

# NYRF

## New York Radical Feminists NEWSLETTER

NYRF GENERAL MEETING Sunday September 7 8 pm WOMEN'S CENTER 243 W. 20th St.  
Consciousness-Raising Topic: Our Work and What It Means To Us

### THE POLITICS OF ART... *evan morley*

I suppose the concept of a "politics of art" means that art has a function. That function may not be intended by those who practice it (though it may be), but it is understood by those who set standards and determine activities: that is, by those in power. That's why we have "good" art and "bad" art.

#### An Analogy With Rape

The analogy is with the "politics of rape." We have discovered that the function of rape is to intimidate and control women; rapists, caught up in this "ideology" created by earlier men, may have individual and vague reasons for their acts. Some "good" rapists (soldiers, other authorities) are encouraged; "bad" rapists (poor, ethnic undesirables, youth) are punished.

#### Categories Keep People Out

So it is with art and artists. Just as rape is one category of control over women, art is one category of control over other social relationships. The purpose in both is to keep certain people "in" and certain people "out."

We now have Fine Arts as opposed to Crude or Nonarts such as the formerly distinguished tasks/crafts of weaving, potting, cooking, planting. There is a value judgment here, too. The most esteemed arts are predominantly in the hands of men. The devalued, former ones--once the proud heritage of women--are also predominantly male. The social control here is the male hierarchy of occupational status and opportunity.

#### The Cult of Art and the Artist

I sometimes wonder why art is separated from other human activities like sports, science, childrearing since we often hear about the "art of finance" or the "art of tennis" or the "art of love." Is art merely finesse? Let's look at some of our myths.

1. Art is revolutionary - "to point a moral..."
2. Art is frivolous - "...or adorn a tale."
3. Artists are "crazy" "gifted" "sissy" "lazy" "dedicated" etc.
4. Artists lead a double-life in the class structure: often poor and despised, but awed and welcomed in circles.

The activity or activities known as Art

vary historically, depending on current social policy--with, of course, the natural counterforces present anywhere. The people deemed artists range from Muhammed Ali to Picasso to a tribal son taught by his mother (who is she?). The values of Art, like the myths above, are contradictory.

These contradictions tend to obscure the function of art stated earlier: social control whether it is liberal or repressive.

#### Away With Contradiction and Control!!!

#### Toward Feminism & Art/Feminists & Artists

Women and feminists in "art" or in any endeavor will challenge the contradictions and the very function of art itself. Our work tends always to attack the root of all social control: the productivity of women.

As feminists we can at last talk about art being expressive. It is, in everything we do - especially the NYRF Newsletter. We can all develop varieties of "form" and "content" in any production--be it conference, play, craft, or statement.

We can all explore new "productions" and activities as we go on. We can all utilize the special skills that go into each category as various women have learned them in our compartmentalized society.

And as our content grows, our forms will reflect that. And as we vary our forms, because we take risks, new content occurs to us. "All is art--art is all."

A new value for art/activity will emerge; sharing expressing ourselves in building our frontiers.

#### The NYRF Bandwagon

In the crass American tradition, politics connotes a bandwagon and a beating of drums. This image combines art (a few musical instruments) and politics (the wagon from which NYRF is launching our new production). Join the NYRF bandwagon. See FOCUS ON ME, a feminist play written by Bobbie Ausubel of Boston, directed and acted by women from Boston, produced by New York Radical Feminists, and supported by the New York women who will participate in this frontier on NOVEMBER 7 & 8 at Washington Square Church. See p. 7 for more information.

# NYRF Business

NYRF Business Meeting 8/4/75

**Present:** Ros, Myrna, Judy, Joan, Linda, Ellen, Helene, Evan, Gloria, B.J.

**Announcements:** Charlotte Sheedy case, decision won for case not to be set aside but pursued; will set precedent for public place being responsible for sexual harassment of patrons. Labor Pains, a monthly from Ithaca, deals with sexual harassment on the job (see also Mail.) Ellen, Evan, Helene attended Press Conference for Rape Conference of 8/22-23 and successfully defeated a spot advertisement insulting women.

