



MATCH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

MATCH is a Canadian-based women's organization committed with our Third World sisters to confronting the root causes of women's subordination in society. MATCH brings together the voices and experiences of Third World and Canadian women thus strengthening the women's movement globally.

MATCH programming is based on a feminist vision of development that challenges existing social, political and economic systems. MATCH supports women who are organizing both to change the practices and attitudes which discriminate against them and to meet women's needs largely ignored by society. We are active both in Canada and abroad, sharing resources and knowledge internationally.

MATCH PROGRAMMES

Violence Against Women -- Whether it is militarism in the Philippines, female circumcision in Africa, or mass murder in Canada, violence is never far from women's lives. Violence prevents women from fully participating in the development process -- indeed it thwarts every attempt for human progress today. Through the exchange of resources, MATCH supports women organizing to end violence.

- * **Overseas Projects** -- MATCH supports: *Teens In Action* -- The brutal rape and murder of a 13-year-old girl in Kingston, Jamaica spurred a group of young high school women to develop a programme of peer counselling, drama and community events to heighten awareness and change attitudes about violence against women. *Belize Women Against Violence Movement* -- The group offers direct services to victims of domestic violence, and sponsors community education programmes on the prevention of violence.
- **Popular Theatre Workshop Tour** -- Last Fall, MATCH brought together five Third World and Canadian women for a series of popular theatre workshops. Travelling for a month to women's shelters across the country, they brought a global perspective on violence to the Canadian public.
- * **Popular Education Kit** -- The kit will inform both Canadian and Third World women about their parallel movements and highlight the shared experiences of women through stories, posters, and profiles of groups strategizing to end violence against women.

Words of Women -- WOW promotes women's cultural expression both in Canada and overseas. MATCH believes that women's voices must be heard to ensure that women are recognized not just as custodians, but also as creators of culture. Through their writings, women validate their experiences and thus empower themselves. MATCH helps to link writers, publishers, bookstore owners and development agencies, in an effort to promote women's writing globally.

- * **Creation Fire** -- This year will bear the fruit of an exciting cooperative project. MATCH is actively promoting the publication of *Creation Fire*, an anthology of Caribbean women's poetry representing the work of more than 100 poets, many of whom have never before been published. Produced by the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action, the book will be published by Sister Vision, a black women and women of colour press in Toronto.

Overseas Projects -- MATCH supports: *Sisren Theatre Collective* -- This Jamaican-based group dramatizes the struggles of Jamaican women through theatre workshops, research, and journals. *SPEAK* -- SPEAK is a South African women's collective which publishes a magazine written by members of women's groups, community organizations and trade unions. SPEAK is produced in both English and Zulu and examines issues of concern to women.



Women Around the World Petition the United Nations to Recognize Women's Human Rights

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The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person (art. 3), and further, no one shall be subject to torture, or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (art. 5). Yet, everywhere women and girls are systematically subjected to violence, torture, coercion, sexual abuse, starvation, and economic deprivation because they are female. For example, in the United States, battery is the greatest single cause of injury to women with 4,000 women beaten to death by their partners each year; in India girls aged 2-4 die at twice the rate of boys because of systematic malnutrition and neglect; and currently 84 million women around the world have been subjected to genital mutilation. Such violence is a pervasive form of human rights abuse cutting across social, ethnic, and national boundaries, and still, it is often excluded from the international human rights agenda.

