

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

April 9, 1974

Macon County Homemakers Extension Association

Dear Unit Chairman:

Enclosed please find a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States, "The ERA - What it means to men and women." This publication was presented and explained to your Homemakers Extension board members, April 8th. Since your Association has not made a study of the Equal Rights Amendment, they have no position on it. They voted permission to send this material to better inform you about ERA.

The enclosed publication explains the ERA Amendment and answers many questions about it; as well as listing some of the organizations that endorse it.

Only 5 additional states need to pass ERA to total 38 - the number needed for final ratification to the U. S. Constitution. ERA is expected to be considered by the Illinois Legislature this spring. We hope your members, as individuals, will write how they feel about ERA to their state representatives and senators.

If you would like a speaker to talk to your unit about ERA, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

enc.

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois
62526

Laura Verbanac
League representative
ERA Coalition
51st Legislative District

RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE FOR THE ERA

American Baptist Women
Catholic Women for ERA
Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Division of Homeland Ministries
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
The Missionary Council
Church of the Brethren
Church Women United in the U.S.A.
Evangelical Women's Caucus
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Intercommunity Center for Justice and Peace
Joint Strategy Action Committee
Las Hermanas
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Lutheran Church Women
National Assembly of Women Religious
National Coalition of American Nuns
National Council of Churches
Division of Church and Society
National Council of Jewish Women
National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
NETWORK
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.
General Assembly
Mission Board
Committee on Women's Concerns
Sisters of Loretto
Denver, Colorado
The United Methodist Church
Board of Church and Society
The United Methodist Church
Women's Division
Board of Global Ministries
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Unitarian-Universalist Association
Unitarian-Universalist Women's Federation
United Church of Christ
Advisory Commission on Women In Church and Society
United Church of Christ
Board of Homeland Ministries
United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
Council on Women and the Church
Women's League for Conservative Judaism
National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association
of the U.S.A.

*Additional copies of this brochure at
\$5.00 per hundred are available from:*
**ILLINOIS RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE
FOR THE ERA
56 White Place
Bloomington, IL 61701**



ILLINOIS RELIGIOUS GROUPS SUPPORT the ★ *Equal* ★ *Rights* ★ *Amendment*

Prepared by the
**ILLINOIS RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE
FOR THE ERA**

OUR FAITH PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR THE EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN

The fundamental idea of ERA is **equality**. Equality does not mean identical; it does not mean that we cancel out differences, or that they do not exist; it means, according to Webster: "like in quality, nature, or status." Equality before the law means that men and women have the same **status** before the law.

THE FIRST CREATION STORY depicts a creation in which men and women are equal. (*Gen. 1:27-28*)

BOTH THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS are replete with women leaders. Deborah led the people of Israel. Mary and Martha were friends of Jesus. Priscilla and Lydia were Christian businesswomen. Euodia and Syntheche were noted by Paul because "they have worked hard with me to spread the gospel." (*Phil. 4:3*)

THE GOSPEL makes clear that Jesus regarded women, men, and children equally. In contrast to the contemporary male-centered society, Jesus related to women with respect and sensitivity, as individual persons. St. Paul said that "In Christ . . . there is neither male nor female." (*Gal. 3:28*)

THROUGH THE CENTURIES that have followed women have preached, been missionaries, spread the Word. They have always made a major contribution to the work of the Church.

IT HAS NOW become appropriate and timely to legally recognize the equal dignity and importance which God has bestowed upon women. This can be done most effectively by ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment, first introduced into Congress a generation ago in 1923. We urge you to share with us in this important witness.

THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE AMENDMENT IS:

1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of the article.
3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

THE VOTE TO RATIFY BY THE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE IS NEEDED TO PASS THE E. R. A.

We urge you to assist its passage through the following actions:

1. Engage friends, acquaintances, and opponents in conversation on the value of E.R.A.
2. Encourage groups to which you belong to study and discuss the E.R.A.
3. Contact E.R.A. Illinois, 606 Post Office Court, Springfield, IL 62701, for more information. It is the umbrella organization for all pro-E.R.A. groups in Illinois. Co-operate with member groups whenever possible.
4. Communicate regularly with state legislators, emphasizing your reasons as a religiously concerned person for the support of E.R.A.
5. Write letters in support of E.R.A. to local newspapers and to your religious publications, indicating your reasons for supporting E.R.A.
6. Use your vote judiciously; make sure you know how prospective legislative candidates stand on E.R.A.
7. Pray and act on the issue now.

**THE DEADLINE FOR RATIFICATION OF
E.R.A. IS MARCH 22, 1979. ACT NOW!!**



ANSWERS
to
QUESTIONS
about
EQUAL RIGHTS
AMENDMENT

"Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"Sec. 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"Sec. 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."



NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

144 Constitution Avenue, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20002

Founded 1913

SEWALL-BELMONT HOUSE

The headquarters of the National Woman's Party, the Alva Belmont House, was designated a National Landmark in December of 1972 and renamed the Sewall-Belmont House.

The Sewall-Belmont House is a living monument to Alice Paul, who wrote the Equal Rights Amendment and from this house lead the fight for its passage in Congress. It was her leadership of suffrage and equal rights activities that culminated in the designation of this house as a National Landmark, because it is the only house left standing in the United States where the contemporary women's movement went forward.

In 1974 Congress passed a bill to restore the Sewall-Belmont House in commemoration of the women's rights movement.

Restoration of the house has commenced and upon completion will be open to the public. This house will be an historic shrine of the memorabilia of the women's rights movement, suffrage, and equal rights and a place where women may come and identify with the history of women's fight for equality.

Elizabeth L. Chittick
President

March 15, 1976

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

144 Constitution Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 546-1210-11

Q. Why is the Equal Rights Amendment for Women necessary?

A. It is necessary to give a woman a legal status which was not defined by the United States Constitution, as it was framed and adopted under the concept of English Common Law which does not regard women as legal persons or entities. The 14th Amendment which guarantees "equal protection of the laws" did not fully give a woman equal status with men even though a Supreme Court decision in 1971 struck down a law discriminating against women, as it did not overrule earlier decisions upholding sex discrimination cases in other laws. Therefore, the burden is on each plaintiff to prove his case. The Equal Rights Amendment would give every man and woman freedom from sex discrimination without the necessity of going to court, case-by-case which is expensive and time-consuming. Fear of loss of job prevents most women from taking any action.

Q. Why does a woman need a legal status?

A. A legal status is necessary so that a woman will be given equal treatment and consideration in all areas of life as a man. For instance, equal work — equal pay; the right to work overtime; the right to serve on juries; the right to receive the same penalties as males when violating the laws, whereas some state laws now have greater penalties for females than for males; the right to establish a business, become guarantors, enter into contracts and administer estates, etc.

Q. What does the Equal Rights Amendment have to do with the social issues of women--such as, abortion, child care, communal living?

A. Absolutely nothing. These social issues must not be confused with the Equal Rights Amendment. The Equal Rights Amendment and social issues seem to be one, but most of the social issues in the limelight today have nothing to do with the Equal Rights Amendment and the legal status of women, as they can be attained without the Equal Rights Amendment. The press has helped to equate the Equal

Rights Amendment with the "Lib" Movement and the social issues, but the Equal Rights Amendment is "a legal issue" basically and only later a social issue in a much smaller degree. Men and women will have the same relationship as they now have and as they decide on an individual basis.

Q. Does the Equal Rights Amendment affect the housewife-homemaker?

A. Only as it affects all women, in that, **each woman may choose her own way of life — homemaker or wage earner.** Housewives need not fear that their security is being taken away from them. The Equal Rights Amendment does not take away the enforceable laws of support. In fact, there are many inadequate support laws now, and these laws should be improved to safeguard the housewife-homemaker.

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect alimony and child-support laws?

A. The Equal Rights Amendment will only change the present laws to include men under the same conditions as women (as they are now in more than one-third of the states).

The Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women reported that rather than depriving women and children of support, the Equal Rights Amendment "could very well result in greater rights," as "women's legal rights to support by their husbands, and to support of their children in cases of divorce or separation are much more limited than is generally known and enforcement is very inadequate."

"The Equal Rights Amendment would not make alimony unconstitutional but would require a fair allocation of it on a case-by-case basis. In the great bulk of cases, women would still receive alimony or support payments." (Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana, in 1971)

In the end, the welfare of the child would be the criterion in awarding custody of the child in a court contested case (as it is now in many states) and mothers would be responsible for child support **only within their means.** A homemaker with no means would have complete protection under this concept.

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect Property Laws?

A. The Equal Rights Amendment would invalidate state laws which treat men and women differently in respect to their property rights and, in particular, married women. A married woman will be able to enter into contracts, run her own business, manage her own property, become a guarantor, and a woman would be treated equally as an administrator of an estate. In community property states, no one sex would have arbitrary preference, and the division and management of property would be on the basis of expertise and not on sex.

Q. What will happen to the present protective laws for women?

A. Protective laws that discriminate against a woman will be invalidated, as the Equal Rights Amendment will require that the Federal Government and all State and local governments must treat each person, man or woman, on an equal basis.

The laws which were meant to protect a woman are in this time era discriminating against a woman and especially so since many women today are heads of household and the sole support of children. Many women are physically stronger than some men. As strength and weakness seem to have been the criterion for the protective laws, let each person, man or woman, be protected according to each individual's physical strength. Therefore, the laws would be changed to include men and women and men would also receive any protection the law would give on an individual basis, and not on sex. Protective legislation would then only cover hazardous occupations, health, safety and hours of work without regard to sex.

Q. Will women be drafted?

A. Congress already has the power to draft women, if necessary. The U.S. Constitution gives to the Congress the power "To raise and support armies . . . To provide and maintain a navy." There were no restrictions or limitations on this "great power"; and the Supreme Court has held that it will not even

review the manner in which this power is exercised. Selective Draft Law Cases, 245 U.S. 360 (1918) *Lichter v. U.S.*, 334 U.S. 742 (1948).

Every person is subject to be called for military duty in the public safety. It is for Congress to say when, who, and to what extent and how they shall be selected. *Warren V. U.S.* 177 F. 2d 596 (1949).

The Equal Rights Amendment does not affect this power, but would give women the right to volunteer for service, and would also give her some of the benefits now being received by men, such as, GI educational benefits; job preferences in and out of Government work; free food, housing, insurance, training and leadership experience.

The Equal Rights Amendment would require that men and women be treated alike, with respect to military service. As men now receive exemptions and deferments, so would women. They could exempt parents who are required to stay with children, either or both parents with small children; conscientious objectors, handicapped persons, and for the many other reasons for which men now receive exemptions. Men and women would be treated alike on the exemptions and women would receive the same benefits as men, which are many.

Q. Will women be assigned combat duty?

A. Every man is not assigned combat duty, so there is no reason to believe women will be. Most men are assigned to civilian type jobs, and many men are needed to fill these jobs. The University of Kansas Commission on the Status of Women in March 1971 reported: "Studies have shown that almost nine out of ten jobs done by servicemen are civilian jobs." Therefore, many men and women are needed to serve their country in capacities which do not require combat training. Again, if men and women are accepted and drafted into the armed services on an equal basis, they could be assigned to the duties they are most capable of doing and also willing, regardless of sex. As women would receive the same exemptions and deferments that Congress has the power to give to men, it seems improbable that anyone, man or woman, not desiring to serve (as in the case of

some men now) would serve in a capacity they didn't wish to.

The Intercollegiate Association of Women Students, a body of young women numbering approximately 250,000, at its March 1971 Convention passed a Resolution that given whatever Selective Service System prevailing they would support the involvement of women equally with men in the responsibilities.

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect admittance of women to public colleges?

A. It will open the doors for women. Admission will have to be based on equal standards and not on sex. Young women from poor families will be especially benefited, and Graduate Schools and the education profession will offer many more opportunities for women. At present, there is great discrimination in this area.

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect the jury laws?

A. The Equal Rights Amendment would make all women eligible for jury duty on the same basis as a man, and they would be "relieved" on the same basis as a man, and not simply because they were a woman.

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect criminal laws and especially rape?

A. Laws which give a longer sentence to a woman than a man will be invalidated.

"The Equal Rights Amendment will not invalidate laws which punish rape, for such laws are designed to protect women in a way that they are uniformly distinct from men." (Senate Report 92-689).

Laws based on a physical characteristic of one sex (whether criminal-prohibiting rape, or civil governing medical payments for child-birth) will continue to be

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect the privacy of women-sleeping quarters and bathroom facilities?

A. Not at all. Senate Report 92-689 so stated under two legal principles—the power of the state to regulate cohabitation and sexual relations of unmarried persons; and the constitutional right of privacy (enunciated by the Supreme Court in 1965).

These principles would permit separate sleeping, bathing and toilet facilities in public institutions such as colleges, prisons and military barracks.

Q. How does the Equal Rights Amendment affect States Rights?

A. The Equal Rights Amendment does not change the status of States Rights except to make state laws apply equally to men and women.

Q. Does the Equal Rights Amendment belong to the "Lib" Movement?

A. No. The so-called "Women's Liberation Movement" began sometime in the mid-1960's. The Equal Rights Amendment was authored, and sponsored for 49 years by the National Woman's Party. Their sole purpose and dedication over 49 years, and their sole activity, was to help women attain a legal status — to become a person — by an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, i.e., passage of The Equal Rights Amendment. The press has equated the Equal Rights Amendment to the "Lib Movement".

Q. What is the National Woman's Party?

A. The National Woman's Party was founded in 1913 and spearheaded the woman's suffrage movement.

After the passage of the Suffrage Act in 1920, under the leadership of Alice Paul, founder and Honorary President Emeritus, the National Woman's Party had introduced in Congress in 1923 the first

women. Over the 49 years prior to the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment on March 2, 1972, the National Woman's Party diligently kept the fires burning for the Equal Rights Amendment, educating other organizations, and publishing bulletins on the status of the Equal Rights Amendment and its sponsors.

Since the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in Congress, the National Woman's Party has exerted all of its efforts and money to obtain ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in the States.

The National Woman's Party is a non-partisan and non-profit organization, depending on dues and contributions for the Equal Rights Amendment and restoration of the Sewall-Belmont House.

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Associate Junior (under 25)	\$5.00
Active	12.00
Club House	25.00
Supporting	100.00
Maintenance	250.00
Life	1,000.00
National Affiliated Organizations	100.00
Local Affiliated Organizations	25.00

National Memberships are independent of and in addition to State and Local Memberships.

National Memberships support the national campaign to raise the status of women and at present to help in obtaining ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

144 Constitution Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

144 Constitution Avenue, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20002



THE

The Equal Rights Amendment, first introduced into Congress over 50 years ago, passed by almost unanimous vote of Congress in March of 1972. As of Spring, 1977, 35 states have ratified, with only three more states needed for the ERA to become the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The brief amendment will have far-reaching effects on the everyday lives of all Americans. What it means, essentially, is that federal, state and local governments must treat each person, regardless of sex, as an individual. The significant phrase "under the law" means that the amendment will affect many laws, but will not interfere in personal relationships or private activities.

Laws which presently bestow privileges, responsibilities or benefits on one sex will be extended to include the other sex. This same principle applied when the 15th and 19th Amendments extended the right to vote to Blacks and Women. Similarly, the ERA would, for example, make it possible for widowers to receive the same Social Security benefits now received by widows; alimony would be awarded according to ability to pay (thus making it possible for men as well as women to receive alimony); women would be able to obtain credit, sign mortgages and execute contracts as individuals.

The fact is that women are not legally persons under the Constitution and will not be until the ERA becomes part of it.

The Equal Rights Amendment is supported by a long and impressive lists of persons and organizations, including both the Democratic and Republican Parties; Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford; the AFL-CIO; UAW; the National Organization for Women (NOW); National Women's Political Caucus; American Association of University Women; Women's Christian Temperance Union; National Education Association; the League of Women Voters; Common Cause; Church Women United; Jewish Council of Women; National Secretaries Association.

The ERA is for everyone . . .

In employment, the ERA

- *Will extend to both sexes those protective labor laws which are truly beneficial to the worker.
- *Will expand opportunities for military careers to women. Congress already has the power to draft women, even without the ERA. We now have a volunteer military. Women, as well as men, need to be able to choose a career in the military with equal pay and other benefits.
- *Will enhance women's freedom to choose a career whether inside or outside the home.

In personal and private relationships, the ERA

- *Will provide a legal basis making a case that the courts must require divorced spouses to contribute in a fashion that would not leave the spouse with children in a worse financial situation than the spouse without them.
- *Will cause alimony to be awarded on the basis of ability to pay. However, alimony is more myth than reality; in 90% of all divorce cases in the United States, wives don't even ask for alimony. Child support, often mistaken for alimony, is actually only half of the real cost of a child's expenses. Furthermore, alimony and child support awards are the least complied with and the least enforced of all cases outside small claims.
- *Will not eliminate women and children's right to support by the husband and father. A married woman living with her husband can, in practice, get only what he chooses to give her. If he fails to provide her with the necessities of life, she will find that the courts are reluctant to interfere in an ongoing marriage.

In criminal law, the ERA

- *Will prevent a state from giving different punishments to men and women convicted of the same crime—frequently in the past, in

many states, women have received more severe sentences than men convicted of the same crime.

- *Will expand laws that punish rapists by defining sexual assault on males as rape and protect men and boys equally with women.

**The ERA is for everyone:
Minority Women**

Statistics released through the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor show that 57% of nonwhite women between the ages of 25 and 34 are in the work force; the percentage rises to 60% in the 45-54 age bracket. Absent the clear mandate which would be provided by the passage of the ERA, these women are very vulnerable to the discriminatory practices still prevalent in the job market.

"We will have succeeded in our work when skin color and skin shape are no longer viewed as virtual disqualifications for sharing power in the society and working to assure its healthy growth and development. We're fighting to make this a better world, not only for women, but for all human beings, and passage of the Equal Rights Amendment is a necessity if we are ever to win that fight."

Aileen Hernandez
Co-Coordinator, NOW Minority
Women & Women's Rights Task
Force
Past President, National
Organization for Women (NOW)

**The ERA is for everyone:
Men**

"Any man who notices the fine nuances raising a daughter has got to be for it. I'm less concerned about my daughter being drafted or operating a jack hammer or using a coeducational john than being a second class citizen all her life . . . Why should my daughter be treated differently under the law than my son?"

from an editorial by
Frosty Troy, Editor
THE OKLAHOMA OBSERVER

ERA

**means
equal rights
for men
and women**

**League of Women Voters
1730 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036**

What is the ERA?

