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MONTANA WOMEN'S

Fall 1976

RESOURCE

Vol. 3 No. 1

ABUSING WOMEN IS UNLAWFUL

The "problem" of wife beating has never existed in the U.S. until very recently. Before now, wife beating was an occurrence that merited no public recognition and aroused no shocked indignation at the plight of the victim. Nor did it call for any attempt to probe its social causes.

The fact of wife beating has always existed: behind closed domestic doors, on police blotters as grounds in a divorce case or as part of the statistics in crime reports. (At Boston City Hospital approximately 70% of the assault victims received at emergency are women who have been attacked in the home. Where the assailant is specified in these cases, it is usually a husband or lover.)

Though wife beating is thought by legal experts to be one of the least reported crimes, calls that police departments receive for domestic trouble constitute a very large percentage of their total calls. The FBI believes that ten

times more rapes are committed than are ever reported and that incidents of wife beating are even more numerous yet are less often reported.

Laws that can be invoked to protect women from assaultive husbands vary from state to state. In every state it is against the law to physically attack another person, but if the assailant is married to the victim the law is not likely to be enforced. Though "domestic trouble" complaints constitute the majority of all calls requesting police assistance, police policy dictates that these calls result in few arrests. For example, the International Association of the Chiefs of Police training bulletin states that most family disputes are "personal matters requiring no direct action." Statistics show that in 85% of the domestic homicides police were summoned at least once before the killing occurred and in 50% of the cases police were called five times or more



Raised fists and blackened eyes: Why?

before the murder took place.

Probably the attitude that is most responsible for wife beaters' immunity from legal action is the tacit assumption in the public mind (and sometimes in the victim's mind) that a man's wife is his property to do with as he pleases. Though the attitude that all women are subordinate to all men is widely held (as rape proves), it is even stronger in the husband-wife relationship.

Attitudes toward abused wives and rape victims are strikingly similar. Just as the rape victim

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is supposedly a seductive temptress who asked for what she got, the abused wife supposedly has provoked her husband into beating her. Secretly, the woman is supposed to enjoy being beaten, just as the rape victim is accused of relishing violent sex.

Wife abuse has been incorrectly considered a lower-class phenomenon. In fact, it is a crime that cuts across class lines, although middle-class women may be especially reluctant to call the police for fear of "public humiliation."

Marital violence sometimes ends in divorce and sometimes in murder. But for many women it is a way of life that goes on and on. Often beatings are a daily, weekly or monthly ritual instituted early in the marriage and increasing in frequency and brutality over the years.

Many people would like to think of wife beating as an expression of the personal problems of "sick" individuals. They would not only apply this theory to the one doing the beating but also to the victim. This theory insures the continuation of the problem. Victims of these beatings wind up in mental hospitals more frequently than their assailants. No doubt the individuals who do the beating are sick, but their sickness isn't of a personal or individual nature. It is a social and political sickness.

When this sickness finds its expression so often in similar behavior

patterns we have to assume that the behavior is tolerated or even approved of and reinforced in some way by the culture that sustains it.

Laws against wife beating are not the solution to this problem. They only indicate some awareness that it exists. Even the staunchest advocates of improved law enforcement are well aware that more must be done than simply punishing assaulting husbands. Increasingly, concerned community groups are turning their attention to the needs of the women trapped in violent marriages. The most urgent requirement for abused women is simply a place to go--a refuge where they can marshal their determination to improve their lives.

It is vitally important to combat the widespread indifference toward battered wives and this requires an effort akin to the feminist assault on rape, which in the last few years has effected better treatment for rape victims. More shelters and counseling and better law enforcement are indispensable to improve the lot of the battered wife, but they themselves will not eliminate wife beating, just as rape clinics will not eradicate rape. The battered-wife syndrome is rooted in centuries of sexual inequality and will disappear only when that inequality is rooted out.

