

WID *Information*

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Volume 12, Number 3
April 1992

RESEARCH NOTES

The well-being of women and the well-being of children are often integrally tied together. When women are malnourished or receive no prenatal care, infant mortality rates increase; when women are poor, child poverty rates are high; when women must work outside the home and have no available child care, the development of children suffers; when women are illiterate, it is more difficult for their children to learn to read. The comparisons are many. In general, children's physical, mental, and emotional well-being is a reflection of women's well-being. Two references that provide comprehensive and timely statistics along with policy recommendations regarding the well-being of children are UNICEF's annual report entitled The State of the World's Children and the Children's Defense Fund's annual report entitled The State of America's Children. Although the dimensions of the problems facing children worldwide versus children in the United States differ, many issues are similar; for example, poverty, infant mortality, preventable disease, and inadequacy of social safety nets and government allocations of resources to support children. In both of these reports the overlap of issues is striking. Following is a summary of each:

The State of the World's Children, 1992. Every year UNICEF publishes an updated report on conditions affecting children worldwide. The 1992 report (100 pages) presents an agenda for a new world order. The authors state, "This report is issued at a time when the world order which has dominated the political and economic life of the 20th century is visibly dying." This volume, then, is offered, "as a contribution to the debate on the new world order which is struggling to be born." It is divided into two sections. Part I presents ten

specific propositions which UNICEF argues need immediate attention as a new world order emerges. They propose that the promise of the World Summit for Children should be met, including that the essential needs of all children should be given a high priority in the allocation of resources. Issues to address of most importance include malnutrition, preventable disease, and widespread illiteracy. In addressing these issues, the report states that it is the responsibility of governments to guarantee basic investments in people. The report also suggests economic reform which allows people to earn a decent living, global demilitarization, and eliminating Africa's world debt. Propositions nine and ten focus on the elimination of discrimination because of gender and the importance of the responsible planning of births. All of the propositions are enhanced through graphs and one-page panels of proposition issues as they relate to a specific country, program, or policy (e.g. Mexico and how the goals of the World Summit for Children are being met, the U.S. and child poverty rates, the possibility of using the global immunization system to control hepatitis B). Part II of this report present nine tables of economic and social statistics on the nations of the world with particular reference to children's well-being.

This report, which contains a wealth of current information, is available from UNICEF, 3 U.N. Plaza, New York, NY 10017 (USA) for \$7.50 which includes postage. At the University of Illinois, C-U, this report is available at ERIC (Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education), 805 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, and at the Home Economics Library, 314 Bevier Hall.

The State of America's Children, 1991. The Children's Defense Fund is the preeminent child advocacy group in the United States. Its focus is on programs and policies that affect large numbers of children. Its goal is to educate the citizens of the United States about "the needs of children and encourage preventive investment in children before they get sick, drop out of school, suffer family breakdown, or get into trouble." Every year it publishes a report on the conditions or state of America's children. In the 1991 annual report (170 pages), chapter topics include family income and employment, child care, health, education, youth development, housing and the homeless, and vulnerable children and families. The latter includes the millions of children in America who are physically, sexually, or emotionally abused or neglected; children born drug-exposed; children with emotional problems; runaways; children who get into trouble with the law; and homicide victims.

Each chapter begins with an overview of the problem, current trends including statistics, recommendations, and brief examples of policies on programs that are working. Regarding health, for example, the overall problem is that the United States does not guarantee basic health care for all children. The report states that in key health indicators -- percentage of babies born at low birthweight, pregnant women's use of prenatal care, and the proportion of infants and preschool children immunized against preventable disease -- the United States has "slipped dangerously backward" (p. 55). Goals for the year 2000 include a reduction in the infant mortality rate to no more than seven deaths per 1,000 live births; a reduction in low birthweight (less than 5.5 pounds) babies to no more than 5 percent of all births; an increase to 90 percent for all pregnant women to receive prenatal care within the first three months of pregnancy; an increase to 90 percent of two-year-olds and 95 percent of school-age children who have completed the basic series of immunizations for measles, mumps, rubella,

polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and meningitis; and having no more than one per 1,000 women giving birth to infants infected with HIV. Recommendations for achieving these goals are presented for the federal government, state governments, and the private sector.

