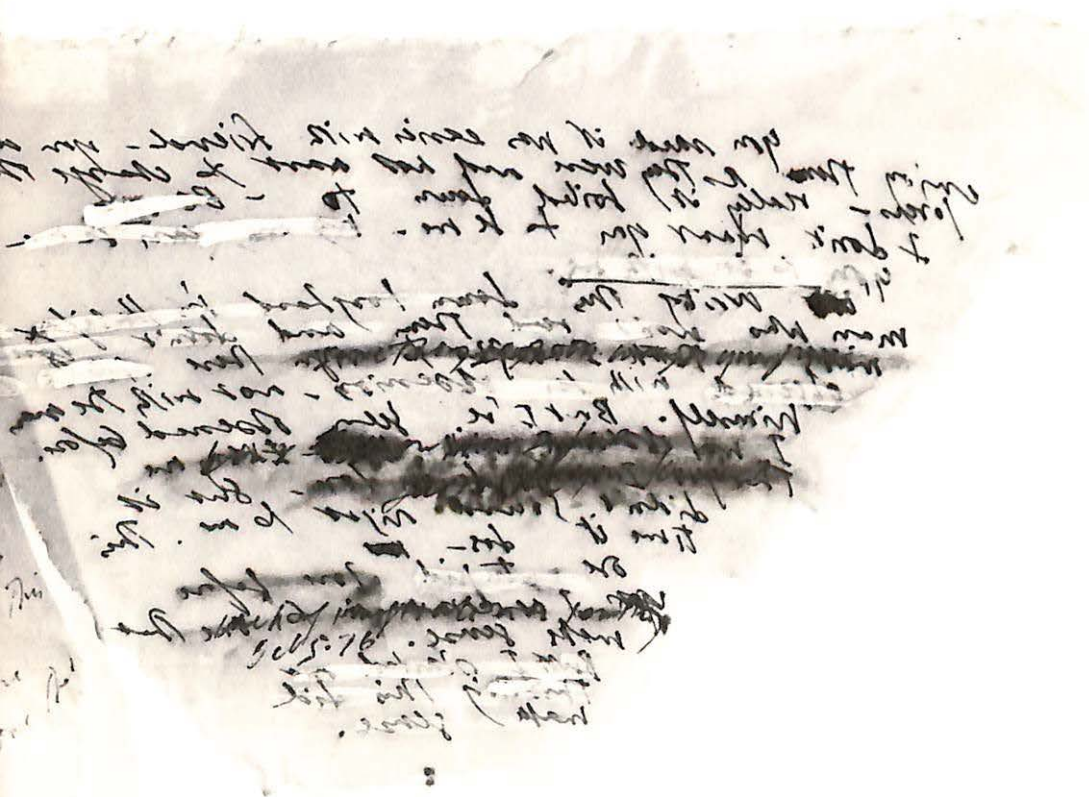


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Spring, 1977

**Mount Saint Vincent University**  
**Halifax, Nova Scotia**



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Cover: Mira Schor, *Untitled*, from the exhibit "Jewish Experience in the Art of the Twentieth Century" Photo: David Hastey

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# Let me introduce myself . . .

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Welcome once again to *Insight*. Because I've arrived at the Mount only recently, I almost feel as if this is my 'house-warming' issue. Many people have helped to make these first weeks as easy and comfortable as possible for me and some of them have contributed the stories you'll read in this edition.

Mary Sparling, our Art Gallery Director, has arranged a display of photographs from the "Jewish Experience in the Art of the Twentieth Century," an exhibit we were all thrilled to have on campus. Sister Rosemarie Sampson has provided a thought-provoking article on psychological differences between the sexes and a cross section of our alumnae are featured in a special story. Student Gail Smith has written about Mount personality Norma Coleman and Dr. Pierre Gérin has made his contribution in French.

If you'd like to see certain information not presently included in *Insight*, please let me know. I hope all faculty, students, staff members and alumnae will feel free to suggest story ideas or to contribute their own work. In the short time I've been here I have seen a wide variety of talents and qualities in this community. Let's share our common wealth of knowledge, experience and ability.

Editor



## At the Gallery



*Everyone admired the award winning puppets at the third annual university art, craft, baking, hobby and talent show. Voted most delightful, the puppets were created by Brendan, St. John, Dianne and Patrick O'Neill.*

### Schedule of Exhibits, May to July, 1977

**until May 1**

**Works by Ron Shuebrook**, Canning, N.S. (Downstairs)

**Henri Gaudier — Brzeska**, sculpture and drawings organized by Robin Peck (Upstairs)

**May 5-June 5**

**Works by Henry Rosenberg** organized by Dr. Donald Cameron Mackay (Downstairs)

**Naillies**

by David Partridge (Upstairs)

**June 10-July 3**

**Swedish Tapestries**

on loan from the Swedish Embassy (Downstairs)

**Metamorphosis: Housewife**

paintings and drawings by Sue Boone, London, Ontario (Upstairs)

## Discrimination: A Threat to Success? Experiences of four Mount graduates

Janeen Bowes

There are those who feel that discrimination against women in the dog-eat-dog, traditionally male business world still exists, despite giant steps forward, initiated under the cloak of "Women's Lib."

Four Mount Saint Vincent graduates don't think so. Their individual achievements in careers that were once as male dominated as pool halls and taverns support their opinion.

Their strategy for success is simple. It works the same way for both sexes: a solid, pertinent education, bolstered with self-confidence and determination will land the desired job.

Says Pat Whitman (BA, Business and Economics; 1969), "There are all kinds of jobs for women in business, there always have been, and they'll get them if they are as aggressively competitive as male applicants."