ERA, the Equal Rights Amendment, is the proposed 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It says that "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

What will the ERA do?

It will remove sex as a factor in determining the *legal* rights of men and women. It will primarily affect government action. It *will not* interfere in private relationships. For example, the questions of who will wash the dishes, open the door, or bring home the paycheck are outside the jurisdiction of the ERA. The general principle is: IF A LAW RESTRICTS RIGHTS, IT WILL NO LONGER BE VALID; IF IT PROTECTS RIGHTS, IT WILL BE EXTENDED TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

How will the ERA become law?

35 states have ratified the ERA. Ratification by 3 more states before March 1979 will bring the total to 38 — the three-fourths required to amend the Constitution. ERA will not become effective immediately, though, when the 38th state ratifies it. States will then have two years to review and revise their laws, regulations and practices — ample time to bring them into compliance.

Why do we need the ERA?

Even though there are some laws on the books forbidding discrimination against women, there is no clear constitutional protection. The Supreme Court has never decided whether the 14th Amendment prohibits discrimination based on sex. Today, 54 years after ERA was first introduced, women in some states are still not recognized as mature, responsible adults. In many states they cannot serve on juries, start a business, get a mortgage, control their own property, their own paychecks or the property and money of their children *on the same basis as men*.

Men need the ERA to assure equality of protection for widowers as well as widows and so that

families in which both the husband and wife work receive the *full benefits* of their labors. Fathers need the ERA to assure equal educational and job opportunities for their daughters as well as their sons.

What do national leaders say about the ERA?

President Jimmy Carter — "I hope that all of us can work together in passing the Equal Rights Amendment. As President and with Fritz Mondale as Vice President, the members of our families and you, must induce those last four states to finally ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to give women a chance in life." (October 2, 1976)

Former First Lady Betty Ford — "I believe that every woman has a place in this world and I believe that whether you are a housewife, a mother or whether you want to go into business . . . this is your choice. In that choice I think they should be considered equal, and that's what it's all about." (September 7, 1974)

Ruth C. Clusen, President, LWVUS — "The League believes that ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment will enable women to assume their rightful role in society as partners in shaping the future of this country. Equal rights for women should be a priority issue for *all* citizens. Women contribute so much to our nation and they are entitled to all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship." (January 18, 1977)

U.S. Representative Martha Griffiths — "In 196 years of this country's being, any government could make any law it chose against women and the Supreme Court has upheld that law . . . Corporations have been 'people' for more than 100 years. It is high time that we too became human. We cannot rely upon the Courts. I urge the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment." (February 27, 1973)

U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond — "This amendment would not downgrade the roles of women as housewives and mothers. It would

confirm women's equality under the law and would uphold a woman's right to choose her place in society. . . . I want my daughter, Nancy Moore, to grow up with a full guarantee of every right and opportunity that our great country provides for all its citizens." (March 14, 1974)

John Gardner, Chairman, Common Cause—"The Equal Rights Amendment has developed a genuinely broad base of political support. Women from every walk of life, women from all parts of the political spectrum, women representing the great middle range of American life are saying that the time for full equality has come. And men are saying the same thing." (August 27, 1973)

Glenn Watts, President, CWA—"The Equal Rights Amendment remains on CWA's highest priority list, and we are pressing harder than ever to overcome the obstacles that have been placed in its path. Misconceptions and distortions on this subject have changed time after time to clear understanding and support, when adequate information and full discussion are provided. CWA delegates voted overwhelmingly for positive action on equal rights and we shall press on to the best of our ability until ERA becomes an integral part of our nation's Constitution." (September 11, 1974)

The ERA will equalize Social Security benefits.

The ERA *won't* take away a single Social Security benefit women now have. It *will* give benefits equally to men and women. The 1972 Social Security Amendments have already moved in that direction. For instance, men as well as women can now begin to draw benefits at 62.

The ERA will enable a man to draw on his wife's social security just as any wife now draws on her husband's account. For example, today if a woman dies or retires, her widower is not automatically entitled as a dependent to his wife's benefits. Under ERA he would be.

The ERA will not interfere with an individual's privacy.

The ERA will not affect the constitutionally guaranteed right of privacy, which permits the separation of sexes in such places as public toilets and military barracks. Under ERA, neither men nor women would have to share sleeping quarters in institutions such as coeducational schools, prisons, dormitories or mental care facilities.

Will women be drafted under the ERA?

With a volunteer army in effect, it's a dead issue now, anyway. Under ERA, Congress could draft women (incidentally, it already can) but their chances of serving in combat duty are slim. In 1971 only 5% of eligible males were actually inducted into the services. Less than 1% were ever assigned to combat units, and only a fraction of those to the front lines. Women *won't* be "snatched away" from their children to be drafted. Men have always been exempted for a variety of reasons, including family responsibilities—and so will women be.

What the ERA *would* do is end the practice of demanding higher qualifications for women than for men in the armed forces, and so open up the possibility of military job training and veterans' benefits to more women.

The ERA will remove discriminatory labor laws.

Labor laws saying what hours women can work and how many pounds they can lift, originally intended to protect women from being exploited on the job *were* often used to bar working women from getting jobs at better pay. *Such discriminatory rules and regulations still exist on the books in many states. Although Title VII and recent court decisions have invalidated such laws, the ERA is needed to insure that they will not be reinstated.*

The ERA will not do away with laws against rape.

Criminal laws against rape and other sexual offenses will still be valid under the ERA—they are and will remain crimes against persons. In addition, courts will have to stop giving a longer prison sentence to a woman than to a man for the same offense—and vice versa.

How will the ERA affect states' rights?

Section 2 of ERA, which reads, "The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article," does not take away states' rights.

Whenever the Constitution is amended, the states have the right to act and enforce the amendment. Almost identical language appears in the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 23rd, 24th and 26th Amendments to the Constitution.

What happens to women's rights in marriage and divorce under the ERA?

ERA will continue a trend toward applying the yardstick, "Who is able to support whom?" Since courts seldom intervene in such private relationships as an ONGOING MARRIAGE, in reality a married woman living with her husband gets only what he chooses to give her. Under ERA, support in SEPARATION cases would be settled, as it is now, on an individual basis.

The case of the woman divorced in late middle years and unequipped by training or experience to earn a living is often cited. In a DIVORCE, the same principles of need and ability to pay will apply to ALIMONY AND CHILD SUPPORT under ERA—just as they do now. (At present, only 38% of fathers are making full child support payments one year after the decree.) Correspondingly, CHILD CUSTODY will be based on which parent can better care for the child.

Who supports the ERA?

National organizations working for the ERA include:

AFL-CIO, and affiliated unions
American Association of University Professors
American Association of University Women
American Baptist Women
American Bar Association
American Civil Liberties Union
American Home Economics Association
American Jewish Congress
American Medical Women's Association
American Nurses Association
American Women in Radio and Television
B'nai B'rith Women
Church Women United
Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women
Common Cause
Democratic National Committee
Evangelicals for Social Action
Federally Employed Women
General Federation of Women's Clubs
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.
Intercollegiate Association of Women Students
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
League of Women Voters of the United States
Lutheran Church Women
NAACP
National Association of Women Deans, Administrators and Counselors
National Association of Women Lawyers
National Catholic Coalition for the ERA
National Council of Churches (of Christ)
National Education Association
National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs
National Organization for Women
National Secretaries Association
National Welfare Rights Organization
National Women's Political Caucus
NETWORK
Presbyterian Church, U.S.
Republican National Committee
United Auto Workers
United Church of Christ
United Methodist Church
United Mine Workers
United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.
Women in Communications
Women's Equity Action League
YWCA

What Benefits from Playboy?

To the Editor:

The following thank you note appeared in Letters to the Editor of Playboy Magazine, February, 1974:

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

"E.R.A. Central is an organization for Illinois supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment to constitutionally

protect women from legal and economic sex discrimination. Without the help of the Playboy Foundation, E.R.A. Central would probably not be operating at its present level. We are deeply indebted to the Foundation."

Sonia McCallum
E.R.A. Central
Chicago, Illinois

About Letters

Letters to the editor must carry a written signature and a street address or rural route number. The writer must permit use of his name. Letters of 350 words or less are preferred. The Herald and Review will not edit letters to meet space requirements.

Since the philosophy of the Playboy Foundation depicts women as sex objects, I wonder what "benefits" could possibly be reaped by me, my daughter, my granddaughter, or any other woman, for that matter, from legislation supported by this organization.

Margaret McGinn (Mrs. J.J.)
Decatur

What Women Would Lose

To the Editor:

It seems the majority of people still think of ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) as a "women's rights amendment." This is false. Women will lose many rights and privileges they now have. The only thing they will gain (?) is the right to be treated like a man. I believe most women want to be treated like women and most men like it that way.

Phyllis Schlafly, founder of "Stop ERA" does not use scare tactics and false propaganda as proponents of ERA say. Her information is based on what respected constitutional authorities say about ERA. For example, Prof. Paul Freund of the Harvard Law School who has studied ERA for 25 years. He compares it to a "single broad-spectrum drug with uncertain and unwanted side effects" and points out the radical effects it would have on the "complex relationships, of marital duties, parental responsibilities and family law."

Arthur Ryman Jr., professor of law at Drake University states: "ERA would seriously affect marriage, both as an economic and social institution in America" and "would minimize legal reinforcement of cultural mores supportive of

Which State Is He From?

To the Editor:

I have been bothered this past week by a radio news item I heard on Saturday, April 6. The story was a followup on the tornadoes that had struck Decatur and other parts of the country. In the story it mentioned how Sen. Percy had come

Views Of Our Readers

family life, tend to degrade the homemaker role and support economic development requiring women to seek careers."

Sen. Sam Ervin calls it "the most drastic measure in Senate history."

Regarding the military: A Selective Service bulletin dated 1-1-72 to 7-31-72 states, "Selective Service must register young men at age 18 (and young women as well if the Equal Rights Amendment becomes part of the Constitution." Yale Law Journal, April 1971 states "...the amendment permits no exceptions for the Military" (P.969) — "Women will serve in all kinds of units and they will be eligible for combat duty" (P.978) — "...could provide that one, but not both parents, be deferred. . .whichever parent was called first." (P.973).

The U. S. House Judiciary report to Congress (No. 92-359) states: "Not only would women, including mothers, be subject to the draft, but the military would be compelled to place them in combat units alongside men."

ERA would eliminate present lower life insurance rates for women and preferential Social Security benefits women now enjoy.

I urge all of you to write your state legislators asking them to vote "no" on ERA when it comes up for vote again soon.

Mrs. Ann Mize
Decatur

ERA Brings New Opinions

More opinions on laws and women may be coming in the future from the state Attorney General's office, says Bill Schaub, public information officer for the office.

"Under the new Illinois constitution and in view of interest in the ERA (equal rights amendment) a lot of questions are coming up that have never arisen before," he says.

Examples are two recent opinions involving women who keep their maiden names after marrying.

Women who keep their maiden names do not have to reregister for a driver's license or with voter registration, according to the opinions.

However, Schaub points out that if an address change is made reregistration is necessary.

He also notes that for a woman to continue using her maiden name after marriage, she must use it consistently for everything and non-fraudulently.

Schaub says the opinions have been used to support positions of both anti-ERA and pro-ERA groups.

The anti-ERA groups, he said, are saying with such opinions coming out the ERA is not needed.

The pro-ERA groups, he said, are saying the opinions are an indication of how much is needed and how many things need to be done in the area of women's rights.

Schaub sees the questions about women and the law expanding. "We're in many new interesting, uncharted fields."

Forum Set On ERA

A public forum to explain the advantages of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) will be 7 p.m. March 21 in the Decatur YWCA.

Speakers will include representatives of the 51st District ERA coalition which was formed in December.

They are: Mrs. Aline Guthrie, Region 8 representative for the Allied Industrial Workers; Mrs. Ann Limerick, Decatur League of Women Voters; Mrs. Carol Tuschoff, Decatur Chapter of American Association of University Women; Mrs. Betty Piper, Church Women United in Decatur; Martha Hunt of Decatur Chapter of the National Organization for Women and a representative of the Decatur Chapter of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Speakers will describe how they feel their lives will be enhanced in areas such as military service, labor laws, criminal offenses and marital and family relations if the equal rights amendment is ratified by the necessary 38 states.

Urge 'No' Vote on ERA

To the Editor:
 Maxene B. Michl, Col. (Ret.) U.S.A., posed the question: What guarantee could opponents of ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) offer that women will not be drafted? She and other proponents say Congress has the power to draft women now. True. But Congress has used that power to exempt women. Under ERA they could no longer do this because it would not be "equal." And, the proponents do not want women to be exempt. A pamphlet published by Common Cause, supporter of ERA, states: "Women's groups working for the ERA opposed efforts in Congress to exempt women from the draft."

A Selective Service bulletin dated Jan. 1, 1972 to July 31, 1972 states: "Selective Service must register young men at age 18 (and young women as well if the ERA becomes part of the Constitution)."

This is one of the "sleepers" in ERA. Since this is what the women libber's wanted to accomplish, why didn't they have one of their supporters in Congress introduce a bill to draft women, instead of it being an undesired side effect of a sugar-coated amendment that sounds good but would do so much to disrupt our way of living in the United States. This is rather a sneaky way of doing things.

Mrs. Michl thinks its an "insult" to women in the Armed Forces that people don't welcome with open arms, the "right" of women to be drafted. It is not an insult at all. I'm sure everyone agrees that women have done a great job in the service, especially in time of war. But, the point is, they were there because they wanted to be. Women made just as great a contribution by working in war plants, holding the family together until their loved ones returned, etc.

There has been much criticism of old men deciding the fate of young men in regards to the military. Now we have women (shall we say "past draft age?") telling girls it is their "right" to be drafted. Ironically, some impressionable young girls are falling for it. I wonder if the libber's would feel less discriminated against if half the people killed in our wars were women?

Please write to your state legislators right away asking them to vote "no" on ERA.

Mrs. Bonnie Bowby
Decatur

Coalition Is Formed

A coalition of women's groups has been formed in the 51st Legislative District to push for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in the Illinois General Assembly.

Belonging to the coalition are Decatur chapters of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the League of Women Voters, Church Women United, the American Association of University Women and the National Organization for Women.

Maxene Michl and Marlene Mason, both of Decatur, are coordinators.

According to the coalition, the group has organized to educate the public to a need for the proposed 27th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. They say men and women alike will benefit from ratification.

"We of the coalition have great faith that Illinois will not abandon its responsibility to the nation and will pass the Equal Rights Amendment," said Mrs. Michl.

CHARGE DISMISSED

Social Security Rights

To the Editor:

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is one sentence: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." If passed, sex could not be considered in determining the legal rights of men and women.

A correction is in order, therefore, to the statement in a Letter to the Editor (April 15 by K. R. Weber) that this amendment would place "women's rights under Social Security . . . in jeopardy."

Legal opinions support quite the reverse. Men would be entitled to the rights women have and women would be entitled to the rights men have. For example, men as well as women can now begin drawing social security benefits at age 62. Similarly, under ERA, a man

Views Of Our Readers

would be able to draw on his wife's social security account as a wife now draws on her husband's account. If a woman died or retired, a man would be entitled to the dependent benefits of social security that his wife had earned. This is not the case now — where a different system applies to the payments to husbands and wives.

Further information on legal opinions which relate to ERA may be found in the Yale Law Journal, Vol. 80, No. 5, April 1971.

L. V. Verbanac
Decatur

Petitions Delivered

Petitions containing 825 signatures of persons who support the Equal Rights Amendment were delivered to the office of State Sen. Robert W. McCarthy, D-Decatur, Friday.

The petitions were delivered by Marlene Mason, coordinator of the 51st District Equal Rights Amendment Coalition, who said, "We're collecting signatures to show our legislators that there is a broad base of support among men and women throughout the 51st District.

"It is my hope that our legislators will vote a resounding 'yes' for the Equal Rights Amendment this spring," she said, then added, "1974 can be the first year of legal equality for all citizens of the United States, regardless of sex."

She said the coalition, which also delivered petitions to the office of State Rep. Rolland Tipsword, D-Taylorville, this week, plans to continue collecting signatures and when a large number are obtained again, they will again be presented to McCarthy and Tipsword.

McCarthy, who said he is always happy to receive word from his constituents, said it is his understanding that there is a Senate rule that no bills will be considered except revenue and appropriations bills.

"However, you can't conclude that other types of legislative matters such as resolutions would be excluded.

"I believe there has been no rule adopted in the Senate that would proscribe consideration of this measure because it is not in the nature of a bill," he said.

Men Form Lobby For ERA Passage

Chicago (AP)

Men in 17 states which have not adopted the ERA have formed a National Association of Men For the Equal Rights Amendment.

Illinois's Lt. Gov. Neil Hartigan, a member of Illinois Men for the ERA, announced Monday the group will "lobby vigorously for passage of ERA in Illinois, just as our affiliate chapters will lobby for passage in the other 16 states.

Only five more states are needed for passage of the constitutional amendment. Thirty-three states have already approved the proposal.

Florida Votes Against ERA

(c) Washington Star-News
Washington

The Equal Rights Amendment, five states short of ratification, is unlikely to win the approval this year.

The last real hope of advocates was Florida, and the Florida senate narrowly killed the amendment Wednesday.

After the 21-19 vote, the speaker of the Florida House said that body will not even consider the amendment this year. The Florida legislature meets again next April.

Florida Gov. Reuben Askew had endorsed the amendment, urging the legislature "in the strongest possible terms I can find" to approve it. But neither Askew nor his representatives lobbied actively to gain passage.

Supporters focused on four states — Maine, Montana, Ohio and Florida — this year, and the amendment was approved in all but Florida.

The amendment consists of one paragraph:

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

25 Present Apple Pies

About 25 persons from the Decatur area were on hand in Springfield Tuesday as opponents of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment presented home-baked apple pies to their state legislators.

The pies were symbolic of home, motherhood and family, values which opponents say would be hurt by passage of the amendment.

In addition to the pies, boxed with a card reading "I enjoy being a girl," local Stop ERA chairman Edwin Allen of 8 Greenridge Dr. presented area legislators with a petition bearing 459 signatures and urging them to continue their opposition to the amendment.

Women from across the state helped bake and present the pies, which Allen said were well received by all the legislators.

In addition, Phyllis Schafly, national Stop ERA chairman, was on hand to talk to legislators and the press.

Legislative Highlights

Here are highlights from Wednesday's Illinois General Assembly session:

— House Minority Leader Clyde Choate's individual income tax relief proposal hit a snag which may keep it off the Nov. 5 general election ballot.

