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BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

134 WEST 51 STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10020

(212) 262-5460

January 29, 1973

Dear Ms. della Costa:

At this point in the development of women's movements throughout the world, it is natural that the IXth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences include a symposium on the status of these movements in as many countries as possible, and I have undertaken to plan such a symposium.

Would you consider contributing a paper on the women's movement, or on the status of women, in your own country, or in another country in which you have done this kind of research? If this is not possible, could you recommend women who would do so? Although this is a congress of anthropologists, the participation of any woman social scientist who is knowledgeable on the subject would be welcome. The following are suggestions for topics that might be explored:

the historical and sociocultural forces underlying the emergence of women's movement;

the nature of the groups comprising the women's movement: whether the women are professionals, trade-union workers, housewives, etc.; whether they are oriented toward political, economic and legislative change, or involved mainly with consciousness-raising, or in some combination of these;

the economic and political impact of a women's movement, such as the increased percentages of women in unskilled and skilled blue-collar work, white-collar work, and the professions, including teaching, law, medicine, engineering, the sciences; in the trade unions, as organizers and on executive boards; in local, state, regional, national government;

the specific goals of the movement, and the system of ideas invoked to support them;

the similarities between the women's movement and other liberation movements, and the support received by the women's movement from the other movements and from the various social sectors;

the differences between the women's movement and other liberation movements; the types of resistance encountered by the women's movement, and the strategies and tactics evolved to overcome them;

The information provided by a cross-cultural symposium on the women's movement should be illuminating to women everywhere, and increase our understanding of movements of social change. I hope you participate.

Sincerely, *Ruby Leavitt*
Ruby R. Leavitt, Ph.D
Asst. Professor
Social Science Dept.

Could you also please send me a copy of your book, "Women & the Subversion of the Community"?

F. H. ...

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