

# WOMEN AS THE VICTIMS OF CRIME

Canberra 16-19 April 1975

Report by  
John P. Noble

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Training and Information Division  
Australian Institute of Criminology  
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## INTRODUCTION

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The seminar 'Women as the Victims of Crime' was conducted by the Australian Institute of Criminology, in collaboration with the Secretariat of International Women's Year, at the Academy of Science, Gordon Street, Canberra City from 16 to 19 April 1975.

The seminar incorporated eleven lectures of which two were delivered at individual public meetings; a panel session with the two visiting experts and scholar from overseas, and provision for the participants to discuss in groups the issues raised both among themselves and with the available experts and speakers. The groups formulated a number of resolutions of which twenty-seven were carried when put to a vote of the participants at the plenary session on the final day of the seminar.

Appendix I contains a summary of the resolutions carried. A complete copy of these resolutions was forwarded to the Attorney-General's Department on 21 April 1975 for information and action indicated. Copies of the resolutions are available on application to the Institute.

Appendix II lists the visiting experts, lecturers and scholars and the official participants at the seminar. While provision was made for the attendance of independent participants, they are not included in this listing.

Appendix III sets out the detailed seminar programme which has been briefly summarised above.

A major portion of the seminar was videotaped, including complete coverage of the main speakers and some individual interviews, and this is to be edited to provide a record of the seminar of approximately forty-five minutes duration. This may be available for use on application to the Institute.

While the above relates specifically to the auspices and the structural aspects of the seminar the main aim of this report is to identify and summarise the principal topics and issues presented and raised by speakers and participants.

## WOMEN AS VICTIMS OF CRIME

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With such a theme it was perhaps inevitable that the seminar would be characterised by feelings of very real concern for the victims of rape, the victims of domestic violence and the victims of other crimes in our society. Similarly there was a strong sense of urgency, feeling that action was required at a variety of levels if the situation of women as victims of crime in society was to be significantly altered. The number of resolutions carried in the final plenary session, twenty-seven, is more than ample evidence of the participants' expressed conviction of the need for change. At the same time their concern was shared by the visiting experts and lecturers all of whom had ample factual information on

which to base their concerns, their claims, their requests and their recommendations. In this context the concern generally expressed was based not on feelings or emotions but on facts, which, unfortunately, may reflect poorly on our society.

While differences of opinion were expressed, and some conflicts occurred, these tended to result from a greater sense of urgency in some with an accompanying difference in approach to the form of action or change needed to correct the specific situations in question. Such differences in attitude and approach to various issues probably indicate parallel differences in values and beliefs among participants but these neither detracted from the common concern of all present for the issues raised, nor the productivity of the seminar if the number of resolutions put and carried can be regarded as a reasonably accurate yardstick. Unfortunately it is very difficult to estimate value or productivity, as one cannot assess the value of the informal personal contacts made, the impact of the speakers and the extent to which the information imparted will be used by participants in their own social situations, communities, groups or agencies.

The seminar covered a variety of topics and subject areas, but the major issue that was raised in varying degrees by all speakers was the role of woman in society and the means by which society makes woman vulnerable to criminal acts. Similarly, the other areas of concentrated attention which require special consideration are the Swedish situation, rape and domestic violence. These four areas were not only dealt with in significant detail by the speakers but were also the main topics of concern among the participants as demonstrated in the various sessions and as indicated by the resolutions.

## WOMAN IN SOCIETY

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While specific victim groups in society have specific needs, circumstances and experiences that may require special attention in terms of legislative change, the modification of court and police procedures, and the provision of services, it is necessary to recognise that these groups should not be considered in isolation from the rest of society. Most speakers indicated that women were not only victims of crime but victims of a society dominated by men which had made women particularly dependent, passive and vulnerable. The respective roles of man and woman in society were examined with special emphasis on those factors contributing to woman's vulnerability and conducive to the commission of acts of violence against her.

The socialisation model questioned and challenged by speakers, without dissent from the participants, was the process based on the different role expectations of males and females, a process so long accepted as the norm by society. This process commences in infancy and continues throughout a person's lifetime. It relates to the boy-girl, blue-pink, doctor-nurse, pilot-hostess sex stereotypes of society and the expectations it has of man and woman. The process involves the rewarding of aggression in boys and passivity in girls with the expectation that man should be aggressive and competitive and woman passive and lacking initiative. Parents tend to invest less in their daughter's education as the basic expectation of

woman is not defined in terms of a career or employment but as a wife/mother. With this expectation, woman's employment opportunities provide only limited access to the trades, professions and management, unless society considers it appropriate to its female role definition.