— The House Appropriations Committee approved higher education budgets without much ado.

— House Speaker W. Robert Blair says 65 House members back his proposed changes in the Chicago - area Regional Transit Authority.

— Gov. Daniel Walker and legislative leaders met with Blair to try to iron out RTA reforms.

— A proposed constitutional amendment to change the cumulative voting procedure for Illinois House members moved one step closer to being on the November ballot.

— A resolution to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was introduced in the House.

Details of these and other legislative stories are in today's paper.

Women Can Be Drafted Now

To the Editor:

Many of the opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment are now concentrating on the draft of women as a basis for not supporting ERA. Despite the great need for this amendment and the many benefits to be accrued by both men and women, these people are saying that because women could be drafted at some future time, the amendment must be defeated.

This implies that there is something dreadfully wrong with women serving their country in the military and is a direct insult to every woman who has volunteered her skills and capabilities in times of war and peace.

Letters To The Editor

The hue and cry that military service is an issue of such magnitude as to cost women full legal equality makes a mockery of the military service of both men and women who have served with valor, honor and dedication.

As a retired officer with 30 years of service in the military, I find it impossible to accept that it is a terrible thing to have served my country during World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam—so terrible as to serve as a basis for denying me my full legal rights.

Congress has the authority now to draft women and can do so without the Equal Rights Amendment. President Eisenhower testified before Congress in 1948 that if we had another world war we would have to draft women.

In view of the Congressional authority which exists now, I would like the opponents of ERA to tell the people of Illinois what

guarantee they can give that women will never be drafted—and if they can give no such assurance why are they using the draft as a reason for opposing the Equal Rights Amendment?

Maxene B. Michl
Col. (Ret.) USA
Decatur

Gospel Sing Successful

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Herald and Review publicly for the writeups they gave so graciously to us covering the Gospel Sing held March 9 at Harris-town. This benefit sing was quite successful and we (The Mathias Family) want to thank each quartet that helped make this program possible.

Also we would like to thank Lowell Brown and Rev. James

Very Real Differences

To the Editor:

In your editorial Feb. 24, you attempted to show similarities of the ERA with Section 18 of our Illinois Constitution's Bill of Rights — thereby, trying to assure Illinois voters that the ERA held no disasters for the people of our state.

Instead, I feel this helped to show seemingly subtle, but very real differences in the two.

The Illinois Constitution's Bill of Rights speaks of "equal protection of the laws" — the so called Equal Rights Amendment does not. Laws are made not so much to restrict the citizenry as to protect the people and their just rights (restriction sometimes being a secondary result). Furthermore, the ERA is a proposed U. S. Constitutional Amendment which could nullify many laws we now have that are beneficial and protective. Our state Constitution Bill of Rights does not nullify such laws.

Some of the disasters predicted as a result of the ERA may or may not occur if the ERA passes — but the very vague wording of this amendment, which would have to be decided by the U. S. Supreme Court. If this high court is incapable of deciding such a well known fact as when life begins — how can we expect them to come to just decisions on issues that are less clear and factual?

Barbara Chiles Miller
Decatur

o Draft Guaranteed?

To the Editor:

In brief response to the open letter to me in last Sunday's Herald and Review, I was astonished at Ms. Drum's frequent use of my given name as I have never met her. However, I am concerned with issues, not personal vendettas.

I submit that the critical question I posed remains unanswered. Once again, I would like the opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment to state what guarantee they have to offer to the people of Illinois that women will never be drafted?

Maxene B. Michl
Col. (Ret.) USA
Decatur

Rights in Jeopardy

To the Editor:

If the Equal Rights Amendment is passed women's rights under Social Security will be in jeopardy. They will not be able to draw under their husband's benefits, but will have had to work to be able to draw. The age will be 65 years before they would be eligible and this would be from their record of earnings and not their husband's earnings.

K. R. Weber
Decatur

ERA Aims Clarified

To the Editor:

Go ERA. Why would anyone want to stop the Equal Rights Amendment when it is "merely" attempting to guarantee constitutional equality of the sexes?

This is clearly the aim of ERA. It is certainly going to have nothing to do about prohibiting women from being full-time wives and mothers as Phyllis Schlafly recently stated. The advocates of Stop ERA and the politicians are guilty of using scare tactics to frighten away the women who really need the rights the ERA will give.

All advocates of ERA are not "braless, brainless, broads" as Rep. John W. Alsup has called us. I resent the inference personally, and I am sure this term does not apply to such organizations as League of Women Voters, Businessmen for ERA, or the National Education Association.

I have a complete membership list of 55 organizations

Views Of Our Readers

in Illinois who support ERA. I also have the names of every senator from every district and their attitude toward ERA. If anyone wants information regarding these organizations and, politicians, please write to me or write ERA Central, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, 60604.

Remember, the central issue is constitutional equality and nothing more.

Mrs. Kay Schneider
Mount Pulaski

Barbs

With our clunker, reaching the 55-mile-an-hour speed limit is a challenge.

ERA Push This Week

Equal Rights Amendment petitions will be circulated throughout the 51st District this week as part of a state ERA Week.

Members of the district ERA Coalition will be visiting Decatur shopping centers with petitions, and exhibits will be displayed at various points in Macon, Shelby and Christian counties.

A collection of about 800 signatures will be presented to Rep. Rolland Tipsword and Sen. Robert W. McCarthy early in the week.

Members of the coalition include the Decatur chapters of the League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women, National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Church Women United, National Organization for Women and Zonta Club of Decatur.

Stormy Reign Ends

Derge Resigns As SIU Chief

Lindsay-Schaub News Service And Associated Press Carbondale

The stormy, two-year reign of David R. Derge over Southern Illinois University-Carbondale has ended.

The 48-year-old university president whose troubles have ranged from Watergate to electric gates announced his resignation Thursday after a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Board sources said he made the offer to resign after a marathon closed meeting Saturday. The board decided to accept the offer after a five-hour closed meeting Wednesday night, the source said.

Derge announced that Hiram Leman, dean of the university's School of Law, will take over as temporary president until a replacement is found.

Derge will be on leave of absence until June 30, when he will join the faculty of the Department of Government at a salary of about \$30,000 for a nine-month year. As president, he earned \$20,000 a year, the highest salary in the school's history.

"Academic excellence" was Derge's byword at SIU but the goal often seemed lost in controversy.

The latest developed Feb. 28 when Louis Orecasin, the university's No. 2 administrator, resigned as vice president amid reports of impropriety of nearly \$5,000 spent for alcoholic beverages.

In a statement Thursday, board chairman Ivan A. Elliott Jr. of Carbondale said that an investigation shows "18 university vouchers were processed calling for payments to the Holiday Inn in Carbondale for catering services, most of those services were performed."

"Instead, the Holiday Inn purchased liquor and other alcoholic beverages for the university, usually in case lots, and sold it to the university with a markup of a simple 10 percent over the wholesale price."

Drug Raid Victims To Testify

Alton (AP) Victims of two mistaken Carbondale, Ill., drug raids are expected to appear early next week in the federal civil rights trial of 10 narcotics officers.

In the trial's final session of this week, prosecutors turned to the April 23, 1973, raid of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Giglio's apartment.

The defendants admit they intended to raid the apartment of Robert Piker, a man since convicted of selling cocaine, but misread the apartment house numbers. Former police investigator Robert Billeaud testified he told the raiders April 18 that Piker had been evicted.

John F. Courvo, chief of the prosecution team, said, "They had a bad address and went ahead and raided anyway."

But defense lawyers tried to show that the raiders, conversing with Billeaud and others in a noisy room, may not have heard.

Government attorneys would not say what order they would call witnesses, but it appeared that the Giglios could testify Monday when the trial resumes. Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ashby, victims of the second mistaken raid, could follow.

After leaving the Giglio home, the agents raided the Ashbys' home — again a wrong address. The agents did not have warrants for either raid.

John Melners, 38, testified Thursday that a dozen agents, none of whom showed warrants, stormed his home in Edwardsville before dawn on April 26, 1973, after buying \$25,000 of cocaine from his roommate. Melners testified that he was

"The liquor was used for official entertaining at University House over a period of some 10 months, at a total cost of nearly \$4,000."

Derge apparently instructed Orecasin to use a restricted account instead of SIU Foundation money to purchase the alcoholic beverages.

Elliott's statement continued:

"It appears that President Derge was unaware of the manner in which the liquor was being bought. He had instructed Orecasin to find a method of paying for it without using funds appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly."

"The money in question did not come from state-appropriated tax dollars, but was public money."

Elliott said, "The board has been advised the purchase of alcoholic beverages is not illegal."

Elliott added, "The board is not so much concerned about the purchase as it is concerned over the fact that university vouchers were drawn for services which were not rendered."

Elliott also said that an investigation reveals "a practice of purchasing liquor for the University in what appears to be a similar manner was a practice of long standing — perhaps some 10 or 15 years."

The board met in closed session for nearly 14 hours on three days during the past week to investigate the alleged irregularities.

This was just the latest of Derge's problems.

He came under the heaviest fire in December when he announced that 100 staff and faculty members, some of them insured, would be laid off in a \$2.7 million budget cut.

Faculty and students charged that the president should have foreseen the cuts and phased the jobs out gradually.

The faculty Senate asked the board in early January to remove the "higher administration" for its handling of budget cutbacks.

Derge also was slighted when the Board of Trustees placed James M. Brown, the board's chief of staff, in charge of the presidents of SIU-Carbondale and SIU-Edwardsville.

The three positions previously had been equal.

And before the liquor purchases and faculty reduction, Derge was the president's home controversy and even a connection with Watergate.

Derge became the first university president to occupy the \$1-million University House, a highly controversial president's home built with school money.

The controversy was kept alive when Derge ordered a \$1.96 million system of electric gates installed. However, Derge later moved out of the mansion, saying he wanted more privacy.

He continued to use the house for entertaining.

Derge has continually been the target of sex discrimination complaints filed by women faculty and staff members. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has threatened to cut off federal funds unless the school hires more women and equalizes their salaries with those of men employees.

Derge's political activities got attention last October.

While an executive vice president at Indiana University, Derge commissioned polling work in 1968-69 for the Committee to Re-Elect the President.

He was paid \$171,969 in 1970-71 by Herbert Kahnback, then President Nixon's lawyer, from what came to be known as the "dirty tricks" fund.

Derge gave an accounting of the money given him and denied knowing of any dirty tricks. Nixon and former Atty. Gen. John Mitchell are Derge's personal friends. Both were invited to his 1972 wedding.

Proclamation Important

GOV. DANIEL Walker's signing of a proclamation designating this as Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) Week in Illinois is important as a symbol.

The governor's signature makes clear his pledge to exert "continued personal effort" to bring about adoption of the proposed federal constitutional amendment.

Also, Mr. Walker again helps show who must act first if the ERA is ever to be ratified by Illinois. The action must occur in the Illinois General Assembly, which twice previously has pigeonholed the measure with parliamentary maneuvers and rhetoric bordering on the ridiculous.

The proposed ERA is a 24-word sentence stating:

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Adoption will not in itself end discrimination on the basis of sex, just as other federal and state laws have not halted other kinds of discrimination.

Adoption might create some problems, but that would test the wisdom of legislators rather than their parliamentary skills and personal prejudices.

All the proposed amendment would do is assure women the constitutional protection of the opportunity for them to do what they want, are able and qualified to do without discrimination against them solely because they are female.

Decision on Cumulative Voting

CUMULATIVE voting (by which a voter can cast up to three votes for a single candidate, one and one-half votes for each of two candidates, or a single vote for each of three) is one major problem confronting the Illinois House in particular and state politics in general.

Another problem of that body is size. With 177 members, the Illinois House is simply too large to function efficiently. There are too many bills, too many committees and too much needless (and irrelevant) debate for either the members or the people to be satisfied with the performance of the House over the past several sessions.

Fewer and hopefully more highly qualified members should be able to provide better staff and secretarial help (and perhaps higher pay) and function more efficiently than is the case now.

At least that is what the Committee for Legislative

Reform hopes will happen in proposing the size of the House be reduced and cumulative voting abolished.

Volunteer workers currently are gathering the signatures of voters all across the state to try to obtain a vote on their proposition (one with which we agree editorially) at the general election next November.

We support this move for a referendum for two reasons. One is that we believe the changes proposed by the committee are needed.

The second reason is more important. The people should be given an opportunity to vote on this question without the distractions of other equally significant issues.

A vote was taken in 1970 in which cumulative voting was retained. But that was done while people were voting on acceptance of a new Constitution. There were three other side issues, among them a highly

controversial proposition for the merit selection of judges.

The proposal to end cumulative voting never really got a fair hearing. Now it is possible after a full debate on the subject that people will decide in favor of retaining the current system.

If that is the result, so be it. Then state government could move on to other matters with the full knowledge that the people have spoken.

That is all the current effort to obtain the required number of signatures (around 375,000) is all about.

The General Assembly almost certainly will never put an issue before the voters in which legislators have so much of a vested interest. That is why the framers of the 1970 state Constitution included the petition provision for legislative reform.

The people deserve a chance to speak on these questions through the ballot box.

No Disasters in Equal Rights

THIS YEAR the General Assembly again has a chance to put Illinois on the list of states which have ratified the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

There is no need to hold off on another ratification vote until the outcome of a lawsuit filed by four state legislators is known. That suit challenges the Illinois requirement that proposed amendments to the U.S. Constitution must receive the votes of three-fifths, rather than a simple majority, of state lawmakers.

There also is no further need to bow to the often hysterical concerns of ERA opponents, concerns which have been cleverly magnified beyond all

reasonable proportions.

The proposed amendment states: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

That means women would be constitutionally guaranteed the opportunity to do what they want and are able to qualify to do, without discrimination against them solely because they are female.

To date, the President, the Congress and 33 states have with their executive and legislative actions taken the time to understand the basic decency of the amendment and to officially agree that it should be a part of the Constitution.

Only five more state ratifications are needed before March 1979.

The people of Illinois similarly could be said to have endorsed the thrust of the amendment when they ratified the new Illinois Constitution in 1970.

The Illinois Constitution's "bill of rights" states at Section 18: "The equal protection of the laws shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex by the State or its units of local government and school districts."

Disasters of the sort ERA opponents foresee have not resulted in Illinois. Nor would they nationally.

Agency Upholds Rights

Discrimination by Sex Widespread

Springfield

"I would be willing to bet my last dollar that every woman in this room has experienced discrimination in her work situation."

Eleanor Peterson, chairman of the Illinois Fair Employment Practices Commission (FEPC) expressed this view in a weekend address to 350 women in Springfield. The women were attending the 1974 legislative conference of the Illinois Federation of Business and Profes-

sional Women's Clubs.

She is the only woman to head the law enforcement agency organized in 1961 to uphold the employment rights of Illinois citizens.

Since the commission began handling sex discrimination complaints in 1971, charges filed by women have grown to comprise one-third of those received, she said.

"Sex discrimination runs the length and breadth of our land . . . and is quite unique in the United States," she said.

Two per cent of the dentists and 3½ per cent of the attorneys in this country are women, she said, noting 70 per cent of Denmark's dentists and 40 per cent of Sweden's attorneys are women.

Although erasing sex discrimination has just begun, Mrs. Peterson said progress has already been made.

She cited the recent Supreme Court ruling allowing a pregnant teacher and her physician to decide when to begin maternity leave.

Formerly, she said, school boards had routinely sent teachers home when they were four months pregnant.

"No one can tell you any more to go home," she declared.

Mrs. Peterson, who believes pregnancy should be compensated as a temporary major disability, said many companies provide no maternity payments.

"Most women are hardly able to get street car fare home. Most maternity benefits in large companies are negligible," she charged.

She also deplored the policy of companies that require a nine-month waiting period to qualify for maternity benefits.

"We say if you have to wait nine months for pregnancy coverage, Mr. Smith should have to wait nine months to break his leg."

On Illinois campuses unequal pay for equal work is a way of life, Mrs. Peterson said.

She noted 24 per cent of the university faculty members in this state are women, but just eight per cent of them have tenure.

Women denied tenure, often on the grounds that they haven't published, are relegated to teaching freshman classes, according to Mrs. Peterson. Four-fifths of the male teachers, she added, have published no more than the unpromoted women, FEPC investigations have shown.

Promotions is the area in which minorities now face stiffest discrimination.

"I think the big problem now is the promoting of blacks and women," Mrs. Peterson said. "So many companies put them in dead-end jobs. They're frozen down there. Few get up into the executive seat."

Persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of sex should contact the FEPC offices at the Centennial Building in Springfield or at 189 W. Madison in Chicago, she said.

"I invite you to make complaints to this agency. If you aren't hired, we can get you hired. If you aren't promoted, we can get you promoted."

Besides hearing complaints the FEPC also informs employers of how the laws change.

"The laws in this field are very fast-changing," she said. "Ten years ago you could put all of them in a Reader's Digest. Today it takes a whole library".

CAR CHEAPER

In 1910, an automobile club held a competition and concluded that a gasoline-powered run-about of the day cost 1.8 cents a mile to operate and a horse and buggy cost 2.5 cents.



Lindquist Studio

Anita Hill

Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hill of 1110 W. Decatur St. announce the engagement of their daughter, Anita, to Michael Hughes, son of Rev. and Mrs. Marshall Hughes of 2459 N. Graceland Ave.

Miss Hill graduated from Stephen Decatur High School and is employed by Illinois Power Co.

Mr. Hughes graduated from MacArthur High School and is employed by Archer Daniels Midland Co.

A May 25 wedding is being planned.

DECATUR'S LARGEST AND FINEST BEAUTY SALON

FEBRUARY SPECIALS

No Appointment Necessary



NEW ART'S
CREME
COLD
WAVE **7.95**
A 12.50 Val.
No Extra
Charges

Reg. \$15.00 Living
Zotos 10.95 Doll 8.95

NEW ART

125 South Water Ph. 428-4223

Open Mon. Mornings—Fri. Eve. to 7:30—Bus. Hours 8:00 to 5:30 P.M.

You May Use
Your
BankAmericard
Shop Monday
thru Saturday
10 to 5

PRET A PORTER
BOUTIQUE

IN THE COURT



Tim Donovan best candidate

To the Editor:

Most people are not deep thinkers, they depend upon the media to supply them information. For this reason I believe when the newspaper editors endorse a candidate, they should not only judge what concerns them about his political record, but also take into consideration his complete record.

Every legislator takes an "Oath of Office" by promising to uphold the Constitution of Illinois, which requires a 3/5 majority vote.