--exerpted from Ms.,
Aug. 1976 and Wifebeating
by Betsy Warrior

--Diane Sands

Few Law Enforcement Figures Available

Desk reports from the Missoula Sheriff's Office on wife beatings during the last nine years were made available for this newsletter. These figures represent the number of calls received reporting husbands attacking their wives. The calls were made by the wife or a neighbor:

1967-1 call, 1968-4 calls,
1969-7 calls, 1970-4
calls, 1971-2 calls, 1972
there was no report
available, 1973-13 calls,
1974-there was no report
available, 1975-37 calls,
1976-12 calls to date.

The Missoula Police Department refused to give out any information, specific or general. This reporter was told that there was no one who could be interviewed for this article.

--Irene Lundquist



THE TRUE PICTURE

Most people's picture of the battered wife and her treatment is not colorful and not complete as illustrated by the cases seen at St. Patrick and Community Hospitals. Hospital records are confidential and all information gathered and presented here is general and is based on no specific case.

Husbands and wives give cover-stories and tell lies to hospital personnel to hide the truth of a beating. Medical records are written with medical terminology and do not state the reason for cuts, black eyes and broken bones. Statistics are therefore not kept for incidences of physical abuse of women by their husbands. Treatment, if any, is often given for physical abuse and not for psychological-and-physical abuse.

The battered wife is often accompanied by her husband when she comes to a hospital for treatment. Usually there is tension between the husband and wife and they rarely speak to each other.

The husband usually tries to stay with the wife but he is not allowed in the examining room. At this time the doctor and the wife are free to discuss the cause of her injuries. The woman is often a repeat case, and the doctor may already know or suspect the reason for her bruises and cuts.

The emergency room clerk at St. Pat said the wife seems almost too anxious to talk about what happened. The story pours forth in a combination of relief and guilt,

especially if the woman has been in before.

Usually the husband and occasionally both husband and wife have been drinking before the wife is beaten. Most wife beating is done with the fists or the feet. An object is rarely used to strike the woman; burning the woman is also rare in the cases seen in Missoula.

Of the pregnant women who have been beaten and then seen at St. Patrick Hospital none have been injured in the abdominal area, the emergency room clerk said.

Only a small percentage of the cases seen at either hospital involved broken bones. The time lapse between a beating and hospital admittance has ranged from four to five hours to two to three days.

Doctors treat medical problems only but may suggest psychiatric counseling. St. Patrick Hospital has psychiatric help available for in-patients only and Community Hospital has a psychiatrist on call at all times.

--Irene Lundquist



The 'Tip Of The Iceberg'

When a woman becomes an abused woman, what are her options? According to Carol LaCasse, a social worker at the Missoula Dept. of Social Services, there are not many. Although Ms. LaCasse deals with child abuse cases she says many children often recall their fathers beating their mothers or recall sustaining injury themselves while attempting to pull their parents apart.

Statistics point out a substantial number of women are abused when the male has been drinking. Ms. Marie Morton of the Western Montana Regional Alcoholism Services, Inc., says that she deals frequently with women who are significant others in drinking-related cases and who are seeking help for their partners. Unfortunately, many of the women have been physically abused by an alcoholic

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM A FAILURE

Few women take legal action against their husbands who beat them. Why?

In Missoula County, one reason is that the criminal justice system fails to protect them from further abuse. Some potential protective measures are not used or enforced and there are weaknesses in the system itself.

Robert L. Deschamps, III, Missoula County Attorney, says that he sees an average of two wife abuse cases a week, but feels that these are "only the tip of the iceberg."

Many abused women take no action against their husbands at all. For those who choose to do so, two routes are available: to petition for a restraining order or to press assault charges. Neither are completely effective in ensuring protection from further attacks.

Although filing an assault charge is not a complex matter, Deschamps said, there are several things relating to the process that often keep women from following through with it.

The process of filing an assault charge does involve two trips to the courthouse. Because many women have no way of getting to the courthouse, a transportation system is needed. He added that many women find the formality of the County Attorney's Office intimidating, and that a more relaxed meeting place is needed.

Once charges are filed



Deschamps said, better communication is needed between the woman and the authorities. Often she is the last person to be told what is happening with her case.

Missoula County authorities often hesitate to jail a man when he is charged with assault because he is the sole support of his family and risks losing his job if he is jailed. Even if he is incarcerated, he may be released on bail and his wife is the potential target for further abuse by him. Either way, the wife is not protected, really.

