we cannot protect our health and our lives, what good is equal pay, equal opportunity, or equity in any other aspect of American life? And, if it is assumed that women are too limited to be trusted to make moral decisions without the direction of Mr. Bush, how can we be trusted to raise the children of America — and thereby shape the future of America." (362)

Although I have to admit that I started to get a little sleepy-eyed during the many court trials and legal successes and defeats, I definitely feel that I have gained a greater respect for those who have fought and continue to fight for women's rights. And although I would have been interested to learn more about the personal life of Faye Wattleton, her life outside of Planned Parenthood (I wonder if there ever was much of one), I was impressed by her ability to clarify the issues and the justifications for this fight. Her overpowering convictions and fiery determination to have America and the

world hear her side of the debate over sex education, contraception, and abortion, captivated me regardless.

Concluding the book with an open letter to her daughter, Faye Wattleton ties all of her battles into a few important lessons for those of us who dare to tread through its close-to-500 pages. Her concluding words to her daughter:

"Through the example of my life, I've tried to demonstrate that it's our continuing responsibility to challenge inequality, intolerance, and oppression — the darkness that snuffs out the flames of hope." (467)

Anyone who is at all intrigued by the history and the debate concerning women's right to abortion should definitely give Faye Wattleton's *Life on the Line* a read. Through her storyteller's depiction of childhood memories, we are reminded that it was only a short while ago that civil rights for African Americans were won. Through her eye-opening experiences as a midwife and as a nurse, we learn about the experiences of women who did not survive abortion because the law did not require the procedures to be safe and accessible for women, especially poor and young women. And, finally, through her accounts of the battles she, along with Planned Parenthood, waged for women's rights and continues to wage, we are reminded that:

"As we enter the twenty-first century, the stakes have never been higher for women to assert the power of our leadership. Now is the time for women of [our] generation to become invested in the political process, for your lives are on the line." (468)

*Leigh Holm is currently compiling and editing "An Anthology for and by Canadians with Disabilities" in addition to working at home creating a website and online course instruction for Georgian College in Barrie, Ontario.*

## Feminism and Education

*Toronto: Centre for Women's Studies in Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 1994.*

**Reviewed by Allison M. Williams**

**This book gives feminist educators a great deal of hope. In these times of fiscal constraint, which affects class size, course offerings, job security, administrative outlook (steering towards conservatism), and many other aspects of school life, the obstacles to implementing a feminist pedagogy in the academy are growing.**

This edited volume reaffirms the opportunity and ability to maintain and develop the feminist agenda in teaching and learning. Through sharing successful feminist strategies in education, the contributors' initiative, ingenuity, persistence and enthusiasm prove both impressive and contagious.

The editor's holistic perspective is reflected in the book's structure and content. The collection is divided into four areas: Anti-Racist/Feminist Pedagogy; Distance/Electronic Education; Classroom Discourse/Practice; and Curriculum Content. The articles contained in the volume are written by educators working in not only the secondary and post-secondary environment, but also within the community at large. And the authors represent different fields, including nursing, computer science, history, education, communications, women's studies, sociology and community activism. In spite of this, the strategies, techniques and processes shared are applicable across most levels, and for most, if not all, subjects.

The pieces I enjoyed most read like stories. Potvin's discussion of confronting the disclosure of sexual abuse in the classroom, explored how this setting could facilitate the process of participants "hearing each other into being". The success of O'Reilly's course on mothering and motherhood, which challenges patriarchal definitions of motherhood, is celebrated through the sharing of a student's own experiences.

## A Canadian Perspective, Vol. 2

**Edited by Paula Bourne, Philinda Masters, Nuzhat Amin, Marnina Gonich and Lisa Grobowski**

Harasim and Smith's article on women teachers and computer networks illustrates how technology can help the advancement of feminist pedagogy, specifically in creating openness among students, between students and teachers, and in reducing hierarchical differences.

The volume suitably ends with Schade's report on Concordia's history department's progress in integrating gender, race and class as constructs of analysis within the curriculum. I expect this piece was thus situated to reiterate the fact that change must be a holistic process, where all aspects of the academy must participate the feminist project.

