

Not A Love Story

Awareness Week capped off with film

Barb Taylor

Over 1,000 men and women attended York's Women's Awareness Week, which featured discussions on rape, violence in the family and pornography last week.

The programme, which was sponsored by CYSF and the York Women's Centre, began with NDP MPP Richard Johnston discussing violence in the family. On Wednesday, the programme

highlighted the problems of rape and ended on Thursday with a showing of the film *Not A Love Story*.

Judith Santos, CYSF Women's Commissioner, said, "There is a belief that men rape for sexual reasons, whereas psychologists say it is because they hate women. Society blames women, accuses them and makes them feel shameful when it is not their fault." Santos continued, "Women should press their political leaders to punish rape as a crime, as an assault."



Helena Mitchell: Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario Chairperson

Part-time Work Programme attracts hungry job-seekers

L. Birnboim

The CYSF extended its deadline for Student Work Force applications to accommodate the many students who want to work on the campus. The original deadline of September 21st was changed to September 28th and 31 students have been chosen to form a "pool" of workers. These new CYSF employees will be performing various jobs such as postering, acting as security guards and

assisting at social functions and elections. Some students worked at the Spoons concert in September and others will be employed for the Teenage Head concert.

Concept borrowed

Tony Finn, the CYSF's Business Manager, says the concept of a Student Work Force was actually "borrowed" from the University of Toronto, where a similar programme was implemented last year. "The purpose of the programme" says Finn, "is to give students a job." He explains: "31 students may not appear to make a very big dent in the student unemployment problem, but the approximately \$60 a week that these workers earn could, in some cases, make or break their scholastic year." The programme's planners received advice from Manpower's John Wilton and Finn says that "the two organizations are co-operating 100". The difference between the Student Work Force and Manpower, says Finn, "is that the Work Force can provide these students with jobs that conform to their timetable requirements."

Part-time work

The performance of the students involved in the programme will be reviewed at the end of this term, and those who have not fulfilled the expectations of the organizers will be replaced. Tony Finn and the CYSF President, Morris Bevilacqua, have been discussing the possibility of enlarging the programme to involve off-campus businesses looking for people to do part-time work. Finn says this expansion could take place in January, at which time 60 students might be employed by the Student Work Force.

Huge porn industry

Over 500 people attended the screening of *Not A Love Story*, which offered the following information about pornography: six of the 10 best-selling magazines are soft pornography; annual income from pornographic sales has increased from \$5 million to \$5 billion over the last 12 years, and the pornography business is larger than the film and recording industries combined.

Louise Mahood, Co-ordinator of the York Women's Centre, said "In the discussion there were obviously some men who felt threatened and guilty about the situation. It was one of the few discussions that got beyond the fact it is just a women's problem in a mixed audience."

Rape and Pornography

Santos sees "rape, violence and pornography as the three most blatant forms that violence against women takes." She believes that, "This is rooted in the capitalist system where women are viewed as another commodity to use, to exploit and to be manipulated."

In sponsoring the Women's Awareness Week, it was "CYSF's intention to put some light on women's problems as part of society's problems," said Santos. She has "received a lot of feedback from the programme—a lot of women who never thought about this issue before were shocked—it played a very educational role."

Both the CYSF and the Women's Centre are planning further activities; Mahood, Santos and other women are working on programmes dealing with women's heritage, women in politics, women and the constitution and a literary contest.

CFS promotes loan appeals

Anna Kardum

The Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario has once again launched its campaign to encourage students to apply to the Ontario Students Assistance Programme. The campaign also informs students about appealing an unsuccessful application, or an inadequate award.

By increasing student awareness and participation in the programme, CFS-O hopes to promote changes in OSAP.

CFS-O chairperson Helena Mitchell said her organization is encouraging student councils to set up clinics in order to make students more aware of the possibilities of OSAP. "The campaign is more successful each year because more students are applying," said Mitchell.

Commenting on York's part in the campaign, Jorge Garreton, CYSF Director of External Affairs said "We're telling students to appeal with the Students Awards Office and if they need any legal assistance we're sending them to Osgoode."

The CYSF in conjunction with CFS-O also set up a table in Central Square, where students could obtain information about OSAP.

This year the CFS-O is promoting changes in bank policies that are considered detrimental to students.

It is asking, for example, that banks drop the prerequisite that requires students to have had an account at least 8-10 months before they approach a bank for a loan. The CFS-O also argues that at a time of high unemployment many students are being turned down for loans.

The CFS-O has been trying to establish federal government HOT LINE in which students who are turned down for loans, could, if necessary, obtain immediate federal government aid.

There are many grounds for making an appeal, namely an inability to find a job for the summer, a change in the parents' financial condition, insufficient summer earnings and so on.

CFS contends that OSAP is inadequate in several ways some of which are:

- OSAP underestimates real student costs and overestimates real student resources.
- This summer the government has increased the expected contribution through summer earnings from \$60 to \$70 a week or an additional \$160 over the 16 week summer work period.
- After four years of post-secondary education grants are no longer available, despite financial needs.

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