



# The Phyllis Schlafly Report



VOL. 10, NO. 6, SECTION 2

BOX 618, ALTON, ILLINOIS 62002

JANUARY, 1977

## The Mischief Of E.R.A.

*The Equal Rights Amendment, if ever ratified, will require us to treat men and women the same. ERA is based on the women's lib dogma that there is no real*

*difference between the sexes. This newsletter illustrates some of the areas where this false notion is already causing problems.*

## New Peeking Order in U.S. Prisons

By The Star's Own Service

Springfield, Mo.—Equal job rights have reached into the federal prison system to the extent that women guards are searching men prisoners. Some inmates don't seem to like the results.

Since Jan. 1 several women have taken posts as guards at the U.S. Medical Center here and have taken over all required duties, including strip searches of prisoners. All inmates at the center—sometimes referred to as the country club of the federal prison system—are men.

The three women now employed as guards are expected to do all the tasks their male counterparts perform, including searches, said Dr. P.J. Ciccone, director of the medical center.

Recently several prisoners notified a member of the federal public defender office in Springfield that they objected to searches in the buff by female guards. Phillip Moomaw of the public defender office said he expected

no action on the complaint because one of the two inmates who discussed the situation with him is to be transferred to an Atlanta prison, his treatment in Springfield completed.

The assistant public defender said he couldn't say whether the other inmate would take further action, but Ciccone did confirm that a member of the defender office had "informally" mentioned the complaint to him.

Prisoners may be searched at any time, Ciccone said, and most of the time "pat" searches are performed. However, he added, strip searches are "routinely done when a person enters from outside," including when he first enters the medical center and when he returns from a furlough, court appearance or other trip outside the institution.

Strip searches also are done after friends or relatives visit an inmate inside the institution. Jumpsuits are provided to inmates, Ciccone said, and visual searches are conducted while

they are changing. No hand is laid on any prisoner, he said.

Ciccone emphasized that officials view such duties simply as "professional jobs." After outlining the background on the change to allow women to conduct searches, he noted: "We're just trying to follow policy."

Apparently some federal officials are not even sure themselves just what the policy is. Mike Aun, public information officer for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington, said when first contacted: "Females wouldn't conduct strip searches." He explained that officials wouldn't want to put women guards in embarrassing situations.

When told that women guards were searching inmates at Springfield, Aun checked with two office attorneys who gave him conflicting answers. Finally he left the phone to check with "experts." When he returned he said it was a simple matter of "equal opportunities, equal responsibilities."

"Women correctional officers are expected to conduct strip searches of male inmates," Aun said. "As a practical matter, normally there would be more than one officer present."

Ciccone refused to allow the women guards to be interviewed because all official statements had to come from him or a spokesman he designated to ensure "consistency." However, one guard contacted at her home did say she had been very cautious of the situation.

"I respect their privacy as much as I want them to respect mine," she said. "It may be a little distasteful. We're not there to look at their bodies in a sexual sense."

When questioned about male attitude toward women guards, she said some of her colleagues may think there are some areas where women don't belong. However, she was quick to add: "All the guys I've worked with have been very nice, very helpful."

Wednesday, August 18, 1976 THE KANSAS CITY STAR

## Women's lib is sour note to ex-singer in boys' choir

By GEORGE ESPER  
Associated Press Writer

WETHERSFIELD, CONN. — "I don't mind women getting jobs and equal rights but they're going too far when they try to cut out boys' activities," says Emerson Kellogg III.

Emerson is a 12-year-old former member of the boys' choir of the Wethersfield elementary schools, an organization that fell victim this year to the women's movement and federal sex discrimination guidelines.

"Women's liberation? I think it stinks," said Emerson, who also acknowledged that he didn't like girls but got along "pretty good" with his 15-year-old sister. "If they want to be equal let the girls have their own choir and the boys their own choir."

"I'M IN AGREEMENT," chimed in the boy's father, Emerson Kellogg Jr., a telephone repairman. "Women can do some

things but they can't do everything."

