



CASSANDRA

*radical feminist nurses  
newsjournal*

Vol. 2 No. 3 September 1984

A MODEST PROPOSAL TO  
ATONE FOR THE NEGLECT  
OF MENOPAUSAL MALES

by K. MacPherson

Certain men in our country believe that the Women's Movement has gotten out of hand - they cry for a new focus on gender blending and sexual equity. One of these men is Dr. William A. Nolan, author of "What You Should Know About 'Male Menopause'," published in the June 1980 issue of McCall's magazine. Dr. Nolan states that some of the symptoms characteristic of the male menopause include: insomnia and/or chronic fatigue, loss of libido, anxiety about the future, hypochondria, loss of interest in appearance and inability to concentrate.

Dr. Nolan and other men like him want part of the action too and believe that all the fuss currently being made about the female menopause should be addressed, in part, to them. They are even assessing their bodily experiences to seek out a hot flash analog or equivalents to night sweating. The dreary term 'climacteric' pales beside the dangerous and exciting paradoxes associated with menopause. At this time of life women can be zestful or depressed, have blooming health or osteoporosis, be maturely wise or senile. Small wonder then that men are bored with their unfluctuating hormones.

continued, p. 3





## CASSANDRA: RADICAL FEMINIST NURSES NEWSJOURNAL

A publication of Cassandra: Radical  
Feminist Nurses Network  
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### BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

CASSANDRA: RADICAL FEMINIST NURSES NEWSJOURNAL is published at the time of the full moon in September, January and May. There are no editors or review board members; the material for each issue is reviewed, selected, and the issue prepared by a local Web which assumes responsibility for three sequential issues. The name of the Web producing each issue and the names of women who contribute to the production of the issue are printed in the "Thru" section.

The name CASSANDRA is a tribute to Florence Nightingale who wrote an essay titled Cassandra two years before her service in the Crimean War. In it she states: "Why have women passion, intellect, moral activity - these three - and a place in society where no one of the three can be exercised?" Like the mythical Cassandra, Nightingale possessed the gift of prophesy and despaired at not being heard. CASSANDRA: RADICAL FEMINIST NURSES NEWSJOURNAL is dedicated to re-creating the Cassandra myth by providing a place where the passion, intellect and moral activity of women who are nurses can be voiced and heard. The newsjournal is a means for actively preserving and passing on written materials coming from a woman-defined perspective. Our hearing one another is critical to establishing a network among feminist nurses who need to be heard in nursing practice, education, research, administration and health care.

### PHILOSOPHY

CASSANDRA: RADICAL FEMINIST NURSES NEWSJOURNAL publishes original works coming from a feminist perspective and encourages exploration of issues that radically affect nurses and women. While opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of CASSANDRA as a whole, we do accept responsibility for what we print. We will not intentionally print material that is harmful to women because of color, sexuality, religious or cultural background, physical disability or economic situation. We reserve the right to edit material submitted, with the intent of remaining true to the author's original material. Insofar as possible, edited material will be made available to the author prior to publication.

### MAILING LIST

CASSANDRA's mailing list is confidential and will not be sold or given to any other group. Names and addresses of women who join CASSANDRA are provided to Contact Women in their geographic area; only the names and addresses of Contact Women and Coordinating Crones (women responsible for specific tasks) are published in the Newsjournal. The Newsjournal is distributed to members and friends of CASSANDRA, and to institutions or groups that subscribe to the Newsjournal.

### CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

We welcome the contribution of articles, information, and letters that are of interest to women who are feminist nurses. Our regular features include nursing history, feminist research, myths influencing women's lives, reviews of books and journal articles, resource information, and notes that promote networking.

Articles should be original work that has not been previously published; preference is given to articles written by women who are members of CASSANDRA. The suggested length of articles, commentaries and reviews is 2-4 pages, typed double-spaced.

We welcome letters, notes and resource information from anyone interested in sharing information with members of CASSANDRA. Letters should be no longer than one page in length, typed double-spaced. Notes and resource information need to be very brief, approximately 12 double-spaced typed lines.

All material must be accompanied by the author's name and address in order to be published. We prefer to publish names and addresses, but we will withhold your name and/or address if requested.

Please mail your contribution so that it reaches us by the following lifeline dates:

September issue: August 1  
January issue: December 1  
May issue: April 1

Our mailing address is:

CASSANDRA  
P.O. Box 341  
Williamsville, NY 14221

### OUR PURPOSES. . .

CASSANDRA: RADICAL FEMINIST NURSES NETWORK is a gathering of women in nursing practice, education, research and administration. Our primary commitment is to end the oppression of women in all aspects of nursing and health care. We believe that oppression of women is fundamental to all oppressions and affects all women.

Our primary purposes are to:

- Develop and communicate radical feminist, woman-centered analyses of issues in nursing and health care.
- Nurture local, regional, and national networks of women in nursing who are committed to a radical-feminist perspective.
- Provide an environment for communication, support and safety among nurses regardless of race, class, creed, ability, or sexual preference.
- Share and pass on skills of leadership, analysis and communication.
- Take strong public actions on nursing and health care issues.
- Preserve and publish past and present significant works of nurses.
- Publish writings on women's health that are rooted in feminist analysis.
- Support nursing research using a feminist approach.
- Develop feminist educational material for nursing programs.
- Establish a feminist nursing journal.



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## Modest Proposal, continued. . .

I think it could be agreed by us all that middle-aged men should be able to reap the benefits of the menopause label, including less stressful jobs and reduced sexual activity. Universal vasectomies could easily end the reproductive lives of men at fifty to unite them with their menopausal sisters who have been neutered by nature. I am convinced that scientific medicine is geared up to fill this void with all sorts of technical and psychological trap-pings to support men during "the change".

The notion offered by a few rabid feminists that men cannot have a menopause because of a different hormonal system should receive the public neglect it richly deserves. The male chauvinist view that only "sissies" want to be menopausal is equally unfair to those men who wish to share all human experiences.

My modest proposal to atone for society's inadvertent neglect of menopausal males is to invent with all due speed, a new branch of medicine. This new specialty will be called phallegology. It shall be a mirror image of gynecology in which the male patient will get equal treatment; from hormone replacement therapy to stirrups for his physical examination. The phallegologists will be women physicians highly trained to treat the male reproductive system and to perform experimental research. These phallegologists will work hand in glove with female psychiatrists to place physical and emotional issues of male menopause in a safe medical framework.

This new branch of medicine must become available in hospitals, clinics, and private offices for patients of all social classes and paid for by national health insurance if necessary. The poor male should have the same menopausal treatment as his richer counterpart. However, he, like his poor menopausal sister, may in all fairness, be expected to offer his body for research purposes in exchange for equal treatment.

As the specialty of phallegology matures it will no doubt spread over the age span; the phallegologist will be the primary health provider for all adult males. Most health problems from wet dreams to waning erections can be brought to this benevolent phallegologist who will handle these issues smoothly and efficiently.

I believe the advantages of my proposal are obvious. First, it would greatly balance the sex ratio of medical and surgical interventions for menopausal humans. Male menopausal patients would then have a maternal authority figure to supply hormone replacement therapy, operate on the male reproductive tract or simply give reassurance about decreasing sexual attractiveness.

Second, it would help males become truly androgynous as they, along with women, become more aware of the emotional and physical changes that



occur at mid-life. Their total dependence on the female phallegologist will ease this process.

Third, this new branch of medicine, through its research, may be able to fulfill the ultimate dream of some men - to give birth before the menopausal gates close. In these days of sex-change operations, a logical extension would be the uterine transplant performed by a skilled phallegologist. Men who choose, could truly be breeders and bearers of our country's children. Only in a female controlled specialty such as phallegology will the proper amount of laboratory research and experimental surgery on males be carried on to make this dream a reality. These men have their menopausal sisters, who have similarly placed themselves in the hands of gynecologists, as clear role models.

Fourth, by unquestioningly taking any drugs prescribed by the phallegologists for menopause, middle-aged men would be contributing to the profits of pharmaceutical companies and the general economic welfare of our nation.

The only possible objection that I think could be raised against my proposal is the thought of possible harm from new medical treatments. Indeed, this, in a very small sense could be true. However, any new medications or drugs found harmful could be exported to third-world countries where menopausal males will eagerly await treatment, alongside their menopausal sister, by American trained specialists. Again, this can only bring financial gain to our country and prestige and training grants to our teaching hospitals.

Now I must confess that I have no personal interest in promoting phallegology for the male menopause other than balancing an area of medical inequity. I am a woman with two grown children, one of each sex, and I have reaped all the benefits mentioned above from my own years of gynecological care.

## GUEST EDITORIAL

by Anne J. D'Arcy, Editor

TELEWOMAN, March 1984

(reprinted by permission)

DON'T READ THIS: IF YOU'RE IN A HURRY OR  
TIME TO STOP MAKING NICE-NICE

Juana\* and I have been in a fragmented dialogue of sorts on and off for some years on the subject of community. We are both sensitive and powerful Cancer women, a combination which seems to make us incapable of watching the world go by.

In one of these exchanges, wedged somewhere between such topics as middle class guilt and women of color struggles, Juana's insights triggered my own. When she described her confrontations with women who had promised and not delivered for the community, how they had poured out their various

reasons, and how she had somehow always ended up comforting them, listening to their problems, and even apologizing at times for having asked anything at all of them.... several lights went on for me. The whole injustice of my own community's backlash paraded before my memory. I'm no fool, yet I've been had - not once, but over and over. In my zeal to serve women, I've tripped over and bought their weaknesses, their inconsistencies, their powerlessness, their insecurities, their own desperate needs to assert/help themselves. I've been seeing that whole process too simplistically. I've been seeing through the narrow view of Cancer that their need for comfort and nurturing = me. And I've been sitting on a growing anger at them personally for personally failing our mutual goals.

It's a disease. Women have got it. Help is not on the way. At least not from me - not while I hold them personally responsible. I hold them collectively responsible and I challenge them to rise above all those forms of voluntary and involuntary servitude and suppression. Yeah, you too (collective you). What's your excuse? Job? Kids? School? Not enough time, money, energy? I've heard all the variations on all the themes... So how come I can get up and go to work every day, raise three small children alone, shop, cook, clean house, care for assorted animals and friends, merge our lives with that of a challenging and independent lover, and still put in several hours daily to keep TELEWOMAN reaching deeper into the lives of women? I'm some kind of Amazon? No way. I get scared and doubtful and tired and depressed and overworked same as you, maybe more. But I've got religion - of a sort. I believe in women, in their womanspirit, in our need and love for each other, in the most intimate and compelling and fulfilling of ways - and I won't let go of you. I won't let go of my vision, my conviction that you can make it, that I can make it - with or without a lover to sustain us - with or without money, power, prestige. What we have is already ours, inherent in our womanhood. It's the silent strength that got us up in the middle of the night to tend squalling babies when we were dead on our feet and he snored without waking; the kind of ferocious identity which has brought each of us to an expression of our lesbianism, to whatever degree of expression we can own.

The bottom line is that I love you. I am you and you are me. Woman = woman and that is who loves whom. Don't get lost in the rhetoric. You know what I mean. I won't let you be less than you can be, and since we are equals and I don't force/cajole you into it, you turn away sometimes and buy into one of your many dramatizations of powerlessness. I'm not your mother, not your lover, not your supervisor. I'm you and I see you and you know it and sometimes that is very uncomfortable indeed. So when you fail one of our mutual goals, you know that you are failing yourself. You react to my confrontations because you



know I know it, I see it, and I say it. Then you explode or you cry or you withdraw -- whichever has worked best in the past. And in the conflicts, we become separate. We avoid each other's eyes afterwards; we sidestep the reality of what is undone between us; we seek the support of other women to help us lick our self-inflicted wounds and the separateness takes on even larger dimensions. The cycle repeats itself, and the broken circle widens. That is how splits are created in the community. And that is how the destruction of our communities occurs, again and again. It is how the sisterhood as a whole falters and reduces itself. And it is how we destroy what we want to create before it can grow up.

Some of you return. Not in apology, not in explanation, not with defenses, not in guilt -- but in action. You come back because you see that I am doing it, I am making it, and that I am determined to keep on making it because I do see all that and I am not buying into it and neither are you anymore when you realize what we are all about. Our bond doesn't consist of sympathy for each other's plights; it isn't drunken hugs and wild dancing; it isn't linking arms in the height of emotion or joining bodies in the heat of passion. It's the vision we share. It's the quiet, serene commitment, the stark reality of tasks waiting, the comfort of the conviction that if and when we all see it as it is the need for anger & conflict & reaction will dissipate. It is the personal, the self-centeredness which has to go. This is no call to arms. You aren't useful now if this is all confusing gibberish and more than a little embarrassing. And for sure you aren't ready for action if you're "too busy", if you're booked up with activities and commitments already, if you have to think about what you could do to help build community three weeks from Thursday. Later. Your time will come -- but you'll need a lot of no-help to get there. What's at hand isn't one of your priorities right now.

So who is this madwoman taking over our editorial space? Has she folded under the pressure? Did the IRS and the press deadlines and the white-out get to her at last? Tsk. We knew it would, of course. She drove herself too hard. We all told her to take it easy. Not to worry. The Newsletter would somehow make it all by itself. Don't get burned out. We need our leadership. And anyhow, we could probably come to a mailing party one of these months real soon ... if she's have it on a Friday night...so we wouldn't have to get up next morning.

\* Juan Maria Paz, Fayetteville, Arkansas, is the author of LA LUZ JOURNAL, a chronicle of women's land struggles.

