

Emily Post, Where Are You?

By Alice Crawford

Many people here cringe when they hear the term "girl's school." They prefer to hear the term "WOMEN'S COLLEGE." Okay—that's a good term, but one must examine what's going on inside this women's college.

Seven hundred dollars a week for table cloths. Is that where the money for good food is going? There are many complaints about the food here (which really isn't bad at all!) Do your mothers change table cloths daily? If she does, maybe that's why you got the used Honda for your birthday instead of the new BMW you had your eye on.

Emily Post, where are your words of wisdom for table manners for women away from home? One doesn't have to sit up straight cut her meat one piece at a time, etc... All one must do is refrain

from trashing the table cloths and cleaning up after one's self at meals.

Emily Post, where are you in the large dorms? Despite the many signs on the doors, people still slam the doors at 7:30 in the morning. Despite the many attempts of hall advisors and dorm presidents, noise at 11:30 at night.

Would one have such lack of consideration at home? What happens to people when they emerge from under mother's wing to taste the world.

A little common courtesy will go a long way. A little bit of compassion will probably make a friend.

Not all of the women here are the brunt of this harsh editorial. Many women, however, need to examine their lifestyles here and at home and apply some basic childhood lessons to their life at school. One would be surprised at the changes.

The Oracle II

Why Women Need Women's Studies

By Marianne Triplette

In March of 1983 a Women's Studies Program was added to the Salem College curriculum. The catalogue lists the courses that compose the program and notes that "Basic issues discussed are sex roles; the concepts of femininity and masculinity; women's roles in society, past and present; women and work; the image of women in literature and women and religion."

The Women's Studies Program may have escaped your notice. If you are aware of it, you may view it as unimportant in your academic life. At worst a haven for racials, bitter, unattractive, man-hating feminists. At best a collection of courses for dilettantes interested for some reason in "women's issues." My message today is that the Women's Studies Program at Salem is important to each and every Salem College student.

It is important not only because it encourages interdisciplinary work and critical thinking, but because it allows women the images of achievement and aspiration comparable to those routinely offered to men. It is important because it identifies and documents discrepancies in traditional scholarship by reviewing the "new scholarship on women." For thousands of years education has focused on the activities and accomplishments of men. The Women's Studies Program asks why women have been left out of the model. It also asks what happens to the model when they are brought back into it.

On a personal level, the Women's Studies program encourages an understanding of the events that have brought women to their current position in society. It examines the socialization process that has encouraged women to be

passive and modest and pleasant, rather than "movers and shakers." It investigates why some women are subject to math anxiety; why many men are comfortable with high technology while many women are not; why many women students find a "chilly" environment in the classroom.

In brief, it prepares one to face the real world. This is especially important to women and to women's colleges. To quote Dr. Bernice Sandler of the Association of American Colleges:

"If a Woman's College is to have as one of its goals to educate its women students to make change it must provide a setting in which women can flourish in ways that they cannot readily do at other institutions. If a woman's college is to be truly useful to the women who attend it, it must deliberately act as a counterbalance to the trend and stereotypes in our society which hinder the development of women.

The women's college must provide a different kind of experience; an atmosphere where women examine and evaluate their lives as women; a place where students and faculty explore consciously and systematically what it means to be a woman in our society. It must be a place where patterns of discrimination—overt and subtle—are analyzed and discussed; where women examine stereotypes, behaviors, rules, laws and other constraints that affect women's lives."

It is my hope that every Salem College student will take at least one course in the Women's Studies Program before they graduate.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Salem,

As a sophomore, I feel momentarily strapped by the demanding finances of the Sophomore class. Yes, \$5.00 class dues, \$2.00 missing meetings penalties, and numerous fund raising projects have punctuated this year from the very first meeting. What for, you ask? Well, in one night, \$2000 luncheons will be spent to show our love and devotion to the senior class. As humanity, shouldn't we show our love to our sisters everyday, not just at some banquet in March? Perhaps the money could be used to show our love to our sisters of all classes by improving some existing problems in our world today by a donation. A \$2000 dollar donation to a charity of the senior classes' choice would not only provide fond memories of giving and receiving for both the sophomore and senior classes, but think of the memories of those whose lives the donation will touch! Instead of the usual Salem memorabilia received as a senior gift, a certificate of the donation would be given to every senior. Participation of sophomores would undoubtedly increase because the taxing 2 weeks of three hour practices per night would be eliminated. Frankly, it's rather hard to find time to study with all those MANDATORY meetings. The demands of this whole regamande are infuriating to students who are concerned about learn-

ing, while the poor performance of the sophomores in class during these two weeks must send professors into ORBIT! Think about it, Salem, \$2000 for a one hour tribute to 4 years of memories, or \$2000 for lasting benefits from increased research and improved living conditions.

Sincerely,
Rachael Peckis

Dear Editor,

I feel I must come to the defense of myself and many others concerning the letter about Fall Fest that was published in the previous Salemite. I think the author raises some accurate questions, and I agreed with some of her points. But I must vehemently disagree with her belief that many students use Fall Fest as a day to get drunk. neither I nor any of my good friends were drunk that day. And I resent her intimations that many students don't appreciate Fall Fest for what it should be and choose to drink heavily. I happen to know that the author was not on campus this Fall Fest. I think it is extremely unfair of her to make judgments and then have them become public knowledge when she is relying on hearsay. A number of girls talked for days about how drunk they were, how wasted they got, etc. I don't exactly walk up to someone and say, "I didn't get drunk."

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