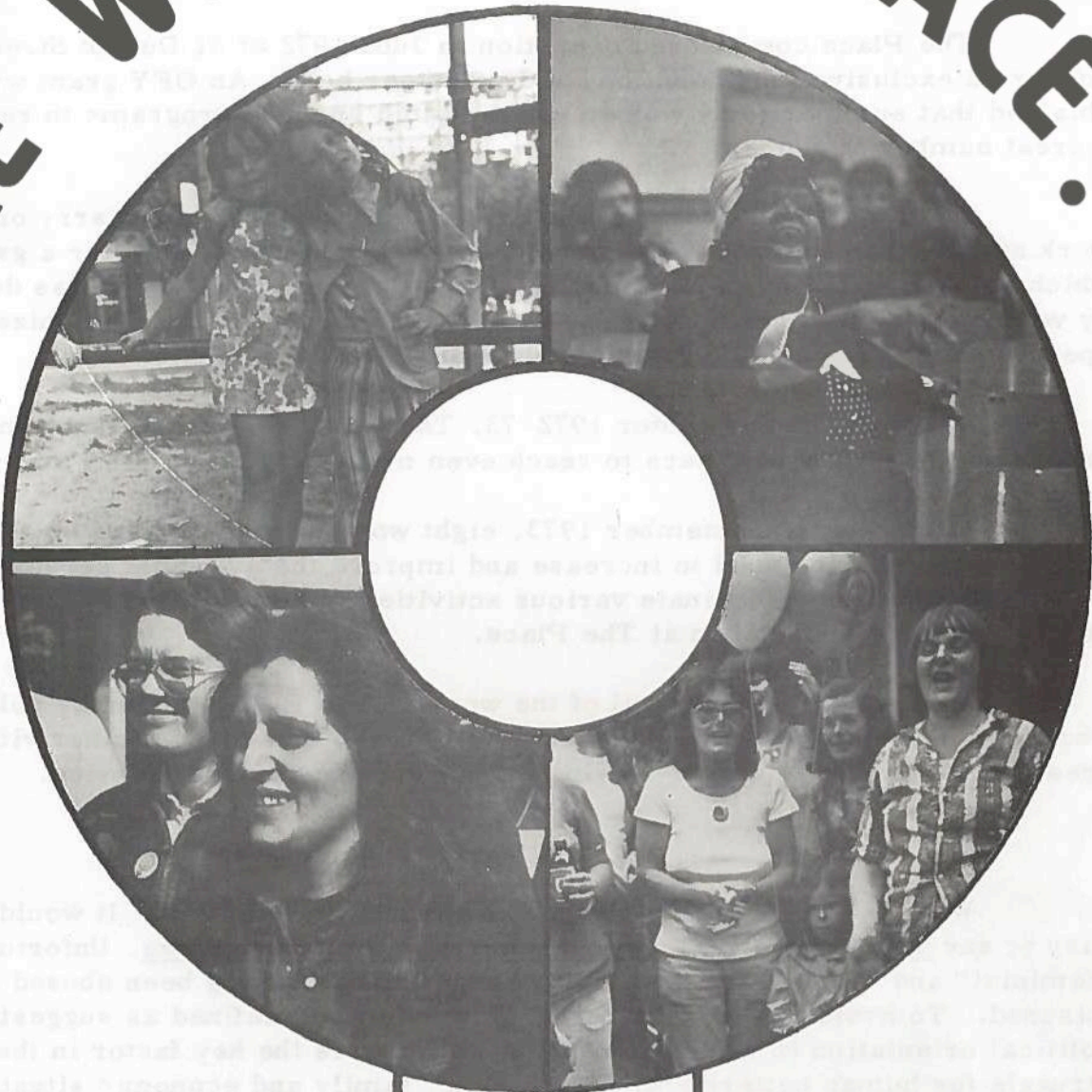


THE WOMEN'S PLACE...



meet

talk

work

plan

discover

Photography: L. Jones, H. Devor

Design: N. Logeman

The Women's Place was started by a group of women who felt many women were concerned about their liberation but isolated from one another. It was felt that if these women could be put in contact, this would increase the power base women are building for themselves.

The Place commenced operation in June 1972 at 31 Dupont Street, supported exclusively by donations and volunteer help. An OFY grant was obtained that summer for 9 women who initiated specific programs to reach a great number of women.

The OFY grant ended in August and help was needed to carry on the work started that summer. We applied to the Secretary of State for a grant which became effective in November 1972; in the interim all work was done by volunteers. This grant permitted the hiring of two full-time organizers; operating expenses are still met by donations from individuals.

Through fall and winter 1972-73, The Place set up new functions and programs and expanded others to reach even more women.

From May to September 1973, eight women were working on another OFY grant. They planned to increase and improve the available services. They also hoped to co-ordinate various activities to gain maximum effectiveness of projects undertaken at The Place.

As always, a great deal of the work at The Place is done by volunteers who work in the office, the bookstore, the library, and several other vital areas such as consciousness-raising groups and the referral service.

What is The Women's Place? What does it stand for? It would be easy to say The Women's Place is a feminist organizing centre. Unfortunately, "feminist" and "feminism" have many connotations, having been abused and misused. To avoid misunderstanding, "feminism" is defined as suggesting political orientation in which women's oppression is the key factor in the struggle for human betterment. Class, age, family and economic situation, education, and sexual preference are not relevant to whether an individual is a feminist. A feminist is a woman whose personal priority is her autonomy as a human being and her political priority is building an independent Women's Movement.

That's what all the activities at The Women's Place have in common. Whatever the specific area, our general policy is implemented by dealing only with, by, and for women. Only women are welcome at The Women's Place; only women can participate.

The Women's Place is here to help women towards change: personal change, and change of the social and political system. The Place does not promise happiness or fulfillment. It aims at raising awareness of the roots of woman's oppression, at helping women grow, and in the process, develop a positive self-image. The prime goal of The Place is not merely getting women a "better shake" in the same old system. Ultimately, the issue is not equality with men within the present ground rules; the issue is changing the ground rules for everyone. Strong, independent women are a prerequisite to that end. That's what The Women's Place stands for.

A PACKAGE WITH MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT IS AVAILABLE FROM THE PLACE FOR \$2.00