To properly introduce the principles of feminist pedagogy to those who may be unfamiliar with it, I would suggest that an introductory section be provided in Volume 3. Similarly, a concluding section would also enhance the publication. It could summarize the main movements, present future challenges for feminist educators and pose research questions/projects.

Committed feminist educators can turn to this volume and celebrate the progress, enthusiasm and persistence that many teachers have had in implementing unimagined possibilities that have brought about much needed change. Carry on!

*Allison Williams is completing her Doctoral Program with the Department of Geography at York University.*

## BOOK REVIEWS

Internationally renowned poet/activist/filmmaker Dionne Brand unveils another talent added to her repertoire, that of novelist. In her first book, "Another Place, Not Here," published by Knopf Canada, Brand expands her poetic technique to full-length novel form. She has accomplished quite a feat for someone known for writing in a very different medium. Once the reader progresses, albeit a bit painfully, through the first 30 or so pages, Brand's novel successfully seduces the reader to carry on to its bittersweet end. Her story of lovers Verlia and Elizete, reflects a theme common to her prolific work, that of black lesbian feminists waging war on oppressive conservatism.

# Another Place, Not Here

Dionne Brand

Toronto: Knopf Canada, 1996,  
247 pp. \$27.95 (hardcover)  
Reviewed by Dawn Carter

At first glance, the story of Elizete and Verlia seems to be an easy read. However, the simplicity of language is deceptive, especially in its relating of Elizete's tale. Brand expertly captures Elizete's innocent perception of island life. However, the reader's initial inability to connect to the idiosyncrasies of Elizete's character, is complicated by an incorporeal vernacular. The imagery relayed through the writing is stunning, as Elizete describes her love for Verlia; and like a female Adam, names her environment according to her own purposes. Once Elizete finds herself in Toronto, the connection between reader/character is unbearably tenacious. The reader

cannot help but empathize with her feelings of increasing isolation. Unable to claim the surroundings of glass, steel and concrete as her own, Elizete's voice becomes insignificant, a sparrow's cry mauled by rush-hour traffic.

Verlia's tale is of a woman seeking refuge from dreams, by plunging herself into the activities of the Black Power movement. Verlia distances herself from the colonized thoughts that killed the fight in her complacent, demanding family on the island. Toronto offers a temporary solution for Verlia to focus her passionate energies. Eventually, the islands call her back into the arms of Elizete and the upheaval of revolution. Easier to

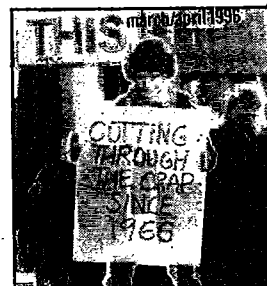
digest, Verlia's journey from the Caribbean to Toronto and back is a vivid secondary exploration of a turbulent, internal landscape. Brand sensitively relays Verlia's journey through her imagery of Toronto and Verlia's island origins, which stir Verlia's oppositional feelings of repulsion and affinity.

The separate, but interwoven tales of the two women achieve a great measure of success. Brand's novel captures the ambiguity experienced in most relationships, by depicting the woman's affair in a way that does not smack of lesbian propaganda. *Another Place, Not Here*, is an honest, uncompromising read, with wide appeal. Brand's readings of excerpts (Buddies at Bad Times, July 1996) gave a new translation of the work; her novel was captivating when read out loud.

Whether the setting is an island, or a metropolis; whether a woman is lesbian or not, we share common experiences that at first, make us seem victims. For ourselves, Verlia and Elizete, these experiences become fiercely wielded instruments of empowerment. What cannot kill us can only make us stronger.

