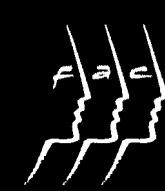


VANIER COLLEGE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

# NEWSLETTER

Special  
Issue



Pursuing Our Dreams

# International Women's Week: March 5 – 9, 2007

## Arlene Steiger

We celebrate International Women's Week at Vanier once again this year. Our theme *Pursuing Our Dreams* brings those who have fought for social justice and those who continue the struggle together. We also hope to inspire a new generation. The week includes many voices.

Native women are the first to speak on Monday, March 5 at 10:00 a.m. when we are pleased to welcome Cynthia Taylor and Kahente Horne-Miller to our campus. At 11:30 on Monday, Cecilia Diocson, executive director of the National Alliance of Philippine Women in Canada and Dolores Chew, of the South Asian Women's Community Centre explore immigrant women's experiences and challenges. There are many issues here but the problems faced by domestic workers will certainly be on the agenda.

The movement for women's rights has included work toward ensuring that women control their own bodies and express their sexuality as they see fit. The commercialization of women's bodies has given rise to new issues that demand our attention. Dr. Franziska Baltzer from the Adolescent Medicine and Gynecology Program at the Montreal Children's Hospital explores these in her presentation on *The Hypersexualization of Girls* on Tuesday, March 6 at 8:30 a.m.

The *Raging Grannies* return to Vanier on Tuesday at 11:30. They bring a new show but their old commitment to inspiring thought and action on social issues to Vanier. In our society, each member of the troupe is politely classified as a "senior citizen". The *Raging Grannies* challenge our notions of what "senior citizens" can do.

Many speakers during the week will challenge stereotypes and received notions. We invite you to Sevak Manjikian's talk on *Divorce in the Islamic World* on Wednesday March 7 at 8:30 and the panel on *Sexual Diversity* on Wednesday at 1:30. On Thursday March 8, Gordon Aronoff engages the question *Feminism: What's in it for Men?*

Our week concludes on Friday March 9. Erin MacLeod starts off the day at 8:30 with a presentation based on her experiences in Ethiopia with a particular focus on women's organizing around health issues. At 11:30, Shirley Sarna from the Quebec Human Rights Commission leads an interactive presentation on *Women's Rights as Human Rights*.

International Women's Week is a time for reflection but it is also a time for celebration. We celebrate this year with dance. Solid State is a women hip-hop group that has entered the male dominated world of hip-hop dance on their own terms and gained recognition. We are pleased to bring them to Vanier during UB on March 7 when they will perform their latest work *Take It Back*. The Solid State dancers will talk about their experiences and answer questions at the end of the performance.

As you can see from our schedule, there is also a film festival. Award winning feature films and documentaries fill every remaining hour of the week to broaden and deepen our reflections and take us around the world. Descriptions of these films are available in our college wide publicity and on our website ([www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/women/](http://www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/women/)).

So – there are many ways to participate in International Women's Week. We hope you will take advantage of as many as possible. I look forward to seeing you there.

Arlene Steiger has taught Humanities for many years at Vanier and currently coordinates Women's Studies.

Women's week/day is all about challenging assumptions about differences in biology that are supposed to explain social inequality: it should be respected every day."

- Joël Casséus

"I WISH WE DID NOT NEED AN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY."

- Kim Matthews

"Cultivating a habit of the heart and mind. A commitment to listening to each other's voices - never assuming, always seeking. Upon fulfillment of the latter: the creative and untiring pursuit of justice."

- Maureen Jones

"It is the greatness of our sex that some men feel they must repress."

- Susan Mueller

"International Women's Day offers me an opportunity to pause and to remember that I belong. It's a day of empowerment, a reminder to all of us that we are bigger than discouragement, than despair and definitely, than oppression."

- Sophie Jacmin

"For me, International Women's Day means women fighting for a real equality and a better world. It means visible minority women, white women, working class women, middle class women, poor women, women in Canada, women in Afghanistan, and all over the world joining together to celebrate past struggles that have made our lives better. And of course it means continuing our efforts win over other women and men to join us in the struggle."