**Mail:** Variety of magazines from different cities (feminism is growing, growing). Info on hospital treatment for rape from Rape Coalition. N.O.W. reports on toy from Mattell a doll which grows breasts when its arm is twisted; message-female sex characteristics depend on violence. N.O.W. is fighting.

**Old Business:** FOCUS ON ME flyers to distribute and tickets are available. Jane Alpert: the combined NYRF-Support Committee to plan

the Aug. 24 event canceled the event. We CR'd around this decision. Unanimous agreement to back up cancellation yet find some means of expressing our support of Jane Alpert as a woman and feminist up vs. the man in prison. Motion to draft letter to Jane and announcement to subscribers by Aug. 14 (done). All interested in pursuing were referred to the group Circle of Support for Jane Alpert. Motion to release that group from \$10 suggested donation for articles in Newsletter unanimous. Credit Union report by Linda on charter. Progress of the union-new arm Greater New York Feminist Council needed to add member groups for sponsorship. Helene now NYRF representative. Motion that representative rotate every 3 months unanimous. Pledge cards will be going out and shares sold. Address for Credit Union is 23 Cornelia Street. NYRF Work Conference planning group is meeting and needs many women for wider perspectives. Illegitimacy group is waiting for typed transcript. CASHarassment support for letter to circulate...Evan Morley

N.Y.R.F. BUSINESS MEETING 8/18/75

**ATTENDANCE:** GLORIA, EVAN, SHARON, HELENE, ELLEN, ROZ, JULIA, LYNN, JOANNE-MARIE, JOAN, MYRA, DORIS

**CHAIR:** ELLEN/MEETING STARTED: LATE 8:45PM

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** ROZ- ERA coalition is looking for experienced speakers. They are having a workshop on the ERA. They want a commitment of four unpaid speaking engagements. You do not need to have spoken on the ERA to volunteer. HELENE- Newsletter deadline is Aug. 26th, Womens Equality Day. Work Conference needs participants. They are discussing radical concepts of work, women and success and other related topics.

**OLD BUSINESS:** LYNN- Update on the play committee... Poster contest deadline is Aug. 29th. Tickets are being printed, they will be available soon, Labrysis, Womanbooks, and the Coffeehouse will have them, too. Ticket contest... Sell 10 and get a free show at the coffeehouse... Sell 25 and get a dinner for two at Mother Courage... Sell 50 and get dinner for two at M.C. and a free show at the coffeehouse. The play is being sent around to get some PR. By Sept. 15 everything should be ready.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Evan- The treasury will need money Play commitment is \$1000., there is \$2000. in the treasury. The Illegitimacy Book will need funds. We need fund raising ideas.

**Group suggestions:** Poetry readings, a dance, a series of clips on women working, a display of womens arts and crafts, entertainers a total day of N.Y.R.F., a potluck dinner, redo the old cabaret, tie everything in with the work conference and the play

**MOTION:** HELENE- discuss this at the next meeting ELLEN seconds

**DISCUSSION :** EVAN - friendly amendment discuss the ideas that have come out of this meeting. HELENE- amendmant accepted.

**VOTE:** YES 11 NO 0: MOTION PASSED

**LYNN:** RAPE CONFERENCE we should sell pamphlets and Newsletters. JOAN: will try and arrange a table set-up

**HELENE:** JEAN HERSH AND LOLLY HERSH are having a WOMENS CULTURE CARAVAN for the summer 1976. Women and children traveling around the counrty to spread the womens movements culture. They are trying to raise money. Application to participate

must be returned by Aug, 26th. to be included. It will go on for about eight weeks. Should I send in the application? EVAN- we should reply explaining what N.Y.R.F. does, CR should be emphasized. MOTION: EVAN- HELENE should send in the application JOAN seconds NO DISCUSSION VOTE 10 YES 1 ABSTENTION

