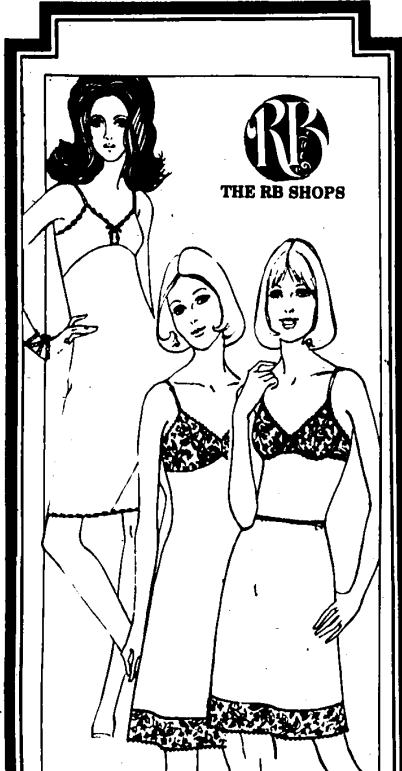


'Tricks' replace discrimination

By NANCY KASSEN
"In America today overt discrimination (against women) has diminished. There are few institutions which would discriminate openly, but they've developed new tricks."
So warned Dr. Constantine Rothchild, a sociology professor from Wayne State University, at a recent seminar sponsored by the Birmingham branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).



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biological standpoint and compared American women to those in foreign countries.
Speaking candidly and with humor, she described the situation in Greece, Algeria, Pakistan and Senegal. Each country has its own role definition for women, usually as "the weaker sex."
For example, in Senegal, women are not allowed to embrace native designs on clothing because, according to one man, "It is too hard for a woman to understand."
And in Pakistan, women are totally segregated, Dr. Rothchild said. They cannot be taught by men, treated by male physicians or transact business with men.

TO KEEP life segregated, the government has trained some women to handle other women's affairs, but allows only a certain number to learn the higher skills.
"They trained one-fifth of the women to keep the other four-fifth down," she said.
"Indirect discrimination," Dr. Rothchild explained, is when "colleges set up unwritten age quotas which restrict women who left school to raise a family from returning" or when medical schools, which admit women students, do so in such small numbers that they are a marginal part of the university and less likely to function as well as their male peers.
Also, some schools are reluctant to transfer credits for a woman, although they may have been following their husband from job to job, transfer to transfer. The roots of inequality spread through religious and moral ideologies, she said. And a woman's status in society is likely to be lowest when the living conditions are highest.

A BIG CRISIS, like World War II, leads to an improvement in women's status, she said, but as soon as the war is over, the previous inequality returns, although not to as great a degree.
Dr. Rothchild cited the situation in her native Greece from 1989 to 1949 as what happens during a crisis. That country was at war with Italy, occupied by the Germans and in the midst of a civil war. Women were actively sought to share the pressures equally with the men.
But while they were out fighting, things were changing in the cities. Typically male occupations, like architecture and pharmacy, changed to female occupations with the appropriate new stereotypes.
Women were now considered better architects because they had stayed home longer and better pharmacists because they had experience mixing things.
"It makes sense doesn't it? Once the stereotype is there, it always makes sense," she said.

Medical auxiliary to meet

A convention of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Michigan State Medical Society will be held May 5-7 at the Troy Hilton. It is being planned by chairman Mrs. Thomas Hoffer of Dearborn and co-chairman Mrs. Robert Deering of Grosse Ile, members of the Wayne Southern Branch.
Mrs. William Jones of Allen Park will be the presiding chairman and will turn her gavel over to the new president, Mrs. S.A. Yantelli of Battle Creek.
Keynote speaker May 6 will be Mrs. Malachi Sloan II of Dayton, Ohio, who will speak on "Lead Listening Ear." She will also install the new state officers.
Also speaking at the May 6 morning session will be Mrs. Marion Kray, Ph.D., counselor at Henry Ford Community College.
LUNCHEON SPEAKER May 6 will be Dr. Mary Ann Guyon of Grosse Ile. Employed at the Detroit Rehabilitation Institute, she will speak on "Coping With Stress."
Mrs. C.M. Lessenden of Topeka, Kansas, national chairman for the American Medical Association Education and Research Foundation, will speak at the May 6 afternoon session.
Mr. and Mrs. Bert O'Beine of Grand Rapids will show slides and discuss wild flowers at the May 7 luncheon.
Membership in the society includes 31,000 women from throughout the state. Auxiliary members promote health careers, community services and raise funds for health scholarships and medical schools.

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