

# R.E.A.L. Women: In their own write

## Charity begins in the home

By Clea Notar

### Real Women In Their Own Write

Reprinted from the Montreal Mirror

Realistic Equal Active for Life. R.E.A.L. WOMEN. "Women's rights but not at the expense of human rights".

Reality: Realwomen, newsletter Vol IV No. 4 Summer 1986, page 15. To the left of the membership application box is a short passage which reads:

"The Realwomen of Canada is a national organization of independent women concerned with the preservation of family values. We are pro-life and pro-family. Whether employed outside the house or in the home, or both, we believe in the importance of the family and respect for all human life.

"Many critical issues existing in today's society undermine the family. We must voice our critical opinions of these through government, the media and the courts.

"Please join us and help to safeguard the family, the basis of our society."

Realwomen of Canada Pamphlet #1. Membership Information. Incorporation. "Realwomen, incorporated in the fall of 1983, is an interdenominational, non-partisan organization of independent women, who come from all walks of life, occupations, social, educational and economic backgrounds."

A March 1985 article in the monthly women's magazine, Chatelaine: Realwomen president Grace Petrusek was born and raised one of four children in a Chicoutimi, Quebec home. Grace studied health nursing at Montreal's McGill University.

Membership information. Objectives. "To promote the equality, advancement and well-being of the woman, recognizing her as an interdependent member of society, whether in the family, workplace or community."

"Realwomen has been bitterly attacked by the feminists in the past few months. Why?" Reality. Page 4. Realwomen and Secretary of State Funding. "Because it dares to put forward a different approach for the advancement and equality of women. Also, it has dared to apply to the Secretary of State, Women's Program, which has been lavishly underwriting the pro-abortion feminist movement in Canada since 1973."

Page 8. Reality. "Realwomen of Canada has obtained, through the Access to Information Act, the names of organizations which have received grants from the Secretary of State, Women's Program, and the amounts they have received for the fiscal years 1984-85 and 1985-86."

"Realwomen of Canada is concerned, however, that these lists may not be completely accurate. This concern is due to the fact that the 1984-5 list does not include the grants given to the Calgary Lesbian Mother's Defense Fund to set up a 'lesbian-gay workshop collective' and to finance its April 26-7/85 conference. We know for a



The way it was, the way it should be? REAL Women want it this way; give those jobs to the men, girls and go home where you belong. Ah, back to the security of the kitchen and the haven of the house...

fact that these grants were received."

Different Voices, Different Approaches for Women.

Reality. "Since Realwomen has come into existence, it has been subjected to repeated merciless attack." Bottom of Page 7. Heading: Did you know? "Iona Campagnolo (feminist and well-known advocate of abortion on demand), President of the Liberal Party of Canada, at an address held in April in Winnipeg, at the Second Annual Women of Distinction Awards Dinner, stated: "Reactionary, right-wing factions are wiping away gains made by women... women's rights are being undermined by such groups as... Realwomen."

Reality Mailbox. B. G. from Trenton, Ontario writes: "I am really glad there is another women's group other than the feminists. I am completely against the feminists' anti-life and pro-homosexual view. Keep up the good work."

Laws Protecting Homosexuals or so-called "Sexual Orientation" Legislation. A pamphlet structured along the question and answer format.

"What happens after a new legislation is passed?"

"If such a law is passed, citizens would be punished for taking into account a homosexual's moral character in making some important decisions such as: who will be accepted as a tenant in their house, as a teacher for their child, as an associate in their business, or as an employee in their church."

Homosexual recruiting. "Many homosexuals, because they cannot procreate, must recruit — often the young. They promote recruiting 'straights'. With new legislation such seduction becomes permissible and acceptable.

"Shouldn't the homosexuals be shown compassion?"

"Any treatment of homosexuals should be weighted against the effects on their innocent victims who are medically or psychologically damaged by them.

"Is homosexuality reversible?"

"Yes. If a person's willing to change. Christian counselling services have worked successfully in changing sexual orientation."

Publication #3. Position Papers. Position on Marriage: "The R.E.A.L. WOMEN OF CANADA supports the view that permanent marriage — traditional values in a contemporary society — is possible, desirable and urgently needed in Canada today."

Statement on Day Care. "We do not believe that it is a 'fundamental right' for all women, regardless of circumstances, to have universal day care, but rather day care should be available according to need."

"We believe in the concept of a neighbourhood resource centre, which would provide educational and social support for both mothers and children. These centres, however, should never take precedence over the family."

Position Papers. Affirmative Action. "The R.E.A.L. WOMEN, however, is opposed to the concept of mandatory affirmative action which includes female "quotas", which in fact become job ceilings for women, as it prohibits women from obtaining jobs once the quota is filled. To give women this 'Preferential' treatment on the basis only of their sex is unfair, and is reverse discrimination against qualified males as well as minority groups such as ethnics and native people."

Statement on Prostitution. "The R.E.A.L. WOMEN OF CANADA believes that prostitution, defined as the selling of sexual activity for money, has many harmful effects on the prostitutes themselves, the client and his family, the business milieu in which this occurs, and society as a whole.

"As well, prostitution adversely affects the environment in which its solicitation occurs, whether on downtown streets or in residential areas. Neighbourhood residents are made fearful of walking their

streets, and neighbourhoods are no longer safe for children or youth, who may become targets for such solicitation. Property values drop, traffic problems develop and the area often becomes noisy and dangerous."

Realistic. Equal. Active. For Life. Page 4. Reality.

"Improve the conditions and standards of women? By whose standards does abortion on demand, lesbianism, legalized prostitution, etc., improve the standards and conditions of women? Certainly not by the standards of reasonable, sensible and fair-minded Canadians."

Last page. Reality. Last words.

What You Can Do For R.E.A.L. Women. "Read all Realwomen material and become informed on the issues."

"Have a coffee party and invite some friends. Educate them on the issues and encourage them to join as members or affiliate groups."

"Organize a fundraising project for Realwomen such as a card party, potluck supper, coffee party, garage sale, car wash, etc."

"Organize a display of our literature in a booth at your local church, shopping mall, community fair, or wherever appropriate to promote Realwomen."

December 13, 1986. The Montreal Gazette. "More than 75 per cent of Conservative MPs, excluding cabinet ministers, think the government should give money to the lobby group Real Women. Tory MP Sid Fraleigh said yesterday."

R.E.A.L. WOMEN OF CANADA. "Women's rights, not at the expense of human rights."

"Tory MP Stan Graham said", Dec. 13, 1986. "the group's testimony was like a breath of fresh air..." The Montreal Gazette. "...one becomes tired of listening to the radical-feminist point of view."

"Realwomen is growing by leaps and bounds. New chapters are blooming across the country." Reality, Vol IV No. 4, Summer 1986.