## DEAR CASSIE

by Anne Montes

As alluded to in the report of the New Orleans gathering, a "Dear Cassie" column is in the making. The inspiration for this came from all you wonderful women who have written with specific problems or have made such great comments on your initial inquiries. We all lead such busy multifaceted lives, the thought of writing an article for the newsjournal can seem like the proverbial straw that breaks the camel's back. By personalizing this column and making it anonymous we hope to get many contributors, sharing both problems and solutions. Send your letters to Dear Cassie, c/o CASSANDRA, P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221.

To introduce this column, I want to share a sample of the comments and letters we have received. We do receive many interesting letters. The letter writers often speak of their despair regarding the health care system and their place in it. Many of these women have considered leaving nursing, some have already left, but something makes them want to hope it is possible to re-claim their vision of what Nursing is really all about. Some quotes:

- "I am becoming despondent re generalized state of Nursing."
- "I'm a BSRN turned lay midwife and have no idea what is going on in nursing since I turned my back on that profession 7 years ago."
- "I presently work in a hospital and frequently feel out of sync with the whole system."
- "It's been really hard for me as a new grad to find support from other nurses with a feminist orientation."
- "You may be the answer to several of my prayers."
- "WOW! Do you mean there really are other Radical Feminist Nurses? Send me a Newsletter quick."
- "Where have you been all my life?" signed, "the only radical feminist in town."
- "I am an RN. Want to keep being one, but my values sure aren't the same as the settings I've worked in."
- "I left nursing because of the oppression, but still would be interested in working for change in the profession."
- "Feminist nurses, HOORAY! Glad to hear I'm not alone."
- "... although I've liked my positions, I've always had a vague sense of dissatisfaction. I feel this is a problem not many nurses talk about."
- "HELP!!!!!!"
- "I will be entering nursing school in the fall and am growing more and more anxious about the sexism etc. etc. that I know I'm going to be facing."



• "You sound so exciting - Radical and Feminist (for nurses Especially?)"

• "I am a fed up RN who would like information on your organization."

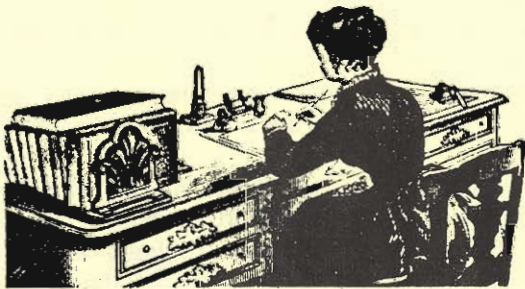
• "My 12 years as a nurse have left me saddened and disillusioned about nurses in relation to women's issues."

I could go on and on but you get the picture. Another frequent request is for a recommendation of nursing schools that have a feminist orientation. Are there any? Let Cassie know.

We can't possibly know all answers to all problems so we are hopeful the "Dear Cassie" column will become a forum of sorts. A place to vent steam, share humor (do feminists have a sense of humor???), and offer practical suggestions for survival. The column will only be as good as the response we get from all you wonderful Cassandrans "out there."

All published letters will be anonymous. (For all other letters and articles in the Newsjournal names are published unless the writer requests otherwise). However, we do request you identify yourselves to us when you write so we can be assured we're not being put-on by non-Cassandrans.

Oh yes, by the way, PLEASE don't start your letters to Cassie with the salutation "Dear Sir." I only bring this up because we do on occasion receive letters of inquiry begun thusly! Cassie, being a good hearted soul probably wouldn't get violent, but she might get even.



## LETTERS

"CASSANDRA and ANS are like lifelines to me, so first off let me say thank you to you, Charlene, and all of the dedicated Websters that work so hard. How exciting to read the letters of other nurses who feel excited about a feminist nurses network! Keep up the great work! I especially liked the "Guide to Feminist Analysis" and "Power" articles in the May '84 issue.

"This past year, after completing my MSN, I came back to Nebraska to teach on a 9 mo. special appointment. One of the exciting things I did was

help a colleague prepare a resolution to change the wording of policies, syllabi etc. to non-sexist language. It got watered down to a recommendation ("too expensive to retype everything"), but from now on, the APA guidelines on non-seixist language will be the recommended format for the UNMC College of Nursing at Omaha and Lincoln. It passed unanimously (after months of rumored disapproval!). While it is a small step, I hope you might consider it newsworthy. Our language does create a bias, influencing our perception of the world. (I'm sorry I won't be at UNMC this year to see how it works out!)

Thank you for the book reviews (I'm enjoying Pure Lust!) and feel free to share this letter with other Cassandrans.

- Lindy Walkowiak, Omaha, Nebraska

Recommendation enclosed:

By unanimous vote, the faculty of the University of Nebraska College of Nursing at Omaha and at Lincoln recommended that all written policies, procedures, syllabi and memos be written in non-sexist language. Guidelines for non-sexist language put forth in the 3rd edition of the American Psychological Association were offered as the style format. Carol McShane, RN, MS and Lindy Walkowiak, RN, MSN initiated the proposal, and faculty approval was given May 16, 1984.

Examples of sexist language were references to nurses as "she", doctors as "he", and conceptualizations such as "caring for man as a biopsychosocial being."

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"Sorry about missing the deadline, but I did want to write some short notes about the ANA convention and the Cassandra meetings held in New Orleans.

It was my first ANA convention and I enjoyed the whole event for what it was. My favorite spot was the exhibition booths, the informality and unstructuredness of them.

I went to two of the Cassandra meetings with my friend, Margaret Tuck. We enjoyed meeting all the members we'd been reading about in the journal. We were a little disappointed to find out that the gatherings would mainly focus on business matters. Margaret and I agreed that what we needed and were hoping for was a solid introduction to feminist philosophy as this group interprets it. We did appreciate learning first hand how the consensus process happens. We would have like more talking along those lines. The people we met were warm and welcoming (and apologetic about all the business to be done). I'm glad to have finally met you all. See you again, sooner or later.

- Esther Wynne, Augusta, Georgia



## RE-MEMBERING OUR HERITAGE

"The modern nurse, keenly interested as she is in the present and the future of her profession, knows little of its past. She loses both the inspiration which arises from cherished tradition, and the perspective which shows the relation of one progressive movement to others. Only in the light of history can she clearly see how closely her own calling is linked with the general conditions of education and of liberty that obtain - as they rise, she rises, and as they sink she falls."

- authors' preface to THE HISTORY OF NURSING by Lavinia Dock and Adelaide Nutting.

### LAVINIA DOCK

Prepared by Charlene Eldridge Wheeler

Lavinia Dock was an ardent suffragist, a feminist and a socialist, a pioneer of American nursing education and organization. She was active in public health nursing and a founder of the International Council of Nursing. A gifted and energetic writer, she contributed to the early issues of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, produced one of the first textbooks for nurses and wrote several nursing history books. Born in 1858, she died in 1956.

The "Foreign Department" of AJN during the early years was "in charge of" Lavinia Dock (the expression used at the time), and a column of this department appeared in almost every issue. Dock was also a frequent contributor to AJN's Letters to the Editor, and other features of the journal. Many nursing libraries maintain collections of AJN from its beginning in October, 1900. These collections are excellent sources for the "modern nurse" who wishes to gain "inspiration" from a "cherished tradition."

Lavinia Dock spoke out sharply and eloquently on issues of health, justice, social policy and professional development. In addition to the specific issues addressed in the quotes cited here, her positions on such issues as venereal disease education, prostitution, workers' rights and fair labor laws are clearly stated in her writings in AJN. Her messages are timeless in their relevance for the individual nurse and for the profession of nursing.

#### On the future of nursing:

"Standing, as we do, at the entrance of an era of organization among nurses, how many of us have really gone consecutively [sic] through a course of 'thinking things out' logically as to what we want to do and how to do it? What principles lie at the foundation of our organizations? What is our goal, and how shall we manage the transition period between? Do we remember too that we shall never get anywhere to stop, but that when we reach what



we now think to be our goal we shall see others beyond, with, most likely, other transition periods to pass through?" -Is Exclusion Effective? AJN. April 1901; 1:7, p. 470.



On social action:

"Nurses, from the nature of their work, are almost certain to buy most of their under and outer garments ready made. We think too that, ignorant of the circumstances of their fellow-beings who work at the machines in the factories, they too often go to the bargain counter or to the stores where great sales of cheap clothing are advertised, quite unconscious of how much harder they are making it for the workers to live. We have seen these horrible sweat-shops, the thought of which rises like a nightmare behind every counter of cheap clothing....

What we can do is for each one, when purchasing, to ask if the firm has the desired article bearing the label of the league [the Consumers' League], and to explain that we wish it because it means fair conditions of work for the worker....

If every woman would do her share in sympathy for the workers and in horror of disease and filth, every article of woman's clothing would soon be included in the list of those bearing the label which stands for preventive hygiene and sanitation." -The Editor, AJN. July 1901; 1:10, p. 778.

On the education of nurses:

"Modern science has one tremendous fault. It is too prone to forget the individual. The whole profession of medicine may, to some extent, be reproached justly with having too little imagination where the patient as a human being is concerned, and the greatest peril to which modern nursing is exposed is of falling into this same pit through imitation, and of dropping off its own peculiar and choice endowment of womanly comfortingness. Nothing, I think, Dear Editor, is more trying to one's toleration than to see men - most of whom never did and never can comprehend what a woman's work really is, what its details are, or how it ought to be done - undertaking to instruct and train women in something so unquestionably her own special field as nursing. I do not limit this statement to men only, but will say that physicians, be they men or women, cannot teach nursing, any more than nurses can teach medicine. Medicine and nursing are not the same; and however much we may learn from the physician about disease and its treatment, the whole field of nursing - as nursing is realized by the patient (the centre of the question) - is unknown to him....

We need, then, to recognize those qualities and characteristics in our work which are superior to what men can teach us, and to hold firmly to them, refusing to give them up, and most unremittingly should we resist all attempts to take our right of teaching our own work out of our hands, putting nurses out of their true relation to their own calling, and bringing up a set of imperfect imitators

of pseudo-scientific men, mere satellites of the medical profession, who will be neither doctor nor nurse." -Letters to the Editor, AJN. October 1901; 2:1, pp. 63-64.

On the rejection of a suffrage resolution by the Nurses' Associated Alumnae:

"It was a shock, because, though I know many nurses have never given the subject a thought, yet I believed that they might always be depended upon, in their associations, to take instinctively the intelligent and above all the sympathetic position on large human questions. I am far from thinking that nurses have time or strength for work outside of their own field, and do not expect to see them actively engaged in the equality movement, but to give moral support and endorsement takes no time; to feel intelligent sympathy costs no money.

There are no reasons against political equality for women except selfish ones, and every good reason for it. May I run over a few of them? First, the patriotic reason: to deny the sacred duty of citizenship is to deny the foundation principle on which our democracy is built. As for the practical common sense reasons, they are on every hand. To help bring about more just and equal opportunities and equal pay for self-supporting women; to aid in the great child-saving crusade against the horrors of child labor; to carry good home-making and sanitary housekeeping into our city governments, - why I could not count all the reasons, but let me come down to concrete instances. A couple of years ago the Associated Alumnae passed a resolution endorsing the Pure Food Law. That was quite right, but now they reject a woman-suffrage resolution, although, if the housekeepers of the nation had had votes, we could have had a Pure Food Law twenty years ago." -Letters to the Editor, AJN. August 1908; 8:11, pp. 925-926.

On forcible feeding of suffrage workers in English prisons:

"The forcible feeding of women political prisoners in English prisons by the orders of the unspeakably craven late Home Secretary is developing into a national scandal, and touches in different ways both the medical and nursing professions... The medical men attached to the prisons have, of course, had to obey the orders given them by their superiors in the Government; this is self-understood, but the profession is now turning under the attempts of the Government to place the entire responsibility for this procedure, which is rousing the indignation of the whole world, upon the medical officers. The British Journal of December 18 has a long editorial dealing with the scandal, and resenting in the plainest terms the attempt to throw all the odium upon the prison physicians. Sir Victor Horsley, one



of the most distinguished medical men in Great Britain, and a champion of the nurses in registration matters, has written a strong protest to the Government against the forcible feeding, calling it the miserable expedient of a weak minister and an outrage on a political offender.... Among the prisoners thus cruelly treated have been several nurses.... Aside from all else, it seems as if nurses and physicians might both protest against the degradation of the healing art and of one of its last resorts for the preservation of life, in being used as a brutal method to suppress free speech and the demand for justice." -Foreign Department, AJN. March 1910; 10:6, pp. 407-408.

Upon reading the LIFE OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE  
by Sir Edward T. Cook:

"How great a pioneer Miss Nightingale was, in many different ways, how great a revolutionist in education and training, in making new paths for women, and in overturning the accepted ideas of women's subordination, can only be fully realized by close study of her life, and of her own writings. Perhaps here we may make the criticism that the pivotal principle on which her nursing revolution was based, namely, the necessity of taking out of men's hands the authority to control women, and placing this authority in women's hands, has not been as clearly emphasized in the LIFE [Cook's biography], as its importance demands. I rather think that this, then boldly radical belief, on which all her thoroughgoing, training school system was founded, is more fully dwelt upon, and by quotations more clearly illustrated, in the HISTORY OF NURSING [Dock's own book]." -Foreign Department, AJN. June 1914; 14:9, pp. 728-729.