**MAIL:** JOAN- people are not getting their newsletters, maybe because of mistyped labels Bulk rate mail is over 200 sent out from the same post office, they have to read a copy of what is getting sent out, must be broken by zip code, going by first class but thats not a problem. LYNN: 3d class mail is not forwarded. HELENE; went to the post office and they have a rate that is handled as well as first class. Initial fee is \$15 per yr., after that it is \$30 per yr. instead of 10c it is 6.1c, it must be sorted by zip code. Fold has to be changed. ROZ: the Post Office lies. most mail is mishandled, arrives late. It is treated as bulk mail on the basis of what it looks like, not what it is stamped. EVAN: First Class costs \$240 per yr. for 200 at 6.1c it is \$ 146 per year plus \$30 it is \$174. We could save about \$ 70. LYNN;: the reason we send out the newsletter is to keep people informed, if it arrives late it defeats the purpose. JOAN: are we going to adopt the new format? It saves us stuffing, stamping, price of envelopes. ROZ: if we hand it into the GPO it will be handled as first class. HELENE: then we would have the taxi fare added DORIS: Printing first class will speed it up. EVAN: what do we think of the bulk rate? HELENE: if it will always be late than it defeats the purpose. MOTION: LYNN- Table the discussion ROZ- seconds VOTE 12 Yes 0 NO MYRA: the people involved with the newsletter should handle it, I have utter faith in their decision. MAIL: JOAN went through the various journals..WBAI will discuss Socialist-Feminist theory 7:30PM every Thurs,

**SUNDAY SEPT 7 TOPIC "OUR WORK AND WHAT IT MEANS TO US"**

Monday meetings Sept 8. & 22 Myra Carters 329 Bleeker St. \*8PM\* (:9:35 Meeting over)

Submitted with terrible spelling and love Joanne -Marie

# more on ILLEGITIMACY

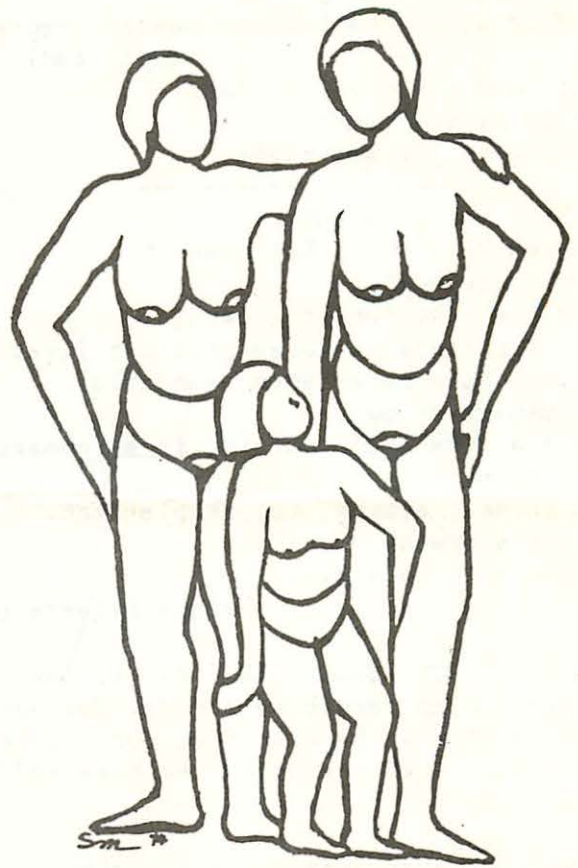
Dear Ellen (Dreher):

I hope you will pass on my thanks to all of the women who made the speakout on illegitimacy such an incredible experience. Clearly, a great deal of work over a long period of time went on; but it's not even the work that mattered as much as the openness and sharing of the women who participated in the afternoon sessions.

