



# NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

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## FALL 1985 PROJECT LIST

HIGHER EDUCATION: Each year Governor Cuomo proposes a tuition increase for New York State students. Last year, due to enormous pressure from NYPIRG and other student groups, Governor Cuomo did not raise tuition. However, higher education is still being threatened, on the federal level. The Higher Education Act of 1965, which created all financial aid programs, sunsets this year! Hunter NYPIRG, along with all eighteen of our campuses, will be sponsoring letter writing campaigns, petitions, a Fall Conference focused on Higher Education, and the problem of decreasing financial aid.

DIVESTMENT: Under South African apartheid, 4.5 million whites hold a monopoly on political and economic power while the majority of 22 million non-whites are deprived of all citizenship and human rights. In New York State, public pension funds are being used by companies which participate actively in the South African economy. NYPIRG students, by working in coalition with other student groups, and through research and lobbying, will support the existing bill before the State legislature which advocates divestment from South Africa.

FEMINIST ISSUES: According to the Working Woman's Institute, sexual harassment is now the single most widespread occupational hazard women face in the workplace. Other studies estimate that almost one out of every three women can expect to be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. The goal of the NYPIRG Feminist Issues Project is to examine these grim statistics and educate the Hunter College student community on the status of women in our present day society.

TOXIC VICTIMS ACCESS TO JUSTICE: Thousands of men and women are suffering from debilitating diseases as a result of exposure to toxic substances in the environment and in the workplace. Yet in New York State these victims are legally barred from suing the manufacturers of these deadly substances. NYPIRG students will be mobilizing coalitions of unions, church groups, civic associations, and health organizations and will campaign and lobby to reform this archaic law. This statewide grassroots activity will culminate in early December during a special session of the State Legislature.

MORE--MORE--MORE

FALL PROJECT LIST continued

STRAPHANGERS: Millions of New Yorkers ride the subway each day. They pay 90¢ and will continue to do so throughout 1985, primarily due to the efforts that NYPIRG and several citizen groups exerted to pass the corporate surcharge tax, which holds businesses and corporations responsible for a portion of the maintenance expenses for mass transit. The MTA wants to raise the fare to \$1.00 or \$1.15 on January 1, 1986. NYPIRG is gearing up for the fight. In August of 1985, NYPIRG released a survey on the state of the mass transit system which received overwhelming media coverage. We will continue to survey the subways to improve service and upgrade safety.

SMALL CLAIMS: As a service to the New York City community, Hunter NYPIRG has a Small Claims Counseling Center. Students are trained in the process of the Small Claims Court, and provide advice to New Yorkers. Hunter NYPIRG is one of the few NYPIRG chapters across the state that still maintains a Small Claims Counseling Center.

INTERNSHIPS/ACADEMIC CREDIT: NYPIRG can not grant academic credit but we can help you arrange for an internship on one of our projects through the many departments at Hunter College. For more information contact Dina Franch at 772-4304 or stop by our office 214TH.

COME TO OUR:

\*\*\*\*\* GENERAL INTEREST MEETING \*\*\*\*\*

OCTOBER 2

2:00-4:00pm  
(Dean's Hours)

ROOM: 537 North