Woven through all of the chapters in this report is a long-term goal for this decade to eliminate child poverty. To this end they write, "We must convince a critical mass of citizens and leaders that the growth of child poverty, drug abuse, violence, and family and neighborhood disintegration pose as much of a threat to American prosperity, security, competitiveness, and moral leadership in the new decade as any other enemy outside or inside our borders" (pp. 8-9).

This resource is available from: Children's Defense Fund, 122 "C" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 (USA) for \$12.95/copy. Be sure and ask when the 1992 report will be ready. On the University of Illinois campus at C-U, this report is available at ERIC Clearinghouse, 805 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana.

Brenda Krause Eheart

ANNUAL STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The Office of Women in International Development announces its Tenth Annual Student Paper Competition, with an award of \$150 for the winning paper. The competition is open to both graduate and undergraduate students, and papers from all disciplines are welcome. Papers should focus on gender issues in the context of international development and should be typewritten, double-spaced, and prepared in a journal format acceptable to the student's major discipline. Submission deadline is Monday, May 18, 1992. For additional information, contact Consolata Kabonesa, 244-1722 or the WID Office, 333-1994.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Rockefeller Foundation's Re-entry Grants for African Scholars Pursuing Education Research. This grants program is designed to assist in the professional re-establishment of talented African Scholars who are returning from doctoral studies abroad and have a research interest in issues related to the revitalization and development of education in sub-Saharan Africa. All proposed projects must include an explicit and substantial focus on female school participation as part of the set of educational issues to be examined. Applicants may submit research proposals prior to or within one year of returning to their Africa-based institutions. Grants are made to the scholar, but the

proposal must be endorsed by the African institution where the applicant will be a full-time staff member. There are no deadlines for submission of proposals. Contact: Scholars on Education Re-Entry Program, the Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, USA or Scholars on Education Re-Entry Program, The Rockefeller Foundation, P.O. Box 47543, Nairobi, Kenya.

CONFERENCES AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Central European Conference: "Women, the Family, and Social Change", May 16-22, 1993, Warsaw, Poland and May 23-29, 1993, Prague, Czechoslovakia will offer an exchange of ideas on issues affecting women and the family. Leaders and scholars from Central Europe, facing a time of complex transition and profound social transformation, will address their experience and concerns, and Western presenters will share insights gained from similarly shared or applicable experience and from relevant research. The Conference will promote the identification of new alternatives and potential paths for cooperative solution of issues raised. Abstracts must be in English, double-spaced and typewritten, no more than 300 words, addressing one of the topic areas of employment, the family, health, social change or the political process. Send 3 copies. Include a separate short biographical note which includes current occupation/interest, business and home phone numbers, and FAX. Abstract Deadline: May 31, 1992. For additional information, contact Global Interactions, Attn: Joyce Story, Ph.D., P.O. Box 23244, Phoenix, AZ 85063. Tele: (602) 272-3438, FAX: (602) 272-2260.

TRAVEL AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

El Colegio De Mexico announces its Third Summer Course for foreign scholars interested in focusing on Women in Mexico: "La Mujer En Mexico--Tercer curso de verano para extranjerias, June 22-July 31, 1992. It will cover such topics as history, literature, rural development and the peasant communities, urban crisis, work and social mobilizations, the Mexico-US border, public policy on education, population and health, feminine identity, and contemporary feminist theory from a latin american perspective. For more information, contact: Elena Urrutia, coordinadora del PIEM, or Mercedes Barquet, coordinadora del 3er Curso de Verano para Extranjeras, El Colegio de Mexico, Camino al Ajusco 20, Pedregal de Santa Teresa, 01000 Mexico, D.F., Tel: 645-5955 exts. 292, 158, 363, FAX: 645-0464.