Roles are defined and assigned to man and woman in society and these are continually reinforced throughout a person's development. The roles of man and woman are assigned and reinforced in the home, at school and in the community at large. The media through television commercials and the repeated portrayal of the stereotyped male-female roles reinforce the role definitions of society. Similarly romantic novels, books and films all contribute to the acceptance of their respective roles by man and woman.

The end result of this socialisation process is woman, domestically oriented, economically dependent, passive, politically non-involved and powerless, and deriving her identity and sense of value and worth via her husband and children. Man, on the other hand, may be described as stereotypically assertive, competitive, economically independent, politically aware and powerful and deriving his identity and sense of value from his roles outside the home.

This situation of man being aggressive and dominant, and woman being passive and submissive, was said by Dr Bertrand to be almost universal. In studying the self-image of man and woman in North America, France, Belgium, Hungary and Poland, Dr Bertrand found that women in all these countries were convinced that they were absolutely powerless with neither political value nor economic value, and with a very limited appreciation of national or world affairs. For women in these countries it was considered almost an impossibility for them to act independently, to stand as the author of their own deeds and to take their lives in their own hands. In Hungary and Poland, where 48 per cent of women work, a more independent attitude was expected, but this was not the case, indicating similar role definitions in these countries for women despite their increased presence in the work force.

It was further proposed that women are now, and have been throughout history appendices of other persons, the properties firstly of their fathers and later of their husbands. Although a situation of superiors and inferiors, of owners and subjects, it was often a privileged, secure position which even now many are not prepared to renounce or try to change. Yet it does appear important for all men and women to be aware not only of the actual roles defined for them by society, but also the effects of such role definitions in terms of discriminatory legislation, community practices and the creating of an environment which may be conducive to acts of violence against women.

The different roles of men and women involve different expectations in terms of attitudes, personality traits and behaviour - particularly sexual behaviour. In this area of sexual behaviour, society's double standards regarding men and women are very clear. It was suggested that the fact that only 30 per cent of women, of the 95 per cent who know of contraceptives, use contraceptives effectively indicated that social attitudes may tend to deter women from admitting to having a sexual life. Women in society are expected to be virtuous, chaste and faithful, but men are not subject to the same social controls. While differences exist in most areas between man and woman it is in the area of sexuality that perhaps the differences in social standards are most apparent.

## THE SWEDISH SITUATION

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The contribution to the seminar by Dr Bergstrom-Walan was important as it was the Swedish experience and situation that provided some guidelines for the possible achievement of equality between the sexes, the redefinition of roles, and perhaps the development of an environment in which sexual crimes and acts of violence against women may be reduced.

Sweden, said Dr Bergstrom-Walan, has total equality between the sexes in all areas including education, employment, domestic roles and sexual style. For example leave is available to mothers or fathers for seven months after the birth of a child indicating perhaps a greater sense of duty among men in terms of their families and a more recognised equality between husband and wife. Similarly between 60 per cent and 70 per cent of both males and females in Sweden have experienced sexual intercourse by the age of eighteen years, compared to their counterparts in the United States of America where slightly more males have experienced sexual intercourse by the same age, but only about 10 per cent of females had experienced sexual intercourse by that age. This clearly demonstrates the sexual equality between the sexes in Sweden and the pronounced double standard and difference in social expectations between males and females in the United States. While some may interpret this equality as reflecting promiscuity on the part of Swedish females, others may query the need for the double standard as demonstrated and comment that the term 'promiscuity' was invented by men to apply only to women to protect their property rights over their women.

Dr Bergstrom-Walan reported that to the best of her knowledge no study had been conducted that demonstrated any harmful effect of pornography on any age group. Using a study conducted by Berl Kutschinsky\* on pornography and sex crimes in Denmark she demonstrated both statistically and graphically that offences related to exhibitionism and indecency towards women and girls dropped significantly between 1959 and 1969, with a total drop of 63 per cent in relation to all offences of a heterosexual nature. Similarly it was demonstrated that a more liberal attitude towards sex crimes developed over the same period. Dr Bergstrom-Walan advised that it was her considered opinion that countries that do not allow, and suppress, pornography have a higher rate of sexual crimes than those that permit its publication.