When I walked in I was first taken aback at the average age of the women there; what a pleasure to see so many older women. Within minutes after I was seated in the auditorium, I found myself exchanging stories with another woman. I remember the conversation started with "Did you ever believe there would be a day like today?" I remember when abortion became a public issue - I was exhilarated. I couldn't imagine where we could go from there. But this issue, illegitimacy, has been the key issue of my life. Every struggle, every achievement, every relationship is measured against the fact that I was abandoned. I remember it took me a couple of months in consciousness-raising to see myself as a woman, to understand my conditioning as a woman. My image had been burned into my consciousness, and probably my unconsciousness, as an orphan - euphemism for bastard, since I now knew my mother. Only once in my life did I feel understood. That was by a very bright Black woman with whom I worked a couple of years ago. We both shared that feeling of "outsider" and "invisibility" or "anonymity" that so many of the women spoke of that day.

I felt something of a post-partum depression when I came back to Philadelphia -- I felt I had lost that tie and would float off again, with that part of my life again lost and misunderstood. I would like to continue some kind of association with the women working on the project in some way. Perhaps if I can ever get the courage, I'd like to try something similar here in Philadelphia. That might be a long way off.

Is there some way I can participate in working on the tapes; in other consciousness-raising sessions? I do feel that I might have something to contribute to the information, since no one spoke of the experience



of being the child, turned over to a social agency, of going through foster homes. I did not know who I was or where I came from until after I was 31 - I didn't meet my mother until I was 36. The brutality we (wards of the Catholic Children's Bureau) experienced at the hands of supposedly devout Catholics gives the lie to their reverence for life. To me this is the critical argument against the Catholics so-called "pro-life" stand. They were not concerned for the quality of life of the child they insisted be brought into the world. I cannot believe my life came so close to being destroyed -- whatever source provided the strength to survive is something that I want to nurture (and it wasn't the Church). But I do see the Catholic Church as an enemy that I want to do battle with.

The following is a brief piece I wrote for Tell-A-Woman, a feminist newsletter for philadelphians. I don't know if it will be published or not.

## NYRF SPEAKOUT ON ILLEGITIMACY

On Father's Day, June 15, New York Radical Feminists held a speakout on Illegitimacy in New York.

While not heavily attended, the people who did come helped to create one of the most powerful movement meetings I've attended. The conference pinpointed an issue around which many of the women's movement issues revolve: rape, abortion, marriage, childcare and work. It was probably no accident that there were no names taken at registration, nor were names given at the speakout nor in any of the workshops, thus emphasizing one of the most anguishing problems of illegitimacy: anonymity and feelings of invisibility. It was one of those rare conferences where the average age seemed to be 35 or over - with a heavy and satisfying sprinkling of older women. The support among the 12 women speaking out on stage was enormous;

their revelations opened old wounds and many could barely tell their stories. The audience waited and I believe, to a woman, understood. Politics aside, the meeting was cathartic.

The women told their stories:

One Black woman had been raped and placed her child with her mother. When the grandmother could no longer work and care for the child, welfare refused assistance and told her that if she could care for the child, she could work. The grandmother returned the child to the mother who was now married and had two children through the marriage. The mother spared herself nothing: she told of her rage at the child, how she tied him up and beat him and finally for his own safety had to turn him over to a Catholic home.

---Continued next page, p. 4--- **3**

# IMAGES & IDENTITIES

## POEMS FOR MY CHILDREN

I know it's not my fault.  
(after all, I've been oppressed, repressed,  
and exploited)

But your six-year-old face  
Tells me you think it is.  
And maybe you are right.

I have three children.  
Do you know what that means?  
To be responsible  
For the creation, the care,  
The happiness of three precious lives?  
When I have never even been able  
To manage my own.  
It's a joke, it's unfair, it's impossible!  
But it's a fact.  
An actual, aching, impossible fact.  
And its truth  
Makes my life a lie.

