

This is the third newsletter of the Women and Geography Study Group of the Canadian Association of Geographers. The newsletter now has a circulation of more than 100 members. CAG members can join the network and receive the newsletter by indicating they wish to be members on their CAG membership form and including an extra \$3.00 with their CAG membership fee. Non CAG members are welcome, and can join and receive the newsletters by sending \$3.00 a year to S. Mackenzie, Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6.

The group was formed two years ago and has three general aims:

1. to monitor the status of women in the discipline;
2. to encourage research on women from a geographic perspective; and
3. to establish a research, discussion, and communication network for those in Canadian geography concerned with women's issues.

The group is 'run' by a voluntary co-ordinating committee, selfselected at our annual business meeting held at the CAG Annual Meetings. Responsibility for the newsletter circulates. This one is being produced by members at Queen's University.

An important part of the network are regional representatives who report on news in their area. Since the last newsletter, Elaine Wheaton in Saskatoon and Audrey Kobayashi in Montreal have agreed to act as representatives for their areas. We still need representatives from B.C. and the Maritimes.

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Since the group's formation there has been considerable discussion about its future role. While the three aims outlined above were agreed upon at the initial meeting of the group, discussion and correspondence since then have expanded on these. The following attempts to summarize some ideas members have expressed over the last two years.

The group's structure is a loose network of women and men, academic and non-academic geographers and those in related disciplines. Members became part of the network for one or more of the following reasons:

1. The most frequent reason is that members feel a need for a forum to facilitate communication among women and men in Canada who are currently doing research on women and environment issues, or research in the environmental disciplines from a feminist perspective, or who feel such research is relevant to their teaching, their jobs or their lives. This network is seen as a way of sharing problems,

methods and results. There are a wide range of perspectives represented by this group, but what we all have in common is a concern for questions of how and why women's relationship to environments is specific, and about the nature of the relationship between gender and environment. Previous work has established that much of this 'specificity' is defined by constraints on women's access to environments, and the object of many members is to help eliminate these constraints, through providing information to students, to community groups and through direct and indirect input into planning policies. Therefore our research is, in most cases, highly relevant and increasingly 'applied'. In order to aid this communication, the newsletter includes research and publication reports, notes on past and future conferences in order to facilitate contact within and beyond geography. In order to extend this, we are initiating a research register (see note below), and wish to publish short course outlines with bibliographies. Readers are urged to send in notes on current research and course outlines/ bibliographies. (It may be necessary to edit these, so please indicate where you can be contacted for further information).

2. Many non-academic geographers are also members of the network and feel the newsletter and meetings help them keep in touch with developments in the discipline. Some of these have asked that the newsletter include notes on issues of interest to them which are not specifically 'women's issues'. We have done so in this newsletter.

3. The group also operates as a network within the CAG, providing a way to meet with or contact people of similar interests, and to mount sessions where we can share our work. The need for this is evident, in fact, the network is almost too successful. The number of students interested in working in this area far exceed available faculty resources. We are hoping to extend these resources, both through providing substantive information and through providing information on the status of women in the discipline. To this end, we have initiated a survey of Canadian departments (see below).

We encourage people to comment on these comments, on the newsletter and group as a whole and, above all, to keep in touch. The co-ordinating group for the next Newsletter will be decided in Nanaimo. In the meantime, send communications to the group c/o Suzanne Mackenzie at Queen's.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Mazey, Mary Ellen and David R. Lee ; Her Space, Her Place: A Geography of Women; (ISBN 0-89291-172-1) is a Resource Publication in Geography available from the AAG. The forward to the book promises that:

" In this unabashedly feminist book, Mazey and Lee use traditional geographical themes - spatial distribution, spatial analysis, diffusion, and the cultural landscape among others - to suggest new directions in the study of the geography of women. There are major opportunities and obligations for human geographers to deal with feminist issues. This book offers an important first step in that direction."