Like Denmark, Sweden has very few cases of sexual crimes with the number of offences gradually declining including rape cases. Over the three years from 1969 to 1971 inclusive, of the reported rape cases 36 per cent were committed by migrants/foreigners to the Swedish culture.

While there may be various explanations for the decline in sexual offences in Sweden including greater tolerance of the exhibitionist, immature offenders finding adequate release through pornography, and a variety of perhaps unique socio-cultural factors, Dr Bergstrom-Walan regarded the sexual education programme in her country to be the most significant factor. Sexual education in Sweden has developed over a period of 75 years and in 1956 it was made compulsory for all age groups in all schools.

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\* *Studies on Pornography and Sex Crimes in Denmark* New Social Science Monographs E5 1970, Report to the US Presidential Commission on Obscenity and Pornography.

By 1959 70 per cent of pupils in school were receiving sexual education.

The Swedish government placed significant importance on this subject and the Royal Board of Education recently published a substantial report on it after an intensive ten year study. Sexual education is regarded as important as sexuality is an integral and vital part of the personality of all people and as such, needs to be understood, controlled and appreciated. It should not be an aspect of a person's personality that can only engender fear, anxiety and guilt.

A distinction was made between sex instruction, the presentation of biological data emphasising the negative aspects, and sexual education which incorporates feelings, 'heart' and human relationships.

Although sexual education programmes are fraught with difficulties related to the adequacy of the teachers, the education of the teachers and the involvement of parents, Sweden has been able to overcome these, but not without a great deal of work and self-examination. However, sexual education is not regarded as the sole prerogative of the schools, it starts in the home, in the child's relationships with his or her parents and the warmer these contacts the healthier the child. Love, said Dr Bergstrom-Walan, is the best protection against crime and this, to her appeared to be the basic philosophy underlying developments in Swedish society.

Another issue currently receiving attention in Sweden relates to literature and text books in particular. Many teachers are now carefully re-examining the impact of text books on pupils in terms of the stereotyping of the old traditional sex roles and the treatment of discriminatory practices as the social norm. Such influences on children may mitigate against the development of real equality and respect between man and woman in their society.

In the process of establishing equality between the sexes it is not only the woman who has been freed to take a more active part in society through work, education and politics, but the man has also been 'liberated' to exercise his right to show his feelings for his family and friends and demonstrate his interest in human relationships. His role has been expanded or redefined, to allow greater scope of feelings and interests than those previously defined in terms of his career and money. Such a man, suggested Dr Bergstrom-Walan, may not be well accepted in a materialistic society because of the different nature of his priorities.

It was acknowledged that the Swedish experience may not be appropriate for other societies or cultures. However, while other factors not covered in the time permitted Dr Bergstrom-Walan are probably also relevant to the total Swedish experience, sufficient information was presented about the reduction of the rate of sexual crimes, the equality of the sexes and the redefinition of sex roles in society, the sexual education programme and the basic social philosophy of love and humanity to merit the serious consideration of all participants.

Similarly in the paper presented and distributed by Mrs Sato, visiting scholar, the decrease in Japan's crime rate and the stability of the crime rate of women was generally considered to be due to the accepted role definitions of man and woman and their relationships to the wider Japanese society.

## RAPE

The offence of rape is regarded as a serious crime in society which may incur very severe penalties on the convicted offender. Yet only a minority of such offenders are convicted and it was proposed that it is society itself which creates the attitudinal prerequisites for the crime to occur and to ensure the relative immunity from prosecution or conviction of the offender.

The crime of rape was referred to as the 'sexist crime *par excellence*' in its brutal representation of the aggressive, powerful and domineering man and the submissive, powerless and subdued woman. Although extreme, the similarities of roles between the rapist and the victim and those expected of man and woman in society are clear. Society rewards aggressive, domineering behaviour in man and tends to equate male eroticism with power and aggression; but woman is expected to be submissive, subdued, passive, sexually attractive and chaste, virginal and sexually passive. This situation was considered to be conducive to rape, a situation brought about by the sex role socialisation process of which rape may be an inevitable by-product.