On war:

"The curtain has rung down on international correspondence, so far as Europe is concerned, and by the time this line is printed the hideous conflagration may have spread even further. For the present the work of international nursing organization is interrupted. Nothing is heard now but the arrangements for sending nurses to the scene of war. For one (perhaps the only one), the writer at least is no longer able to regard war and army nursing with any feeling save that of sick horror and aversion, as being a part of a vast and hideous stupidity which a civilized nation should cast from it for ever. Does it not seem that the very work of the Red Cross itself is a tacit giving of a moral support to war which every human being should refuse to give? Does it not make war more tolerable, more possible and, by mitigating, keep it bolstered up and alive, just as organized charity helps to bolster up poverty and keep it from appearing as the needless, preventable, useless survival that it is? War and poverty are twin monsters with their roots in the same foul soil, the despotic

belief that individual and country can only find prosperity by crushing some other individual or country; the spirit against which it is time for women to oppose a moral resistance that shall finally break down the savage in man." -Foreign Department, AJN. October 1914; 15:1, p. 47.

"Beside war's colossal outrages on humanity, there is in the medical field, it seems to me, distinct cause for the banning of war by a World's Health Department, if we shall ever have such a thing, as is indeed not improbable, and this shall be on the ground that war is a most prolific cause of diseases and pestilences....

As a result of the European War, there are reappearances of ailments that were practically non-existent. Gaseous gangrene, never seen in surgery now-a-days, has come again. Worst of all, true typhus fever rages. The important thing about this infectious disease is that it is an unerring sign of the presence of the most complete human misery. Prolonged and widespread starvation, exposure and wretchedness supreme are needed as the soil on which typhus spreads. To be sure it is carried by vermin, and worthy philanthropists are now sending tons of vermicides, new clothes, and sterilizers to combat it. There are always vermin somewhere, but never typhus except where hunger and misery rage. When we know how surely and certainly these diseases are caused by men's own acts and deeds, does it not seem as if we should say, 'Man's actions have produced gas-gangrene and typhus;' instead of the flabby statement, 'Typhus is prevalent; gas-gangrene is developing.' Seeing such ruthless and dastardly energies at work, does one not understand Florence Nightingale's impatient contempt for the germ theory, and comprehend her insistence that it was the things people did that caused disease?" -Foreign Department, AJN. May 1915; 15:8, p. 666.

"We have been asked why we do not record events happening in connection with the European war.... So it may be time for us to remark that the Foreign Department, at any rate, intends to boycott this particular war. The only mention it will draw from us will be denunciation of "War" as a specimen of man's stupidity. This war will get no advertising, no 'write-ups' from the secretary of the International Council [referring to herself]. It is a colossal piece of atavism - of return to the age of the tiger and the ape - and though one or another country may be most conspicuous (sic) in aggression and attack, yet all the Great Powers, our own not excluded, share the guilt of maintaining the system and moving along lines which everybody (sic) knows must and will lead to war.

In monopolistic control of land and the earth treasures within - in race hatred and jealousy - in fierce, lawless and greedy rivalry for trade; in the



promulgated belief that one nation can only live and grow by destroying, by exterminating one another, in all these things, what great nation has a clean record?.... It [war] should be recognized as highway robbery and murder on a vast scale, and if we had, in our midst, organized hordes of highway robbers and cutthroats, nurses might indeed follow in their wake to help rescue the wounded and dying, but if they began to take these bands at their own estimate, share in their feelings and applaud their rivalries, then would be the dangerous psychological moment, for it is this ultimate approbation that keeps war alive and feeds it with sentimentalism and covers it with a mantle that obscures its real ghastliness." -Foreign Department, AJN. July 1915; 15:10, pp. 847-848.

"Dear fellow-nurses, whatever you do after these various wars are over, do not, I earnestly beg of you, do not unite in 'Veterans of' this, that and the other part of any fray! ... Is there anything more lamentable than to see women, and nurses especially, imitating the vain rivalries of men, echoing their absurd war cries, showing the clan spirit and perpetuating the memory of feud and clash?... Surely women should now give men a new lead, not follow them in their old barbarous customs. A new lead, a new note, an independent stand, with a clearer, farther vision than fighting man has held." -Foreign Department, AJN. May, 1916; 16:8, p. 752.



M. Adelaide Nutting

A NOTE ON ELLEN KEY'S  
FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE  
AND BERTHA VON SUTTNER:  
TWO WOMEN AT WAR  
AGAINST WAR  
by Evelyn R. Benson

A few years after her death, Florence Nightingale was extolled in a brief work, Florence Nightingale and Bertha von Suttner: Two Women at War Against War, by Ellen Karolina Sophis Key (1849-1926), a Swedish author. Ellen Key was a feminist, pacifist, teacher and social writer. Her prominent and aristocratic parents brought her up in great modesty and simplicity, providing her with a thorough education at home and at school. At the age of twenty, Ellen Key served as secretary to her father, a member of the Swedish Parliament. From 1880 to 1899, she taught in the Stockholm schools and afterward lived, traveled and lectured abroad as she continued her writing career. She produced works on sociological, literary and historical themes; including topics such as the feminist movement, child welfare, pacifism, sex, love, marriage and moral conduct.

In 1918, combining women's issues and pacifism, Key produced a sketch of two great women: Ms. Nightingale and Baroness von Suttner. Although there was, in fact, no direct link between Nightingale and von Suttner, Key's unifying theme appeared in her introductory statement: "Twice in the last century women fought against war; both began their battle being ridiculed and derided, even by other women.(1, p.5) Key pointed out that Nightingale's unique contribution was the alleviation of human suffering brought on by war, while von Suttner labored tirelessly to prevent the outbreak of war.

Key went on to present a very moving, intelligent and sympathetic portrayal of Florence Nightingale, describing her superb efforts to provide care for the wounded British soldiers and to reform the British Army medical system in the Crimean War. Key recounted facts, already so familiar in the annals of nursing, in her own words as follows: "It now seems incredible that this woman met resistance in England when she undertook her mission to salvage whatever she could out of the wartime chaos. At the time of the Crimean War, even her friends felt that she had taken leave of her senses, when she, a beautiful, well-educated young woman, took up nursing to bring order and care into the field hospitals. However, she coped so well with her mission that the wounded soldiers, fired up with appreciation for the angel who had freed them from hell, kissed her shadow on the wall when she walked through the wards in the evening with her lamp. After the war, at an officers' banquet in London, it was proposed that each one should write on a slip of



paper the name of the person he believed would be remembered longest in connection with the Crimean War; one name appeared on each slip of paper - Florence Nightingale, the lady of the lamp." (1, p.5)

Quite apart from these moving and sentimental recollections, Key was filled with deep admiration and respect for Nightingale's outstanding accomplishments, which she acknowledged as a source of inspiration to all women. Key described the enormous difficulties Nightingale had with her mother and sister who together put up formidable opposition to her worthy ambitions. In addition, Key recounted the numerous obstacles that Nightingale had to overcome in the Crimea, and how, in spite of all this, she persisted until she triumphed in her efforts to bring relief to those who had suffered so greatly in war. Finally, she paid tribute to Nightingale's success in creating an acceptable outlet for women of that era to seek gainful employment.

The other person of prominence who figures in Key's work is the Baroness Bertha von Suttner, ardent pacifist, who waged a persistent campaign against war. Born 1843 in Prague into an old but impoverished family of the nobility, Bertha Kinsky grew up to be a well-educated young woman with great intelligence, charm and wit. She and Arthur von Suttner were married in 1876 against the wishes of his family, who objected to the marriage because she was several years older than the groom and from a poor family.(2) The young couple moved to Czarist Russia and settled down for several years in the Caucasus, where they carved out their own literary careers. Eventually they were reconciled with the von Suttners and returned to the family in Vienna. Bertha achieved great fame with her strong anti-war novel, Lay Down Your Arms! published in 1889 (in German Die Waffen Nieder!).

Bertha von Suttner worked tirelessly with the World Peace Movement and stressed over and over again that the spirit of war which characterized her world, ie, Europe of that era, was aided and abetted by authoritarianism, militarism, anti-Semitism and clericalism. When she visited America in 1912, she was refreshed by the spirit of democracy, equality for all, religious tolerance, justice, and truth. She felt that, here in the New World, there was greater hope for the development of a Peace Movement. She was firmly convinced that it was necessary to create a more humane world, that history was molded by people and, therefore, people must strive to create a better world. One of her many friends and admirers was Alfred Nobel. Their initial acquaintance was very brief, but they maintained a lifelong friendship, largely through correspondence. There is evidence to support the view that she influenced him in his decision to establish the Nobel Peace Prize.(3,

p.623) Just as she thought that she had seen some progress, she died in 1914, on the eve on the outbreak of the First World War.

In describing these two very distinguished but different women, Key points out that von Suttner's greatness lay in her heroic struggle to prevent war and Nightingale's lay in her efforts to alleviate the ravages of war. Both women held strong convictions that it was necessary to strive for the improvement of human beings and to create a more humane world. Both of them acknowledged the gratitude they felt towards men who had helped them and felt stung by the indifference of women. In conclusion, Key points to the accomplishments of these two great women, and hails them as a source of inspiration for all women, especially those whose lives have been deeply marred by the effects of war.

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#### AUTHOR'S NOTE

For quite a long time, I have been interested in women's issues, particularly as they relate to the history of modern nursing and its founder, Florence Nightingale. Several years ago, I chanced across the name of Bertha von Suttner in connection with her relationship to Alfred Nobel and the Peace Movement in the nineteenth century. When I looked her up in the Encyclopedia Britannica (1966 edition, Vol. 21, p. 623), I noticed a work entitled Florence Nightingale and Bertha von Suttner by Ellen Key. This title piqued my curiosity, and I searched numerous sources, without success, for a possible connection between these two women. It was very difficult to find a copy of Key's work, even though it is listed in Bishop, W.J. and Sue Goldie, Biobibliography of Florence Nightingale (London, Dewsons of Pall Mall, 1962, p. 141). I finally



tracked it down in the Peace Collection of the Swarthmore College Library, Swarthmore, Pa., where it literally crumbled in my hands as I turned the pages. The reference librarian photocopied it for me - it was only thirty pages long. My husband, Morton Benson, assisted me with the translation from German. I am also indebted to Lunetta Headley, Librarian of the Visiting Nurse Association of Montgomery County, Norristown, Pa. for her assistance in gathering information.

#### FEMINIST INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON THE NEW REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Recently Gena Corea (author of The Hidden Malpractice and a member of CASSA

#### FEMINIST INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON THE NEW REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Recently Gena Corea (author of The Hidden Malpractice and a member of CASSANDRA) shared with us information regarding the Feminist International Network on the New Reproductive Technologies. This network has contact women in Australia, Sweden, Britain, and the United States. The U.S. contact is Janice Raymond, Women's Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. The Australian contact is Robyn Rowland, School of Humanities, Deakin University, Victoria 3217. The British contact is Tilly Gage, 21 Pennethorne Close, London E9. The network invites interested women to join, and to assist with the following actions:

1. Making contact with women's health groups to organize meetings on the new reproductive technologies.
2. Gathering information on reproductive technologies in feminist publications.
3. Identifying all journals internationally that deal with reproductive technologies or the ethics of these technologies.
4. Preparing an annotated bibliography of sources on reproductive technologies from all countries.
5. Monitoring newspapers, magazines and journals for articles on the reproductive technologies.
6. Organizing an international feminist conference on the new reproductive technologies in August, 1985 in Sweden.

The material that Gena shared with us included the following statement:

"By any definition, reproductive technology involves experimentation upon women. Women are the objects of manipulations of our procreative powers. Eggs and sperm can be fertilised in a glass dish (in vitro fertilisation - IVF), embryos can be frozen, screened and operated upon in a laboratory but ultimately - at least up to the day when the artificial womb is perfected - a woman's body is needed to transform a few cells into a human being. However, women's voices - and in particular a feminist perspective - are notably absent from the current medical debate on the ethical, social and legal implications of the new reproductive technologies.

As feminists we are deeply concerned about the well-being of women. We are angered by the politics behind the new technologies and by the recommendations of the Warnock Report. We believe that the rapidly developing reproductive technologies are powerful instruments for the social control of women.

One form this takes is the definition of the 'fit mother'. Women are divided into two categories. 'Good' women: white, heterosexual, preferably married or at least in a stable relationship, who can be used as breeders - and 'bad' women: lesbians, black women, poor women, or women of the 'wrong' ethnicity who certainly need not apply for any of the new technologies!

As feminists we are pro choice. We believe firmly that an infertile woman, whatever her sexual choice and life-style, should have access to counselling and infertility treatment. We deplore the continued lack of attention to this area of women's health. But we do not believe that these technologies are aimed at tackling the problem of infertility. We believe that the aim is the control of women through artificial production of human life. While scientific and medical intervention in child bearing has been expanding for centuries, these new technologies involve a qualitative leap in men's ability to oppress and control women. The artificially created child, fathered but not mothered, will be considered superior to any baby born of women.

When technology makes routine the monitoring of all aspects of reproduction from conception on, and when any deviance from the norm can be altered by genetic engineering in IVF-embryos or by intra-uterine surgery, doctors will be able to insist that every pregnancy result in a 'perfect' child. Physical and mental handicaps will become increasingly unacceptable as the norm of 'perfection' is more rigorously enforced. The eugenic implications are sinister indeed.

We oppose surrogate motherhood. We believe that this will lead to a horrific abuse of women. Some may be desperate for money (given the abysmal economic position of women) and be forced to rent their wombs, while to others the idea could be sold that surrogacy is a worthwhile and caring profession for women. Either way it is a new form of prostituting women's bodies.