Miss Whitman is Atlantic zone manager, business data division, Dun and Bradstreet Canada Limited. She is their only female zone manager in the country. Her job entails supervising a staff of 30 throughout Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland, 15 of whom are men. "I haven't experienced resentment in this area," she claims, "and in fact find more problems supervising women than men."

Most of Miss Whitman's business contacts are men. "For the first year in the manager's position when I answered the telephone calls from businessmen I was greeted with comments like, 'Oh, I



expected a man' or 'No, I don't want to speak to the secretary, I want the manager.' But that has stopped."

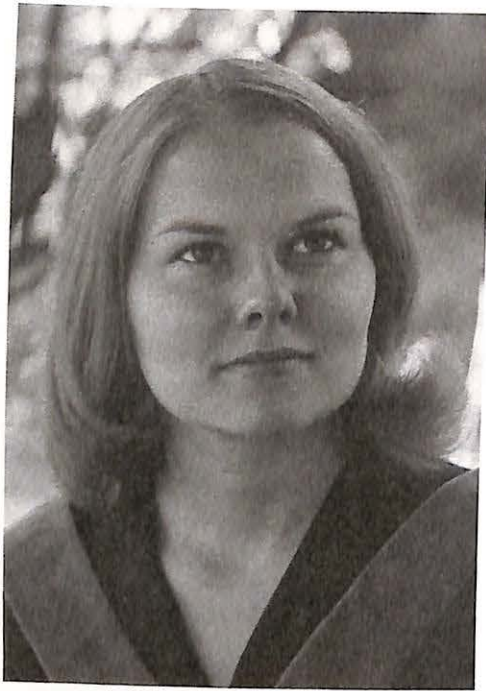
Dun and Bradstreet, an international company that provides a variety of business data services, began hiring professional women in the late sixties. Miss Whitman was one of the first. She started as a business analyst with the company's Toronto office. In 1975 she was promoted to manager of the business data division in Halifax. "My superiors felt I could do the job, so I got it."

### She's never lost a sale because she's a woman

Sandy Jolly (BBA, 1975) recently moved from an agent's job with Mutual Life of Canada to being the company's only female group representative selling employee benefits packages.

"The company judges its employees solely on merit," affirms Ms. Jolly who feels she has never lost a sale because of the fact she's a woman. "In fact, being a female in this business can work to my advantage. Clients often express surprise at meeting a female group rep and an informal conversation about how I got into the





insurance business provides a relaxing diversion before I do my presentation.”

Ms. Jolly’s job is a professional and a responsible one. Her sales territory covers Cape Breton, a large portion of mainland Nova Scotia and central and northern New Brunswick. “I am essentially my own boss; my time is flexible. I operate on an expense account and as long as I produce, everyone’s happy.”

While she has never known discrimination in her position, Ms. Jolly has also taken precautions to avoid it. “In the process of hiring a secretary for myself and the other group rep in the Halifax office — a man — I too interviewed all the applicants. I wanted her to know my work is as important as his.”

Elizabeth Roscoe (BA, 1971; LLB, 1974, Dalhousie) invaded traditional male territory even prior to graduation. But law school produced little in the way of discrimination against females as has her current position as barrister and solicitor with the Halifax firm, Blois, Nickerson, Palmeter and Bryson.

“Occasionally I do experience some surprise on a client’s part when I take over



### Elizabeth Roscoe invaded traditional male territory

a case. I’m often confused with a secretary,” she says.

“At one time I was the only female lawyer practicing with a private firm in Halifax. Today, there are seven or eight and countless others are employed with the government. I think there is probably some social pressure directed at large firms to employ a female lawyer, and then again, it may just be tokenism,” she adds.

Wendy Doyle (BA, Business and Economics, 1970; Nova Scotia Institute of Chartered Accountants, 1973) also experienced some discrimination initially when looking for a job.

“But that was several years ago and attitudes have changed. An excuse like ‘Sorry, our clients are not sophisticated enough to accept a female auditor’ is no longer accepted, or even applied.”

Ms. Doyle articulated with the public accounting firm of Thorne, Riddell and Company, was successfully awarded her CA in 1973 and returned to Mount Saint



Vincent to join the university’s business faculty. Since then she has been a lecturer in accounting and finance and is also heavily involved in student counselling, staff and administrative committee work. Ms. Doyle also heads a committee for the provincial Institute of Chartered Accountants.

She enjoys the added sense of job satisfaction that comes with preparing others for the career market.

“In recent years — since I graduated — the Mount has changed its business program from one consisting of a BA in Business and Economics to a Bachelor of Business Administration,” explains Ms. Doyle. “The BBA degree more efficiently prepares a woman for the business world. Marketing, management, economics and accounting are all covered generally with the option to specialize.”

Miss Whitman reflects on her Mount education and feels that: “The course I completed in 1969 really prepared me to be an executive secretary. I became a business analyst purely by accident. However, I must say that my BA has provided me with a good deal of general background

knowledge.”

Ms. Roscoe, on the other hand, credits her association with the Mount as playing a major role in getting accepted to law school and successfully completing the degree.

### Strategy for success: education, self-confidence and determination

“The Mount was a small university and women ran the show,” she explains. “Consequently I participated in a number of extracurricular activities that I probably would not have been involved in at a larger university.

“Through my activity I had the opportunity to meet people. I was able to enter Dalhousie’s law school armed with a personal recommendation from the President of Mount Saint Vincent. In what other university would I even get to meet the president?”

A boost in self-confidence was Ms. Jolly’s assessment of the benefit of her Mount years. “The BBA program is a good one, and when you leave university for business, you feel qualified to do the job.”

Four women. Businesswomen. Assertive, quietly aggressive, competent, and successful.