Following the offence social attitudes inadvertently act to protect not the victim but the offender. One study cited demonstrated that, of two hundred cases prosecuted in one city, only one third were convicted. Similarly of forty-five cases in contact with a rape crisis centre only five reported the offence to the police and none of these were successfully pursued. All speakers on this subject regarded social attitudes as being a deterrent to the reporting of the crime by the victim with the result that only a minority of such cases are reported. Similarly it was agreed that the police and court procedures in these cases also unwittingly tended to safeguard the offender, with the result that many rapists are never detected or punished for a crime which may be regarded as being almost the ultimate invasion of a woman's physical and psychological being.

The reluctance of women to report the offence results, to a large extent, from the unfounded but prevalent view in both the community and among criminal justice personnel that rape victims encourage and entice the offender and initiate the necessary processes leading to the offence. Experience in Australia and the United States of America indicate that such views of victim initiation of rape are completely unfounded, but rampant. As a result it is the victim who may be treated with suspicion by the police, courts, her family, friends and others until she is proved innocent through a trial by ordeal. At times this pressure is such that the victim may withdraw her complaint against the assailant in order to end her own 'trial'. If treated with suspicion, distrust and hostility by the police, courts and the community, the victim may be subjected to a second, third or even fourth 'rape' which may be emotionally more damaging than the original act of violence against her.

With regard to the above social attitudes and treatment of the victim it was alleged and accepted by the seminar, that the law in rape cases is oriented towards the protection of male property rights rather than the integrity of the female body.

While it was agreed that widespread changes in social attitudes were required to correct the situation of the rape victim and to minimise the incidence of rape in society, it was also recommended by the speakers that some immediate practical measures related to legislative change, procedural modifications and the provision of services to victims, should be investigated and implemented. There was a disagreement over the nature of legislative changes required with many favouring the desexualisation of the offence and its being classified as an assault, and others preferring the retention of the crime of rape with its own special characteristics. However, all were agreed that a woman's prior sexual activity should not be admissible as relevant evidence in court, that the husband should not be excluded from prosecution if he offends, that there should be less corroboration required and that courts should be obliged to protect the woman's right to privacy.

Police procedures were also challenged and it was proposed that states establish 'sex crime squads' appropriately staffed by policewomen who would be given adequate training and status, and would be selected on the basis of their ability to support and relate to victims of sex offences. Similarly, in terms of providing maximum support and assistance to victims it was suggested that 'victim relief centres' should be attached to police stations. These centres would liaise closely with hospitals and contribute significantly to the welfare of victims, particularly the victims of rape.

The seminar recognised the difficulties involved in proving a charge of rape against an offender, but it was also apparent that there is wide scope for changes in social attitudes, legislation, police and court procedures and in the provision of adequate services to rape victims. Society's present system of processing rape cases appears to stigmatise the victim and safeguard the offender, with a resultant reluctance of victims to report the offence and perhaps a minority of those charged being convicted.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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It is perhaps in the home itself, in the nuclear family, that the vulnerability and submissiveness of woman as determined by society's role definitions and expectations are most evident. Offences by husband against wife, including bashings and rape, are the most common offences committed against women. Yet while these crimes are neither officially nor socially sanctioned it was agreed that society's indifference to these occurrences, and its failure to provide appropriate legislation, procedures or services to meet the needs of these victims, reflected an unofficial acceptance of these acts and an implicit approval of them by society.

In the legal definition of rape husbands are excluded from the possibility of being charged with this offence against their wives indicating that wives are little more than 'properties acquired in marriage'. Similarly, while husbands are not so exempted in other legislation, for example assault, wives are confronted by a number of serious difficulties, or even barriers, to their successfully taking court action against their husbands.

One study conducted in New South Wales in 1973 showed that, in that year, over 5,500 cases of assaulted women came before the courts in that State, but of these 52.1 per cent or about 3,000 cases, lapsed through want of prosecution. The same study indicated that because of this factor magistrates tended to be reluctant to issue summonses, with the result that perhaps only half the cases referred to the magistrate in chambers are pursued in the form of a summons. Therefore the number of initial complaints by women in New South Wales in 1973 would have been in the vicinity of 11,000 to 12,000 of which only a quarter led to properly pursued court proceedings. At the same time, it was felt that those women who actually involve the police, and subsequently see the magistrate in chambers, may represent a minority of the total number of women who were actually assaulted with the majority taking no action at all. Court action tended to be regarded as the last resort for women who may have been the victims of assault over long periods of time.

To some extent it was considered that such assaults reflected the role definitions of man and woman in society with some conflict being almost the social norm. In asserting his authority over his wife a man may justifiably abuse her and, in terms of her accepting her subservient obedient role prescribed by society, the woman may accept such behaviour without lodging an official complaint. Man may not feel required to respect his wife and the wife may not expect to be respected.