The boys' choir was disbanded earlier this year to comply with a Department of Health, Education and Welfare regulation implementing Title IX of the Higher Education Act. Title IX prohibits sex discrimination by schools and colleges that receive federal funds. The HEW regulation prohibited single-sex choirs.

Vaughan A. Howland, director of elementary and secondary education in Wethersfield, said the district disbanded its boys' choir rather than risk losing about \$70,000 in federal aid. The money is used by the district for tutoring children of low-income families.

"I THINK THE LAW is rather ridiculous," Howland said. "Choirs for strictly boys have existed for decades. People enjoy the sound of a boys' choir, the sound of their voices before they go to adolescence and a lower-

pitched voice. The interpretation of the law by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is carrying it to the absurd."

THE REGULATION that did in the boys' choir is still being reviewed by HEW and also by a House committee. The question is whether Congress intended to eliminate boys' choirs when it passed Title IX.

Meanwhile, young Emerson Kellogg, a soprano in the boys' choir for the last two years, is singing with the seventh grade chorus. It includes 15 boys and 45 girls.

Emerson doesn't like that.

He wrote to President Ford asking why the elementary schools could not have a boys' choir. His sister helped him write the letter.

Nov. 29, 1976 St. Louis Globe-Democrat

# Females May Pay Heavier Insurance

By DAVID HERN

BOSTON (AP) — Female drivers under age 25 — demonstrably safer on the road — may have to pay heavily in automobile insurance premiums for adoption of Massachusetts' Equal Rights Amendment.

No estimate was immediately available but it is believed that millions of dollars are at stake.

Insurance Commissioner James M. Stone said Thursday there is considerable debate among lawyers on the implication of the ERA.

"My own lawyers are split on it," he said.

One point of view is that because the under-25 female driver has a far better driving record, this can still be considered in setting rates.

However, Stone acknowledged if there is a restriction of this insurance burden, the beneficiaries will be the under-25 male drivers. Some now pay more than three times the normal charge and far more than under-25 females in every category.

John O'Connor, a spokesman for the automobile insurance industry, said the companies have not broken down into dollars the impact of under-25 male and female drivers. He said an effort will be made to develop an estimate.

O'Connor said the companies are required to file rates for 1977 policies based on existing classifications determined by the state. These show substantial preference for young female drivers in relation to their male counterparts.

Stone said the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that differentials in charges are legal where they are justifiable statistically and under certain specific conditions.

The commission said, however, he is not sure whether the ratification Tuesday of the ERA precludes these differentials.

He also said that the ERA — which he supported — could have an impact in other lines of insurance, especially life insurance. He said that women, because they live longer, have been paying lower premiums.

Stone said he thinks this problem will have to be settled by the courts. He said he expects to discuss it with representatives of the attorney general's office at future hearings.

Automobile insurance laws are complicated by a wide variety of factors that are weighed in setting several premium rates within the 24 rating territories.

The critical male-female situation is found in five of the driver classifications that deal with age, sex, marital status and driver training.

In physical damage coverage, policies involving under-25 males, cost up to 2.25 times the base charge while there would be no surcharge for under-25 females. On liability coverage, the charge for under-25 males can be 3.25 times the base whereas the top surcharge for a female under-25 driver is 1.7 times the base.

# Co-ed Wards Tied to Rapes at Psychiatric Unit

By MIKE McKEATING

A 65-year-old woman patient at Buffalo Psychiatric Center collapsed and died within a few weeks after being raped by a male patient on her ward, The Buffalo Evening News has learned.

Sources at the Forest Ave. facility have told The Buffalo Evening News that the rape was only one of many that have resulted since the introduction of co-ed wards by the hospital administration about two years ago over the objection of the medical staff.

The rapist was caught in the act by a staff member, who summoned help to stop the attack.

But hospital administrators later tried to discourage the staff member who witnessed the rape from filing a report or discussing the incident with anyone.

