

missions, however, often times serve to reinforce existing gendered power structures instead of seeking ways to empower additional actors. In Rwanda, for example, only men were being selected by foreign advisors to staff the new police force (Enloe, 1994:29). **How can Canada help women's voices to be heard, help women participate, help women to network at all levels in peace building?** a) locally

b) NGO's to NGO's (in the South)

c) NGO's to Canadian NGO's

d) Women as delegates on Canada's peace-keeping; peace building missions

E) UN and international agencies

### *The Politicization of Women*

Women are often politicized as a result of war. This politicization can take different forms. Some women may become involved at the grassroots level agitating for an end to the violence. In Sri Lanka, Argentina, and El Salvador women have protested against the 'disappearance,' of their husbands and sons, in Belgrade women have been prominent in demonstrations in calling for a cessation of the hostilities, and in the Middle East Israeli and Palestinian women have worked together for a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (Vickers, 1993:124-125,136). On the other hand, women may become involved in a combination of representative and grassroots politics as a result of their war-time experiences.

According to one female Rwandan politician;

Women in my country no longer feel that political activities do not affect them, because they suffered the most. They have learnt that people who initiate conflicts often use women when it comes to fighting. So, as women politicians, we make sure we are present in the making of political decisions, to represent the needs of women. We are active in grassroots activities and