- Janice Paquette

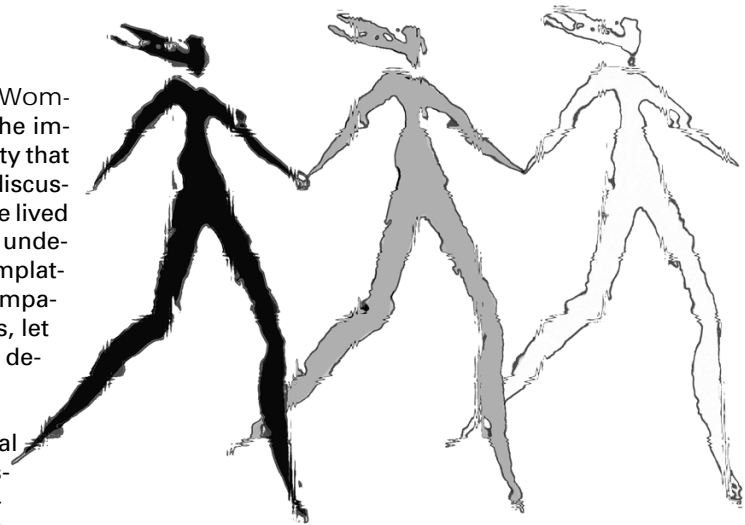
# A Reflection on Marginalities

Tricia Bell

The impressive array of upcoming International Women's Week events at Vanier College reminds us of the importance of reflecting on the consequences of a society that drives to marginalize. It strikes me as odd that such discussions either evoke controversy or indifference when the lived realities of marginalized people are so compellingly undeniable, whether one looks locally or globally. Contemplating the scale of marginalization globally and the accompanying human rights nightmares in multiple countries, let alone our own predicaments in Canada, is enough to debilitate most.

Yet, not only do most struggle against their individual marginalization, they go far beyond by shirking aspects of their position of privilege to stand in solidarity with those whom don't hold such favour. At the heart of these struggles includes the attempt to transform dominant societal values of subjugation, exploitation and destruction, which have contaminated our existence to such a degree that wholesale systemic change seems the only feasible 'out' from the madness of our epoch.

Our values are cleverly cloaked in rhetoric designed to deceive and distract us from their impact on the majority of people, including ourselves. Too often the results involve convenient scapegoats and divisiveness to such a degree that individual & popular power becomes usurped or co-opted. Alienation from all that gives and sustains our life is an obvious by-product of the abhorrent values that drive to marginalize. Worse it seems alienation fuels a myopic view that can prevent recognition of the ubiquity of self-destructiveness built into the fabric of our existence. The battle waged seems a delicate balance between internal and external forces as we struggle to connect or re-connect with all life around us. We seem uprooted from all that truly counts. It is obvious that people will struggle against oppressive conditions that govern their lives. Although it is somewhat bewildering how values that neither represent



the will of the majority nor benefit collective interests so insidiously permeate the ruling order. Beyond the nefarious brokering among elites and the endless rewards for rapaciousness at any cost, I wonder if the most successful coup of our time has been the conquest of the individual will & spirit of the most privileged to produce a milieu where we couldn't meet a foe greater than ourselves.

Although the drive to marginalize has plagued the social landscape for at least 2000 years, with the destructive drive taking on greater virulence in the past 500 years, mythologizing conquest as innate to humanity is a substantial distortion of classical records about human civilizations. Even more, such a mythology is a formidable psychological weapon. Proclaiming subjugation of the alien as somehow natural to the human condition sets a ripe breeding ground for pessimism and passivity. However, the various invitees participating in International Women's Week events are a testament to the impressive nature of human resiliency and persistence at large, where ordinary people often attain extraordinary results in their dedication to re-shaping our society to reflect the will for justice, connection & harmony.