Mr. Dunn supports a rule change to the simple majority vote in order to help the National Organization for Women in their attempts to push the Equal Rights Amendment through the Illinois Legislature.

Elsewhere in the paper it was noted "Dunn consistently voted for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment."

"Discrimination is wrong" seems to be the only answer he has for his support of ERA. It doesn't seem to bother him to discriminate against the mother who prefers to raise her own children without her husband having to pay a Social Security tax on her assumed wages.

It didn't bother him to look 16 and 17-year-old girls in the eye and tell them he would vote for an amendment to our Constitution which would prevent us from ever making reasonable differences between women and men and would draft them into military service and combat duty with men.

It doesn't bother him to transfer legislative power over family life to the federal and Supreme Courts, giving them complete and conclusive power over our lives. But then, he also supports the appointment of all judges. I think this is discrimination, taking away the right of the people to select judges by election. Once seated, the judge could rule to suit this own opinions and ideas without answering to anyone.

Voting for ERA discriminates against the unborn. Abortion on demand will be locked into the Constitution.

Representative Tim Donovan is by far the best of the two candidates. He represented us well in all areas including his pro-family, pro-life votes as well as his constant votes against ERA.

Thank you for listening.

Norma E. Rakers
Decatur

ERA: Freedom of Choice

To the Editor:

I heard Phyllis Schlafly speak while she was in town Feb. 5. Although she had many things to say, I want to focus on one issue: The freedom of choice that she believes that women have and would be denied if the ERA were ratified.

Schlafly claims that women have the freedom to choose a husband and family or a career and, if the ERA were ratified, women would be legally forced to take up careers outside their homes. I think Schlafly has misrepresented the issue of freedom of choice.

Considerable numbers of women in our country are single, divorced or widowed which means that they have no husband to provide for them. Phyllis Schlafly never focuses on their problems. Moreover, women bear the brunt of poverty, urban or rural. ADC is a substitute man; an arrangement in which a particularly damaging dependency is perpetrated. Try telling a blue-collar wife that her husband has the sole legal obligation to support her and their children when he is barely making a living wage for himself.

Schlafly's emphasis on the non-working wife obscures the issue of economic survival. According to a newspaper article in a recent Sunday edition, the only thing that stands between a woman and poverty is her (living) husband. No law can guarantee a woman a husband, and I'm not being facetious. A woman who does not work outside her home is personally poor no matter how much her husband makes unless she is also prepared to support herself. The only way a woman can enforce the support laws is to divorce her husband: A husband does not have to give his wife any money for her support. Women cannot afford to assume that their economic status is

synonymous with their husband's status.

ERA, plus laws already on the books and continual work are needed to get equality implemented for all women. However, it must be remembered that our society is set up to protect those with money. It is not true that there are equal opportunities for all in America: It is this ideological position that Phyllis Schlafly takes which is the most damning because it is a lie.

(Ms.) Catherine M. Stanford
Decatur

Views Of Our Readers

'Brainless' Remarks

To the Editor:

I was appalled to read Rep. John Alsup's Feb. 6 characterization of ERA proponents as "braless, brainless broads."

Rep. Alsup's contribution to the women's movement parallels the contribution made to the civil rights movement by those who portrayed the blacks as "shiftless niggers". Hurling emotionally charged epithets instead of honestly discussing issues is a hallmark of bigotry. Instead of squarely facing the many legitimate issues involved in the passage of the ERA, Rep. Alsup evidently chose to pander to his audience by mouthing his own prejudices.

Rep. Alsup may not be a "broad," but his remarks definitely deserve to be consigned to the "brainless" category.

Jana L. Tuton
Decatur

ERA issue bends rules

To the Editor:

At first glance, Ms. Carol Campbell's letter (March 14, 1982) appears logical. After reading carefully, however, logic is blown to the wind. Take, for instance, the argument for a "simple" majority in order to ratify a constitutional amendment like the proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), instead of the three-fifths which is required by the Illinois Constitution.

Supporters of ERA say that the three-fifths requirement is "inconsistent with" and "in conflict with" the U.S. Constitution which requires a two-thirds vote. Using that rationale, the vote should actually be a two-thirds majority in order for the Illinois requirement to be "consistent" with and not in "conflict" with the U.S. Constitution. It doesn't take a math major to figure out that two-thirds is actually more than three-fifths. Yet, this is the illogical argument they give to try to get the requirement changed to a "simple" majority. Are they really that naive or do they think everyone else is?

Here is what Article XIV, Sec. 4 says about ratifying a constitutional amendment: "The affirmative vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly shall be required to...ratify a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States..."

Here is the oath that each legislator is required to take upon taking office. (Illinois Revised Statutes 1979, Ch. 63:) "I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be.) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of...according to the best of my ability."

With the ERA issue we have seen the rules and the Constitution bent, manipulated and twisted every which way in order to satisfy the whims of a small, vocal minority. We can let them tear it up completely, or we can do something about it. Please write to your state legislators and ask them to vote no on ERA, and to uphold their oath of office in regards to the three-fifths requirement.

(Mrs.) Bonnie Bowlby, President
Eagle Forum
Decatur

Readers' Commentary



arately so I will know how much money I am being forced to invest in the Clinton Nuclear Power Plant.

If I am forced to invest money in the construction of this plant I would like to be issued shares in the company the same as any other investor.

If the new plant is financed half by the customers and half by regular investors and it makes a profit will the customers get their half of the profit or will the regular investors get it all even though they only furnished half the money?

After the plant is built and construction costs ended will the CWIP rate increases be cancelled or will we be paying construction costs forever? Construction money should be furnished by banks and stock and bond holders. Not the customers.

The politicians know all this.

Why do they continue to permit the power company to lay the construction costs on the customers with one rate increase after another?

If you want to do something about these rate increases the place to start is with the politicians you put in office in the first place.

C.L. Brewer
Decatur

Power company not real culprit

To the Editor:

It would seem to me that the people in the area of Illinois Power's monopoly are really blaming the wrong people for all of our increases in energy cost.

The power company cannot increase cost without the consent of the Illinois Commerce Commission. It would seem to me that the barbs should be given to

*Copies of this letter sent to 27 Unit Chairmen in
Macon County.*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

April 9, 1974

Macon County Homemakers Extension Association

Dear Unit Chairman:

Enclosed please find a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States, "The ERA - What it means to men and women." This publication was presented and explained to your Homemakers Extension board members, April 8th. Since your Association has not made a study of the Equal Rights Amendment, they have no position on it. They voted permission to send this material to better inform you about ERA.

The enclosed publication explains the ERA Amendment and answers many questions about it; as well as listing some of the organizations that endorse it.

Only 5 additional states need to pass ERA to total 38 - the number needed for final ratification to the U. S. Constitution. ERA is expected to be considered by the Illinois Legislature this spring. We hope your members, as individuals, will write how they feel about ERA to their state representatives and senators.

If you would like a speaker to talk to your unit about ERA, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

enc.

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois
62526

Laura Verbanac
League representative
ERA Coalition
51st Legislative District

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois 62526
March 6, 1974

Mrs. H. Vreeland, President
Decatur Council, Parents and Teachers Assn.
2219 Glenn
Decatur, Illinois 62521

Dear Mrs. Vreeland:

Enclosed is a petition with the exact wording of the proposed 27th amendment to the U. S. Constitution and spaces for signatures of voters supporting the proposal. Persons must sign as they are registered to vote: i.e., Mary Jones, 15 Grenoble St., Decatur, Illinois, 724-1680.

You will also find, enclosed, a booklet, "The ERA - what it means to men and women", a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States. It explains the need for the amendment and answers some questions concerning it.

Thank you for presenting this matter to the Decatur Council, Parents and Teachers Association at their March 19, 1974 meeting. Please return the petition to me.

Very truly yours,

Laura Verbanac,
League representative of
ERA Coalition in the 51st
Illinois Legislative District

Telephone 877-2621

3 petitions

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois 62526
April 19, 1974

The Decatur Review
365 North Main Street
Decatur, Illinois 62522

To the Editor:

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is one sentence: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." If passed, sex could not be considered in determining the legal rights of men and women.

A correction is in order, therefore, to the statement in a letter to the Editor (April 15 by K.R. Weber) that this amendment would place "women's rights under social security-- in jeopardy."

Legal opinions support quite the reverse. Men would be entitled to the rights women have and women would be entitled to the rights men have. For example, men as well as women can now begin drawing social security benefits at age 62. Similarly, under ERA, a man would be able to draw on his wife's social security account as a wife now draws on her husband's account. If a woman died or retired, a man would be entitled to the dependent benefits of social security that his wife had earned. This is not the case now -- where a different system applies to the payments to husbands and wives.

Further information on legal opinions which relate to ERA may be found in the Yale Law Journal, Vol.80, no.5, April 1971.

Very truly yours,

L. V. Verbanac



The Danville

BUSINESS and PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB, Inc.

Danville, Illinois 61832

April 5, 1974

Mrs. Charles J. Jeyerson
175 Park Place
Decatur, Ill. 62522

Dear Mrs. Meyerson:

The Danville Business and Professional Women's Club will host a luncheon and meeting on the Equal Rights Amendment on Saturday, April 20th, 1974 at 1:30 P. M. to be held at the Danville Elks Club in Danville, Illinois, 332 E. Liberty Lane.

Our Speaker will be Mariwyn Heath, a dynamic speaker from Ohio, sent to us by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club. She was one of the leading forces in getting the E.R.A. passed in Ohio and she will speak to us about that.

This meeting is open to everyone interested in getting the Equal Rights Amendment passed in Illinois. We are working on this in conjunction with E.R.A. Central and this is a state-wide effort. We must have a good attendance in order to justify the meeting. Please come and urge your friends to come.

The price of the luncheon is \$4.00. Please send a check made payable to Mildred Elvin, 12 Bremer St., Danville, Illinois. We must have this reservation by April 16th, 1974. We must work on this E.R.A. Week together, so let us hear from you.

Very truly yours,

June Duncan
June Duncan, President
Danville Business and
Professional Women's Club

Liberty Lane crosses Rt. #1 north of Ayrway shopping center if you are coming from the south and you turn to the right. If you are coming from the North, Liberty Lane is at the stop sign before getting to the ayrway Shopping center and you turn to your left.

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois 62526
March 11, 1974

Miss Anita Smock, President
Retired Teachers Association
101 Wisconsin
Decatur, Illinois 62526

Dear Miss Smock:

Enclosed are petitions for signatures of veterans supporting the proposed 27th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Persons must sign as they are registered to vote: i.e., Mary Jones, 15 Grenoble Street, Decatur, Ill., 724-1680.

Also enclosed is a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States, "THE ERA - what it means to men and women". It explains the need for the amendment and answers some questions concerning it.

Thank you for presenting this matter to the Retired Teachers Association at their April 4, 1974 meeting. Please return the petitions to me.

Very truly yours,

Laura Verbanac
League representative
ERA Coalition
51st Legislative District

Telephone: 877-2621

enclosures
5 petitions

Similar letters to:
A
Mrs. Kathryn Bellows, Pres.
Decatur Ass'n of Educational Secretaries
40.79 Sheffield Court
62526

Meeting: April 16, 1974
of Petitions

Ms. Ann Seidman
~~34~~ Zonta International
346 W. Mason
62522

2 petitions
Mar. 28, 1974

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois 62526
March 17, 1974

Mr. James L. Williams
Decatur Education Association
304 S. Franklin
Decatur, Illinois 62523

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed please find petitions supporting the proposed 27th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In a telephone conversation with a secretary in the Decatur Education Association office, we were advised that you would be willing to present this matter to your membership at the March 20, 1974 meeting. Persons must sign the petitions as they are registered to vote.

We are also enclosing a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States, "THE ERA - what it means to men and women". It explains the need for the amendment and answers some questions concerning it.

Please return the petitions to me.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

7 petitions

enclosures
Tel: 877-2621

Laura Verbanac
League representative
ERA Coalition
51st Legislative District

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois 62526
March 9, 1974

Ms. Frances Williams, President
Credit Women International
c/o EMERSON'S
542 E. Eldorado Street 62523

Dear Ms. Williams:

Enclosed is a petition with the exact wording of the proposed 27th amendment to the U. S. Constitution and space for signatures of voters supporting the proposal. Persons must sign as they are registered to vote: i.e., Mary Jones, 15 Grenoble St., Decatur, Ill., 724-1680.

Also enclosed is a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States, "THE ERA - what it means to men and women". It explains the need for the amendment and answers some questions concerning it.

Thank you for presenting this matter to the Credit Women International at their March 20th, 1974 meeting. Please return the petition to me.

Very truly yours,

Laura Verbanac,
League representative of
ERA Coalition in the 51st
Legislative District

Telephone: 877-2621

enclosures.
1 petition

12 Dakota Drive
Decatur, Illinois 62526
March 6, 1974

Ms Sandra Drischel, President
Insurance Women of Decatur
240 North Park
Decatur, Illinois 62523

Dear Ms Drischel:

Enclosed is a petition with the exact wording of the proposed 27th amendment to the U. S. Constitution and spaces for signatures of voters supporting the proposal. Persons must sign as they are registered to vote; i.e. Mary Jones, 15 Grenoble St., Decatur, Ill., 724-1680.

You will also find enclosed a booklet, "THE ERA - what it means to men and women", a publication of the League of Women Voters of the United States. It explains the need for the amendment and answers some questions concerning it.

Thank you for presenting this matter to the Insurance Women of Decatur at their March 12, 1974 meeting. Please return the petition to me.

Very truly yours,

Laura Verbanac,
League representative of
ERA Coalition in the 51st
Illinois Legislative District

Tel: 877-2621

1 petition

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Wednesday, September, 19, 1979

CONTACT:
Marianne Keady Erickson
422-5049

Newly recruited members of the ERA Decatur action team are meeting on Thursday, September 27th at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship House, 716 W. William in Decatur. The meeting will provide an update on the phone bank, lobbying and outreach, funding, research, as well as information about local pro-ERA plans and activities prior to the upcoming Illinois legislative veto and tax repeal sessions. Recruitment of workers for all committees will continue at this meeting. All local ERA supporters are encouraged to attend and participate in this second meeting of the ERA Decatur action team.

ERA

ILLINOIS

P.O. Box 650
Deerfield, IL 60015
(312) 948-9618

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

HONORARY CO-CHAIRS
Sharon Sharp, Special Assistant
to the Governor on Women
Grace Mary Stern
Lake County Clerk

August 16, 1982

Dear Friend:

PRESIDENT
Edna J. Schade
VICE PRESIDENT
Grace Kaminkowitz
TREASURER
Richard M. Doub
SECRETARY
Lana Sutton

On June 22, the ERA Illinois Board of Directors voted to continue the coalition. It was a natural response to the 1982 ERA action in the legislatures of Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Oklahoma and in the Illinois House on that day. The congressional co-sponsors were standing by to re-introduce the ERA and ERA Illinois' goals began to take form.

In the last six weeks, members of the ERA Illinois board have met several times to discuss the future of the coalition. It was obvious that the major focus must be the electoral process. ERA Illinois' role would include the dissemination of information about candidates and coordination of political action for the November, 1982 races. Then, the coalition would begin a long-term strategy to elect and appoint more pro-ERA people at every level of government for a phase 1 completion in the 1984 elections.

For both the short and long-term goals, the coalition must develop efficient systems for communication, fundraising, membership and political action. More specifically, top priority has been given to 1) computerization of ERA Illinois membership with precinct through congressional-district identification; 2) a series of statewide political action workshops to acquire skills for winning campaigns in 1984; and 3) a creative statewide, fundraising scheme to finance '84 candidates and to show the world that ERA proponents can, and will, effect change for equal rights with THEIR money, THEIR know-how and THEIR hard work. Result: When the ERA comes back to the Illinois General Assembly, we will not have to go begging for votes; the ERA will have overwhelming support because we have invested ourselves in the process to insure election of pro-ERA candidates.

Please begin your investment in the future of the ERA by renewing your organization's membership in ERA Illinois and joining as an individual member. The need is critical and immediate. The ERA Illinois newsletter is ready and waiting to be printed and mailed - a \$400.00 project. The issue contains the final Illinois House and Senate ERA roll calls, ERA Congressional news, a membership expansion appeal, coalition reports, etc. The ERA Illinois board is making plans for a grant proposal, membership drive and future fundraising events, but we can depend only on you for contributions now to bridge the transitional phase.

The attached membership form asks you to volunteer a skill(s) for ERA Illinois' new program. Please take a few minutes to decide how you will participate and enlist a friend to work with you.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, August 24, 7 p.m. at the Board of Directors meeting. If you cannot make a board meeting in the future, please send a substitute to represent your organization. We need to know how ERA fits into your organization's program for the coming year and we need your candid critique of ERA Illinois' proposed program. PLEASE COME!

Sincerely,

Edna J. Schade
Edna J. Schade
President

P.S. Please call me if you have questions.
(312)948-9618

Make checks payable to ERA Illinois and send with the membership form to ERA ILLINOIS, P. O. Box 650, Deerfield, IL 60015

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN ERA ILLINOIS AS AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AT \$15 PER YEAR.		Please supply the following voter card information:		I would be interested in the following committee work:	
Name _____	area code/phone _____	Cong. Dist. _____	Leg. Dist. _____	Political Action _____	Workshops _____
Address _____		Rep. Dist. _____	Precinct _____	Newsletter _____	Membership _____
City _____	State _____ Zip Code _____	Township _____	County _____	Finance _____	District Coordination _____
ORGANIZATIONAL DUES: _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ \$25				Public Relations _____	
over 1,000 _____ 201-1000 _____ up to 200 _____ non-voting _____					
CONTRIBUTION: \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ Other _____				I will lend the following skills:	
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____				Computer _____	
Name of Organization _____				Word processing _____	
President _____ Telephone _____				Typing _____	
Mailing Address _____				Phoning _____	
ERA Liaison _____ Phone: days _____ eves. _____				Other (specify) _____	
Mailing address _____					

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Decatur, Illinois

Greetings:

ERA Decatur is planning an educational workshop for supporters of the Amendment. The purpose of this workshop is to further enable us to educate and inform the community about ERA. To do this effectively we have prepared a survey to find the areas in which you feel more education would be beneficial.

This workshop is for you, so please take the time to fill out the enclosed questionnaire and mail it in as soon as possible.

