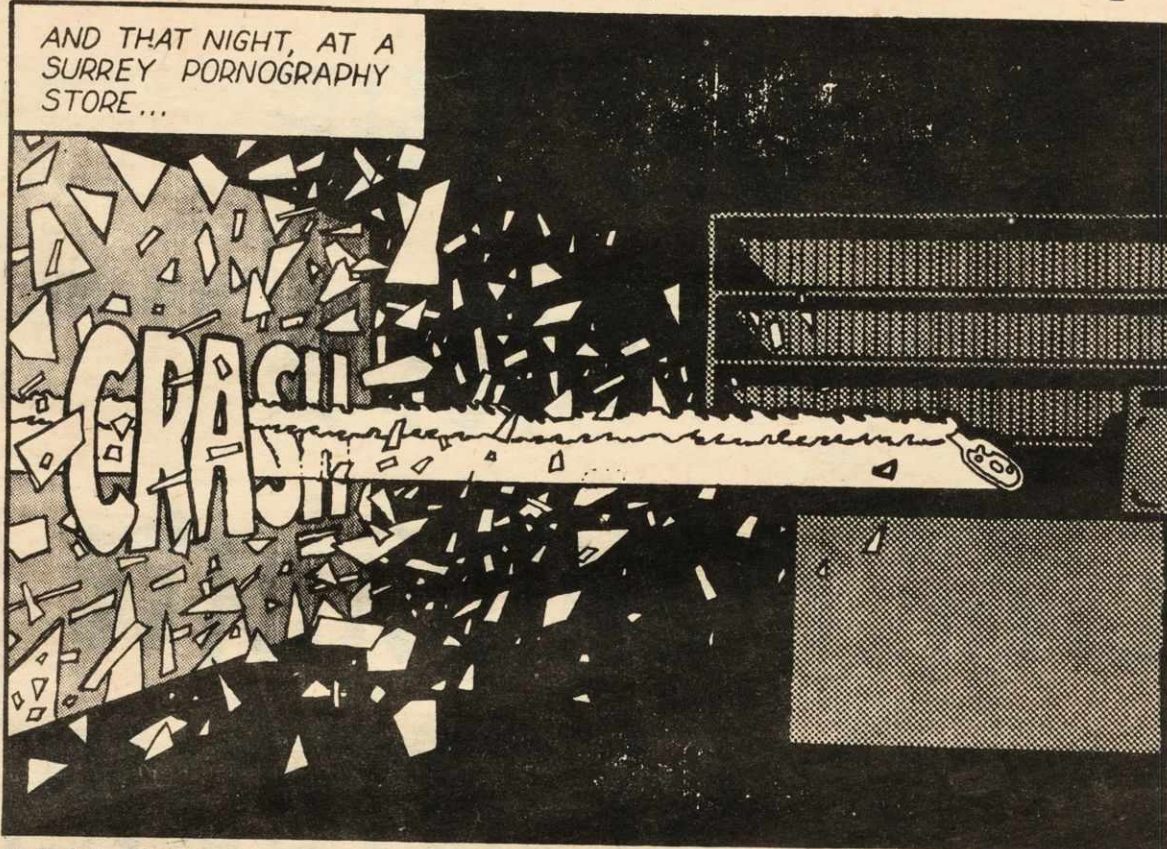


Women say they are not pleased with porn



By Barb Brantham
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VICTORIA (CUP)—What do
women think about sexually
explicit material that is promoted

as entertainment?
In a recent survey by the B.C.
Public Interest Research Group, a
significant percentage of the
women surveyed are opposed to
sexually explicit material being

promoted as entertainment.
About one-half of the women
approached to fill in the question-
naire agreed. The results show
that women reject associations
between coercion and sexuality.

This rejection is consistent
through various age categories.
Women are less unanimous in
their opinions on non-coercive
sexuality.

In fact, a correlation by age
showed a significant difference
between women under 40 and
over 40 years of age. For example
the portrayal of non-coercive
heterosexual intercourse
received the approval of 49 per
cent of the women under 40 but only
11 per cent of those over 40.
Male/female nudity was also
more acceptable for women
under 40.

The same was true for por-
trayal of masturbation and oral
sex.

When asked if the material
they found unacceptable should
continue to be publicly available,
73.6 per cent said no. Nine per
cent said yes and 17.4 per
cent had no opinion.

Women's exposure to sexually
explicit material as entertainment
ranges from 80 per cent for the
category of female nudity to six
per cent for the category of sex
with animals.

The survey concludes that the
views of the female half of the
population of Vancouver are not

reflected in the content of
sexually-explicit material that
forms the pornography market.

Maureen Malanchuk, a Simon
Fraser University student who
worked on the survey, said,
"Many women's groups already
know this (the conclusions). The
general public is not aware. If we
use it to reinforce feminist litera-
ture, it may be stereotyped as
'another feminist document'. If it
is promoted by a group without
a 'vested interest' then it would
be perceived as being more
credible."

"Right now it is half a survey,
showing the views of the
women's community. It would
be interesting to find out how
males view pornography. To do
something about stopping the
selling of pornography you will
have to include men."

The survey, officially entitled
"Women's Community Standards
on Sexually Explicit Material Public-
ly Available and Promoted as
Entertainment," was conducted
in Vancouver during the spring
of 1983.