## A Woman of Action: Ursula Franklin

Ursula Franklin is a celebrated physicist, peace activist, feminist, Quaker, human rights activist, Holocaust survivor and author who taught for many years at the University of Toronto. She has inspired generations of people with her critiques of militarism, patriarchy and violence of all kinds and her vision of a better future. In 2006, *Between The Lines* published *The Ursula Franklin Reader: Pacifism as a Map* with an introduction by Michelle Swenarchuk to introduce new generations of Canadians to her writings. The book was recently launched in Montreal at the McGill Bookstore with the Montreal Raging Grannies paying tribute to Franklin. You can find ordering information on the *Between The Lines* website.

*The Ursula Franklin Reader: Pacifism as a Map*. *Between the Lines*, 2006.



Ursula Franklin accepting the 2001 Pearson Peace Prize

# One Student's View: Fight back

Amanda Di Rienzo

*(Excerpt's from a student's journal)*

Juliet Mitchell in *Women's Estate* suggests that in patriarchy women are oppressed in four different areas: with childcare roles, with reproductive roles, with their roles in sexuality, and with inequalities in the workforce. Reproduction and production are, in my opinion, the two strongest pillars supporting our patriarchal society. Women's progress in both these areas is without a doubt huge, but I think it is so sad that it took so long for women to get to where they are today and still not be equal to men.

And my concern is that women are stuck in a stage where they accept the rights granted to them in the past, and where they do not challenge the inequalities that are still in existence. For instance, women make less money than men because they get the under-valued jobs, so all women should be fighting extremely hard to get equality. Contrary to this, I feel as though most women just accept things as they are because they think that the actions they take in their daily lives will not make a difference on a larger scale. This common behavior can be seen in our classrooms where we discuss and write about the inequalities women face today, saying that we should step up and make a difference. We complain that men get the jobs and the glory, but we sit back and let it happen without fighting back. And, for the most part, most of us will never fight back. Well, how is anything supposed to happen if we do not make it happen?

If we look back in time, many women fought for the rights we have today. A story about a group of women who applied to the Transit Company made me wonder. The rejection that faced those women did not stop them from fighting for a job. Their fight not only led them to win the right to work in the male-dominated field, but it also helped to win an affirmative action programme in the transit system. These are the programmes where women are chosen over men if they have the same qualifications for a job in areas where there were few or no women because of past discrimination. If we look at today's society, how many women get rejected from jobs or get treated unfairly while working every single day? How many of these women actually do something about it? When the Transit applications got rejected, the women fought back and they won something that helped the generations to come. Nowadays, if a woman does not get the job, even if she knows it is due to her gender, she will probably just go look somewhere else instead of taking the time to fight back.

Thus, I think that looking at the big picture we see that women have come a long way, but if we look at the details of our daily lives, the battle is not even half-won. Many teenage girls today let guys treat them badly, allowing guys to call them names and use them. Sadly, they put school second to guys. Everything they do revolves around guys. As a result, it is from this age that guys are glorified. In my eyes, I think the future is a scary place for this new generation of women. It is so important to educate these young women (and men) so that things in the world can keep getting bet-

ter instead of going backwards. I think that education is the only prescription to the problem. We should be starting at the seed, talking to teens about inequalities so that the future can be a better place.

## History of International Women's Day

*(from the Sask. Status of Women website)*

International Women's Day is a time for women around the world to commemorate their struggles and celebrate their achievements. The United Nations formally proclaimed March 8 International Women's Day in 1975.

The History of International Women's Day

The roots of International Women's Day can be traced back to the struggles of women workers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries:

- In 1857, thousands of women working in the New York garment industry took to the streets to protest unfair wages, a 12-hour work day, and sexual harassment in the workplace.
- Conditions for working women did not improve. Female garment workers held another massive demonstration in New York in 1908. They renewed the call for fair treatment at work and demanded an end to child labour.
- On March 8, 1908, women gathered in New York City to rally around the issue of women's suffrage.
- In 1910, 100 women representing 17 countries voted to establish an International Women's Day. This took place at an International Conference of Socialist Women in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- On March 25, 1911, a fire in a sweatshop owned by the Triangle Shirtwaist Company in New York killed 145 female garment workers. Unsafe conditions contributed to the high death toll. Many of the fire escapes were locked to prevent women from slipping out, even for a moment's break.
- Eighty thousand workers marched through the streets to attend the mass funeral for the victims.
- A year later, 14,000 textile workers went out on strike. With a rallying cry of "Better to starve fighting than starve working," the women stayed out for nearly three months.