"The administration did everything possible to intimidate the employee not to make any statement about what had occurred," a source close to the incident told The News.

**FOLLOWING THE** rape the elderly patient was removed from the hospital by her family but died a few weeks later after collapsing at the home of a married daughter.

The essential details of the incident were confirmed to The News by a member of the victim's family, who asked not to be identified and refused to discuss the matter further.

The alleged rapist had once been convicted of the murder of two women and had been sentenced to life imprisonment in Attica Correctional Facility.

However, he won a new trial in 1971, after the Court of Appeals ruled that the trial court had erred in ordering him to submit to examination by prosecution psychiatrists.

**IN 1972,** he was found innocent by reason of insanity at the second trial, and remanded to the custody of the Department of Mental Hygiene.

All of the physicians and staff at the Psychiatric Center who are co-operating with The News have asked that their identities be withheld for fear of administrative reprisals.

But virtually without exception, they blame the increases in rapes on a decision approximately two years ago by Dr. Stanley Platman, former regional director of the Department of Mental Hygiene, and Paul Cohen, former acting hospital director, to force male and female patients to live together in large, open co-ed wards.

"MANY OF US have written to the administration and talked to the administration over the past 18 months to protest this policy," one doctor said.

"The rate of rapes has substantially increased — I'd say it's gone up at least 100 per cent since the wards went co-ed," another doctor said.

"In a general hospital, where patients dress properly and behave properly and know how to protect themselves, it's all right," he continued.

"But in a mental hospital, by definition you're dealing with people who have emotional or psychological problems which affect their judgment."

"MANY OF these people are confused, and they do things without thinking of the consequences," another doctor said. "Naturally you're going to have an increase in the incidence of rapes."

"Co-ed wards are not only unfair to the victims of these crimes, they're unfair to the perpetrators, because they subject them to a temptation they are not equipped to handle."

"Once you have made the wards co-ed, it's humanly impossible to provide the type of supervision necessary to keep the potential rapist away from potential victims."

"It's the responsibility of the hospital to insure the safety of the patients, and I think they have failed by instituting these co-ed wards," one psychiatrist said simply.

# Psychiatric Center Tour Confirms Co-ed Dorms

By MIKE McKEATING

Within hours of receiving assurances from officials of the Buffalo Psychiatric Center that there were no co-ed sleeping arrangements at the Forest Ave. facility, a Buffalo Evening News reporter toured a ward in which 14 male and 11 female patients were sleeping in one room and using a common lavatory.

Furthermore, The News reporter witnessed a female patient enter a men's lavatory on another ward, and heard an attendant admit that the staff makes no attempt to prevent such occurrences.

And the hospital official who accompanied the reporter appeared to be as surprised as the reporter at the cavalier manner with which the patients' right to privacy was treated.

\*\*\*  
THE NEWS reporter met Saturday afternoon with W. Ralph Michener, director of the Buffalo Psychiatric Center, James W. Minter, deputy

director and Dr. Augustine Diji, a Ghanaian psychiatrist who is president of the medical-dental staff at the hospital and who claims credit for being the architect of the co-ed wards.

The administration was attempting to disprove the allegation that the institution of co-ed wards has led to an increase in the number of rapes at the hospital.

During the course of the meeting, the three administrators stated that, with the exception of a ward caring for post-operative patients, there were no wards in the hospital where male and female patients sleep in the same room.

They showed an inventory, apparently prepared by staff subordinates, to back up their claim and offered to take the

reporter on a tour of any ward he wished to visit.

\*\*\*  
AT THE conclusion of the meeting the reporter accepted the invitation, and the first ward visited was Ward 62 in Unit 4.

The Forest Ave. mental hospital is divided into units corresponding to geographic areas of the county. Everybody from the same geographical area is put in the same unit, regardless of age, sex or diagnosis.

Unit 4 serves a pie-shaped area of Erie County including parts of the East Side of Buffalo, the Village of Sloan, Lancaster and part of Cheektowaga.

