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In the last ¹⁰ years everybody started speaking about women. ~~But~~ The most important fact is that women started to speak about themselves not as objects of study but as subjects questioning their own situations in the world.

Women spoke so much, wrote so profusely, demonstrated + proved their issues with such intensity, in so many different instances (from the local level to the international forum) that the cumulative effect ~~of~~ of quantity resulted in a qualitative leap in the condition of women.

Indeed, let us not be fooled by a male-oriented press or by the conservative women (the most powerful of the conservative forces!)

in our midst. When we are speaking ⁽²⁾
of the contemporary women's movement,
we are facing one of the most important
social movements in this century

~~and~~ which has nothing to do with the
mere dissatisfaction of bourgeois
middle-class women. Such a move-
ment is world-wide, cuts across diffe-
rent social classes and springs forth
from the most unexpected + diverse
situations. It results from many
factors - we will try to look closely
at some of them.

First of all, there is among women
a new self-awareness - we realize that,
as women, we constitute a well-differentiated
group in society.

In sociological terms, we can go
further and say that women form a

bio-social class. No doubt that here (3)
we use the concept of "class" as encompassing
more than the opposition between different
social groups created by the process of
production. Such a class is a ~~class~~ social
formation determined by socio-economic
structures as well as by cultural features
linked to or flowing from biological conditions.

The oppression of women cannot be seen
as a simple corollary of the division of labour.
~~The biological condition~~ It is ~~my assumption~~
the assumption of most thinkers in this
field that the biological condition of
women is at the root of their specific
situation of civic minority, of social
and economic exploitation, of cultural
alienation + paralysis. ~~It became so~~
~~because such a condi~~