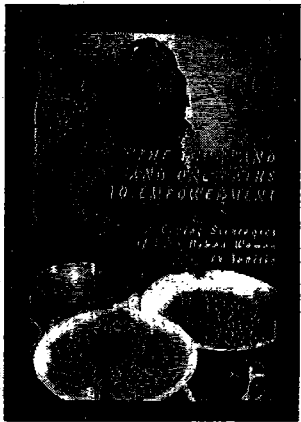
*Dawn Carter is a poet and a short story writer originally from Edmonton. Toronto is a new frontier.*

## one of these things is not like the others



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# In Print



**The Thousand and One Paths to Empowerment: Coping Strategies of Poor Urban Women in Tunisia**

*Tunisia: Enda Inter-Arabe, 1996. 129 pp. (paperback)*

Within an ever changing economy women in Tunisia have begun to take increasingly direct responsibility for their family's livelihood. Overcoming historical, social and religious tenets that oblige women to stay at home and care for the family, many women have been forced to obtain employment to help support their families. Even though traditional gender division of roles have been questioned, in times of financial need women in Tunisia have shown great interest and ability in self-employment and the creation of micro-enterprises in the traditional and non-traditional sectors.

This book contains various interviews of women in Tunisia who have

shared their life stories in their own words. Including an analysis of their process of liberation and empowerment the content of this book documents increasingly common situations for Arab women. The new generation of entrepreneurial Arab women however, continues to remain close to invisible.

**Clayoquot: The Sound of my Heart**  
Betty Shiver Krawczyk

*Victoria, BC: Orca Book Publishers, 1996. 213 pp. CDNS16.95, USS14.95 (paperback)*



Clayoquot: The Sound of my Heart is the story of a remarkable life. Betty Krawczyk came to Clayoquot Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island seeking peace and contentment after a lifetime of turmoil. She felt she had finally found her special place when, at age 65, she settled on ten acres in Cypress Bay. And then the logging companies threatened that peace and she joined the blockades to stop the

clearcutting of forests.

Arrested and convicted of contempt of court, she eventually spent four and a half months in jail.

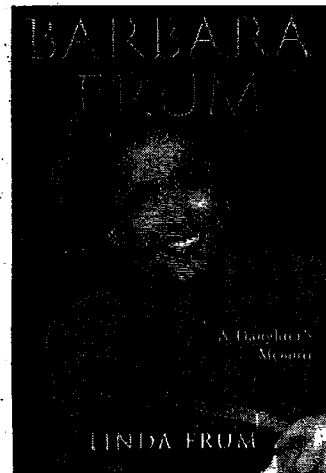
But the

fight to save the forests is only half the story of Clayoquot: The Sound of my Heart. Juxtaposed with details of the blockade, her arrest, trial and confinement, the author gradually reveals the details of the life that brought her to the point where, instead of enjoying a quiet retirement, she was prepared to go to jail in support of her convictions.

**Barbara Frum: A Daughter's Memoir**  
Linda Frum

*Toronto: Random House of Canada, Limited, 1996. 287 pp. CDNS29.95 (hardcover)*

The death of Barbara Frum on March 26, 1992, stunned and sorrowed Canadians. After a heroic — and very private — 18-year battle with leukemia, she left behind a country that loved, respected, and admired her. This is a touching memoir, written by daughter Linda, that allows readers to further know and understand one of the most well-known journalists with the CBC. We see Barbara as a young child growing up in Niagara Falls, and



follow her through her developing years dedicated to real journalism, honest interviewing and objective broadcasting. We are given snapshot stories of Barbara's life as mother, wife and career woman through the eyes of an eloquent writer and devoted daughter. There is a deeply

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## IN PRINT

personal feel to this biography and readers will be inspired by the story of Barbara Frum and the memories of such an inspiring woman.

### **Tournaments of Value: Sociability and Hierarchy in a Yemeni Town**

Anne Meneley

Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996, 216 pp.

North America \$45.00 (cloth) and \$18.95 (paperback)

United Kingdom £33.50 (cloth) and £14.50 (paperback)

Everyday life among Zabidi women involves a complex series of social events, governed by an elaborate etiquette, through which familial social status and community identity are constituted. This vibrant sociability is the motif for this book. This theme encompasses a few of the far-famed characteristics of Middle Eastern societies: the ethic of generosity and hospitality for which the Arabs are famous, and the ideology of 'honour and shame' for which they are infamous. For both men and women, the offering of generous hospitality is a means of creating honourable identities; hospitality is a 'glorious deed' through which honour is established.

