

# Association for Women in Psychology

*A Feminist Voice Since 1969*

*Spring/Summer 2006 Newsletter*

*Rebecca Lafleur, Editor*



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## *Featured Article:*

*Proposed Action Initiatives for AWP*

*By Patricia Rozee*

Occasionally an issue arises that may need to be discussed by the membership in order to prepare an AWP response. Such issues may come forward from the membership as action initiative proposals. Two such proposed action initiatives are included here. Your thoughts, comments, etc. are solicited. Please direct comments on Rape Resistance to [prozee@csulb.edu](mailto:prozee@csulb.edu) and on Interpersonal Violence to [mccloskey@hartford.edu](mailto:mccloskey@hartford.edu). Your ideas are welcomed.

## **EDUCATING FOR RAPE PREVENTION AND RESISTANCE**

Proposed by Dr. Patricia Rozee and Dr. Karol Dean

### Justification of Need:

This action initiative is intended to utilize accepted empirical findings regarding the efficacy of rape resistance and self defense, and the need to reassess rape prevention programs, to more effectively serve women. The psychology of rape resistance has not been clearly or concisely covered in many Psychology of Women textbooks and is rarely even mentioned in Social Psychology or Introductory Psychology textbooks. Despite mounting evidence of omissions and inaccuracies there is no information available to assist instructors, therapists, medical and criminal justice personnel on how to advise women who come to them for services. This Action Initiative proposes several first steps in this process. As a first step, we provide some background on research on these topics.

### Research Background:

Research findings on rape prevention and resistance are clear:

- Virtually all rape prevention programs deal with changing rape attitudes—these regress to pretest levels over

*(Action Initiatives, Continued on page 5)*

## Publishing Guidelines

The Association for Women in Psychology Newsletter is the official newsletter of the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP), a not-for-profit scientific and educational organization committed to: encouraging feminist psychological research, theory and activism, with an awareness of and a responsibility to incorporate cultural diversity as well as a strong anti-racist position.

The purpose of the Association for Women in Psychology Newsletter is to provide AWP members, AWP affiliates and interested other persons and organizations with news about the Association's activities and with information and scholarly material consonant with the Association's goals. The Newsletter is published tri-annually, with submission deadlines published in each issue.

### **Submission Guidelines:**

Articles and letters to the editor will be considered for inclusion. The editor, in consultation with the Implementation Collective, will review submissions to assure that they are not at odds with the goals of the Association. The editor reserves the right to edit materials for style and length, although materials that require further editing will be returned to the author for a review of editing changes.

Please include your name, address, phone number and email address with your submission. The newsletter is currently produced with Microsoft Publisher on a PC. All submitted materials must be typed. Text files should be submitted in Word and photos should be sent as jpeg files. Submit materials in one of the following formats (listed in order of preference):

- (1) Via electronic mail (as an attachment or in an email)
- (2) On a 3/5" PC-formatted diskette or CD, with your name, address, phone number, and email address on the label of the disk

### **Submission Deadlines:**

- Fall (mailed in September): *July 1*
- Winter (mailed in January): *November 1*
- Spring/Summer (mailed in May): *March 1*

### **Advertisement Guidelines:**

Advertisement rates are \$300 for a full-page, \$150 for a half page, and \$75 for a quarter page advertisement or announcement. Brief announcements from AWP members may be printed at no cost.

### **Send newsletter submissions ONLY to:**

Rebecca Lafleur, AWP Newsletter Editor  
Psychology Department  
The College of New Rochelle  
New Rochelle, NY 10805  
rlafleur@cnr.edu

To submit an address change, subscribe to the newsletter or join AWP, please contact the Membership Coordinator - see back cover for contact list.

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

I am putting the finishing touches on this issue of the AWP newsletter after having just returned from the annual AWP conference in Ypsilanti, Michigan. How is it possible for a conference to exhaust and energize me at the same time? Yet that is the effect AWP conferences always have on me. Exhausted by the sheer number of presentations and social events I want to attend, yet energized by the amazing feminist energy. This year's conference was no exception. Radhika Sehgal and Laura Monschau did an excellent job as co-coordinators, and Kathy Malloy and Celeste Waller developed a superb program of invited speakers, presentations, and workshops. I especially enjoyed the plenary sessions, the closing ceremony, and the ice-cream social!

Congratulations to this year's AWP award winners. Paula Caplan and Lisa Cosgrove received the Christine Ladd Franklin Award for their history of service to the association, and Joan Chrisler received the 2nd annual Florence Denmark Mentoring Award for her dedication to her students, past and present.

In this issue, you can get a glimpse of the conference. My thanks to Mardel Miller for the wonderful pictures she took at the conference, as well as to the individuals who submitted material to me within days of the conference! The next issue will include more detailed accounts of the conference events. On the back cover of this issue, you'll also see that plans for AWP 2007 in San Francisco are already underway. I can't wait to see what Nancy Baker and Cathy Hauer have in store for us!

This marks my first year as Newsletter Editor, and I welcome your feedback. Getting the newsletter to you in a timely fashion is the biggest challenge, one which I will continue to work on. If you have other comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please share them with me at [rlafleur@cnr.edu](mailto:rlafleur@cnr.edu).

Rebecca Lafleur  
AWP Newsletter Editor

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

AWP is clearly vibrant, activist, and growing! And that is reflected in the beautiful Newsletter that Rebecca Lafleur has so creatively redesigned.

It was thrilling to read in the last issue about the wonderful fundraiser put together by students for the New View Campaign -- what a lot of work that took, and what a success it seems to have been! And then it was exciting to read that AWP is sending letters to Congress, and urging AWP members to do the same, about the frightening Section 215 of the Patriot Act, that allows the government to demand psychotherapy records based on the claim that they are necessary for national security. On top of that, it was great to see in the Implementation Collective Meeting Minutes all the amazing things that the various IMPS are doing, including but certainly not limited to Sharon Siegel's hard work on finances, Karol Dean's great ideas and work on increasing membership and putting together a listing of members' expertise, and Lois Benishek's terrific innovations and energy in activating the regional AWP chapters and disseminating information about their activities. As I experienced firsthand while Spokesperson for AWP, Michele Boyer as Collective Coordinator is inspiring, inventive, resourceful, thoughtful, and hardworking.

I want to thank AWP for the Christine Ladd Franklin Award and say how deeply touched I was to receive it. It has been a pleasure to work with AWP as Spokesperson and on the subject of problems and dangers with psychiatric diagnosis. Were it not for the suggestion of Joan Chrisler and the follow-through of then-Collective-Coordinator Maureen McHugh, the book *Bias in Psychiatric Diagnosis*, which became officially a project of AWP, might never have seen the light of day. And I want to assure the members of AWP that, although I am no longer a member of the Collective, I remain an enthusiastic member of AWP and am continuing to work on exposing the dangers and the unscientific nature of psychiatric diagnosis. I hope that AWP members might go to my website about this, which is [www.psychdiagnosis.net](http://www.psychdiagnosis.net), where you as an individual or on behalf of a group or organization can sign on to endorse my call for Congressional hearings about psychiatric diagnosis and where you can read a lot of information about this subject, including 53 brief stories about the wide variety of ways that people have been harmed directly because of receiving a psychiatric label, and a number of suggestions for solutions, some of which individual psychologists can do on their own.

I am grateful to AWP also for having provided a platform from which, as Spokesperson, I could start spreading the word that the nation should be on notice that there is only so much emotional carnage of war that psychologists can fix; that when vets return from war and are devastated by having seen a buddy blown to bits or having realized they have killed a child, it is wrong simply to call them mentally ill (and indeed, if being shattered by such horrors is a mental illness, exactly what would be a healthy response?) and send them to be fixed behind therapists' closed doors; that if we do only the latter, we as a nation do not have to look on the face of the damage wrought by war; and that we ought to have learned from previous wars that therapists can sometimes help but that what is needed goes far beyond that. I shall be continuing to spread this word every chance I get.

In sisterhood,

Paula J. Caplan

## Co-Co's Corner

*"Co-Co's Corner" is a regular newsletter feature column written by the chair of the AWP Implementation Collective (The Collective Coordinator), Michele Boyer*

I am preparing this column during National Women's History Month (March) and want to share some thoughts with you regarding a few women whose contributions have recently received renewed attention. But first, a little *his-and-herstory*: In 1980, the first United States Presidential Proclamation calling attention to the contributions of women was issued by President Carter. In 1981, largely through the efforts of the newly formed National Women's History Project, the first National Women's History Week was established by a joint resolution of the United States Congress. The actual week was selected to coincide with March 8<sup>th</sup>, International Women's Day. In 1987, again by joint resolution, Congress proclaimed March to be National Women's History Month. Each year since then, presidential proclamations have announced March as National Women's History Month. You may recall that AWP conference committees try to schedule conferences as close to International Women's Day as possible.

During the past several months, the deaths of three women, foremothers, who made outstanding contributions to civil rights, feminism, and social justice activism have provided us opportunities, as individuals and as a nation, to celebrate and remember.

