STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO
CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS.....

...a women's organization for the purpose of
aiding the Lesbian to discover her place in
society and of educating society to understand
and accept her, without prejudice, and...

1. To encourage and support the Lesbian in her
search for her social, economic, personal, inter-
personal and vocational identity within society
by maintaining and building a library on the
themes of homosexuality and on women; by pro-
viding social functions where she can communi-
cate with others and expand her social world
outside the bar scene; by providing an organ-
ized structure through which she can work to
change society's limitations upon her life-style;
by providing a forum for the interchange of ideas
and problems within her own group.

2. To educate the public to accept and under-
stand the Lesbian as an individual, eventually
leading to the breakdown of taboos, prejudices,
and limitations upon her life-style by sponsor-
ing public discussions; by providing individuals
as speakers and participants in various forums
designed to educate the public; by dissemination
of educational and rational literature on the
Lesbian.

3. To encourage and support and participate in
responsible research dealing with homosexuality.

4. To investigate the penal code as it pertains
to the homosexual and to promote changes, pro-
viding equitable handling of cases involving
homosexuals, through due process of law, without
prejudice.

TO SAY AND BELIEVE THAT GAY IS GOOD.

Cover - A.K. Farmer
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I recently read a most shocking book titled *America the Violent*, written by Ovid Demaris and published by Cowles in 1970. It is a well-written documentary, but sad commentary, on violence in our country from the time of the Vikings to 1969. All of us have read parts of it in history books or in our local newspapers, but for various reasons we have been kept ignorant of the whole truth by nationalists and/or controlled media. Very few Americans would like to believe we can't even clean up our own bloody backyard after we purport to be the democratic and humanitarian saviors of the world.

The (male) author would have to start the book with the mass murderer, Freydis, Leif Ericson's half-sister, who almost single-handedly wiped out one of the first colonies in America. After this prologue, women, except as accomplices to men, are conspicuously absent as the perpetrators of violence but certainly not as the recipients of it. The narrative leads us gory through the (male) Christian response to the native Americans, and apparently our forefathers spent more time shooting Indians and burning witches than they spent in church. Then we learn about our Revolutionary War when everybody seems to be shooting just to be shooting. (Sound familiar?) Next come the exploits of our brave men bodily pushing back the western frontier and ridding the young nation of red savages who were decimated mainly for minding their own business. The book is filled, of course, with accounts of our peculiar paradox of importing blacks to our shores, then summarily trying to stamp them out. Our race wars have been raging for 400 years, but only in recent times have the colored folk been responding in kind to the whites. In the book we must wade through 386 pages of wars, labor strikes, lynching mobs, religious strife, race riots, assassinations, organized crime, and political violence, including the youth rebellion of the 60's and socio-paths such as Richard Speck. In the modern times section the reader has a difficult task determining whether the Left or the Right is more dangerous. To me the most disgusting part of the book is the few items concerning groupies, the camp followers of our present-day revolutionaries; they are simply whores who are no better than their barbaric masters.

But the most horrifying thought occurred to me after finishing the book. What might Whitey and Blackey and Pinky and all the nation's males have in store for us females if we do start noticeably succeeding in women's lib, if we do gain the rights we're working for, if we do prove to men we can live without them and better? According to the above mentioned book, Americans in their own country have been burned, hanged, and shot for less than we are striving, and women down through the ages have been raped "to put them in their place." Rape is man's most effective weapon against woman for whatever reason, and no woman, certainly no Lesbian, can deny that the word itself strikes fear in her heart. Rape signifies not only man's domination of woman but also the ultimate humiliation he can force on her. Good men are crucified, women are raped. The government "crime clock" shows an American woman is raped almost every ten minutes of the day, but what would be the average if our fellow countrymen turned on us with a vengeance? Would we, could we defend ourselves?

I don't get all of my violence vicariously; I've lived through much of it.
including attempted rape. I also witnessed but did not participate in the Watts riots during the summer of 1965. I was armed with a rifle and I would not have traded it for anything short of my life. (Because I, a woman, supposedly suffer from penis-envy, my rifle has since childhood served as a suitable but not entirely satisfactory substitute.) The author of America the Violent advocates strict and complete gun control in the United States; I do not. He writes that crimes are committed because firearms are handy and easy to get. I contend that more crimes would be committed if guns were not available to responsible citizens, especially to women. I would condone gun legislation that disarms men but allowed guns for women, and this might not be a bad idea. I doubt, though, if many Americans are aware of how much gun legislation has already been passed, even over the protests of such powerful lobbies as the National Rifle Association.