### **Beyond Beijing: The Next Step for Women**

Joan Chittister

Sheed & Ward  
\$22.95 (paperback)

The United Nations Conference on Women, held in Beijing, focused critical attention on women whose needs too often go unanswered — refugee women, old women, young girls. Chittister offers a moving and challenging journal chronicling her participation in the conference. In *Beyond Beijing* she reflects on this historic event, raising hard questions about moving on to the next step.

### **The Sex of Architecture.**

Edited by Diana Agrest, Patricia Conway and Leslie Kanes Weisman

Harry N. Abrams, Inc.  
\$25.95 (paperback)

This provocative collection of essays expresses the power and diversity of women's views on architecture today. Twenty-four historians, educators and practitioners explore issues in architecture and urbanism, and examine long-held "truths": that man builds and woman inhabits, that man is outside and woman is inside, that man is public and woman is private. 91 black-and-white illustrations.

### **Written by Herself, Volume II: Women's Memoirs from Four Continents**

Edited by Jill Ker Conway  
Random House Canada, Limited  
\$23.00 (paperback)

A sequel to Jill Ker Conway's first anthology, *Written by Herself*, which focused on American women, this wide-ranging collection offers the voices of women writing about their lives in Britain, South Africa, Kenya, India and the United States. Contributors include Isak Dinesen, Vivian Gornich, Shudha Mazumdar, Edith Mirante and Emma Mashinini. A stirring anthology of women's autobiographical writing.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

# Upcoming

january

february

# Events

march

may

## and Interesting Websites

**March 8, 1997 - New Jersey**  
International Women's Day Celebration  
(New Jersey, U.S.)  
Interesting site explains history and why  
one should celebrate Women's Day  
<<http://www.castle.net/~iwd/>>

**March 24-27, 1997 - Technion - Israel**  
Institute of Technology, Israel  
Dahlia-Greidinger International Symposium  
on Fertilization and the Environment  
Sustainability, ancient agriculture, etc...  
<<http://tx.technion.ac.il/~aggreid/>>

**April 5-9, 1997 - San Diego, California**  
American Planning Association (APA)  
National Conference  
Planning and Women Division sessions  
will be "Technology and Communities in  
Transition", "Women in  
Planning in Transition" and "Civic Journal-  
ism: A New Planning Tool".  
APA, 122 S. Michigan Ave., Ste. 1600  
Chicago, IL 60603 USA

**April 22, 1997 - Canada and the world**  
On April 22, the world will celebrate  
International Earth Day by protecting local  
ecosystems, wildlife and human health  
from environmental degradation and  
pollution. For more information about  
how to get involved in Canada, contact:  
Earth Day Canada  
144 Front St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5J 2L7  
(416) 599-1991

**April 28 - May 7, 1997 - Nairobi**  
UN Commission on Human Settlements  
The inter-governmental body responsible  
for monitoring the implementation of the  
Habitat Agenda. For more info contact:  
Mr. Naiker, Fund Management Chief  
UNCHS Habitat  
P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya  
tel. 2542-621234 x 623139  
fax. 2542-624266 or 4267

**May 4-7, 1997 - Los Angeles, California**  
National Conference on Women and HIV  
Innovation for Care, Policy & Prevention  
<<http://www.womenhivconf.org>>

**May 10, 1997 - South Bank University -  
London, U.K**  
9th Conference on the Social Aspects of  
AIDS  
Themes include: families, communities,  
culture, etc... further details, email  
<[michael@sigma-r.demon.co.uk](mailto:michael@sigma-r.demon.co.uk)>  
<[http://www.oneworld.org/avert/  
socialas.htm](http://www.oneworld.org/avert/socialas.htm)>

**May 1997 - Apeldoorn, Netherlands**  
2nd International ProSilva Congress  
Association of European Foresters  
practising management which follows  
natural processes  
<[http://www.ourworld.compuserve.com/  
homepages/J\\_Kuper/prosilva.htm](http://www.ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/J_Kuper/prosilva.htm)>

