

# Strange How Women's Libbers Devalue Woman's Uniqueness

Do I belong to a group which could be labelled "The Silent Majority"? Housewives, that is — the ones who stay home — who, in the parlance of the day "are not liberated"

Well — I do stay at home — And, in spite of the large number of married women working outside their homes, I believe this group is still the majority. But I am not silent. And neither are most of my unliberated sisters. It just seems that way, because we don't get on the air, or into print, very often.

However, we do get into conversation quite frequently, and find we all deeply resent the barrage of anti-housekeeping, anti-child-raising publicity drummed at us from all sides by the Women's Libbers. To read and hear, constantly, that we must get a job outside the home to fulfil ourselves, undermines our contentment, satisfaction in our role, and confidence in our mental capabilities.

If a woman has to work for financial or emotional reasons, that is quite another matter. It is when there is a free choice of whether or not to work outside the home, that Women's Lib pressures are brought to bear most tellingly.

Pressures that say mental stimulation is practically non-existent for the woman-at-home. I say, far from it. The housewife has the ideal situation in which to become well-informed on all the issues and news of the day. Indeed, she can accomplish this to great advantage while going about her household duties, by tuning into one of the many excellent, informative, radio programs. She is also in a position to take extra time for reading, and reflecting, upon news and views in newspapers, magazines and books. She can have the stimulation of a variety of activities, if she has spare time. Also, there is plenty of opportunity for creativity, if that is her bent. And let's face it, that needn't be any high-flow term. Creativity can apply equally well to cooking a good meal as to painting a good picture.

As for the term "dull" being levelled at housewives — well, maybe some are — but so are some women who work outside the home. It doesn't matter so much WHERE you are, but WHAT you are.

"Boring" is Women's Lib, description for housework. Have to admit I'm not exactly entranced about all aspects of it, all the time, myself. But I'm sure I could also get bored at times, with bookkeeping, typing, nursing, teaching, etc., ad infinitum. It seems to me that all jobs, inside or outside the home, involve elements of tedious routine. Coming to terms with that, is part of living successfully and happily.

All of which adds fuel to my resentment of the term "liberated" being used in the sense that it means being "liberated" from being a homemaker. Rather, the Women's Lib. leaders would be doing the cause of womanhood a much better turn, if they started emphasizing the importance of the homemaker's role, rather than downgrading it.

Same goes for their cavalier attitude toward child-bearing and child-raising. Perhaps I shouldn't say "bearing", because many of the militants can't resist the primeval urge to perpetuate themselves with a child. But after it is born, they don't want to look after it — too demeaning. How about that! Have they forgotten that, truly, the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world? What job could be more important? And more demanding of every facet of a woman's character, personality and physical endurance?

I heard a Women's Lib. advocate, being interviewed recently, and when asked who would look after children if, ideally, all mothers were working outside the home, she replied that she thought the grandmothers would be a very logical choice for the job. So there they go, thinking of turning nature's sequence topsy-turvy. When a woman is young and in best physical condition to cope with children, she's to be out in the labour force, and when she's been retired from that, she can start raising children. Pretty hard on the grandmas, don't you think? — to say nothing of the children under their care.

Children and their emotional needs are given short shrift, too, when it comes to the more radical Women's Lib. thinking on marriage and sexual morality. It makes me furious to see, how, with their permissive attitudes,

the free-lovers are undermining the institution of marriage — the very social structure evolved over the centuries, for the protection and security of women and children. Crazy. And here again, the children are the hapless pawns. Strange how the liberated-from-marriage ladies seem to blithely ignore the fact that THEY are still the ones who will bear the babies. No way has yet been found to change that.

And when they do have a child, the insecurity and instability of their life-style must surely have a detrimental effect on it.

Which brings me to the most frustrating part of all. Why aren't the Women's Lib proud, proud, of our ability to bear and raise children? Instead of pushing it into the background of their lives, as a stumbling

block to "liberation", why not glorify what the majority of women are so uniquely and eminently suited to do? At least, give looking after one's own children full-time, the same status as working in an office, factory or store?

Now, don't get the idea that I'm against all of the ideas of the Women's Lib. movement. Some are fine. They have done, and are doing, a much-needed job of prodding society into changing laws, and attitudes, that are unfair to women. But it is ironic that in so doing, many of them have gone to such extremes, they are creating a great disservice to an all-too-often-silent majority of their own sex.

And I, for one, just had to speak out about it.

## Ashgrove Mushroom Plant Tour For Institute Women

Wednesday morning, March 29, twenty-eight Women's Institute members toured the Meadowglen Mushroom plant in Georgetown. Max Skrow and son Ernie, have a modern, up-to-date plant with machinery designed to process large quantities of mushrooms.