Send replies to:

Donna Thompson, Chairperson
ERA Workshop
135 W. Main Street
Decatur, IL 62523

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

PLEASE CHECK DATES YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND:

SEPTEMBER 13 _____

SEPTEMBER 20 _____

REASON YOU COULD NOT ATTEND ON DATES NOT CHECKED:

PLEASE CHECK THE AREA YOU WOULD LIKE DISCUSSED AND WRITE ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE ANSWERED:

RELIGION: _____

CONSTITUTION: _____

LAW: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY: _____

ECONOMIC: _____

DRAFT: _____

HOMEMAKERS: _____

OTHER: _____

QUESTIONS:

PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 1, 1980

RECEIVED BY MAIL 11 1988

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

PHONE:

DATE:

REASON:

REMARKS:

PLEASE CHECK THE VERY TOP BOX IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS PUBLICATION:

PLEASE CHECK THE VERY TOP BOX IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCONTINUE THIS PUBLICATION:

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

233 N. Woodlawn Ave.
Decatur, IL 62522

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DECATUR, IL
PERMIT NO. 54

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

Mrs Barbara Brown
233 N. Woodlawn
Decatur Ill 62522

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY E.R.A. ACTION CONFERENCE

I. Introductions - Marianne Keady Erickson

II. Local Speakers:

- a. Ann Baxter - Property Rights, Mortgages
- b. Linda Castleman - Lack of Constitutional provision for women's rights
- c. Mary Schruben - E.R.A. and Women Employed outside the Home
- d. Barb Brown - Matters and issues the E.R.A. will not affect
- e. Otta Key - E.R.A. and the Homemaker: Freedom to choose a fulfilling career

III. E.R.A. Ratification Project Office Report: Update on regional, state and national ratification efforts - Wanda Brandstetter, Field Organizer, Suite 1006, 18 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60603, (312) 782-7205

Ruth Whitney

IV. Action Team Organization: *Coordinator - Marianne*

- a. Phone Bank
- b. Lobbying and Promotion
- c. Public Education and Public Relations
- d. Petitions
- e. Proposal for funding from League of Women Voters
- f. Other funding ideas
- g. Other suggestions/discussion

V. Next meeting: _____
Place _____
Adjournment _____

VI. Notes:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Thursday, October 18, 1979

CONTACT:
Marianne Keady Erickson
(422-5049)

HISTORY AND CURRENT STATUS OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Thursday, October 25, 1979, 7:30 p.m. is the day and time of the October meeting of E.R.A. Decatur. Current members and the general public are encouraged to attend. "History and Current Status of the Equal Rights Amendment" is the topic to be presented by E.R.A. Decatur Coordinator, Marianne Keady Erickson. Discussion will follow the planned presentation. Participants will have the opportunity to obtain literature on the facts of the E.R.A. On-going organization of efforts to ratify E.R.A. through local outreach work will continue. The Unitarian Fellowship House, 716 W. William, is the location of the October 25th meeting.

- 30 -

ERA
Equal Rights Amendment
Ratification Project

BjB

Honorable Jacqueline G. Curwiling, Chairperson

Miss Virginia R. Allan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Public Affairs
Department of State
Dr. Margaret Lang Arnold
Honorary President, General
Federation of Women

THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

TO THE

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

A Memorandum

Dr. Rita Riardo Campbell
Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution
Stanford University
Mrs. Jilje Casterman Connor
Folk Music Entertainer & School
Teacher
Miss Sarah Jane Cunningham
Attorney at Law
Mrs. Mary Charles Griffin
Civic Leader
Miss Maxine R. Hake, Executive
Calf Oil Corp.
Mrs. Marie Hanel
Vice President, Hanel's Dairy &
Ice Cream Company, Inc.

Staff

Mrs. Catherine East
Executive Secretary
Mrs. Bertha B. Whittaker

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Washington, D. C. 20210

Honorable Jacqueline G. Gutwillig, Chairperson

Miss Virginia R. Allan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Public Affairs
Department of State

Dr. Margaret Long Arnold
Honorary President, General
Federation of Women's Clubs

Mrs. Diana G. Bethel
Civic Leader

Mrs. Lorraine L. Blair, President
Lorraine Blair, Inc., Founder President
Finance Forum of America

Dr. Rita Ricardo Campbell
Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution
Stanford University

Mrs. Julie Casterman Connor
Folk Music Entertainer & School
Teacher

Miss Sarah Jane Cunningham
Attorney at Law

Mrs. Mary Charles Griffin
Civic Leader

Miss Maxine R. Hacke, Executive
Gulf Oil Corp.

Mrs. Marie Hamel
Vice President, Hamel's Dairy &
Ice Cream Company, Inc.

*Miss Margaret J. Mealey
Executive Director
National Council of Catholic Laity

Honorable Hazel Palmer
Magistrate Court Judge of
Pettis County
Former President, National Fed-
eration of Business & Professional
Women's Clubs

Mrs. Sara H. Revercomb
Civic Leader & Former School
Teacher

Honorable Patricia Saiki, Member
Hawaii State Legislature

Miss Rachel E. Scott
Medical Researcher

Mrs. Yetta Wasserman
Civic Leader & Past President
Cleveland Section, National Council
of Jewish Women

Mrs. Irene Wischer, President
Paladin Pipeline Co.
Sr. Director & Executive Officer
Panhandle Producing Co., and
Member, Board of Directors
Greater San Antonio Chamber of
Commerce

Staff

Mrs. Catherine East
Executive Secretary

Mrs. Bertha H. Whittaker
Program Assistant

* Does not endorse the Equal
Rights Amendment.

A MEMORANDUM
FOR THE PRESIDENT
ON
CONTENTS
THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT
TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	1
History of the Equal Rights Amendment	2
Laws Which Discriminate on the Basis of Sex	3
The Position of Women Under Existing Constitutional Provisions	4
Relationship Between the Equal Rights Amendment and Existing Constitutional Provisions	9
Effect the Equal Rights Amendment Would Have on Laws Differentiating on the Basis of Sex	10
Objections (and Answers) to the Proposed Equal Rights Amendment	14
Executive Order No. 11126 of November 1, 1963, as amended, (which established the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women)	16

This paper was presented to the Council by its study group on equal legal rights: Sarah Jane Cunningham, Chairman, Virginia R. Allan, Lorraine L. Blair, Rachel E. Scott, Irene Wischer; Mary Eastwood, Technical Staff.

A MEMORANDUM ON
THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT
TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

The proposed equal rights amendment to the U. S. Constitution would provide that "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex," and would authorize the Congress and the States to enforce the amendment by appropriate legislation.^{1/}

The purpose of the proposed amendment would be to provide constitutional protection against laws and official practices that treat men and women differently. At the present time, the extent to which women may invoke the protection of the Constitution against laws which discriminate on the basis of sex is unclear. The equal rights amendment would insure equal rights under the law for men and women and would secure the right of all persons to equal treatment under the laws and official practices without differentiation based on sex.

The United States Congress recommended that the States approve the Equal Rights Amendment with House approval (vote 354 to 23) on October 12, 1971 and with Senate approval March 22, 1972 (vote 84 to 8). Three-fourths of the state legislatures must ratify the amendment by March 22, 1979 in order for the ERA to be the 27th Amendment to the Constitution. Hawaii was the first state to ratify the Amendment, and that vote came within one hour after the Senate vote on March 22, 1972.

The Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women, at its meeting February 7, 1970, endorsed the equal rights amendment, adopting the following resolution:

The Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women endorses the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution and recommends that the Interdepartmental Committee on the Status of Women urge the President to immediately request the passage of

^{1/} See, e.g., S.J. Res. 61, 91st Cong., 1st Sess.

the proposed Equal Rights Amendment by the Congress of the United States.

The Council's recommendation was transmitted to the President on February 13, 1970.

History of the Equal Rights Amendment

Resolutions proposing an equal rights amendment have been introduced in every Congress since 1923. Hearings were held by the House and Senate Judiciary Committees in 1948 and 1956, respectively.^{2/} The amendment has been repeatedly reported favorably by the Senate Judiciary Committee, most recently in 1964 (S. Rept. No. 1558, 88th Cong., 2d Sess.), and has twice passed the Senate, in 1950 and 1953.

Both times it was passed, however, with the so-called "Hayden rider", which provided that the equal rights amendment "shall not be construed to impair any rights, benefits, or exemptions now or hereafter conferred by law, upon persons of the female sex."^{3/} Both times the rider accomplished its purpose of killing the proposed amendment since, as the Senate Judiciary Committee has noted, the rider's "qualification is not acceptable to women who want equal rights under the law. It is under the guise of so-called 'rights' or 'benefits' that women have been treated unequally and denied opportunities which are available to men." (S. Rept. No. 1558, supra)

Since the proposed equal rights amendment has failed to pass Congress for the past 47 years, it may appear to be a "loser", although admittedly it took women more than 50 years to secure the adoption of the 19th amendment. However, a revival of the feminist movement has occurred during the past four years and it is greatly increasing in momentum, especially among younger women. Thus the demand for equal rights and support for the amendment is becoming more widespread, with a corresponding increase in likelihood of early adoption of the amendment.

-
- ^{2/} Hearings on the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution and Commission on the Legal Status of Women, House Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee No. 1, 80th Cong., 2d Sess. (1948); Hearings on Equal Rights, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, 84th Cong., 2d Sess. (1956).
- ^{3/} See 96 Cong. Rec. 872-3 (1950); 99 Cong. Rec. 8954-5 (1953).

Laws Which Discriminate on the Basis of Sex

A number of studies have been made in recent years by the President's Commission on the Status of Women, the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women, and State commissions on the status of women concerning the various types of laws which distinguish on the basis of sex.^{4/} Opposition to the equal rights amendment in the past has been based in part on "fear of the unknown," i. e., lack of information concerning the types of laws which distinguish on the basis of sex and would therefore be affected by the amendment. Further delay in approving the amendment thus need not await any further study of the kinds of laws that discriminate on the basis of sex.

These studies have shown that numerous distinctions based on sex still exist in the law. For example:

1. State laws placing special restrictions on women with respect to hours of work and weightlifting on the job;
2. State laws prohibiting women from working in certain occupations;
3. Laws or practices operating to exclude women from State colleges and universities (including higher standards required for women applicants to institutions of higher learning and in the administration of scholarship programs);
4. Discrimination in employment by State and local governments;
5. Dual pay schedules for men and women public school teachers;
6. State laws providing for alimony to be awarded, under certain circumstances, to ex-wives but not to ex-husbands;
7. State laws placing special restrictions on the legal capacity of married women or on their right to establish a legal domicile;
8. State laws that require married women but not married men to go through a formal procedure and obtain court approval before they may engage in an independent business.^{5/}

^{4/} See especially, Report of the Committee on Civil and Political Rights, President's Commission on the Status of Women (GPO, 1963); Report of the Task Force on Labor Standards, Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women (GPO, 1968); Report of the Task Force on Family Law and Policy, CACSW (GPO, 1968). See also, Kanowitz, Women and the Law: The Unfinished Revolution, U. of N.M. Press, 1969.

^{5/} See, e.g., Calif. Code Civ. Proc., §§ 1811-1819; Nev. Rev. Stats., §§ 124.010--124.050.

9. Social Security and other social benefits legislation which give greater benefits to one sex than to the other;
10. Discriminatory preferences, based on sex, in child custody cases;
11. State laws providing that the father is the natural guardian of the minor children;^{6/}
12. Different ages for males and females in (a) child labor laws, (b) age for marriage, (c) cutoff of the right to parental support, and (d) juvenile court jurisdiction;
13. Exclusion of women from the requirements of the Military Selective Service Act of 1967;
14. Special sex-based exemptions for women in selection of State juries;
15. Heavier criminal penalties for female offenders than for male offenders committing the same crime.

Although it is possible that these and other discriminations might eventually be corrected by legislation, legislative remedies are not adequate substitutes for fundamental constitutional protection against discrimination. Any class of persons (i. e. , women) which cannot successfully invoke the protection of the Constitution against discriminatory treatment is by definition comprised of "second class citizens" and is inferior in the eyes of the law.

The Position of Women Under Existing Constitutional Provisions

The Fourteenth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution provides that no State shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The Federal government is similarly restricted from interfering with these individual rights, under the "due process clause" of the Fifth Amendment.

^{6/} See, e. g. , Code of Ga. Annot. , §§ 49-102--49-104; Okla. Stats. Annot. , tit. 10, § 5.

During the past century, women have been largely unsuccessful in seeking judicial relief from sex discrimination in cases challenging the constitutionality of discriminatory laws under these provisions. As the Committee on Civil and Political Rights, President's Commission on the Status of Women, noted in its 1963 Report,

In no 14th amendment case alleging discrimination on account of sex has the United States Supreme Court held that a law classifying persons on the basis of sex is unreasonable and therefore unconstitutional.^{7/}

In 1874, the Supreme Court held that the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States, protected from abridgment by the States under the Fourteenth Amendment, did not confer upon women the right to vote, although the Court conceded that women were persons and citizens within the meaning of the amendment.^{8/} Similarly, the privileges and immunities clause was held not to confer on women the right to practice law.^{9/}

The constitutionality of State laws regulating the employment of women (but not men) was upheld in a number of cases brought between 1908 and 1937: maximum hours laws,^{10/} laws prohibiting night work for women,^{11/} and laws requiring a minimum wage for women.^{12/} In 1948, the Court upheld a Michigan law prohibiting (with certain exceptions) the licensing of women as bartenders.^{13/}

A Florida law providing that women not be called for jury service unless she registers with the clerk of court her desire to serve was held not violative of the Fourteenth Amendment in 1961.^{14/} However, more recently, a three-judge Federal court in Alabama held that State's law excluding women from

^{7/} GPO, 1963, p. 34.

^{8/} Minor v. Happersett, 21 Wall. 162, 168.

^{9/} Bradwell v. State, 16 Wall. 130 (1872); In re Lockwood, 154 U.S. 116 (1894).

^{10/} Muller v. Oregon, 208 U.S. 412 (1908); Riley v. Massachusetts, 232 U.S. 671 (1914); Miller v. Wilson, 236 U.S. 373 (1915); Busley v. McLaughlin, 236 U.S. 385 (1915).

^{11/} Radice v. New York, 264 U.S. 292 (1924).

^{12/} West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish, 300 U.S. 379 (1937), overruling Adkins v. Children's Hospital, 261 U.S. 525 (1923).

^{13/} Goesaert v. Cleary, 335 U.S. 464 (1948).

^{14/} Hoyt v. Florida, 368 U.S. 57 (1961).

jury service violated the rights of women under the Fourteenth Amendment, stating:

The Constitution of the United States must be read as embodying general principles meant to govern society and the institutions of government as they evolve through time. It is therefore this Court's function to apply the Constitution as a living document to the legal cases and controversies of contemporary society.

.
. . . The Alabama statute that denies women the right to serve on juries . . . violates that provision of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States that forbids any state to "deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The plain effect of this constitutional provision is to prohibit prejudicial disparities before the law. This means prejudicial disparities for all citizens -- including women. White v. Crook, 251 F. Supp. 401, 408 (M. D. Ala., 1966).

In Abbot v. Mines, 411 F. 2d 353 (C. A. 6, 1969) the Court reversed a case in which the trial judge had dismissed women jurors from the panel because the evidence in the case required testimony concerning cancer of the male genitals. The Court of Appeals stated:

It is common knowledge that society no longer coddles women from the very real and sometimes brutal facts of life. Women, moreover, do not seek such oblivion. . . .

The District Judge's desire to avoid embarrassment to the women jurors is understandable and commendable but such sentiments must be subordinated to constitutional mandates. 411 F. 2d at 355.

As recently as ten years ago, the Supreme Court declined to hear a case in which the Texas Court of Civil Appeals had upheld the exclusion of women from a State college, Texas A. & M. ^{15/}

In February 1970 a three-judge Federal court dismissed as "moot" a class action in which women sought to desegregate various all male and all female public institutions of higher learning in the State of Virginia. However, the

^{15/} Allred v. Heaton, 336 S. W. 2d 251 (1960), appeal dismissed and cert. denied, 364 U.S. 517, rehearing denied, 364 U.S. 944; see also Heaton v. Bristol, 317 S. W. 2d 86 (1958), appeal dismissed and cert. denied, 359 U.S. 230, rehearing denied, 359 U.S. 999.

Court had previously ordered the University to consider without regard to sex the women plaintiffs' applications for admission to the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and to submit a three-year plan for desegregating the University at Charlottesville. Kirstein et al v. The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, etc., et al. (E. D. Va., Richmond Div. Civil No. 220-69-R).

Although there are very few female criminals as compared to male criminals, some laws provide for longer prison terms for women than for men committing the same crime. Such laws in Pennsylvania and Connecticut have been held to be inconsistent with the equal protection guarantees of the Fourteenth Amendment.^{16/}

Thus, in at least two areas -- jury service and criminal penalties -- women appear to have made progress in invoking the protection of the Fourteenth Amendment. Although jury service is important as a practical matter it is hardly central to the lives of women. Criminal penalties are of real significance to only a very few women. Moreover, the court decisions have not wiped out discrimination even in these areas. The Kirstein case noted above represents some progress in an area vital to women -- education, but the extent to which women may insist on equal educational opportunities under the Constitution still remains unclear.

Different treatment of men and women for purposes of computing social security benefits has been held not to violate the right to due process and equal protection of the laws. Gruenwald v. Gardner, 390 F. 2d 591 (C. A. 2, 1968), cert. denied, 393 U.S. 982. The Court of Appeals stated that "the trend of authority makes it clear that the variation in amounts of retirement benefits based upon differences in the attributes of men and women is constitutionally valid." The Court also stated:

There is here a reasonable relationship between the objective sought by the classification, which is to reduce the disparity between the economic and physical capabilities of a man and a woman -- and the means used to achieve that objective in affording to women more favorable benefit computations. There is, moreover, nothing arbitrary or unreasonable about the application of the principle underlying the statutory differences in the computations for men and women. Notwithstanding the

^{16/} Commonwealth v. Daniel, 430 Pa. 642, 243 A. 2d 400 (1968); U.S. ex rel. Robinson v. York, 281 F. Supp. 8 (D. Conn., 1968).

favorable treatment granted to women in computing their benefits, the average monthly payments to men retiring at age 62 still exceeds those awarded women retiring at that age. 390 F. 2d at 592. (emphasis supplied)

In a case involving a violation of the Military Selective Service Act of 1967, the defendant raised the issue of sex discrimination, charging that since men but not women are compelled to serve in the Armed Forces, his rights to due process of law under the Fifth Amendment were violated. United States v. St. Clair, 291 F. Supp. 122 (S. D. N. Y., 1968). The Court stated:

In the Act and its predecessors, Congress made a legislative judgment that men should be subject to involuntary induction but that women, presumably because they are "still regarded as the center of home and family life" (Hoyt v. State of Florida, ...), should not. Women may constitutionally be afforded "special recognition" (cf. Gruenwald v. Gardner, ...) particularly since women are not excluded from service in the Armed Forces....