The book costs \$5 (American) and is available from: Association of American Geographers, 1710 Sixteenth St. N.W., Washington, D.C., 20009.

AAG Committee on the Status of Women in Geography: Guide for Women Geographers Series 1984 entitled, " Women in a Male - Dominated Academic Environment: the Experience of Being in a Department Without Women Faculty or as a Lone Woman Faculty Member ", is now available free of charge from Janice Monk, Southwest Institute for Research on Women, 269 Modern Languages, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, 85721

Barton, Debbie; Housing in Ottawa - Carleton: A Woman's Issue 1982 , published by The Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa, 195A Bank St., K2P 1W7, cost \$ 7.00.

McClain, Janet and Cassie Doyle; Women and Housing, published by James Lorimer, cost \$6.95, paperback.

Makuch, S.M.; Restricted Access to Housing: Discrimination in Planning, Report to CHMC 1983.

Michaelson, William; The Impact of Changing Women's Roles on Transportation Needs and Usage, National Technical Information Service, Springfield Virginia , 22161

Michaelson, William; The Logistics of Maternal Employment: Implications for Women and their Families. Child in the City Report No. 18, October 1983, 154 pages, Cost \$ 9.00 , printed by University of Toronto Press.

Williamson, L.; Industrial Restructuring, Local Class Structure and Female Waged Labour in Merseyside, Working Paper No. 32, University of Sussex, Brighton, England, BN19QN.

Wellman, Barry; Domestic Work, Paid Work and Network, Research Paper No. 149, January 1984, Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto. 63 pages for \$ 3.50.

PAST CONFERENCES

Gender, Leisure and Cultural Production: An inter-disciplinary Symposium sponsored by the Sport and Leisure Studies Research Group, Queen's University. September 30 - October 1, 1983.

This conference was organized in response to a concern that many of the traditional analytic categories used in leisure studies are inadequate for understanding the experience of women, and attempted to address some of these silences and inadequacies. The symposium involved scholars whose recent work in cultural studies focusses on theoretical questions concerning the relationship of gender and leisure, while attempting to unite Canadians with those working in Britain and Australia. Many of the papers discussed these issues in terms of alterations of time and space patterns attendant upon changes in gender roles, drawing upon and indicating new directions for geographic literature in this area. Participants included Libby Darlison, Richard Gruneau, Ann Hall, Dorothy Hobson, Annette Kuhn, Meg Luxton, Suzanne Mackenzie, Thelma McCormack, Angela McRobbie and Wally Seccombe.

Proceedings are presently being prepared for publication in book form. For further information contact: Hart Cantelon, School of Physical and Health Education, Queen's university, Kingston, Ontario. K7L 3N6.

Canadian Association of Geographers, Ontario Section, McMaster University, Hamilton, October 28, 1983. Special Session on Women and Geography

This special session was a forum for research in the area of gender and environment. Becki Ross from Queen's University examined the spatial and social activity patterns of women at home, at work and in the community. She argued that 'leisure' had largely been defined in terms of male activity patterns and that a redefinition of the geography of leisure for women is essential. Her paper challenged the myth that the private sphere of the home is a place of leisure. Jane Haddad from Queen's presented a paper jointly written with Catrina Hendrickx, Suzanne Williams, Helen Kmera and Evelyn Peters, all of Queen's. This paper discussed their current research investigating the needs of single parents receiving social assistance in Kingston. Particular attention was paid to the environmental barriers that these women face in the pursuit of continuing education

AAG Annual Meeting, April 22 -25, Washington, D.C.

and employment. (See note on this project under 'Current Research'). Suzanne Williams of Queen's gave a paper on the demand for daycare in Canada. She argued that the high demand was not being met by state provided centres and instead 'Kentucky Fried' daycare centres were supplying this essential service to women in a similar fashion to fast-food chains. The commodification of childcare has in many cases made the quality of care poor and the prices high, thereby denying access to low-income families. Jackie Wolfe of Guelph discussed a paper jointly written with M. Oiah, entitled a 'A tentative model of female entrepreneurs in small business: the rural-urban fringe'. This paper reported on early results of an ongoing research project, outlining the modifications to models of entrepreneurial behaviour which are necessary to study women's behaviour.