The recent technological developments should be seen in relation to the "old" technologies of contraception and sterilisation. Depo Provera and forced sterilisation campaigns reveal not only an astonishing disregard about short and long-term side effects for women but also expose the racist and classist biases of those who do research into new drugs and market them. Third World Women, women of ethnic minorities and poor women in western countries are used as living laboratories for these drugs. Neither their bodies nor their minds are regarded with respect and the western experts consider their reproductive capacities as a curse - an evil that needs to be controlled. While white women are being coerced into motherhood, Third World women are being forcibly prevented from having children. And being pregnant with the 'wrong' child - i.e a girl, can lead to selective abortion of female fetuses.

In contrast we think that artificial insemination in the hands of women (Self-Insemination, S.I.), is an easy low-technology practice which women can control



and use to have a child. However, we object to male-controlled sperm banks, which under the guise of therapeutic genetic screening and 'protection of the embryo' open the way to selective breeding practices.

In sum, while we oppose surrogate motherhood and IVF, we support individual women's decision, recognising the pressures under which women operate. In general, we would oppose legislative regulation of women's behaviour, but these technologies are potentially so exploitative that we support measures to restrict them and to limit further research.

We propose that the monies now going into IVF, embryo research and genetic engineering be redirected into an investigation of the problem of infertility and, more generally, to further women's health. Research on infertility needs to include the effects of pollution, malnutrition and stress on women's and men's - fertility. Infertility counselling needs more resources and has to be taken up by the women's health movement. The question why women feel the need to mother should also be given more attention. Adoption must be facilitated where possible. In particular, guidelines on eligibility to parent must be changed to include single women and lesbians. The notion of what is a 'normal' family must be challenged.

In conclusion we hope the day will come when women will have a real choice to have a child or to remain child free. At present our choices are severely restricted and limited by the ideology of a women-hating, racist, classist, heterosexist and handicappist society. The new reproductive technologies serve to reinforce this ideology and social structure. We challenge the masculine notion that science is objective. Science serves the interests of dominant power-holding groups. The demand must be for a women-controlled science and a women oriented health-care system."

## ANA PROGRAM

Prepared by Peggy L. Chinn  
and Charlene Eldridge Wheeler

We want to share with all websters some of what occurred at our ANA program, so we have transcribed the final portion of the audio-tape. This transcription is the last 35 minutes or so of the program (which was 2 hours long). It begins with the comments of Charlene (our moderator) introducing the comments made by senator Windhost at the opening ceremonies of the convention. We have transcribed the comments of the senator verbatim - except for the inflections and the southern drawl that we simply could not capture in print! The comments of the women in the audience have been edited and abridged - they were spontaneous comments and did not always adapt well to written form - on the tape with the voice inflections and emphases they are exquisitely powerful.

Following the transcription, we have included the text of the letters that were sent to senator Windhost and to Eunice Cole, along with a copy of the portion of the tape that is transcribed here. These letters were sent at the request of women in the audience. The letters were composed based on suggestions of several individuals in the audience and our discussion in the CASSANDRA gatherings.

The tape is marginal in quality; the music especially did not reproduce well. However it is well worth hearing! If you wish to borrow a copy of the entire tape, contact Maeona Jacobs, 6757 South 2485 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121. There is a fee of \$10.00 to borrow the tape; \$5.00 will be retained to help cover costs and \$5.00 will be returned to you when you return the tape. You can purchase a copy of the tape by writing to National Nursing Network, Inc., 250 West 49th Street, Suite 400, New York NY 10019. Ask for tape code number 91-81 from the 54th Annual ANA Convention titled "Feminism in Nursing." Send your check for \$16.00 plus \$2.00 for shipping (New York residents add 8% sales tax).

The program in its entirety included introductory comments about CASSANDRA, quotes, poetry and music from our San Francisco presentation titled "Will the Real Nurse Please Stand Up"; a summary of the Power model that appeared in the May Newsjournal; and a summary of the Guide to Feminist Analysis that appeared in the May Newsjournal. We then played the tape of the comments of the senator as a basis for illustrating how a feminist analysis can be used to create awareness and change. We distributed copies of a summary of the Guide to Feminist Analysis to people in the audience. We had taken 100 copies, but did not have nearly enough to provide each individual a copy.





We have identified the speakers when we could, as follows: CEW = Charlene Eldridge Wheeler; MJ = Maeona Jacobs; JD = Jeanne DeJoseph; CJD = C.J. Dodd; SC = Sue Cohen; PLC = Peggy L. Chinn; AUD = unidentified woman in the audience.

From our program:

CEW: We arrived in New Orleans from various geographic locations, with various parts of a presentation that each of us had, and we weren't really sure how it was going to come together. We spent some time pulling thoughts together and one of the wonderful examples that we want to focus on is from our own experience here in New Orleans.... Even though we have been focusing on some historical commentary, the section we want to look at next is both historic and horribly current. We did get permission to use this tape.

Looking at your analysis guide [handout given to the audience], we want to focus attention around three pervading issues. As we go through the tape, keep them upper-most in mind. This may be the first time for a lot of you that you have heard the tape. We want you to think as you listen about: 1) what conflicting messages are there, 2) what double-edged meanings are apparent, and 3) what and how is the total erasure of nurses' identity accomplished. Once the tape has finished playing, we will have individual members of the panel address each of those. At that point we would really welcome responses from you.

What you are going to hear is the opening ceremony from Friday night. How many of you were there? Oh - it's hard to count! How many of you weren't there? For you this is going to be an experience. For all of you, I am not sure it is one you are going to want to repeat.

We want to focus on the patriarchal messages. This speaker follows the first speaker, who presented the keys to the city to the president of ANA and to the Executive Director. The first voice you hear, I think, is Eunice Cole's. Then we will hear the senator. Do let me know if you can't hear this in the back corner!

From the tape of the opening night ceremony:

Eunice Cole: Thank you. We intend to use the key to open all the doors. And will begin tonight. We are also honored to have with us tonight Senator Fritz Windhost, who has a greeting from the State of Louisiana.

Senator: I should have never told Sidney Bartholomew [the preceeding politician] what I was going to say. I want to say several things from the heart. I didn't come here tonight to welcome nurses. I came here to welcome guardian angels. And if you think I'm joking - if you want to applaud when I am finished you may - I just got finished

having kidney stones removed. I know a guardian angel when I see one! Do you know one? O.K. I have the privilege of welcoming you to the State of Louisiana on behalf of the governor, the legislators and most of all the people. I don't have a key to give to anyone except the key to my heart. I'm like Will Rogers - he never met a man he didn't like. I never met a nurse I didn't love! And I must be honest and tell you that I'm glad that Eunice Cole is a nurse and not a doctor. I don't know about you, I think for far too long the roles have been reversed in health care. I had the occasion to have open heart surgery last year and kidney stones this year, and if I had to say you can have nurses or doctors, I tell you I'll take the nurses any day. I'd still be on the operating table if the nurses weren't there. And they didn't send me a bill! I serve on four hospital boards. I believe I got a bill from every one of them.

The keys to the city are a marvelous symbolic gesture, but I must tell you Sidney Bartholomew never gave one out until the treasury was empty. Now, if you really want to get a key to something, my phone number is 368-43 - I'm serious - write it down - 368-4352. And when you get finished with all the glitter of the fair, and all the raucous entertainment on Bourbon Street, and everything else, if you're lonely - call that number. Will you do that? I'll be waiting.

Ladies and gentlemen, the State of Louisiana is privileged and honored to have you here. It is my understanding that it was in the early '60's that you last met in New Orleans. For those who were here then, can assure themselves that the statute of limitations has run, and you can do whatever you want - all over again. And I have parole power if you need me - if you need me for anything. O.K.

Have a lot of fun in this town. When you go home tell your friends about it. Tell 'em that we are the State they've heard about - a somewhat laissez faire in some respects, somewhat open in some respects. We have the best politicians money can buy.

I'm going to give you one story and then I'm going to leave. May I tell one joke? I went to make a speech in California not long ago. Anybody here from California? Alright, well you know this can happen to you in California. When I got up to my room, there were three gorgeous women in the room, and I said "Well, I think I'm in the wrong room." And they said, "No, you are in the right room. Some people from the convention at which you are to speak sent us up here to be sure that you had a entertaining evening." "Oh", I said, "Wait a minute. Back in Louisiana I'm a member of the senate, I'm a lawyer and a family man. I even go to church. I'm a respected man in the community. I can't do this - two of ya'll have got to



leave." Well they fought, and I gave in and let 'em all stay - what the hell.

O.K. Ladies and Gentlemen, please enjoy yourself. Be yourself, and please you have our lives in your hands, and we couldn't be in better hands. Thank you very much.

Tape turned off.

CEW: What we would like to do is begin the discussion with some comments from the panel. We will go in a 10-minute sequence per issue. If you wish to address the issue that's on the floor, please go to the microphone. The first issue we'd like to address is the conflicting messages and the double-edged meanings.

MJ: In reviewing this piece of literature I pulled out three fairly obvious double message situations. The one that is very clear is the purity/whore contrast. On the one hand, the person calls us guardian angels, asserting that they can be recognized. On the other hand we are propositioned and regarded as whores. The other kind of dichotomy is the dichotomy of recognizing capability in nurses or in any one, in this case nurses, represented by the comment: if it were not for nurses I would still be on the operating table. So there is a recognition that nurses do provide something extremely valuable. On the other hand almost following directly on the heels of that comment is: that they never send you a bill, which means that although we are capable we are invisible. It also implies that we are capable in some realms, as a nurse, as a guardian angel - but we are helpless. We are helpless because: if you need me I have the power of parole. So there's that sense of opposites - that you are capable however you are helpless: I can come to your rescue. And this one is a little less well defined in my own mind - the senator's statement that it was a privilege to be here. Privilege, at least for me, connotes that there is some respect and some recognition of autonomy between people. And yet there is nothing in those remarks that really connotes that it was indeed a privilege, in that notion of privilege as being respect.

CEW: Would any one like to respond, or would you just like to go through these and then comment afterward? I know it's unbearably warm. Jeanne DeJoseph has offered to look at how nurses' identity and reality is totally erased.

JD: I wanted to talk about the obliteration of our reality - by calling us guardian angels. First of all you have to look at what angels do. Not only are they not very visible, but think about the fact that, at least in the Bible, what angels do is carry messages from god to people. They are agents of another - they don't act themselves.

In contrast, look at the experience of nurses. For example, a staff nurse who is caring for 10

patients with multiple medications, IV's, multiple teaching needs, multiple family needs. Look at practitioners who are responsible for direct care of the people for whom they are caring. Look at nurses who are teachers, who not only need to know their content area but also need to know how to teach. Look at administrators who are nurses, who manage multi-million dollar budgets, and are responsible for being conversant with the words of the business world as well as the world of nursing. Look at researchers who need to act as scientists as well as nurses and see if in your own practice - what you do - squares with a definition of yourself as a guardian angel.

One of the questions always to ask is who benefits? If we ask ourselves who benefits from the angel of mercy or the guardian angel image that we have, I think there are probably several groups of people. The public does benefit - it simplifies their relationship to us. They don't have to deal with us necessarily as individuals, or find out about what we do because what we do is minister to them as an angel does. Hospitals benefit because they don't have to pay us very much - angels don't eat much. I think that's been one of the things we're thought to go into nursing for - to save our souls as well as to be angels. Physicians, of course, benefit because as an angel you certainly get to stay in your place. So I'd ask you to consider how it makes you feel when someone uses a stereotype - any kind of a stereotype - to describe you.

The responses that I saw throughout the audience were from some people thinking that it was O.K., which is fine, some people looked mildly distressed about the angel - people just sort of rolling their eyes with 'here we go again' - and some people looked really furious. I think that in any group of nurses we would see that range of responses. One of the things that we have tried to help you have today is not only the theoretical basis but some practical experience in feminist analysis - because it can help us learn to direct our feelings, whatever they are, in ways that can make us feel better as women and as nurses.

AUD: I wanted to respond to the range of responses in that I was - when I first heard these fellows speak - I was about to lose control in my seat - I had started foaming at the mouth a little bit, but the woman sitting in front of me turned around and said "you're obviously not from the south." And that disturbed me. I wanted to either ask the panel or the woman from New Orleans who is shaking her head at me or someone else in the audience to respond to that. I'm from Seattle, Washington and I don't expect to hear that kind of talk from my legislators. Are there parts of the country where because you belong to a part of the country that you expect that kind of talk from your legislators?



JD: I think one of the things we have to be really understanding about is that there is a lot of diversity throughout the country and there are some places in which institutionalized oppression of women is more verbal. But I submit to you - and I come from California - that the oppression of women is everywhere, and that it might not be quite as blatant. I think also that in terms of responses that there were a lot of women in the audience who were laughing either from nervousness or whatever. I think that a lot of times when we have to face this kind of thing we don't know how to act. We don't know how to support each other. We don't know how to deal with that.

AUD: I just wanted to say that I agree that organized oppression of women is everywhere. It's the blatancy. My legislator is just a little more subtle in many respects.

AUD: I just wanted to make a comment about who are the states that did not ratify the ERA - in the south!

JD: I think that one of the things that we have to be sensitive to is what it's like for women to live in the south.

AUD: Especially Black women.

