

well. Cynthia Enloe describes how in the aftermath of the war in El Salvador, a former guerilla who spent most of her adult life fighting in the jungle, is now being encouraged to have her IUD taken out and become a good mother (Enloe,1993:1). While a number of Salvadoran women have been agitating for recognition of the rights of women, the battle has been up-hill (Lundoff,1992:8,25 & Sandra Moran:interview). In post-war Nicaragua, when the Frente Sandinista de Liberacion Nacional (FSLN) held its first congress in 1991, there was a strong movement to include one woman on the directorate. The obvious candidate, the female commander of the attack to take the first city in the war, was overlooked. Another three years passed before women were included on the directorate (Randall,1995:128,150). Margaret Viki, a Zimbabwean, sums up her war contributions and subsequent post-war political marginalization in this way;

I think if the women had not been there the freedom fighters would not have won the war. Women did a great job. Cooking and providing food for the freedom fighters was a way of fighting on its own. Women cooked, and were beaten by soldiers for doing this. Sometimes, while we were busy cooking, the soldiers could come and we had to run away and hide, leaving the pot burning. but now we, the women, the 'povo' as we are called, have been forgotten. The freedom fighters have forgotten us and how much we helped them (Viki,1990:156).

In addition to facing the forces of re-emerging patriarchy, many women also face the obstacle of their own "triple burden." Caring for children, working full-time, and struggling to contribute to the political consolidation of her nation is an extremely tall-order for any woman to fill. And yet, as pointed out above, the participation of women in civil society and in elected government is a necessity if democracy is going to take root in a nation. This is particularly the case in nations where the majority of its citizens are female. As women identify practical needs, such as child care plans, in order that they might become more politically involved, Canada must be able to pro-actively respond. Sandra Moran, for example, has stated that Guatemalan women