The Specialty Group on Geographic Perspectives on Women and the Socialist Geography Specialty Group will jointly sponsor, "Gender Relations and Geography: Special Panel Discussion", April 23.

The session will cover the relations between gender and environment which have been a research issue in geography for a decade. While the majority of such research has been concerned with women as a specific population sub-group and has been primarily empirical, the implicit questions it has raised - those concerned with how gender relations interact with environmental relations - have widespread implications for the discipline as a whole. This work now appears to be entering a new stage in its development as researchers are beginning to build upon the considerable body of empirical work to develop a theoretical basis for a feminist informed geography, one which recognizes gender as a parameter of environmental constitution and change. A growing number of geographers are asking what empirical questions such recognition elicits and how it calls for a modification of current geographic methodology. Many people are also beginning to explore the relations of a feminist geography to current debates on the conceptual basis of human - historical materialist work.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

CAG Annual Meeting, May 21-25, Nanaimo, B.C.

The Women and Environments Session at this year's Annual Meeting of the CAG will have five papers with a discussant. The participants and the titles of the papers are listed below.

Organizer: Evelyn Peters

Discussant: Suzanne Mackenzie

Participants:

- *Pam White, "1981 Census: What It Can Tell Us About Native Women"
- *Evelyn Peters, "All In The Family: Native Women and Migration to the City"
- *Catrina Hendrickx, "Do Poor Women Move: Implications For Theories Of Migration"
- *Betty Sills, "Beholden To No-one: Dowagers and Land in Northern Ontario, 1879 - 1939"
- *Fiona Thomson, "Towards an Historical Analysis of Women Participating in Agricultural Change: the Spatial Dimension"

There will also be a Study Group business meeting sometime during the conference, and we will try to get together for a luncheon. Watch for notices.

It seems an opportune time to extend discussions of the implication of feminist work for the discipline as a whole by addressing the question of how gender relations/ feminist analysis is relevant to a variety of empirical sub-fields and a variety of theoretical positions.

Participants will be:

- Ruth Fincher, Dept. of Geography, McMaster U.
- Simon Foot, Dept. of Geography, McMaster U.
- Marie Truelove, Dept. of Geography, U of Toronto
- Myrna Brietbart, Dept. of Social Science, Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts
- Briavel Holcomb, Dept. of Geography, Rutgers U., New Brunswick, New Jersey

Women and Environment International Newsletter has a new home - the Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto, 455 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G8. Subscription rates are \$7.00 a year. This is an interdisciplinary newsletter which aims to encourage links among professionals, researchers, institutions and interest groups in order to share information, stimulate innovative approaches to current issues and develop new theories which integrate a feminist analysis with theories of the city, planning and environment. It includes both news items and substantive articles and welcomes items for inclusion.

Canada:

From Dawn Conway of the Canadian Commission for Unesco: UNESCO has considered the need for multidisciplinary research on the status of women, and for university and post-graduate training of women specialists. A few examples of this are given below:

- For some post-graduate training courses in the earth sciences, directed to specialists from developing countries, applications from women are given priority.
- UNESCO sponsors an international network of postgraduate courses covering fields of hydrology, water engineering and the management of water resources. Special consideration is given to female candidates.
- Several post-graduate courses are organized in industrial countries, under UNESCO auspices. These courses are mainly for university graduates from developing countries. Efforts are made to encourage participation by women. The courses cover subjects such as limnology, rational development of natural resources, ecosystems management and integrated land use surveys. (Canadian geographers, both male and female, have participated in these in the past).
- A project on the participation of local populations, particularly women, in the improvement of their environment for living is going to be undertaken under a programme aimed at the management of urban systems. (This project will focus particularly on poor housing).
- In a programme aimed at the training of specialists in the conservation and management of protected areas, the training of women specialists is being ensured.