As with the case of rape, it is a common attitude in society that women who are assaulted by their husbands initiate or provoke the offence. With domestic assaults it is generally proposed that the wife through nagging or some other such behaviour provokes the assault in order to satisfy her own masochistic need to be hurt and punished. Yet the severity of many assaults tends to cast considerable doubt over such explanations which are usually proposed to explain the durability of 'sado-masochistic' marital relationships. Little attention is paid to the economic dependency of the wife, her fear of her husband, and the lack of community services to assist her if she were to leave her husband. The wife, it was agreed, may not be masochistic but trapped with few avenues of escape available to her.

In this context attention was paid to the need for women's refuges, emergency accommodation, financial assistance and the protection of women who decide to leave their husbands. Such services, it was felt appear to be almost non-existent and this neglect may reflect society's acceptance and approval of abuses within the domestic situation.

At the same time, it was proposed that not only are women vulnerable in the home but many children may also be considered to be at risk. If wives can be considered as 'properties' of their husbands, children can be regarded as 'chattels' of the family and it has been recognised only recently that child abuse is quite common within our society. Despite this recent recognition of the problem, society has as yet not introduced sufficient procedures and services to detect and assist children at risk and their parents.

The abuse of women, and children, in the home situation has usually been viewed as an individual problem pertaining to individual families and treated in this way. Yet the incidence of these abuses and the suffering they produce, is such that they are, it was recognised, real social problems which need to be approached at this level. Domestic violence relates

not only to the strength or weakness of the nuclear family in which it occurs and the services, available or not, to support and assist the family, but it also relates to the roles and rights of man, woman and child in society. Similarly it has implications for the roles of the various agencies of social control in the protection of those victims considered to be at continued risk.

### CONCLUDING COMMENTS

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In considering the theme 'Women as the Victims of Crime' the seminar repeatedly raised questions related to the role definitions of man and woman in society. These definitions were regarded as being conducive to situations in which woman was vulnerable to physical abuse on the part of man and therefore needed to be modified or changed.

The changes concerned mainly the role of woman in the direction of her developing greater sexual, economic, political and social equality with man in order that her vulnerability be reduced. Simultaneously, it was implied there should be an accompanying change in attitude towards woman by man in terms of a greater respect for woman's identity, freedom and individuality. However, although the need to change the stereotyped male and female roles in society was clearly stated, the means by which this may be achieved were less clearly defined.

The Swedish experience provided some guidelines and considerable interest was demonstrated by participants in the means by which equality was achieved in that country. The sexual/human relationships education programme was seen as the major factor contributing to this development and as such was felt to be a necessary part of any widespread programme to change community attitudes towards sexuality in the Australian society. While its applicability to this society was questioned it was agreed that considerable attention should be given to the development of such a programme which would be in keeping with the needs of this society.

At another level several victim groups were presented and discussed in some detail with particular emphasis on their practical difficulties and needs. These included rape victims and the victims of domestic violence who were considered to be by-products of society's sex role definitions. Both these groups tend to be confronted by difficulties in their dealings with the police, courts and other relevant bodies whose policies may reflect the wider social attitudes and expectations of the community. All these factors were generally seen as creating a situation in which a minority of such offences are reported and of these only a few offenders are eventually convicted.

To change community attitudes may be a long and difficult process but it was considered appropriate in the short term to seek legislative changes in respect of these two groups and to request the provision of specialised services to assist them. The changes and services required are outlined both in the report and in the summary of resolutions in Appendix I. The aims of the changes and services proposed are to provide maximum protection, support and assistance to the victims taking into consideration the nature of their experiences.

The legislative changes and changes to court and police procedures related particularly to rape and domestic assaults. The *National Compensation Act* and *Homeless Persons Act* were also mentioned in respect of battered wives to ensure that adequate provision was made in these Acts to meet their specific needs.

While differences in priorities and means to achieve change were expressed it may be appropriate in conclusion to quote a statement made to the seminar by Dr Bertrand on 17 April 1975

'We are at the point where we have to render explicit our values, beliefs and morals, that we think are going finally to direct and orient our choice of means for becoming the women we want to be'.

At the same time it may be appropriate for society itself to clarify its values and beliefs in relation to the role expectations of man and woman, in order to more meaningfully plan for its own future development.

