

HQ 1154
V53



Newsletter

These are
copies of some
new buttons we
have for sale.

NEWS AND ACTION TO SHARE AND JOIN IN..... **VICTORIA MARCH/84**

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 19 at 7:30 pm

At Liz Mahon's home ..#203 - 1023 Esquimalt Road. (park in rear)
no 23 bus-stop at Lampson. For rides call Terry 595-7519
This is a special effort to reach members who usually
cannot attend our daytime meetings.



INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY on March 8 please encourage friends
to come, and take part in our discussion after the films.

MARCH 11 We will have a table at the OAP hall events.
(see write up in Global Village calendar)
If you can help woman it while enjoying the many
events planned, please join us!!!



INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS DAY at U VIC on March 14 10--2 pm

We will have a table there and need help for last 2 hours, please call
Eileen 592-9548 if you can come.

PEACE PETITION CARAVAN WAS OFFICICALLY LAUNCHED IN VICTORIA on MARCH 1

VOW is a national and local sponsor. Victoria is well organized and the
first city to start the door-to-door canvas with the petition. HOWEVER
more canvassers are needed if every household is visited. PLEASE
be willing to give about 8 hours of your time this month to thePPC.
Even if you can only do your own apartment building or street block it
would help. CALL David Jackman to volunteer. 384-2445.



OPEN SPACE GALLERY ART for PEACE SHOW & EVENTS April 14- 28

In onnection with this project VOW has agreed to show films there on
April 17 - 23 and 26 at 8pm. We need 2-3 members at each evening to
introduce the films. lead discussion and woman our display. (Projectors
etc. are provided.) We will probably show Helen Caldicott at the World
Council of Churches, No More Hibakusha, and In the Nuclear Shadow.
Please call Alwyne at 721-3028 to offer your help.



PEACE RIBBON

Details of this project were in BC newsletter- any artistic Victoria VOW
willing to plan our contribution?

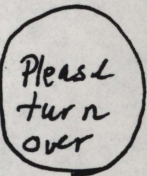
VOW ANNUAL BAZAAR APRIL 27 9am to 9pm at Hillside Mall

This is our annual and only major fund raising event. PLease collect up
books, household items, toys, jewellery, plants etc for us. (no food or
clothing). Call Gudrun for pickup and drop off and to volunteer
a few hours to woman the stall. 383-5230



WARTOYS We are still getting responses to our flyer. At our last meeting
VOW sent letters to 9 stores asking them not to stock these toys of
violence in 1984. Members are urged to write individual letters, also.
The Victoria Pre-school Association is very active on this issue
and is providing us with a list of manufacturers to write to. Orders
for Christmas 1984 are placed now, so we must be active right away.

SWAG newsletter reprint on reverse is a statement by 2 VOW members who
led a workshop at the SWAG conference. Thoughtful guidelines for parents
and all adults who work with children.



NUCLEAR AWARENESS RALLY

APRIL 28.

VOW is a sponsor and has: signed a newspaper AD for it. If you would like
to sign an individual AD or help in any way call Terry 595-7519



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1984

VOW membership?

Sustaining \$25.00
Regular \$15.00
Low Income \$5.00 or what you can afford

Mail to: Madge Clarke
#6-1955 OAKBAY AVE
VICTORIA. V8R 1E3. B.C.

THANKS!

NAME

ENCLOSED

ADDRESS

PHONE

POSTAL CODE

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From Denise Jesshope and Nora Lupton:

A synopsis of the action-oriented section of their presentation at the SWAG conference, Growing Up With the Absurd: Children's Fears and How We Can Help Them

WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

According to a recent report from the American Psychiatric Association, a majority of young people expect a nuclear war to occur during their lifetime.

Dr. William Beardslee and Dr. John Mack blame the threat of nuclear war for apathy among the young and an alienation from the adults who subject them to such a threat.

Children trust us to protect them. The following suggestions reflect our belief that preventing nuclear war is the best protection for our children.