*Ms. Bowes is a free-lance writer living in Halifax.*



# Home-making As A Full-Time Job

Janet Pottie Murray

One of the cliches of the years that began with Betty Friedan and "The Feminine Mystique" has been the one that begins: "I don't agree with Womens' Lib, but . . ."

However, as the movement has gained momentum, more of us are finding that we're turning the cliché around and saying again and again: "I do believe in Womens' Lib, but . . ." That's why you have me, Janet Pottie Murray, Mount Saint Vincent Class of '56, Womens' Libber from the cradle, telling you about my life as a full-time homemaker.

This phase of my life began 15 years ago with the birth of the first of my four children. Before that I had graduated from the Mount with a B.A. and a Diploma in Journalism, both with honours, and I had been a newspaper reporter, a university public relations director, a program assistant at the C.B.C., and a consumer commentator on radio. I fancied that I would someday write the great Canadian novel.

However, both my husband and I had come from happy families, wonderful families, and one of the reasons we married was because we looked forward to continuing to live in a happy family situation, sharing it with each other and with children of our own. The women in our families, mothers and grandmothers, had been neither bored nor boring. They had been creative homemakers, making our homes warm, secure, joyful places to be. They made the job look like fun, and I wanted to give it a try.

And fun it has been. It's also been challenging, exciting, and creative. It's been a continual learning experience and a fantastic responsibility. It's been frightening at times, often exhausting, always demanding. The working conditions haven't always been the best,

the hours have sometimes been long, but the rewards! Ah, the rewards have been tremendous.

I remember once asking a number of people what they remembered most about their mothers, and their various answers all boiled down to one thing . . . she was there. My own home was warm and alive when my mother was there, and empty and cold when she wasn't. And through the years, I have discovered that "being there" is one of the major rewards of full-time homemaking, both for me and for the rest of my family.

I was there when each of my children took their first step. I was there when my son experienced the anguish of the death of a bluejay we had rescued from a cat, and I was the one who answered his questions and comforted him.

I'm there when the kids come home from school. I'm the one who answers that first expectant call "Mum?" and I'm there to

## "Being there" is one of the major rewards . . .

listen to the good news and the bad. I'm there to dispense hot chocolate when it's cold, and cold drinks when it's warm, and band-aids and sympathy all year round. And I like being there.

I also like the freedom of being a full-time, at-home, homemaker. My deadlines are my own and I'm free to dabble in the many things that interest me.

A major fringe benefit has been the fact that as a full-time homemaker, not tied to an outside job, I am free to become involved in those short-term volunteer jobs in the community that I do best, and that give me the opportunity to exert some influence in a number of areas.

For instance, as an active volunteer with the Consumers' Association of Canada, I've represented Atlantic area consumers at a National Seminar on Mental Health in Toronto; at the original meeting on Housing Warranties held in Ottawa; and at various national meetings, including those of the Retail Council of Canada and the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association.

I've been fortunate in living in the same

city as my own mother, who can stand in for me at home at these times. This kind of active volunteer work gives me the opportunity to enjoy the "outside interest" which each of us needs and to fulfill my responsibility to the community without compromising my commitment to my job at home.

The chief disadvantage of the job is its lack of status. I'm afraid many of us are pushed into outside jobs because we feel guilty at not having a high status answer to that inevitable cocktail-party question:

## The chief disadvantage . . . is lack of status

"Do you work?" I've always found it interesting that many of the jobs a homemaker does — child care worker, accountant, interior designer, office manager, chef, counsellor, nurse, teacher — carry status if they are done outside the home, with someone else's children, and for a salary. Done in one's own home, with one's own family and with no direct monetary reward, they become low-status or no-status jobs, not even qualifying to provide a "yes" to that inevitable "Do you work?"

The lack of a monetary reward is another disadvantage because it puts the homemaker in the difficult situation of being at the mercy of the generosity of the breadwinner and even in the most harmonious of situations, the financial rewards for her work depend on the financial rewards received outside the home by her spouse, or in the case of house-husbands, his spouse.

But let's be honest. Even without that monthly paycheck the job of full-time homemaker, especially when combined with the work of active community volunteer, can be an exciting, enjoyable, and rewarding job. What monetary value do you put on the smile on your young son's face when he catches sight of you through his hospital window. What would you exchange for his words: "When I see you, I feel so secure."

How much money is worth more than

twenty minutes alone after school with your teen-age daughter, discussing life, theology and the novels of Margaret Laurence.

Soon enough, my contact with my children will be at the mercy of the Canada Post Office, as they travel through Europe, discover the north, study in Mexico, work in Australia. Soon enough, there will be time for the great Canadian novel, for the high-status job with its big paycheck. Right now, I'm enjoying these challenging, exhausting, fantastic days of being Janet Pottie Murray, Mount Saint Vincent Class of '56, Womens' Libber from the cradle, full-time, at-home homemaker.

And that's why I so often find myself saying: "Yes, I believe in Womens' Lib, but . . . I also believe in home and family, and right now, that's where my priorities are."



# Jewish Experience in the Art of the Twentieth Century

Mary Sparling

This exhibit, a first in Canada, was inspired by one held by the Jewish Museum, New York City, last year. From them we borrowed the title, 16 works from the collection, permission to make significant excerpts from their catalogue and secured agreement to modify the exhibit to include and emphasize the works of contemporary Canadian Jewish artists.

We also borrowed works from major public collections across Canada — the Winnipeg Art Gallery, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Canada Council Art Bank, the Beaverbrook Gallery, the New Brunswick Museum, the Confederation Art Gallery, and the Dalhousie University Art Gallery — as well as from private collections in Halifax, Moncton and from individual artists.