Rosa Parks

February 4, 1913 - October 24, 2005

Coretta Scott King

April 27, 1927 - January 27, 2006

Betty Friedan

February 4, 1921 - February 4, 2006

The contributions these women made to society align nicely with this year's National Women's History Project theme, "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams," which "honors women for bringing communities together and restoring hope in the face of impossible odds" (<http://www.nwhp.org/events/releases/01202006.html>).

Rosa Parks, identified as the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," gained national attention when, on December 1, 1955, she refused to give up her seat in the "colored" section of a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus when asked to do so by the bus driver, so that a White man could sit. Her action led to the 381-day Montgomery Bus Boycott which ultimately led to a US Supreme Court ruling that ended segregation on public busses in Montgomery. These events provided an energizing spark for the Civil Rights Movement and brought the efforts of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., then a young pastor, to national attention. Rosa Parks also contributed to the effort that brought national recognition to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. At a memorial service, Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm said, "Rosa Parks was powerful because she was improbable. She was unexpected. She was untitled....her greatness lay in doing what everybody could do, but doesn't." The actions of this one, quiet, gentle, shy, and dignified woman led to massive social change. She was the first woman and the second African American to be honored in death by lying in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

Coretta Scott King, identified as the "First Lady of the Civil Rights Movement," shared her husband's (Martin Luther King, Jr.) commitment to improving civil and human rights. She continued his work after his assassination in 1968 by establishing and leading the non-profit Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Change. Her social justice activities were national and international in scope. In addition to her tireless work for civil rights in the

*(Co-Co's Corner Continued on page 25)*

## Featured Article: Proposed Action Initiatives for AWP

(Action Initiatives, Continued from page 1)

short periods of time, and have *virtually no effect* on subsequent reductions in actual rapes (Breitenbecher, 2000).

- Many programs focus on teaching precautions against strangers yet most women already have a long list of precautions that they take on a daily basis to minimize the risk of danger from strangers (Rozee, 1999, 2000b) and are already wary of male strangers (Stanko, 1998).
- Most prevention programs devote little time to actual resistance strategies despite overwhelming evidence of the greater effectiveness of certain resistance strategies over others in avoiding rape (Bachar & Koss, 2001; Ullman, 1997).
- Although some proportion of rapes are unavoidable, women could better confront potential rapists if they received coaching on overcoming psychological barriers to resistance, diagnosing as early as possible that they are facing imminent rape, and given a predictable hierarchy through which to progress from verbal to physical resistance.
- There is a strong cultural message that rape resistance is both futile and dangerous (Rozee, 2000a) and women have been conditioned to believe it (Ryckman, Kaczor & Thornton, 1992).
- Women who do not resist are more likely to be raped (Furby & Fischhoff, 1986; Kleck & Sayles, 1990; Koss & Mukai, 1993; Ullman, 1997, 1998; Ullman & Knight, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995; Ullman & Siegel, 1993; Zoucha-Jensen & Coyne, 1993).
- Women who do not resist are more often blamed for the rape (Ong & Ward, 1999) and get negative reactions from juries, because the absence of verbal or physical resistance increases judgments of victim-survivor consent (Warner & Hewitt, 1993). The more the victim-survivor resisted the more certain are the observers that a rape occurred (Krulowitz & Nash, 1979).
- Women who are raped often suffer associated deleterious physical and psychological aftereffects (Koss & Heslet, 1992; Koss, Koss, & Woodruff, 1991; Mantese, et al, 1991; Wyatt, 1992).
- The evidence is consistent; that resistance may prevent rape and that resistance poses no increased risk of injury (see reviews by Furby & Fischhoff, 1986, and Ullman, 1997).
- Victim resistance was *not* related to the level of physical injury (Ullman, 1997).
- When sequence of events is considered it is found that women resist more when they are being hurt rather than the reverse (Ullman, 1997).
- Resistance may facilitate faster psychological recovery whether or not she was raped (Bart & O'Brien, 1985). Women who resist may blame themselves less for what happened and have a more positive attitude toward herself (Furby & Fischhoff, 1986).

### First Steps in the Action Initiative:

#### I. Lesson Plans

Prepare a series of one hour lectures for teachers of Psychology of Women, Violence Against Women, or general courses in social psychology and general psychology that have a section on violence. Lectures would summarize the literature related to the area, suggest social, cultural and individual solutions to vio-

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## Featured Article: Proposed Action Initiatives for AWP

*(Action Initiatives, Continued from page 5)*

lence against women, and provide student activities to highlight each topic.

### II. Handbook or Brochure

Prepare a handbook or brochure designed for the public, giving recent empirical findings in a readily accessible style, with achievable goals for rape prevention and resistance.

### III. Lecture Series

AWP would sponsor a speaker's bureau featuring experts in violence against women who could be called upon to visit universities and community venues to discuss the issues with a view to action.

## OVERCOMING BACKLASH WITHIN INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV) RESEARCH

Proposed by Dr. Kathy McCloskey, University of Hartford Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology,  
and Dr. Patricia Rozee, California State University, Long Beach

We currently find ourselves within a backlash concerning IPV. While women can indeed be primary perpetrators of IPV (see the recent issue of *Psychology of Women Quarterly*), the discussion of women's IPV perpetration is often presented as if it is equal to men's perpetration as a serious public health issue. Many researchers are claiming that women are as violent as men within relationships. Despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, this assertion is not new. Research approaches that claim equal rates of IPV for both genders include the National Family Violence Survey (1976, 1985) using the Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS) developed by Murray Straus, the National Survey of Families and Households (1988), the Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study New Zealand (1997), and most recently, the International Dating Violence Study begun in 2005 and also headed and designed by Straus. Preliminary results from Straus' 2005 study once again claim to "prove" gender symmetry, but this time cross-culturally. Criticisms concerning Straus' research methods are legion and have a storied history. Briefly, methods based on the CTS ignore: (a) the context and antecedents of IPV (past history of victimization or perpetration within the relationship and issues of power and control), (b) the impact and consequences of IPV (injury outcomes, interventions, etc.), (c) the meaning of violence to those within the relationship, (d) the motivations for using violent behaviors (e.g., does not differentiate between self-defense and offense), (e) the justice system response to IPV, and (f) data from other types of violence where men are overwhelmingly the perpetrators.

Straus' approach ultimately fails to answer the question: "What makes IPV so special that women perpetrate in "equal" numbers *only* within this arena?" Unfortunately, data created using Straus' methods are still being used for resource allocation, as well as creating funding structures and intervention strategies. In response, the AWP Implementation Collective has approved a new Action Initiative aimed at ad-

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dressing this widespread misinformation campaign.

### What Can We Do?

#### Overcoming Research and Theoretical Limitations

- Women's use of violence is a highly politicized arena
  - Public policy and funding are tied to research findings (DeKeseredy, 2000; Gelles, 2000; Renzetti, 1996)
  - "Backlash" due to inaccurate snapshots of women's use of violence and almost total lack of contextualization by academicians (Murphy & O'Leary, 1994; Salzman, 2000)
- By understanding that IPV is multidimensional in nature, definitions become crucial:
  - Actual or threatened physical, sexual, and psychological/emotional abuse
  - Stalking/monitoring behavior
  - Patterns of coercive and controlling tactics across time
  - Motivations for using violence
  - Immediate and long-term impact of violence on victim and perpetrator
- Focus on tools and methods that create a "video" of interpersonal violence rather than a "snapshot"
- Antecedents, the violent acts themselves, and future outcomes must be given equal weight
- Context of the violent incident must be measured and embedded in past relationship patterns (requires a more qualitative/narrative approach)
- "Official" reports of violence (national, regional, local) must be compared with the narrative experiences of victims and perpetrators
- Level of fear must be included in any analysis
- Motivations for using intimate violence, and the context in which it occurred, are crucial
- Social milieu must be contextualized, including the widespread use of violence by men within other arenas

### What Can We Do?

#### Advocacy Suggestions

- **Reactive:** Create a task force that monitors and responds quickly to "artifact research" that appears in the literature:
  - Task force membership: academics, advocates, victims
  - Monitoring: compile a selected journal list for monitoring and assign individuals to each - nominate individuals to serve as editor of targeted journals (get inside)
  - Response: Replies to manuscripts, letters to the editor, etc.
- **Proactive:** Create a task force that creates original research and review articles

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- Task force membership: academics, advocates, victims
- Original Research: compile a selected list of known researchers that understand the limitations and problems with “measurement artifacts” and support/link them
- Get Inside: nominate individuals to serve as editor of targeted journals in a coordinated and networked manner
- **Educational Materials:**
  - Maintain list of handbooks, edited books, list of journal articles
  - Disseminate data that contradicts and corrects “measurement artifacts” to major funding sources such as high-level contacts at the NIMH, CDC, NIJ, etc. (“state of the field” commentaries)
  - Create lesson plans for dissemination to members for use in classrooms
- **Media Management:**
  - Sponsor large lecture series and symposia created by members at a relevant/select list of the major IPV conferences (“overwhelming presence”)
  - At AWP, APA, FVSAI, etc., create press releases about “measurement artifacts” and the impact on women
  - Letter to the Editor writing campaign scheduled over a 2-3 year period by members of task forces (geographically distributed)
  - Monitor local community IPV incidents that receive media coverage (usually IPV homicides) and launch targeted information dissemination activities (newspapers, local TV stations)

This article is designed to generate brainstorming among members concerning new ideas and activist strategies for inclusion in the AWP Action Initiative. For example, how best to document and widely disseminate the following information that shows: (a) women’s use of violence is a highly politicized arena, (b) public policy and funding are tied to misleading research findings, (c) backlash is due to inaccurate snapshots of women’s use of violence and almost total lack of contextualization by academicians, (d) the control of IPV definitions is crucial, and (e) the overarching social milieu must be contextualized, including the widespread use of violence by men within other arenas. Your feedback is welcomed.

