

WOMAN

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Struggle

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NO DEPORTATION FOR DESSIMA

A U.S. judge has dismissed deportation proceedings against former Grenadian ambassador to the U.S., Dessima Williams.

The former representative of the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada was arrested in the U.S. last year after she gave a speech criticizing the U.S. invasion of Grenada.

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service maintains that Williams is in the U.S. illegally because her diplomatic credentials are no longer valid. It is appealing the ruling allowing Williams to stay.

Off Our Backs, Vol. xv No. 7, July 1985

SEXIST IMMIGRATION LAWS

The British Government has been found guilty of practising sex discrimination in its immigration laws.

Three women who were all born outside Britain, but who are legally resident there, took the government to the European Court of Human Rights when their husbands were prevented under the Immigration Act from joining them in England.

The Act states that a non-British woman has no right to bring her foreign husband into the country, even if she has been lawfully settled in Britain for years.

The court ruled that the immigration laws violated the Human Rights Convention on sex discrimination, because the Act placed no similar restrictions on men wishing to bring in foreign-born wives.

Spare Rib, issue 156 July 1985

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MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SUIT AGAINST ABC

A former employee of the American Broadcasting Company (ABC) is bringing a multi-million dollar suit against the network, charging it with sexual harassment, retaliation, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and defamation.

Cicely Coleman, director of the ABC Voter Education Project was fired in May last year after making a confidential complaint to the company's personnel manager that she had been sexually harassed by her supervisor, ABC executive James Abernathy.

When Coleman complained, ABC reacted with a programme of reprisal. She was intimidated and put in virtual isolation, while co-workers were discouraged from corroborating her charges.

When Coleman asked for written assurance of protection for herself and other ABC women employees against sexual harassment, the network fired her by telegram when she was on a business trip.

Coleman sees the reaction of ABC officials as an example of the "old boy" network. "Regardless of what their personal feelings might be for each other, they close ranks and protect the men," she says.

New Directions for Women, Vol. 14 No. 4
July/August 1985

DYING MOTHERS

In Africa and Asia up to a quarter of all deaths of women of childbearing age occur in childbirth. Yet, high rates of maternal mortality in these and other developing countries have frequently gone unremarked, even during the UN Decade for Women.

Columbia University health expert, Deborah Maine, claims that helping Third World women avoid unwanted pregnancies could save hundreds of thousands of lives.

Development Forum, Vol. XIII No. 6, July-
August 1985

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POLITICAL PRISONERS SEEK SUPPORT

In Chile, women political prisoners are trying to establish an exchange of letters and information with women's groups worldwide to gain support for human rights cases in that country.

The prisoners, in the San Miguel Preventive Detention Centre, are demanding an end to government killings and reprisals against the opponents of the regime, the right to better prison conditions and to a fair and speedy trial for all political prisoners.

They would also like to receive information on the activities of different women's groups and organisations so as to establish a mutual support network.

Letters and information should be directed to: Carmen Aguilera, Villa Santa Lucia, Los Duraznos 062, Quilicura, Santiago, Chile.

Women in Action - ISIS International Women's
Journal Supplement No. 3, June 1985

LESSONS IN LITERACY

A development education kit of literacy materials from women's projects in the Third World is being produced for use in literacy programmes in Canada.

The kit, a production of the Participatory **Research Group of the International Council for Adult Education**, will include descriptions about literacy programmes **and methods, actual materials**, and general **information about the situations of women in the different regions**.

The Group is particularly interested in linking with projects in the Caribbean, Central America and Africa. Interested persons may write to: The Women's Program, International Council for Adult Education, 29 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 1B2.

Women's Program Newsletter, Summer 1985

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