AUD: I think if the senator perceived that the Louisiana State Nurses Association had a very large, rich, powerful political action committee that would spend a lot of money to help elect candidates who are supportive of feminist issues and who are respectful of nurses and who do not degrade and abuse and insult nurses in front of the convention of their national association - I don't think he would have talked that way to us. I was horrified! I didn't even know how to respond. I was so insulted! And I think that anybody should feel that way, and if you didn't feel that way I think you ought to look inside yourselves as these members of Cassandra are asking us to do today. Why do we put up with this shit and abuse from men?

CJD: People often say to me when I don't find things amusing "Oh, you're just being one of those angry feminists." And what's ironic about that statement is that if you look at violence and pornography against women in the media, and advertising anywhere or any kind of slander against women that we don't think is funny - if they were making those same statements about children or about any other class or race of people it wouldn't be funny. But about women - because we are second-class citizens it's funny and we allow it to continue. So I think it's time that we say "that's not funny."

AUD: My name is Susan Wilburn. I am from Seattle and I would like to comment about ways to respond and ways that I find useful and not useful to respond to blatant and subtle sexism that's all around. It's very appropriate to be angry but as CJ

was saying about how many people perceive feminists as angry women and are genuinely afraid of that response. You need to feel angry and get through that. The two ways I have found to act on it is - that if it is such an extreme person that I am not going to reach by a one-to-one communication I just say "What bizarre behavior, I wonder where they grew up - maybe it was Mars." And the other thing is - those people that I can have contact with I say to them "I know that you wouldn't say that or speak to me that way or treat women that way if you knew what it was like." And I try to explain how that is really inhibiting my intelligence - I especially do it with patients when they want to be sexual with me. I say to them, "You wouldn't do that if you knew what it was like. And this is what it's like, please don't do that again."

AUD: My response to the senator has perhaps a bit of a predictive element to it. I was thinking that his next procedure was probably going to have something to do with blindness. That has to do with his failure to recognize that he was speaking to a group of women. I was impressed by the nature of how he was speaking, as if he was speaking about women to a group of men.

SC: I wanted to speak about the word privilege. It doesn't connote respect - it connotes the authority to do whatever you please. The senator was consistent in his use of the word privilege. Not necessarily speaking to a group of men, but reminding women that in a patriarchal society, men have the privilege to do with their wives and daughters as they see fit. He made his statement early on and continued to remind us of what he was about. He inadvertently used the term 'guardian angel' as opposed to the term 'angel of mercy'. We could take a lesson from the Guardian Angels in New York. In New York we have Nurses' Media Watch, and we write letters and send telegrams to people who do the kind of thing that this man has done. I think that here in Louisiana perhaps it's time that that happened. Guardian Angels guard people from exploitation, violence, rape, murder, and what have you. They are not ultimately merciful. I think there is a great deal of difference between an angel of mercy and a guardian angel. In the tradition of CASSANDRA - words - words are so important. Language is everything.

AUD: I think the gentleman was very much aware that he was speaking to women. And I think he was tendering us in terms of his repetitive discussion of his telephone number and reference to his parole power. I think he was letting us know in a very clear sense that he was going to give us the highest form of compliment he could imagine giving to professional women - he was implying we were good lays.

AUD: I am Janice Humphries from Detroit. I guess I was more outraged the second time. I was



outraged the first, and it was just as bad as I remembered. One of the things that was particularly disturbing to me and it ran through what the senator said - and this is a myth that I particularly hate - is the whole idea that being a nurse, this nurturant being, is an instinct, that I was born with it, that I had nothing to do with it, that I haven't worked very hard to learn what I do and that I do it with great skill and expertise. To me that's not acknowledging how hard we all work at what we're doing. This guardian angel instinct laid upon us attitude is very offensive to me.

JD: It occurs to me that since we had to purchase a copy of the senator's tape that perhaps we ought to recommend that he purchase this tape.

AUD: Send it to him!

AUD: Send it to him free!

FLC: Another thought in relation to our feminist analysis that hasn't been addressed that I didn't us to leave without having is - what this does to us and our solidarity to one another. We are very healthy here, directing our anger appropriately where it belongs. Typically what Typically what we have learned to do is to say 'what was wrong with those people who invited him?' This makes a divisive thing between us and our sisters in the ANA who had to arrange this program. I think we need to be real aware that it was not their fault that he spoke these words.

AUD: That's right.

AUD: I have two comments to make. One of them: I was born and raised in the south and I was just as appalled at his speech and his reaction as everybody else. So I want you to know that it's not just the southerners that they expect that kind of thing, because they don't. I didn't like it either. I was just as insulted by the processional and the beauty pageant contest part of it - that's what nurses and women are doing to each other.

AUD: I would just like to respond to your comment about not accepting other people dividing us as women, which I think is a valid comment and one that I would like to support. However, I would like to hold somebody on Eunice Cole's staff responsible for asking those people to make [that presentation]. We need to hold someone responsible for inviting people to speak to us, and when we relieve people of responsibility, we continue to have people who will say 'it's not my fault for having this man speak to you.' I think that we need to find a way to do it - not in a divisive way - to express our dissatisfaction in a responsible way rather than just sharing with each other that we are upset about this man speaking to us that way. So I am asking to have a formal complaint to Eunice Cole's staff about the specific events - I would support it and be willing to help in doing that.

JD: I agree that it's important to respond, but we are all tax-paying members of the public and we

have a right to expect that our legislative officials who are elected will not come and insult us. I think that the ANA has the right to expect that they wouldn't have to screen someone's remarks ahead of time.

AUD: I am Elsie Bandman from New York and as you can see I'm an older woman and that brings about a particular type of abuse and violence, one of which is to get completely ignored. I've come to feminism late, thanks to my daughter. I have a question which is, out of all innocence, one of strategy. Should we, when this string of derogating remarks continued, should we have gotten up and walked out of there or booted? I don't know, I'm asking.

CEW: What do you think?

AUD: What should we have done?

AUD: What would you have liked to have done?

CEW: What should we do? What would carry the most clout?

AUD: I walked out of the processional - I left after Colorado.

CEW: It would have been a thrilling and moving experience for every woman in that hall to have removed herself from the room. It would have carried a powerful message.

AUD: Just wanted to comment as far as different levels of raised consciousness about what happened. I think what we have to remember is that we were all raised to be sexist - not just men. We were all socialized to be sexist and we have to educate ourselves and other people too. This is not something that was divied out - that men were raised to sexist and that women were raised to be feminist. I still catch myself being very sexist in many areas, and I consider myself a radical feminist.

AUD: My comment about what should one do when in a position where they are feeling they are getting abused, verbally or whatever - I think one strategy, yes, is to walk out. But I think another strategy which - I was not there - is to stand up to this man straight in the face and call him on it. I think very often as women we put ourselves in the secondary position because we walk out and don't take responsibility to what is happening. It seems to be an easier way to deal with it. I do that myself. My main point is that men, and women, do not have a raised consciousness. But it is our responsibility, as women who realize that this is happening, to let people know that it is happening. We can't put that responsibility off onto anybody because we're the ones that can see the results.

CEW: Thank you all very much for coming, sharing and joining with us today. We hope to see you again in 1986!



August 22, 1984

Eunice Cole, President  
American Nurses' Association  
2420 Pershing Rd.  
Kansas City, MO 64108

Dear President Cole:

Enclosed please find a portion of the tape of CASSANDRA's program at the ANA convention this past June. We are sending this to you at the request of a number of women in the audience. This is the last part of our presentation, at which time the audience participated in a discussion of the comments made during the opening ceremonies by the state senator from Louisiana, Mr. Windhost. We are also sending a copy of this portion of the tape to Mr. Windhost, and a copy of the letter that is being sent to him is enclosed for your information. We urge you to listen to the tape; it will only require 35 minutes of your time.

Our presentation that preceeded this portion of the program consisted of a panel discussion of a feminist model of power contrasted with the patriarchal model and a guide to feminist analysis, both of which are contained in the enclosed May issue of our Newsjournal. We used the opening ceremonies tape of Mr. Windhost's comments as a basis for a feminist analysis of a current, unfortunately common, situation that nurses face. We did consult with the gentleman who was in charge of the taping at the convention regarding the use of these tapes; he indicated that their use for such educational purposes was permissible.

In preparing for the presentation, those of us on the panel discussed the predicament of leaders in the ANA or any other women's group in relation to a situation of this sort. We want to convey to you, as we did during our presentation, that we do not wish to cast blame on our sisters, or to hold women in any way responsible for the words and attitudes of any speaker. We believe that as citizens we deserve to be treated with respect by any elected official - that we should not have to fear or anticipate this type of presentation from any public official - male or female. Since we obviously do not live in a society that recognizes the work and worth of women, it is incumbent on us as all to take a public position which leads to increased awareness and potential change.

All of us who participated on the panel, and other members of Cassandra in the audience, are members of the ANA. To you, we want to express our feelings of sisterhood, and share our realization of the very difficult position that you held on the platform at the time that this happened. We know that this kind of thing must happen all too often. What we want to convey is that there was substantial negative response to the senator's comments from women who were present during the opening ceremonies. Many members of the Cassandra audience who heard his comments for the first time during our program were also appalled.

While none of us can monitor or predict such offensive public comments, we hope that you and other officers of the ANA will take a strong position affirming ANA's long history of support for women's rights and worth. We urge that the following measures be taken:

- renew the commitment to only meet in ERA ratified states. This is not a cure-all, but at least it would declare our continued concern for the rights of women. Even though the ERA is not currently subject to ratification, it is still a primary agenda for the women's movement in the '80's. A state's political history on this issue should be a crucial factor for the ANA to consider in order to demonstrate our continuing commitment to ratification of the ERA during this decade.

- request that women officials or women politicians provide the official addresses given at any ANA gathering. This would convey to any state or any other official body our own commitment to the advancement of women; it would also convey to a nursing audience a positive image of women as social leaders and political figures.

- provide any non-nurse speaker with factual material about nursing in advance. Mr. Windhost's comments indicated no substance suitable for the occasion and the audience. If he was provided any educational material about nursing in advance by the ANA, he obviously ignored it. If he was not provided with any guidance, perhaps this could have prevented the unfortunate outcome.

We welcome any comments that you would like to share with women in Cassandra for publication in the January Newsjournal.

Peace and Power,

Peggy L. Chinn and Charlene Eldridge Wheeler  
on behalf of CASSANDRA  
P.O. Box 341  
Williamsville, NY 14221

September 6, 1984

Senator Fritz Windhost  
P.O. Box 409  
Gretna, LA 70054

Dear Senator Windhost:

Perhaps you are aware that you made quite an impression at the opening ceremonies of the American Nurses' Association convention in June. Indeed, your comments generated much discussion.

We purchased and played the tape of your comments at the convention in an educational program we sponsored during the convention. Perhaps you have never heard yourself on tape, or realized the impression that you make. We wish to share with you this tape, made at our program, which includes your comments as well as the comments of a number of the nurses whom you addressed.

Although the quality of the recording may require you to listen closely, we are certain that as an elected official and as a consumer of health care, you will find this tape most enlightening. The tape will require only 35 minutes of your time.

We welcome your comments after you have listened to the tape.

Sincerely,

Peggy L. Chinn, RN, PhD, FAAN  
Charlene Eldridge Wheeler, RN, MS  
on behalf of CASSANDRA  
P.O. Box 341  
Williamsville, NY 14221

cc: Eunice Cole, President of the American Nurses' Association



## REPORT OF CASSANDRA GATHERINGS IN NEW ORLEANS

Prepared by Suzie Tarmina

CASSANDRA gathered every day of the ANA convention from Saturday, June 23 through Thursday, June 28. The initial meeting was held in a suite in the Sheraton for \$250 a day, a rate that would soon break CASSANDRA. Ann Montes, due to a reservation error, had been rented a suite instead of a room in the Hyatt and she kindly offered the space for the remaining Cassandra gatherings. She, in turn, was reimbursed by Cassandra for the use of her quarters. The gatherings were well attended by websters from Buffalo, Maine, Washington DC, North Dakota, New Orleans, Salt Lake City, Washington State, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

The agenda included the following tasks: the development and critique of the CASSANDRA presentation at the convention, "Feminism in Nursing"; the review, critique and acceptance of the bylaws; evaluation and support of the proposed budget structure; deciding about the continuation of Cassandra's Action Network, the location of the 1985 gathering; the commitment to present a program at the 1986 ANA convention; and local, regional and continental issues of decision-making and getting things done.

With convention activities being held in four different sites, we found networking in New Orleans very difficult. Many women had primary commitments in relation to the convention, and were not able to actively participate in CASSANDRA gatherings as they would have liked. Many women who were new to CASSANDRA, or who wanted more information, did connect with us at the time of various gatherings - only to find themselves in the midst of a relatively laborious weaving (decision-making) session. Because of all of these factors, we agreed that we would not attempt to conduct our own gatherings at the time of another convention in the future - that we would be present for networking and consciousness-raising, but our own gatherings for decision-making would be kept separate from conventions such as this.

### CASSANDRA'S Program

On Wednesday, June 27, ten women in CASSANDRA presented a program titled "Feminism in Nursing" in the Rivergate Plaza. The women on the panel were: Charlene Eldridge Wheeler, Jeanne DeJoseph, Sue Dibble, Maeona Jacobs, Peggy Chinn, P.K. Scheerle, and Anne Montes. Women who read notable quotes were: Sasha Slayton, Marilyn Dodd, and Suzie Tarmina.