### ***Are you interested in becoming a member of the Implementation Collective?***

Contact **Lois Benishek**, Staffer/Regional Coordinator ([lbenishek@mindspring.com](mailto:lbenishek@mindspring.com)) if you are interested in becoming an Imp or if you’d like to nominate someone for a specific position.

The various positions are described on the AWP website ([www.awpsych.org](http://www.awpsych.org)).

## Activist Corner: Courtney Ahrens

***“Activist Corner” is a regular Newsletter feature column written by Patricia Rozee***

AWP member Dr. Courtney Ahrens is very busy out in the community when she is not teaching psychology of women, qualitative methods and community psychology. Courtney is one of several faculty and staff (including yours truly) who have been working with a Superior Court Judge, the city prosecutor, a battered women’s shelter and the California State University, Center for Community Engagement, to run the Domestic Violence Court Referral and Resource Program (DVCRRP). The program was started in 2002 when the judge and prosecutor approached the university asking for help to establish an assistance program for DV survivors who are in court for the arraignment of their batterers. The judge observed, “I was handling specialized court for a few years and saw our volume increasing. The prosecutor was overwhelmed. Victims were crying and upset and needed resources. Victims got some attention but we couldn’t be very involved.”

The city prosecutor was also concerned for these survivors: “We are so limited in our contact with the victim because that’s not really our function. My function is to deal with her partner who’s over there in the custody box most of the time. But, I think that until we had this (DVCRRP) going, it was part of the process that we really ignored just because we couldn’t do it.”

The politics of the program were an initial challenge. The judge noted, “I can’t talk directly to victims or hear indirectly from interns. I had to be sure it didn’t look like I was favoring the victim. We also didn’t want to alienate the public defender. It turned out that the public defenders were very supportive of help for the families of their clients once the program was fully explained to them by the judge.

The founders also worried about how to get enough volunteers, how to pay for training (\$250 per person), how to appropriately supervise the students. How to keep it going without a lot of bureaucracy. Fundraising was a big issue from the beginning but recently several DV shelters in the area volunteered to sponsor one intern in their training program for free.

So these creative women got together and decided to recruit university students as interns. Fortunately Courtney teaches an internship course that has resulted in some volunteers for the program and others are recruited through women’s studies and criminal justice classes. Interns are trained to work with women in crisis by sending them through a 40-hour California state mandated DV training program. They started with one intern and now the program boasts 9 interns who work in the courtroom with DV survivors, providing support, guidance, resources and a strong shoulder.

As the interns report to the courtroom for their shift (generally 6-8 hours a week) they are handed the police report to read. They then ask the woman to accompany them outside the courtroom where they introduce themselves as a DV volunteer, listen, explain options, provide referrals and discuss the cycle of violence. The interns have been responsible for helping women to avoid lifting life-saving restraining orders by giving them other options. They have also helped to get many children of violence into counseling programs.

Courtney Ahrens is integral to the recruitment, hiring and supervision of the interns. She is also conducting program evaluation of the DVCRRP. This program involves a substantial time commitment to keep it going even though it is not in any of their job descriptions! But the results are worth the costs. As one intern put it: “Even though we are not techni-

*(Activist Corner, Continued on page 25)*

***AWP/Division 35 Hospitality Suite at APA***  
***By Diane M. Hall, APA Hospitality Suite Coordinator***

**Volunteering in the Suite**

Are you planning to attend the American Psychological Association Convention in New Orleans this year? If so, plan to join us in the AWP/Division 35 Hospitality Suite. Experience a feminist psychology community, enjoyable informal programming, and our book exhibit and sale. In addition, if you're looking for a lower-cost way to stay in one of the convention hotels and a way to participate even more fully in the Suite, you might want to think about volunteering in the Suite throughout the convention. Additional information regarding the Hospitality Suite will be available later this spring and summer on the AWP website. For more information, please contact me at [dmhall@gse.upenn.edu](mailto:dmhall@gse.upenn.edu). We hope to see you there!

**Activism in New Orleans**

As you probably know, the 2006 American Psychological Association (APA) Convention will be in New Orleans. Convention attendees will have the opportunity to do activism work while in New Orleans through APA's connection with Habitat for Humanity. After Hurricane Katrina, the news media covered multiple horror stories and what emerged was the beginning of some awareness that natural disasters do not impact all people alike - women, lower SES people, and people of color are affected much more negatively when compared to other groups. I think APA's work with Habitat for Humanity is a wonderful idea; I thought it also might be nice to work with a woman's organization (e.g., shelter, group that provides services to sexual assault victims) or college/university program focusing on women's issues.

As such, I am looking for: (1) specific ideas for short-term projects; (2) people who are willing to lead the projects. I know everyone is busy during the Convention, so projects need to be specific and do-able during the Convention timeframe. For example, Section 1 of APA's Division 35 is donating proceeds from their Annual Dance to Dillard University, an historically black college in New Orleans that was particularly devastated by the hurricane.

If you are interested, have any ideas, or if you know of agencies in need, please contact me at [dmhall@gse.upenn.edu](mailto:dmhall@gse.upenn.edu). I am looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans in August!

***Don't get lost!***

Make sure AWP has your current address information so that you continue to receive the newsletter and other notices.

Send your updates to:  
[awpmembership@comcast.net](mailto:awpmembership@comcast.net)

## *AWP Welcomes New IMP: Elizabeth Davis-Russell, EdD, PhD Conference Liaison*

Elizabeth Davis-Russell was born in Liberia, West Africa. She attended Suehn Academy and then went to London, England to continue her education. In England she attended London Tutorial College where she completed her O Levels. She then came to the United States and attended Oakland University in Michigan where she completed a B.A in Psychology.

Elizabeth was then accepted into New York University for graduate work. She obtained an M.A in Educational Psychology. She was then accepted into Yeshiva University where she obtained an EdD in Counselor Education. Desirous of fulfilling her dream to become a psychologist, she then matriculated at New York University and completed a PhD in Clinical Psychology. Upon graduation she pursued Post Graduate Training and received Certification in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy at the Institute for the Study of Psychotherapy in New York, NY. Elizabeth is a licensed psychologist in the State of California, where she had a private practice in addition to teaching.

Elizabeth is currently provost and vice president for academic affairs at the State University of New York College at Cortland. She has spent most of her career in higher education as a faculty member and then as an administrator. Some highlights include presidential associate at Alliant International University, after completing a year as an American Council on Education Fellow, dean for academic and professional affairs at the California School of Professional Psychology, professor and director of the

Cross Cultural psychology program at the same institution, associate professor, founder and director of the Center for Intercultural Clinical Psychology at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, and associate professor of psychology at LaGuardia College, City University of New York. Dr. Davis-Russell's scholarship includes numerous journal articles, book chapters, book reviews, and two edited books on multicultural psychology.



Elizabeth is married to Thomas Russell and they are parents to two children, Allison, a physician, and Scott who currently resides in California. She enjoys music, theater, reading, sewing, and is an avid sports fan.

Elizabeth's current service includes Secretary of the Board of the Cortland YWCA, organizer and a founding member of the Central New York Branch of the National Association of University Women, and is its current president. She also serves as Chair of the Personnel Committee for the Center for the Arts. She has also served as the President of Section One of the Society of the Psychology of Women of the American Psychological Association. Elizabeth also served as the Woman of Color Coordinator on the Implementation Collective of the Association for Women in Psychology

Significant awards and honors include Fellow, American Psychological Association Society for the Study of Ethnic Minority Issues; Fellow, APA Society for the Psychology of Women; Fellow, American Council on Education (ACE). Others are, The Mayor's Voluntary Action Award for service to Harlem Hospi-

*(New Imp, Continued on page 25)*

*AWP Spokesperson Activities  
Alicia Lucksted*

Andrew von Eschenbach, MD  
FDA, Acting Commissioner  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857-0001

23 January, 2006

Dear Dr. von Eschenbach,

The Association for Women in Psychology is a 36 year old scientific and educational professional organization of psychologists and other social scientists interested in women's health. We have members in every US state and several other countries ([www.awpsych.org](http://www.awpsych.org)).

We are writing to urge you and the overall FDA administration to ensure that Dr Kathleen Uhl is given the opportunity to restore the scientific integrity of the FDA, especially regarding women's health, as she begins her tenure as director of the Office of Women's Health.

After Dr. Susan Wood resigned in response to decisions she saw as putting politics before science and women's health, and after her critique was upheld by several independent bodies, many people working in women's health, and many women concerned about their own health, felt that FDA processes are being improperly affected by political forces. And we wondered if we can actually trust the decisions coming out of the FDA.