The Mount Saint Vincent exhibit was made possible by grants from the Bronfman Foundation, the Secretary of State's department, the Atlantic Jewish Council and donations from private individuals. The Beth Israel and Shaar Shalom Synagogues in Halifax loaned important ritual objects.

More than 2,000 people visited the exhibit and many reviews were presented. But one review, by David Gutnick in the Dalhousie Gazette, sums up the spirit of the show so well, I can do best by quoting his assessment.

"We were to Mount Saint Vincent University last week to do two things actually: Joe Rosenblatt was to read and we wanted a closer look at this poet, and, as well, we wanted to see the exhibit 'Jewish Experience in the Art of the Twentieth Century.'" The



Bernard Ostry opening the exhibit

happenings were brilliant enough that one could not begin to question the individual importance of each. Together we met the forces that have driven Hebrew culture forward for over three thousand years . . .

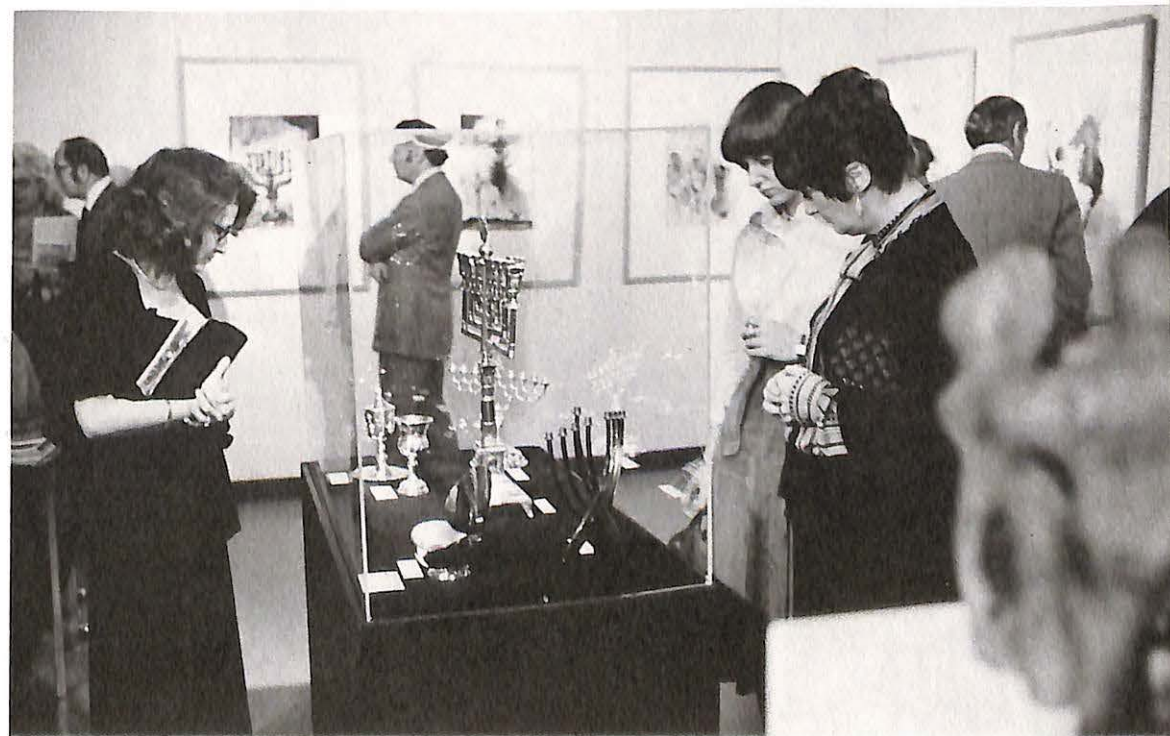
"Rosenblatt is a Jew. And bloody hell if we did not see his vigorous activity reflected in the paintings and sculpture lining the gallery walls. Jews have suffered incredibly in this century. Knowing that they were tortured by fascists throughout the world, we can hardly not admire the fact of their perseverance. As a religious group, as a culture, they have given to this world more than they have ever received . . .

"The 'Jewish Experience in the Art of the Twentieth Century' is more than a delightful exhibit, a collection of aesthetic decorations dead in a handsome building. Rather it is a tale of struggle for understanding, emotion one can see and touch. Like the poetry of Rosenblatt, the exhibit is everyday life, buzzing around our all too often deaf ears."