A few months ago I purchased an automatic handgun. I didn't walk up to a counter, pick out a weapon, pay my money, and leave with the pistol. I was given an application blank which was filled out by me with such pertinent information as Mr., Mrs., or Miss, and I also answered a questionnaire pleading my competence and my right to own a firearm. I completed and signed this part of the form under threat of perjury. The rest of the form had to be filled out by either the Chief of Police or the Sheriff, no ordinary law officer, who affirmed after checking his records that I was not a known criminal or fugitive from justice. Not only did the head man have to sign the form, his signature had to be notarized. I finally persuaded the Establishment to allow me to do what I had erroneously thought was guaranteed to me by the Bill of Rights, but what about ammunition? In order to buy bullets, I had to sign a form listing not only my name, address, and age but my sex as well. So let it be known to those of you buying firearms and shells, your vital statistics will be on file for the use of any government agency that deems it necessary. I might someday have my pistol taken from me, but I vow that my rifle will never be registered or voluntarily surrendered.

The lowest blow dealt me by my country and my brothers came a year ago when I was "investigated" by the FBI on a possible extortion charge. I had insinuated, only insinuated, in a letter that I would beat up a certain male if he did not return property he had stolen from me. The man in question was definitely a man in question, being a known homosexual and a subversive writer, as well as being twice my size. He ran to his gay lawyer with the letter and from thence cometh the FBI. Sisters, remember these two vital facts: our gay brothers will never under any circumstances aid or abet us Lesbians for they hate our guts, and Law and Order in this country is now and always will be on the side of males, no matter what their sex habits. The FBI agents who talked to me made it quite clear that no female outbursts would be tolerated by our noble lawmen.

Most of us will have to agree that women's lib is not really being taken seriously by men, and it is debatable about how seriously some women take it. I can't help but wonder what will happen as the movement makes headway, if indeed it does. All the national media says or quotes others, including women, as saying that women's lib is a Lesbian conspiracy or at least is full
of Lesbians. The latter is absolutely true; it has to be because we Lesbians have not only the most to gain if we win but also the most to lose if we fail. Our demonstrations and protests are currently being tolerated by men because we are not yet a threat! Just ask them. Men don't begrudge us our little fun and games occasionally as long as we're back in their beds at night or behind their coiffeurs the next day, which we always are. But what if we weren't? If we achieve equal work rights and start replacing men in good jobs, will they stand for it? In the past massive riots have been caused by this one factor, but always before it was men replacing men and they wound up with the split skulls. How many red-blooded American men would willingly work for a woman if we are finally and rightfully admitted to executive and administrative positions? Ask how many American men willingly work for even a male boss from a minority group without a constant undercurrent of violence. You could bet the male-supremacist minority men would gladly join the WASP's in putting us down.

Men love women as long as we are in our place, and men protect women as long as we are in our place, but what would happen if we stepped out of place? The same thing that has always happened to any smart-ass lackey. But what is really our place? Various women's lib groups can't seem to agree, although men keep trying to tell them. Heterosexual women are generally confused, having been so effectively programmed by male-dominated society. Lesbians know but we aren't always willing or able to speak out, much less to take our place. What if we Lesbians became willing and able? Would we step out of the closet and risk rape, in addition to losing our livelihoods, or at least to being blacklisted in our chosen professions as my beloved has been? Since we can't trust our gay brothers, can we trust our straight sisters, or do they have as much contempt and hatred for us as men do? The American Indians fought on both sides of the colonial wars and were themselves almost exterminated. It would be improbable but not impossible that our straight sisters would make the same error, but the more I read and hear, the more I fear these sisters are not really with us. Maybe I'm a paranoid, but straight women's libbers give me the impression that we are afflicted with "lesbianism" which must be similar to leprosy, or that although our skins are the right color, our private lives aren't, or that there has to be insanity somewhere in all our backgrounds. One of our acknowledged leaders disavows us publicly while another one claims to embrace us, though seemingly at a distance. I wonder if we are a 51% majority. As the saying might someday go, "With friends like our straight sisters, who needs enemies?" What price might these sisters pay for the security of conformity; will they actually sell us out? Perhaps it would be wise for us to find out for certain not only where we are in the movement but just whose movement we're in.