The visitors saw the mushrooms growing in the dark in boxes, being washed and canned, ready for sale in chain stores all over the country.

After the tour, the group went to the Friendship room in Glen Williams United Church for a lovely casserole luncheon. President Mrs. Percy Cook conducted a meeting afterwards, at which Mrs. James McPhail called the roll, answered by naming an industry unknown to our grandmothers. Some good ones were given, including plastics, electrical gadgets, television and jet planes.

Donations of money were made to Mental Health, Music Festival and membership paid for the Children's Aid Society. Mrs. W. Bird reported on recent speeches, Mrs. John Bird on a dance and Mrs. John Rutledge, on the directors' meeting she had

attended. The district annual is on May 24 at Campbellville.

Cards of thanks were read from the retiring 4-H leader, Mrs. Tentenaar, for a gift sent to her, and also from sick members who had been remembered with gifts or cards. The motto "In every rank, both great and small, it is industry that supports us all" was given by Mrs. John Bird and contained some splendid and worthwhile thoughts. Mrs. Hector Bird gave the courtesies.

Mrs. Frank W. Wilson, 63 Charles Street in town, and Mrs. Clayton Wilson spent last week in Manitowick with little Brent and Blair Reeve while their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Graham Reeve, enjoyed a trip south.

—Mrs. J. Bellbody.

## Glen Williams

Mrs. Mary Lawrence of Feneigh Falls recently spent a week with her daughter and family — Mr. and Mrs. Paul Campbell and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Haines returned home Saturday from a two week vacation in Barbados where they stayed at the Golden Sands.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Armstrong and sons spent the Easter weekend visiting with parents in New Carlou.

Miss Joy Haines with some of her teacher associates of Burlington Central Public School spent the Easter school holidays in Barbados.

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Haines and son Bradley of Oshawa, and Mr. and Mrs. Laddie Haines of London were home on the weekend with their parents Mr. and Mrs. Roland Haines.

Easter Sunday dinner guests with the Lyle Armstrongs were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. Robert McMaster.

—Mrs. Donna Armstrong

## Bridge Club

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kwei were North-South winners, and S. Kerr and R. Jones, East-West, last week when 15 tables of players competed at Georgetown duplicate bridge club.

Other North-South scores: 2nd, Mr. Lech and Bob Fedosa; 3rd, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Reynolds; 4th, Jim Kall and Bill Wandel; 5th, Syd Heller and Ron Glide.

East-West: 2nd, John Coats and Mrs. Leo Kistemaker; 3rd, Bart Fisher, Mrs. Barbara Wood; 4th, George Ellenton, Mrs. Clayton Barbour; 5th, Mrs. Bill Coats, Ian Coats.

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## Zeta Phi Chapter Names Mrs. P. Hughes President

An old custom at an authentic Irish party is to call upon each guest to contribute a song, a story, a poem or whatever talent they possess for the entertainment of the other guests. Hailing from Ireland, Kevin Cawley led the fun when he and Mrs. Eleanor Cawley hosted a St. Patrick's Day party for Zeta Phi members and husbands on Saturday, March 18.

An Irish setting was created for the occasion with decorations including many souvenirs from Mr. Cawley's homeland. To bring the evening to a fitting close, guests were treated to a real Irish stew accompanied by soda bread.

**DONATE BOOKS**  
Mrs. Deanne Mount was hostess to the March 21 meeting of Zeta Phi Chapter of Beta

Sigma Phi. Of interest, during the business meeting, was the decision to donate a set of the Beta Sigma Phi cookbooks to the Georgetown Library.

Further information was heard regarding the plans for the July 1 celebration of Georgetown's 50th anniversary and the chapter is hoping to be able to contribute their efforts to the festivities.

**SOUVENIR**  
Members voted to purchase a suitable souvenir of Canada to be presented to the hostess chapter of Beta Sigma Phi in England by Mrs. Pauline Hughes when she attends the international convention being held there in April. Elections were held to fill the posts of next year's executive and the results were as follows: president, Pauline Hughes; vice-president, Kathleen Vickery;

recording secretary, Vivian Pelerman; corresponding secretary, Lois Rogers; treasurer, Deanne Mount.

The Very pistol was a pistol used in warfare for discharging illuminating rockets or signals.

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3000.	36 mos.	99.40	576.84
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## ASKING FOR HYDRO ROUTE PROBE



Several members of the delegation which met with Premier William Davis last week look over their petition concerning the proposed Hydro route between Pickering and Beverley. From left to right are Mr. G. L. Symmes, of R.R.1 Terra Cotta who is the head of the Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Mrs. G.

L. Symmes, and Mr. John Schreiber, of Caledon Township, who formally presented the petition to Premier Davis.

—Special Herald photo



Premier William Davis greets the delegates presenting the petition.

—Special Herald Photo

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