## RESOLUTIONS

## APPENDIX I

Twenty-seven resolutions were carried at the plenary session on 19 April 1975 and are summarised here in terms of needs expressed and action recommended.

### THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

- Resolution 1: The need for comprehensive educational programmes in human relationships to modify the sexual attitudes of this society.
- Resolution 2: The need for an enquiry into the nature of the environment in which violent offences are committed against women.
- Resolution 3: The need to recognise the problems that arise from the different roles that women and men have in this society.
- Resolution 4: The need for improved communication at all levels in the community.

### VICTIMS OF RAPE

- Resolution 5: The need to re-examine all acts, regulations and procedures relating to the processing of rape cases by courts and police with particular attention to the total welfare of the victims.
- Resolution 6: The need to re-examine police questioning of rape victims with a view to the victims' welfare.
- Resolution 7: The need for specially trained units to conduct such examination as required to collect evidence in rape cases and for the victim to receive medical treatment prior to a formal statement being taken.
- Resolution 8: The need for services to support and assist victims of sexual crimes both in the short and long term.
- Resolution 9: The need for rape victims to be referred to rape crisis centres if available.
- Resolution 10: The need for increased liaison between women's crisis centres, police and other organisations.
- Resolution 11: The need for funding of services assisting women as victims of crime.
- Resolution 12: The need for special training of those professionals working with women as victims of crime.

## BATTERED WIVES

- Resolution 13: The need for action research and provision of services in the area of battered women and children.
- Resolution 14: The need for the police to ensure the protection and welfare of victims in domestic conflicts.
- Resolution 15: The need for battered women to be protected against their assailants by restraining orders if required.
- Resolution 16: The need to avoid the intimidation of domestic victims by expediting legal processes.
- Resolution 17: The need for emergency financial assistance to victims of domestic violence who are forced to leave home.
- Resolution 18: The need for 'women's refuges' to provide emergency accommodation to women forced to leave their homes.
- Resolution 19: The need for financial compensation to wives who have been assaulted or battered by their husbands.
- Resolution 20: The need for the applicability of the Battered Wives (Right to Possession of the Matrimonial Home) Bill (United Kingdom) to be investigated in relation to the Australian situation.
- Resolution 21: The need for the informal processing of cases related to children, family and community conflicts in community-based facilities.

## CHILD ABUSE

- Resolution 22: The need for the more effective detection and reporting of child abuse cases.
- Resolution 23: The need for children who report incest or other domestic unlawful assault to be removed from such environments at their request.
- Resolution 24: The need for children to have a right to legal representation and full protection of the law.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- Resolution 25: The need for the development of community based rehabilitation programmes for violent offenders if suitable.
- Resolution 26: The need for an 'Australian Women's Commission' with a sub-committee to continue the work of this seminar.
- Resolution 27: The need for the United Nations to further demonstrate its belief in the equality of the sexes.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## APPENDIX II

## PROJECT DIRECTOR

Miss S. Blomfield            Australian Institute of Criminology  
                                 Australian Capital Territory

## VISITING EXPERTS

Dr Maj-Britt Bergstrom-    Swedish Institute for Sexual Research  
Walan                        Stockholm        Sweden

Dr Marie-Andree Bertrand    The Institute of Criminology  
                                 University of Montreal  
                                 Quebec        Canada

## LECTURERS

Dr R. Birrell                Medical Practitioner  
                                 Victoria

Ms R. Bonney                Research Officer  
                                 New South Wales Bureau of Crime  
                                 Statistics and Research  
                                 New South Wales

Senator R. Coleman         Western Australia

Ms A. Deveson                Commissioner  
                                 Royal Commission on Human Relationships

Miss L. Hunter              Department of Law  
                                 Monash University  
                                 Victoria

Mrs V.J. Johnson            Research Officer  
                                 New South Wales Bureau of Crime  
                                 Statistics and Research  
                                 New South Wales

Harold G. Weir              Assistant Director (Training & Information)  
                                 Australian Institute of Criminology  
                                 Australian Capital Territory

Dr Paul Wilson              Reader  
                                 Department of Sociology  
                                 University of Queensland  
                                 Queensland

## CONSULTANT

Ms J. Mathews                      Counsel  
 Royal Commission on Human Relationships

## VISITING SCHOLARS

Mrs Kinko Saito Sato              United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for  
 the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of  
 Offenders  
 Tokyo              Japan

John P. Noble                      Regional Superintendent  
 Central Gippsland Region  
 Social Welfare Department  
 Victoria

## PARTICIPANTS

Sister Anne Marie                Social Welfare Consultant, Christian Family  
 Centre, Rockhampton, Queensland.