A large percentage of our gathering time Monday and Tuesday was directed toward the development of the presentation. The major objectives

of the presentation were to explain the purpose of CASSANDRA; patriarchal and feminist power issues; and the criteria for and an illustration of feminist analysis. The presentation included quotes, music and poetry; an analysis of power; and a demonstration of feminist critique using the remarks of Louisiana state senator Windhost that were made at the opening night ceremonies (Muffy Eastman was responsible for suggesting this wonderful idea!). More than 130 people found seating at the presentation, and about fifty people were turned away for lack of space in the room. The Salt Lake City Web purchased a tape of the presentation which can be borrowed upon request. The Buffalo Web will send a letter expressing the gathering's concern about Senator Windhost's remarks plus a tape of the last 30 minutes of our program to the Senator and ANA President Eunice Cole.

### By-laws

The laborious work of the Bay Area (San Francisco) Web in developing the Bylaws was applauded, and consensus reached in accepting them with editorial and clarifying changes. Barb Limandri, who has been coordinating the preparation of the Bylaws in San Francisco, was not able to be in New Orleans but the women from the Bay Area indicated that they and Barb were willing to continue to work on incorporation.

The issues concerning incorporation of CASSANDRA were discussed at length. The state in which incorporation occurs must have a Web with a minimum of 3 members. The fees for incorporation vary from a few dollars in Delaware to \$300.00 in New York and \$200.00 in California. It takes 18 to 24 months to obtain full incorporation as a non-profit organization. A major advantage for us in incorporating in California is that state's experience and familiarity with alternative types of non-profit organizations - we are not required, for example, to name traditional hierarchical 'officers' but will be able to name coordinators who hold fiscal and 'administrative' responsibility, with every woman in CASSANDRA being on the 'board of trustees'. Consensus supported incorporation in the state of California, with the corporate address located somewhere in the Bay Area. Since many of the Bay Area Web members are students and/or not necessarily permanent residents of California, they will locate some official address that is likely to be permanent (the office of our consulting lawyer was suggested).

The Bay Area Web will make the changes needed in the Bylaws and proceed with the various stages of incorporation. In the future, any changes in the Bylaws will be proposed at a continental gathering, published in the next Newsjournal, and consensus reached on the change(s) at the following year's



gathering after all Websters have reviewed what has been proposed.

#### Budget

The Utah Web was given support for budget the and financial management approaches that they have developed, including developing investment of our research fund. The bank account is in the process of being transferred from Massachusetts to Salt Lake City. There is currently about \$5,000 in the general account. Thirteen percent of all incoming money has been placed in a research fund presently totally about \$1000. The gathering consensd to continue accumulating this fund for at least two years, and to build a substantial principle amount that can be used as a basis for funding feminist research.

Several issues related to our budget were discussed. The Newsjournal, at present, is our major cash expense and our funds are sufficient to cover these and other cash expenses. However, if we were to pay salaries, rent or purchase equipment and space (all of which is presently contributed in-kind) our income would be quite inadequate. In addition, if we are to realize our goal of establishing a full-length feminist nursing journal, we would need about \$10,000, along with an indication of subscriptions sufficient to cover on-going expenses.

Another major funding issue is financial support for local Webs, and getting funding to individuals and Webs who have assumed responsibility for tasks that require funding. There has been some difficulty for women who cannot cover CASSANDRA expenses out of their own pockets; everyone recognized the need for money to be advanced to women who are doing CASSANDRA work. It was agreed that women can contact the finance coordinator and have money sent in advance to cover expenses that relate to continental responsibilities. We agreed that local Webs be encouraged to develop their own bank accounts for local projects and activities; no obligation or contribution from local Web fundraising is expected.

The matter of travel for individual Websters was also discussed. It was agreed that if a Webster is making a presentation or doing something on behalf of CASSANDRA that requires travel, the finance coordinator should be contacted. The Utah Web will develop more specific guidelines for travel reimbursement.

Costs of salaries, office space, computer and other equipment will be considered in more detail at the 1985 gathering. The time and equipment involved in membership tasks is a substantial in-kind contribution at the present time (the equipment is donated by Peggy; she and Charlene with assistance from other women in Buffalo are contributing the

time). It was agreed that CASSANDRA will begin to pay a minimal hourly salary for one person to assist with membership. Anne Montes indicated that she is willing to do this.

#### Cassandra's Action Network

Maeona reported that 15 websters responded to the inquiry about the continuation of C.A.N., with 14 recommending that it be continued. The main problem has been the fact that very little is contributed by Websters for content. Also, publication and mailing of C.A.N. nine times a year costs about \$900. It was agreed that C.A.N. does provide more contact and networking than the Newsjournal alone, and this is an important factor especially for women who are relatively isolated. Consensus was reached to change the content of C.A.N. to Networking Notes and Resources that have been previously included in the Newjournal. The information and material can be sent to whoever is producing C.A.N. from Buffalo. We also agreed to publish C.A.N. three times a year alternating with the Newsjournal. This will provide everyone with a total of six communications per year, while reducing the overall costs.

We also agreed that rather than rotate the task of preparing C.A.N. among individuals each issue, we would try to find a Web who would assume this responsibility each year. Muffy Eastman agreed to approach the Maine Web to see if they would be willing to produce C.A.N. this coming year.

#### 1985 Gathering

CASSANDRA gatherings need to be located in alternate geographical areas each year to facilitate the participation by women throughout the country. In trying to achieve this goal, lengthy discussions focused on identifying a location in the northern, middle to eastern part of the United States. Peggy reported that to date about 20 women had returned the survey from the May Newsjournal, with the pre-dominant responses coming from women who were in or near one of the three locations proposed (Salt Lake City, Maine, Cleveland), and with everyone wanting the gathering close to their own location!

None of the options suggested seemed ideal. Salt Lake City and Maine both offer the benefits of a scenic environment and an active Web that can help house women with minimal expense; both would require either lengthy car trips or substantial airline fares for women coming some distance. Another factor is that the 1986 ANA convention will be held in Anaheim, near Los Angeles. Cleveland has the benefits of access to a Women's Building and a sizable active Web as well as many Websters who have had experience in organizing and planning such events. Neither location had very strong appeal because of the travel involved, ie, none are on an



airline's cut-rate circuit. We discussed the possibility of coordinating our gathering with some other national convention, but decided not to do this during the years between ANA conventions so that we could have time when everyone present can focus on CASSANDRA.

In an attempt to combine some of the features of our "ideal" location, we decided to explore the possibility of Detroit for 1985, and to plan the time in early August just prior to the Michigan Women's Music Festival (1985 is their 10th anniversary and women who wish to do so could plan to go to the Festival after the CASSANDRA gathering). The Michigan Web has not yet become active, but there is a growing number of women in the Detroit area and it is close enough to several Webs so that a number of women might be able to help with some of the local arrangements at the time of the gathering (like local transportation). Peggy agreed to contact Jackie Campbell, who has recently moved to the area from Rochester, to explore the possibility of this location with her.

#### 1986 Gathering

It was the consensus of the group that CASSANDRA be more visible and available at the 1986 ANA convention in Anaheim. In addition to the fact that we had terrible difficulties networking in New Orleans, there was a substantial interest in what we are all about (our CASSANDRA buttons attracted lots of attention everywhere we went!). There was also a noticeable lack of any feminist voice or presence at this (the 1984) convention. An area called "The Market Place" is going to be available in the convention exhibit area, where state nursing associations have booths. Liz Calderone agreed to explore the possibility of a CASSANDRA booth in this area. If this is not possible we will explore the possibility of renting a regular booth area (the cost for a booth this year was about \$900 for the 3 days).

We also agreed to plan for another program during the 1986 convention. Jeanne DeJoseph will document the process she followed in getting on the program in New Orleans, and will initiate the early processes for getting on the program in 1986. A Coordinating Crone is needed to proceed with the planning that needs to be done with ANA over the next 2 years.

Concern was expressed for Websters who are delegates or booth/program participants having difficulty attending CASSANDRA meetings during convention meetings. Also, our task-focused gatherings were very unsatisfactory for many women who simply wanted information or who needed more informal discussion of feminist issues in nursing. Therefore we decided that we would schedule only one day of CASSANDRA 'business' on the day of the evening

opening ceremonies in Anaheim, prior to the time of any convention activities. After this, our energy and attention would be directed to being visible, accessible and heard in the convention itself.

#### Local, Regional and Continental Issues

Issues of how to make decisions and coordinate activities were woven into all of our discussions. In addition to the discussions already presented, we focused on problems that developed with the t-shirt, jewelry and brochure tasks that had been initiated at the 1984 gathering in San Francisco. In order to make money on the CASSANDRA t-shirts, several dozen needed to be ordered at once and orders have not been sufficient for this purpose. We agreed to fill the orders that have been made as soon as possible - CJ will take care of this task. From now on, we will have t-shirts made for specific gatherings, but will not keep them available for general sale. Local Webs that might want to have t-shirts made can contact Charlene Wheeler if they want to use her design for the shirts.

Sue Dibble has contacted a woman silversmith who can make stick pins of the Cassandra logo; a substantial initial order is required in order for her to proceed. Charlene has also designed earrings (pierced) and pendants based on the logo, and the Buffalo Web has sponsored having Acacia (a Tuscon craftswoman) render the design in brass. These are available now. Any money we make on these will be split between the Buffalo Web and Cassandra. It was suggested that the money can be used to accumulate the funds needed for the stick pins.

#### Other

The Bay Area Web will communicate to everyone what responsibilities will need to be assumed once the Bylaws are refined. There will be several coordinators responsible for different tasks, very similar to what we have already been doing (for example we have a finance coordinator, a newsjournal coordinator, and so forth). We will need a convening coordinator (rather than the more traditional administrative officer) who will convene the annual gathering and generally coordinate what happens!

The matter of renewals was discussed briefly. We currently have about 100 websters whose renewal date has passed. Our policy so far has been to not send out specific notices, but to only use a general notice in the Newsjournal to remind women to renew when their date is indicated on their mailing label. Consensus was to send renewal notices, since the method being used now doesn't seem to provide an effective reminder.

At the time of our presentation, one of the editors from RN magazine gave a note to each woman on the panel requesting a copy of her



'speech' and asking for more information that might be published. Peggy will write to her, send her a copy of our May Newsjournal, and indicate that Jeanne DeJoseph would be willing to be contacted about an article.

Anne Montes has volunteered to begin a new column in the next Newsjournal called "Dear Cassie". Anne has been sorting through inquiries that come in the mail, and keeping a log of where inquiries come from and any interesting or pertinent notes that we receive; she has also been assisting with answering general correspondence. Since many of these letters concern acute and chronic problems in nursing and express a longing for a feminist perspective, the idea for the column is to stimulate feminist analysis and exchange of positive ideas for change.

### Conclusion

We concluded the last day of our gatherings feeling high in spirit from the exhilarating experience of our presentation, but exhausted from the intensity of our work together. We ended, as we did in San Francisco, in a circle with our arms around one another and sang along with Cris Williamson "Song of the Soul" -and this year we added a song by Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert "We are Gentle Loving People." We will see one another again - in Detroit!

## 1985 GATHERING UPDATE

prepared by Peggy L. Chinn

In the May issue of the Newsjournal we published a survey for everyone to respond regarding their preferences for our 1985 gathering. Following is a summary of the responses received:

Total number of responses: 26

- 13 • I plan to participate in the 1985 gathering:
- in:

-Salt Lake City: 3

-Cleveland: 5

-Maine: 2

- I prefer the following location, but might be able to participate in other locations as well:

-Salt Lake City: 6 (includes 2 first choices indicated)

-Cleveland: 4 (includes 3 second choices indicated)

-Maine: 11 (includes 3 first choices indicated and 2 second choices indicated)

The dates of preference indicated ranged from early May to late October. The majority preferred dates were mid-June to mid-August.

Since we mailed about 350 issues of the May Newsjournal and we only had about 20 responses at the time we met in New Orleans, we did not judge the information to be a strong basis for making any decision.

In New Orleans, the decision-making process around this issue was a magnificent example of decision-making by consensus. This discussion was placed on the agenda for our first weaving session, and continued during every gathering thereafter. This occurred primarily because we could not reach consensus easily. A positive result was that many different women participated in the discussion at different gatherings, even though at any one gathering as few as six women were present. Finally, on the last day the idea occurred to consider another site - Detroit. The factors that led us to explore this possibility were: 1) It is within a day's drive for a significant number of women in Cassandra. 2) It is on many of the airlines' cut-rate fare schedules for women who must fly. 3) If we schedule our gathering time to immediately precede the Michigan Women's Music Festival women might be able to combine a Cassandra gathering with a wonderful music vacation! 4) We do have a growing number of women in Cassandra in Michigan, with a possible contact person in the Detroit area.

After the New Orleans gathering, Peggy Chinn contacted Jackie Campbell, who agreed to explore the possibility of finding a gathering place and serve as a contact woman for the 1985 gathering. Peggy also called the "We Want the Music Collective" to see if they have a date scheduled for the 1985 festival, since knowing the date is important to finding a gathering place! The 1985 Festival date will not be scheduled until sometime in January - they need to assess the financial situation of the Festival this fall and determine if they will be able to hold the Festival before they can schedule a date. This will be their 10th anniversary - so everyone is very hopeful. The woman from the Collective indicated that they cannot consider a date much earlier than the 2nd week in August, since they depend on local produce for food and the summer crops there are not ready in sufficient quantity until then. The Festival traditionally begins on a Wednesday night, and ends on a Sunday night, and has usually been held on the 2nd or 3rd weekend in August.