We are writing to call on the FDA to ensure that the problems leading Dr. Wood to resign are resolved and not repeated, and to urge you to ensure that Dr. Uhl's leadership of the Office of Women's Health is allowed to operate without inappropriate political pressures. Doing so would reinvigorate the public's confidence in the FDA and the Office of Women's Health as able to responsibly advance the health of the US populace.

Finally, we urge the FDA to issue a final decision about "Plan B," and, in the interest of women's health, to approve it for over-the-counter sales.

Sincerely,

Alicia Lucksted, PhD  
Spokesperson, Association for Women in Psychology  
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## AWP Spokesperson Activities

Dear AWP colleagues,

AWP would like to ask your help in calling attention to the lack of news coverage regarding mental health and the Medicare Part D problems. We are writing to encourage everyone to write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper (or any other media outlet you think appropriate) to draw attention to the problems and threats that people with mental illnesses and other disabilities are facing, and to call on your paper to improve their coverage.

Below is a sample letter, with suggestions (in [brackets]) for tailoring it to YOUR paper and community. Feel free to edit the letter or create an entirely new one if you prefer. The more local a letter, the more likely it is to get published. Please also note your paper's word limit on letters - shorter letters are much more likely to be published.

Please send me a copy of any letter you send to any paper and let me know if it gets published.

At this rather cumbersome link is a New York Times article that has good background information. <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/21/politics/21drug.html?ex=1139634000&en=8e5720f2793dc4a7&ei=5070>

You may want to check your paper's recent coverage of Medicare Part D in order to tailor your letter to it.

Best wishes, and thanks for helping speak out!

Alicia Lucksted ([aluckste@psych.umaryland.edu](mailto:aluckste@psych.umaryland.edu))

=====Letter Template for Newspapers=====  
Dear Editor,

Coverage in this paper of people's difficulties with "Medicare Part D" has neglected the needs of people with mental illnesses and other disabilities (see [ADD name/date of relevant article]). It has instead focused almost entirely on problems experienced by elders. These are indeed critical, but so are the needs of people with psychiatric and physical disabilities, whose health and well-being are being compromised.

Here in [city], and across the country, many people are finding themselves in a dangerous and frustrating morass of confusing information, auto-enrollment in plans that omit needed medications, prohibitive co-pays, burdensome enrollment and eligibility procedures, and bureaucratic snafus.

For someone whose medications treat serious depression, psychotic symptoms, or debilitating anxiety, such obstacles can be life threatening. In many places, local health officials have been forced to adopt emergency stop-gap measures as a result, with mixed effects and at great local cost. [ADD local detail if you have it]

News coverage of these problems is important to educate the public, alert officials, and hold them accountable. Please redouble your efforts to cover all affected groups - including people with mental illnesses and other disabilities.

Sincerely,

Individual name OR  
Local chapter / affiliate name OR  
The Association for Women in Psychology, YOURtown, YOURstate

## State/Regional Chapter Reports By Lois Benishek, Staffer/Regional Coordinator

The on-going activities of our state/regional chapters play a key role in keeping the mission and philosophy of AWP alive throughout the year. Annual conferences are a great way to connect with other feminists, but there is truly something special and invigorating about having more regular contact with other AWP members who reside in your own back yard!

All state/regional chapters are invited to submit a description to the newsletter regarding (a) who you are, (b) your past quarterly activities, and/or (c) your plans for future activities. Please submit this information to the State/Regional Coordinator, Lois Benishek, at [lbenishek@mindspring.com](mailto:lbenishek@mindspring.com) two weeks in advance of the advertised AWP newsletter deadline.

Some of you may be living in a state in which there is no active chapter. If you're interested in beginning a chapter you are welcome to use this space to make your desire known. Advertising in the newsletter is a great way to communicate your desire to the AWP masses!! Again, let Lois know if you'd like help with this process.

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The **Utah AWP chapter** met with **Women in Private Practice (WPP)** and **GLBT Affirmative Therapists** for a gathering at the Women's Resource Center at the University of Utah on Friday evening, January 13th. We enjoyed an hour of informal meeting, greeting, and eating before we were joined by **State Representatives, Jackie Biskupski** and **Senator Scott McCoy** who shared their perspectives on *Current Trends in Social Justice Concerns in the State of Utah*. Members of all three groups agreed that this combined gathering could be an annual event. Contact **Donna Hawxhurst** at [dmay-hawk@xmission.com](mailto:dmay-hawk@xmission.com) if you'd like to get involved with the Utah AWP chapter!

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Greetings from **AWP Texas**! I am proud to report that 10 feminists from the sprawling state of Texas braved the cold to attend the AWP Conference in Ypsilanti, Michigan. This was a bit of a shock given that Texas hasn't endured much of a winter this year. I want to congratulate Texas Woman's University for having 8 members attend the conference in 2006! The TWU women were a strong presence and were involved in some highly relevant and interesting programs. One of these presentations, *Creating a Feminist Training Environment* was particularly relevant to the Texas contingency who hail from a "red" state that does not consistently support feminist agendas. **Cat Pause** is looking for feminists living in the grand state of Texas to add to her member roster. Please contact her via email at [cat.pause@ttu.edu](mailto:cat.pause@ttu.edu). She'd love to hear from you!

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The **Greater Portland Area Association for Women in Psychology (GPA-AWP)** held a networking social in April. The event was well attended and a good time was had by all. The GPA-AWP book group has begun meeting! Contact **Heather McGivney** at [hmcgivney@yahoo.com](mailto:hmcgivney@yahoo.com) for further information or to participate in future book group meetings. A number of members have indicated an interest in forming one or more peer consultation groups. Days/times for meetings as well as group format are being explored. If interested, please contact **Marsha Green** at [greens001@msn.com](mailto:greens001@msn.com) for further information. Finally, they've also scheduled a CE event for the month of May in which Maryka Biaggio presented on feminist ethics. A nominal fee will include continental breakfast and 3 clock hours of CE credit. Contact **Amy Rees** at [arees@lclark.edu](mailto:arees@lclark.edu) if you'd like more information about this event (or other possible CE-related activities).

(State/Regionals, Continued on page 27)

## *Staffer/Regional Coordinator Announcements*

C'Mon!  
Get Involved!  
You won't regret it!

Remember how great it was to attend the 2006 conference in Ypsilanti?! Why not help to make the 2007 and 2008 conferences even greater successes!!

To get involved with the planning of the 2007 conference in San Francisco, you can contact Nancy Baker ([NLBaker@aol.com](mailto:NLBaker@aol.com)) or Cathy Hauer ([CathyHauer2@aol.com](mailto:CathyHauer2@aol.com)). Don't be hesitant. Helping hands are always appreciated!!

Tennessee's 2008 conference is also just around the corner! Rumor has it that their conference planning ball has started to roll. Contact Sharon Horne ([shorne@memphis.edu](mailto:shorne@memphis.edu)), Sara Bridges ([sbridges@memphis.edu](mailto:sbridges@memphis.edu)), or Susan Matthews ([ssmathws@memphis.edu](mailto:ssmathws@memphis.edu)) to get involved. We guarantee that you'll have a great time meeting and working with other AWP members and to help ensure the success of this conference!

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Implementation Committee? If so, let us know! Contact Lois Benishek, Staffer/Regional Coordinator ([lbenishek@mindspring.com](mailto:lbenishek@mindspring.com)) if you, yourself, are interested in becoming an Imp or if you'd like to nominate someone for a specific position. The various positions are described on the AWP website ([www.awpsych.org](http://www.awpsych.org)).

We will soon be looking for a new Treasurer since Sharon Siegel will soon be stepping down from this position. You might be the ideal person for this position if you have a love of numbers and dream about developing spreadsheets! Sharon will do a great job of mentoring her replacement which will make the transition into this position go smoothly.

### Do you have a mutual love for history and AWP?

You might be just the person to serve as the next **AWP Archivist!** Marian Wingo has been our archivist for quite some time and would like to step down from the position. Contact Lois Benishek ([lbenishek@mindspring.com](mailto:lbenishek@mindspring.com)) if you would like to know more about this position! Don't be shy!

Are you interested in writing the 2<sup>nd</sup> segment of the AWP Herstory! As many of you know, Leonore Tiefer authored the first and only herstorical review of the development of AWP about 15 years ago. It's time for us to write an up-date which will cover the past 15 years of AWP. Both Marian Wingo and a central archiving office hold many of the historical documents that will aid in writing this document. You are welcome to collaborate with another person on this task. Contact our Collective Coordinator, Michele Boyer at [mcboyer@indstate.edu](mailto:mcboyer@indstate.edu) if you're interested in working on this project.

## What is Good By Lois Benishek

Well, it's time for the first wave of *What is Good* responses that I received from a part of our AWP membership! It's my impression that AWP members often live in relatively close proximity to one another and yet don't know each other. It's also my impression that we don't often let each other know "what is good" in our professional and personal lives.

My desire to help facilitate the process of us getting to know, dialogue, and collaborate with each other in any way that is meaningful was the motivation for the development of this column. It was a treat to make email and actual voice contact with many of you. I admit that I was afraid that I would experience a high percentage of hang-ups when I called, because you would be thinking that I was soliciting money. No such hang-ups occurred!