B.C. PIRG administrator Rory
David said, "It really sprang out
of the (Pay T.V.) video contro-
versy. There was no survey on
women's attitudes about this."



Morally broke?

CFS referendum resurrected

EDMONTON (CUP)—Students at
the University of Alberta are
once again members of the Can-
adian Federation of Students.

CFS chair Graham Dowdell
was "very pleased with the deci-
sion. It's going to be a big chal-
lenge and opportunity for us."

The University Disciplinary
Panel overruled Jan. 3 a student
board's decision to void this fall's
CFS referendum.

The U of A is now the largest
member of CFS and "will give us
momentum," says Dowdell. CFS
plans referenda on 10 to 15 cam-
puses this term.

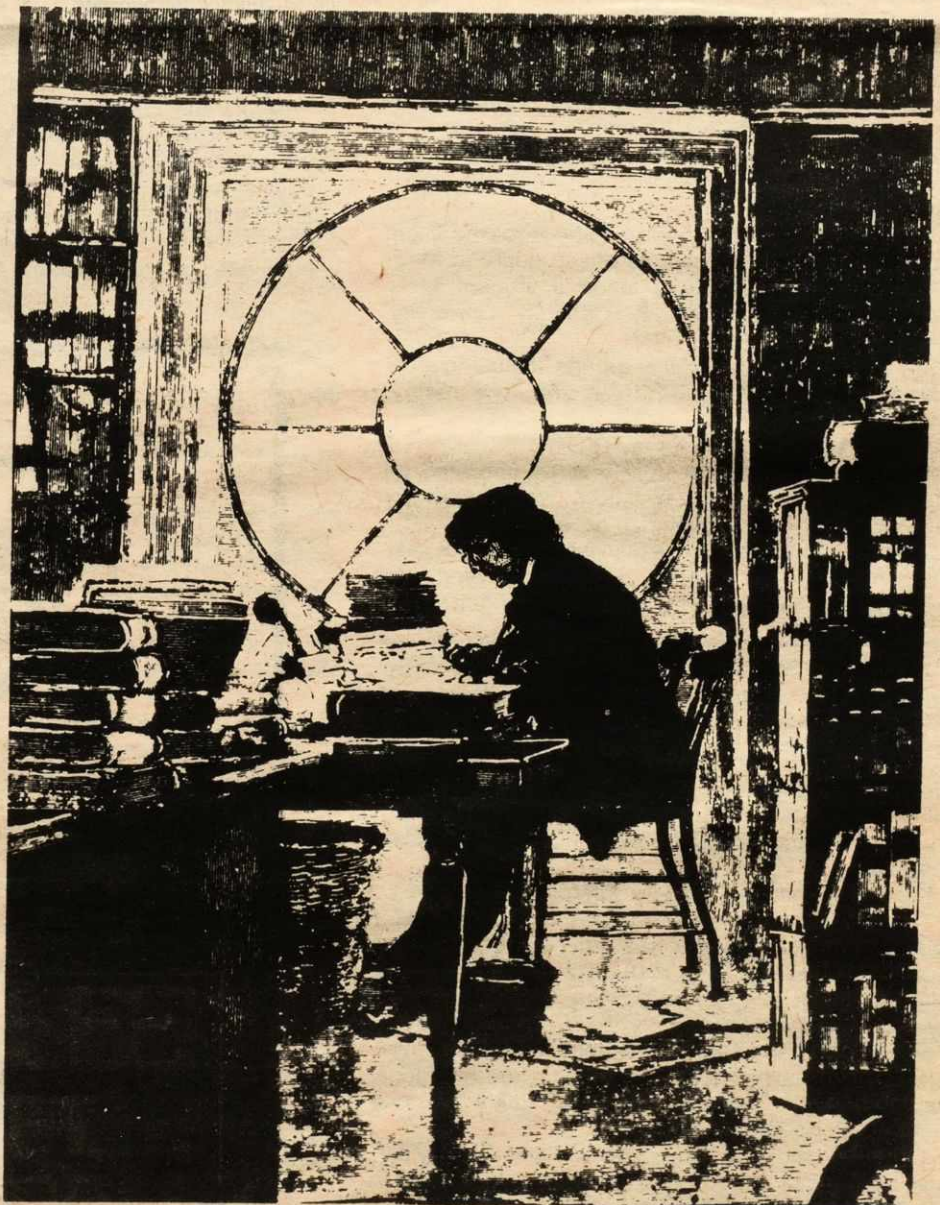
Students had voted 56 per cent
in favour of joining the federa-
tion Oct. 21, but the student-run
Discipline, Interpretation and
Enforcement board overturned
the results after student Gordon
Stamp complained there was
insufficient opportunity to form a
"No" campaign. Stamp also said
"Yes" campaigners made unfair
use of CFS posters and buttons.

And U of A will bring approx-
imately \$100,000 to the financially
troubled federation when fees
are paid in September.

The panel—an administration
body—acknowledged irregularities
in the CFS-yes campaign, but
felt they were too minor to affect
the 350 vote margin.

Dowdell says the U of A's
membership will be particularly
important for Alberta. "After the
collapse of FAS (Federation of
Alberta Students) there was a
perception that Alberta wasn't
interested (in the student
movement)."

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