An Environmentally Friendly Safari to East Africa (Tanzania, Kenya) under the special direction of Dr. Wangari Maathai and The Green Belt Safaris, July 24 - August 12, 1992 is being sponsored by the Jane Addams Conference, a women's leadership program in international relations. For more information, call: Jane Addams Conference (312) 346-3111 or write to the conference center, 6 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1313, Chicago, IL 60602.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Africa Women in Development (AFWID), a new project jointly funded by the Agency for International Development's (A.I.D.) Africa Bureau (AFR) and the Office of Women in Development (WID) is intended to effect change in A.I.D. operations and procedures to systematically include the gender variable in projects and programs and to set in motion a process of change which would strengthen women's capacity to express their needs in development more broadly and effectively across all sectors. The Project is currently in the process of setting up a documentation center which will be available to all those inside and outside of the Agency seeking an array of information on gender issues. It is an all-out attempt to mainstream gender in A.I.D.'s Field Mission activities. The Project supports one Washington-based Resident Advisor and three Regional Advisors who provide technical expertise in gender and development, as well as other technical support, to AID Missions in East, West, and Southern Africa.

Women have figured prominently in health and population programs, owing to their reproductive roles in society. Yet, their participation in the productive sectors of the economy--agriculture, natural resource management, private sector development--has lagged far behind. In the post-U.N. Decade for Women, which succeeded in highlighting women's invisibility and untapped contribution to economic development, a consensus is emerging that understanding the differences in men's and women's roles and responsibilities and in their access to resources will help to overcome the constraints to women's increased participation in economic development. Applying gender as a cross-cutting issue has profound implications for Africa's economic growth process and an equitable distribution of benefits.

For more information about the AFWID Project, contact: Vera Smith, AFWID Project Office, AID/AFR/ONI, 1515 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209, Tel: (703) 235-9083, FAX: (703) 235-9092.

CONGRATULATIONS

Roselyn Wangui Gakure has been awarded a grant to complete her dissertation research on women entrepreneurs in Kenya from the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities (MUCIA) in the PHD Dissertation Research Grants Competition for the academic year 1992-1993. Roselyn was one of two recipients selected out of a total of 13 applicants from the University of Illinois.

Cherub Antwi-Nsiah has been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship at the International Center for Research on Women in Washington, D.C. She will be involved in research projects on women's access to resources. She can be reached at ICRW, African Fellows Program, 1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Suite 302, Washington, DC 20036, Tel: (202) 797-0007.

Congratulations for completing the GRID (Gender Roles in International Development) concentration in 1992 go to:

Lucy Kehinde	Nigeria	Agricultural Communications	Doctorate
Suja George	USA	HDFS	Masters
Toni Kovach	USA	Social Work	Masters
Sheriff Sima	Gambia	Agricultural Communications	Masters
Consolata Kabonesa	Uganda	HDFS	Masters
Diane Duesterhoeft	USA	Library Science	Masters
Khalida Malik	Pakistan	Rural Sociology	Doctorate

RECENT GUESTS OF THE WID OFFICE

Irene Santiago, Asia/South Pacific Regional Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), gave a seminar on March 19 entitled "Getting Gender on National Agendas".

Xide Xie, professor of physics and former president of Fudan University, Shanghai, China, lectured on "Patterns of Women's Participation in Science in China" on March 23.

Other visitors during March and April included:

Virada Somswadi, a 1992 Eisenhower Exchange fellow from Chiangmai University, Thailand; Judy Smith, from Women's Opportunity and Resource Development, Inc., Missoula, Montana; Sachiko Okumura, from the League of Women's Voter's in Japan; and Parul Dave, a visiting scholar from India.

RESOURCES

A Special Issue of Hunger Notes entitled "WOMEN SOUTH/NORTH: Making the Big Connections (Winter 1992) is available from World Hunger Education Service, P.O. Box 29056, Washington, DC 20017, Tel: (202) 298-9503. Single issue price is \$5. (Bulk rates also available.) Support for Hunger Notes is urgently needed. Subscription is \$18 for individuals and low-budget non-profits; \$45 for libraries/institutions. Add \$6 for postage outside U.S.

