

FOOTNOTES

1. Dimensions of Equality: A Federal Government Work Plan for Women
November, 1986.
2. Along with a commitment to the voluntary sector, provision was also made under the Program for the establishment of five Chairs of Women's Studies at various Canadian universities. The endowments were for \$500,000 and went to:
 - 1) Mount Saint Vincent University; Nova Scotia, 1984.
 - 2) Simon Fraser University; British Columbia, 1984.
 - 3) Carleton University and the University of Ottawa; Ontario, 1984.
 - 4) University of Winnipeg and University of Manitoba; Manitoba, 1985.
 - 5) University of Laval; Quebec, 1985.

The main purpose behind the endowments is to encourage university teaching and research on questions touching the status of women.

3. In 1985, females in Canada working on a full-time basis had average earnings of \$18,736 or 64.9% of the average earnings of their male counterparts (\$28,848), down from 65.5% in 1984. Although the decline is not statistically significant, it marks the first time since 1967 that survey estimates of women's relative earnings have not increased. At the same time, unattached females had an average income of \$14,656, or 76% of that of single males (\$19,257). Males constituted 56.3% of earners in 1985 and of these, 66.7% worked full-year full-time as compared to 48.9% of female earners. Also, the average income of single mothers remained unchanged, in real terms, from the previous year and stood at \$16,339; compared to a 2.7% real increase for two-parent families whose average 1985 income was \$42,425.

While most socio-demographic groups had reductions in the low-income rate, this did not hold true for unattached mothers. In fact, this group has been experiencing an upward trend in low-income status since 1979. Among major family types, families headed by single mothers had the highest rate of low income in 1985 (60.4%). Furthermore, single-parent families headed by unemployed females (one-third of all such families) had a low-income rate of 94.4%. This group represented 2.1% of all families while comprising 15% of all low-income families.

The rate of low income among the elderly unattached stood at 46.8%, down from 49.6% in 1984; continuing a downward trend since 1980 when the rate was 61.5%. Of this income group, 82.7% are females.

Statistics Canada, Income Distribution by size in Canada,
Catalogue 13-207, 1985