I am not an alarmist, nor do I advocate wanton violence, but I do suggest self-defense for Lesbians... our physical, mental, social, and occupational protection. I would not, and no woman I know would, cause harm to other people, but there is a point beyond which one cannot be driven. Women talk a lot, probably because we've been told it is not our nature to do much else. If the only duty of woman is to create life
then we must take it upon ourselves to defend life. Most straight and gay women watch a gay sister sinking for the third time yet no gesture of help lest they become involved or uncovered or ill-favored. Can women depend on each other? If we could, wouldn't we have been liberated long ago? Too often the efforts for women's lib seem feeble and half-hearted. Too often our duty to life is relegated to mere biology by heterosexual women and to mere tokenism by Lesbians. Too many of us in the closest frequently become callous and insensitive to the light of all we see. So it might also be wise for us to quit begging our straight sisters to let us be their niggers in the movement and to stop taking all the insults and shitwork the pussycats and their toms can heap on us. If we can step forward, we should do so with the intention of working for our own cause. Either way, we: Lesbians are going to get it right between the legs in a sex war unless we realize soon the folly of our pollyanna relations with straight sisters and gay brothers and especially Big Brother.

MOTHER is published during the first week of each month by and for gay women as a service to the total community. No part of MOTHER may be reprinted without the written permission of the managing editor.

Managing Editor: Sasha Gregory
Editing: Diana Gregory
Editor: R. E. Parker
Reporters: C. Avey
Del Martin
Marybeth Murphy

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It's SISTERS' first anniversary. For a year now, you have been getting this magazine. We have received a lot of compliments, a lot of criticisms, a lot of good poetry, a lot of support. The entire staff of SISTERS, and S.P. D.O.R. who would like to extend thanks to all of you "out there" who have constantly cared. SISTERS will continue to come to you, and we will continue to need your love. It takes many woman-hours to get her to you—she survives on love. Much water has flowed and blew under SISTERS' bridges. Many helpers come and gone, much controversy aired, much news. But where does SISTERS stand? Where will she go this coming year? That depends on you. As it always has. From Indianapolis has come this month's graphic art. From New Mexico has come an article. From Ann Arbor and L.A. have come ads and outlets for SISTERS' sales. From Texas came a drawing for the poetry page this month. We need more. We need ideas from you about where and how SISTERS should go. We need ads from you to pay for SISTERS. You should support the women who advertise in SISTERS. We need your poetry, your art, everything you have to give. Above all, SISTERS needs quality and you have that to give.

I have often thought about the future of this magazine. I have my day dreams of her replacing Cosmopolitan on household coffee-tables. And I wonder just how silly an idea that is—why not become such a widely-read and influential magazine? Why not...? Why not replace the sexist "women's" mags that abound with responsible women's news, art, poetry? Fanciful ideas, maybe, but such is the stuff of my imagination. And I suppose that if you feed my dreams with good things, such a thing might just happen. Maybe...
So here is SISTERS, one year old. We've come a long way. But just how much further can we go? Tell me. Do like I do--say over and over, fifteen times a day, "SISTERS will be great." And then send us yourself. I will accept nothing short of that from you. I expect nothing short of that from gay women. Now is our time, your time, THIS time. Our building blocks are women--YOU. Let us build a better world with SISTERS as a corner stone. Onward and upward.

Thank you,

Karen R Wells

---

**Poetry**

**Smiles**

When you walked around in Boston
Surely Con-Edison had cause to sue
Every time you opened your mouth.

And when you entered Paris,
The City of Light lived up to her name,
What are they doing for the tourists
Now that you're gone?

But 'my San Geronimo cabin is
The darkest place of all,
While you --
So many miles from here,
Dispel the London fog.

