

the connection



Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia



Emotional Discussion About Pornography

Fear, heartbreak, sadness, embarrassment, shock, helplessness—these were some of the emotions generated at a viewing of *Not a Love Story* at the Mount during International Women's Day week events.

Kathleen Shannon, executive director of Studio D, National Film Board, was present to hold a discussion following the documentary on pornography which had such a shattering effect on its audience.

Shannon herself said that it had been a very painful experience making the film "and it's very painful to see. It still hurts."

She asked the audience to express in "one word" what they felt after seeing the film, and with one exception, the viewers were very disturbed. The exception was a woman who said she had been "bored" with the whole thing "because I feel there are more important things to be concerned about."

However, this did not seem to be the reaction of most of the other viewers, many of whom spoke up to protest the effect that pornography has on children, on the family, on home life. One said, "I'm appalled at the types of movies being brought into our homes. I feel as though I'm being violated in my own home."

A student said, "I want to take personal responsibility to change this so that I can have some power and hope."

A male student told how he found it difficult to refuse to see pornographic shows "because my friends go, and they'd think I was odd if I refused to go with them." He wasn't sure he'd be able to reach the stage where he would refuse and perhaps have to face losing their friendship. "I don't want to lose my friends," he said.

A parent pointed out that school children are exposed to pornography "even on the school bus where pornographic pictures are passed around."

Another said, "We must all take a stand in every situation. You must respect yourself and take the risk that comes from

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It Was a Great Day for the Mount

The Mount has been awarded \$500,000 for the establishment of the first Chair of Women's Studies in Canada.

When the announcement was made by the Honourable Judy Erola, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, at the Women's Day Rally at the Mount, the audience rose and cheered. It was a momentous occasion.

"The establishment of Chairs of Women's Studies, which is inspired by the Government of Canada's national plan of action, will provide greater educational opportunities for women as well as helping to meet our commitment to the United Nations convention on the elimination of all

forms of discrimination against women," Mrs. Erola said.

The Endowment of Chairs of Women's Studies program, which promotes scholarly research on women's issues, calls for the creation of one chair per year for five consecutive years in the Atlantic Provinces, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie Provinces and Northwest Territories, and British Columbia and the Yukon.

"It is fitting that Mount Saint Vincent University should be the first chair recipient since it has been in the vanguard of women's education and research for decades," Mrs. Erola said. "I'm confident that this chair will spur the development of women's studies at other institutions in the Atlantic Provinces."

alumnae update

It is a well known fact that our alumnae is an extremely talented group. On Monday, March 5, the public was made aware of just how multi-faceted that talent is. As part of International Women's Week festivities, the alumnae association hosted a coffee house/cabaret in Vinnie's Pub, entertaining students, staff, faculty, alumnae and the general public to a fine evening of theatre and folk music.

The audience was treated to an array of original music, for the most part, the work of alumnae singer-songwriters Andrea Currie, Cheryl Gaudet and Pat Venedam, and to the very special original compositions of Rose Vaughan and Elias Letelier-Ruz.

Alumna, Claudette Sapp performed *La Sagouine*, of Mount Playhouse notoriety, as charmingly as ever, and Alumnae Officer, Dilly MacFarlane offered an interesting reading of "A Gathering of Women", by Dr. William Hilton of Michigan State University.

The evening was a smashing success.

Apart from providing our talented alumnae with an appreciative audience, the Alumnae Association should be congratulated for this success in achieving an ambience that truly demonstrated women's concern for each other and for society.

If you missed it, you missed something special.

The good news is that Alumnae Association President, Debbie Pottie Matheson is enthused by the prospect of holding these musical/dramatic evenings on a more regular basis, beginning perhaps in the fall of '84. "It was a wonderful experience to share with others", she remarked, "and I'm very proud that the alumnae association can make this kind of contribution to the university community".



Panel members for the Women's Day Week discussions which took place on March 6 at Seton Auditorium were: (L to R Standing) Christine Ball, Women's Studies; Mary Clancy; Dr. E. Margaret Fulton; (sitting) Louise Larade, Federation of Acadians of Nova Scotia; Leslie MacDonald, co-ordinator of the Women's Day celebrations and Dr. Frances Early.

Share Lent '84 and Help Those in the Third World to Help Themselves

Take a moment this week, to look closely at the placemats set out on the cafeteria tables.

This is the week that the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace is asking us to Share Lent '84.

When you contribute during Share Lent you lend support to more than 500 socio-economic development projects in Third World countries as well as a program of education and information.

Support helps to provide nutrition courses for young mothers, pre- and post-

natal child care and instruction on preventing childhood disease. Countless numbers of people in the Third World are provided with new tools, new skills and new knowledge to improve agricultural practices.