Miss M. Barker                    Community Welfare Worker, Mt Gambier, South  
 Australia.

Mrs A. Basil                        Social Welfare Worker, Calcutta, India.

Sister Bernadette                Principal, Duchesne College, University of  
 Queensland.

Mrs K. Bourke                    Vice President, National Council of Women of  
 Australia.

Mrs D. Buckland                 School of Sociology, University of New South Wales.

Ms E. Briscoe                    Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, Adelaide,  
 South Australia.

Mrs D.J. Calder                 President, Status of Women Association, Victoria.

Mrs S. Carmody                 Women Justices Association of Western Australia;  
 National Council of Women, Western Australia.

Mrs M.E. Cedervall              Lieutenant-Colonel, Salvation Army, Hong Kong.

Sister Christine                 Secondary Teacher, Newstead, Tasmania.

Ms E.M. Cox                      Tutor, Department of Sociology, University of New  
 South Wales; Research Action Group, Women's  
 Electoral Lobby, New South Wales.

Mrs U.F. Crabbe                 State Secretary, National Council of Women,  
 Western Australia.

Inspector W.O. Currie	Police Department, Western Australia.
Mrs M. Clifford	Australian Capital Territory.
Mrs P. Douglas-Henry	President, Women's Action Group, Port Hedland, Western Australia.
Sister Dympna	Welfare Worker, Alice Springs, Northern Territory.
Ms M. Elliot	Research Assistant, Institute of Criminology, The University of Sydney, New South Wales.
Ms J. Florence	Council for the Single Mother and her Child, Melbourne, Victoria.
Ms L. Fraser	Counsellor, Elsie Women's Refuge, Glebe, New South Wales.
Ms H.M. Golding	Law Student, University of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales.
Mrs G.D. Graves	Senior Research Psychologist, Parkville Psychiatric Unit, Victoria.
Miss E.H. Hall	Probation and Parole Officer, Department of Correctional Services, South Australia.
Mrs M. Hicks	Executive Member, Abortion Counselling Service, Australian Capital Territory.
Ms M. Hinchliffe	Women's Electoral Lobby, Australian Capital Territory.
Ms R. Heatley	Welfare Worker, Alice Springs, Northern Territory.
Ms A. Hollingsworth	Secretary, Women's Electoral Lobby, Queensland.
Sergeant H. Innes	Police Department, Burnie, Tasmania.
Ms S. Jackson	Red Cross Centre, Melbourne, Victoria.
Ms S. Johnson-Rogers	Counsellor, Sydney Rape Crisis Centre, New South Wales.
Ms A. Kamarul	Legal Officer, Human Rights Division, Attorney-General's Department, Australian Capital Territory.
Mrs P. Keesing	National Vice President, Union of Australian Women, New South Wales.
Detective Sergeant P.J. Kelly	Police Department, New South Wales.
Constable C. Lovegrove	Police Force, Australian Capital Territory.
Ms E.F. Lucas	Managing Director, Advertising Firm, Victoria.

Mrs I.R. Macdonald	Alderman for City of Henley and Grange. Founder, Henley Community Aid and Advisory Centre, South Australia.
Constable S. McIntyre	Police Force, Australian Capital Territory.
Ms B.D. McMahon	Administrator, Women's Emergency Shelter Committee, South Australia.
Mrs H.D. Meyer	Lyndoch, South Australia.
Sister Miriam	Welfare Officer, Home for Unmarried Mothers, South Australia.
Ms G. Mooney	Women's Electoral Lobby, Launceston, Tasmania.
Miss M. Morris	Student Nurse, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide.
Mrs M. Muirhead	United Nations International Women's Year Committee, Darwin, Northern Territory.
Mrs P. O'Neill	Women's Shelter, Darwin, Northern Territory.
Mrs R. Packer	Welfare Rights Officer, Australian Greek Welfare Society, Victoria.
Ms E.F.M. Pasmore	Secretary, Children by Choice Association, Queensland.
Sister Pauline	Catholic Family Welfare Bureau, Geelong, Victoria.
Ms N. Peck	Convenor, Rape Crisis Centre, Women's Community Aid Association, Queensland.
Mrs K. Peisley	Rape Crisis Committee, Australian Capital Territory.
Ms K.A. Petersen	Lecturer, Department of Legal Studies, La Trobe University, Victoria.
Mrs P. Platt	Supervisor of Girls, Canobolas High School, Orange, New South Wales.
Inspector N.D. Plumb	Police Department, Northern Territory.
Mrs J. Potts	District Officer, Department of Community Welfare, Christies Beach, South Australia.
R. Pryke	Programme Officer, Department of Youth, Ethnic and Community Services, New South Wales.
Ms J. Rankine Wilson	Women's Electoral Lobby, Western Australia.
Miss J.A. Richardson	Women Police Liaison Officer, South Australia.