- In a study of integrated development policies, importance is given to the need to identify problems concerning the status of women and to take them into account in development planning.

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO is an advisory and liaison body. If members of the Canadian Women and Geography group would like further information, a copy of a UNESCO publications catalogue, or feel that their own activities would be of interest to the Commission, they are invited to contact:

Dawn Conway
 Programme Officer (Social Sciences)
 255 Albert Street
 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5V8
 Ph: (613) 237-3408

From the Institute of British Geographers Women and Geography Newsletter.

Two women and geography sessions were held at the Institute's Annual Meeting, January 5th and 6th, 1984. The first, entitled "Sexism in Geographical Teaching", consisted of a paper, 'Sexisms and non-sexism in the geographical curriculum' by S. Bowlby, and an open debate on 'Being a feminist geographer'. The second session was entitled "Women's role in changing the face of the developing world". One section, "Rural Women, Energy and Time", included three papers on women in rural societies of India, Bolivia and Nigeria. The second section, "Gender in the City: Women and Health", contained papers on women in the 'informal sector' in Namibia, domestic labour in Mexico shanty-towns, and women in the provision of informal health-care.

Copies of the papers, and a bibliography entitled "Women in developing areas: a preliminary bibliography for geographers" will be available from: Administrative Assistant, Department of Geography, University of Durham, South Road, Durham, DH1 3LE.

Linda Peake of the Women and Geography Study Group at Reading University wrote to say that members of the group are engaged in the production of a book entitled Geography and Gender which is being published by Hutchinson in "early 1984". The book is aimed at the upper sixth form and first year undergraduates. A supplementary reader, for second and third year undergraduates, will be split into sections such as development; urban geography; medical geography, etc. each of which will contain studies of women as subject matters and/or with a feminist perspective. The focus of these books will be on empirical studies.

NEWS FROM OTHER GROUPS . . .

Britain:

From the IBG Women and Geography Newsletter (No. 11, Autumn, 1983).

"... it occurs to me that as well as pressing for opportunities to make women visible, and changing course titles, anyone responsible for teaching should make a major effort to treat female students equally. There is strong evidence that tutors and seminar leaders take less notice of contributions from female students (even allowing for the tendency of such students to participate less because of their socialization), and allow discussions to be dominated by male students. Having realised that I have been guilty of doing something of this kind in a tutorial recently, I wonder whether such practices may be widespread. Perhaps this suggests another avenue by which recommendations for 'feminist teaching' might be developed."

John Silk, Reading University

Composition of Geography Students and Faculty,
Canadian Universities, 1983-84

University: _____

Students

Please fill in the number of students in each category.

	Human Geography	Physical Geography
Undergraduates:		
Women		
Men		
M.A. Students:		
Women		
Men		
Ph.D. Students:		
Women		
Men		

Faculty

Please fill in the number of faculty in each category.

Term:	Human Geography			Physical Geography		
	1-2yrs.	>2 yrs.	tenured	1-2yrs.	>2yrs.	tenured
Professor:						
Women						
Men						
Associate Prof.:						
Women						
Men						
Assistant Prof.:						
Women						
Men						
Lecturer:						
Women						
Men						
Post-Doctoral Fellows:						
Women						
Men						

SURVEY OF CANADIAN WOMEN IN GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENTS

One of the objectives of the Canadian Women and Geography Specialty Group is to monitor the status of women in the discipline. In an attempt to provide a baseline for this process, I have recently sent questionnaires to all heads of Geography Departments in Canada (see form below).

Similar surveys have been conducted by the Women and Environment Group of the Institute of British Geographers, and by the Committee on the Status of Women in Geography of the Association of American Geographers. I would like to compare information about Canadian geography with the data these groups have collected, possibly writing up the results for The Operational Geographer.