Helene Silverstein

## TO THE "NICE JEWISH GIRL" AT THE BAR

We helped our mothers make strudel for our brother's briss  
And kept quiet when he practiced for his bar mitzvah.  
The relatives would pat us on the head and say  
"For you a wedding."

But a wedding never seemed quite right  
As we endured the soggy kisses and groping hands  
Of the AE Pi or ZBT or Phi Ep "brother"  
All the time thinking of our roommate or best friend  
Or the women who lived down the hall.

Now at the Passover seder the relatives toast  
"Next year a husband for you"  
And we protest "I'm never getting married"  
So loudly our parents quickly change the subject  
Or laugh and say "well, you know she's into Women's Lib."

Ah, now wouldn't they plotz if they could see us  
As we really are  
Dancing with each other in this dark mafia bar.  
Though it might be nicer to dance the hora  
With them in the bright sunlight.

Lynne D. Shapiro

## CAN YOU DANCE NIGGER

Can you dance Nigger  
Can you dance  
Can you tap dance Nigger  
Can you bump  
Can you grin Nigger  
Can you shine shoes  
Can you cook Nigger  
Can you Cook, Cook, Cook  
Can you Fuck Nigger  
You all do it so well--I'll try it  
Can you dance Nigger  
You heard me can you Girl  
Girl can't you talk?--The Rats  
Got your tongue, got your tongue--  
Lay Your cunt at my feet and let  
Me Process you Nigger  
Goddamn, No more will I be the  
World's Nigger

copyright 1974  
Mae Walker

## POWER IS A SOMETIME THING

Sometimes I have the power  
In my own two hands  
To move mountains.  
I have the power  
To change the course of my destiny.  
I have the power to change my plan.  
I feel my strength  
Surging,  
Soaring,  
Climbing.

I can touch the sky  
I can ride the sky  
If I want to--  
High above the crowds  
High above the turmoil and unrest,  
The dissatisfaction--the ugliness  
I can make things go wrong if I choose  
I can also make them go right  
I have that power  
I have that strength  
In my own two hands.

Anne Williams

## Continued from p. 3--NYRF SPEAKOUT ON ILLEGITIMACY-----

A physician told of her decision to have children without marriage or a partner. Her two children were at the conference and he said it was not easy; one child was lively and almost wild and she confessed that she was at her wit's end.

A woman with 8 children told how her ex-policeman husband got an annulment through the Church. She guessed the annulment put her children in the illegitimate category. The ex-policeman, infuriated by her feminist activities had her two youngest sons removed and placed in foster homes. The woman, exhausted but determined, marks her life in two phases: BC and AC - Before Consciousness Raising and After Consciousness Raising.

A young blind woman told of being raped and putting her child up for adoption. She stunned herself by breaking down on the stage; she had, she felt, detached herself from the experience, but the old unresolved separation feelings arose unexpectedly to haunt her at the public moment. An intelligent, sensitive woman, she had had to surrender a scholarship to the university to bear the child. She lives a lie and poignantly said that no one but her mother knows what happened.

In one of the workshops, a woman told of

bearing a child while its father was in prison and of her decision not to marry, but to live with him when he was released; another told of her humiliation when an employer asked for her birth certificate on the day she was hired. She never showed it to them; it was stamped "Illegitimate." Another young woman told of finding that she was adopted when she was 12 years old and then finding that her parents had never married.

People told story after story of abandonment by men; of deliberate decisions to bear children without husbands; of being raised within families not knowing who their fathers were. In the end it seemed that "Illegitimacy" is defined by law as those not having a man to protect their children or a child without a father to protect it. Often the child does not know who its mother is either.

The New York Radical Feminists taped the workshops and speakout and are planning to prepare a book or pamphlets on the subject. In the past they have had speakouts on rape, prostitution and motherhood. (Ed. Note: Other Speakouts- Marriage, Working Class Women, Lesbianism - sponsored by NYRF) Author's name withheld by request.