I'll be making contact with another sub-set of our membership in the next few months (listed in the table below). Don't be shy about responding to my invitation for you to let your AWP sisters know what you're up to and whether or not you're hungry to meet or dialogue with AWP members who may (or may not!) reside in your geographical area. Please contact me if you don't hear from me when it's your region's turn to participate in "What Is Good." It might simply mean that I don't have the correct contact information for you.

<i>Dates that Staffer Will Make Contact with Targeted Membership</i>	<i>State or Country</i>	<i>Date to Email Staffer with List of "Goods"</i>
March - June	Montana, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Washington, DC, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Sri Lanka, R.O.C., Germany, Nigeria, Ireland, Japan, Australia	June 10, 2006
July - October	Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio	October 10, 2006

What follows are responses from those members were willing to tell us "what is good" in their lives. I'm sure that you will be impressed with the life and professional activities of these women. I know I was!

### **CALIFORNIA**

**Karen Erlichman** resides in **San Francisco**. Her essay, *Cultivating Compassion*, was chosen as one of the winners of the 2005 International House Vision of Hope Essay Contest. The essay addressed prejudice and stereotyping in the wake of 9/11. She also was recently published in the May/June 2005 issue of *Tikkun: A critique of politics, culture and society*. Her article was entitled, *Reflections on spiritual direction and tikkun olam*. Karen can be reached at [kaylee18@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kaylee18@sbcglobal.net).

*(What is Good, Continued on page 17)*

## What is Good

*(What is Good, Continued from page 16)*

**Doris Howard**, as many of you know, is a former AWP Implementation Collective member who served in those positions in the '80s and '90s. Doris, who also resides in **San Francisco**, recently took on the challenge of full-time retirement, having ended her work with her very last private practice client who was quite an inspiration to Doris. Doris wants the membership to know that "retirement is terrific (and) every day is Sunday." Among her many activities, she is involved in volunteer work with seniors. Doris can be reached at [dlh1927@aol.com](mailto:dlh1927@aol.com).

**Kimberly Salter** is an organizational psychologist and a marriage/family therapist whose practice is located in **Laguna Beach**. She is involved in a consulting business; the membership can take a look at its website at [www.santiagoestradaassoc.org](http://www.santiagoestradaassoc.org). Kim was elected be President of the California *National Organization for Women/ NOW* in June of 2005. I encourage you to read her monthly inspirational presidential messages on NOW's website: [www.canow.org](http://www.canow.org). To pique your interest, what follows is a quote from her February 2006 message: *Please take the time to decide how you are going to SPEAK UP and get active this year. Find the area that speaks to your heart and get involved. Push yourself to do more than you ever have - because it is as important now as it has ever been.* Kim can be reached via email at [president@canow.org](mailto:president@canow.org) or by telephone at (949) 230-1169.

**Barbara B. Wilson** lives in **Valencia**. Barbara describes AWP as the single most important organization that she's discovered in the past ten years. She'd like the membership to know that she was hospitalized for five weeks in 2005 with a pulmonary embolism. Her outstanding experience for 2005 is to still be alive in 2006. Barbara is in the process of completing her first book that focuses on adults who were sexually abused as children, and she expects to be completing a research project in the next year pertaining to new therapy techniques associated with working with incest and child sexual abuse survivors. Barbara is currently a returning student at California State University - Northridge and is enrolled in their Women's Studies and Ethnic Studies program. She would appreciate meeting other AWP members who reside in the **Los Angeles/San Fernando Valley/ Pasadena** areas and can be reached at [batn@comcast.net](mailto:batn@comcast.net)!

### **FLORIDA**

**Sylvia Alicia Gonzales** is an AWP member who resides in **Opa Locka**. Sylvia is currently writing her memoir. It will be entitled, *Daughter of the Presidio*, and will provide insight about pioneer Hispanic families of the Southwest. Sylvia can be reached via email at [sylviagonzales43@bellsouth.net](mailto:sylviagonzales43@bellsouth.net) or telephone (305) 621.7726!

### **NORTH CAROLINA/TENNESSEE**

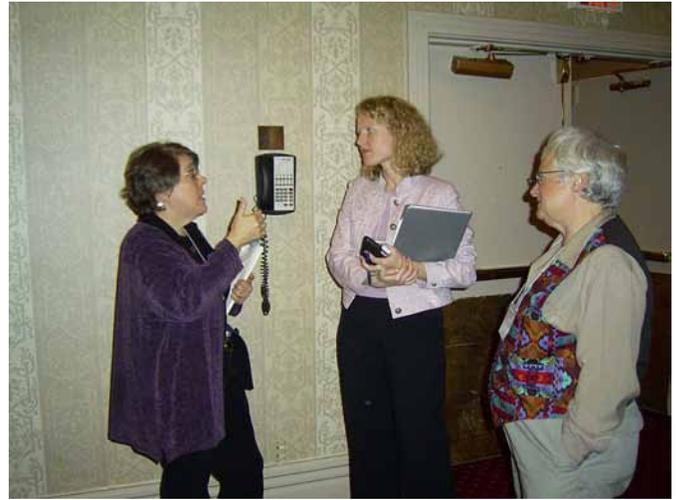
**Patricia Robertson** has recently relocated her home (not her job at East Tennessee State University) from **Johnson City, Tennessee** to **Weaverville, North Carolina** and claims that this has been a wonderful move

*(What is Good, Continued on page 30)*

*Photos from AWP's Annual Feminist Psychology Conference,  
March 30-April 2, 2006, Ypsilanti, Michigan*



AWP members take part in one of several poster sessions.



Nancy Baker, Mary Burke, and Joan Rabin continue their discussion between sessions.



The Saturday night dance was a big success as always!



The conference planning committee takes a quick break to smile for the camera!

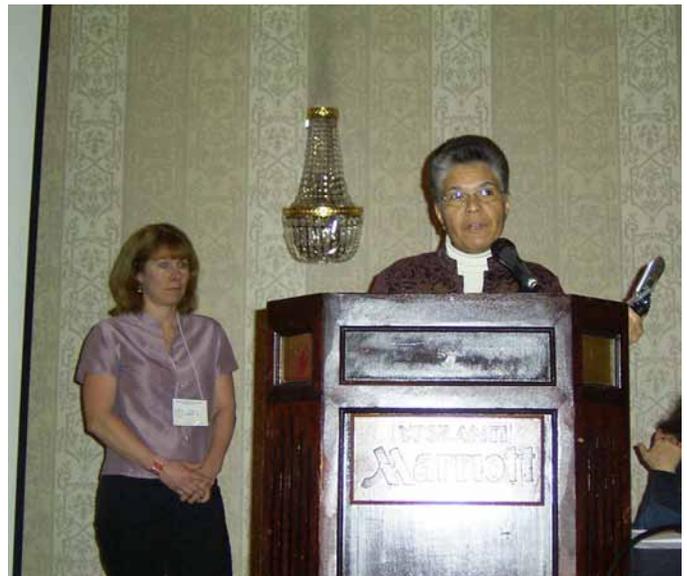


Conference attendees enjoy the New Member Breakfast.

*Photos from AWP's Annual Feminist Psychology Conference,  
March 30-April 2, 2006, Ypsilanti, Michigan*



Laura Brown delivers her invited talk, "If I am not for myself-but which self? Living in multiple identities."



Michele Boyer presents the Christine Ladd Franklin Award to Lisa Cosgrove (left) and Paula Caplan (via cellphone!).



Kat Quina presents the Florence Denmark Mentoring Award to Joan Chrisler.



Carol Gosselink and Sharon Siegel

## March 2006 Treasurer Report

### Edited for the AWP Newsletter by Sharon Siegel

**Summarized Financial Report:** The organization is financially sound. We have two Certificates of Deposit, in which up to ½ of the total on each account may be withdrawn once every six months and the interest is upgradeable once every six months.

**Awards and Prizes:** Updated AWP's list of annual AWP Awards and Prizes.

**AWP Budget and Imp Travel Grids:** Completed with Michele Boyer, AWP's Budget through [projected estimate] 2006, and the Imp Travel expenses grid through December 2005.

**AWP Conference 2005:** Continued interactions with Marianna Carlucci and Michelle Clonche. The 2/3 profit from the conference to AWP is **\$3,554.28**. I have not been able to obtain the cost to AWP of using the PayPal system. The 2005 Conference financial reports were completed without entering PayPal expenses. \$5,348 was paid to independent contractors.

**AWP Conference 2006:** Offered numerous suggestions for conference finances. Worked with M. Boyer, M. Carlucci, R. Sehgal and S. Skidmore re planning and streamlining the relationship between Registration and Treasurer for 2006. Urged treasurer to have a line-item expense for costs to AWP for using PayPal, or the AWP Secure Payment Terminal.

**AWP Conference Treasurers, 2007-2010:** Prepared packets of information for conference treasurers, including Articles of Incorporation, Fiscal Policy, proof of non-profit status EIN, suggestions for Quicken reports of income/expenses, protocols for use by registrars [mail-in, online or on-site receipts] and included final conference financial reports from 2001 to 2005.