On Ward 62 the reporter viewed a large open room with 25 beds in it. Fourteen of the beds were occupied by males and 11 were occupied by females.

\*\*\*  
THERE WAS only one large, communal lavatory in the middle of the room, and the ward charge admitted that it is shared by males and females.

Furthermore, he admitted under questioning that the staff makes no attempt to prevent male and female patients from entering the lavatory at the same time.

"What can we do?" he said. "Down in Ward 72 they all use the same lavatory too."

Patients on the ward could be suffering from anything from mild disorientation or senility to psychopathic mania or sexual perversion, since no attempt is made to separate the patients to diagnosis.

\*\*\*  
AT THAT moment, as if to underscore the point, a female patient walked by the reporter and entered the men's room.

The psychiatric center official accompanying the reporter on the tour, Deputy Director James W. Minter, who was recently transferred to the Buffalo facility from Rome, appeared surprised at what he saw on the ward and at the answers he received from the attendant.

Later he expressed shock at what he termed the "cavalier attitude" with which the attendant treated the patient's right to sexual privacy.

In another ward in the same building, Ward 74 in the Niagara Unit, male and female patients were sleeping in separate rooms on the same ward.

Buffalo, N.Y. EVENING NEWS, Nov. 15, 1976

## Woman Can't Fly Off Her Handle

©1976, New York Times News Service

NEW YORK, Oct. 19—Ellen D. Cooperman took her name to court yesterday to have it changed to Cooperperson. She lost.

New York State Supreme Court Justice John F. Scileppi of Suffolk County said that if he granted the change "it would have serious repercussions perhaps throughout the entire country."

Ms Cooperman, who owns a feminist movie company, had told the judge that she "believes deeply in the feminist cause" and that the name Cooperperson "more properly reflects her sense of Human equality than does the name of Cooperman."

In a long decision that cited numerous name-change requests and why they had been rejected, Scileppi said that if this one was granted persons named Jackson would change their names to Jackchild, persons called Manning would want the name Peopling women named Carmen would insist on being called Carpersons.

Scileppi complimented Ms Cooperman on her sincerity and said in his decision that he respected her involvement in the women's movement, but he ruled that the name change would expose women's liberation to ridicule.

Ms Cooperman said she would appeal the decision and would continue to go by the name Cooperperson, which the judge said she had a right to do.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, August 9, 1976



## ERA MOVING IN REVERSE

People in the state of Washington do not instinctively deny opportunities to women, the best proof of this being the Nov. 2 election of Dix Lee Ray as governor.

Dr. Dix Lee Ray, the former chairwoman of the old Atomic Energy Commission, is not overly impressed by being the second woman ever elected a governor without succeeding a husband. "I've been a woman for nearly 62 years," she says. "I really don't think about it too much."

Despite her healthy, non-sexist attitude, Dr. Ray is being forced to think about the consequences of the Equal Rights Amendment which her state adopted in 1972. Passage of ERA caused Washington to void a protective labor law enacted for women and children in 1913. The old law restricted enforced overtime work, put limits on lifting of weights by women, provided for rest periods, etc.

ERA proponents blithely said they would simply have a new law passed guaranteeing to men the same safeguards once enjoyed by women. But that hasn't happened.

ERA backers have taken to wrangling among themselves. Those at the national level want to push on for final ratification of the amendment, saying that protective labor legislation denies job opportunities to women.

Many working women see it differently, saying ERA in Washington has failed.

"As far as I'm concerned, we're facing a whole new period. It's not the old sweatshop but the new, modern sweatshop," says Cindy Gipple, coordinator for a group calling itself the Coalition for Protective Labor Legislation.

Some women have complained of being forced to work overtime by employers who found it cheaper to pay time and a half than to hire additional help. Others have protested that they no longer get lunch periods because their work is "intermittent" in nature.

Reports from Washington would indicate that heaven is a better protector of the working girl than is ERA.

Thirty-eight states must approve the Equal Rights Amendment before 1979 if it is to become part of the U.S. Constitution. Of the 34 states that have ratified ERA, two — Nebraska and Tennessee — have rescinded their legislative approval.