Deschamps stated that women often want to file charges the night of the attack, but change their minds by morning. Small wonder, since pressing charges doesn't guarantee protection and may, in fact, aggravate the problem.

An alternative to pressing assault charges is to petition for a restraining order. Montana judges usually refuse to grant restraining orders, though they sometimes do so if the woman is filing for divorce. Even when granted, enforcement of restraining orders is weak.

Deschamps expressed a widely held "why bother?" attitude when he explained that when a situation is bad enough for a restraining order a "piece of paper" is not going to keep the man away. Another common view--that women themselves are somehow to blame--was reflected in Deschamps' statement that he sees women who are beaten, get divorced and then marry another man who also beats them, and that many of the women he sees are repeat cases.

The most severe cases involve women who are afraid to call for help and are beaten repeatedly Deschamps said. Those are the women he rarely sees.

--Irene Lundquist



ABUSE VICTIMS SPEAK OUT

The most noticeable characteristic abused women share is an unwillingness to talk about abuse. In Missoula, a newspaper ad and posted notices asking for abused women to volunteer for confidential interviews brought minimal response.

One of the women interviewed recounted this experience:

She and her boyfriend had partied. He was drunk. He kept thrusting drinks on her. She later told him she didn't like him urging her to drink. He "went berserk," and began beating her and constantly hitting her face, she said. She didn't fight back but ran for the door. She didn't make it the first time but finally escaped.

She remembers going home for her birthday, her eye swollen and black and blue. She told her parents that she ran into a wall. The beatings happened several times; always afterwards her boyfriend apologized and things were patched up. Finally, she broke off the relationship completely. Her boyfriend kept calling her and even threatened her life.

The woman said she didn't know of any place in Missoula to go for help. "I don't think I would have ever called the police," she said.

That was four years ago. There was, and still is, no place for an abused woman to seek shelter in Missoula.

A second woman, who was living with her boyfriend, said she has had

to change role stereotypes that she learned from him. Abuse was mostly mental for her--she said he gave her no positive support for anything. He was very unemotional and during a disagreement she started yelling in order to illicit a response from him. In the course of the argument he picked her up and threw her out the door down a flight of stairs.

She picked herself up and went home. Twenty-three times she went back to him before finally leaving him.

"My whole identity then was him," she explained. "I was known as his chick. Calling the police was something I never would have even thought about. I thought that I deserved to get thrown down the stairs."

She said that until just recently she thought the abuse was justified; that everything was her fault. The only option she considered was counseling.

"It never occurred to me that there was anything I could do legally," she said.

The first woman called abuse "a crime against women, like rape" and said she'd like to see the police and courts become more aware of the problem. "Anything to give the woman more support," she said.

The second woman also called for support for women who "want out." She suggested opening up discussion groups for battered women to talk about their problem. One drawback, she pointed out, is that many women don't see abuse as a social problem, but as a personal one.

She said when women become more aware of themselves as "valid human beings," when they realize they do not deserve abuse and when they stop tolerating abuse, less abuse will occur.

Both women would like to see a halfway house



con't. p. 9

By Johanna Vogelsang

How To Take The First Step

Battered women can file assault charges. However, few charges result in successful prosecution unless a weapon or serious injury is involved. Police, prosecutors and judges are reluctant to get involved in domestic situations. Why?

A woman can call the police to see if they will come and arrest whomever is assaulting her. This includes her husband who has no right to physically abuse his wife. She can file charges at the local police court whether or not an arrest is made. She should not wait more than a day to file the complaint. She does not need a lawyer to file charges but it usually helps to have talked to one. Legal Aid lawyers may be available for women on low incomes.

If the case goes to

court and the person is found guilty, he will probably be fined and put on probation with the condition that he is not allowed to go near or to harass the woman he assaulted.

One other legal remedy is open to battered women. A woman can get a lawyer to draw up a peace bond that insures that her husband, or any other person, will forfeit money if he violates the conditions of the agreement. A woman and her lawyer could go to court and petition a judge to issue a restraining order that orders her husband to leave her alone or face contempt of court.

