

Anti-porn group blames media for abuse

Women have been humiliated, dominated, and treated as objects by pornographic media, said YWCA chairer Marcia Kraus Tuesday, at a Women's Symposium session on violence and pornography.

In an hour-long slide show and lecture, sponsored by Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media, Kraus said media that promote pornography also promote violence against women.

The anti-pornography organization — with a member-

ship of 1,300 women and men — promotes increased public awareness of the male dominance and female submissiveness which is abundant in the media, she said.

"Pornography encourages men to believe that violence or dominance toward women is OK," Kraus said. "Our organization promotes erotica not pornography."

"We believe it is up to citizens like us to define what is erotic and what is not," she added. "If we begin on the grass roots

level, which is where we have to begin, maybe we'll see a change."

Much of the current pornographic material also promotes racism by showing black women in submissive roles to white men, Kraus said. "Black women have traditionally been seen as exotic to the white man."

The material also promotes the idea that men have to beat women occasionally to keep them in line, she said. This kind of pornographic material certainly has an effect on many of the one million men who beat their wives each year, Kraus said.

Much of the media also portray young girls in submissive roles to the more dominant males, she said, adding this is another way of exploiting women. This information also promotes the incest taboo, Kraus said.

"The media constantly depicts females in submissive roles," she said. "Much subliminal advertising shows

women in submissive roles."

In addition to this submission portrayal, Kraus explained that the media portrays women as mere sexual objects.

"Objectification makes us believe that our sexual parts are more important than the rest of our bodies," she said.

Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media will sponsor — also as part of the Women's Symposium — a film entitled "Killing Us Softly" at 8 p.m. today. The film depicts advertising's images of much of this pornographic violence against women.

Women's symposium film, talks, continue

The 1982 Women's Symposium, an ASUO-funded event which started Sunday, will continue today and Thursday with a variety of seminars, films, panel discussions, and other events.

Those events scheduled for today and Thursday are:

Wednesday:

10-11:30 a.m.: "The Bottom Line: Labeling and Identification" in the EMU Forum.
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: "Poetry Workshop" in the EMU Dads Room.
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: "Mind-Body Relaxation and Creative Visualization" in EMU 214.

12-5 p.m.: "Women's Art Exhibit" in EMU 167.
12-1 p.m.: "Women's Stories" by Cynthia Orr in the EMU Forum.
1:30-3 p.m.: "Women and Spirituality: Panel" in the EMU Forum.
3-4:30 p.m.: "Comparable Worth" in the EMU Dads Room.
3-4:30 p.m.: "A Celebration of Today's Woman Artist" in EMU 214.
3:30-5:30 p.m.: "Issei Immigrant and Nisei Activist: Japanese-American Perspective" by Jean Ishibashi and Shizue Yamaguchi in the EMU Forum.
3:30-5 p.m.: "New Games: Non-Competitive Games for Women" in the grass-area east of EMU.

7-8 p.m.: "Who Remembers Mama?" film in the EMU Forum.
8-8:30 p.m.: "Killing Us Softly: Advertising's Image of Women" film in the EMU Forum.

8:30-9:30 p.m.: "In the Best Interest of the Children" film in the EMU Forum.

Thursday:

10-11:30 a.m.: "Women's Voice in the Nuclear Arms Issue: Panel and Film: 'The Final Epidemic'" in the EMU Forum.
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: "Psychiatric Oppression Against Women" in EMU 214.

12-1:30 p.m.: "Mary Watkins' Workshop" in the EMU Forum.
12-5 p.m.: "Women's Art Exhibit" in EMU 167.
1-2:30 p.m.: "Making Connections: The dynamics of Networking and Creative Social Support" in EMU 215.

1:30-3 p.m.: "The Politics of Parenting: Panel Discussion" in the EMU Forum.
3-4 p.m.: "Women and Literature" in EMU 215.
3:30-5 p.m.: "Nellie and Mitsuye" film with Mitsuye Yamada in the EMU Forum.
7:30-11 p.m.: "Poetry and Jazz: Alice Walker and Mary Watkins" in the EMU Ballroom.

All events are free of charge except for the appearance of Walker and Watkins in the Ballroom. Tickets, available at the EMU main desk or at the door, are \$2.50 for students, \$3 for general admission.

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