It's clear that this survey leaves out a large proportion of women in geography - all those who are not members of geography departments at present. Someone who has an idea of how and where to contact these people should do a complementary survey. If you have suggestions, please bring them to the Specialty Group business meeting in Nanaimo, or write to Evelyn Peters, Geography Department, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6.

FUTURE RESEARCH/RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Children at daycare/parents at work.

This is the name of an audio-visual kit consisting of a slide tape presentation and complementary written materials on workplace daycare, put out by the Workplace Daycare Resource Group in co-operation with the City of Toronto's Task Force on Work Place Daycare. The kit is designed as information for employers and employee groups who are considering the implementation of daycare facilities at their workplace. The kit is obtainable from Martha Friendly at (416) 978-6895

Single Parents needs assessment project.

J.Haddad, C.Hendrickx, H.Kmera, E.Peters, and S.Williams of Queen's University, are in the final stages of completing their research on the employment and educational needs of single parents receiving social assistance in Kingston, Ontario. The comprehensive project was funded by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission as a Summer Canada Community Project for 1983. One hundred and six female heads of families receiving government assistance were interviewed as well as twenty-five social agencies whose clientele include single parent families.

Information was gathered for each household on: income expenses, housing tenure and mobility, labour force participation, educational status, plans and attitudes towards continuing education or entry/re-entry into the labour force, as well as whether they perceived any barriers to engaging in such activities while continuing to be effective parents and homemakers.

Copies of the report are available for the cost of printing from C.Hendrickx, c/o Ban Righ Foundation for Continuing University Education, 32 Queen's Crescent, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 2S9.

Canadian Housing Programs and the Housing Needs of Single Parent Families

Fran Klodawsky and Aron Spector of ARC Research, 165 Hinton Ave. N., Ottawa, have received a CMHC grant to extend their work on single-parent family housing needs. They intend to examine the demographic housing related characteristics of Canadian single parents using 1981 Census and other recent trans-Canada Survey Statistics. Conclusions of this research will be used to evaluate the appropriateness of selected Canadian housing programs in meeting the needs of these families. (ie. rent geared to income, co-operative housing, public housing, and non profit housing).

Fran Klodawsky is also currently engaged in research for Labour Canada investigating employment opportunities for women in planning and architecture.

Daycare Resource and Research Unit

Martha Friendly has received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services for the development phase of the daycare resource and research unit at the Centre for Urban and Community Studies, Toronto. The Resource Unit will provide public education, research data and resource information for social planners, policy makers and community groups. The funding from COMSOC will contribute to a resource library that will be open to the public. For more information call Martha at (416) 978-6895.

Restructuring of Childcare

Suzanne Mackenzie, Geography Department of Queen's, has received an SSHRC post-doctoral fellowship for 1984-85 to carry out research on the spatial implications of social service restraint programs focussing on changing patterns of childcare provision in two Canadian cities, Kingston, Ontario and Trail, B.C., as well as comparative data from Brighton, England. Previous research has indicated that transfer of responsibility from the state sector results in greater reliance on user-run co-ops and neighbourhood based home care. The study will investigate the extent to which this is occurring in Trail and Kingston and examine potential implications for quality, availability and accessibility of care.

Environmental Baseline Data Critique - Wollaston Lake Region

Elaine Wheaton, regional representative for the Prairie provinces has co-authored the above critique for the Saskatchewan Mining and Development Corporation as part of her work in the Environmental Sciences sector of the Saskatchewan Research Council. She is actively involved in the Water Studies Institute, whose main objectives are to hold and sponsor symposia on water-related subjects and to publish such water-related information. Elaine reports that the Saskatchewan Research Council and the Canadian Plains Research Centre are interested in "Prairie Weather" as a research topic and will be getting together to discuss this. Anyone interested in this topic should contact Elaine at the Saskatchewan Research Council, 30 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, Sas. S7N 0X1.

Original

REFERENCES
Knox, B.C.
for of this year
have five papers
Toronto and the
historical material
debates on the
relations of a
Many people are



Department of Geography
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario