Women in Education

NANCY S. OLSON

- MOVING UP
The American Council on Education’s Office of Women in Higher Education has set up a National Identification Program to establish contacts among academic women and between these women and educational policy makers and employers. The goal of NIP is to help qualified women move into top positions in academic administration.

Through the program, state and national panels of leaders in higher education identify, refer, and support women who show administrative promise. Now operating in 42 states and two metropolitan areas, NIP also sponsors national forums that enable women to discuss important education issues as well as personal advancement.

For more information, contact the American Council on Education, One Dupont Circle, Washington, DC 20036. Phone: (202) 289-4700.

- A WOMAN’S YELLOW PAGES
A national directory of more than 500 up-to-date listings of organizations concerned with women’s issues. A Woman’s Yellow Pages, has been published by the Federation of Organizations for Professional Women. Included in the listing are government agencies, research institutes, clearinghouses, publishers, and other groups.

To order, send a self-addressed mailing label and check for $5 to the Federation of Organizations for Professional Women, 2000 P St., N.W., Suite 403, Washington, DC 20036.

- SCHOLARLY WOMEN
In Female Scholars: A Tradition of Learned Women Before 1800, J.R. Brink sketched the lives of ten women who attained remarkable levels of scholarship and learning in Western Europe and the Americas. The book presents the achievements of these women and the difficulties they encountered by attempting the unusual.

Available from Edin Press Women’s Publications in Montreal for $17.95.

- YOU ARE HOW YOU EAT
Children learn a great deal about sex roles from interactions they observe at mealtimes, according to research psychologist Michael Lewis of Educational Testing Service.

The family—specifically the dinner table—was a learning environment researched by ETS’s Institute for the Study of Exceptional Children by videotaping 50 families at mealtimes.

The families consisted of two parents and one to four children and represented a heterogeneous group. “From working poor to Princeton aristocracy,” says Lewis.

“We use dinner to tell our kids what to do,” he says. “For example, regardless of class, the mother was most likely to bring the food to the table. Even if children know that Mommy is a lawyer, what they see is traditional behavior at home. So that’s what they learn. We saw no differences in sexual stereotyping between the children of women who work and those who don’t.”

“Some American Families at Dinner” will be a chapter in a forthcoming ETS book.

- NONSEXIST IMAGES IN THE CLASSROOM
The Women’s Action Alliance, a national center on women’s issues, has pioneered the development of nonsexist, multiracial, multicultural early childhood classroom materials through their Nonsexist Child Development Project.

The Alliance also sponsors Project REED (Resources on Educational Equity for the Disabled). The first national conference on issues of educational equity for disabled women and girls (scheduled for Berkeley, California, in June 1982) will highlight Project REED’s second year in existence.

A major goal of the Project is to incorporate the images of children and adults with disabilities into the early childhood classroom.

For more information, contact Women’s Action Alliance, Inc., 370 Lexington Ave., New York, NY. Phone: (212) 532-8330.

- FIELD EXPERIENCE HANDBOOK
The recently published Women’s Studies Service Learning Handbook is a compendium of essays and course materials offering an overview of current practice, models, and concerns in feminist field experience education.

The Handbook is published by the National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA), an organization that supports teachers, administrators, and students in women’s studies programs as well as those involved in feminist education in the community. Members receive the Women’s Studies Quarterly.

For more information, contact NWSA at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Phone: (301) 454-6195.

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