Their courage inspired the song "*Bread and Roses*" which has become associated with International Women's Day. Bread symbolizes economic justice and roses represent quality of life. March 8 marks women's efforts over the years to attain justice and equality for themselves and their children.

"Never forgetting our predecessors' struggles for all the privileges and options we now enjoy, nor taking our hard-earned rights for granted. Equality also means respecting and embracing differences while promoting unity between men and women."

- Isabelle Der Aprahamian

# Public Declaration and Call for Solidarity

*Barbara Legault and À Babord! magazine are being sued for libel by Andy Srougi, coordinator of Fathers4Justice – Québec*

Montréal, January 28, 2007 – Activist Barbara Legault and *À bâbord !* magazine are being sued for libel by Andy Srougi, a member of the group Fathers4Justice. “Mr. Srougi attracted public attention last year when he climbed the Jacques-Cartier bridge.” (*La Presse*, December 7, 2006). Mr. Srougi is accusing Barbara Legault of having “uttered hateful comments” about him in her article “Des hommes contre le féminisme” (men against feminism), published in the October/November 2006 issue of *À bâbord !* magazine (see the attached article).

In his motion, Mr. Srougi claims that Ms. Legault wrote “libellous, false and hateful comments [...] that damaged [his] reputation and caused him emotional distress that has led to painful physical consequences, prevented him from sleeping, and caused headaches and enormous stress.” The libel suit can be consulted in French on the Internet site [www.papataime.com](http://www.papataime.com), coordinated by Mr. Srougi.

Mr. Srougi, who calls himself a “men’s rights activist,” is demanding \$20,000 for mental suffering as a result of libel and \$4,000 in exemplary damages. In fact, in the article in question, Ms. Legault pointed out that masculinists are increasingly turning to the courts to challenge feminist organizations and activists.

This is not the first time Mr. Srougi has used the courts against feminists and their allies, as well as against various government agencies and politicians. *La Presse* reported on November 9, 2006 that “exasperated by Fathers4Justice’s ‘abusive’ tactics, the Barreau du Québec went to Superior Court to have the organization and its main spokesperson, Andy Srougi, declared vexatious litigants. The *Webster’s Dictionary* defines vexatious in a legal context as “legal actions instituted without sufficient grounds and serving only to cause annoyance to the defendant.” Mr. Srougi recently told *La Presse*, “The board of directors of F4J has decided to launch lawsuits against any organization or individual who attempts to libel F4J. We now have a paid lawyer on board. Other persons cited in *À bâbord !* are going to sue the publication. Expect many, many more lawsuits in 2007, especially against radical feminist groups.” (André Noël, *La Presse*, December 7, 2006).

Legal Defence: A Call for Solidarity  
Barbara Legault and all those working for *À bâbord !*, an independent, bimonthly magazine that receives no subsidies and is produced entirely by volunteers, are calling for solidarity from groups and individuals concerned about this lawsuit.

We believe that Andy Srougi’s actions go far beyond the scope of the present lawsuit, since he has also filed complaints against other feminist and pro-feminist groups and individuals with the Canadian Human Rights Commission, among others. We do not believe that *À bâbord !* and its writer are the true targets of the libel allegations; the real target is the feminist analyses contained in the article, ideas

that are supported and promoted by the women’s movement and its allies in Québec.

This legal action is, above all, political, because the lawsuit targets freedom of expression and freedom of the press. Masculinism is the focus of a lot of attention, debate and serious concern within the women’s movement. The publication of the article “Des hommes contre le féminisme” is simply one contribution to an ongoing debate. If Mr. Srougi is successful in his lawsuit against Barbara Legault and *À bâbord !*, there could be serious repercussions for the capacity of feminists and independent publications to publish analyses and opinion and to contribute to a legitimate and crucial public debate on masculinism. Moreover, a victory by Mr. Srougi would seriously threaten the very existence of *À bâbord !* magazine.

## Creation of a Legal Defence Fund

We are calling on your solidarity to create a legal defence fund that will enable us to defend ourselves against Andy Srougi’s legal offensive. Lawyers Pierre-Louis FortinLegrès and François Cyr of the firm Ouellet, Nadon & associés, will try to keep the fees and costs associated with the defence as low as possible, however a minimum of \$4,000 will be incurred by the suit.

All contributions are welcome, from small donations to more substantial sums from union and community organizations. Please make your cheques payable to “A Babord!”, indicate “legal defence” on your donation and send it to: *À bâbord !*

To the attention of: Claude Rioux / Legal Defence  
P.O. Box 67, Station C  
Montréal, Québec H2L 4S7

*If Andy Srougi loses this case and is required to pay the legal fees, any donations received will be returned to the groups and individuals concerned. We also appreciate any other form of support and solidarity—do not hesitate to write to us. The first court hearing of the legal proceedings will take place on February 15, 2007 in Montreal. We will keep you informed of any developments in this case. We are grateful for your contributions and support.*

In solidarity and in struggle,  
BARBARA LEGAULT AND THE À BÂBORD COLLECTIVE!

Information: Claude Rioux, [crioux@ababord.org](mailto:crioux@ababord.org) / 514-523-6928  
Barbara Legault, [barbaralegault@yahoo.ca](mailto:barbaralegault@yahoo.ca) / 250-381-5994

“International Women’s Day is an opportunity for people to renew their commitment to women’s struggle for social, economic and political equality.”

- Brian Aboud

“Cultivating a habit of the heart and mind. A commitment to listening to each other’s voices - never assuming, always seeking. Upon fulfillment of the latter: the creative and untiring pursuit of justice.”

- Maureen Jones

# JOURNÉE INTERNATIONALE DE LA FEMME 2007 : REMETTONS L'ÉGALITÉ SUR LES RAILS

À l'occasion de la Journée internationale de la femme (JIF) 2007, la Coalition spéciale pour l'égalité des femmes et les droits de la personne vous invite à vous joindre aux femmes du Québec et de partout au Canada pour protester contre les politiques anti-égalitaires du gouvernement fédéral conservateur. Voici pourquoi! Durant les derniers mois, les femmes ont défendu leur droit à l'égalité. Partout au pays, de Yellowknife à Corner Brook, de Vancouver à Moncton, d'Halifax à Québec, elles ont organisé des ralliements, rédigé des lettres, expédié des cartes postales et participé à des réunions et à des manifestations. Elles ont même brûlé leur soutien-gorge et organisé de fausses funérailles pour revendiquer l'égalité. Les femmes ont écrit aux journaux et participé à des émissions-débats; elles ont téléphoné et écrit à leurs députés fédéraux et provinciaux; elles ont exercé des pressions et mis sur pied des sites Web et des tribunes téléphoniques pour faire passer leur message.

À l'échelle canadienne, la Coalition spéciale pour l'égalité des femmes et les droits de la personne a travaillé sans relâche pour faire connaître aux ministres et aux partis de l'opposition fédéraux leurs préoccupations concernant l'égalité des femmes. La Coalition a organisé un ralliement sur la colline du Parlement, le 10 décembre, et collaboré avec des médias nationaux et des groupes locaux partout au pays.

Pourquoi les femmes se démènent-elles ainsi? Parce qu'elles réagissent à une série de mauvaises décisions du gouvernement Harper. Si elles sont maintenues, ces décisions feront reculer de vingt ans l'égalité des femmes. D'abord, le gouvernement Harper a annulé les ententes fédérales-provinciales sur la garde d'enfants, à un moment où 70 % des femmes ayant des enfants âgés de moins de cinq ans sont sur le marché du travail. Puis, le gouvernement a supprimé le financement du Programme de contestation judiciaire, qui était la principale source d'appui aux personnes devant défendre leur droit à l'égalité en vertu de la Charte. Enfin, le gouvernement a annoncé son intention de ne pas donner suite à la recommandation du Groupe de travail sur l'équité salariale concernant l'adoption d'une loi proactive en matière d'équité salariale. Le gouvernement a choisi de simplement renseigner les gens au sujet de l'équité salariale et a chargé des inspecteurs du travail de faire des enquêtes dans les milieux de travail pour s'assurer que les pratiques en matière d'équité salariale sont respectées. Cette mesure avait déjà été mise à l'épreuve il y a trente ans, et elle avait échoué.