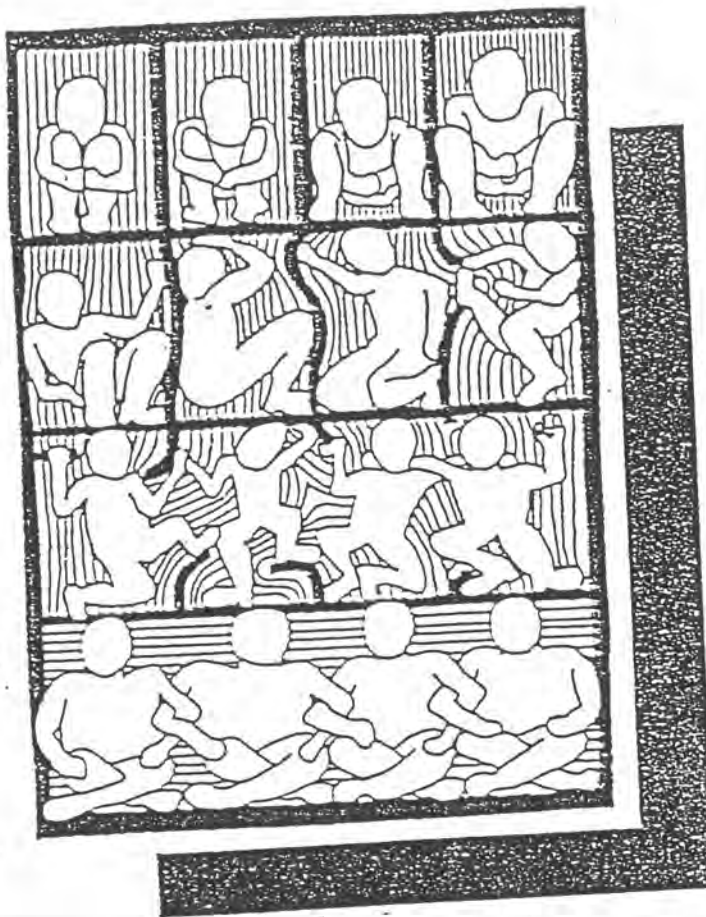
In Vienna, June 1993, the United Nations will hold its first World Conference on Human Rights in 25 years. The Preparatory Committee for this conference has met twice and will meet again in September 1992 and April 1993 in Geneva. There will also be three regional meetings: Thailand, Oct. 12-16; Tunisia, Nov. 2-6; and Costa Rica, Nov. 30 - Dec. 4. These meetings will influence the human rights agenda for decades and are therefore crucial for those concerned with women's human rights. A coalition of women's groups* is sponsoring a worldwide petition drive to urge the Preparatory Committee to include women's human rights and gender violence as central concerns at this global forum.

The petition has been circulated in 80 countries, in every region of the world, and has been translated into 12 languages. On March 13th, 1992 we delivered the first round of 75,000 signatures, to UN General Secretary Boutros-Ghali. We have extended the campaign up to the conference in June 1993 and expect to have gathered 150 thousand signatures for the next preparatory meeting in Geneva, September 1992 calling for recognition of women's human rights and denouncing domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment, traffic in women, female infanticide and all forms of gender violence as violations of human rights. Women's groups have used the petition to promote public awareness that "violence against women violates human rights," and to lobby their official representatives to the 1993 conference and its regional/preparatory meetings.

We urge you to join us in sponsoring this petition and to develop other strategies to bring women's human rights to the center of the international human rights agenda. For further information, contact Charlotte Bunch or Niamh Reilly at the Center for Women's Global Leadership, 27 Clifton Avenue, Douglass College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. TEL: (908) 932-8782; FAX: 932-1180. Write/fax to add your organization to the list below.

SPONSORING GROUPS INCLUDE: Center for Women's Global Leadership; International Women's Tribune Centre; World YWCA; ISIS International (Manila) ISIS Internacional (Santiago); IIS-WICCE; International Women's Rights Action Watch; Match International Centre; International Women's Health Coalition; Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development; Women's Law and Development in Africa; Women and Law in Southern Africa Research Project; CLADEM (Comité Latinoamericano para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer); ILSA (Instituto Latinoamericano de Servicios Legales Alternativos); Women's International Democratic Federation; Institute for Women, Law and Development; International Abolitionist Federation; WIDE (Women's Development Europe); International Council of Women; International Council of Jewish Women; World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession; World Federation of Methodist Women; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; International Alliance of Women; International Peace Research Association; International Federation of University Women; International Association of Women in Radio and Television; Organizing Committee for the Decade of Human Rights Education; African Participatory Research Network; Association of African Women for Research and Development; Zonta International; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Pan Pacific and South East Asian Women's Association; European Union of Women; Soroptimists International; Third World Movement Against Exploitation of Women; WREE (Women for Racial and Economic Equality); Baha'i International; African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies; Worldview International Foundation; Mujer/Fempres; DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era). National Level groups: Women's Action Group, Zimbabwe; The Black Sash, South Africa; Norwegian Housewives Association; Women's Research and Education Centre and Mor Cali, Turkey; Women's Centre, Bombay, India; Philippine Nurses Association of America; CIDEM, Bolivia; Comision de Estudios de la Mujer, Nicaragua; Association for the Advancement of Feminism and Council of Women, Hong Kong; Catholics for a Free Voice, USA; Casa de la Mujer, Colombia; National Organization of Women, Taiwan; Vrouwenberaad Ontwikkelingsamenwerking, and HOM Netherlands; Church Women United, Aotearoa/New Zealand; OASIS, Mexico; Arab Women's Solidarity Association, Egypt; Gabriela, Women's Legal Bureau Inc., Alternative Legal Assistance Center, and KMK, Philippines; Geneva Forum for Philippine Concerns; Red Nacional de Promocion de la Mujer, Centro de la Mujer de Moquegua and Centro Flora Tristan, Peru; South Africa Council of Churches; NGO Coordinating Committee, Zambia; Tanzanian Media Women's Association; Centro de Estudios de la Mujer, Argentina; Korean Women's Associations United; National Women's Network for International Solidarity, England; Narvokkbo and Mahila Parishad, Bangladesh; Shingai Gah, Women's Action Forum, and Simorgh, Pakistan; Nari Manch, Nepal; Forum Perempuan Cut Nyak Dien, Malaysia; Nigeria Labor Congress Women's Wing; Pacific Women's Resource Bureau, New Caledonia; Casa Sofia, Chile; Cyprus Association Against Violence in the Family.

