

Single women focus on problems

By Marlene Clark
Staff Writer

The problems and possible solutions facing single women alone were discussed at a recent seminar as part of the Focus on Women series.

Over 45 women, the majority of them middle-aged, attended the gathering on April 28 at Clackamas Community College.

"Raising children, feeling alone, floundering feelings, feeling sorry for ourselves are the things we want to talk about tonight," said Pat Krumm, instructor of nursing and head of the panel of women.

Other panel members included Bernice Evans, counselor, CCC; Margie Dormbusch, U.S. National Bank, Marketing department; Pat Lehmkuhl, R.N., Willamette Falls Hospital, Inservice; and Bernie Nolan, counselor, CCC.

Evans was the first to speak. She spoke about women who are single by choice. Evans has never been married, although she did have the chance.

"In our society if you are single something must be wrong with you," said Evans. "I've found it a neat experience to be single. There have been problems, but I find my life fulfilling. There was always one more thing I had to do before I 'settled' down."

You have to learn to deal with being alone and get rid of the idea that a man has to do everything, said Evans.

Krumm said that the hardest adjustment for her during her separation and divorce was being alone.

"I felt devastated. I had a career, but I didn't wish to see anyone or meet anybody. When I started feeling O.K. about myself I did things with friends," she said.

"How do you go about meeting people especially if you're new in the area?" asked one woman.

"Try the Clackamas County Mental Health Center. They have a group for women. The Solo Center has discussion groups, trips, counseling, and planned activities," said Mary Oldford CCC counselor. "Take classes here or at Portland State University or Marylhurst -- even places like this seminar."

Krumm suggested hiking, backpacking, or joining single's clubs, for example -- Parents Without Partners.

The main thing is not to be afraid to make the first move. At first it is hard to admit you're alone but the more you say it the easier it becomes, said Krumm.

"With as many people that are here tonight we could form our own club," said a member of the audience. Evans added that she had lots of ideas for things to do.

Many women are between men and grasping for security and the hope that another man will find them attractive. Although many are not ready for a long-term relation-

ship, they often run into another marriage.

"You have to have your own happiness before you can find happiness with someone else," said Krumm.

Another major problem with being alone is children. Kids often times blame themselves for a separation or divorce. They need reassurance that they are not to blame and that they are loved and cared for at all times, according to some of the women.

Children must feel it is all right to love both mommy and daddy -- not that they must choose sides. However, there is often a resentful partner and the children pick up on these feelings.

Money and finances are also problems concerning the woman alone. "Women have

the same rights as a man. We have to use them," said Dormbusch.

Borrowing money is a hassle for women, but the same laws that men apply to women. First a person must be credit-worthy. Their income must be a certain ratio, and they must have worked at a job for a length of time -- usually a year.

Being in a union is an advantage. You may change jobs but you are still in the same occupation and same union. However, most women's jobs are non-union.

Another suggestion many of the women made was to plan for the future. It was suggested that women finish school and have a career since they will almost certainly have to work at sometime in their

Cafeteria art originator plans departure from CCC

By Harry Bielskis
News Editor

To many Clackamas Community College students and employees, the cafeteria will seem empty without the presence of kitchen helper Alyce Martin. She is leaving CCC this week.

Known to her friends and co-workers as Sid, she has provided the Community Center cafeteria with an "at home touch" for as many years as the cafeteria has been in existence.

"Having Sid around in the morning is like having all the comforts of home," said one student.

Many students associate Sid with her high-pitched voice echoing throughout the cafeteria. If you have been startled into an awakened state by someone screeching "numberrr fourrr, come and get it or eat it cold!" chances are good that voice was Sid's. The effect is said to be similar to two large cups of coffee.

Sid lives in the Willamette area and because a bridge near her home is being reconstructed, she has to drive four times as far to get to the college. The 29 mile round-trip inconvenience is forcing her to leave the college.

"My main reason for quitting is that I'm tired of being treated as the cafeteria sex symbol," she said.

Prior to her arrival at CCC, Sid worked 17 years as a secretary to a Clackamas county commissioner in the Oregon City Courthouse. During that time she also at-

tended night school in the hopes of becoming a dental assistant.

When one of the regular kitchen helpers was called for jury duty, Sid applied for the job and her culinary career at CCC began.

"All the wit and charm in the cafeteria is mine," Sid said. Her specialties are burgers (she claims to have made over 1,615,000 of them) breakfasts and sign-

Sid considers herself the "brains" of the cafeteria art department and takes credit for the numerous signs of proverbs and humorous "warnings" posted on the cafeteria walls.

The signs came into being when the cafeteria was originally located in the old dall building and was nicknamed "The Beanery". At that time students had to line up at the concession stand in order to get their breakfast and lunch orders.

"The cramped quarters were terrible and resulted in a lot of arguing," she said. She believes the signs and "joking atmosphere" served as a defense mechanism against the working conditions.

Sid's favorite sign, one of her creations, states: "Have a friend in the hospital? Send flowers -- send sandwiches!"

"Sid has helped greatly in keeping the atmosphere stable around here because she shows interest well beyond the welfare of the operation. I consider her to be a friend, not just an employee," said Norm Grams, food services supervisor.

Mornings in the cafeteria just won't be the same without Sid's voice in the air.

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I HAVE a "63" VW and need a right front fender. Also could use some decent tires. Leave message at Ext.259.

for sale

BEAUTIFUL SIBERIAN HUSKIES, 6 mos. and 1 yr. \$35.00 each to good home. Call 655-1389.

'53 GMC 1 TON TRUCK, rough body, ran good when parked 7 months ago, side racks, \$75.00. Call Tom Thacker 824-6045 after 7 p.m.

personal

BAMBI: The torch I hold for you is still burning strong. I hope it proves to be an eternal flame. See you in June. . . Big Buck.

SUE: You can pick your nose and you can pick your friends but you sure don't know how to pick your lovers! You'd better move the trees if you want to see the forest.

HER NAME IS DENNY and she'll sell you a benny for a dollar and a penny. Lover Boy.

R.S. (ALIAS B.P.) Timb's ripe for a Tammy's, don't you agree? Signed A.E. (alias)

A NEW DAWN will be coming soon. It's a great entertainment. Watch for it!

STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO OSU: If you use \$2,500 in financial assistance over the next two years? If so, the Army ROTC year program may be for you. Your obligation upon graduation may be only \$300. Call Capt. Ron Clement at 754-3051 or Army ROTC, Oregon State University.