Newly available from the International Center for Research on Women and the Population Council:

"Women on Their Own: Global Patterns of Female Headship," by Nancy Folbre, 1991, \$5.50, is a review essay summarizing recent research on families maintained by women alone in developing countries, drawing from presentations made in a seminar series jointly sponsored by the ICRW and the Population Council.

Following up on the seminar series, ICRW and the Population Council have designed a three-year research effort aimed at obtaining evidence on the prevalence of female-headed households in developing countries, the severity of their circumstances, and the impact on the next generation. The first paper under this research effort "Women's Roles in Maintaining Households: Poverty and Gender Inequality in Ghana," by Cynthia B. Lloyd and Anastasia J. Brandon, 1991, \$5.50, assesses the implications for family welfare of the growing percentage of households headed by women in Ghana. It evaluates more broadly the current role of women in the economic maintenance of households with children, and discusses the misleading nature of headship in the overall division of economic responsibilities within households.

"Women, Poverty and Environment in Latin America," by Michael Paolisso and Sally W. Yudelman, 1991, \$6.00, explores the ways by which women in the region contribute to protecting natural resources and the environment. This report identifies how local organizations are supporting women's environmental efforts and offers specific recommendations for donor support in solving the dual problems of persistent poverty and environmental degradation in Latin America by enhancing women's environmental roles. A Spanish version of the report is also available.

These reports are available by contacting: Program Assistant, ICRW, Suite 302, 1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20036, USA. Please include with your order a check or money order in U.S. currency for the total cost plus postage and handling. Publications are sent via surface mail internationally and book rate domestically. Please use the following scale for postage and handling fees: Domestic: \$2.00 for the first three publications; \$.50 for each additional publication. International: \$3.50 for the first three publications; \$.75 for each additional publication.

"Latin American Women and the Search for Social Justice", by Francesca Miller, 1992, \$40.00 (cloth), \$16.95 (paper), is the first comprehensive history of women in Latin America, showing their role in the politics of reform, national liberation, democracy, and international feminism. Available from University Press of New England, 17 1/2 Lebanon Street, Hanover, NH 03755-2159, USA. For toll free orders, call 1-800-421-1561.

"In Her Own Image: Films and Videos Empowering Women for the Future," published by the Media Network, is a biannual guide which identifies the best media on social issues such as reproductive rights, AIDS, environmental policy and disarmament. Produced in the United States, it will be most widely distributed in North America. One parameter for inclusion in the guide is that the films and tapes be easily available in the U.S. Women in the developing world have a lot to teach. Their multiple oppression of sex, class and race is compounded by the massive inequity in resource distribution that rules the globe. Thus women need even more creativity for survival in poor countries. This is why many of the films in this guide are by and/or about women in developing countries. But the guide also includes tapes from North America to help make the point that gender oppression is everywhere, that poverty and inequality of women exist in the richest of countries as well as the poorest. A copy of the guide is available for reference at the WID Office, 320 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820. For ordering, contact: Media Network, 39 W. 14th Street, Suite 403, New York, NY 10011, USA, Tel: (212) 929-2663.

NEWS FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATES

A six-year (1984-1990) evaluation entitled "USAID Assisted ICDS Impact Evaluation in Panchmahals (Gujarat) and Changrapur (Maharashtra)" funded by USAID through the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India (GOI) directed by Prof. Tara Gopaldas (Dean) and Prof. S. Gujral (Project Coordinator), Faculty of Home Science, M.S. University of Baroda, 390 002, India, has been recently completed by the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, the most intensive nutrition-health programme operating in India with the vulnerable mother and child beneficiaries. A baseline survey was conducted in 1984-85 followed by yearly re-surveys. The nutrition and health status of about 400-500 pregnant and 600-800 lactating (up to 6 months postpartum) women was monitored.

A significant improvement from 1984 to 1990 was observed in the percentage of pregnant and lactating women who participated in supplementary nutrition, who received Fe/FA tablets and antenatal and postnatal health care. The nutritional status of the pregnant/lactating women improved over the years as a result of improvement in the coverage of women under the services of ICDS. Less pregnant women were anemic and 'at risk' in the 1990 survey as compared to the 1984 survey.

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