In providing for involuntary service for men and voluntary service for women, Congress followed the teachings of history that if a nation is to survive, men must provide the first line of defense while women keep the home fires burning. 291 F. Supp. at 124-5. (Emphasis supplied)

In two recent cases, women sought to enjoin State officials from enforcing special restrictions on the hours of work of women on the ground that such laws violate their rights to due process and equal protection of the law under the Fourteenth Amendment. The three-judge Federal courts (convened pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2281, 2284) held that the constitutional issue was insubstantial and that the three-judge court lacked jurisdiction.^{17/} The women argued that because of the State restrictive laws, they were deprived of opportunities for better paying jobs and overtime pay.

The President's Commission on the Status of Women stated in its 1963 report, American Women, that it was --

convinced that the U.S. Constitution now embodies equality of rights for men and women.... But judicial clarification is imperative in order that remaining ambiguities with respect

^{17/} Mengelkoch v. Industrial Welfare Commission, 284 F. Supp. 950, 956 (C. D. Calif., 1968), three-judge order vacated, 393 U.S. 83, rehearing denied, 393 U.S. 993, appeal pending in the Ninth Circuit; Ward v. Luttrell, 292 F. Supp. 162, 165 (E. D. La. 1968).

to the constitutional protection of women's rights be eliminated. Early and definitive court pronouncement, particularly by the U. S. Supreme Court, is urgently needed with regard to the validity under the 5th and 14th amendments of laws and official practices discriminating against women, to the end that the principle of equality become firmly established in constitutional doctrine. (GPO, page 45)

The position of women under the Constitution remains ambiguous in 1970.

Relationship Between the Equal Rights Amendment
and Existing Constitutional Provisions

It is, of course, possible that the 5th and 14th amendments will in the future be interpreted by the courts as prohibiting all sex distinctions in the law. Nothing in the proposed equal rights amendment would preclude this from occurring; the amendment would in no way cut back, modify, or qualify any protection against discrimination based on sex which may be afforded by the 5th and 14th amendments. As pointed out in Story, Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States (5th Edit, §§ 1938, 1939):

The securities of individual rights, it has often been observed, cannot be too frequently declared, nor in too many forms of words; nor is it possible to guard too vigilantly against the encroachments of power, nor to watch with too lively a suspicion the propensity of persons in authority to break through the "cobweb chains of paper constitutions."...

.....

Conceding, therefore, that if correctly construed, and applied according to their true intent and meaning, other constitutional provisions, State and national, might afford ample security for individual rights, we may nevertheless pardon the anxiety for further prohibitions, and concede that, even if wholly needless, the repetition of such securities may well be excused so long as the slightest doubt of their having been already sufficiently declared shall anywhere be found to exist.

The proposed amendment would secure the right of all persons to equal treatment under the law without any distinction as to sex. If the protection against sex discrimination provided by the equal rights amendment should prove to be duplicative of protections afforded by enlightened interpretations of the 5th and 14th amendments, no harm would be done.

Supporters of the equal rights amendment believe that the potential of the 14th amendment is too unclear and that women's constitutional rights to equality are too insecure to rely exclusively on the possibility of getting more enlightened court decisions under that amendment.

In a 1963 case, the Supreme Court stated:

The Fifteenth Amendment prohibits a State from denying or abridging a Negro's right to vote. The Nineteenth Amendment does the same for women Once a geographical unit for which a representative is to be chosen is designated, all who participate in the election are to have an equal vote -- whatever their race, whatever their sex. . . . This is required by the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Gray v. Sanders, 372 U.S. 368, 379.

This interpretation of the 14th amendment reinforced and made doubly secure the right to vote. There are numerous cases in which the Supreme Court has interpreted the 14th amendment to reinforce or to extend rights guaranteed by earlier or, as in the above case, later amendments to the Constitution. For example, the more general due process and equal protection concepts of the 5th and 14th amendments have been used to strengthen more specific rights of individuals to freedom of speech, assembly and religion guaranteed by the First Amendment; and the right to a speedy trial and the right to counsel guaranteed by the Sixth.

If the equal rights amendment is adopted, the courts might well subsequently interpret the Fourteenth Amendment as reinforcing constitutional equality for women. Certainly this possibility does not justify further delay in approving the amendment.

Effect the Equal Rights Amendment Would Have on Laws Differentiating on the Basis of Sex

Constitutional amendments, like statutes, are interpreted by the courts in the light of intent of Congress. Committee reports on a proposal are regarded by the courts as the most persuasive evidence of the intended meaning of a provision. Therefore, the probable meaning and effect of the equal rights amendment can be ascertained from the Senate Judiciary Committee reports (which have been the same in recent years):

1. The amendment would restrict only governmental action, and would not apply to purely private action. What

constitutes "State action" would be the same as under the 14th amendment and as developed in 14th amendment litigation on other subjects.

2. Special restrictions on property rights of married women would be unconstitutional; married women could engage in business as freely as a member of the male sex; inheritance rights of widows would be same as for widowers.
3. Women would be equally subject to jury service and to military service, but women would not be required to serve (in the Armed Forces) where they are not fitted any more than men are required to so serve.
4. Restrictive work laws for women only would be unconstitutional (e.g. maximum hours, night work and weight-lifting restrictions on women).
5. Alimony laws would not favor women solely because of their sex, but a divorce decree could award support to a mother if she was granted custody of the children. Matters concerning custody and support of children would be determined in accordance with the welfare of the children and without favoring either parent because of sex.
6. Laws granting maternity benefits to mothers would not be affected by the amendment, nor would criminal laws governing sexual offenses become unconstitutional (e.g. rape, prostitution).

Although the proposed amendment would specifically authorize the Congress and the States to enact implementing legislation, the amendment would be largely self-operative. The amendment is patterned after the 15th and 19th amendments, which required equal voting rights for Negroes and women, respectively. The 15th and 19th amendments did not render unconstitutional all State voting laws; they simply required the extension of voting rights to Negroes and women. The equal rights amendment would simply require that men and women be treated the same under the law. In some instances, like the 15th and 19th amendment, the effect of the amendment would be to strike the words of sex identification in the law rather than render it unconstitutional, thereby extending the rights under the law to both sexes. In other cases, where the law serves only to restrict, deny or limit the freedoms or rights of one sex, such restrictions would not be extended to both sexes; the law would be rendered unconstitutional. In still

other cases, the law is partially restrictive to persons of one sex in that age limitations are imposed differently on males and females.

Following is a five-point analysis of the impact the equal rights amendment will have on the various types of Federal and State laws which distinguish on the basis of sex:

1. Strike the Words of Sex Identification and Apply the Law to Both Sexes.

Where the law confers a benefit, privilege or obligation of citizenship, such would be extended to the other sex, i. e. the effect of the amendment would be to strike the words of sex identification. Thus, such laws would not be rendered unconstitutional but would be extended to apply to both sexes by operation of the amendment, in the same way that laws pertaining to voting were extended to Negroes and women under the 15th and 19th amendments.

Examples of such laws include: laws which permit alimony to be awarded under certain circumstances to wives but not to husbands; social security and other social benefits legislation which give greater benefits to one sex than the other; exclusion of women from the requirements of the Military Selective Service Act of 1967 (i. e., women would be equally subject to military conscription).

Any expression of preference in the law for the mother in child custody cases would be extended to both parents (as against claims of third parties). Children are entitled to support from both parents under the existing laws of most States.^{18/} Child support laws would be affected only if they discriminate on the basis of sex. The amendment would not prohibit the requiring of one parent to provide financial support for children who are in the custody of the other.

2. Laws Rendered Unconstitutional by the Amendment.

Where a law restricts or denies opportunities of women or men, as the case may be, the effect of the equal rights amendment would be to render such laws unconstitutional.

Examples are: the exclusion of women from State universities or other public schools; State laws placing special restrictions on the hours of work for women or the weights women may lift on the job; laws prohibiting women from working

18/ Reciprocal State Legislation to Enforce the Support of Dependents, Council of State Governments, 1964, page 20.

in certain occupations, such as bartenders; laws placing special restrictions on the legal capacity of married women, such as making contracts or establishing a legal domicile.

3. Removal of Age Distinctions Based on Sex.

Some laws which apply to both sexes make an age distinction by sex and thereby discriminate as to persons between the ages specified for males and females. Under the foregoing analysis, the ages specified in such laws would be equalized by the amendment by extending the benefits, privileges or opportunities under the law to both sexes. This would mean that as to some such laws, the lower age would apply to both sexes. For example: a lower minimum age for marriage for women would apply to both sexes; a lower age for boys under child labor laws would apply to girls as well. In other words, the privileges of marrying or working would be extended and the sex discrimination removed.

As to other laws, the higher age would apply to both sexes. For example: a higher cut-off age for the right to paternal support for boys would apply to girls as well; a higher age for girls for juvenile court jurisdiction would apply also to boys. In these cases, the benefits of paternal support or juvenile court jurisdiction would be extended to both sexes.

Thus, the test in determining whether these laws are to be equalized by applying the lower age or by applying the higher age to both sexes is as follows:

If the age limitation restricts individual liberty and freedom the lower age applies; if the age limitation confers a right, benefit or privilege to the individuals concerned and does not limit individual freedom, the higher age applies.

4. Laws Which Could Not Possibly Apply to Both Sexes Because of the Difference in Reproductive Capacity.

Laws which, as a practical matter, can apply to only one sex no matter how they are phrased, such as laws providing maternity benefits and laws prohibiting rape, would not be affected by the amendment. The extension of these laws to both sexes would be purely academic, since such laws would not apply differently if they were phrased in terms of both sexes.^{19/} In these situations, the terminology of sex identification is of no consequence.

^{19/} See Murray and Eastwood, "Jane Crow and the Law: Sex Discrimination and Title VII" 34 G. W. L. Rev. 232, 240-241 (1965).

5. Separation of the Sexes.

Separation of the sexes by law would be forbidden under the amendment except in situations where the separation is shown to be necessary because of an overriding and compelling public interest and does not deny individual rights and liberties.

For example, in our present culture the recognition of the right to privacy would justify separate restroom facilities in public buildings.

As shown above, the amendment would not change the substance of existing laws, except that those which restrict and deny opportunities to women would be rendered unconstitutional under the standard of point two of the analysis. In all other cases, the laws presently on the books would simply be equalized, and this includes the entire body of family law. Moreover, the amendment in no way would restrict the State legislature or the Congress in enacting legislation on any subject, since its only purpose and effect is to prohibit any distinction based on sex classification.

Objections to the Proposed Equal Rights Amendment

Objection: The equal rights amendment is not needed because women already have equal rights under the 5th and 14th amendments.

Answer: The extent to which women may invoke the protection of the due process and equal protection guarantees of the 5th and 14th amendments is unclear. In fact, some recent court decisions have upheld sex distinctions in the law, in spite of these constitutional provisions. Even if the 5th and 14th amendments are in future cases construed so as to eliminate all sex distinctions in the law, the equal rights amendment would simply make the individual's right to equal treatment doubly secure.

Objection: If the amendment were adopted the courts would be flooded with litigation because the meaning of the amendment is not clear; e.g., what are the various "rights" that would be protected? What does "equality" mean?

Answer: The equal rights amendment would not cause excessive litigation unless there were massive resistance to compliance with the amendment's requirement of equal treatment of men and women. If that happened, it would only prove the great need for the amendment. The "right" protected by the amendment is the right to equal treatment under the law, whatever the subject of the law may be, without distinction based on sex.

Objection: The amendment would render unconstitutional a wide variety of State laws which now treat men and women differently.

Answer: Some State laws -- those which deny rights or restrict freedoms of one sex -- would be violative of the equal rights amendment and rendered unconstitutional. Laws which confer rights, benefits and privileges on one sex would have to apply to both sexes equally, but would not be rendered unconstitutional by the amendment.

Objection: The amendment would require sweeping changes in laws pertaining to the family.

Answer: The amendment would simply require equality. In States where the law provides for alimony only for wives, courts could award alimony to husbands as well, under the same conditions as apply with respect to wives. (More than 1/3 of the States now permit alimony to be awarded to either spouse.) Mothers and fathers would both be legally responsible for the support of their children, as is generally the case under existing law.

Objection: The amendment would nullify special State protective labor laws for women, such as those governing limitations on hours of work, weightlifting on the job, and prohibitions against night work, for women employees only.

Answer: This issue is fast becoming moot, because the Federal law (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964) prohibits sex discrimination in employment and requires employers covered by the Act to treat men and women equally. A number of States have already conceded that special restrictions on women may no longer be enforced.

Objection: Women would be equally subject to the draft.

Answer: This is true. Women do serve in the Armed Forces now, but on a volunteer basis. The amendment would also prohibit more stringent eligibility standards for women than for men volunteers.

Objection: The equal rights amendment would require equal rights and responsibilities for women under the law.

Answer: True.

[Where the term GPO is mentioned in the text or in footnotes, the documents are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402]

Executive Order 11126

ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE AND A COUNCIL RELATING TO THE
STATUS OF WOMEN

The President's Commission on the Status of Women, established by Executive Order No. 10980 of December 14, 1961, has in fulfillment of its responsibilities, submitted a report concerning the steps that should be taken to further the effort to achieve the full participation of women in American life.

Enhancement of the quality of American life, as envisioned by the Commission's report can be accomplished only through concerted action by both public and private groups, through coordinated action within the Federal Government, and through action by States, communities, educational institutions, voluntary organizations, employers, unions, and individual citizens.

In order to assure effective and continuing leadership in advancing the status of women, it is deemed appropriate to establish an interdepartmental committee and a citizens' advisory council on the status of women.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, it is ordered as follows:

Part I---Interdepartmental Committee on the Status of Women

Section 101 (a) There is hereby established the Interdepartmental Committee on the Status of Women (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee"), which shall be composed of the Secretary of Labor, who shall be the Chairman of the Committee, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, the Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, and an Assistant Secretary of Labor to be designated by the Secretary of Labor, all ex officio. The Chairman may designate a Vice-Chairman of the Committee from its membership, and the Director of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor shall serve as Executive Vice-Chairman of the Committee, and shall be an ex officio member thereof.^{1/}

(b) When any matter especially related to the area of responsibility of any Federal Department or agency, the head of which is not a member of the Committee, is to be considered by the Committee, the Chairman of the Committee shall invite the head of such department or agency to participate in the deliberations of the Committee with respect to such matter and to be a temporary member of the Committee during such deliberations.

^{1/} As amended by Executive Order 11221 of May 6, 1965, 30 F.R. 6427.

Sec. 102. The Committee shall--

- (1) Maintain a continuing review and evaluation of the progress of Federal departments and agencies in advancing the status of women.
- (2) Serve as a clearing house for information as to the activities being directed toward, and the progress being made in, improving conditions of special interest to women.
- (3) Stimulate cooperation and the sharing of data, views, and information among Federal agencies, State and local governments, State commissions on the status of women, and public and private organizations having responsibilities and interests in areas of special concern to women.
- (4) Encourage research on factors affecting the status of women in the areas of education, home and community activities, employment, social insurance, taxes, civil and political rights, labor legislation, and related matters.
- (5) Exchange information with the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women, established by Part II of this order, on progress toward advancing the status of women and on new developments requiring consideration by the Council and the Committee.

Sec. 103. Annually the Committee, after consultation with the Citizens' Advisory Council, shall transmit a report to the President concerning the status of women.^{1/}

Part II---Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Sec. 201. There is hereby established the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women (hereinafter referred to as the "Council"), which shall be composed of 20 members appointed by the President, one of whom he shall designate to serve as Chairman. The Council shall meet at the call of the Chairman of the Committee, but not less than twice a year. Members of the Council shall serve without compensation from the United States.^{1/}

Sec. 202. The Council shall--

- (1) Serve as a primary means for suggesting and stimulating action with private institutions, organizations, and individuals working for improvement of conditions of special concern to women.
- (2) Review and evaluate progress of organizations in furthering the full participation of women in American life.

^{1/} As amended by Executive Order 11221 of May 6, 1965, 30 F.R. 6427.

- (3) Advise and assist the Committee in the evaluation of total progress made and recommend to the Committee, as necessary, action to accelerate such progress.
- (4) Consider the effect of new developments on methods of advancing the status of women and recommend appropriate action to the Committee.

Part III---Financing and Administration

Sec. 301. The departments the heads of which are, under Section 101 (a) of this order, members of the Committee and the Civil Service Commission shall, as may be necessary, furnish assistance to the Committee in accordance with Section 214 of the Act of May 3, 1945, 59 Stat. 134 (31 U.S.C. 691). To the extent practical and not inconsistent with the law, (1) all Federal departments and agencies shall cooperate with the Committee and the Council and furnish them such information and assistance as may be necessary for the performance of their functions, and (2) the Secretary of Labor shall furnish staff, office space, office facilities and supplies and other necessary assistance, facilities, and services for the Committee and Council (including travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence for members of the Council).

A Memorandum
/s/ John F. Kennedy

The White House,
November 1, 1963.

(3 CFR 1959-1963 Comp., p. 791; 28 F.R. 11717.)

C
O
P
Y

C
O
P
Y

(3) Advise and assist the Committee in the evaluation of total progress made and recommended to the Committee, as necessary, to the extent of such progress.

(4) Consider the effect of new developments on national and international status of women and recommend appropriate action to the Committee.

(5) Carry out such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned to the Committee by the Council.

Sec. 101. The departments the heads of which are, under Section 101 (a) of this title, members of the Committee and the Civil Service Commission shall, as may be necessary, furnish assistance to the Committee in accordance with Section 101 (a) of this title.

(1) All Federal agencies and agencies shall cooperate with the Committee and the Council and furnish such information and assistance as may be necessary for the performance of their functions, and (2) the Secretary of Labor shall furnish staff, office space, office facilities and supplies and other necessary assistance, facilities, and services for the Committee and Council (including travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence for members of the Council).

(3) Exchange information with the Citizens Advisory Council on the Status of Women, established by Part II of this title, to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of this title.

(4) Exchange information with the Citizens Advisory Council on the Status of Women, established by Part II of this title, to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of this title.

(5) Exchange information with the Citizens Advisory Council on the Status of Women, established by Part II of this title, to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of this title.

Sec. 103. Annually the Committee, after consultation with the Council, shall transmit a report to the President.