Based on this information, at this point we can speculate that our gathering would begin Saturday or Sunday, and end on Tuesday evening before the Festival begins on Wednesday. We will have more specific information in the January Newsjournal. Meanwhile, we are not taking space in this issue of the Newsjournal with a survey!! This does not mean that your ideas and opinions are not welcome. If you have any thoughts or ideas, please let us know. You can write to the Williamsville address



(particularly if you have ideas that you want to appear in the January Newsjournal), or write to Jackie Campbell, 1044 Western, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.



Juliette Smith Two-Axe  
An Oneida Nurse

## WEB REPORTS

### Maine CASSANDRA Retreat written by Carol Gaglione

Nine Maine Cassandrans and two of their young daughters met in Lincolnville, Maine for our first Cassandra retreat. The time was spent relaxing, learning about each other, sharing stories, music, walks along the ocean bay, reading and of course enjoying our 'potluck' food. Friday evening we shared our ideas for Cassandra's future next year.

First, Brenda Wright has volunteered to be our new contact webster next year.

A national "Think Tank" on Feminism and Nursing Theories was suggested; our conclusion was that we needed more time to organize this type of event. The latest issue of Cassandra appears to indicate that Maine has been offered as a possible site for the next Continental Cassandra meeting - we need to write to the Williamsville women with our responses - that Maine sounds great!

Muffy Eastman is headed to the ANA convention and plans to make connections with other Cassandrans there. We look forward to hearing from her about her experience.

We spoke of common frustrations with sexually abusive language and misogynist actions that we nurses and students are subjected to. Some actions discussed that we could begin to do were:

1. Start writing CASSANDRA columns to the Maine Nurse, The Crier, to help inform other nurses and students about the support available to them.

2. We discussed that publicly exposing doctors who are mis-treating nurses is a good method of sharing and supporting our sisters who may encounter the same abuse, and hopefully to curtail the undesired behavior.

We discussed our finances which are zero, and decided to utilize the groups that are already organized as structures to get our message across. For example, we can use their newsletters instead of forming our own. Such groups are: Student Nurses Organization at U.S.M., The Women's Studies Department and the Women's Forum at U.S.M. These are Portland groups, there may be others - let us know if you have some to add.

We also spoke of the importance in being active in getting Reagan out of office - basically, the need is for all of us to share our politics through action and words in this next year.

On a lighter note: October in Boston is the 10K Bonnie Bell Run - some of us in the spirit of women's energy are going to run in this race ... so get your shoes on this summer if you are interested.

As I sit en route for the west coast, with lots of time to reflect... the meaning of our overnight and Cassandra became very clear to me. As a student you all offer me an incredible amount of support to keep my ideals for nursing alive and stimulated within me. Thank you.

## COORDINATING CRONES

If you want to get INVOLVED - this is the information you need! This column contains the names and addresses of women who are coordinating our major tasks, and they need support, assistance and participation. There are some tasks that are not yet assumed by an individual, so if you want to take on something new, write to P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221.

Finance: Maeona Jacobs, 6757 South 2485 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121. Maeona and the Utah Web are having a grand time with their new books and accounts - a short course on feminist finance!

Cassandra's Action Network: Penny Bresnick and Muffy Eastman, 53 Middle St., Orono, ME 04473. The Maine Web will be producing C.A.N. this year in its new format - watch for it! And send your notes and resources to be included.



Newsjournal: Charlene Eldridge Wheeler, c/o CASSANDRA, P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221. Remember the lifeline date for contributions to the January issue is December 1, 1984. This issue was a bit irregular because a lot of material was not here when we needed it. HELP!

Membership: Peggy L. Chinn, c/o P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221. In New Orleans we decided to begin sending renewal notices to women whose renewal date has passed. We will continue to remind you in the Newsjournal, and you can help save time and money if you remember your renewal date before we have to remind you, or let us know that you won't be renewing. We need to hear from you.

1985 Gathering: Jackie Campbell, 1044 Western, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. More on this in the January Newsjournal.

Brochure: Kay Rousseau, #6 Adolph Sutro Ct., San Francisco, CA 94131. If you need a supply of brochures for any purpose, write to Kay. They are available now and they look wonderful.

Incorporation: Barbara J. Limandri, 557 59th St., Oakland, CA 94609. A monumental task that we will hear more about in January.

Journal: Charlene Eldridge Wheeler, P.O. Box 47, Akron, NY 14001. A long-range goal that we won't forget - a major factor in moving forward will be having lots of substantive material to publish. So if you are interested in helping a feminist newsjournal become a reality, send us articles for the Newsjournal now. This will be an important indication that we are really equipped with material to produce a journal.

Jewelry: Sue Dibble, 3998 Duncan Pl., Palo Alto, CA 94306; also see order form in this issue of the newsjournal and the report of the New Orleans gathering for more information on this.

Herstories: Kay Rousseau, #6 Adolph Sutro Ct., San Francisco, CA 94131. If you take an action based on any of the items included in the Newsjournal or Cassandra's Action Network, please send a copy of your letter or an account of your action for our archives. If you have media coverage of your Web in your local area or any other information that would be valuable for our archives, send it to Kay.

#### Coordinating Crones still needed:

Research Fund: In San Francisco we made a commitment to begin a research fund. We projected that it will take some time before we are ready to begin dispersing this fund, but did not begin to work out details for doing so. If you are interested in working on such a plan, and coordinating ideas from other Cassandrans for this plan, let us know.

Educational Materials: One of our purposes is to develop feminist educational materials for nursing programs; another is to preserve and publish past

and present significant works of nurses. Let us hear from you if you would like to begin working on this, or have some ideas to pass along.

ANA 1986: We need a woman to coordinate plans for the ANA convention to be held in Anaheim, California in 1986 (see the report of the gathering in New Orleans). You don't have to be located in Southern California to coordinate this planning, but we will need some local contacts as the time draws near. Jeanne DeJoseph did a superb job of planning for 1984. She will share her information with you if you are willing to take on this task. We found that one year in advance is too late - we need to start NOW. So if you are willing, please let us know as soon as possible.

#### MAIL ORDER FOR HOLIDAY READING!

Prepared by Peggy L. Chinn

The Buffalo Web, in cooperation with EMMA: WNY WOMEN'S RESOURCE AND CULTURAL CENTER is once again offering an exciting mail-order opportunity. This order features women's calendars for 1985 and a wonderful variety of books for the holidays and the new year. We will do our best to fill your order by the first of the year if we receive your order before November 1, but unfortunately we can't guarantee the postal service at this time of year. We have provided for a first-class postage option if you are eager to have fast delivery!

All of the books listed here are paperback. A brief description of each item listed on the order form is provided here to assist you in making your selection(s).

#### CALENDARS:

Celebrating Women: 1985 Women's Health Calendar (Northampton, Mass., The Family Planning Council of Western Mass. Inc., a non-profit health care corporation providing comprehensive family planning services, \$5.00) This informative and attractive wall calendar provides historical information about our foremothers in health care, and 12 photographs of the past and present that celebrate women and health.

The Strength of Women 1985 Wall Calendar (Nancy Bereano, ed., Crossing Press, \$6.95) This popular calendar explores, both visually and verbally, the movement of women through the phases of our lives: from infancy, young girlhood, and adolescence through adulthood, middle and old age. Includes 12 photographs by contemporary women, brief quotations on the theme, and an essay by the editor.



Heroines 1985 Wall Calendar (Andrea Fleck Clardy, ed., Crossing Press, \$6.95) Each month this calendar celebrates another remarkable American woman. Some are women we've always admired, some are women alive today whose achievements deserve our attention. Along with each woman's photograph, the calendar presents biographical information and a quotation. The 1985 heroines include: Louisa May Alcott, Lupe Anguiano, Sarah Bernhardt, Helen Caldicott, Althea Gibson, Mother Jones, Della Keats, Coretta Scott King, Maggie Kuhn, Henrietta Szold and Sojourner Truth.

The Women Writer's Desk Calendar (Elaine Goldman Gill, ed., Crossing Press, \$6.95) In it's fourth year, this popular calendar shows each week's engagements at a glance. It is spiral bound to lie flat; closed the dimensions are 5 1/4 x 8 inches. Each month there is a photograph of a woman writer plus two pages of poetry or prose. Writers for 1985 include: Margaret Atwood, Emily Dickinson, Marilyn French, Marge Piercy, Ann Sexton, and Alice Walker.

#### BOOKS:

Peace and Power: A Handbook of Feminist Process (Buffalo, NY, Margaretdaughters, Inc., 1984, \$4.95) by Charlene Eldridge Wheeler and Peggy L. Chinn. A much requested practical handbook for putting feminist ideals into action; a useful and necessary book for women trying to survive in the mid-'80's. Based on the author's experiences of working in groups, this 64-page handbook provides details of how to convene gatherings using a non-hierarchical approach, yet avoiding the tyranny of structurelessness. In addition to philosophic and pragmatic guidelines, the handbook includes real-life situations to illustrate feminist process in action. Each part of the process of a gathering is described: Check-In, Rotating Chair, Consensus, and Criticism/Self-criticism.

Daughters of Copper Woman (Vancouver, British Columbia, Press Gang Publishers, 1981, \$7.95) by Anne Cameron. Through the ancient myths of the Native American women of Vancouver Island, Anne Cameron offers "a shining vision of womanhood, of how the spiritual and social power of women - though relentlessly challenged - can Endure and Survive." The mythic qualities of the legends co-exist with a stark realism; the underlying vision of this book will linger long after the reading is done.

Reclaiming Birth: History and Heroines of American Childbirth Reform (Trumansburg, NY, Crossing Press, 1984, \$8.95) by Margot Adler and Mary Waldorf. Many nurses are familiar with the general history of increasing intervention by medical men in childbirth and early parenting, and the loss of women's traditional ways. This book introduces seven women who challenged that intervention in America: Elisabeth Bing, Margaret Gamper, Doris

Haire, Lester Hazell, Sheila Kitzinger, Raven Lang and Niles Newton. Their stories fit into the context of public events such as midwife trials, the continuing arguments over drugged labor and natural childbirth and the politics of obstetrical technology. The authors integrate contemporary coverage with interviews, current research and their own experiences, building a foundation for change.

The Whole Birth Catalog: A Sourcebook for Choices in Childbirth (Trumansburg, NY, Crossing Press, \$14.95) edited by Janet Isaacs Ashford. An impressive collection of material on pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. The emphasis is on exploring alternatives to the medical model of pregnancy and childbirth.

A Woman's Book (Trumansburg, NY, Crossing Press, 1983, \$4.95) Interested in starting a personal journal for 1985 but want more than blank pages to work with? This is a book for you! Every page spread has a quote for women, written by women, from Mae West to Simone Weil to Kaethe Kollwitz, and a small illustration taken from Japanese crests. The rest of each page is for you to write on. The book is 6 x 9 inches for easy carrying, but big enough to sketch or write in.

Mother Wit: A Feminist Guide to Psychic Development (Trumansburg, NY, Crossing Press, 1981, \$7.95) by Diane Mariechild. A straightforward, engaging exploration of the psychic powers we all possess, this book contains practical exercises, affirmations, meditations, and other psychic tools to aid personal growth, healing and spiritual awareness - an important book for feminist nurses who are developing alternative approaches to health and healing.

The Politics of Reality: Essays in Feminist Theory (Trumansburg, NY, Crossing Press, 1983, \$7.95) by Marilyn Frye. From the introduction: "One of the great powers of feminism is that it goes so far in making the experiences and lives of women intelligible. Trying to make sense of one's own feeling, motivations, desires, ambitions, actions and reactions without taking into account the forces which maintain the subordination of women to men is like trying to explain why a marble stops rolling without taking friction into account. What 'feminist theory' is about, to a great extent, is identifying these forces.... The measure of the success of the theory is just how much sense it makes of what did not make sense before." Whether you are a long-time feminist or just beginning, this book makes sense - a theory book you will not want to put down!

Sweet and Natural: Desserts without Sugar, Honey, Molasses or Artificial Sweeteners (Trumansburg, NY, Crossing Press, \$7.95) by Janet Warrington. This cookbook is primarily for diabetics, but is an exciting and challenging alternative for everyone who is interested in optimal nutrition.



Exchanges are listed below each recipe. The sweetening is done with dried and fresh fruit; no other sweetening agent it used. You will find this book a gourmet's delight, as well as a necessity for anyone on a restricted diet.

## CRITICISM / SELF-CRITICISM

by Peggy Chinn and Charlene Wheeler

(please feel free to join us in January!)

As you may or may not have noticed, this issue of the Newsjournal is irregular - we missed the full moon in September. If this has caused you to sit before your mail box wringing your hands and gnashing your teeth, we hope you are having a hasty recovery now that you have the Newsjournal in hand! Our fear is that most of us have hardly noticed the passing of the full moon, much less the absence of CASSANDRA in the mail box.

Being late is not always the worst thing in the world that can happen. (If it signals pregnancy, this could mean a lot of things!) But being late with the Newsjournal is not something that we want to occur often. Since we have made a commitment to publish the Newsjournal at the time of the full moon, we are experiencing some distress in not meeting this commitment and criticize ourselves for not making the mailing date. Our own busy schedules demand that we do our part of the work at the times that we have planned. We publish lifeline dates (in the front of each Newsjournal) we think are realistic. We could have prepared and mailed the Newsjournal by the time of the full moon in September, but it would have been very sparse in comparison to what you are holding in your hand now.