# NYRF

## SPEAKERS COLLECTIVE



(Photo reprinted  
from Wayne, N.J.  
BEACON 5/20/75)

NYRF members Marta Vivas and Helene Silverstein explore rape at Wayne Community College.

### NYRF SPEAKERS' COLLECTIVE

Report of 1974-75

The Speakers' Collective has met for the past ten months, with a core group of about five or six women participating throughout the year. We have learned a lot and have come far in defining ourselves as a collective of speakers. Following are some of the issues we have explored, sometimes as C-R topics, but more often as side discussions which expanded to fill a whole meeting despite our plans. Many of these issues are unresolved (to say the least), and I hope the new group will continue to explore them:

1. What are the priorities of the Speakers' Collective as an arm of NYRF? Fund-raising? Politicizing other women? Educating the general public about feminism? about NYRF? Which is more important, for example, a small group of women who can't pay anything, or a large, influential, but basically passive audience for a fat fee?
2. To what extent should we cooperate with other groups, especially when it means compromising our message? For example, an IWY conference invited NYRF to be represented, but then wanted to deemphasize (hopefully, obliterate) the word "Radical" in our name, and asked us to submit our speakers' "credentials"!
3. To what extent should we accept engagements where we know our philosophy is misunderstood? For example, a group requested speakers who are "successful women" -- should we decline, or go along with it until we get there and then challenge their (implied) definition of "successful"?
4. What is our relation to the philosophy of NYRF? Is there a "party line(s)"? Should we limit our speaking topics to prior NYRF Conference/Speakout topics and agree on certain accepted radical feminist positions on these? What if we as a group disagree with what we understand to be the general NYRF/RF consensus? What if some of us disagree with each other? Should we as a Collective censor our members? (We sometimes do so informally; ought there to be an official method of reaching consensus so we don't rely on innuendo?) To what extent should we make our own personal experiences and ideas the content of speaking, rather than political analyses (which we may feel less strongly about in individual cases)? Should we all speak on all topics, or have "specialties" (topics we feel closer to or more comfortable with)? Should we let clients request certain speakers (a mother to speak on motherhood), or insist that any woman can relate to any issue (even though we may take exception to this ourselves)?
5. What is the nature of a speaking engagement? What is its primary purpose for us, and for the audience? politicization? information? amusement? How can we develop techniques to deal with different situations? We have literally "walked into" totally different setups at nearly every engagement this year -- groups of only five and groups of hundreds; audience attitudes from hostility and ignorance to great sophistication; formats from rigid (we had to fit into a

--Continued next page, p. 6--

set time slot and physical arrangement) to totally unstructured (all up to us); audience expectations ranging all across the board (we learned that we must specify the publicity wording -- some have been truly bizarre). What about the implicit message we communicate in how we conduct the engagement: do we say all women are equal and then allow ourselves to be treated as experts? are we intolerant of where other women are coming from? should we be (perhaps some fools are not to be suffered lightly)?

6. What should be the format of the Speakers' Collective itself? Monthly meetings to coordinate engagements, period? Weekly meetings to discuss policy and C-R on issues? Should there be feedback on engagements, even if it means doing fewer engagements? Should decisions be made collectively, even if it means turning down requests which come on short notice? In general, what is the priority -- servicing all requests (quantity), or selecting those that seem most fruitful so as to learn from and give to each one as much as possible? What are the tradeoffs between a closed and open collective (after initial organization each fall)? How big should the collective be? How to balance the need for a large number of speakers to fill engagements with the desire to have a good working group? Perhaps pair off one S.C. member with one non-member for each engagement? Or develop a parallel speaking bureau which will be less cohesive as a group, but able to fill more requests, especially those for definite "speeches" to large groups?

7. Lastly, the name. We have never found a better one, but continue to feel that it somehow misrepresents -- or under-represents -- what we are about. Maybe next year . . .

