

Lilith's Rib

North American Jewish Feminist Organization Newsletter, Issue #5, November, 1975, Chicago, IL

This is issue #5 of Lilith's Rib, P.O. Box 60142, Chicago, IL 60660. The newsletter is yours to use to get in touch with other women interested in projects you would like to see happen. If you are involved in a project, study group, women's minyan, rap group or other group dealing with Jewish women and issues that concern us, please write. If you are looking for or want help starting any of the above, send a note and it will be printed. Please send copies of any leaflets, pamphlets, papers you produce, plus publicity releases on all activities far enough in advance to print. Thus far the newsletter has been published twice a year, simply because information and news has not been sent in by readers on a regular enough basis to publish more often. If you would like to see the newsletter appear more often, send something in tomorrow. If you are a member of the Jewish Feminist Organization \$1 of your yearly dues goes towards Lilith's Rib. If you are not a member, please send in a donation of 50¢ or more. Please send names of women who would like to receive the newsletter to the above address. Keep in touch. Lilith's Rib is on file with the Women's History Library, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708, and with the International Women's History Archive, at Northwestern University Library Special Collections Department, Evanston, ILL.

Maralee Gordon

NEW JERSEY JFO TO HOLD CONFERENCE

Can you be a Jewish woman and feminist? Women all over the state of New Jersey will find out on Sunday, November 2, 1975, at Montclair State College. The Jewish Feminist Organization of New Jersey will be holding an all-day conference from 9 to 5:30 in the student center on the theme, "The Jewish Woman: Spectator or Participant?" The goal of the Jewish Feminist Organization is to help women take a more active and direct role in Jewish religious, cultural and communal life.

The conference will bring together women from already established Jewish organizations, synagogue sisterhoods and students and unaffiliated women who would like to fulfill their roles as Jews and women. According to Rhea C. Levy of Elizabeth, N.J., Regional Director of Public Information, "A woman can be both a feminist and a Jew; these two identities are not mutually exclusive, as some feel." Among the areas the conference will cover are Jewish women's consciousness raising, the psychology of living a fully Jewish and fully feminist life, the Jewish woman and the Torah, volunteerism and combating media stereotyping.

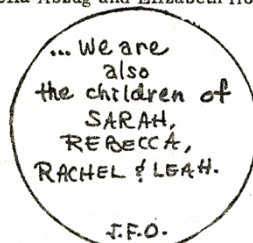
The conference which includes a kosher lunch, will cost \$10.00 at the door or \$8.00 for those who register beforehand. Day care will be available. Further information may be obtained from P. O. Box 1210, Union, N.J. 07083 or from Elizabeth Best at (201) 688-1239.

CHICAGO: CREATIVE SERVICE ON JEWISH WOMEN

Twenty-five women and men celebrated International Women's Day last spring in a unique fashion: they participated in a creative Sabbath morning service on the theme of Jewish womanhood. The service culminated a series of discussions of the status of women in the Upstairs Minyan, a group which meets every Saturday morning at Hillel House, 5715 S. Woodlawn, for community prayer. Theoretically, female members of the minyan were equal, and no one objected in theory to full participation of women in all worship rites. However, in practice women tended to let the men handle certain basic parts of the service, such as leading the chanting of prayers and reading from the Torah.

Why was this true? We debated the problem at length. Among the first points to be made was that most of the women had not been given the opportunity to lead chanting or read

Wear the Buttons Bella Abzug and Elizabeth Holzman Wear!



Sunshine yellow, 65¢ each

light blue, 35¢ each

Specify how many of each you want. Make checks out to the Jewish Feminist Organization. Include 20¢ postage for up to 5 buttons; .40 for 10-15; .60 for 20 or more. Mail your order to: Rhea C. Levy, 11 Salem Park, Apt. 2-A, Elizabeth, N.J. 07208 (Also available: "Equal rites for Women" in bright red, 65¢)