*Mrs. Sparling is Director of the M.S.V.U. Art Gallery*



A group of patrons

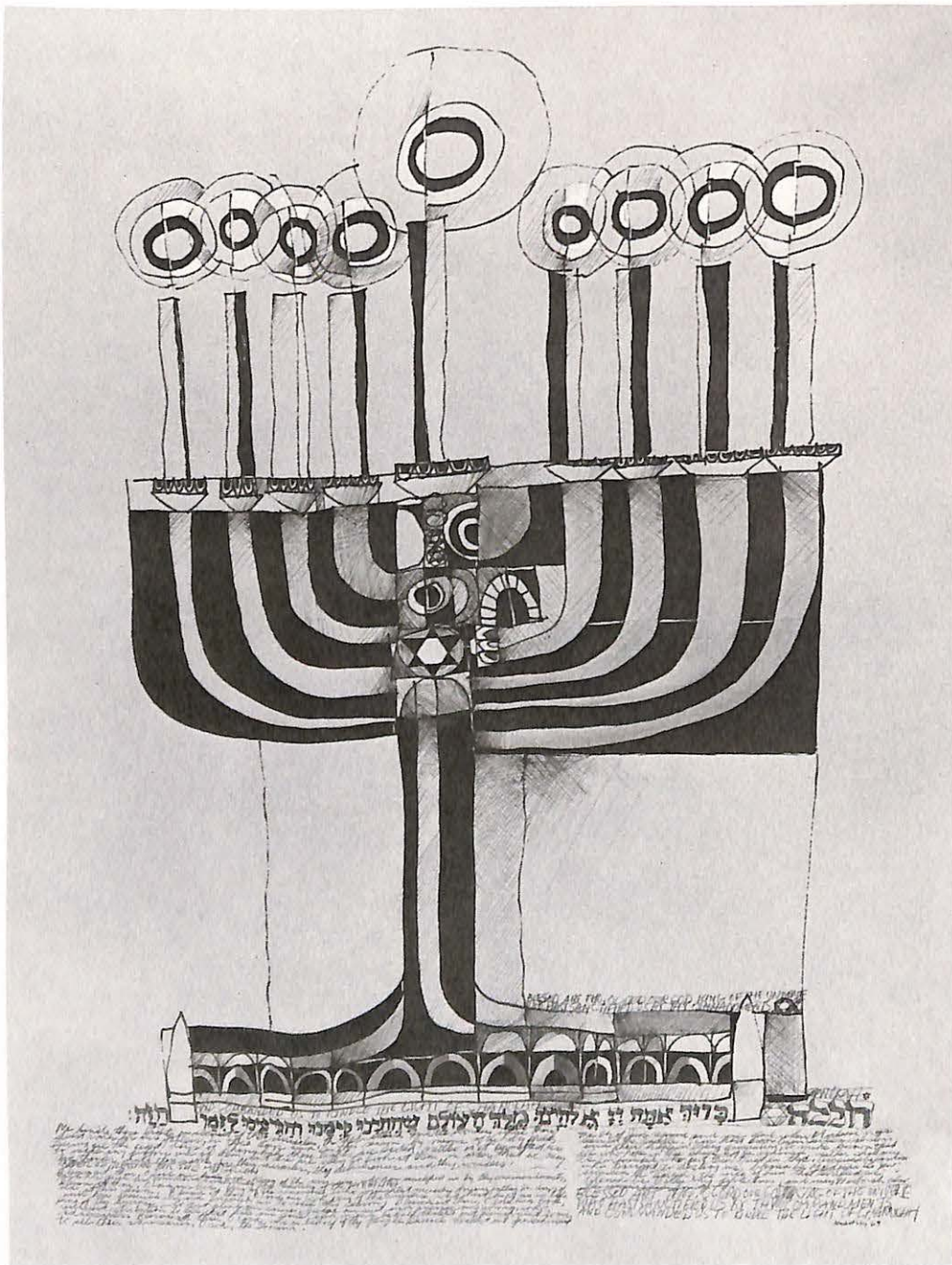


Upstairs gallery

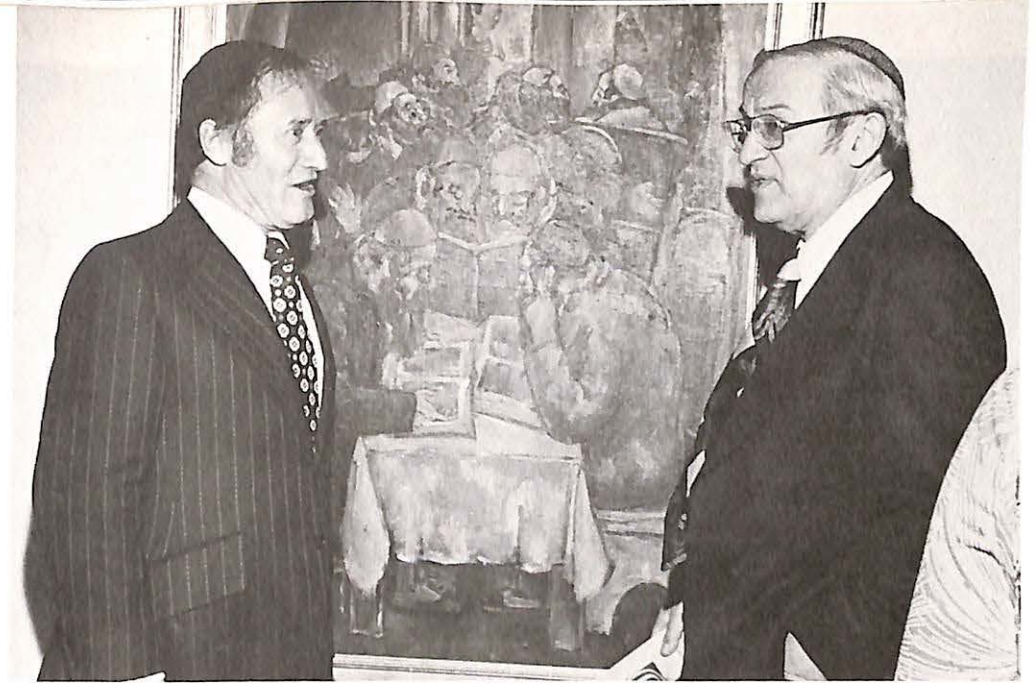








Joe Kashetsky, *Chanukah Lights*



Rabbi Heim and Rabbi Pritzker



Isadore Kaufman, *Friday Evening*



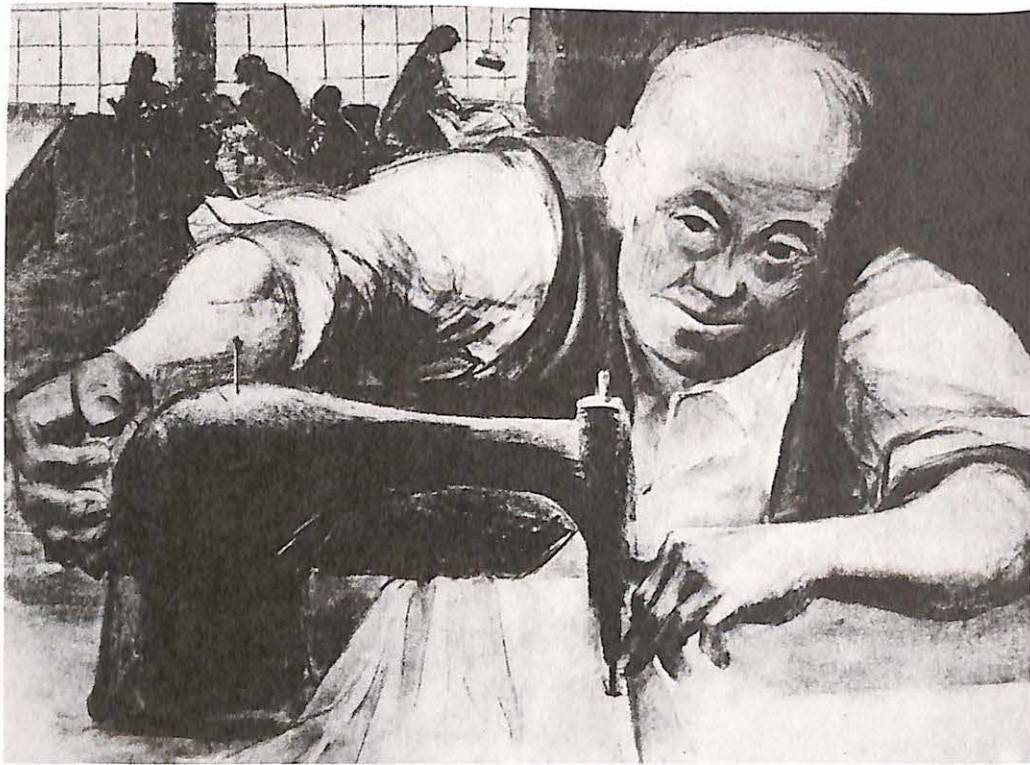


Jacques Lipchitz, *The Guitar Player*

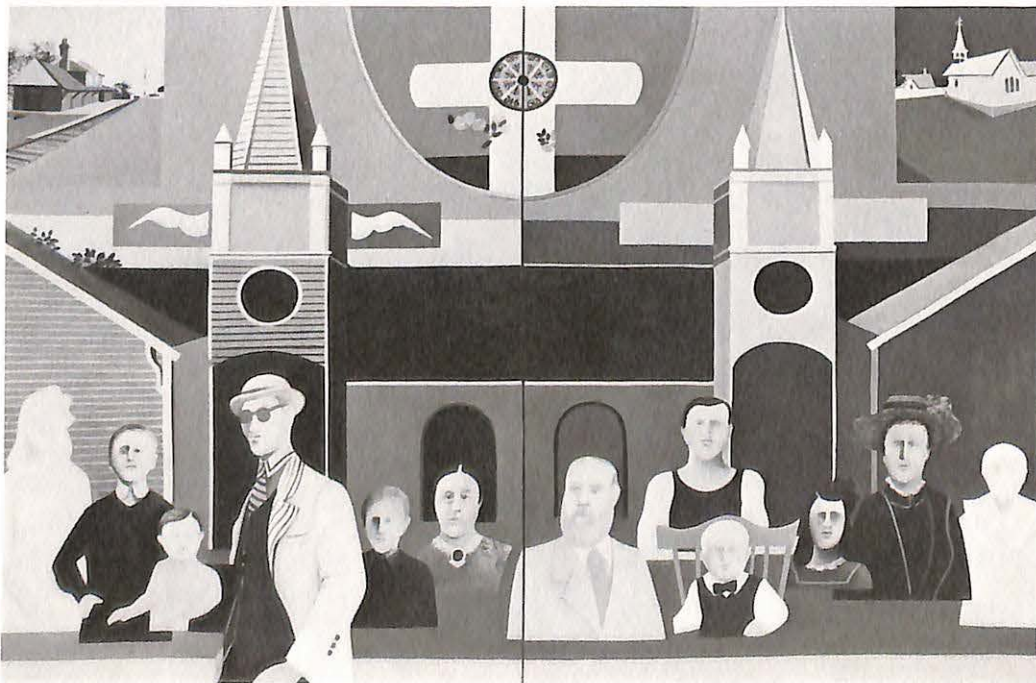


Jack Markell, *The Wedding Shawl*

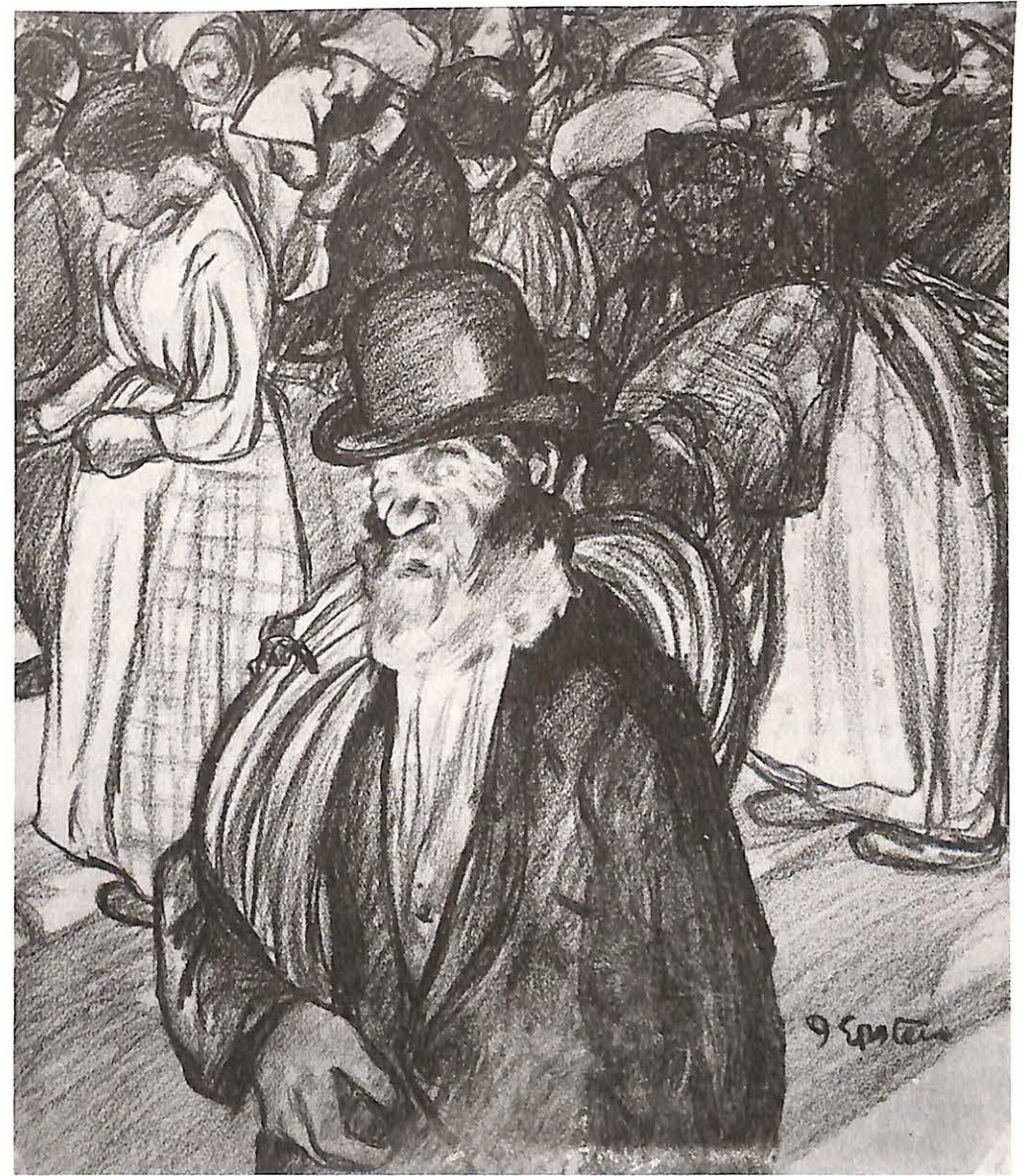




Henry Orenstein, *Needleworker*



Esther Warkov, *Stonewallians Lament*



Jacob Epstein, *East Side People*



# Sugar, Spice and Everything Nice?

## Current Questions in the Psychology of Sex Differences

Dr. Rosemarie Sampson, S.C.

Questions about the psychological nature of man and woman have always been the subject of intense debate. Are there innate psychological differences between the sexes?

Where, and if, differences do exist, how did they come about? Could they be changed if society itself changes? Propaganda from every angle makes it extremely difficult to disentangle myth from reality.

Our behavior as men or as women reveals a complex interaction of biological and cultural forces. A number of the physical differences between the sexes are obvious and universal; however, the psychological differences are not.

