

# opinion/editorial

## Changing women's movement becomes 'pro-family'

In recent years, the American society has seen the feminist movement expand and grow. Many people have noted the changes with pride, and, perhaps, with a bit of smugness. Not so many years ago, in the early- and mid-60s, they had been told that the Women's Liberation Movement was a passing fad. Like goldfish swallowing and streaking, many people expected the movement to flourish for a while and then quickly die.

The folly of their words was clearly demonstrated two weeks ago at the National Organization of Women Legal Defense and Education Fund

national columnists and magazine writers noted, there was a marked change from previous feminist conferences. The main topic was "the family"—the feminist movement, said the writers, had finally come "pro-family."

But the movement never was "anti-family." Most members, from the beginners, had the understanding that the women should be given freedom of choice—freedom to chose a career over the society-dictated role of mother, or freedom to be a mother and homemaker if that is what one wanted. Unfortunately sometimes understanding that the

event in New York. As several movement was promoting choice got lost in the struggle to stress that the family life was not women's ONLY option.

Since women feel freer to adopt traditionally male roles, the movement now is stressing the family option. Admittedly women still have great distances to go before there is equality on all levels—after all, women still are hired after men and paid less than they are. But there has been a pattern of gradual change, and this is to be applauded.

There has long been a need to care

for those women who choose to be homemakers and an even greater need to care for those who work outside the home and care for their families. Homemakers need greater protection under social security and inheritance tax laws. The need for low cost and quality child care services has long been apparent. Training, as well, is needed to help women cope with their dual roles and the stress encountered in them.

With renewed attention given to these topics by strong national women's organizations, women, families and society as well can only benefit.

## Solution to shah above our heads?

I turn on the television, read the newspaper, and listen to the radio, hoping, praying and desperately wanting to hear that the Americans held hostage in Tehran have been released. But each day drags on, and I hear nothing except how members of the U.N. Security Council feel and how students all over the country—Iranian and American—are demonstrating to vocalize their opinions.

shelley smith

I am confused, frustrated and helpless. What should I believe—who should I believe?

The media claims deposed Iranian Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi is now receiving medical treatment at an Air Force Base in Texas.

But what if he isn't? What if it is all a cover?

Assuming that the Texas connection is only a decoy, a cover, a front, where could the shah be? Mexico has refused him entrance into its country after once offering him exile. Only four countries in the world have offered him a place to seek refuge and peace.

Problem: Where to hide a shah?

Suppose you had a man nobody liked very much, excluding, of course, Henry Kissinger (he likes everybody), and nobody wanted to live with him, nobody wanted to talk to him, and most wish he would just go away.

What would you do with him?

The Iranians in Tehran say if he is removed from the United States and locates in another country, they will begin proceedings to try the hostages as espionage spies.

What do you do?

My roommate said let him hover in a helicopter over the United States.

He'd still be in the United States, he'd be up high enough where security wouldn't be necessary, nobody could shoot him down, and he has enough money to foot the bill.

Solution?

To the problem where to hide the shah—yes. To solving an American crisis—no.

The fact is, to hide a shah isn't that great of a problem. The United States could do it quite effectively. The problem is the lives of those 50 Americans still held prisoner in Tehran.

The solution to this emotional crisis is not one-step or two-step. The solution depends on the minds and steps of many people—those of President Carter, the Ayatollah Khomeini, the U.N. Security Council, the students at the embassy in Tehran, and God.

Whatever is to be done, Lord knows I don't have a solution. Just let it be done with a peaceful, harmonious and fair understanding of the problem.



## letters

Dean Rudolph of the library states that he is forced to reduce student employees next semester to reduce his deficit. As he points out, this reduction will seriously curtail the library's ability to serve students and faculty. The library's fine collection of books and magazines is almost useless if many of the books and magazines in current demand are stacked high in the sorting area and do not get replaced on the shelves for weeks or months. The situation is bad enough now (just look at the piles on the third stack level), but would be disastrous if the staff is further reduced.

I propose that the students and we faculty show the shortsighted legislature and governor that we are determined to do what we can to assure continuance of a quality university by organizing a Walkon Volunteer Library Corps. If Dean Rudolph approves, I recommend that you student leaders start immediately to organize the WVLC so that we can help get all books back on the shelves promptly after the semester ends—there will be thousands of them to reshelve.

Ask students to volunteer for one or two work periods per week as needed. Faculty member should be asked to join the Corps. The library staff remaining on the staff could train us in a brief session and supervise our work. We could organize into cadres of 10-20 persons so that

efficiency could be increased. If branch libraries face the problem, too, students and faculty from those areas of specialization could be assigned.

We can make it work, just as walkons in other campus activities help make this a good all-round university. I will pledge at least four hours of service a week as needed.

Galen Saylor  
Professor Emeritus of Secondard Education

## Lively debate applauded

The lively debate in your pages over the events in Iran causes me to think better of UNL as a place of serious intellectual interchange.

Defenders of the embassy takeover in Tehran have not succeeded in persuading many Americans that American official backing of the shah when he was in power justifies the crimes that Iranian students have committed with the backing of their present government. They have not persuaded me.

Perhaps some Iranian students in America (who are not the perpetrators of these crimes but are the defenders) misunderstand the position of me and others who share my outlook. When the shah was in power, many of us applauded and encouraged the agitation by Iranian students directed at the support the U.S. government was giving him.

Why so little sympathy now? I see the situation as having changed. The shah is no longer in power, is no longer imprisoning, torturing and executing people. True, he is free, but many murderous ex-tyrants, including Idi Amin, are at large in the world. It is too bad, but there are other ongoing wrongs in the world more worthy of our attention. More importantly, Americans have some sense of obligation. If the shah was our man, if his crimes were our crimes, we cannot get off by making him the scapegoat for us.

Since we do not see the Iranians as now acting to prevent further crimes by the shah, we have to try to explain to ourselves what does motivate them. What we see seems

Continued on Page 5