Missouri and Illinois remain pivotal states in the struggle over ERA adoption. The Washington experience could help cool the ardor of some proponents and cement the opposition of those who already know it is a bad deal. ERA is the reverse gear way to a setback, not to opportunity for either sex.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat Mon. Nov. 22, 1976

## Woman cabby raped

By STEVE JOHNSON  
Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

A 19-year-old woman cabdriver was raped by a passenger about 4:30 a.m. today. It was the second such incident reported recently.

Yellow Cab Co. officials blamed the incidents on a civil right complaint that forced companies to let women drive night shifts.

The cabdriver, who works for Yellow Cab, gave police a billfold left behind by the man she said raped her. A 26-year-old man was arrested a few hours later.

THE MAN directed her west on Plymouth Av. N. and told her to turn south on Morgan Av. N. When she told him it seemed they were going the wrong way, the man ordered her to pull the cab over, turn out the lights and shut off the engine, she said.

He then tried to pull her into the back seat by grabbing her around the neck and choking her, she said. She fought him, but he climbed into the front seat, continued choking her, struck her several times and sprayed her with a chemical substance that made her eyes water, she told police.

After threatening to kill her, he raped her, she said.

WHEN POLICE arrived, the woman showed them a billfold on the floor of the front seat. The billfold contained a semi-nude photo of the man she identified as the one who raped her.

"This is the second of such incidents" involving the rape of a woman cabdriver, Bill Goodnough, vice-president of Yellow Cab Co., said.

He blamed both incidents on a complaint filed by a woman cabdriver with the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department. The complaint forced cab companies to let women drive night shifts. "I have a notion to call the civil rights people and say, 'Thanks a lot,'" he said.

Goodnough said his company employs about 20 women drivers. Five or six of them drive nights, he said. "We've always felt that in their best interests they shouldn't be driving nights because there is just a different element out at night," he said.

Minneapolis Star, May 14, 1976

## The Battle of 'Unisex'

Policewomen in Los Angeles are finding, somewhat to their chagrin, that the equal rights they wanted and received can be a little too equal at times. Now they want to change the rules.

The problem is that "Unisex," a special hiring program begun by the Los Angeles Police Department in 1973 to give women the same chances as men for field patrol positions, has turned out to be a uniform flop. It is under attack by members of both sexes.

From the male point of view, a top police official says the program has led to a decrease in the number of policewomen because of their failure to pass police height, physical training and agility tests. He contends the women would be better off in less demanding areas of police work.

On the distaff side, critics claim the requirements are discriminatory. They have filed a multi-million-dollar civil rights suit against the city, in which they charge that Unisex permits continued discrimination against women.

The two main issues in the dispute are the L.A.P.D.'s minimum 5-foot-4-inch height standard for men and women and a physical agility test that applicants must pass. Police officials say these requirements are necessary to ensure the safety of officers and citizens in case of violence; the critics say they have little or no bearing on the performance of duties and serve mainly as a means of excluding women from police field duty.

The track record of Unisex is less than inspiring. In the last three years, the program has produced 24 female officers for jobs at which women had not worked previously. On an overall basis, however, there were 159 women on the force, compared to 6,986 men, the year before the program started. Now there are 152 policewomen and 7,504 men.

The irony of the situation is that some champions of equal rights for women now seem bent on trying to prove that there is a distinct difference between the sexes.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat Dec. 21, 1976

A full set of 25 different Phyllis Schlafly Reports on ERA is available at \$3.00.

### The Phyllis Schlafly Report

Box 618, Alton, Illinois 62002

Published monthly by Phyllis Schlafly, Fairmount, Alton, Illinois 62002.

Second Class Postage Paid at Alton, Illinois.

Subscription Price: For donors to the Eagle Trust Fund — \$5 yearly (included in annual contribution). Extra copies available: 15 cents each; 8 copies \$1; 50 copies \$4; 100 copies \$8.