**Banking:** Reconciled Bank of America checking account, BofA Visa card, and the United Bank Card merchant account monthly bank statements. The Membership Coordinator will house the Secure Payment Terminal for membership payments. American Express and Diner's Club cards are not accepted for payments to AWP, as the cost to AWP is prohibitive. We accept VISA, Master Card and Discover Card. Sent funds to Imps and others upon receipt of Reimbursement Request forms and original receipts.

**"Feminist Legacy Circle" Fundraiser:** Brochures were sent for inclusion in the 2006 registration packet. This will be the first conference to proudly place a plaque to recognize Feminist Legacy Circle members Lois Benishek, Oliva Espin and Sharon Siegel. The plaque will be engraved with additional Circle members in the future, and displayed at the annual AWP Conferences and in the APA Suite.

**Imps:** Prepared individual packets for each Imp including: C.D. and PAX Fund Registers, AWP credit card transaction forms to be used by anyone using the Secure Payment Terminal, the AWP budget snapshot re income and expenses to date, summary of Imp travel costs 2002-2005 and the 2005 income/expense itemized summary.

**IRS Returns for 2005** have been submitted to the accountants. The Staffer will comment on financial documentation received by AWP's affiliate groups, caucuses and committees.

**Royalties for *Lesbian Psychologies***, published by the University of Illinois at Urbana, will be followed by Michele Boyer, the addressee for receipt of funds.

## *Caucus for Bisexuality and Sexual Diversity - Come Out and Join Us!* *Jessica Tartaro, Co-Chair*

In 2003 as a third year graduate student hungry for a more engaged science and practice of psychology, I attended the AWP annual conference for the first time in Jersey City. At multiple levels that magical year, I fell in love. Undoubtedly, the highlight of my love affair was The Coming Out Ceremony hosted each year by the Caucus for Bisexuality and Sexual Diversity. As I learned that year, the Coming Out Ceremony is a simple, powerful, and sacred event during which individuals are invited to come out about any aspect of their identity for which they would like community support. At the ceremony in 2003, unknown to everyone there, I stood in the middle of a circle of loving, supportive members of a community I had hardly joined and was so palpably bathed in acceptance that I could literally feel parts of me that had as yet been afraid to emerge truly blooming. Upon reflection three years later, I still remain astounded by this group that converges only once a year but that brings together the most essential ingredients of conscious community for the healing and growth of its members. *This* exemplified the radical interpretation of the potential of psychology that I had been looking for.

Since 2004, I have served as co-chair of the Caucus for Bisexuality and Sexual Diversity, continuing my love affair with this caucus and AWP. In this role, I have organized a pre-conference institute, facilitated communication across the caucus by creating and moderating our list serve and co-facilitated the Coming Out Ceremony the last two years, an enormous honor. Last year's pre-conference institute in Tampa was a particularly important example of programming that can be uniquely sponsored by this caucus. For a half-day members discussed issues related to sexual orienta-

tion and gender identity with special guest Dr. Glenda M. Russell, author of the report "Surviving and Thriving Amidst Anti-Gay Politics" (2004).

This year I will end my two-year position as caucus co-chair and am excited to support the new leadership, energy and enthusiasm that is emerging to sustain the efforts of this group. One hope I have for the continued activities of the caucus is to see programming such as last year's pre-conference event expanded to include collaboration with other AWP caucuses, such as the Women of Color caucus, to further celebrate and create a space for intersecting identities within our organization.

If you are an AWP member but have never participated in a CBSD activity, I invite you to consider involvement in this group! Formed in 1993, the CBSD is dedicated to creating a place within AWP within which members can have their range of sexual identities recognized and respected. Further, this caucus was founded as a vehicle to organize activities which give voice to related concerns. As demonstrated in its name, the CBSD acknowledges the importance of welcoming individuals who do not fit into a traditional lesbian-feminist or straight-feminist framework including bisexual identified and transgender identified members.

Whether you add your voice to the dynamic discussion about conference programming, attend an institute or participate in the Coming Out Ceremony, the Caucus for Bisexuality and Sexual Diversity warmly and openly welcomes you to come out and be a part of our activities!

If you have questions and are interested in getting involved in the CBSD, email Jessica at [Jessica.Tartaro@asu.edu](mailto:Jessica.Tartaro@asu.edu).

## Caucus on Mothering Issues Misty Hook, Co-Chair

I just finished reading bell hooks' *From Margin to Center*. There is a wealth of information and food for thought in the book but what her words are sparking for me now is the great avoidance and/or dismissal the feminist movement has given issues surrounding class, race, and mothering.

In thinking about how the mainstream feminist movement has treated class, race and mothering, I decided to check the National Organization for Women's (NOW) website to see what issues they consider important. According to their website, NOW's "Top Priority Issues" are abortion, lesbian rights, violence against women, constitutional equality, economic justice and promoting diversity. I find this list illustrative of why so many women do not connect with NOW in any meaningful way. Economic Justice was simply about pay equity. Of course I support this but have to wonder why it's considered a "top priority" issue when the majority of women work in the pink collar ghetto where pay equity isn't on anyone's radar. In other words, this is a class issue. In Promoting Diversity/Ending Racism, most of the action items have to do with Katrina and/or women of color conferences and get-togethers. There is so much more that could be done on this topic! Family- arguably the top topic that impacts the most women in this country - and Welfare are relegated to "Other Important Issues" status. The Family area is concentrating on family medical leave with one line from 2005 and then you have to go back to 2003 to even see something about it. Welfare is hardly better with four lines from 2004 where they advertise disseminating information about poverty. This is horrible. NOW is arguably the most visible of all feminist groups and yet they all but ignore many of the issues that go straight to the heart of most women's lives.

If you want to really take a look at why feminism is necessary in this country (and the world but I

will confine myself to the US), you have only to look at mothers and poor women who are, in many instances, the same group. Women who mother often are virtually second-class citizens. Pregnant women are infantilized and frequently are not allowed to control even the way they give birth. Mothers are considered unintelligent as a group, especially if they do not work for pay. Mothers who do work for pay frequently are discriminated against either through refusal to hire them, unreasonable demands of the workplace, low-paying positions with little chance of advancement, and the inability to find or pay for adequate childcare. Unless you're well-off financially and/or have a job with benefits, adequate healthcare is a pipe dream. If their male partners leave them, mothers often find themselves living in poverty (2/3 of the people living below the poverty line - people who are basically living on no money at all - are women and children). And heaven help you if you qualify for and accept welfare because then you are just lazy and must be subject to the demands of the unkind state. A lot of mothers suffer from physical illness and emotional distress. In fact, married women with children are the group mostly likely to be depressed. How many women in this country are (or want to be) mothers? Yet the feminist movement acts like they are invisible. Poor women are also nowhere to be found and women of color often are left out as well.

I will admit to being impatient but the crux of the matter for me is action and I don't see that feminism is having much of an impact on domestic policy or even on the national conversation. We desperately need to have greater influence or very little will be accomplished. I was listening to NPR's oral history of Nelson Mandela and was struck by some of their comments about how battling apartheid in the 1950s and 1960s was such an uphill struggle. Indeed,

*(Mothering Caucus, Continued on page 23)*

## Caucus on Mothering Issues

(Mothering Caucus, Continued from page 22)

they didn't succeed in ending it until some 30 years later. It all started with a solid plan to resist and raise awareness, a charismatic leader, hard work and much sacrifice. Listening to this very moving story I thought, "The feminist movement will never succeed in our goals because we don't have this kind of commitment or, as of now, a charismatic leader." Part of this is because feminist leaders had little experience in being leaders, in defining issues correctly (read: abortion), in having a bold, creative vision or in working out details of a plan, any plan. The best that many feminists could do was to try to be like men. Other feminists have better ideas but don't get the publicity or the inspiration that is necessary to catch on. So, the question then becomes: what is it we need to do? If we ever want to see a post-patriarchy or even just the path toward it, what is our first step?

There are a lot of ways to answer this but, in order to get the majority of women invested in change, I think we need to focus on the issues surrounding mothering. The political operatives got it partly right: they were trying to appeal to the so-called soccer moms. If we could eliminate the class bias inherent in that label and appeal to the larger group of mothers in general, we could have ourselves a force to be reckoned with. What we have right now is the mainstream societal focus on dividing mothers by pitting working (for pay) mothers against stay-at-home mothers. Dr. Phil (don't get me started) even had a show where the two sides went at each other over who was the better mother. Moreover, a lot of recent articles in magazines and newspapers have emphasized the "trend" of women "opting out" of the workforce. They took anecdotal evidence about some mothers and combined them

with the leveling

off of the number of mothers entering the workforce to conclude that many mothers just want to stay home. Is June Cleaver now supposed to be the new role model? Shoddy research and faulty conclusions aside, the current spotlight on mothering doesn't even come close to touching the true concerns. Instead of focusing on the systemic issues surrounding mothering choices (or lack thereof), individual mothers or even mothers as a group are blamed for being unable to do everything themselves. As Paula Caplan has been saying for years, mother blame is insidious. However, we do not have to accept the patriarchal attempt to divide and blame mothers for our cultural woes. We can fight back. If we concentrated on changing aspects of our culture that would help mothers - issues such as affordable, quality health-care and childcare, family friendly policies in the workplace, higher literacy rates, paid maternity, paternity and family leave, equal participation of men and the community in childcare, and shorter workweeks (just to name a few) - then we could get more women involved in feminism and our revolution would be started.

