

Once again mother nature has shown us her awesome powers. In the past week we have seen a major city buckle at the knees by the incredible force of an earthquake and we have witnessed the paralyzing cold that has strapped the entire northeast. There is only one thing more powerful than mother nature...The First Amendment. Exercise your freedom! Join the The Behrend College Collegian! Call us at 898-6488 for more information.

Carl Rowan's Commentary

Why, some might ask, do I start the year with a seemingly puerile suggestion that our social well-being depends on our willingness to give women real equality in the workplace?



* Because I know that there are not enough sermons preached in all the churches of America to dam up the fires of sexual desire that are fanned in movies, on television, in newspaper columns and ads and just about every place else. Young people will fornicate, no matter what, and millions of girls will bear babies.

* Because I know that divorce is now as much the American way of life as an enduring marriage. Thus we are going to have forever millions of teenage and adult women who head households and often are the sole breadwinners in their families.

* Because I know that the super-moralists with an 18th century view of "a woman's place" will never change the trend of more women in the workplace — 34.7 percent of women in 1952, 19,269,000; as against 58.2 percent in November 1993, 58,937,000. Women who work because they have to in order to survive economically, or emotionally.

These working women are absolutely critical to the futures of the many millions of children who are vulnerable to the blandishments of school dropouts, sexual predators, shoplifting and more serious crimes and drug abuse. I mean children who become the faceless, silently hated people of the land because of their need for welfare or other taxpayer "support," as in prison costs.

But this society handicaps, even cripples, millions of women and makes it impossible for them to be

really good parents by discriminating against them in the work force. Who doesn't know that the poorer the female-headed household, the greater the likelihood of disaster for the children?

The Washington Post had a dismaying report showing that while women make up 51 percent of the U.S. population and fill 44 percent of all federal government jobs, they hold only 13 percent of top federal jobs.

The Washington Post report indicates that worst treated are the minority women who, in the current right-wing furor, are most blamed for family breakdown, crime and illegitimacy.

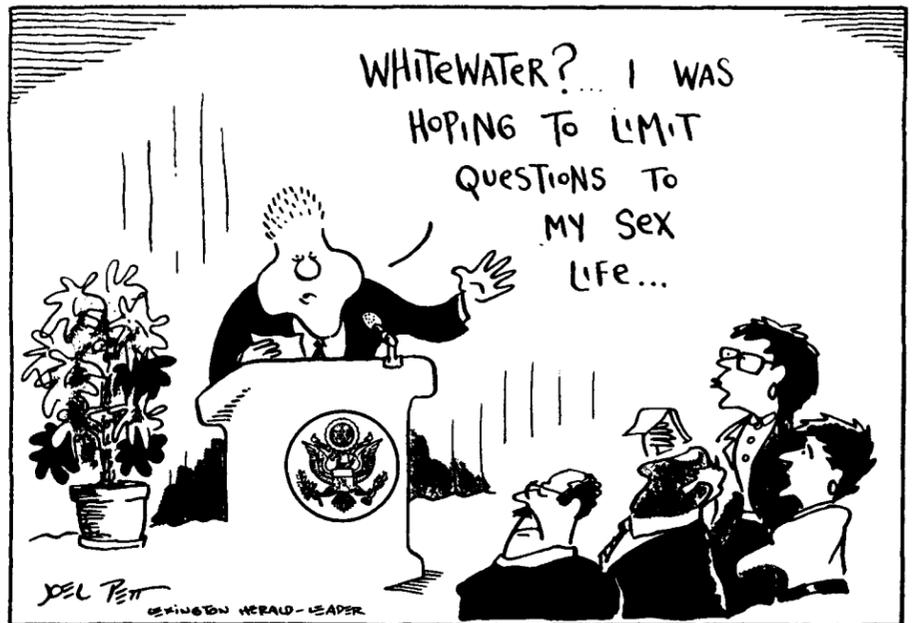
We've celebrated our "year of the woman" that involved a few women who won seats in Congress or got governorships or other top political posts. But it sure as hell wasn't the year of the women who have to feed and clothe children, help them with homework and teach them to keep their noses clean and their zippers zipped and chastity belts locked tight.

Are we such a selfish, cruel, stupid people that we can't do something about this nation-crippling abuse of women in 1994?

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Editorial Cartoons



THE BEHREND COLLEGE Collegian

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Co-Editors
Matthew D. Cissne
Alicia Hartman
Business Manager
Darlene Stremic
Advisor
Cathy Mester

The Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editorial staff, with the editors holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in The Collegian are not necessarily those of The Collegian or The Pennsylvania State University.

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Copy Editors
Alicia Hartman
Joanne Riccardi

Advertising Manager
Darlene Stremic

Typist
Glee Jesteadt
Joanne Riccardi
Iris Spinler

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Office Manager
Lori Anna Dyer

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