"Honor Killings" Prevented

(Continued from page 1)

one of the employees at an Arab hospital in East Jerusalem and as a result became pregnant. She had no immediate family, but two male cousins learned of it." The cousins didn't bother the attacker, said the doctor, but went after the girl.

"These are not city people," said Raymonda Tawil, a West Bank political activist and a lobbyist for Arab women's rights. "Such things are rare in the cities and getting less frequent in the villages, but they still occur," according to Tawil. "There, women have no rights, and virginity is all-important."

"At a village wedding party, the crowd will gather outside the door while the man takes his bride to bed for the first time. In two or three minutes he is back, waving a handkerchief covered with blood, and the crowds cheer. If the bride tries to delay it, if she claims she is sick or something, the women outside yell to the bridegroom, 'Beat her! Make her do it!' "

There are no Arab organizations in the West Bank to help the women, says Tawil, and women's groups usually deny the problem exists.

"We have no such problem," insists Simiha Khalil, director of the Society for the Rehabilitation of the Family, the largest Arab women's group in the West Bank. "Our girls have good character and they don't believe in sex before marriage."

Rihab Issawi, who works for Quakers in Jerusalem, says that in the 13 years Israel has controlled the West Bank many women have changed their values. Contraceptives are easy to get in Israel. But in small Moslem communities, rumors that a single woman is using birth-control devices could endanger her reputation and possibly her life.●

Woman Protests Forced Sterilization

Thirty-two years after the fact, Judith Doe is bringing suit against the Commonwealth of Virginia for an operation in a state mental hospital which sterilized her at age fourteen.

According to the class action suit filed in Federal Court by the Virginia State Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of Judith Doe and others, 7,000 people were sterilized without notification in Virginia between 1924 and 1972.

In the suit, the plaintiffs contend that the state program designed to eliminate social misfits through involuntary eugenic sterilization, violated her fundamental constitutional rights.

Judith, who was raped by her stepfather when she was twelve years old, gave birth to a son when she was thirteen and was sterilized without her knowledge at fourteen.

The records concerning her sterilization at the Lynchberg Hospital stated that Judith Doe was "not basically defective" but was "in emotional and intellectual loss" because of the birth of her baby. Her child was put up for adoption at birth.

Describing the circumstances of her operation, Judith recalled, "they said I would be operated on since they were talking about my 'appendix'; I figured it was to have my appendix removed.

"They told me I had to go through the operation or they wouldn't let me out," she added. "Later, the aunt and uncle I was living with told me I wouldn't have any more children."

Classifieds

Young Women! 16-21 interested in job training, GED, monthly allowance, housing. Must be low income. Free Job Corps training. Call WICS. 295-1163.

A Youth Forum entitled "Young Women and Non-Traditional Careers" will be presented by The Young Women's Journalism and Community Education Project on Wednesday, February 18 at 7:30 p.m. The forum will be held in the Seneca Falls Auditorium at the Center for Women's Studies and Services, 908 'E' Street, Downtown San Diego. Local High School women will be invited to discuss their choice of non-traditional work as a career alternative.

Drug Abuse By Women Increasing

(Continued from page 1)

Dan Knadle from another local drug project commented: "I am hearing from as many women as men, now. Women are exposed to their boyfriend's or husband's drug habits. They generally are under more social pressure than men."

It is disturbing to find more and more women becoming involved with drugs. Is it the "price" to be paid for equality, or is it the price for continuing inequality? Peter Miller of Our House seems to agree with the first speculation: "As women are changing roles and being treated equal to men, they take on the same pressures and stresses and they are turning to the same resources."

Two More Victims Found In Atlanta

The skeletons of two children were uncovered in Atlanta, Friday, January 9. The police investigating the disappearance and slaying of 16 black children said the skeletons were found in the southwest suburb of East Point.

The special task force investigating the case has found new information, but has refused to divulge any of their findings.

Since July, 1979, eleven black children have been slain, and five others are still missing. The ages of the children range from 7 to 15.

In an attempt to find the sixteenth victim, a teen-age boy who was reported missing the weekend prior to when the skeletons were found, police combed the Lakewood Fairgrounds area in southeast Atlanta.

More than 200 officers participated in the search, concentrating in wooded areas around the shopping center where Lubie Geter was dropped off Saturday, January 3, by his stepbrother.

A group of volunteers, led by City Councilman Arthur Lanford, head of the United Youth Adult Conference, combed the same general area Saturday, January 10. Lanford has conducted twelve other volunteer searches.

Local 218 of the Textile Processor's Union participated in a search through approximately 700 vacant apartments in housing projects, checking out the areas where the children had disappeared.

Young Women: The High School Women's Page
is looking for you!
CALL CHRIS OR LISA AT 233-8984
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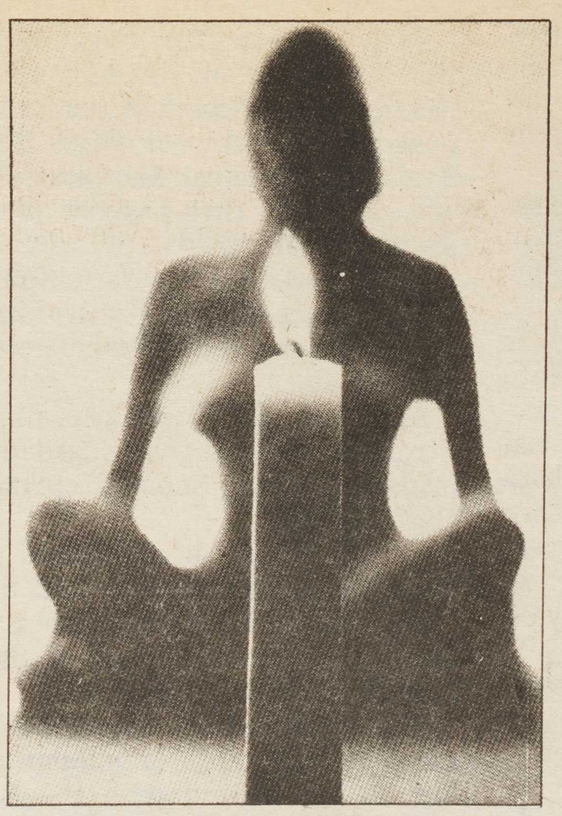

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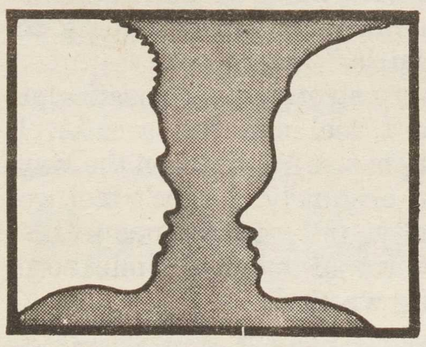

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A Youth Forum: Young Women & Nontraditional Careers

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Debbie Trieglaff — Mission Bay High
Gidget Welsh — Wright Bros. High

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