Under Montana law a woman cannot bring charges of sexual assault or rape against her husband. The law specifically defines rape as an act done by a person to another person who is not



his spouse.

In Montana a woman's legal right to self defense is limited to the use of "reasonable force". She can only respond with force equivalent to that being used against her.

--Judy Smith

UM Facilities For Abused Women

The University of Montana has several facilities available to aid battered women.

Medical and psychological aid is offered through the Student Health Service and therapists and counselors are available at the Clinical Psychology Center and the Center for Student Development (CSD).

An administrator at the Health Service said that abused women's preferences are the deciding factor as to whether authorities will be called in to handle

the abuse problem. A wife seeking overnight sanctuary at the health service would be protected from further abuse if the husband came in to see her.

The Health Service has a Mental Health Department with professional help available to any student.

The administrator said spouses of married students are not eligible for Health Service benefits of any kind. Therefore, if the husband was a student and the wife was not, she could

not seek help at the Health Service.

Services at the Clinical Psychology Center are available to the public. Thirteen female therapists and 18 male therapists as well as several graduate students offer counseling to help with abuse problems.

The issue of blame for a beating is not addressed at the Clinical Psychology Center. The technique used is to work through marital counseling to resolve the problems

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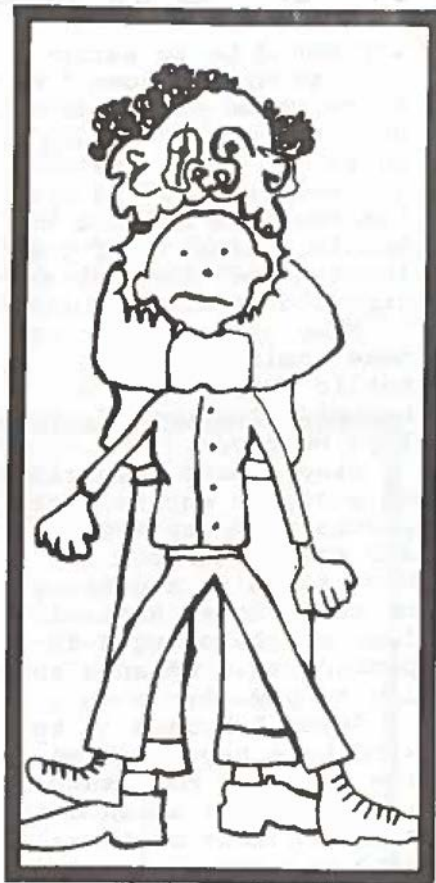
that led to the attack.

The Clinical Psychology Center operates on a negotiable sliding fee system based on income. Counseling at the UM Center for Student Development is available free to students.

Women constitute half of the clients at CSD. A counselor said abuse is not the primary problem in many cases but may be one aspect of a larger problem such as rape.

Personal information at the three UM services is confidential and records on abuse cases were not obtainable.

--Irene Lundquist



life, abused women need help to escape from abuse patterns that may have been repeated for months or years.

Women's Place can offer immediate support counseling to help women sort out their problems and from there decide what they will do. Women's Place also offers referrals to legal services or to a sympathetic lawyer, and offers to guide the woman through these procedures.

Police are reluctant to file assault charges for one spouse against another. Another reluctance on the part of police is to issue to separated wives peace bonds to keep their husbands away.

A woman alone or with children often has no place to go and depends on her husband for financial support. Jobs for unskilled women are scarce and the only other choice is welfare (for women with children) and food stamps. But for women needing shelter, even a temporary one, there is literally no place to go for help.

Legal and financial hindrances confronting an abused woman wishing to leave her husband are so great that one can conclude that society condones domestic violence. Women's Place would like to eliminate hindrances and help women take control of their lives. However, the current situation looks bad.

--Jennifer Thompson

Women's Place Tries To Help

What recourse is open to women in Missoula and the surrounding area who are victims of domestic violence? Women's Place, a health education counseling and referral service and rape crisis center, can offer some relief, but sees the need for much more in the way of shelters, legal aid, and community support for abused women and their children.

