

COLUMN

Media ignores plight of women

by Sue Pennypacker

I've noticed a strange trend in the local media. In spite of the fact that women are becoming more integrated into the so-called public sphere, their problems are largely ignored. For the most part, the media judges women by a male standard. Traditionally, female achievements are relegated to the lifestyle section of the various forms of media. Stories about typically male-dominated areas are more often found in the business sections or in the news sections. Essentially, the language use and the layout of different articles reflects the position of women in our society.

The dissent of (wo)man

An excellent example of the media's failure to acknowledge women occurred recently in one of the Toronto newspapers. In a story about the effect of the budget on working people, this newspaper featured a white middle class male laborer. He is supposedly representative of working people across Canada.

While it is true that the entire middle working class is suffering due to the effects of the recession, rising taxes and cuts to social programs, a man cannot adequately represent the plight of women.

In the same article, it was noted that this man is a member of a union. Unfortunately, many women work in fields which are not unionized. Women are, therefore, often left unprotected in the labor force. By using a white, male, union member to illustrate the plight of the average worker, this article failed to acknowledge the condition of many working women.

We are not living in a world in which women perform only conventional tasks. Women play many parts in our society. Unfortunately, the media chooses to validate only the traditional roles of women.

Furthermore, this validation takes the form of a hierarchy. So-called female tasks are usually considered to be less important than typically male tasks.

I'm not asking for over-representation of women in the media. I am demanding the realistic and humane representation of women in the media. In short, media portrayals of people have to be grounded in reality rather than in tradition.

Personal recycling

by Colette Boileau

Hey you, the one who wrecks havoc on our national forests; you waster of resources; you destroyer of nature. No, I don't mean the large forestry companies who slash and burn thousands of acres of precious forest. I mean you, the mass consumer of vast varieties of paper products. Ya, you!!!

Do you write on only one side of the paper? Do you carelessly photocopy notes and articles beyond your needs? Do you collect information pamphlets only to toss them out immediately? Do you grab more paper napkins than you could possibly use?

Well, hopefully by now you've got the hint. The humungous paper companies that everyone's quick to blame are not the only ones at fault in this war against ecological destruction, no. Ultimately the duty to change things rests with the consumer — you. Consider this, the next time you carelessly devour any of the assortment of paper products available to you.

I'd like to offer a few tips to assist you in cutting the paper habit:

1. Keep one-side-still-good paper and use it for class notes, essay rough notes, or any other informal notes. You won't believe the money you'll save. Sure everyone wants a good set of notes for class, but who really uses them next year anyway?!

2. Conscientiously open all envelopes so that they can be

THE GREEN SCENE

re-used. Even windowed envelopes can be reused. Just tape them securely before sending them off. The next time you write mom and dad for money you can save yourself the cost of the envelope. Now if we could only reuse stamps.

3. You know all those charitable organizations who send you requests for money (like they don't know we are students or something?). Don't just through them out, because inside there's usually an envelope. Put it aside — maybe even send it to the organization asking them for money.

4. Reject paper napkins, paper plates, etc. Ask for ceramic and linens. Styrofoam is another story.

5. Number five is for all the self-proclaimed environmentalists who want to show others just how conscientious they are. Why not had your essays in on your best one-side-still-good paper? And send those letters asking for money on the back of this paper. I've received some amazing responses to this.

Okay, now that we all have a start, ideas will start pouring out. Besides, any chance we can get to save us a few bucks can't hurt and if it helps the garbage problem, all the better.

YORK UNIVERSITY

SUMMER ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

UNDERGRADUATE RESIDENCE ACCOMMODATION

Stong and Norman Bethune Residences

Single and Double Rooms Available
from 19 May 1991 to 18 August 1991

For further information please contact:

HOSPITALITY YORK (416) 736-5020

FURNISHED BACHELOR, ONE-BEDROOM AND TWO-BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Available for periods of one month or more
from 01 April 1991 to 15 August 1991
(certain restrictions apply)

For further information please contact:

HOUSING ADMINISTRATION (416) 736-5152

For short term apartment stays (less than 30 days)
please contact: Hospitality York (416) 736-5020

IBM Computers



Micro York

Operated by Computing and Communication Services

104A Steacie Science Library

736-5274 - FAX: 736-5662

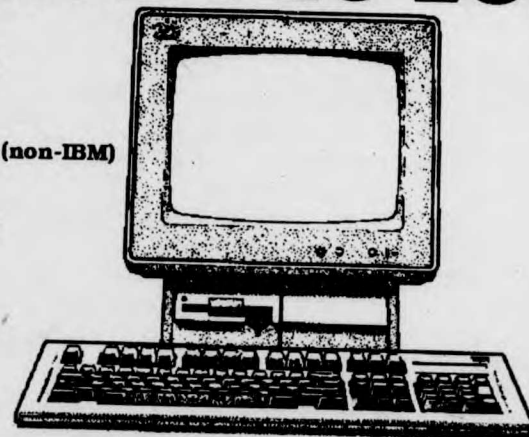
Serving York University's Administration, Faculty, Staff and Students

Store Hours:
Mon to Thurs. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

IBM PS/2 Model 25-286

The Computer

- 80286 Microprocessor
- Colour VGA Display
- 48MB Hard Disk Drive (non-IBM)
- 1MB Memory
- Serial and Printer port
- Real time clock
- IBM Mouse
- Enhanced Keyboard
- IBM DOS V4.01 (License ONLY)



Computer System Only	with Panasonic 24 Pin Printer and printer cable	with HP DeskJet 500 and printer cable
\$ 2,415	\$ 2,739	\$ 2,965

IBM Model 55SX Computer

- 80386SX Microprocessor
- 60MB Hard Dsk Drv (non-IBM)
- 12" Colour VGA Display
- 16MHz clock speed
- 2MB Memory
- IBM DOS V4.01

NEW PRICE



Computer System Only	with Panasonic 24 Pin Printer and printer cable	with HP DeskJet 500 and printer cable
\$ 3,649	\$ 3,975	\$ 4,199

Sale ends April 26, 1991. Orders must be in by April 17, 1991. While quantity lasts. Prices Subject to change without notice.