NOW AVAILABLE FROM MATCH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE



DEVELOPING AN ORGANIZATIONAL GENDER POLICY (CUSO: A CASE STUDY) is aimed at organizations interested in adopting a policy on gender relations. Although it is written in the context of international development agencies, this publication is of interest to all organizations working towards equality between women and men.

Section 1 outlines what an organizational policy is, explains the need for gender policies and offers several examples of women and development policies. Section 2 gives a brief "herstory" of attempts to integrate gender issues in CUSO's programming and outlines the process adopted to develop and implement a gender policy. Section 3 looks at how people in other organizations have addressed gender issues and concludes with a section on training. Section 4 sets out some of the issues and strategies for beginning to address gender questions in development organizations.

Authors Betty Plewes and Rieky Stuart have extensive experience in international development and Canadian NGOs. They have worked together and individually on a number of gender and development initiatives in recent years.

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**DEVELOPING AN
ORGANIZATIONAL
GENDER POLICY**

Please send _____ copies of **Developing an Organizational Gender Policy** at \$13 Cdn per copy
(Cost includes GST, handling and postage. Free to Third World women's organizations. All orders must be prepaid.)

Name _____

Name of Organization/Group _____

Address _____

Province _____ Country _____

Postal Code _____ Telephone _____

Total amount enclosed _____

Return to: MATCH International Centre, 1102-200 Elgin St., Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1L5, Canada

General Announcement

MISENER / MARGETTS
WOMEN'S RESEARCH CENTRE
11043 - 90 AVENUE
EDMONTON, AB T6G 1A6

If you have a newsletter, please print some of this in the next edition. Please also announce in your classes, to your colleagues and friends, and/or post in your departmental bulletin boards. Thanks!

MATCH International Centre

Women interested in gender and development are forming a local chapter of MATCH International Centre at the University of Alberta. Anyone, male or female, who is interested in the general topic of gender and development is welcome to join. We hope to participate in the work of the MATCH International Centre, which is the only non-governmental organization in Canada organized by women for women which provides international development assistance to women in other countries through partnership with women's organizations in those countries.

MATCH is the only Canadian development non-governmental organization which works exclusively with and for women in the South on development issues. Our goal is to change practices and attitudes that discriminate against women. Founded in 1976 as a result of the U.N. International Women's Year Convention in Mexico City, MATCH was the first feminist non-governmental development organization in Canada. In fact, MATCH was responsible for developing the gender and development analysis which replaced the integrative women in development approach at CIDA. MATCH was able to convince CIDA to take a women and development approach to all of its projects. Now, no development project is funded by CIDA unless it can demonstrate that women will benefit from it. The next hurdle is to get CIDA to recognize gender as a significant obstacle to development.

MATCH was responsible for the founding of the UN Development Fund for Women, later renamed UNIFEM, the United Nations agency created to give more visibility to the contributions of women to development and of finding new ways of engaging women in community and national development.

MATCH and the Canadian Council for International Co-Operation develop gender and development training materials and host workshops in Canada to train development workers as well as to exchange strategies and experiences of women active in the field. MATCH also supports such projects in the South.