Women's Place currently deals with women who are victims of violence in its rape relief pro-

gram. Volunteers are skilled in crisis intervention counseling and are familiar with medical and legal procedures in the area of rape. Women who are targets of domestic abuse are victims of a societal trend in which women are the objects of men's violence.

But women abused in their homes often have different needs from rape victims. While crisis intervention counseling helps a rape victim to deal with the trauma she has undergone and helps her to return to normal

WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Across the country, shelters have been opening to provide temporary housing for battered women. Shelters give many women a chance to sort out their problems and decide what step to take next.

Nothing of this sort exists in Missoula. Depending on a woman's resources, arrangements can be made through churches, family, friends or others who are able to house her temporarily. The YWCA and other Missoula organizations have no facilities for overnight housing or for extended stays.

Helping a battered woman is often complicated. Unless a woman signs a complaint against her spouse, the situation remains out of police jurisdiction. The Welfare Office isn't involved usually except where children have been abused.

Not all women want to leave their homes even though almost always a woman must get out of her house to stop assaults. According to one Crisis Center worker, in many cases a woman requests only for someone to come and restrain her husband until he calms down. An abused woman who calls for help, but won't improve her situation by leaving, pressing charges or other action begins to establish a repeating pattern.

Many organizations such as the YWCA believe there are enough incidents of women battering in the Missoula area to warrant establishment of a shelter. One possibil-

ity would be to establish several places to house women and their children on a rotating basis. In other states a flexible rotating system has been adopted to maintain secrecy of the location of the shelter from the general public.

Many shelters do not make their addresses public due to fear of becoming targets of violent husbands.

Many groups have raised money to buy or rent places to house women and their children who have found it necessary to leave home. Nominal fees may be charged depending on a woman's ability to pay.

Several houses of this kind have begun across the country. For example, last year 525 women and children (60% of these were victims of family violence) used such a facility in St. Paul, Minnesota.

--Christie Johnson



Montana Resources: Butte Opens Shelter First

Unfortunately, there is only one group, a halfway house established recently in Butte, specifically designed to deal with the problem of battered women. Local women's center and Local women's centers and rape crisis groups can provide support counseling and can refer women to other community resources. Legal Aid can provide legal services to women on low incomes; community mental health centers can provide counseling.

Very few state agencies consider battered women to be a problem that they must take a role in solving. While there are now Montana laws regarding child abuse, wife abuse is still not regarded as a crime or a societal problem.

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con't. from p. 3

in the household.

The question has to be raised then as to why women stay in this type of environment. It becomes increasingly evident when the subject is studied that many women stay because there is no place to go or to seek help. There is a definite need for a half-way house here in Missoula where abused women could find an atmosphere which would allow them to deal with their problem away from the source.

Because there are no agencies that work specifically with abused women in this area it is impossible to compile any overall statistics on the problem at a local level. Even though Judge Janice Carrington, Missoula Justice of the Peace, handles one case a week on the average, the County Attorney's Office says this is just "the tip of the iceberg."

It is necessary to dispel the myths surrounding abused women. No woman ever deserves or asks to be beaten. It is just as likely for a banker to beat a woman as it is for a truck driver. The fact that the problem crosses not only economic but social and educational lines is seldom known.

Society has, until recently, ignored this type of problem. With the growth of the Women's Movement, abuse along with other crimes against women is being brought to the attention of the public.

We as women need to make agencies aware of

the problem and need to deal effectively with it. Only then, when the options are available, will more women take the initiative to take themselves out of their brutal environment.

--C. Allison Lombard

con't. from p. 8

These are resources for abused women in Montana:

Billings:

*Women's Center, Rm 300,
804 N. 29th, 248-8892.

--Counseling available for
abused women.

*Rape Task Force, Rm 300,
804 N. 29th, 248-8892.

--Volunteers needed.

Butte:

*Women's Resource and
Referral Center, YMCA,
405 W. Park St., 792-1266

--Halfway House for
abused women.

--Volunteers needed.

Great Falls:

*Women's Resource Center
of Great Falls, YWCA,
220 2nd St. N.

*Rape Action Line,
727-3121.

--Volunteers needed.

Helena:

*Women's Center, 443-5353.