Le gouvernement a réduit le financement de Condition féminine Canada, le ministère fédéral responsable de l'avancement de l'égalité des femmes. Les compressions de 5 millions de dollars représentent 40 % du budget de CFC. Douze des 16 bureaux régionaux de Condition féminine ont été fermés, et 61 des 131 emplois ont été supprimés. Le gouvernement a aussi aboli le Fonds de recherches stratégiques indépendantes de Condition féminine. Pendant des années, ce Fonds s'est avéré une ressource utile au gouvernement et aux groupes de femmes. La promotion de l'égalité a été retirée du mandat de Condition féminine Canada. Le gouvernement a également changé les règles, et les groupes de femmes qui effectuent de la recherche ou militent pour l'égalité des femmes ne pourront plus obtenir un appui financier du gouvernement fédéral.

Il ne faut pas se demander pourquoi les femmes sont en colère. On commence à les comprendre. De récents sondages indiquent que les conservateurs fédéraux perdent rapidement l'appui de l'électorat féminin. Les partis de l'opposition fédéraux ont tous déclaré qu'ils appuyaient l'égalité des femmes et s'opposaient à toutes les mesures anti-égalitaires mises en place par le gouvernement Harper. En fait, ils se sont ralliés pour appuyer un projet de loi progressiste, reconnaissant la prestation de services de garde comme étant une préoccupation nationale. Le Comité permanent de la condition féminine a organisé des réunions pour examiner les répercussions des compressions et des nouvelles politiques de financement sur les groupes de femmes. Son rapport devrait être rendu public au printemps prochain. En outre, les ministres provinciaux et territoriaux responsables de la condition féminine se réunissent en l'absence de la ministre fédérale, parce qu'ils s'inquiètent vivement des répercussions de ces changements sur l'égalité des femmes dans leur région.

Nous devons poursuivre sur notre lancée. À l'occasion de la Journée internationale de la femme, remettons l'égalité sur les rails. Partout au pays, les femmes organisent des activités pour souligner le 8 mars, célébrer leurs victoires passées, refaire le plein d'énergie et exiger des changements.

Dans le cadre de vos activités, la Coalition spéciale pour l'égalité des femmes et les droits de la personne vous demande d'ajouter vos voix à celles de milliers de femmes qui mettent tout en œuvre pour que le gouvernement fédéral conservateur revienne sur ses mauvaises décisions.

Nous avons préparé une courte brochure à l'intention de la population sur les sujets précités. Nous avons également produit des autocollants " Remettons l'égalité sur les rails ". Veuillez commander ce matériel en nombre suffisant pour distribution dans vos collectivités. (Pour passer une commande, communiquez avec le Congrès du travail du Canada à [nadani@clc-ctc.ca](mailto:nadani@clc-ctc.ca).) Ensemble, nous pouvons faire en sorte que les femmes soient entendues. Remettons l'égalité sur les rails! Les membres de la Coalition spéciale pour l'égalité des femmes et les droits de la personne

*"Women's Day... it is a day to reflect on my personal trajectory as a woman, where I have been, where I am, where I hope my daughters will be, a day to celebrate all the wonderful women who, each in her own way, enriched my 'being in the world' and helped me contemplate new vistas and new opportunities: my grandmother, a feminist "avant la lettre", my mother, a model and a tough act to follow, my many mentors who set out to unshackle the lives and minds of women, of humans, the teacher in my freshmen year who lent me her copy of *The Second Sex*, Simone de Beauvoir whose words were a revolution, the scores of feminists to whom I owe an understanding of how necessary movements are, not just to women, but to all groups that have been wronged and rendered voiceless."*

- Salwa Ghaly

# Women's Week Film Festival

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## Lisa Jorgensen

Among the many panels, experts, displays, dancers, and raging grannies that will be available to you and your classes for International Women's Week, are a selection of films that have women and gender issues at their center.