**June 18-22, 1997 - St. Louis**  
National Women's Studies Association  
1997 Conference (U.S.)  
<<http://feminist.com/nwsacon.htm>>

**June 26-29, 1997 - The University of  
Melbourne, Australia**  
Building Dwelling Drifting  
Migrancy and the Limits of Agriculture  
<[http://www.arbid.unimelb.edu.au/  
events/mig-conf/home.htm](http://www.arbid.unimelb.edu.au/events/mig-conf/home.htm)>

**July 13-17, 1997 - Kingston, Ontario,  
Canada**  
World Conference on Breast Cancer for  
more information contact:  
World Conference on Breast Cancer  
Registration Office  
P.O. Box 1570, 190 Railway Street  
Kingston, ON Canada K7L 5C8  
tel. 613-531-9210

**July 14-16, 1997 - University of  
Washington Campus, Seattle, Washing-  
ton, U.S.**  
Forest Alternative Conference  
International Symposium on the Use of  
Residuals as Soil Amendments in Forest  
Ecosystems  
<[http://www.weber.u.washington.edu/  
~robb/NBMA/ForestAlt/ForestAlt.html](http://www.weber.u.washington.edu/~robb/NBMA/ForestAlt/ForestAlt.html)>

**August 12-17, 1997 - Westin Galleria  
and Oaks, Houston, Texas**  
National Women's Political Caucus  
Convention (U.S.)  
<<http://feminist.com/nwpccon.htm>>

**October 1-3, 1997 - The University of  
Melbourne, Australia**  
An International Conference for Environ-  
mental Justice: Global Ethics for the  
21st Century  
[http://www.arbid.unimelb.edu.au/events/  
enjust.htm](http://www.arbid.unimelb.edu.au/events/enjust.htm)

**Midwifery Today Conferences**  
March 13-16, 1997 - San Diego,  
California  
June 5-8, 1997 - Eugene, Oregon  
September 11-14, 1997 - New York City,  
New York  
September 19-21, 1997 - Orlando,  
Florida  
November 5-10, 1997 - "Sharing Vision  
for Global Midwifery", London, U.K.  
<[http://www.efn.org/~djz/birth/MT/  
conferences/calen.html](http://www.efn.org/~djz/birth/MT/conferences/calen.html)>