Part II--Citizens Advisory Council (3 CFR 1963-1963 Comp., p. 1011, 12 CFR 1171)

Sec. 201. There is hereby established the Citizens Advisory Council on the Status of Women, hereinafter referred to as the "Council", which shall be composed of 20 members appointed by the President, one of whom shall be designated as Chairman. The Council shall advise the Chairman of the Committee, but not less than twice a year. Members of the Council shall serve without compensation from the United States.

Sec. 202. The Council shall--

(1) Serve as a primary means for suggesting and stimulating action with private institutions, organizations, and individuals working for improvement of conditions of special interest to women.

(2) Review and evaluate progress of organizations in furthering the full participation of women in American life.

As amended by Executive Order 11717 of May 6, 1965, 30 F.R. 5417.

The Equal Rights Amendment--

Senator Ervin's Minority Report and the Yale Law Journal

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Washington, D. C. 20210

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Washington, D. C. 20210

Honorable Jacqueline G. Gutwillig, Chairperson

Miss Virginia R. Allan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Public Affairs
Department of State

Dr. Margaret Long Arnold
Honorary President, General
Federation of Women's Clubs

Mrs. Diana G. Bethel
Civic Leader

Mrs. Lorraine L. Blair, President
Lorraine Blair, Inc., Founder President
Finance Forum of America

Dr. Rita Ricardo Campbell
Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution
Stanford University

Mrs. Julie Casterman Connor
Folk Music Entertainer & School
Teacher

Miss Sarah Jane Cunningham
Attorney at Law

Mrs. Mary Charles Griffin
Civic Leader

Miss Maxine R. Hacke, Executive
Gulf Oil Corp.

Mrs. Marie Hamel
Vice President, Hamel's Dairy &
Ice Cream Company, Inc.

*Miss Margaret J. Mealey
Executive Director
National Council of Catholic Laity

Honorable Hazel Palmer
Magistrate Court Judge of
Pettis County
Former President, National Fed-
eration of Business & Professional
Women's Clubs

Mrs. Sara H. Revercomb
Civic Leader & Former School
Teacher

Honorable Patricia Saiki, Member
Hawaii State Legislature

Miss Rachel E. Scott
Medical Researcher

Mrs. Yetta Wasserman
Civic Leader & Past President
Cleveland Section, National Council
of Jewish Women

Mrs. Irene Wischer, President
Paladin Pipeline Co.
Sr. Director & Executive Officer
Panhandle Producing Co., and
Member, Board of Directors
Greater San Antonio Chamber of
Commerce

Staff

Mrs. Catherine East
Executive Secretary

Mrs. Bertha H. Whittaker
Program Assistant

* Does not endorse the Equal
Rights Amendment.



Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Washington, D.C. 20210

CHAIRMAN
Mrs. Jacqueline G. Gutwillig
Arizona

MEMORANDUM: The Equal Rights Amendment and Senator Ervin's Reference to the Yale Law Journal article in his Minority Report

Senator Ervin's minority views, stated in the Senate Report on the Equal Rights Amendment (Report No. 92-689, 92d Congress, 2d Session), have been widely used to discredit the Amendment by misinterpretation of its meaning. Senator Ervin supports his interpretations by excerpts from the April 1971 Yale Law Journal, (Vol. 80, No. 5, pp. 871-985), which has been widely used by the proponents of the Amendment. Many of these excerpts mislead the reader by quoting only parts of sentences and sections of paragraphs.

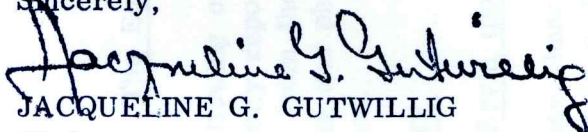
Dr. Virginia J. Cyrus has prepared a detailed comparison of the Senator's excerpts and the full wording of the Journal article. We express our gratitude and appreciation to her for her extensive research and the volunteer contribution that made this paper possible. Dr. Cyrus is active in the Arizona Women's Political Caucus and the National Organization for Women. She was awarded a Ph.D. in English by the University of Washington and is an instructor at Maricope Technical College and Phoenix College.

Dr. Cyrus has summarized her findings as follows:

Since Senator Ervin opposes the Amendment, it is natural that his selections dwell only on the negative effects of the Amendment. However, in his enthusiasm for his point of view, he is misleading. He lifts phrases from context, thus distorting, misconstruing or even inverting their meanings; he omits conditions, specifications and clarifications that greatly alter the area or significance of the effect under discussion; and his occasional inaccuracies or misquotations consistently err toward the negative.

The Council is happy to furnish you with this paper and hopes it will help to clarify the meaning of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Sincerely,



JACQUELINE G. GUTWILLIG
Chairman

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Washington, D. C. 20210

The Equal Rights Amendment--Senator Ervin's Minority Report and the Yale Law Journal

In the following comparison, points in Senator Ervin's presentation are given in totality, exactly as they appear in the minority report, including typographical errors for which he cannot be held responsible. In the correlative passages from the Yale Law Journal, (Vol. 80, No. 5, pp. 871-985), all sentences are quoted in their entirety, and words and phrases used in Senator Ervin's excerpts are underlined. Differences between the two speak for themselves.

MILITARY

Senator Ervin (pp. 38-39 Sen. Rep.):

5. "These changes will require a radical restructuring of the military's views of women." (p. 969)

6. "The Equal Rights Amendment greatly hasten this process and will require the military to see women as it sees men." (p. 970)

12. Deferment policy "could provide that one, but not both, of the parents would be deferred. For example, whichever parent was called first might be eligible for service; the remaining parent, male or female would be deferred." (p. 973)

Yale Law Journal:

P. 969: "These changes will require a radical restructuring of the military's view of women, which until now has been a narrow and stereotypical one."

P. 970: "The Equal Rights Amendment will greatly hasten this process and will require the military to see women as it sees men-- as a diverse group of individuals, married and unmarried, with and without children, possessing or desiring to acquire many different skills, and performing many varied kinds of jobs."

P. 973: "There are several permissible alternatives to these deferment provisions under the Equal Rights Amendment. Deferment might be extended to women, so that neither parent in a family with children would be drafted. Alternatively, the section could provide that one, but not both, of the parents would be deferred. For example, whichever parent was called first might be eligible for service; the remaining parent, male or female, would be deferred. A third possibility would be to grant a deferment to the individual in the couple who is responsible for child care. The couple could decide which one was going to perform this function, and the other member would be liable for service. In a one-parent household Congress would probably defer the parent."

16. "Under the Equal Rights Amendment the WAC would be abolished." (p. 976)

17. "women are physically as able as men to perform many jobs classified as combat duty, such as piloting an airplane or engaging in naval operations...there is no reason to prevent women from doing these jobs in combat zones." (p. 977)

P. 976: "Almost all of the women in the Army are members of the Army Nurse Corps or the Women's Army Corps. Although the Army Nurse Corps is organized along job lines, the WAC has no unifying principle except that its members are women. It thus stands as a symbol of the unwillingness of the Army to abandon distinctions based on sex. Under the Equal Rights Amendment the WAC would be abolished and women assigned to other corps on the basis of their skills."

P. 977: "Combat soldiers make up only a small percentage of military personnel. Even in combat zones many jobs of logistic and administrative support are no different or more difficult than the work done in non-combat zones. Thirty years ago, women were found capable of filling over three-quarters of all Army job classifications, and there is no reason to prevent them from doing these jobs in combat zones. The issue of assigning women to actual combat duty, therefore involves a relatively small segment of total military assignments.

"Opponents of the Amendment claim that women are physically incapable of performing combat duty. The facts do not support this conclusion. The effectiveness of the modern soldier is due more to equipment and training than to individual strength. Training and combat may require the carrying of loads weighing 40 to 50 pounds, but many, if not most, women in this country are fully able to do that. And women are physically as able as men to perform many jobs classified as combat duty, such as piloting an airplane or engaging in naval operations. In order to screen out those of both sexes incapable of combat service, it will be permissible to administer a test to measure ability to do the requisite physical tasks."

18. "no one would suggest that ... women who serve can avoid the possibility of physical harm and assault. But it is important to remember that all combat is dangerous, degrading and dehumanizing." (1. 977)

19. "Male officers are provided a dependents' allowance based on their grade and the number of dependents. . ." The Equal Rights Amendment will recognize "the husband of a female officer . . . as a dependent." (p. 978)

CRIMINAL LAW

Senator Ervin (pp. 39-40 Sen. Rep.):

1. "Courts faced with criminal laws which do not apply equally to men and women would be likely to invalidate the laws rather than extending or rewriting them to apply to women and men alike." (p. 966)

P. 977: "Finally, as to the concern over women engaging in the actual process of killing, no one would suggest that combat service is pleasant or that the women who serve can avoid the possibility of physical harm and assault. But it is important to remember that all combat is dangerous, degrading and dehumanizing. That is true for all participants. As between brutalizing our young men and brutalizing our young women there is little to choose."

P. 978: "On the other hand the rules on dependents' allowances, in-service housing and medical benefits discriminate against women. Male officers are provided quarters on base, or a basic quarters allowance for their dependents if they live off base; male officers also receive a dependents' allowance based on their grade and the number of dependents, regardless of any money the officer's wife may earn. The husband of a female officer, however, is not recognized as a dependent unless he is physically or mentally incapable of supporting himself and is dependent on his wife for more than half of his support."

Yale Law Journal

P. 966: "Courts faced with criminal laws which do not apply equally to men and women would be likely to invalidate the laws rather than extending or rewriting them to apply to women and men alike. As a result, legislatures would need to devote attention to revising their penal laws in order to bring them into conformity with the Equal Rights Amendment. While necessary, this should not be an unduly burdensom requirement."

2. "courts will most likely invalidate sodomy or adultery laws that contain sex discriminatory provisions, instead of solving the constitutional problems by extending them to cover men and women alike." (p. 962)

3. "seduction laws, statutory rape laws, laws prohibiting obscene language in the presence of women, prostitution and 'manifest danger' laws. . . The Equal Rights Amendment would not permit such laws, which base their sex discriminatory classification on social stereotypes." (p. 954)

P. 962: "Following the rule of narrow construction of criminal statutes, courts will most likely invalidate sodomy or adultery laws that contain sex discriminatory provisions, instead of solving the constitutional problems by extending them to cover men and women alike. . . . However, a legislature intent on retaining criminal penalties for sodomous or adulterous conduct could easily bring the laws into line with the Equal Rights Amendment by extending them to apply equally to men and women."

P. 954: "Many of the laws, such as seduction laws, statutory rape laws, and laws prohibiting obscene language in the presence of women, embody a stereotype of women as frail and weak-willed in relation to sexual activity. Others, such as the prostitution and 'manifest danger' laws, display a contradictory social stereotype: women who engage in certain kinds of sexual activity are considered more evil and depraved than men who engage in the same conduct. The Equal Rights Amendment would not permit such laws, which base their sex discriminatory classification on social stereotypes. Courts would generally strike down these laws rather than extend them to men because of the rule of strict construction of penal laws, described above. Legislatures, of course, would be able to extend or re-enact any laws about sex offenses to apply equally to men and to women. A few types of criminal statutes, most notably rape laws, may be justified as deriving their sex bias from physical realities. Here the courts would closely scrutinize the laws to determine whether they fall within the scope of the exception for unique physical characteristics."

5. "To be sure, the singling out of women probably reflects sociological reality . . . Likewise, in this society, the bad reputation and illegitimate child which can result from an improvident sexual liaison may be far more ruinous to a young woman's psychological health than similar conduct is to a young man's. But the Equal Rights Amendment forbids finding legislative justification in the sexual double standard. . ." (p. 958)

6. "adultery laws also contain sex discriminatory provisions which would be impermissible under the Equal Rights Amendment." (p. 961)

8. "Just as the Equal Rights Amendment would invalidate prostitution laws which apply to women only, so the ERA would require invalidation of laws specially designed to protect women from being forced into prostitution." (p. 964)

P. 958: "To be sure, the singling out of women probably reflects sociological reality: in this society, young women, who learn both that marriage is the most important goal for them and that they may pursue it only passively, are undoubtedly more susceptible than young men to the lures of persons who want to take sexual advantage of them. Likewise, in this society, the bad reputation and illegitimate child which can result from an improvident sexual liaison may be far more ruinous to a young woman's psychological health than similar conduct is to a young man's. But the Equal Rights Amendment forbids finding legislative justification in the sexual double standard, and requires such statutes to be framed in terms of the general human need for protection rather than in terms of crude sexual categories."

P. 961: "A few adultery laws also contain sex discriminatory provisions which would be impermissible under the Equal Rights Amendment. Roman law defined adultery as sexual intercourse with another man's wife. Some states reflect this one-sided view by failing to define intercourse between a married man and a single woman as adultery. In Massachusetts and Oregon, an unmarried woman cannot be punished for relations with a married man, although an unmarried man is criminally liable if he participates in an adulterous relationship with a married woman. Discrepancies like these in the liability of men and women derive from social attitudes toward the relative offensiveness of extramarital activity by men and by women."

P. 964-965: "Just as the Equal Rights Amendment would invalidate prostitution laws which apply to women only, so it would require invalidation of laws specially designed to protect women from being forced into prostitution. . . . Congress could easily bring the Mann Act into conformity with the Equal Rights Amendment by substituting the word 'person' for the words 'woman or girl' in the statute."

DOMESTIC RELATIONS LAWS

Senator Ervin (pp. 41-42 Sen. Rep.):

1. "The Equal Rights Amendment, continuing this trend, would prohibit dictating different roles for men and women within the family on the basis of their sex." (p. 953)

4. "The Amendment would also [sic] prohibit states from requiring that a child's last name be the same as his or her father's, or from requiring that a child's last name be the same as his or her mother's." (p. 941)

5. "In ninety percent of custody cases the mother is awarded the custody. The Equal Rights Amendment would prohibit both statutory and common law presumptions about which parent was the proper guardian based on the sex of the parent." (p. 953)

6. "physical capacity to bear children can no longer justify a different statutory marriage age for men and women." (p. 939)

Yale Law Journal:

P. 953-954: "The present legal structure of domestic relations represents the incorporation into law of social and religious views of the proper roles for men and women with respect to family life. Changing social attitudes and economic experiences are already breaking down these rigid stereotypes. The Equal Rights Amendment, continuing this trend, would prohibit dictating different roles for men and women within the family on the basis of their sex. Most of the legal changes required by the Amendment would leave couples free to allocate privileges and responsibilities between themselves according to their own individual preferences and capacities."

P. 941: "The Amendment would only prohibit the states from requiring that a child's last name be the same as his or her father's, or from requiring that a child's last name be the same as his or her mother's."

P. 953: "The Equal Rights Amendment would prohibit both statutory and common law presumptions about which parent was the proper guardian based on the sex of the parent. Given present social realities and subconscious values of judges, mothers would undoubtedly continue to be awarded custody in the preponderance of situations, but the black letter law would no longer weight the balance in this direction."

P. 939: "Since the minimum marriage age in all states is now well above the normal age of puberty, physical capacity to bear children can no longer justify a different statutory marriage age for men and women."

15. "Under the Equal Rights amendment, laws which . . . favor the husband as manager (of community property) in any way, would not be valid." (p. 947)

17. "a court could invalidate (many grounds for divorce) without doing any serious harm to the overall structure of the states' divorce laws . . . These are pregnancy by a man other than husband at time of marriage, nonsupport, alcoholism of husband, wife's unchaste behavior, husband's vagrancy, wife's refusal to move with husband without reasonable cause, wife a prostitute before marriage, indignities by husband to wife's person, and willful neglect by husband." (p. 950)

P. 947: "Under the Equal Rights Amendment, laws which vest management of the community property in the husband alone, or favor the husband as manager in any way, would not be valid. In the absence of new legislation, the courts would leave decisions about disposition of the community property to be made jointly by husband and wife. This would be consistent with the general judicial preference to allow married couples to work matters out between themselves."

P. 949-950: "In the past many grounds for divorce were highly sex discriminatory; today only a few apply solely to one sex or the other. These are nonage, pregnancy by a man other than husband at time of marriage, nonsupport, alcoholism of husband if and only if accompanied by wasting of his estate to the detriment of his wife and children, wife's unchaste behavior (without actual proof of adultery), husband's vagrancy, wife's absence from state for ten years without husband's consent, wife's refusal to move with husband without reasonable cause, wife a prostitute before marriage, husband a drug addict, indignities by husband to wife's person, and willful neglect by husband.

"Except for nonsupport and pregnancy, all the sex discriminatory grounds for divorce listed above are anachronisms, surviving in only one or two states, and are not deserving of extended discussion here. In each instance, a court could invalidate such a provision without doing any serious harm to the overall structure of the state's divorce law. On the other hand, the court could also extend the law to the opposite sex without risking serious criticism that it was usurping legislative authority. Even without the pressure of the Equal Rights Amendment, these provisions are likely to be dropped or extended to the opposite sex in the course of divorce law reform."

20. "The Equal Rights Amendment would not require that alimony be abolished but only that it be available equally to husbands and wives." (p. 952)

P. 952: "The Equal Rights Amendment would not require that alimony be abolished but only that it be available equally to husbands and wives. . . . Alimony laws could be written to grant special protection to a spouse who had been out of the labor force for a long time in order to make a non-compensated contribution to the family's well-being."

21. "the laws could provide support payments for a parent with custody of a young child who stays home to care for that child so long as there was no legal presumption that the parent granted custody should be the mother." (p. 952)

P. 952: "Similarly the laws could provide support payments for a parent with custody of a young child who stays at home to care for that child, so long as there was no legal presumption that the parent granted custody should be the mother. In short, as long as the law was written in terms of parental function, marital contribution, and ability to pay, rather than the sex of the spouse, it would not violate the Equal Rights Amendment."

PROTECTIVE LABOR LEGISLATION

Senator Ervin (p. 44 Sen. Rep.) :

1. "Under the Equal Rights Amendment, courts are thus not likely to find any justification for the continuance of laws which exclude women from certain occupations." (p. 929)

2. "Laws which require employers to impose leave on pregnant employees for a specified period before and after childbirth, without providing job security or retention of accrued benefits, such as seniority credits . . . would fall" (p. 929) The article cites as an example which will be struck down in every state, "a school board regulation imposing maternity leave at least four months prior to the expected birth of her child." (p. 931)

Yale Law Journal:

P. 929: "Furthermore, it is difficult to imagine an occupational hazard which is based on a physical characteristic unique to one sex; if the occupation is dangerous, it is dangerous to both sexes. Under the Equal Rights Amendment, courts are thus not likely to find any justification for the continuance of laws which exclude women from certain occupations. Legislatures which are concerned with real hazards in certain jobs will have to enact sex-neutral protections."