--Pomerleau

**Sur**

filtering sunlight dances playfully amongst
the shimmering translucence in your eyes
infinite greens
pulsing flecks
in a wash of forgotten plankton
beginnings without end
aching to leap from my too-bulky being
to meld and co-linger
in the cradle of motes
remembering
the infancy of our selves

--Ophelia Knockwurst
Standing
in this
corner;
or
sitting
in that
one;
we are all in the same room,
shadowed
by that
inevitable
untouchable
space
inbetween.
Will someone
please bring
this meeting
to order?

--Ryan

**Gays & the Law...**

October 15th marked the beginning session of "Gay People and the Law", sponsored by the Peoples' Law School. This first class dealt with the history of legal oppression and of the homosexual organization. The panel consisted of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.

Del Martin discussed legal oppression which, she said, began with "the politics of procreation," when each and every sperm should make contact with each and every ovum (via the Judeo-Christian ethic). Hence, homosexuality was not viable and considered sinful.

"Psychoanalysis/Psychiatry" was next to be attacked. It was observed that "shrinks and their practices have created more illness among gays, if there was indeed any to begin with."

Phyllis Lyon briefly outlined the history of the "Homosexual Organization." It essentially had it start with the Mattachine Society and the publication ONE, Inc., in 1950, in L.A.

Daughters of Bilitis (thanks of course to Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon) was the next org to form in 1955 in S.F.

The Council on Religion and the Homosexual (C RH) was the next group to open its doors in 1964 and is credited with having the first "Candidates Night" for the gay community.

Sixty plus people heard Phyllis and Del conclude that laws indeed needed changing, but that society as a whole must change attitudes before any legal hope is offered to the gay individual.

These classes are open to all. Since the meeting place for all the November classes is not yet decided upon, call DOB for the address of these classes. Oct. 29th's class will be at MCC Center, 1760 Market, at 7:30 PM sharp.
### November Events

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**3rd:** Rap—open topic. 7-9 PM; DOB office.

**5th:** Free law class: "Gay Prisoners, Pt. 2; Gay Juveniles". 7:30 PM to 9:30 or 10. Childcare provided. Place TBA.

**5th:** Free gay dance at Gallery Lounge, St. Mary's College. 8 PM—
Sponsored by SMUG and the United Gay Women's Contingent.

**6th:** Gay Women's and gay Pride contingents in the peace march. Call NCPAC at 864-5835 for further information.

**7th:** Basketball freaks to Dolores Park at noon. Bob Cousy lives!

**10th:** Rap—Guilt and Masturbation. Led by Linda Wesley. 7-9 PM; DOB.

**12th:** Free law class: "Gay Marriages, Child Custody, Adoption and Estate Planning". See 5 Nov. for particulars.

**17th:** Rap—Decorum. Led by Linda Wesley. 7-9 PM; DOB office.

**19th:** Free law class. Part 2 of last week's class, plus "IHS and Employment Discrimination". See 5 Nov. for particulars.

**20th:** Board meeting, 6:30 PM; Business meeting 8 PM; DOB office.

**21st:** Dr. Ruth McGuire leads another of her popular discussions. 166 Staples St., 2 PM. Potluck afterwards, bring food and topics.

**24th:** Rap—Police and the Homosexual. Led by Mary Jane Sharff, of the SFPD Community Relations Board. 7-9 PM; DOB office.

**25th:** Thanksgiving feast! BYOF (bring your own food); turkey and ham provided. Call the DOB office by the 15th to make reservations. Place TBA.

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**DOB Office:** 1005 Market St., Suite 208. (415) 661-6669.
WHERE HAVE ALL THE SAPPHOS GONE?

help
help........Is anybody out there alive? And
listening?
And willing to make a dream come true?

We need a home. We need a place where we can
hold meetings, dances and social functions.
Then there's the problem of office space, and
storage, and finding some room to prepare
"SISTERS". The small office we presently
rent is INADEQUATE! I can hear you
saying, "can't you make it do?" The answer
is "NO, NO!"

For about 16 years the continuing problem
of where to schedule DOB meetings, rap,
counseling and social functions has been our
own hellish black plague. I believe that it's
a plague that will wipe us out unless we find
a suitable home to house all DOB functions.
Oh, we might gasp along for another few years,
but it certainly won't be as a viable Lesbian
organization.