After more than a decade of networking with women's groups internationally, in 1988, MATCH declared its long-term goals to be:

1. To provide women with the resources they need to achieve social, economic, and political justice;
2. To take a leading role within the Canadian NGO community in the elaboration and promotion of policies, programmes, and resources which reflect a feminist vision of development
3. To advocate to the Canadian government policies which reflect feminist analyses of Third World and Canadian women;
4. To bring the voices and experiences of the Third World women's movement to the Canadian women's movement in a way which strengthens both;
5. To strengthen the women's movement globally by facilitating the sharing of experiences and strategies among women's organizations (South-South and South-North);
6. To engage in and support on-going feminist analyses of women's reality.

As a result of MATCH's work with many women's groups in many countries of the South, violence against women emerged as the most important issue which prevents women from organizing as well as from participating in their own community's development. Several international conferences were organized by MATCH which sought to develop strategies and programs to end violence against women globally. Publications, educational kits, newsletters, and resource materials were compiled in English, French, and Spanish as aids in the anti-violence campaign. Since then, several Canadian organizations have also added violence against women as a development and human rights issue. They include CUSO, Oxfam, OCSD, the North-South Institute, the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, and the Association Quebécoise des organismes de coopération internationale.

MATCH has three main programs: Gender and Development, Violence Against Women, and Words of Women. Words of Women promotes women's cultural expression both in Canada and in the South. MATCH believes that women's voices must be heard to ensure that women are recognized not just as custodians but also as creators of culture. Through their writings, women

validate their experiences and thus empower themselves. MATCH helps link writers, publishers, bookstore owners, and development agencies in an effort to promote women's writing globally.

MATCH receives, produces, and disseminates resources on women's perspectives on development and women's organizing globally. In Ottawa, it maintains a Resource Clearing House of such materials in English, French, and Spanish, which is open to the public.

MATCH produces a quarterly newsletter and an annual report, available to MATCH members. Membership for an individual is \$25 per year.

Many women's projects in the South are funded either partially or wholly by MATCH. MATCH receives funding from CIDA, as well as from its own fundraising. Because of the large number of women's groups requesting funding, MATCH can only fund about 25% of the project proposals it receives from the South. The lack of sufficient funding and the overwhelming demand also means that MATCH is unable to operate in all countries; in fact, MATCH is only able to operate in a few countries on each continent. MATCH provides "seed money" to help women's groups get started and then works with them to assist them in diversifying their funding sources and ultimately to become more self-sufficient. Therefore, MATCH does not provide long-term funding to any one organization. This policy enables MATCH to help more organizations in the long-run.

There are several projects which MATCH supports solely with money raised in Alberta. We hope to publicize this and promote a better understanding of the work done locally to assist less privileged women abroad. During 1991-1992, for instance, Alberta Agency for International Development funded the following MATCH projects by matching funds raised in Alberta:

1. Association de lutte contre les violences faites aux femmes - Women's Centre for Victims of Violence, Yaounde, Cameroon;
2. Traditional Birth Attendants Pro gram, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
4. Women's Resource and Research Centre, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad;
8. Assistance to Women Victims of Violence, Santiago, Dominican Republic.
3. Training Health Promoters, Managua, Nicaragua;
5. Women's Health and Reproduction Centre, Managua, Nicaragua .
6. La Casa de la Mujer - Women's Centre, Chimbote, Peru

7. Violence Against Women Program, national coalition of five groups, Lima Peru.
9. Women's Grievance Bureau, Butan City, Philippines;

In addition to Alberta A.I.D., the Clifford E. Lee Foundation in Edmonton has provided funding for some MATCH projects. MATCH must raise funds in Alberta for these projects in order to be eligible for funding from these two organizations.

Rosemary Brown -- Canadian feminist, writer, social worker, politician, and activist -- is Special Ambassador for MATCH International Centre as well as Program Officer for the Caribbean. She is a former Executive Director of MATCH, and works tirelessly to promote the organization. Rosemary Brown will be in Edmonton on October 30 to participate in a fund-raising event for MATCH projects funded by Alberta.

As a Local MATCH International Centre Club at the U. of A., we will promote an interest in gender and development, violence against women, and women as culture-makers by organizing workshops, sponsoring lectures, holding socials, networking with other women's and development organizations, fund-raising for Alberta MATCH development projects, and other activities. Our meetings will generally be held at the International Centre, U. of A.

If you would like to be involved or informed, contact MATCH board members, Joyce Relyea at 492-5929 or Susan Belcher El-Nahhas at 477-5092.