There are sadly still too few movies being produced today that highlight complex and strong female characters whose main purpose isn't to either find a man, support male main characters, or be a visual treat for a male viewer. The films on offer this week are some of the exceptions to this Hollywood rule.

A great film, whether a feature or a documentary, can leave you changed. Film has the power to draw you into a world and make you care about people and places in a way that textbooks and articles aren't always able to do. The students'

reaction to the films in last year's festival certainly demonstrated the impact that film can have on the audience. They were moved, saddened, enlightened, and even inspired.

This year's selection of feature films is international in scope and features characters as wide-ranging as intrepid Aboriginal girls from Australia, a British monarch, a family of Chinese-American women, and widows in an ashram in India.

The documentaries are also broad in scope. We have films that address problems like sex slavery and anorexia, a film that looks at women in mosques in Canada, a film about "the pill", and films that challenge the way that we think about women and men. I hope that you and your students enjoy this year's festival.

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## Monday March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 • Auditorium A103

"Water" directed by Deepa Mehta • 2:00-4:00pm

The film examines the plight of a group of widows forced into poverty at a temple in the holy city of Varanasi. It focuses on a relationship between one of the widows, who wants to escape the social restrictions imposed on widows, and a man who is from a lower caste and a follower of Mahatma Gandhi.

"Joy Luck Club" directed by Wayne Wang • 4:00-6:00pm

The film presents the stories of four Chinese-immigrant women and their American-born daughters. Each mother shares their experiences in China, while the daughters try to understand and appreciate their mothers' past, adapt to the American way of life, and win their mothers' acceptance.

## Tuesday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 • Auditorium A103

"Elizabeth" directed by Shekhar Kapur • 1:00-3:05pm

Elizabeth I was declared illegitimate at age 3, tried for treason at age 21, and crowned Queen at age 25. Cate Blanchett portrays the early years of the reign of Elizabeth I of England and her difficult task of learning what is necessary to be a monarch.

"The Pill" directed by Elise Swerhone and Erna Buffie • 3:30-4:30pm

This NFB documentary offers a look at the hidden history of the oral contraceptive that changed the world and features interviews with Gloria Steinem and author Barbara Seaman, who wrote "The Doctor's Case Against the Pill" in 1969.

## Wednesday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 • Auditorium A103

"Sex Slaves" directed by Ric Esther Bienstock • 3:30-5:00pm

This documentary captures the human story of sex work. From the villages of Moldova and Ukraine, to underground brothels and discotheques, we witness first-hand the brutal world of trafficking of women and modern sex slavery.

## Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 • Auditorium A103

"Rabbit Proof Fence" directed by Phillip Noyce • 12:00-2:00pm

If you were kidnapped by the government, would you walk 1500 miles to get back home? In 1931, three aboriginal girls escaped after being plucked from their homes to be trained as domestic workers and set off on a trek across the Outback in Australia to return home.

"Thin" directed by Chana Gazit • 2:00-4:00pm

In this film we get a view inside a Florida treatment center and the lives of four women who are literally dying to be thin. *Thin*, an HBO documentary, explores the issues underlying eating disorders.

"Tough Guise" directed by Sut Jhally • 4:00-5:00pm

*Tough Guise* examines the relationship between pop-culture images, the social construction of masculine traits as violent, aggressive and unemotional, and the impact on the lived realities of young men.

## Friday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 • Auditorium A103

"100% Woman" directed by Karen Duthie • 10:00-11:15am

This film is an adrenaline-fueled ride along Michelle Dumaresq's, the first trans-gendered athlete on Canada's mountain biker team, controversial foray into international women's competition.

"Me & the Mosque" directed by Zarqa Nawaz • 1:00-2:15pm

Journalist and filmmaker Zarqa Nawaz visits mosques throughout Canada and talks to scholars, colleagues, friends and neighbours about equal access for women

***Vanier College Celebrates***



***International Women's Week***  
***March 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007***

This week is brought to you by  
the Women's Studies Program  
with the support of Vanier  
College and the VCTA.