Biology provides certain givens for a culture to explain, react to, and change. Our socialization into a given culture — to a given “sexrole” — begins at birth. John Money (1975), the eminent researcher in gender identity, underlines this:

*When it comes down to the biological imperatives that are laid down for all men and women, there are just four: Only a man can impregnate; only a woman can menstruate, gestate and lactate. All other sex differences are negotiable, so to speak, depending on where negotiation starts in the life cycle of the individual . . . As long as the four basic reproductive functions are allowed for, however, no particular gender stereotype is unalterable. A society has almost unlimited choice of role design or redesign. (pp. 38-29)*

Maccoby and Jacklin (1975) set out to discover which of the widely held beliefs about sex differences are myth, which are supported by evidence, and which are still unlisted.

The following is a summary of their investigation into a “large body of evidence concerning how the sexes differ and how they do not differ, in many aspects of psychological functions.”

### Some unfounded beliefs about sex differences

1. Girls are more sociable than boys. Not so — the two sexes are equally interested in social stimuli. Girls are no more dependent than boys on their caretakers and boys are no more willing to remain alone. Girls are not more motivated to achieve for social rewards. Any differences that exist in the “sociability of the two sexes are more of kind rather than degree. Boys orient toward a larger peer group, while girls associate in pairs or small groups.”
2. Girls are more “suggestible” than boys. Not so — tests show that boys and girls are remarkably alike in their ability to model, to role-play and that they are equally susceptible to persuasive communication and in face-to-face social-influence situations. Girls are somewhat more likely to adapt their own judgements to those of a group. However, boys are just as likely to adapt peer values that contradict their own.
3. Girls lack “achievement motivation.” Not so — under neutral conditions girls show more achievement motivation. Boys need to be challenged by appeals to ego or competitive motivation.
4. Girls have lower self-esteem. The sexes describe themselves as highly similar in their overall self-satisfaction and self-confidence during childhood and adolescence. Qualitatively, however, there are some differences: girls rate themselves higher in the area

of social competence; boys view themselves as strong, powerful, dominant.

Throughout the school years, the two sexes believe they can equally influence their fates. During the college years, women feel they are more the victims of chance or fate. This sense of helplessness may possibly be linked to an increase in dating and thoughts of marriage.