P. 929: "Laws which require employers to impose leave on pregnant employee for a specified period before and after childbirth, without providing job security or retention of accrued benefits, such as seniority credits, are similarly exclusionary. Seven jurisdictions have enacted such restrictions into law; the stage of pregnancy at which mandatory leave is imposed varies between three weeks to four months before expected delivery."

THE WORDS "would fall" APPEAR ON p. 931.

Pp. 931-932: "A similar state regulation was struck down in Cohen v. Chesterfield County School Board, in which a female teacher challenged a school board regulation imposing maternity leave at least four months prior to the expected birth of her child. The district court reviewed the supposed medical and administrative reasons for the school board's policy, and found them to have no empirical basis or persuasive force. . . . The court concluded that '[b]asically, the four month requirement...was arbitrarily selected,' and that 'since no two pregnancies are alike, decisions of when a pregnant teacher should discontinue working are matters best left up to the woman and her doctor.' More broadly, the court held that 'pregnancy, though unique to women, is like other medical conditions, and the failure to treat it as such amounts to discrimination which is without rational basis, and therefore is violative of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.' "

3. "There is little reason to doubt, therefore, that courts will invalidate weightlifting regulations for women under the Equal Rights Amendment." (p. 935)

Pp. 934-935: "If, under Title VII, one cannot prove by factual evidence that 'all or substantially all women are unable to perform a given job safely and efficiently,' one almost certainly cannot prove by factual evidence that average weightlifting differences between men and women are caused by a unique physical characteristic possessed by all or some women and no men. There is little reason to doubt, therefore, that courts will invalidate weightlifting regulations for women under the Equal Rights Amendment as well as under Title VII."

5. "The courts are likely to . . . equalizing both sexes under the Equal Rights Amendment by invalidating (a law protecting women from coerced overtime.)" (p. 936)

P. 936: "Hence, while a law protecting both men and women from coerced overtime is desirable, the courts are likely to leave the matter to legislative decision, meanwhile equalizing both sexes under the Equal Rights Amendment by invalidating the law. This would seem to be one area, therefore, in which legislative attention between ratification and the effective date of the Amendment would be important."

6. "Laws which restrict or regulate working conditions would probably be invalidated." (p. 936)

P. 936: "In general, labor legislation which confers clear benefits upon women would be extended to men. Laws which are plainly exclusionary would be invalidated. Laws which restrict or regulate working conditions would probably be invalidated, leaving the process of general or functional regulation to the legislatures."

MISCELLANEOUS

Senator Ervin (p. 45 Sen. Rep.):

2. "It is obvious that the marginal relationship of the unique physical characteristics of pregnancy to the problem of absenteeism would require invalidation . . . [of] a government regulation to reduce absenteeism by barring women from certain jobs."
NO PAGE CITED

3. Men will get extensive leave for child rearing because "if only women can get extensive leave for child rearing it becomes economically impossible for men to stay at home to care for children while their wives work." (p. 897)

Yale Law Journal:

P. 896: "How the courts would balance each of these factors is difficult to predict in advance of actual adjudication, although in the example given it is obvious that the combined weight of the over-broad classification by sex and the marginal relationship of the unique physical characteristic of pregnancy to the problem of absenteeism would require invalidation of the regulation. In any case, all of these considerations are of the kind that courts constantly deal with in similar cases where reliance upon a legitimate factor is used to achieve illegitimate ends. And however the borderline cases are resolved, the margin of error is not likely to be so large as to jeopardize the basic principle."

WORDS FOLLOWING ELLIPSES APPEAR IN PART ON P. 894:

"These factors can be explained most easily in terms of a hypothetical case: a government regulation to reduce absenteeism at policy-making levels by barring women from certain jobs."

P. 897: "Unfortunately, legislatures have traditionally used sex classifications as shorthand for other classifications which, although they are more precise, are also somewhat more difficult to administer. Because sex classifications were acceptable, they were often employed merely because members of one sex actually or apparently predominated in the smaller group to whom the law was really directed, whether or not a narrower more equitable classification was practicable. This common practice reinforced the pre-existing majority of one sex in the regulated or protected activity; for example, if only women can get extensive leaves for child rearing, it becomes economically impossible for men to stay home to care for children while their wives work. Hence sex classifications begin to seem both natural and essential to sound legislation in many areas of public concern."

January 15, 1974

To: ERA and HR
Chairperson

From: JoAnn R. Horowitz
ERA Task Force
Chairperson

ERA RATIFICATION SKIT

(Through the courtesy of The National Federation
of Business & Professional Women's Clubs)

Cast of Characters:

Club President
New Member
Long Time Member
College Student
Housewife
Conservative Older Woman
Southern Gentleman (Sam E.)

Chorus

Setting: For a club meeting. New Member and
Long Time Member are standing up.
Others are seated for the Club
President, who is at the podium.

Chorus: (stands and sings to the tune of
"Three Blind Mice")

ERA, ERA
We'll see it through
With the help of you,
It's victory in '74

Others are seated for the...
President, who is at the podium.

Chorus: (stands and sings to the tune of
"Three Blind Mice")

ERA, ERA
We'll see it through
With the help of you,
It's victory in '74
Equality for many more
Through ERA, ERA.

New Member: ERA, ERA. That's all I ever hear.
I've been to three meetings, now,
and it's the same old thing.
ERA, ERA. No one has yet told me
what ERA means. All I hear is that
we must get it ratified. Will
someone please explain?

Long Time Member: Of course. That's the reason
for this special program.
As you can see, we've invited
the public so that we can answer
their questions and yours at the
same time. Come on, let's go
sit down. It's time for the
meeting to begin.

Club President: (raps gavel to get attention):

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to our symposium on the Equal Rights Amendment. First, I want to explain briefly what the Amendment is, and then I'll throw the meeting open for questions. The Equal Rights Amendment, or ERA, simply states that "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." This was approved by Congress by an overwhelming majority, and now it is before the states for ratification. Two years after ERA is approved by 38 states, it will become the 27th Amendment to the Constitution. The two-year wait gives states time to revise their laws so they confirm with the Amendment. Thirty states have ratified already, and eight more states are needed. Now it's time for questions.

Conservative Older Woman: (has haughty expression and looks down her nose at everyone):

I have one. Everyone knows that Women's Lib is pushing for ratification of ERA. What's a respectable organization like the League of Women Voters doing joining up with a bunch of radical girls in blue jeans?

Conservative Older Woman: (has haughty expression and looks down her nose at everyone):

I have one. Everyone knows that Women's Lib is pushing for ratification of ERA. What's a respectable organization like the League of Women Voters doing joining up with a bunch of radical girls in blue jeans?

7
Long Time Member (waves her hand for attention):

May I answer that one?

(Club President nods "yes?")

Well, first, I want to ask a question. What is Women's Lib? It means one thing to one woman and something else to another woman. There just isn't any good definition of Women's Lib. But ERA is important to all women. Why, I've been a League member for many, many years. One of the reasons I joined League way back then was because the League believed in rights for women. Why, all kinds of people - even men - are in favor of ERA. And it's had the backing of all the United States Presidents since Mr. Eisenhower, and of the Republican and Democratic Parties, too.

Club President: You know who else supports ERA? The AAUW, Church Women United, the United Auto Workers, the AFL-CIO, the Women Lawyers, and the WCTU - plus lots, lots more. Young and old, rich and poor, conservative and radical, they all believe that men and women should be treated equally under the law. ERA is an issue we can all work on together.

CHORUS: All for one and one for all.
In ERA we sound the call.

Housewife: It's all well and good for you professional women to talk about equality. You're trained and have good jobs. You can take care of yourselves. But what me? I'm just a housewife. I like staying home and taking care of my husband and children. I don't want to go to an office. But I hear that if ERA becomes law, I'll be forced to get a job so I can support my children equally with my husband. What's going to happen to me?

Club President: What you've heard is utter nonsense. For one thing, ERA will not force you to get a job. In fact, it will make your role as a housewife and mother an even more important one.

Housewife: How can that be?

Club President: Under ERA, being a housewife and mother will be something you choose to be, not something that is forced on you whether you want it or not. And never say you're "just" a housewife. That's a very important career.

Long Time Member (chiming in):

Another thing - being equally responsible with your husband for the

Under ERA, being a housewife and mother will be something you choose to be, not something that is forced on you whether you want it or not. And never say you're "just" a housewife. That's a very important career.

Long Time Member (chiming in):

Another thing - being equally responsible with your husband for the support of your children does NOT mean equal financial responsibility. The hours you spend taking care of your children and your home are your means of support, just as the paycheck your husband brings home from work is his means of support. Don't let anyone scare you with that "equal support" talk.

New Member:

I don't know much about ERA yet, but I'm learning. But even to a newcomer like me, it seems that ERA might help out in another way here. For example, a woman may not want to have a job outside the home. But what if something happens to her husband and she is forced to raise her children alone? If she doesn't have a good education and isn't trained to do something, she could be in big trouble. Doesn't ERA also mean that girls and boys will have an equal opportunity for a good education? And doesn't it mean that they will be judged by what they can do on the job, not by whether they are male or female?

ERA Skit page four

College Student: It sure does, and that's what we're fighting for now. I'm in college and I know how hard it is for girls to get into some graduate school courses so they can qualify for the jobs that pay more money. With ERA, we'd all have the same opportunity.

Long Time Member:

Speaking of equal opportunity, ERA will finish the job of getting rid of state laws which restrict working women. They're called "protective labor laws," but all they really protect are men's better jobs. These laws might have been okay when they were first enacted, but times have changed. Sure, women shouldn't be required to lift heavier weights than they can handle, but then neither should men. Rest periods are good for everyone, not just for women.

Club President: Thanks to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, legislators are beginning to realize that laws which were once enacted to protect women now tend to discriminate against them. Under the ERA, the truly beneficial laws can be extended to men and the truly discriminatory ones can be wiped off the books.

Chorus: Equality, equality.
Let's be free with ERA.

Southern Gentleman (has accent and courtly manner):

Mah name is Sam E. and Ah have a question.

against them. Under the ERA, the truly beneficial laws can be extended to men and the truly discriminatory ones can be wiped off the books.

Chorus: Equality, equality.
Let's be free with ERA.

Southern Gentleman (has accent and courtly manner):

Mah name is Sam E. and Ah have a question.
Ah've always treated a lady lak a lady.
Ah lak to buy her flowers 'n hold her hand
in the moonlight 'n treat her to a nahce ~~meal~~
meal with wine 'n sweet violins. But Ah
understand Ah cain't do that under ERA.

Conservative Older Woman:

I want to hear the answer to this one. I've
always been treated in a special way and I'm
not about to pay for some man's dinner.

Long Time Member:

You won't have to. ERA applies only to
government actions and legal rights. It has
nothing whatsoever to do with social customs.
Under ERA, personal relationships will still
be up to the individuals involved. Men can
continue to take women out to dinner and open
doors for them and buy them flowers if they
want to. It's like Senator Cook said: "ERA
will neither make a man a gentleman nor will
it require him to stop being one."

ERA Skit page five

Conservative Older Woman:

There's one other thing that bothers me. I understand that under ERA men and women will be required to use the same public restrooms and share sleeping quarters in college dormitories, prisons, and military barracks. Now I have no intention of ever going to prison, but I do like my privacy! What about this? Is it true?

Club President:

There's not a word of truth in it. Opponents of ERA use the privacy issue as a scare tactic. On the other hand, I'll bet there isn't one person in this room who has two separate bathrooms at home, one for men and one for women! But seriously, Congresswoman Martha Griffiths has pointed out that "the right to be free of sex discrimination would have to harmonize with other constitutional rights, such as the right to privacy recognized by the Supreme Court." This means that there will still be separate restrooms in schools and other public institutions.

Southern Gentleman:

Did Ah heah someone mention military barracks? All you business ladies are - pardon mah impertinence - well, past - ahem, excuse me - just a little past - the draft age. But what about youh daughters? And what about mah little grand-daughter? Ah don't want her to desert her babies and fight the enemy trenches with guns and bayonets and bullets and bombs.

College Student:

would have to harmonize with other constitutional rights, such as the right to privacy recognized by the Supreme Court." This means that there will still be separate restrooms in schools and other public institutions.

Southern Gentleman:

Did Ah heah someone mention military barracks? All you business ladies are - pardon mah impertinence - well, past - ahem, excuse me - just a little past - the draft age. But what about youh daughters? And what about mah little grand-daughter? Ah don't want her to desert her babies and fight the enemy trenches with guns and bayonets and bullets and bombs.

College Student:

Let me answer that one, since I am of draft age. For one thing, Congress could draft women right now if it wanted to. And ERA won't change that. Did you know that nurses were just about to be drafted when World War II ended? And did you know that a bill was introduced in 1944 to draft single unemployed women? Well, it is true. As far as being drafted goes, no one wants to be. Do you know any young men who really want to be drafted?

Southern Gentleman:

Ah can see wheah draftin' women might not be so bad under some circumstances 'cuz the Army does need a lot of cooks 'n typists 'n nurses 'n such. But Ah still cain't see mah granddaughter on the battlefield. Ah won't stand for it!

ERA Skit page six

College Student:

Well, for one thing, sir. The battlefield is a lot different today than it was when you went to war. With missiles and computers and all that, combat could be someone sitting in the United States pushing a button. But recently there were nurses serving in Southeast Asia in combat zones receiving combat pay. You must always remember that the military assigns people only to the jobs they are physically and otherwise capable of handling - and the standards are very high.

Southern Gentleman:

But what about the babies? Ah heard that mothers would be taken from their babies and sent out to fight.

College Student:

That's another tale that's put out to scare people away from ERA. There are such things as deferments, you know, and Congress through the years has often granted deferments to young men because of hardships on dependents. Those dependents could be wives, children, parents, or even grandparents. Do you seriously think that Congress or the President would be more restrictive against women than they have been in the past against men?

New Member:

I'd like to add a comment here. I don't believe people really think carefully about the benefits that servicemen get. There's the G. I. Bill and laws to help

That's another tale that's put out to scare people away from ERA. There are such things as deferments, you know, and Congress through the years has often granted deferments to young men because of hardships on dependents. Those dependents could be wives, children, parents, or even grandparents. Do you seriously think that Congress or the President would be more restrictive against women than they have been in the past against men?

New Member:

I'd like to add a comment here. I don't believe people really think carefully about the benefits that servicemen get. There's the G I Bill and loans to buy homes and medical services and life insurance and preference points on Federal jobs. With ERA, women would be eligible for these benefits, too, and would be able to better themselves.

College Student: Just one more thing. I love my country and I don't want to be kept from defending my country if it is ever threatened. I want the opportunity to use my talents to help save my country and I resent anyone who tells me I can't just because I'm a woman.

Southern Gentleman:

Well, if you put it that way, Ah cain't see why you should be deprived of helpin' youh country. You know, Ah'm beginning to think this ERA isn't so bad after all. In fact, Ah'm beginnin' to think ERA's a durn good thing for our country.

Chorus: He see the light.
He sees the light.
He's joined our fight for equal rights.

Everyone cheers.

ERA Skit page seven

Housewife: You know, now that it's been explained to me, I might be willing to help, too. But what can I do?

Chorus: Ratify. How can we help to ratify?

Club President:

There's a lot we all can do. As I said before - eight more states with their state legislatures are needed to ratify. We can write to our state representatives and state senators and urge them to support ratification of ERA.

College Student:

We can also make appointments to see our state lawmakers and talk with them about the issues. And we can answer questions they have about ERA and let them know how very important it is to all people, men and women.

Club President:

If you need any help, there are many brochures and pamphlets which will answer many of your questions.

Long Time Member:

I have another suggestion. Some state legislators have held hearings on ERA. We could find out when our state hearings are scheduled and ask to testify in favor of ERA. We can get all our friends who are for ERA to show up at those hearings, even if it means taking a day off work. Maybe then

Club President:

If you need any help, there are many brochures and pamphlets which will answer many of your questions.

Long Time Member:

I have another suggestion. Some state legislators have held hearings on ERA. We could find out when our state hearings are scheduled and ask to testify in favor of ERA. We can get all our friends who are for ERA to show up at those hearings, even if it means taking a day off work. Maybe then our legislators will get the message.

Housewife: I don't belong to any organizations, but I could get my friends and neighbors to write letters - and maybe we could make up some handbills to hand out at the shopping center. I bet I could use the copying machine my church has in the office. They could help, too.

Conservative Older Woman:

I want to help. I have a friend who's the publisher of a newspaper, and I could talk him into running an article in his paper about ERA. He'll do it as a favor to me, I know, because he's been wanting to marry me for years!

College Student:

We also should contact young people on the college campus to help us out. I know the IAWA - Intercollegiate Association of Women Students is working hard for ERA, and many National Student Lobby members are supporting it, too.

Conservative Older Woman:

Why don't I volunteer to do that. You know, I've been thinking. If those young women are for ERA, they can't be all bad.

ERA Skit page eight

Southern Gentleman:

Ah promise Ah will do all Ah can to help ERA - Ah have a few friends in high places, you know. But Ah do have one more question. Mah brother tells me that where he lives, they have a state ERA on the ballot? Is that important?

Long Time Member:

It sure is. Even if a state legislature has ratified ERA, if there is a referendum on a state ERA, it is important that the voters approve it. If they don't, it could be very harmful to the constitutional amendment. What is needed is a massive voter education project to see that all the voters understand ERA and vote for it. That's a job everyone can help with.

Southern Gentleman:

Ah'll talk with mah brother and see what he can do. He also has some friends in high places, you know.

Club President:

Now that we all agree that ERA is the very best way, let's stop talking and start acting. Let's get out there and ratify.

Everyone (cheers and joins in singing to the tune of "Three Blind Mice")

ERA, ERA,
We'll see it through
With the help of you,
It's victory in '74

voter education project to see that all
the voters understand ERA and vote for it.
That's a job everyone can help with.

Southern Gentleman:

Ah'll talk with mah brother and see what
he can do. He also has some friends in
high places, you know.

Club President:

Now that we all agree that ERA is the very
best way, let's stop talking and start acting.
Let's get out there and ratify.

Everyone (cheers and joins in singing to the tune of
"Three Blind Mice")

ERA, ERA,
We'll see it through
With the help of you,
It's victory in '74
Equality for many more
Through ERA, ERA.

THE END OF THE SKIT

THE CONTINUATION OF OUR WORK
SO THAT OUR STATE
ILLINOIS

RATIFIES IN :

1974!