Because I'm committed to the goals of DOB, I
have initiated a DOB "HOME" fund for San
Francisco, an action which was supported at
the September general meeting, and which I
fervently beg you to support, also. We
desperately need individual monthly pledges
and cash contributions from all members and
friends of DOB. We need a down-payment for
DOB's permanent place. WILL YOU help us so
our "home" fund doesn't strangle in its
moment of birth?

I believe that by joining TOGETHER some of us
can make a difference in the kind of gay life
we have in the Bay Area.

Any agreement?
Any Support? If no one listens, cares, and
responds then maybe the straights will have a
great new song-hit in the coming years. You'll
know it when you hear the first line._

"Where have all the Sapphos gone?"
....underground, one by one....

---V., San Jose

IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU CAN PROMISE DOB AT LEAST
ONE SMALL DOLLAR (OR MORE) A MONTH, PAYABLE
BY THE 15th DAY OF EACH MONTH, THEN CLIP OUT
THIS COUPON AND MAIL IT TODAY. IF YOU DON'T
HELP, NO ONE WILL......

I promise to send $_________ per month to
"House Fund", DOB, 1005 Market, Rm. 208,
San Francisco, Ca. 94103.
NAME______________________________
ADDRESS______________________________
CITY______ STATE______ ZIP____

All contributions are tax deductible.
Donations so far total: $75.00.....................

If SISTERS has not used your art or
poetry, don't give up hope!! And submit
more. We are beginning to assemble an
anthology NOW of art work, poetry, prose.
Submit to: SISTERS, 1005 Market, #208,
San Francisco, Ca. 94103, ATTN: Anthology
All women's work is welcome and encouraged.
Deadline: Feb. 1, 1972. SEND NOW!!!
A PLACE FOR US by Isabel Miller
Bleecker Street Press 1970 N.Y.

Patience White is 27, she lives on her late father's farm with her brother, Edward and his wife, Martha, both of whom are beginning to resign themselves to her probable spinsterhood. She, rather than "get married and do her part", paints, teaches school, makes cheese and lives a simple and contented, if somewhat plain, life.

Sarah Dowling is 21, and has a dream. Her dream is to carve herself a farm out of the Genesee Valley of New York. Meanwhile, she helps her father work land that was worn out when he bought it. The year is 1816.

Alternating first-person narratives by Sarah and Patience in five "books", Ms. Miller weaves a story of simple and realistic beauty. Her characterizations are superb, as is the interplay between the personalities of Sarah (Leo) and Patience (Aquarius)--the latter quietly and patiently guiding the former's fiery enthusiasm into the most effective channels while possessing herself, a most forceful longing for the other.

Similarly, the plot is full of unusual turns and timings that grip the reader strongly yet resolve with total nonchalance. Though simple, it is (surprisingly) too rich and complex to receive justice in a quick condensation. But to read it is to relate to it. The reader finds herself caring what happens to the two lovers, feeling their every joy, hope and pain--and loving every word of it.

Patience and Sarah face many obstacles as they pursue the individual dreams that merge into a common dream, that of "a place for us" where Sarah can farm, where Patience can paint, and where they can share a life given form by their own aspirations and substance by their love. It is all written exquisitely well. The result is a skillful and unpretentious work that does more to accurately delineate Lesbian love than a thousand ponderous technical works. It's beautiful.

Beth Elliott

SEXUAL POLITICS by Kate Millett
Equinox Press

Kate Millett's book, "Sexual Politics" is a thoroughly documented, thoroughly footnoted work on the centuries-old oppression of women.

Miss Millett defines "sexual politics" as, "power-structured relationships, arrangements whereby one group of persons is controlled by another." She takes some 350 pages in proving that if there has ever been one group of persons controlled by another so consistently in every culture, in every period of history, in every political system, it is women.

"Sexual Politics" opens and closes with samples of literature from Henry Miller, Norman Mailer and Jean Genet. The works of Miller and Mailer, in particular, leave nothing to our imagination in their fantasized sexual escapades. Miss Millett's analysis of their work exposes obvious "sexual politicking" reflected in Miller and Mailer's view of themselves as having "superior intelligence and control while demonstrating the females' moronic compliance and helpless carnality."