Eleanor Batchelder  
Self-Appointed Scribe  
7/24/75

## FEMINIST CREDIT UNION

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOVEMENT IS

The Greater New York Feminist Credit Union is now forming in New York. Your participation will give support to the community of women, and women will gain greater efficacy through this cooperative effort. By creating this credit union, we increase the options of the feminist community, as well as its economic leverage.

Simply, the credit union will serve as an insured savings and loan institution, which holds money for its members, and pays interest, called "dividends," on that money. From its pool of money, it will make loans at low interest rates to members of the credit union. That way, women's money will serve women, and women can be honest about the reasons they need loans: for abortions, for divorce, to finance a new small business.

[Enclosed] you will find the proposal for the New York Women's Feminist Credit Union. In it, we have defined the purpose of our credit union, the way in which it will serve women, and our statement defining the reasons for which women have a financial common bond. We are patterning our credit union after the several successful feminist credit unions now in operation in Washington, D. C., Detroit and New Haven.

### WHAT YOUR SPONSORSHIP WILL MEAN

Only members of the sponsoring organizations are eligible to become members of the credit union. We are inviting a broad range of feminist groups to join, so that we will be able to serve the diverse financial needs of New York women.

It will not cost your organization anything to be a sponsor. All of the members of the credit union have an equal voice in choosing its management, and all of your members will be eligible to run for management positions in the general elections. (The officers need not have previous banking experience.)

Because we are now in the process of applying for our charter, it is important that we collect our list of sponsors immediately. We will be happy to send out a team of women to speak at your next meeting, and to explain the workings and advantages of the credit union to your membership. Please call and arrange a date: 9 - 5 Linda Maslanko: 526-7829  
9:30 - 8 Ann Grifalconi: 873-5543

# FOCUS ON ME

a nyrf production

## YOU CAN WIN PRIZES SELLING TICKETS FOR "FOCUS ON ME" PLAY

**NYRF production of this saga  
of a woman's search for strength  
November 7th and 8th**

### PRIZES:

10-24 TICKETS--FREE SHOW AT COFFEEHOUSE

25-49 TICKETS--DINNER FOR TWO AT MOTHER COURAGE

50+ TICKETS--DINNER FOR TWO AT MOTHER COURAGE  
AND TWO TICKETS TO PLAY.

Sell tickets to your friends, co-workers, neighbors. They'll all appreciate this play about a woman filmmaker's self-discovery as she searches for the ideal image of woman for the heroine of her film.

WE'LL PROVIDE REVIEWS OF THE PLAY TO HELP YOU SELL TICKETS. Fri Nov 7 8 pm (mixed)  
Sat Nov 8 4 pm (mixed)  
Sat Nov 8 8 pm (women only)

**Tickets available at meetings**

**or call-** LYNNE SHAPIRO 752-3350 (days)  
691-9428 (evenings)

Scene from FOCUS ON ME  
by Bobbi Ausubel  
Caravan Theater  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

ACT 1. SCENE 2.

TONI: I know I'm going to make a film about a strong woman. Someone who won't crumble. It's hard to find images for her. I keep thinking Amazon, but what I want is a contemporary woman, modeled on the spirit of the ancient Amazons. They bound one breast. They believed they were male and female. They didn't rely on men...

NINA: Why does she leave on a journey?

TONI: Maybe for adventure.

NINA: It's not that simple.

Women don't leave for adventure. I just took a journey. I left everything behind. I only took Alice.

### NYRF General Meeting, August 3. Jane Alpert: Women and the Male Left

This was a small and unusual meeting. Several women new to NYRF came because they had heard about our CR's, but in most cases they knew little about the Jane Alpert issue and therefore could not talk. Other women from the newly formed support committee for Jane Alpert were there to explain their position. They felt that NYRF, as a radical feminist organization should take a very strong pro-Jane Alpert position.