Ms J. Rigg	Coordinator, Australian Women's Broadcasting Cooperative, New South Wales.
Mrs N.E. Robinson	Journalist, <i>Country Woman</i> , South Australia.
Miss J. Schwager	School Counsellor, Blacktown, New South Wales.
Major P.D. Stephens	Court and Prison Officer, Salvation Army, New South Wales.
Mrs A.I. Symington	President of Association of Heads of Independent Girls Schools, Western Australia.
Miss P.F. Thomas	Director, Citizens Advice Bureau of Western Australia.
• : • Mrs M. Tolland	President, National Council of Women, Launceston, Tasmania.
Mrs J.L. Tulloch	Convenor, Social Concerns Committee, Presbyterian Women's Association, New South Wales.
Sister Valerie	Curriculum Officer, State Education Department, Tasmania.
Miss R.P. Vora	Research and Documentation Officer, Research and Documentation Centre in Social Welfare and Development, Bombay, India.
Ms S. Wilson	Welfare Officer, Social Development, Department of the Northern Territory.
Ms B. Wurtheim	Secretariat, International Women's Year, Australian Capital Territory.

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WED 16 APRIL 75

THURS 17 APRIL 75

FRI 18 APRIL 75

SAT 19 APRIL 1975

9.30 AM

THEME: Rape and Associated Topics  
 PAPER: Dr Marie-Andree Bertrand  
 'Women as Victims'  
 PAPER: Dr P. Wilson  
 'Redefining Rape - Theoretical and Practical Considerations'

THEME: Assault, Wife Bashing, Child Bashing, Murder, Shoplifting, Migrant Problems, Women Offenders.  
 PAPER: Mrs Kinko Saito Sato  
 'Women and Crime in Japan'  
 PAPER: Mrs V. Johnson  
 'Prevalence of Domestic Assault'  
 PAPER: Dr Robert Birrell  
 'Juvenile Assault'

PLENARY SESSION:  
 Chair: Miss S. Blomfield

CLOSING SESSION

1.00 PM

LUNCHEON

LUNCHEON

LUNCHEON

LUNCHEON

2.15 PM

WELCOME: H.G. Weir  
 P.R. Loof

INTRODUCTION: Miss S. Blomfield  
 Dr Maj-Britt Bergstrom-Walan  
 Dr Marie-Andree Bertrand  
 Mrs Kinko Saito Sato

PAPER: H.G. Weir  
 'Feelings, Fantasies, Fiction & Facts'

PAPER: Ms A. Deveson  
 Chair: Miss S. Blomfield  
 Panels: Visiting Experts & Scholars

PAPER: Miss L. Hunter  
 'Reform of the Law Relating to the Investigation, Prosecution and Trial of Rape Cases: Liberationist Views and Lawyers Responses'

PAPER: Ms R. Bonney  
 'Procedural Difficulties and Alternative Methods of Reporting and Handling Rape Cases'

Group Discussion on Theme

INTEREST GROUPS:

Led by Dr Maj-Britt Bergstrom-Walan  
 Dr Marie-Andree Bertrand  
 Mrs Kinko Saito Sato  
 Ms R. Bonney  
 Dr R. Birrell

5.45 to 6.45 p.m.

Director's Reception  
 held at the  
 Australian Institute of Criminology

3.00 PM

PUBLIC MEETING:

'WOMEN AS VICTIMS OF CRIME'

Speakers: Dr Maj-Britt Bergstrom-Walan

PUBLIC MEETING:

'WOMAN AND DEVIANCE'

Speakers: Dr Marie-Andree Bertrand  
 Senator Coleman

SEMINAR PROGRAMME

APPENDIX III