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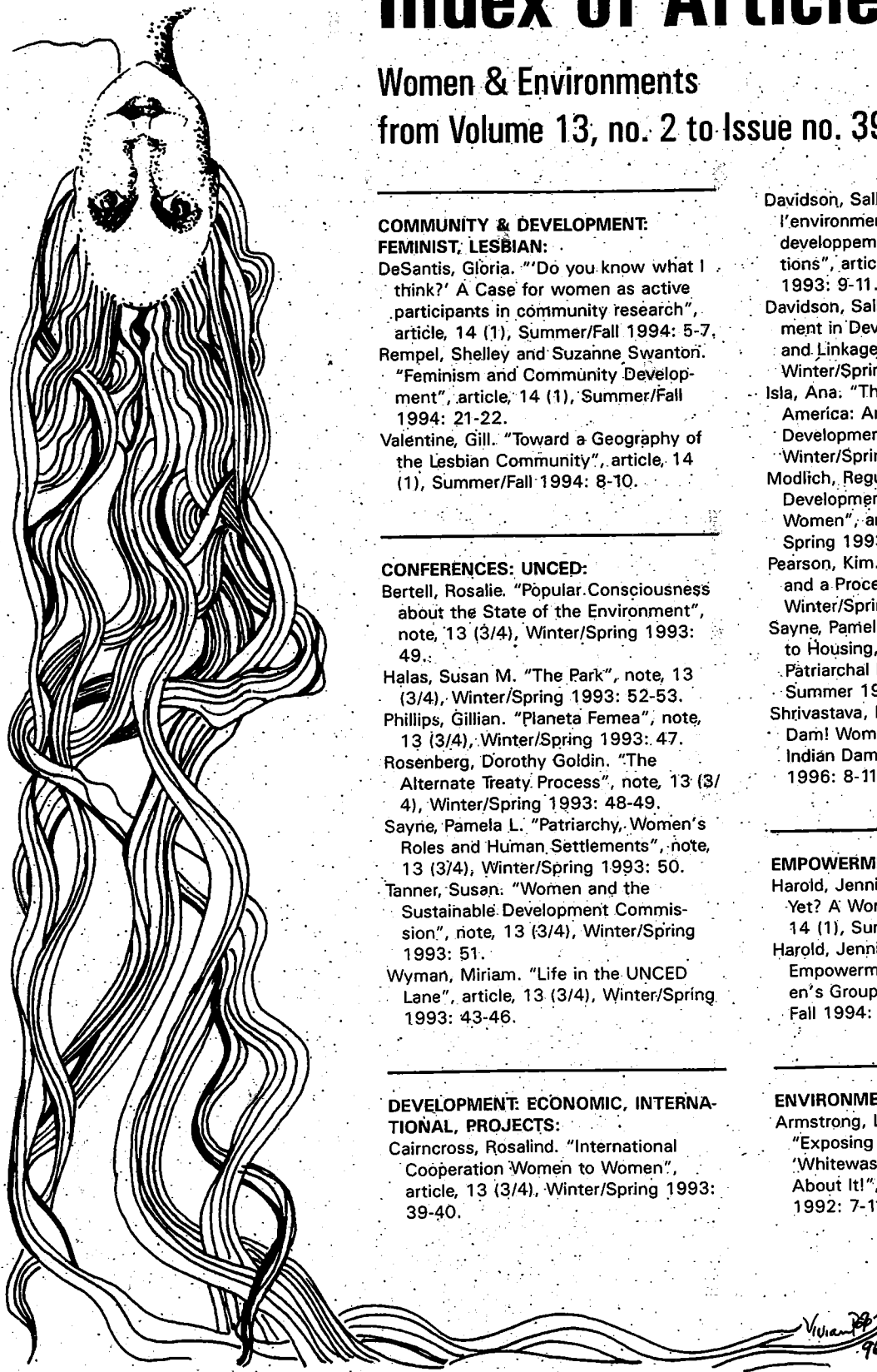
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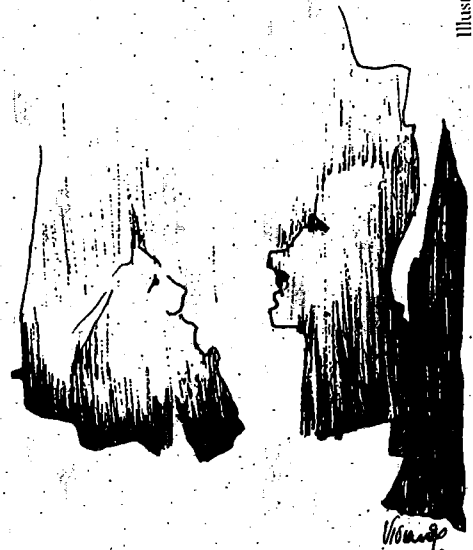


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# Future Issues – Call for Papers

## WOMEN AND TECHNOLOGY

We are seeking all graphics and illustrations, as well as articles, that explore aspects of women's relationships to low technology and technological environments including such areas as:

- public policy,
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- this issue will explore issues of gender, health (mental and physical), safety, access to funding and equipment, the appropriateness of competition, team versus individual sports, amateur versus professional;

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- Women & Environmental Policy/Law
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# Feminist & Environmental