Many ideas were tossed about and there was quite a bit of disagreement on what if any position NYRF should take, however there was consensus that women active in the male left had been ripped off. Men were in up front policy making positions while women were doing all the work and being regarded as coffee making chicks. An opinion was expressed that the dying male left is using the Jane

Alpert case as a last gasp to survive before drowning into oblivion.

Several women felt that larger issues were involved than Jane Alpert. The possibility of a power struggle within the women's movement could not be ruled out. Even the possibility that this struggle was being manipulated by male politicians was suggested. It was generally agreed that because of the issue of informing the case could not escape pitting women against women, and therefore, it would not be a good idea to make it a cause celebre. Our real enemy is patriarchy, and we should expend our energies in exposing that rather than getting caught up in an internal struggle.

Myrna Danzig

# NYRF

## CLASSIFIED ADS FROM WOMEN

DYKE...a quarterly magazine of Lesbian thought, analysis and culture. Charter subscriptions till Nov. 30, to \$5. Send check payable to Tomato Publications, 70 Barrow St., NYC, 10014. Dept. "N."

COMPLETE ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICES for small businesses. Reasonable rates. Tel: 864-1300, Ext. 1522.

OIL MASSAGE for deep relaxation, acupressure massage for general health, specific pain or tension from living in a sexist world. We are feminists especially oriented toward sharing, self-healing, self-pleasuring techniques. Diane Whitaker & Jan Crawford. 475-1402.

WOMEN'S WORKSPACE, 10 Waverly Place, has openings for writers, artists, craftswomen, WOMEN WHO WANT A PLACE TO WORK WITH OTHER WOMEN. \$15 per mo. Call 477-0544.

Historical NEW YORK RADICAL FEMINISTS CALENDAR, depicting six years of NYRF politics and events. Original flyers from NYRF Speakouts, fundraisers, etc. Send \$1 to Helene Silverstein, New York Radical Feminists, 270 West 11 St., NY. 10014

## NYRF MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER-ALL WOMEN INVITED

- Sept. 7 :CR at Women's Center, 243 W. 20th St., 8 PM.
- Sept. 8 & 22: NYRF Business Meetings, Myra Carter's, 329 Bleeker St., 8 PM.
- Sept. 10 & 24: NYRF Work Planning Committee, Evan Morley's, 75 Perry St., 8 PM.

## WOMEN ARTISTS, HISTORIANS, DEALERS, ETC:

I would like to recommend a new and very important NEWSLETTER for women artists:

WOMEN ARTISTS NEWSLETTER edited by a feminist in conjunction with two other truly radical feminists (my choice of label, not their): Cynthia Naveretta, Judy Seigel, Pat Passlof. It is available for \$3.00 a year and not only provides extremely important critical analysis of the art world, art work, survival in the art world and feminist criticism but is four pages of factual information. Address is: P.O. Box 3304, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017. When you send in the \$3.00 for the NYRF Newsletter send in another \$3.00 to this! Marta Vivas

## Renew / Subscribe To / Renew NYRF NEWSLETTER

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription: \$3 for 1 year

Make check or money order payable to  
 New York Radical Feminists  
 Lynne D. Shapiro Apt. 4D  
 92 Horatio Street  
 New York, NY 10014

### NEWSLETTER NOTES

Editor: Helene Silverstein  
 Production: Evan Morley  
 Subscriptions: Lynne Shapiro  
 Mailing: Joan Goldman  
 The Newsletter is the voice of the radical feminist community. Submit news, reviews, theory, announcements, poetry, graphics, etc. Ads \$3 each. Notices free. Send all copy and ads to: Helene Silverstein, 270 West 11th St., NYC 10014. Type to 40-44 character width, single spaced.

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Thursday, September 25

New York Radical Feminists  
 P.O. Box 621  
 Old Chelsea Station  
 New York, NY 10011

Florence Rush  
 61 Jane St  
 New York, N.Y. 10014  
 7/75

FIRST CLASS MAIL