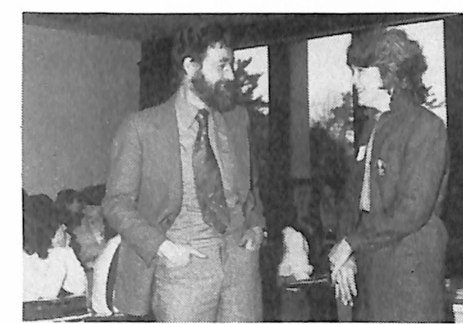
Each dollar donated to Development and Peace is matched by the federal Canadian International Development Agency and some provincial governments.

The placemats may surprise you with the information they provide. Try answering the questions, then, when you've looked at the answers, realise that even a small donation can be of real help. The Chaplaincy Office will be happy to forward your contribution to the Catholic Organization for Development and Peace.

Consumer Workshop

The Consumer Education Centre will be holding a free public workshop on home computers entitled, "Home Computers and You." The workshop is being held in conjunction with Minerva Communications and will take place March 31st from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Institute of Public Affairs, Dalhousie University.

All are welcome. For information call the Consumer Education Centre at: 421-1211.



FOR THE RUN OF IT

DON'T BE AN APRIL FOOL—DON'T MISS "FOR THE RUN OF IT" SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 10 A.M. IN FRONT OF SETON ACADEMIC CENTRE!

Remember—the more sponsors, the more money that can be given to Ad Sum House and Project One, from this event. And it's a good way to start off the outdoor jogging season with an easy distance.

Registration forms and sponsor sheets are available in, and should be returned to, the Athletics/Recreation Office, Rosaria Centre (9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday to Friday) or at the starting point on Sunday morning, April 1 (9 to 9:45 a.m.).

Duet

There are many different technologies available for distance education but the DUET system is perhaps the best choice for the Mount, says Dr. Diana Carl, DUET coordinator and a member of a research committee for the Canadian Association of Distance Education.

DUET uses live broadcasts of university classes in conjunction with live interaction between off-campus students and the class via telephone.

The only other university in Canada doing live interactive programming over satellite is the University of Victoria which broadcasts through Knowledge Network, she notes.

It offers two nursing courses and one public administration course. These courses are designed specifically for satellite television with an interactive portion which operates in a similar manner to DUET.

Each of these courses involves ten to 15 hours of broadcasts in contrast to approximately 36 hours for a DUET course. Participants take their courses either at home or at a nearby community college.

Carleton University offers credit courses over cable television in the Ottawa area. These are live or taped versions of usual university classroom presentations but do not include any interactive link.

Wilfred Laurier University and Seneca College in Toronto give courses using videotapes of regular classes. They also package and sell these videotapes.

A number of institutions are buying pre-packaged materials and building courses around them, says Dr. Carl. University of Windsor, Knowledge Network in B.C., University of New Brunswick and Acadia University are examples of this.

Audio-teleconferencing without television has been used by some universities, such as Memorial University and the University of Alberta.

The use of modern technologies in distance education is a new field with different systems and combinations of systems being tested across the country in an effort to provide the best access to education for all Canadians.

CAPUS Meeting

The Campus Association of Part-time Students will meet at noon on Wednesday, March 28 in Room 442, Seton Academic Centre. Tea and coffee provided—bring your own lunch and meet other part-timers.



Queen Elizabeth High School students came to the Mount recently to take part in a DUET class. Afterwards they had a short lesson in how to operate the TV camera from cameraman Klaus Hofer. At the controls is Patricia Johnson and beside her are Rose Thompson and Liz Husbands.

On the Move

Last month, Stephen Spencer assumed the responsibility of Director of Food Service at the Mount. Clyde Bishop, who served the university in this capacity for the past three years, is now in the new position of Production Manager.

Professor Renate Usmiani attended the 12th annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference program, The Politics of Literature, at University of Louisville last month and spoke on Battling a Multi-level Colonialism: Canadian Approaches to Political Theatre.

Ivan Blake, Director of the Co-operative Education Department, recently addressed the Metro Council on the subject of paid educational leave. He was also asked to chair a panel on research and Co-op Education at the National Conference of the American Co-Operative Education Association in New Orleans.

Dr. Pat Canning will be taking part in a panel on Child Care Education and Training: New Developments, at the American Orthopsychiatric Association Annual Meeting in Toronto, April 7-11. She will also take part in two symposia at CSSE in Guelph, June 1-4, one on the role of the university in the formulation of day care centres and the other on internships.

Sr. Martha Westwater's book **The Wilson Sisters. A Biographical Study of Upper Middle-Class Victorian Life**, has recently been published.

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taking a stand every time. You HAVE to risk that."

Shannon felt that women have to get over their need for approval. "We have been approved" she said. She felt that the way women can support each other is very important. "We can work off our rage among ourselves. Rage doesn't help against men."

One woman said, "We feel we have to be able to do everything. How can we possibly manage that? It's important to realise that you can't do everything."

Shannon pointed out that women are often accused of being "prudish" if they speak out against pornography. She said there had been some "really savage reactions from some of the men we worked with on the film. We had a team of four women making the film. One woman couldn't have done it alone, but as a group we had a kind of synergy, and support."

Most people left the discussion feeling that each one had to start with themselves to try and create an environment in which pornography can have no place.

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