



PRIME TIME

A Project for Women in their Middle Years

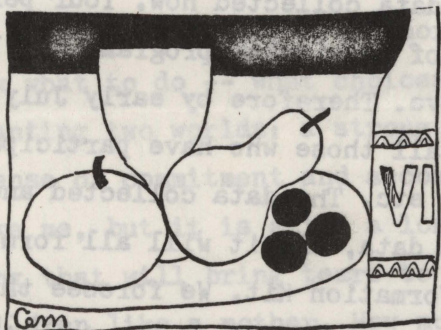
304-620 View Street, Victoria, B.C.
V8W 1U6 telephone 388-6101

NEWSLETTER #9

JUNE 1979

PRIME TIME GOES NATIONAL (on television that is....)

We are presently involved in the production of a television program for CBC Access to be shown at 4pm on July 29th. This half hour film will be made here in Victoria during the first week of July, "on location" at the Prime Time office for the most part. Focus will be on issues relevant to mid-life women rather than Prime Time per se, and we are in the process of contacting various Prime Time women who may be willing to be in the film. Prime Time will have a copy of the program on cassette after the program is shown, and we will then be able to use it to show other groups and community services.

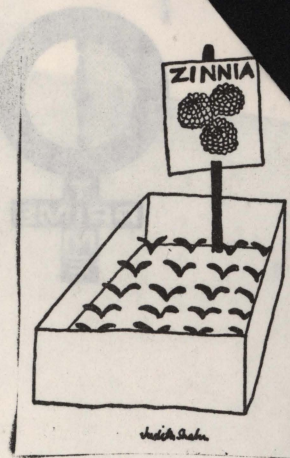


INTRODUCING OUR THREE SUMMER GRANT RESEARCHERS

Three summer grant researchers are hired and have been hard at work since May 28. We are delighted to welcome these three mid-life women to our staff: 1) Dawn Morrow is co-ordinating the production and distribution of our Information Kit. She has a family, returned to school to complete her B.A. approximately eight years ago, and this December completed her M.A. in English. Her work experience has ranged from nursing, Montessori School teacher, architect office work, to editing of academic journals. 2) Sue Mouat has been hired to design, administer and tabulate the follow-up survey of participants in selected Prime Time programs. She lives on Salt Spring, has a family, a background in nursing and much community work; and at 56 has just been accepted for her third year at the U. Vic. School of Social Work. 3) Thelma Raymond is to prepare a written statement which gives an overview of those social policies affecting women in mid-years. She will also assist in the design phase of the survey, and until mid-July will be helping prepare the script for the CBC Access television program. Thelma has a B.A. and B.Ed.; has had drama and stage management experience in England; headed a high school English department and taught English, Sociology, Drama and German. She has two grown children, has recently moved to Victoria, has been taking courses at U.Vic. in preparation for an M.A. in counselling which she intends to begin in September.

INFORMATION KIT

Prime Time is in the process of making an Information Kit which will be distributed to women's groups, community agencies, libraries and resource centres -- locally, provincially and perhaps federally. It will contain much of our collected information put into a functional format of use to others: resource booklets on program informational needs of women in mid-life, pamphlets on issues of concern, a complete bibliography, and a booklet containing a synopsis of our original research data on women in mid-years, a compilation of profiles of women in mid-life, and various articles on Prime Time as a project. Plans for its distribution are being made, which will hopefully take place in the fall. We will also have copies available in our library.



SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT or.... Be on the lookout for another Prime Time questionnaire

Many of you have very kindly filled out various Prime Time questionnaires and course evaluations. These have been very useful for program planning, and for our own original collection of information about women from women. As you are aware, we close our doors in March 1980. During this last year we are concerned with finalizing our data, and also attempting to measure in various ways the impact Prime Time has had in the community. We would like to compare the information we received from you in our first year and a half of operation with data collected now. Your perceptions of needs and the value and influence of particular programs may be different now and possibly even more objective. Therefore by early July, we will be sending out a questionnaire to all those who have participated in a Prime Time program/workshop/course etc. The data collected and analyzed will be included with our previous data, and it will all form a part of a printed booklet in our total Information Kit. We foresee this information to be of value to community service agencies and educational institutions. We will appreciate your support of this final survey.

THE PERSON'S PROJECT

The Person's Project is a student summer research programme, funded by the Secretary of State, which is organizing activities for October, 1979 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of women achieving the status of persons under the law.