### Sex Differences that are fairly well-established

1. Girls have greater verbal ability than boys. During the period from preschool to early adolescence, the sexes are very similar in their verbal abilities. At about age 11, the sexes begin to diverge, with female superiority increasing through high school.
2. Boys excel in visual-spatial ability. Male superiority on visual-spatial tasks is fairly consistently found in adolescence and adulthood, but not in childhood. Boys excel in mathematical ability. The two sexes are equal in their early acquisition of quantitative concepts during the grade school years. By the age of 12 to 13 boys skills increase faster.
3. Males are more aggressive. The sex difference in aggression has been observed consistently across cultures. Boys are more aggressive both physically and verbally. The primary target of male aggression is another male.

In their summary of the literature Maccoby and Jacklin reach the conclusion there are still open questions regarding popular beliefs about the “differences” between the two sexes.

There is either too little evidence or the findings are too ambiguous to support a sex difference. These areas include: fear, timidity and anxiety; activity level; competitiveness; dominance; compliance; nurturance and “maternal” behavior.

These conclusions leave psychologists

with more questions. Why do popular beliefs continue to exist when they have little or no basis in fact? If boys and girls have somewhat different areas of intellectual strength, does that mean they should be educated differently? Should we maximize or minimize the differences?

### References

Maccoby, E. & Jacklin, C. *The Psychology of Sex Differences*. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1975.

Money, J. & Tucker, P. *Sexual Signatures*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.

*The author is chairman of the Division of Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology at MSVU.*



# Croquis

Dr. Pierre Gérin

*(In the 17th century François de Rochefoucauld entertained the French court by composing and reading epigrams and maxims which reflected his personal attitudes and reactions to the social atmosphere of his day. Dr. Gérin here presents a short selection of his own "maximes" based on his response to the 20th century.)*

Je me contredis? J'ai du moins raison la moitié du temps.

Le mensonge est comme le sable: doux quand on se couche, mais dur quand on se relève.

Le vaniteux est comme le bouquet de la canne à sucre: brillant et fade.

L'hypocrite est comme le roseau: tout droit et lisse au dehors, mais cloisonné en dedans.

La noix tombée sur le sable ne rebondit point à la cime du cocotier.

Si partir c'est mourir un peu, rester c'est mourir tout à fait.

L'homme politique de talent fait la politique de ses moyens, le génie politique fait les moyens de sa politique.

Vous me dites que la terre ne peut plus nourrir l'homme. Eh bien, ce sont les hommes qui vont engraisser la terre.

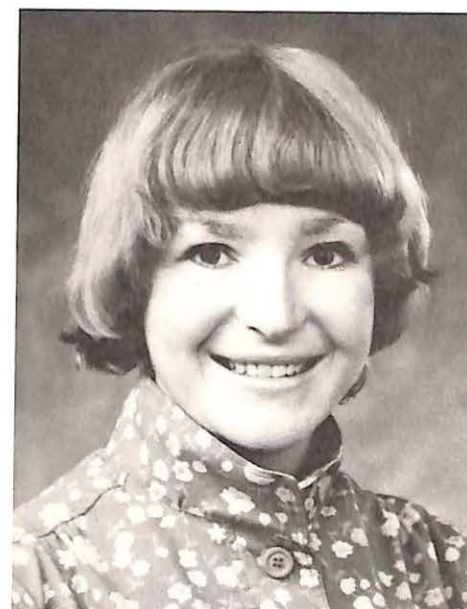
Du héros au bourreau la distance est mince: une seule victime de plus, lui-même.

S'assimiler, c'est se laisser aveugler par la fumée de la maison d'autrui.

Un nuage noir peut cacher le soleil, mais non point l'avaler.

# Mount Personality

Gail Smith



The home economics department of Mount Saint Vincent University is a lively place, bustling with activity and a certain vitality that has made the field of home economics attractive to many students.

Part of this feeling of vivaciousness has been contributed by Norma Coleman who has not only brought her talents in the fields of clothing, textiles and design to the Mount, but also a professional and enthusiastic attitude toward the discipline.

Norma was born in Worcester, Massachusetts and pursued her undergraduate studies at Framington State College, not far from Boston. Her graduate work was done at Purdue University in Indiana and from there she moved on to a teaching position at the University of Delaware where she taught for three years.

During this time she spent two summers teaching at the Mount and fell in love with Nova Scotia and the atmosphere at the university. In the fall of 1974 she accepted a full time teaching position here, bringing

with her an array of valuable talents and knowledge to be passed on to her students.

As with people who are deeply involved in their professions, Norma finds that many of her activities outside of work are centered around the field of home economics. Although she enjoys sports such as swimming and tennis, she finds it both interesting and necessary to keep up to date on topics of importance in her work.

The idea of continuous learning is important in all fields and particularly in one that is constantly broadening and expanding its content. Not only, she says, is there now a changing attitude toward studying clothing as a valuable discipline but also as a valuable means of studying the history of man.

As architecture has reflected certain characteristics of its time, so through the ages has clothing shown us things about the era and the people who made them popular.

Norma has been working on a project along these lines for some time and has collected approximately two hundred items of clothing dating from the years 1869 to 1950. The Historic Costume Collection is well known throughout the province and has won acclaim with the Nova Scotia Home Economics Association. The association presented a showing of the collection at their 50th annual meeting and it was so well received they have been invited to present it again at the spring meeting.

It is clear that this lady has contributed a great deal to the Mount, not only in talent but also in personality and professionalism. Her students reflect this in their attitudes about her and about the field of home economics.

However, Norma is reluctant to take any credit for this and says of her students, "They are well motivated . . . it is a joy to work with them and teach them."

Never-the-less, looking at Norma Coleman it is no wonder her students have become so well motivated.

*Miss Smith is a B.B.A. student at M.S.V.U.*



*[Faint handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*