## TRIVIA answers

### Feminist Quiz answers:

1. Lucille Ball
2. Females: Pam Sayne, *Women & Environments*, issue #39/40, Habitat II (co-chair, Housing Committee; NAC)
3. Madonna: People magazine, cover story, during 1995
4. Animal shelters: Shocking Pink Paper, 1993, Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women
5. 1 in 8: Shocking Pink Paper
6. 1930: Edwards vs. Canada Attorney General, Privy Council, reversing the 1928 Supreme Court decision.
7. 1897: Erin Salomon against Salomon Ltd., House of Lords
8. 2%: Shocking Pink Paper
9. Females: Canadian Small Business Association, & Statistics Canada
10. No: 1996, Vancouver couple; Supreme Court ruling
11. 10%: Pam Sayne, *Women & Environments* issue #39/40, Habitat II
12. 1 in 2: *Globe and Mail*, Srinivasa Prasad, Associate Press, Salem, India Feb. 12, 1993 (p. A8)
13. 0.8%: Pam Sayne, *Women & Environments* issue #39/40, Habitat II
14. 25%: Pam Sayne, *Women & Environments* issue #39/40, Habitat II
15. 75%: Pam Sayne, *Women & Environments* issue #39/40, Habitat II

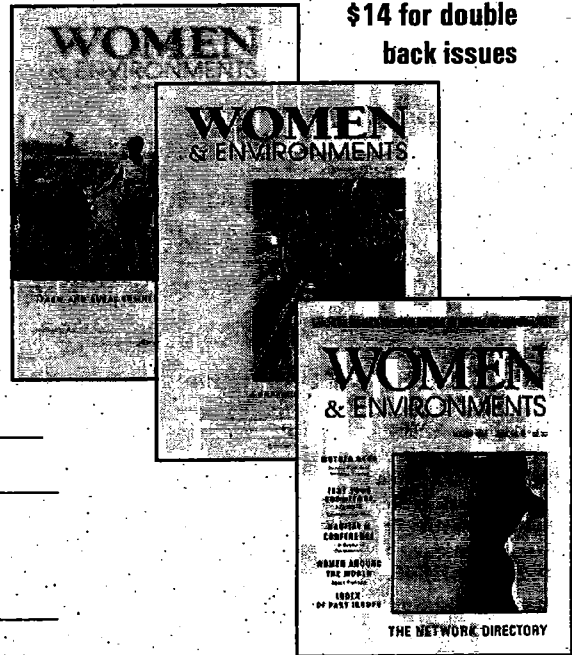
### Environmental quiz answers:

1. dry cleaning
2. Yes: World Health Organization; WNH&E (Women's Network on Health & The Environment); Rosalie Bertell - Director of Research, International Institute of Concern for Public Health
3. 80%
4. No: A.K. Sen, Economist
5. 1: Nicole Nolan, *Toxic Support*, NOW magazine, August 8-14, 1996
6. 4%: Nicole Nolan, *Toxic Support*, NOW magazine, August 8-14, 1996
7. They don't know, don't keep track: Spokesperson Neil Morris, M.R.C., quoted by Nicole Nolan, NOW magazine, August 8-14, 1996, *Toxic Support*
8. Environmental & chemical carcinogens: Rosalie Bertell, Director of Research, International Institute of Concern for Public Health - NOW magazine, *Toxic Support*, Nicole Nolan
9. Organochlorines: chlorine bleach in paper, cancer links, & higher liver cancer rates from high-use showerers
10. No: Atlantic Monthly, June 1996, cover issue on breast cancer
11. No: Rosalie Bertell, NOW article by Nicole Nolan, *Toxic Support*, August 8-14, 1996; Colleen Kelly, Women's Health Action Network.



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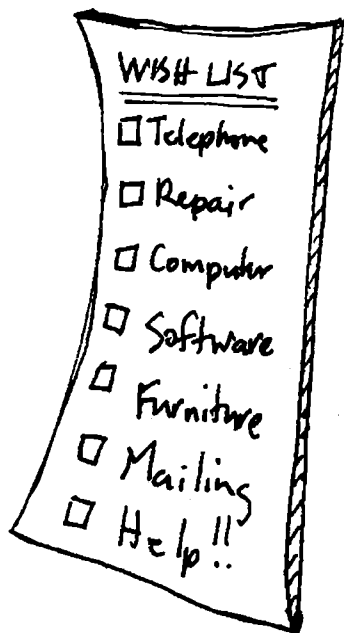
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