

having regard to skill, effort and responsibility without regard to distinctions on the basis of sex.

Provisions of the former legislation did not guarantee male workers the right to equal pay with female counterparts, and the concepts of skill, effort and responsibility were not specified as criteria for determining equal work.

Provision is made for an employee who has not received equal pay to recover lost wages for up to 12 months. Recovery was formerly limited to six months.

With respect to general discrimination, marital status is added to the prohibited grounds. Both sex and marital status are included in the ban on discrimination in the purchase of commercial or dwelling units and in tenancy.

The new code makes provision for investigations of the discrimination on the initiative of the director of the commission as well as on complaints. Under the former act, investigation could be undertaken only after a written complaint was received.

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FACTORY REGULATIONS REPEALED.

Regulations under the B. C. Factories Act which imposed restrictions on the kind of work women were permitted to do, have been repealed.

Among the regulations dating back to 1945, were the prohibition of women lifting more than 35 pounds in the course of their regular work or doing any overhead lifting or stacking.

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QUOTABLE QUOTES:

From the books "Sisterhood is Powerful" "Know Your Enemy: A Sampling of Sexist Quotes".

"The five worst infirmities that afflict the female are indocility, discontent, slander, jealousy, and silliness...such is the stupidity of woman's character, that it is incumbent upon her, in every particular, to distrust herself and to obey her husband. Confucian Marriage Manual.

Reply: Nuts to the Confucian Marriage Manual, and doesn't it bother you that most marriage counsellors are men?

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West Kootenay Status of Women Council is sponsoring a Women's Festival on the 1st and 2nd of June, hopefully at PassCreek Park. Women musicians, poets, dancers, artists and craft people, and writers will share their work and play and we will also have various and sundry workshops. If you fit into any of these categories, please contact Marcia, Women's Centre, Nelson--352-9355, or write to the West Kootenay Status of Women, Box 1200, Castlegar, B. C. We hope to have a film festival also. More on all of this next month.

The January meeting of the Trail group took the form of a panel presentation on Working Roles and Conflicts. It was open to the public and a number of interested people attended.

Ardith Roscoe was moderator of the panel which included Gina Landucci, Diane Edmunds, Lily Popoff, Connie Nicholson, and Marion H. Each panel member related some of her own experiences in changing roles and told of the conflicts she encountered. Their experiences covered most of the possible role problems faced by married women yesterday and today.

The audience shared in the talk session following and some rather lively discussion occurred. A wide range of opinions were expressed and many ideas were explored. Topics included such subjects as the role of the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope in the oppression of women.

A few women expressed concern that the was an expectation in "Women's Lib" that every woman had to go out and have a career. They felt guilty about being content with their role as mother and homemaker. Most group members agreed that no one need feel guilty about being "just a housewife." General opinion did favour the idea that a woman should be free to choose the role which is best for her individual situation.

Regrettably, the old cliché that every mother must stay home with her child until school age was voiced by some. It seems hard to believe that a mother who works outside home is a bad mother. Opinions on this point were rigid--if you stay home you're a good mother, if you work, you're a bad mother. When will women ever get together and begin to resolve their real problems?

THE CANADIAN BILL OF RIGHTS

1. It is hereby recognized and declared that in Canada there have existed and shall continue to exist without discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, religion or sex, the following human rights and fundamental freedoms, namely,
  - a. the right of the individual to life, liberty, security of the person, and enjoyment of property, and the right not to be deprived thereof except by due process of law;
  - b. the right of the individual to equality before the law and the protection of the law;
  - c. freedom of religion;
  - d. freedom of speech;
  - e. freedom of assembly and association; and
  - f. freedom of the press.
2. No law of Canada shall be construed or applied so as to
  - a. authorize or effect the arbitrary detention, imprisonment, or exile any person,
  - b. impose or authorize the imposition of and unusual treatment or punishment;
  - c. deprive a person who has been arrested or detained
    - (i) of the right to be informed promptly of the reason for his arrest or detention;
    - (ii) of the right to retain and instruct counsel without delay or
    - (iii) of the remedy by way of Habeas Corpus for the determination of the validity of his detention and for his release if the detention is not lawful;