Toward that end, a new AWP caucus has formed: the caucus on mothering issues. Our goals (which will eventually be on our website) are to raise awareness of mothering issues, celebrate the contributions of mothers, promote and support research and practice on mothering issues, establish mentoring programs, and work toward changing public policy. We welcome any feminist who is interested in issues of mothering. For more information, contact the Caucus Coordinators: Misty Hook at [mistyhook@comcast.net](mailto:mistyhook@comcast.net) and Diane Hall at [dmhall@gse.upenn.edu](mailto:dmhall@gse.upenn.edu).

## *Pace University Students Present on AWP Herstory*

Maram Hallak, Ph.D. emboldened a group of graduate students from Pace University to compose a follow-up herstory to Leonore Tiefer's wonderful account of the Association for Women in Psychology in the period of its inception. There was a group of seven students: Jennifer Case; Yasmeen Iqbal; Urmi Jani; Nidhi Kapil-Pair; Aziza Khan; Joseph McGowan; and Katie Robb. Not only did these students begin to compose this herstory, but they presented for the first time at AWP's Ypsilanti Conference. The students' ambitious goals were to collect data, personal accounts, and eventually interviews of these women—AWP's foremothers. Maram's students presented their herstory on Saturday April 1, 2006 at the Ypsilanti Marriot.

Due to time constraints, the students had to cut their project short—or it never would have finished in time for presentation at the annual conference. Nidhi Kapil-Pair spoke about the American Psychological Association's Division 35 as well as its affiliation with AWP. Katie Robb broached the topic of POWR-L and Kat Quina's thoughts on starting the listserv. POWR-L is an exceptional tool for both students and professors (doctors and doctors-in-training) but Katie suggested making a more accessible listserv for students just to ask about graduate school applications or to commiserate about classes and not worry about asking silly questions. Aziza Khan spoke a little about AWP's annual conferences. AWP has trekked the country to examine the virtual treasure-trove of intellectual discourse, papers and feminist movements. From the East coast to the West coast and in 2006 to Michigan—the home of Motown and the American car industry, AWP has defined the feminist ideal.

Most of the AWP caucuses meet during the annual conferences and give out their awards. Jennifer Case touched on the AWP's caucuses and awards paying special attention to the Florence Denmark award for mentoring. Florence Denmark is the Robert Scott Pace Distinguished Research Professor at Pace University. Yasmeen Iqbal spoke about AWP's visibility including membership and finances. Yasmeen suggested some improvements that need to be made: the general membership statistics need to be increased perhaps by getting the AWP in the headlines (or at least on someone's browser window).

The Association for Women in Psychology has a long reputation for aiding and advocating for international women's rights so Urmi Jani talked about AWP involvement abroad. Joseph McGowan touched on the AWP's current social action initiatives: affirming diversity, a new view of female sexuality, gender bias in diagnosis. He also explained the AWP's efforts to connect with a new generation of feminists by exploring differences between the feminism of today and the feminism of yesterday.

Although the presentation was quite brief, it was exceptionally done. The Pace students plan on augmenting their research with interviews and videos of the women who made AWP what it is today. This involves more work, and they ask that anyone who has an interest in being a part of this project to join up—anyone who's taken their vitamin-F!

### **Honor AWP's Herstory and Preserve our Future!**

Consider becoming a member of the AWP Feminist Legacy Circle by making AWP a beneficiary of an insurance policy, will, trust or retirement account, or donating an annual gift.

*For more information, contact Sharon Siegel at:  
8235 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 303, Los Angeles, CA 90046*

## Articles, Continued

(Co-Co's Corner, Continued from page 4)

United States, Coretta Scott King spoke up against colonialism in Africa and apartheid in South Africa. She was quoted as saying, "When you have challenges, you have to measure up to them." Hers was a consistent and respected voice for peace and social justice. Four U.S. presidents attended her funeral: George W. Bush, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and Jimmy Carter.

Betty Friedan, a founding mother of the modern feminist movement in the United States, social activist, and writer, has been a central figure in the women's rights movement. Her landmark 1963 book, *The Feminine Mystique*, brought attention to the experiences of women of her generation who wanted the opportunity to move beyond the narrowly defined socially constructed role of woman in our soci-

ety. Friedan was a co-founder (1966) and the first president (1966-1970) of the National Organization for Women (NOW). NOW remains the largest feminist organization in the United States. In remembering Betty Friedan, Kim Gandy, President of NOW, said, "She sparked a movement that is larger and stronger than ever - made up of women who expect equality and equal opportunity for ourselves and our daughters and the men who stand with us" (<http://www.now.org/press/02-06/02-04.html>).

Each of these women contributed to significant social change. Their work created a "place at the table" for many of us. Let us keep their work alive and honor their memory through our ongoing feminist, activist, and social justice efforts.

In Sisterhood,

Michele C. Boyer, Collective Coordinator

(Activist Corner, Continued from page 9)

cally counselors, a lot of the time I would go out and speak with someone and they would just let it all out. You know, they can't really do that with someone who is involved in the situation. They may have not gone and found someone to talk to, they would not have picked up the phone and called the hotline. I really just feel that that must have been helpful for

them to just be able to release that to someone who is not going to be judgmental and who is understanding the dynamic."

What a great example of feminist psychology in action--a few dedicated women join forces, pool resources and create solutions to meet critical needs.

Go sisters!

(New Imp, Continued from page 11)

tal Center; Outstanding Psychologist Award, New York Association of Black Psychologists; Award for Outstanding Achievement, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Outstanding Psychologist Service Award, Chicago Area Association of Black Psychologists; Excellence in Teaching Award, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Doctor of Humane Letters, *Honoris Causa*, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology; For Outstanding Contribution for an Individual in the Promotion of Cultural Diversity; National Council of Schools of Professional Psychology; For Distinguished Service and Outstanding Contributions as President, National Council of Schools of Professional Psychology.

### Submission Guidelines

Reviews will be considered for inclusion by the Book/Film Review Editor, Elena Klaw. The Editor reserves the right to edit materials for style and length, although materials that require further editing will be returned to the author for a review of editing changes.

#### Please include with your review:

1. Title of book or film
2. Year of publication or production
3. Author or producer
4. Place of publication or address and phone number or Website of production company
5. Length of book or film
6. Your name, address, phone number, and email address

All submitted materials must be typed. **Submit copy in one of the following formats** (listed in order of preference):

- (1) Via electronic mail (attachment or in an email)
- (2) On a 3.5" IBM formatted diskette, with your name, address, phone number, and email address on the label of the disk. Include a printed copy of the review.
- (3) Typed double-spaced on standard bond paper
- (4) Via fax

#### Submission Deadlines:

Fall (mailed in September): *June 1*  
Winter (mailed in January): *October 1*  
Spring/Summer (mailed in May): *February 1*

#### Send book/film review submissions to:

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Department of Psychology  
San Jose State University  
One Washington Square  
San Jose, CA 95192-0120  
408-924-5623; fax: 408-924-5605  
[eklaw@email.sjsu.edu](mailto:eklaw@email.sjsu.edu)

Prendergast, W. E. (2004). *Treating Sex Offenders: A Guide to Clinical Practice with Adults, Clerics, Children and Adolescents*. Binghamton, New York: The Haworth Press.

Drawn from his 40 years of experience treating sexual offenders, and their victims, William E. Prendergast's book provides us with a straightforward overview of personality patterns linked to committing sexual abuse and treatments specific to these patterns. Prendergast dispels myths about sexual offenders and presents effective techniques for treatment.

*Treating Sex Offenders: A Guide to Clinical Practice with Adults, Clerics, Children and Adolescents*, is divided into two sections. The first section is dedicated to discussing personality patterns associated with sexual offenders. Each chapter in this section presents adult factors, specific traits, recommended courses of treatment, case studies, and a comparison of the child/adolescent offender to the adult offender. The second section is dedicated to the complexity of treatment. This section begins with a step-by-step treatment guide using case studies to underscore key points, and flesh out problems. In each chapter of this section, Prendergast again provides a comparison of the child-adolescent offender to the adult offender.

Prendergast also includes a chapter on sexual offenders who work as religious personnel. He states that this chapter was written in response to what he terms the "witch-hunt" being conducted by the media. He minimizes the fact that a full two percent of Catholic priests have been formally accused of child molestation. Further, he fails to include a statement regarding the pervasiveness of unreported sexual offenses, especially those against children. He also ignores a larger body of literature that suggests that no religious group is immune to the problem of sex

*(Book Review, Continued on page 27)*

## Book Review

(Book Review, Continued from page 26)

abuse.

Prendergast admits that most cases of sexual offense could have been prevented. He holds parents responsible for knowing firsthand where, with whom, and how their children spend their time. He purports that adults in positions of power must be properly screened. Furthermore, he continues, children must be educated using a “Good touch, Bad touch” model and reporting must be encouraged.