The project is trying to research and collect photographs and biographical and anecdotal information about the following women who were involved in the suffrage and women's rights movement and the political life of B.C. and particularly Victoria: Mrs. J.W. de B. Farris, Mrs. Margaret Clay, Mrs. Mabel Penery French, Mrs. Gordon Grant, Helena Gutteridge, Edith Paterson, H.E. Young, Mrs, Laura Jamieson, Margaret Jenkins, Celia McNaughton Spofford and the Hon, Cairine Wilson.

As well, any information or photos about specific events, for example, the suffrage march on the legislature in 1916 would be appreciated. If you have any information please contact: The Persons Project

c/o A.M.S. W.A.G.

University of Victoria

Victoria B.C. V8W2Y2

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

exciting and frustrating age to be. To look back at my teenage
 dreams and hopes and look now at the reality of today is a bit shattering -
 but if I didn't reach any of my goals I feel some satisfaction with the
 kind of person I've become and some of the things I've done.

What happened to the 13 year old "libber" who fought at school and home
 for "equal rights"? The expectations of the day were "secretary" and "wife
 and mother". Because of family pressures and lack of money, university was
 out of the question - so it was an early marriage and a Civil Service job.
 Gone were plans for journalism or perhaps a career in radio (how can I
 reconcile the dauntless public speaker at 16 and the shy 43 year old?).
 The kid who swore she would never get stuck in some office typing all day
 has spent most of her working years doing just that.

An early marriage that failed and years in secretarial work that I didn't
 like. Then some time living on my own which gave me a good sense of inde-
 pendence and practice in self reliance. I know I could cope. That stood
 me in good stead for my move across the country, a new job, a new marriage
 and children. What a shock for me to discover I almost couldn't cope with
 being at home with two babies, and with a husband whose job meant he was
 almost never home to help, and with not enough money to go around. This was a
 low point in my life -- there seemed no place, no time for me.

Back to work part-time and then full time as the children started to school.
 I feel a strong bond with all working mothers who must also carry most of the
 load of raising the children and running the house. It is punishing year after
 year and harder as you get older. Resentment is bound to build up when you find your
 needs still not anywhere near the top of the list. I love my family and have now
 decided that I must, for a few more years, spend more time at home, but wonder
 if by that time I'll know what to do -- what choices to make for me.

I am a walking split - wanting two worlds: a strong family life and a career for
 me, where I can have a sense of commitment and accomplishment. I know there are
 many women struggling like me, but it is still a lonely place to be.

P.S. If there is one thing that will bring tears to my eyes, it's to see a
 father caring for his children like a mother. How much easier it all would be if
 both parents could share fully the parenting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

Prime Time is currently involved in the planning of two important public
 forums. The first will be held in October and is called Bread and Roses - a
 course in financial consciousness raising....legal and financial management
 of your own life. The course hopes to reduce the mystique of money-management
 for women and to increase awareness and competency in legal and financial
 matters. As well, it will provide information on the historical, financial,
 emotional and economic implications of women and money.

The course is co-ordinated by the National Association of Women and
 the Law and Prime Time.

The second forum will be in the form of a conference to be held in
 February 1980 at the University of Victoria. The planning committee for
 this conference consists of Prime Time and representatives of the
 counselling services dept., Schools of Social Work and Nursing and the
 extension division of the University. This will be Prime Times wind-up
 public forum on women in middle years. A well known keynote speaker
 will launch the two day conference and we anticipate many helpful workshops
 for both laypeople and professionals. More information on both these
 events will appear in later newsletters.



43--an exciting and frustrating age to be...

and hopes and look now at the reality of today is a bit different... INFORMATION WITH INFORMATION

The kid who wrote the book... An early marriage that failed and years in seclusion... like. Then some time living on my own which gave me a good sense of inde-

pendence and practice in self reliance. I know I could cope. That stood as in good stead for my move across the country, a new job, a new marriage

and children. What a shock for me to discover I also could cope with the... being at home with two babies and with a husband whose job meant he was almost never home to help... low point in my life... Back to work part-time and then full time as the children started to school... I feel a strong bond with all working mothers who must also carry most of the load of raising the children and running the house... year and harder as you get older... needs still not change near the top of the list... decided that I must for a few more years spend more time at home... if by that time I'll know what to do... I am a working single woman... where I can have a sense of commitment and accomplishment... many women struggling like me... P.S. If there is one thing that will bring tears to my eyes... father caring for his children like a mother... both parents could share fully the parenting...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

Prime Time is currently involved in the planning of two important public forums. The first will be held in October and is called Bread and Roses - a course in financial conduct... Secretary of State, which is organizing...

As well as any information... extension division of the University... public forum on women in middle years... will launch the two day conference and we anticipate many helpful workshops... for both laypeople and professionals... events will appear in later newsletters... Victoria B.C. V8W2Y2

