

How feminism aids self-worth

By Judith Berne
staff writer

When her third son was born, a friend told her God was getting even. That's because Jackie Zeff considers herself a radical feminist. Zeff teaches women's studies at the college level and is politically active in the women's movement. The West Bloomfield resident will speak on feminist issues at the Aug. 22-24 Pioneer Women/No Amst Midwest conference at Akron, Ohio. The group, part of the Women's Labor Zionist Organization of America, is dedicated to providing training, education and social services for women and children in Israel and championing women's rights. "Feminism is central to my life," Zeff said last week, from the back porch of her township home. "An individual can't invest her entire self worth in her husband, children or even in her job. She stresses the importance of "doing good work" whether it is paid or volunteer. Zeff was drawn to the women's movement while getting her doctorate in English literature at the University

of Pittsburgh in the early '70s. "It was a golden age," she recalls. "We thought everything was possible."

SHE HELPED establish a women's studies program there, and then at Wayne State University where she began teaching in 1972.

Now she combines both areas of interest. She teaches women's studies as an associate professor at Midrasa College of Jewish Studies, Southfield, and teaches history and literature at Allan/Touro College, also in Southfield.

Like many feminists, she is discouraged but not devastated by the failure to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. "We're in the very early stages of the woman's movement," she insists. "It's not a one-goal movement," directed only toward passage of the ERA.

She sees it "more and more as a workers' movement" as women continue to enter and remain in the work force. She believes female black leadership "is just getting started" and that many of the new feminist political leaders will come from the academic world. "I don't think we'll ever go back,"



DICK KELLEY/staff photographer

Jackie Zeff considers herself a radical feminist who teaches women's studies at the college level and is politically active in the women's movement.

she says. "Certain things women just won't give up."

A JEW, her commitment to women's rights extends to Israel. The picture of the Israeli woman holding a rifle during mandatory army service is a myth, Zeff maintains. In fact, she says the American army offers women training and experience in more significant positions.

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A smaller percentage of women in Israel hold jobs than in the United States, she reports. Since its founding, "There actually has been a decrease in the status of women in Israel."

She and her husband Lawrence, also a college professor, make it a point to share the responsibilities of work, a house and three children, she says. But they don't know just what messages their boys — ages 12, 10 and 4 — receive from the outside world.

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TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about August 16, 1982 the above-named Farmington Hills, Oakland County, will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) for the following project:

Thirteen Mile Road Sidewalk
To provide a sidewalk along Thirteen Mile Rd. from Orchard Lake Rd. east to the Detroit Baptist Manor Senior Housing, Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. \$24,000

An Environmental Review Record respecting the within project has been made by the above-named Farmington Hills, Oakland County which documents the environmental review of the project. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon request.

The City of Farmington Hills will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Farmington Hills is certifying to HUD that Farmington Hills and Lawrence Savage, in his official capacity as city manager consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, Farmington Hills may use the Block Grant funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer of applicant approved by HUD; or (b) that applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 59) and may be addressed to HUD at P. V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48226. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after September 1, 1982 will be considered by HUD.

LAWRENCE C. SAVAGE, City Manager
City of Farmington Hills
31555 W. Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48018

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