Communicate with your children. Recognize how much they already know. Listen to their concerns. Share your own fears and opinions. Parents who do not exchange views and encourage analytical thinking about world affairs are by their silence saying that these topics are not their business.

Become Active. Children need positive role models. They will feel comfort and confidence from their parents' participation. Levels of involvement include button wearing, reading, writing letters, showing a film, circulating petitions, using media to full advantage, marching, giving each other support and planning group strategies. Encourage children who want to be involved.

At Home. World peace has to start with a sense of personal peace and justice. The best place to learn these are in a cooperative and affirming home environment. Teach and practice communication, problem solving, and non-violent conflict resolution skills. Television has an indisputable effect on children's attitudes



no more hibakusha

Attending the 1983 World Conference against A and H bombs, held in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki July 31 to August 9 was a rare and moving experience. Suellen Bradfield of Voice of Women in Halifax and I were among nine Canadians present. Twelve thousand people attended the inspiring closing plenary session in Nagasaki on the thirty-eighth anniversary of the destruction of that city. (Of the 12,000- most were Japanese. There were about 150 foreign participants, including 32 from Asia and the Pacific, 36 from Europe, 54 from United States and others from the Middle East, Latin America and official representatives of 24 international organizations).

Suellen and I travelled in Japan with a group of our 20 Peace Pilgrims from the United States. Because we were with them, we had the privilege of staying in Tokyo with families who were members of a large consumers' food co-op. In other cities, we stayed in a "riokan" a small Japanese hotel.

No other experience of the journey could compare with the ceremonies in the beautiful Peace Park in Hiroshima on August 6. (I tried to describe this in the Voice of Women national newsletter, October 1983, Vol.3, No.3). In the next few issues of the Atlantic Voice Peaceletter, I will report on what was said by a variety of people at the conference, ranging from the hibakusha, that is the survivors, to Rebecca Johnson of Greenham Common, as well as delegates from Micronesia.

At the closing session in Nagasaki, Robert Alvarez of the Environmental Policy Institute spoke for the Americans, and this is what he said:

"As an anti-nuclear activist, I often confuse rhetoric with real progress. It is when I am forced to confront the legacies of the nuclear arms race, as I have in Japan, I realize that without struggle and sacrifice to carry out the ideals we have expressed at this conference, they will be like so much debris floating in the polluted waters of indifference. For this reason, it is important to recognize

Controlled.

towards violence and war. Turn it off, or be selective in viewing habits. Write to broadcasting companies expressing your opinion regarding programming.

Work with the Schools. Encourage parents, teachers, principals, and school trustees to read and evaluate current text books. What kind of world picture do they present? Encourage the development of a peace education curriculum. Sponsor student and teacher exchanges to promote international understanding.

Ask Tough Questions. Ask your local school, hospital, civil defense agency what plans have been made for your community in the event of war. Ask what plans your Board of Health have made to publicize the effects of nuclear war.

Ask your elected representatives what they are doing to work for peace and the well being of future generations. Ask candidates for political office where they stand on specific issues. Ask questions of your doctor, minister, librarian, school trustee, the press....

It is the children of this world who have the least power, yet it is they who have the most to lose. If we do not exercise our power as adult members of a democratic society we are being complaisant in not only our own suicide, but also the murder of the world's children.

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the power we have as a movement and to use it to change the power relationships between those who make life and death decisions and those who do not.

We must recognize the tremendous contributions of women. Women are the wellspring of creativity and moral strength in peace movements around the world. The ascendancy of women is a major political and most importantly a cultural transformation which we men must recognize and support if we are to achieve real political gains. It is the women who are leading the way through the insanity of the nuclear age and we must not resist this important reality because of cultural prejudices.

And finally, we must nurture the power in our children. They hold the power to change our future societies so that we can end all nuclear weapons; and so the independence and sovereignty of nations is respected through mutual co-operation. By preventing nuclear war in our generation, we are merely setting the stage for the struggle our children must carry on. The personal values we instill in our children particularly those concerning reverence for human life and nature and respect for all people are like lanterns of hope drifting on the river towards the sea of lasting peace."

- Muriel Duckworth, Halifax