I have three reasons for recommending this guide to students and practitioners in the fields of clinical psychology, counseling psychology, and social work. First, the guide clearly indicates the range of sex offenses that exist. Additionally, Prendergast carefully outlines his mistakes and those made by other professionals over the last 40 years, empowering his readers to avoid similar pitfalls in clinical practice. Finally, the guide delineates common behaviors related to sexual offenses. This information

will aid practitioners in uncovering patterns that keep hidden preventing them from receiving effective treatment and early intervention.

Although Prendergast’s guide is helpful, it should not be considered the sole source of information for treating sex offenders. Prendergast’s four decades of experience in treating sex offenders and their victims has predominantly been isolated to New Jersey. Furthermore, he provides no indication that he has gathered information from other sources or locations. Finally, as is often the case with clinical research, case studies were Prendergast’s main source of data, which leave room for criticism from those seeking data which has been collected empirically.

*Review by Susan Bowen, Student,  
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(State/Regionals, Continued from page 14)

The **Greater Philadelphia AWP** membership is proud to announce the birth of a new chapter on January 22, 2006. Bylaws were written and officers were elected at that time. The coordinator is **Marcy Chessler**, the secretary is **Tiffany O’Shaughnessy** and the treasurer is **Claire Dente**. We plan to meet quarterly to network, mentor students, and discuss important issues for women. One important project we have agreed to work on is to develop a series of

talks entitled “Conversations with Inspirational Women in Feminist Psychology.” Preliminary contacts have been made with **Laura Brown**, **Mary Ger-gen**, **Jeanne Marecek** and others who have inspired us. In addition to these talks, we hope to sponsor continuing education workshops. Contact **Marcy Chessler** at [mchessle@temple.edu](mailto:mchessle@temple.edu) to find out the time and location of our next chapter meeting!

### **Call for photos:**

Please e-mail your electronic photos of AWP members and events (with captions/identifiers) as .jpg files to [rlafleur@cnr.edu](mailto:rlafleur@cnr.edu) for inclusion in a future issue of the AWP newsletter.

Articles, letters, and comments on the newsletter are also welcome!

## *Announcements*

### **SOCIAL CLASS INTEREST GROUP**

During our most recent conference in Michigan, Maureen McHugh and Mary Burke convened a session in support of forming an interest group on social class within the Association for Women in Psychology. Those present were in agreement that this issue merits increased visibility and attention within the various bodies of psychology literature. In an effort to promote scholarship in the area of social class, the interest group will initiate activities such as conference sessions and social action initiatives within the organization. If you are interested in being a part of the interest group on social class, please contact Mary Burke via email at [burkemx@carlow.edu](mailto:burkemx@carlow.edu).

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### **CALLING ALL ONCE AND FUTURE CRONES**

As a recently-joined AWP member, a first-time AWP conference attendee, and a newly christened Crone, I want to make a proposal. I noticed that the Older Women's Caucus has become inactive in AWP. As a gerontologist and a beautiful old woman myself, I would like to offer to help revitalize the Older Women's Caucus (OWC), but I need to find out whether there is a perceived need to do so. My vision is that the OWC would be a dynamic gathering of women in all stages of life, since all of us are developing chronologically, psychologically, socially, and spirituality from the moment of birth throughout our life spans. I believe intergenerational collaborations focusing on ways to enhance the lives of women in later life would produce meaningful, creative liaisons. By next year in San Francisco, I hope the OWC will be in charge of the croning ceremonies and perhaps one or more sessions.

If you are interested in being a member of the Older Women's Caucus, please email me and let's start to discuss what we can accomplish together.

In peace,

Carol A. Gosselink, Crone

[carolgosselink@missouristate.edu](mailto:carolgosselink@missouristate.edu)

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### **FEMINIST THERAPY INSTITUTE - PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS**

The Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library of the History of Women in America (at Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University) has agreed to archive FTI materials. These materials document the history of the organization and of the development of feminist therapy theory and practice. The archive would include papers from early to present AFTIs as well as other documents such as notes of meetings. If you have any material to contribute or questions, please contact Marcia Chappell, FTI administrator at [marciachappell@earthlink.net](mailto:marciachappell@earthlink.net).

## Announcements

### The 16th Annual Renfrew Center Foundation Conference for Professionals

#### *Feminist Perspectives and Beyond: Maximizing Change in the Treatment of Eating Disorders*

What can clinicians do to actually make a difference? How can we identify turning points in the healing process? The 2006 Renfrew Center Foundation Conference will address these questions as well as Genetic, psychological and cultural variables; Obesity and binge eating; Alternative and complementary treatments; Trauma; Somatic transference and counter-transference; Psycho-education and primary prevention; and Spirituality. Keynote speakers include Erica Jong, Kathryn Zerbe, MD, and Michael Strober, PhD.

**When:** Thursday, November 9 - Sunday, November 12, 2006

**Where:** The Philadelphia Airport Marriott

**Continuing Education Credits:** 22.5

**Cost:** Varies according to workshops.

**More Information:** Call 1-877-367-3383 or visit <http://www.renfrewcenter.com/news-events/event.asp?id=81>

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### CALLING ALL ACTIVISTS!

The Feminist Forum at the recent AWP Conference agreed to develop a mechanism/process for increasing participation in social actions. Many of us belong to groups which provide information about political and human interest issues. There are matters dear to our hearts which prompt us to get involved and write letters, send emails, make phone calls, gather and march. The issues may be local, national, or international. As feminists and caring professionals we are committed to lending our voices and skills to such causes. AWP would like to make it easy for us to take public stands as individuals and as members of AWP. In order for this to happen, we need your help. We are looking for "point people" - members who would be willing to provide contact information and take on the responsibility of keeping AWP informed about a given issue or project. We envision this occurring through emails and news articles. We will have an "Activism Box" in each newsletter and list the various causes, projects, issues, political situations along with the contact persons. We would also like to feature news stories about those things which matter to you. Many organizations send emails which include ways to send letters to legislators or target officials. If these organizations and their issues are made known to the greater AWP membership, we have the potential of making a significant impact by lending our voices, energy, skills to them. Please consider taking a leadership role in this new activity of AWP. For more information about this, contact Sandy Shulmire: [sandylou29@yahoo.com](mailto:sandylou29@yahoo.com) or (503) 645-2944. To submit your name and information to AWP, please contact Rebecca Lafleur: [rlafleur@cnr.edu](mailto:rlafleur@cnr.edu)

***Congratulations to the 2006 AWP  
Conference Planning Collective for organizing  
an excellent conference in Ypsilanti!***

## What is Good

(What is Good, Continued from page 17)

for her. She's living only 11 miles from downtown **Asheville**, North Carolina, which as many of you know is a very liberal part of the world. It is definitely feeding her feminist spirit! I note that the signature on her email is *Silence is the Voice of Complicity*. Patricia would love to make contact with AWP members in her area and can be reached at [robertpe@mail.etsu.edu](mailto:robertpe@mail.etsu.edu) or by telephone at (423) 439-7693.

### OREGON

**Sandy Shulmire** lives in **Portland**. The past year has been extremely busy for her and contained a mixture of both good and bad personal life experiences. She has been quite involved in caring for her 84 year old father, and this experience has prompted her to develop a workshop entitled, *Feminists in the Sandwich Generation*. Sandy recently became the adoptive mother of Lovey, an adorable chocolate lab who is in training to be a therapy dog. She enjoys spending time with her four young grandgirls which she describes as delightful little darlings whose parents adopted Sandy in recent years. Sandy has developed a small private practice, having retired after working for 25 years as a school psychologist. She has been actively involved with the *Oregon Psychological Association*, serving on the *Public Education Committee* and is a member of her local AWP chapter. Sandy's activist activities include membership in *Stand for Children*, a national grass roots organization which works to improve the lives of children. She serves on the Board of *TASK*, an organization which advocates for Jewish children and adults with special needs. Sandy recently became involved with the *Coalition for Commercial Free Schools*, working to reduce the impact of commercialism on school children and promoting the development of wellness policies. One of her most valued activities is serving at both the local and national level as a disaster mental health responder for the *American Red Cross*. The *Oregon Psychological Association* recently awarded Sandy the Labby Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Psychologist in Oregon. Sandy would be happy to connect with other AWP colleagues and would welcome an opportunity to present her workshop on the Sandwich Generation in the greater Portland area. She can be reached at [SandyLou29@yahoo.com](mailto:SandyLou29@yahoo.com) or (503) 645-2944.

### WASHINGTON

**Kayla Weiner** resides in Seattle and, as many of us know, she has a passion for being involved in social action activities. The activities she's involved in include (but are not limited to!) tutoring in a public school, providing items for auctions for various non-profit organizations, feeding homeless youth, involvement in activities related to stopping the genocide in Darfur, collecting household items for survivors of domestic violence and those in transitional housing, educating others about health care reform, and working with the African American Jewish Coalition for Justice. Kayla can be reached at (206) 343-0828.

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### **Women of Color Coordinator**

To be announced

**Visit us on the web at:**  
**<http://www.awpsych.org>**

*Please join us for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual*

# **Association for Women in Psychology Conference**

**Downtown San Francisco, California**

**March 8 - 11, 2007**



**Want to get involved? Want more information?**

*Please contact the Conference Coordinators:*

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