We need a lot of cooperation from CASSANDRA websters in order to have a full and diverse Newsjournal - on time. We want to have the contents of the Newsjournal reflect the contributions of as many women as possible, but contributions have been very sparse or very slow in arriving. In general, we are feeling pretty discouraged and this is why the editorial from TELEMOMAN spoke so clearly to us and why we were inspired to include it in this issue.

What happened with this issue is quite typical of every other issue. August 1 arrived (the lifeline date for this issue), and we had only two of the articles in this issue in hand. We had a few of the miscellaneous items available (such as information for revising the contact woman list and one Web report), and we had the material gathered for "Re-membering our Heritage." "Re-membering our

Heritage" began in the May issue out of what we perceived as a necessity for material, but which in reality was a wonderful inspiration consistent with our purposes. Anyone could contribute material for this or any other column.

Another experience has drawn our attention to larger issues beyond the specific circumstance of this Newsjournal. The EMMA Collective, of which we are both a part, decided to completely remodel the store during August. As we scraped and painted with very few women actually there to do the work, we realized that here again, as in CASSANDRA, we are faced with a situation where a group had made a commitment to get something done, with lots of start-up energy but hardly any follow-through energy. We began to reflect on the parallels between what we perceived happening in CASSANDRA and EMMA, and how that is relevant to the women's movement today - where it's been, where it is, and where it's going.

This decade of the '80's is a dangerous decade for women. We are in great danger of becoming yet another "wave" in the eternal tide of the women's movement - disappearing into oblivion once again. In a report of the 1st annual conference on planning a national/international communications system for women (1979), the following statement was made: "Why did all the past 'waves' of the women's movement disappear? In the lifetimes of women living today, we have seen two such waves vanish. They, and the others in past history, disappeared for the same reason: women lost their means of communication... In the absence of a women's press during the 1950's, the black-out was effective: we could not learn what other women were doing and therefore were prevented from joining in or supporting them."

We can learn much from the events of the past. One of the most important lessons we can learn now is how vital our exchange of information between and among us is. It is through networking and communication that we can establish our collective solidarity. There are many issues and many causes that deserve our energy, time and money. Any action that moves us forward, no matter how miniscule, need not be in vain. But it will be in vain if we do not collectively devote the energy needed to continue what we have begun.

In this issue of the Newsjournal we have graphic proof in Lavinia Dock's comments that some nursing leaders have shared a deep commitment to the women's movement and to changing social conditions. How many of us had any knowledge of these radical roots in nursing? How did we lose what Dock and others began? What would our lives as nurses be like today if we had not lost this tradition? What will our lives be like tomorrow if we allow our networking and communications among ourselves to fail?



## CONTACT WOMEN . . . .

Names and addresses of all Cassandran's are forwarded to their nearest contact woman; otherwise our mailing list is not distributed. This list is organized by zip code, so find the zip code nearest you for the nearest contact woman! If you would like to be a contact woman for your area, please let us know. If you are a contact woman and you are not listed, or if the information given here is incorrect, please notify us. Write Cassandra, P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221.

<u>Canada:</u>			
MARGARET NIXON	1645 Broadmead Ave.	Victoria	V8P2V5
<u>Massachusetts:</u>			
KATHRYN J. FOLEY	19 Dimick St.	Somerville	02143
DIANE PINGETON	22 Brook St.	Somerville	02145
<u>New Hampshire:</u>			
JANNETTE HOFSTEDE	38 South Main St.	Concord	03310
DENISE D. CONNORS	101-A Stark Ave.	Dover	03820
<u>Maine:</u>			
BRENDA WRIGHT	Box 32, Star Rt.	East Lebanon	04027
<u>Vermont:</u>			
JANE DWINELL	RD2 Mason Rd.	Randolph	05060
<u>Connecticut:</u>			
BEV YAEGER	48 Ravenwood Rd.	W. Hartford	06107
ANNE TEITELMAN	26 Whittlesey Ave.	New Haven	06511
<u>New York:</u>			
ADRIENNE ROY	P.O. Box 341	Williamsville	14221
<u>Delaware:</u>			
SHEILA A. McMAHON	9 Timber Creek Lane	Newark	19711
<u>Virginia:</u>			
M.A. WHITE	517 Cedar Lane	Virginia Beach	23452
<u>West Virginia:</u>			
M.G. NAGAI-JACOBSON	Rt. 9, Box 246	Beaver	25813
<u>North Carolina:</u>			
GERRY ANGERMAN	924-D Lakecrest Ave.	High Point	27260
<u>Georgia:</u>			
ESTHER E. WYNNE	1837 Wrightsboro Rd. #4	Augusta	30904
<u>Kentucky:</u>			
NATALIE C. GRAY	Rt. 4, Slaters Landing	Harrodsburg	40330
<u>Ohio:</u>			
JUDITH A. CARR	P.O. Box 5874	Pleasantville	43148
KIRSTE L. CARLSON	2446 Kenilworth	Cleveland Hts.	44106
BRIGHID KELLY	9040 Spooky Ridge Lane	Cincinnati	45242
<u>Michigan:</u>			
Jacquelyn Campbell	1044 Western	Ann Arbor	48103
<u>Iowa:</u>			
Mary Hettinger	24008 Jennings	Sioux City	51104
<u>Wisconsin:</u>			
DOLORES DAWN	1115 Millwood Ave.	Waukesha	53186
<u>Illinois:</u>			
HELEN M. RAMIREZ	5615 N. Kimball	Chicago	60659
<u>Missouri:</u>			
D. ANN CHASE	9021-D Eager Rd.	St. Louis	63144
<u>Kansas:</u>			
JUDY SCHROCK	Rt. 4, Box 24	Manhattan	66502
<u>Nebraska:</u>			
LINDY WALKOWIAK	712 No. 49th St.	Omaha	68132
<u>Texas:</u>			
Susan Gibson	1110 W. Saner Ave.	Dallas	75224
Joyce Dains	3626 Elmridge	Houston	77025
<u>Utah:</u>			
CAROL A. ASHTON	3685 Palisade Dr.	Salt Lake City	84109
<u>California:</u>			
MEG K. McCARTY	3739 Gaviota Ave.	Long Beach	90807
BARBARA J. LIMANDRI	557 59th Street	Oakland	94609
<u>Washington:</u>			
PEG SHEPHERD	7414 N.E. 36th Ave.	Vancouver	98665



## THRUMS

(Any loose end, fringe, or tuft of thread; the fringe of warp threads left on a loom after the cloth has been cut off).

### Advertising?

So far we have not published paid advertisements in the Newsjournal. We have had inquiries about this, and decided not to publish any paid advertising until we have consensus about what we want. The following statement is proposed: "Display ads will be published for businesses offering products that are consistent with CASSANDRA'S philosophy and purposes. Write to CASSANDRA for rates." Any comments and suggestions on this approach are welcome. As with articles, judgments about the suitability of ads for our Newsjournal will be made by the Web responsible for producing the Newsjournal. If we receive no dissenting opinions, this statement will appear on page 2 of future Newsjournals.

### This Newsjournal was produced by:

The Buffalo Web. The women who were responsible for production of this issue were Charlene Eldridge Wheeler and Peggy Chinn. Anne Montes and Adrienne Roy assisted with proofreading.

### Appreciation to:

- Women who provided material for this issue.
- Women in the Utah Web who are now responsible for our finances. (this is not easy!)
- Jeanne DeJoseph who made it possible to actualize our dreams at the ANA convention in New Orleans!
- P.K. Scheerle for her special help with local contacts in New Orleans.
- Each Coordinating Crone for your continued work and willingness, in spite of the difficulties of distance and delays.
- Mary Daly, for her support by mentioning CASSANDRA in PURE LUST: ELEMENTAL FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY (Boston, Beacon Press, 1984).
- Anne J. D'Arcy of TELEWOMAN for granting permission to reprint her editorial. TELEWOMAN can be contacted at P.O. Box 2306, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.
- Frigid, the technological wonder, without which all of this would be infinitely more difficult, if not impossible.
- Lavinia Dock and Adelaide Nutting for inspiration!

### Illustrations:

The wood engraving illustrations appearing in this Newsjournal are from Women: A Pictorial Archive from Nineteenth-Century Sources, New York, Dover Publications, 1978.

The photograph of Lavinia Dock appeared in The American Journal of Nursing and Its Company: A Chronical 1900-1975, a publication in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the American Journal of Nursing, p. 7. We are grateful to Wilma Scott Heide for sharing a copy of this publication with us.

The photographs of M. Adelaide Nutting and Juliette Smith Two-Axe appeared in A History of Nursing by Lavinia Dock, Vol. III, New York, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1912.

### Quotes:

The quote on the first page of this Newsjournal is from the author's preface to The History of Nursing by Lavinia Dock and Adelaide Nutting, quoted by M.E. Cameron in Book Reviews, American Journal of Nursing, April 1908; 8:7, p. 574-575.

Have you ever sat alone wondering if you were the only CASSANDRA webster in your city or county or state? Well, you might be, but there are a number of areas where three or more websters are located and where there is no contact woman. While our policy of maintaining the confidentiality of our mailing list is based on sound rationale, the policy does contribute to keeping us hidden from one another. The one way we can be visible to ourselves is to network through the contact woman for our specific area. As part of the New Webster Welcoming letter, we invite women to become contact women - many have. Below are listed - by zip code groupings - geographic areas where contact women are needed - and there are websters to contact! Let us know if YOU are interested.

To use the listing below, check to see if your zip code falls between the two zip codes listed. If it does - you are not alone!

AZ	85032 - 85282
DC/MD	20006 - 21227
KS/MO	64111 - 66113
MA	01002 - 01420
MN	55414 - 55455
MO	63104 - 63144
NJ	07010 - 08007
NY	10019 - 10113
NY	11223 - 11963
NY	12302 - 13820
OR	97203 - 97229
PA	19118 - 19403
WA	98102 - 98118



## EARRINGS AND PENDANTS

These brass earrings and pendants were designed by Charlene Eldridge Wheeler of the Buffalo Web and crafted by ACACIA in Tuscon, Arizona. The Buffalo Web has conducted several small fund-raising projects and along with our own pre-paid orders for jewelry we were able to place a sufficient order to have ACACIA proceed with the actual rendering. The earrings are high-quality brass with a 14-k gold french ear wire. The brass can be left to develop a deep patina, or it can be kept polished (toothpaste works well) to resemble gold. The picture shows the actual size of the pieces. As shown, the crescents of the moons for the earrings face each other and frame the face. The pendant is the same design as the right earring - it forms the "C" of CASSANDRA. To order, return the form below to CASSANDRA, with your check or money order to P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221.



PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
_____	Brass earrings	\$25.00/pair	_____
_____	Brass pendant	\$13.00 each	_____
Subtotal . . . . .			_____
New York State residents, 7% sales tax . . .			_____
Shipping and Handling . . . . .			\$ 2.00
TOTAL ENCLOSED . . . . .			_____

If you wish to join CASSANDRA or if it is time to renew, mail this form with your annual contribution to: CASSANDRA, P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

AC \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Enclosed is my first annual contribution, which covers the cost of Nightingale's Cassandra. Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Enclosed is my continuing contribution. The 3-digit number in the upper left hand corner of my mailing label is: \_\_\_\_\_. Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_.

Please indicate the type of contribution that you are making:

- ☐ Webster - women in nursing who participate in CASSANDRA's decision-making and receive all publications: \$35.00 - \$50.00 (Nursing students, retired, unemployed, or differently-abled nurses: \$15.00)
- ☐ Friend - women who are not nurses and men who support CASSANDRA and receive the Newsjournal and monthly Network: \$25.00
- ☐ Institutional subscription - groups who receive the Newsjournal: \$35.00

Additional contributions may be designated for a specific purpose.



# BOOK ORDER FORM

Return this form with your check or money order (payable to EMMA) to EMMA: WNY Women's Resource and Cultural Center, 168 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14201. Please allow 6 weeks for delivery for orders received before November 1. For orders received after November 1, please allow 8 weeks for delivery. Prices are subject to change; a \$7.00 fee will be assessed for all "bounced" checks. (We trust that this won't happen, but if it does this is what the bank charges us!)

PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Price/copy</u>	<u>Amount enclosed</u>
_____	<u>Celebrating Women: 1985 Women's Health Calendar</u>	\$ 5.00	_____
_____	<u>The Strength of Women 1985 Wall Calendar</u>	\$ 6.95	_____
_____	<u>Heroines 1985 Wall Calendar</u>	\$ 6.95	_____
_____	<u>The Women Writer's Desk Calendar</u>	\$ 6.95	_____
_____	<u>Peace and Power: A Handbook of Feminist Process</u>	\$ 4.95	_____
_____	<u>Daughters of Copper Woman</u>	\$ 7.95	_____
_____	<u>Reclaiming Birth: History and Heroines of American Childbirth Reform</u>	\$ 8.95	_____
_____	<u>The Whole Birth Catalog: A Sourcebook for Choices in Childbirth</u>	\$14.95	_____
_____	<u>A Woman's Book</u>	\$ 4.95	_____
_____	<u>Mother Wit: A Feminist Guide to Psychic Development</u>	\$ 7.95	_____
_____	<u>The Politics of Reality: Essays in Feminist Theory</u>	\$ 7.95	_____
_____	<u>Sweet and Natural: Desserts without Sugar, Honey, Molasses or Artificial Sweeteners</u>	\$ 7.95	_____

Subtotal . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

New York State residents, 7% sales tax . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and Handling (\$2.00 for the first  
book, plus 50¢ for each additional book). . \_\_\_\_\_

For 1st class postage, add \$2.00 . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_