

The Monthly Rag

Brought to you by the Feminist and Gender Studies Interns

Block V 2010

"Becoming the new feminine ideal requires just the right combination of insecurity, exercise, bulimia and surgery."

~G. B. Trudeau

Increasing Number of C-sections

Nearly half of all births in China are delivered by cesarean section, the world's highest rate, according to a survey by the World Health Organization — a shift toward modernization that isn't necessarily a good thing.

The boom in unnecessary surgeries is jeopardizing women's health, the U.N. health agency warned. Unnecessary C-sections are costlier than natural births and raise the risk of complications for the mother, said the report surveying nine Asian nations. It noted C-sections have reached "epidemic proportions" in many countries worldwide.

The WHO, which reviewed nearly 110,000 births across Asia in 2007-2008, found 27 percent were done under the knife, partially motivated by hospitals eager to make more money.

Women undergoing C-sections that are not medically necessary are more likely to die or be admitted into intensive care units, require blood transfusions or encounter complications that lead to hysterectomies, the WHO study found. U.S. studies have shown babies born by cesarean have a greater chance for respiratory problems. The Asia survey found the procedure benefits babies during breech births.

Percentage of C-sections:
46% of China
35% of Latin America
30% of U.S.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com>

The number of working moms who are the sole breadwinners in their families rose last year to an all-time high, and the number of stay-at-home dads edged higher, in a shift of traditional gender roles caused partly by massive job losses.

The number of moms who were the only working spouse rose for the third straight year, according to Census Bureau figures released Friday. The number of dads who were the only working spouse dropped, and the number of stay-at-home dads ticked higher.

"The economic crisis is heavily affecting families, and what the latest data show is that gender roles are flexible and are going in the direction of egalitarian roles," said Pamela J. Smock, a sociology professor at the University of Michigan.

She said the shifts could have lasting effects after the economy rebounds, as people become more accustomed to the roles of breadwinner moms and stay-at-home dads.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com>

"Women's liberation is just a lot of foolishness. It's men who are discriminated against. They can't bear children. And no one is likely to do anything about that."

~Golda Meir

"Feminism is hated because women are hated. Anti-feminism is a direct expression of misogyny; it is the political defense of women hating."

~Andrea Dworkin

More Women in the Workforce

What is Ecofeminism?

While there is no central definition of ecofeminism, it is generally regarded as a feminist approach to environmental ethics. Ecofeminists see the oppression of women and the domination of nature as interconnected; as a movement, ecofeminist theorists use a framework that confronts issues of gender, race, class, and nature.

Why Care?

It is important to be aware of how environmental policies, or a lack thereof, influence our everyday lives. Women, children, low-income individuals, people of color, and residents of the Global South are particularly

vulnerable populations whose rights to a healthy and sustainable future must be vigilantly respected and safeguarded. As we are all only as healthy as our earth, we must be mindful of how our lives positively or negatively impact the environment, and ultimately, ourselves. Women and the status of the environment are inextricably linked. In many cases, it is women, in the U.S. and across the globe, who primarily feel the effects of ecological change and the creation of toxic substances by humans.

http://www.feministcampus.org/fmla/printable-materials/Women_Environment.pdf

DISENGAGING HOOKUP CULTURE...

No, this is not an exercise in celibacy, abstinence, or even monogamy. It is an exercise in rhetoric and the power of language. The problem with hookup culture is that no one knows what it is. What do you mean you hooked up?

Did you kiss? Make love? Fuck? Cum? Enjoy it?

These are the questions we rarely ask. But words, like questions matter. They matter because language literally defines and reflects on the space that we occupy. And the space that we occupy is hookup culture.

So what's the hang up?



What can you do to break the cycle? To enjoy an intentional sex positive existence, in healthy, hot and fabulous ways?

Erase "the hookup" from your vocabulary. Say what you mean.

When "hooking up" becomes... having oral sex, making out, spanking, role playing the kinky nurse or a school boy behind the desk, cuddling, taking a piss on your lovers toes in the shower, giggling, screaming, slipping your fingers inside, spooning through the night, a good rough romp in the woods, surrender, feeling the sweetest caresses, or undressing some saucy drag queen/king with your eyes from behind a Saturday evening cocktail.... **Then**, you create the space to explore or reject all of those possibilities— Not only within your immediate encounter, but within your expanding sexual repertoire and your sexual understanding of self.

An excerpt from "Just Another ADIZINE" by Adison

Do you have a question? Something you don't understand? Do you want to know about resources, or want more info about our publication?

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Ecofeminism:

Women and the Environment