Millett draws from her enormous fund of historical and literary knowledge in discussing the 19th Century sexual revolution. She uses John Stuart Mill and John Ruskin as
samples of Victorian thinking toward women. Mill's work reflects an awareness and anger at women's legal and social status as a child/servant. John Ruskin's writing is more reflective of male Victorian attitudes. Millett compares Ruskin's women-are-needed-at-home philosophy with the reality of the 16-hour-a-day exploitation of women in the 19th century factories. Millett aptly terms Ruskin's saccharine prose, 'candy-coated sexual politics.'

The U.S.S.R. and Nazi Germany are presented in the process of sexual counter-revolutions. Miss Millett contends, however, that the sexual revolutions in the last century failed, not through physical coercion but internal pressures.

"Sigmund Freud, with his incredible theory of women, as castrated men full of "penis-envy" was the first male to make sexism "scientific", thus respectable."

"Sexual Politics" has brought the injustices toward women into the light of politics—not politics as, "meetings, chairmen and parties", but the power politics of coercion and repression of women that are pervasive in every facet of human existence.

Miss Millett adds in her post-script to "Sexual Politics", "it may be that we shall even be able to retire sex from the harsh realities of politics, but not until we have created a world we can bear out of the desert we inhabit."

Charleen Pyron

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Because of important commitments to the research study on women being conducted by N.O.W., Dr. Ruth McGuire was unable to write her column for this month. We hope she will be free to continue her column when she finishes her research. She will conduct another discussion on Nov. 21st, 2 PM. See calendar for details.

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Together we CAN change the world!

Lost in America: Odyssey of a Radical Lesbian. Making its coming-out debut October, 1971, at leading bookstores. $6.95 cloth. Or, if you can't hunt it up or don't go out of your pad, $7.50 direct from the publisher (no C.O.D.'s):

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Scorpio is a sign of extremes and a woman born under the Scorpio sun will never feel lukewarm towards anyone or anything. She reacts strongly to her physical and emotional environment but usually manages to give the impression of being controlled and calm.

When a Scorpio's emotions are released they are powerful. If you have ever been on the receiving end of this woman's affection or anger you will understand the strength of her feelings.

Scorpio women have huge inner reserves and when other people are falling behind they can continue through sheer inner will.

At times, a Scorpio will be blunt and to the point about her feelings. At others, she will remain silent to take time to calculate her words and actions. However she acts outwardly, a scorpio woman wants to get to the truth of people and situations.

Scorpios (like Aquarians) care little for class, social status or education in others. The woman born under Scorpio has few close friends but they are closer for human merit. She returns friendship with intense loyalty.

As a lover, the Scorpio woman has the reputation for strong sex drives. Equal to her sex drive is the urge to conquer and anyone interested in Scorpio as a lover had better be willing to change views and adapt to the Scorpio woman's way of thinking. Again, she returns affection with great feelings; of depth, sensetivity and protectiveness.

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AB 437 Defeated ........

Bob Dylan once said in one of his songs, "To live outside the law one must be honest." Seeing as how Willie Brown's bill to legalize homosexual acts between consenting adults was recently defeated, with regard to our deepest feelings for one another to be honest we must live outside the law.

This is the third year the bill has been introduced. This time it made it past committee and on to the assembly floor, where it was defeated 41-25. Democrats voted 23-12 for the bill, with 6 abstaining and 1 absent; GOPers voted 29-2 against, with 1 abstaining and 5 absent.


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Sure there are more important things... Oh! It's almost SEX O' clock!!!
ATTENTION...

Have you ever been subjected to sexual intercourse against your will? Three women are compiling case histories for a book on "any non-consensual sexual intercourse perpetrated on a woman by a man."

Rape, according to the male society, is "the victim's fault", thereby leaving the perpetrator morally and legally free from acknowledging his own sick viciousness. Too many rape victims have gone to the police to file complaints and have been thoroughly humiliated by those supposedly to protect them. Police hold the attitude that only a virgin can be raped--otherwise, the victim provokes the assault. And women have been conditioned to believe this--"no woman can be raped unless she lets it happen."

Rape is not necessarily an act of force. It can be accomplished by intimidation--"I was afraid of what he might have done, so I let him"--or by exploitation--"He got me loaded and I didn't know what was happening". Whatever the means, women are taught to internalize the guilt as part of the overall male-defined role of woman: "it was my own fault because... I was hitchhiking. I wore a mini and was good-looking..."