--Volunteers needed.

Kalispell:

*Rape Task Force,
755-5067.

*Rape Crisis Line,
755-5111.

--24-hour basis.

--Volunteers needed.

Missoula:

*Women's Place, 1130 W.
Broadway, 543-7606.

*Women's Resource Center,
University of Montana,
University Center,
243-4153.

---Judy Smith

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opened in Missoula to shelter women who need to escape.

A halfway house was recently opened in Butte, the result of an overwhelming response by the Butte community to a series of forums on abuse.

Grace Sicotte, Director of Butte's referral center, said, "No woman should have to take the abuse of a beating. She is just as much a person as any male."

Sicotte receives about five calls per month by women looking for a way to eliminate abuse. She said that the actual amount of abuse is unknown because many women are silenced out of shame, self-reproach and a feeling of "there's nothing I can do."

Perhaps Butte's action will provide other Montana communities with the impetus to establish some kind of shelter to help battered women.

--Eileen Gallagher



GOINGS ON

--The Winter Quarter Brown Bag topic will be "Women and Psychology."

The programs will be held at noon every Tuesday in the Women's Resource Center and will feature speakers on topics related to Women and Psychology. Specific programs will be announced later. The Brown Bag programs are free and open to the public.

--A gay women's rap group meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 PM in the WRC. The purpose of the group is to give women a chance to talk and share their experiences and feelings about being gay. The group is informal and any interested women are invited to attend.

--The Montana Women's History Project is currently researching the history of women in Montana. Interviews with women who lived in Montana before WWI are being taped and preserved. The project will be developed into a text which will supplement current Montana history texts. In addition to a text, a traveling exhibit and other educational materials will be produced. The WRC is currently selling posters and note cards to help raise money for the Montana Women's History Project. Persons wishing for more information about the History Project may call the WRC.

--A Back-to-School rap group for older women will be organized in January.

--Consciousness-raising groups for women and men are being continually formed as people become interested. For more in-

formation on either of these groups, call WRC.

--A Feminist Theory Conference will be held in Missoula, May 20, 21 and 22, 1977. Details will be announced later.

--The Women's Resource Center will sponsor a women's film festival every Tuesday from Jan. 11 through March 8 at the University of Montana. The festival will feature a variety of films by and about women. Anyone is invited to attend. For more information call the WRC at 243-4153.

--A Divorce Survival handbook for men and women will be available in January at the WRC. The handbook will discuss Montana laws concerning marriage and divorce as well as resources available to divorced people in Montana. It will also include sections on different aspects of coping with divorce, such as what to tell your children and learning to live alone. The book is being compiled by members of the UM Social Work Department. For more information call the WRC.

--Assertiveness Training classes will be offered in January at the WRC. The classes, taught by the members of the Montana Assertiveness Training Collective for Women, are designed to assist people to respond assertively rather than passively or aggressively. The courses which will be offered will include Assertiveness Training for Women, Assertiveness

Training II for Women (for women who have previously taken an Assertiveness course). Registration is required and there is a \$20 fee (\$15 for UM students) for the course.

BUTTE--"Problems of Women in the Job Market"--A job clinic for women interested in non-traditional jobs will be in January. Representatives of four large Butte industries will speak on various aspects of women in employment. For more information, contact the Butte YMCA at 792-1266.

--The Butte YMCA is also sponsoring a Divorce Forum for men and women in January. The forum will cover many facets of the divorce experience. The forum is free.

--There are still a few openings left in the Women's Self-Defense classes in Butte. For more information, call the Butte YMCA.

HELENA--The Helena Women's Center announces that Artemis Productions and Second Story Cinema will be co-sponsoring a women's film festival in late February...Artemis Productions is also sponsoring a women's film festival in late February

--Artemis Productions is also sponsoring "Wallflower Order from Oregon" a women's dance ensemble performing in Helena the first week in April. For more information about either of these programs, call the Helena Women's Center at 443-5464 or write Artemis Productions 6390 Highway 12 W., Helena, MT 59601.