**CÉGEP  
VANIER COLLEGE**

821 Ste-Croix Avenue  
Saint-Laurent, Québec  
Métro: du Collège or Côte-Vertu  
For further information, please call  
(514) 744-7500, ext.7053/7054

### ***DISPLAYS***

*Carrefour - "Pursuing Our Dreams"*

*Carrefour (Tuesday 12:30-2:30pm) - "Health and Counselling Resource  
Centres Display"*

*Library Display Case - "Inspiring Women in Music"*

*Throughout the College - Display by Sociology of Health Students*



## MONDAY, MARCH 5

10:00-11:15am

*"Native Women's Voices: A Speaker's Panel"*

Panelists: Cynthia Taylor, TV Producer and Director & Kahente Horne-Miller, Researcher, Writer and PhD Candidate  
Auditorium A103

11:30am-12:45pm

*"Dreams and Challenges: Immigrant Women's Experiences"*

Panelists: Dolores Chew, South Asian Women's Community Centre & Cecilia Diocson, Executive Director, National Alliance of Philippine Women in Canada

2:00-4:00pm

Film Festival

*"Water" directed by Deepa Mehta*  
Auditorium A103

4:00-6:00pm

Film Festival

*"Joy Luck Club" directed by Wayne Wang*  
Auditorium A103

## TUESDAY, MARCH 6



8:30-9:45am

*"Hyper-sexualization of Girls"* Dr. Franziska Baltzer, Pediatric Consultant, Montreal Children's Hospital

Auditorium A103

10:00-11:15am

*"Exploring Dance Through Film"*

Laura Taler, Filmmaker  
Room G202 (Dance Studio)

11:30am-12:45pm

*"Raging Grannies Rage Against Injustice"*

Amphitheatre (B223)

NOTE FOR THIS EVENT ONLY: if teachers want to bring their classes to the Raging Grannies they must confirm with Arlene Steiger (steigera@vaniercollege.qc.ca)

12:30-2:30pm

*Health and Counselling Resource Centres*

Carrefour

1:00-3:05pm

Film Festival

*"Elizabeth" directed by Shekhar Kapur*

Auditorium A103

3:30-4:30pm

Film Festival

*"The Pill" directed by Lauren Greenfield*  
Auditorium A103

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

8:30-9:45am

*"Divorce in the Islamic World: Then and Now"*

Sevak Manjikian, Humanities and Religious Studies Teacher  
N229

12:00-1:15pm (UB)

Solid State Hip Hop Dancers Perform:  
*"Take it Back"*

Auditorium A103

1:30-3:00pm

*"Women & Sexual Diversity Panel"*  
Auditorium A103

3:30-5:00pm

Film Festival

*"Sex Slaves" directed by Ric Esther Bienstock*

Auditorium A103

## THURSDAY, MARCH 8

8:00-9:30am

*Women's Champagne Breakfast*  
B323

10:00-11:15am

*"Feminism: what's in it for men?"*  
Gordon Aronoff, Sociology and Religious Studies Teacher  
Auditorium A103

12:00-2:00pm

Film Festival

*"Rabbit Proof Fence" directed by Phillip Noyce*  
Auditorium A103

2:00-4:00pm

Film Festival

*"Thin" directed by Chana Gazit*  
Auditorium A103

4:00-5:00pm

Film Festival

*"Tough Guise" directed by Sut Jhally*  
Auditorium A103

## FRIDAY, MARCH 9

8:30-9:45am

*"Organizing For Women's Health in Ethiopia"* Erin Macleod, English Teacher  
Auditorium A103

10:00-11:15am

Film Festival

*"100% Woman" directed by Karen Duthie*  
Auditorium A103

11:30am-12:45pm

*"Women's Rights are Human Rights"*  
Shirley Sarna, Quebec Human Rights Commissioner  
Auditorium A103

1:00-2:15pm

Film Festival

*"Me and the Mosque" directed by Zarqa Nawaz*  
Auditorium A103