When seen in these perspectives, rape becomes a weapon of oppression against women as a class (read the rape fantasies of Mailer, Cleaver, et al.).

If you yourself have been raped or know of anyone who has, call Sandra, Liz or Peg at 282-0474. Individually we are weak; together we are strong.

Lesbian Mothers Win Support from F.S.A.

Top staff members of San Francisco's Family Service Agency committed themselves last month to help the Lesbian Mothers' Union develop a program which will make that agency more aware of and responsive to the particular needs of mothers who are Lesbians. They also pledged their help in a nation-wide educational campaign on this long-neglected issue.

Nat Woods, executive director, along with Lyle Slaughter, chief counselor, and Nela Campbell, community relations director, enthusiastically endorsed a program which would include confrontation sessions between Lesbian mothers and the agency's counseling staff, developing a research project on families headed by Lesbian mothers, a mass-media educational campaign and a re-definition of what constitutes a family.

The Lesbian Mothers' Union, along with Sally Gearhart, gay board member of the agency, are presently putting together a proposal which will be presented to the appropriate committee and eventually to the Board of Directors for approval. It is anticipated that foundation funds will be forthcoming to finance the project, since the Family Service Agency has suffered a cutback in funds this year by the Bay Area United Crusade.

Spectre Gay Woman's Newspaper

1 year Subscription - $2.00

Spectre
Box 305 Ann Arbor, Mi. 48107
Karen & Linda at organizational meeting for GAY PEOPLE & THE LAW. Attend these free classes and learn your rights.

From Denver DOB ---
The months have passed...we are still alive and curiously warm. Seasons change and the days drop like leaves from some ancient bough.
breathe...more become aware, more join our hopes—
our voice as a people is not silent.
Our voice takes many forms, be it family or the
courts. And as always the clear urgency of our
thoughts arises from the written page of SISTERS.
It is a citadel and a light. Now in this an-
iversary month at least (as we should in all), let
us stop for a moment of thanks. To all of those
who work and write, who worry, who take care for
the needs—let us thank the active hand and the
passive hope as well, for we are one. We are
not divided in our desire to love, and to love
quite freely. We grow on...
For Denver--Little Sister of the Sun....
You know, when the aspen trees turn yellow in
the fall, they are brilliantly yellow. At least
that is what is happening up in the mountains
where I live now. They foretell an imminent
change, a new phase on the way...and I smile for
it.
There is a new phase on the way, and I am
smiling, for I would like to introduce a happen-
ing to you in San Francisco. Even as you read,
your introduction is being made here. For I
found (happily) in Denver that yet another form
of our voice was growing. And I listened. It
grew from five or ten to now almost a hundred
members. It has a full-page coverage in the
Denver paper. And then I met Ron Carnes, pastor
of the Metropolitan Community Church. We began
to talk. The church needs women. DOB is women.
We shall work side by side, offering our help
to each other when we are able. And we shall
grow together.
This happy alliance enables us both to reach
more members of our community, and these, at
least, take the time to come out because they
care. At the base of all is a strong bond of
love for fellow man and woman. It is (as it
should be) the driving force for us all.
A very happy anniversary to SISTERS--our love
to you all. Keep on truckin'!

Mary Stuber - Denver DOB

DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS

DOB San Francisco: 1005 Market, #208, San
Francisco, Ca. 94103. (415) 861-8689
DOB Los Angeles: 1910 S. Vermont Ave., Los
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DOB New York: 141 Prince St., N.Y., N.Y.
10012
DOB Boston: Box 221 Prudential Center Station
Boston, Mass. 02199
DOB New England: Box 243 Mattapan Station,
Mattapan, Mass. 02126
DOB Detroit: Box 243 Greenfield Station,
Dearborn, Mich. 48126
DOB Atlanta: 1620 Hollywood Rd., N.W., #3A,
Atlanta, Ga. 30318
DOB Denver: Rt. 2 - Box 117 - J, Conifer,
Colorado 80433
DOB New Jersey: P.O. Box 62, Fanwood, N.J.
07023

WRITE YOUR NEAREST CHAPTER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

This November issue is dedicated to Karen,
from the night crew...
Nov 71

Anniversary