



# WOMAN

Sponsored by Associated Women Students  
and Mortar Board

February 24, 1970

WHAT ARE THE 17,000 UNDERGRADUATE AND 2,200 GRADUATE COEDS DOING AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY? WHAT ARE THEIR CONCERNS, INTERESTS AND NEEDS?

MSU WOMAN focuses on issues and activities of particular interest to MSU coeds.

WHAT WOMEN WILL BE DOING AND WHAT THEY WILL BE AWARE OF IS UP TO YOU!

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Abortion is one of those instances in which the law attempts to act as conservator of morality and ends up labeling as crime an act whose only victim of the crime is oneself.

Deborah Fitch, STATE NEWS Writer

Currently, some legislators in Lansing are attempting to alter this inequity. Soon, the Michigan Congress will again be confronted with the question of the legality of abortions. What is the present law and what are the proposed changes? The following are excerpts from Michigan Senator Lorraine Beebe's November 12, 1969, speech on Abortion Law Reform:

Illegal abortion is the highest cause of maternal death . . . . Estimates run from 8,000 to 10,000 deaths per year due to complications of illegal abortions in this country . . . . Today, Michigan law allows an abortion only when its performance is necessary to preserve the woman's life. The Michigan abortion law was adopted in 1846--seventy-four years before women had the right to vote.

There were 25,330 cases of forcible rape or attacks in 1966 . . . . There are five deaths per 100,000 for abortions performed in hospitals compared to seven-teen deaths per 100,000 for tonsillectomies, so abortion is far safer than having a common tonsillectomy . . . . The bills before the Michigan legislature . . . recognize human values and human lives and accord them some consideration under the law . . . . The proposed changes are entirely voluntary and permissive . . . Freedom of choice is left intact.

What are the pending bills concerning abortion law?

Bill 237 - Senator Bursley of Ann Arbor - The bill would allow for therapeutic abortions in licensed and accredited hospitals under any of the following conditions: 1) danger to the mental or physical health of the mother; 2) a serious risk of mental or physical defects in the fetus; 3) in cases of rape or incest. The decision to perform an abortion would have to be approved by three doctors, one of whom would have to be a psychiatrist. No doctor or hospital would be required to perform an abortion.

Bill 288 - Senator J.E. McCauley of Wyandotte - The bill would make the question of abortion solely a decision of the physician and his patient.

Bill 374 - Senator McCauley - A licensed doctor would be exempt from the criminal code which now states that performing an abortion is either a felony or manslaughter.

What can you do?

Write to your legislator - both your hometown senator and congressman--or better yet, their wives. If you don't know who your representatives are, call 373-3543 (Senator Beebe's phone number). If you are not from Michigan and would like to express your opinion, write the following Michigan Senators: Beebe, DeMoso, DeGroot, Faust, Cartwright, Bursley, McCauley and Hart at this address:

P.O. Box 240  
Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan

DID YOU KNOW THAT -

- 3.5 MSU coeds become pregnant every class day (and that Olin Health Center says that this may be a conservative estimate)?

- 100% of all the abortions in the United States are performed on women who aren't pregnant?

Considering these statistics and the existing abortion law, four MSU RA's in Justin Merrill felt that something should be done: Jill Hart, Harper Woods senior, Betty Julian, Detroit senior, Aloha Ruddy, Garden City senior, and Candy Simone, Iron Mountain senior, were influenced by a pamphlet on the subject of abortion created by coeds at Boston University. They now plan to publish and distribute a similar pamphlet here early next term. The pamphlet will be divided into three separate topic areas: the first topic will concern birth control (the different types, their effectiveness and accessibility); the second topic will be pregnancy (the symptoms, the alternatives to be considered in deciding to continue or terminate the pregnancy, and where to get help); and the third topic will be venereal disease (its causes, symptoms, consequences and where to go for treatment). The pamphlet will be free and will be distributed both on and off campus.

AWARENES OF ANOTHER AREA - THE DETROIT FREE PRESS WINS THE SPIRO AGNEW PRESS CLUB AWARD OF THE MONTH

The following commentary appeared February 20 on the front page of the Detroit Free Press:

Rampaging students smashed hundreds of store windows Thursday night as a Michigan State University demonstration protesting the conviction in the "Chicago 7" conspiracy trial spilled from the MSU campus to the downtown East Lansing . . . . State Police estimated the students broke between 500 and 1,000 windows in downtown business places and the City Hall.

WEC PUSSES FOR GUEST POLICY REVISION

WEC (Women's Interresidential Council) recently initiated a revision of the residence hall guest policy, to permit both men and women to have the option of having

male/female guests in their rooms after closing hours seven days a week. The present policy is restricted to women guests in men's rooms on Friday and Saturday nights. Men also have the option of requesting a 24-hour open house, whereas women are denied this option. The bill was passed in the residence halls last week and will go to ASMSU, February 24. WIC hopes that this new policy will be in effect by the beginning of spring term.

#### WOMEN'S SWIMMING TEAM VICTORIOUS

MSU's women's swimming team won the midwest championship held February 14 in Downers Grove, Illinois. The team outswam the second place squad, the University of Michigan, 371.5 points to 240. MSU WOMAN congratulates Marilyn Corson, Martha Coward, Sue Culver, Linda Ebbert, Linda Goldsmith, Linda Gustavson, Ellen Harrison, Patty Johannes, Pam Kruse, Jan Reader, Cindy Stimson and Mary L. Waldie.

#### CURRENT HAPPENINGS:

##### On Campus

The Retailing Club of MSU is sponsoring a Business Careers Carnival on February 25 from 7:30--9:30p.m. in the Main Lounge of the Union. You will have the opportunity to talk informally with representatives of more than fifteen stores across the nation about available job opportunities with the companies. Get the scoop at the Business Careers Carnival before you interview for that job or find a great summer job! The following stores will be represented: Jacobson's, Higbees, J.W. Knapps, Himehochs, S.S. Kresge, Marshall Field and Co., Wurzburgs, J.L. Hudson, Winkleman, and Allied Stores, Inc. and more!

The Miss MSU Pageant, "Everything's Coming Up Roses", will be held February 28 at 8 p.m. in the Union Ballroom. Last year's winner, Miss Sandra Gillespie, is currently Miss Michigan. Tickets will be \$2.00.

MSU Volunteer Programs is preparing to welcome our country's First Lady on March 2. MSU was chosen as one of five college campuses which Mrs. Patricia Nixon will visit in an effort to increase public awareness of the involvement of college students in various volunteer programs. Current plans indicate that Mrs. Nixon will visit specific volunteer projects.

MSU's Women's Liberation Movement is sponsoring a Women's Liberation Teach-In March 7 from 1p.m.-5p.m. and 7:30-11p.m. in rooms 30, 31, 38, and 39 of the Union. In conjunction with International Women's Day, March 8, the teach-in will consist of various workshops, films and tapes. For further information, call 3511476, 4840638, or 4891511 or stop by The Man and Nature Bookstore.

UP AGAINST THE WALL? Any issues you feel unclear about? Share with us what you, your group or organization has or will be doing.

Material for MSU WOMAN may be submitted to the editor, Marie Smith, 155 Student Services Building, or call 355-8324.