Women's music -- a gift of self and celebration

CASSE CULVER

"Three Gypsies"

Casse plays guitar, autoharp, harmonica and sings lead vocals. Coming from a strong woman-identified place, she takes her fellow travelers into the open spaces of the album's diverse musical style -- country, folk, pop.

THE POETRY OF PAT PARKER AND JUDY GRAHN

"Where Would I Be Without You"

Pat and Judy are two San Francisco Bay Area poets. Each woman reads her works on one side of the album. "Where Would I Be Without You" is full of anger, love, pain and joy of women trying to survive and remake the world into a place fit for human survival.

BERKELEY WOMEN'S

MUSIC COLLECTIVE

BE BE K'ROCHE

Be Be K'Roche is a four-woman band from the San Francisco Bay Area. Their music is a sensual, rhythmic blend of latin, rhythm and blues and jazz. Dancing or listening, it's pure pleasure.

"I felt particularly inspired... Their energy is incredible-- whimsical. They speak to collectivity... Their material is varied -- funk, country, blues." -Natalie Reuss, off our backs

KAY GARDNER

"Mooncircles"

Kay plays her flutes with other women musicians on guitar, keyboard, strings, and small percussion. Includes five instrumental pieces and Kay singing three songs of growth, change and woman's soul.

MEG CHRISTIAN

"I Know You Know"

"The blending of poetically vivid and politically meaningful lyrics is a rare art, and on this album it has been achieved... (Meg's) material is well chosen to highlight both her singing and her considerable skill as a guitarist." -Woodwoman, Big Mama Rag

CRIS WILLIAMSON

"The Changer and the Changed"

"A skilled musician and poet, Cris writes music of full subtle harmonies and impelling rhythm and, singing in a rich warm voice which unreels melodies like raw silk from a spool, envelops the listener in her songs..." -Frankie Farrell, Sister

HOLLY NEAR

"A Live Album" & "You Can Know All I Am"

Defining herself as a cultural worker, Holly expresses her sensitivity to people's condition through her lyrics and extraordinary voice.

Albums available from Cactus Records, Bozeman; Freddy's Feed and Read, Missoula; and Opera House, Helena.

Or order directly from Artemis Productions, 6390 Highway 12 W. Helena, 59601. \$5.50 each (Holly Near albums \$5.00 each) plus 50¢ mailing. 25¢ each additional item.

Montana Women's Resource

The Montana Women's Resource is published by the Women's Resource Center, UM, Missoula, Mt. The Resource is published four times a year and is available to all interested persons. Write us. We are interested in hearing about women's activities around the state. Let us know when things are happening. Staff: Irene Lundquist, Kristi Lovick, Christie Johnson, Carol Holmstrom, C. Allison Lombard, Kathleen Clowers, Eileen Gallagher.

MONTANA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

The Montana Women's history project is collecting the personal and public histories of 40 to 60 Montana women from all areas, occupations and ethnic groups, focusing on the pre-depression period.

The tapes and transactions will be acquisitioned by the Montana State Historical Society Library and will be available for public use. Tapes plus research will then be used by the Project to develop educational materials designed to increase public awareness of the experiences and roles of women in Montana and on the frontier. Educational projects include a booklet for the school system; a traveling exhibit; a calender and articles.

The Montana Women's History Project needs help in locating women to interview and in obtaining copies of letters, journals and photographs of pioneer and Native America women no longer living.

The Project needs financial support for tapes and travel. We are currently selling notecards and posters of scenes in early women's lives. These are being sold in book and gift stores around the state and through the Women's Resource Center, where the Montana Women's History Project can be contacted.

We need your help! The Montana Women's Resource has been sent out at no cost for more than a year. Our mailing list grows longer every issue and our budget is very limited. We estimate that each copy costs a little more than 25 cents to produce, so are asking that those who want to continue receiving the Resource send us at least \$1 for the next four issues. We are updating our mailing lists and if we do not hear from you, we will assume you are not interested in receiving the Montana Women's Resource.

I want to receive the Montana Women's Resource. I am enclosing one dollar or more to help with production costs.

Name _____

Address _____

Send to:
Montana Women's Resource
Women's Resource Center
University Center
University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59801

The Montana Women's Resource
Women's Resource Center
University Center
University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59801