

10/22/62

WOMAN RESEARCH TEAM: CINCINNATI AREA

Summary of first meeting, 10/22/62

*Copies to
Lydwine
Therese Plante
Dolores Brien*

Present: Mary Cecelia Kane, Mary Kay Schutzius, Mary Bohlen,
Carol Hartan, Janet Kalven, Lydwine van Kersbergen

1. The subject and suggested study outline open up vast areas--
how can we delimit and focus the various topics to insure fruitful
and practicable research?

2. Some immediate proposals

a. A bibliography of recent periodical literature on woman

For the last 5 years?

American only? or international?

To be done by Mary Cecelia Kane and Gail Keyerleber Starkey.

b. A study of women in literature

American, post-war novels (what about short stories? drama?)
in which women appear as the main character or as important
characters.

Bibliography for this to be prepared by Mary Kay Schutzius;
reading and analysis of works by MKS and Mary Bohlen and others.*

Works to be read without preconceptions, but with some focal
questions in mind, e.g. *Fundação Cuidar o Futuro*

- the development of the person, personal freedom and fulfillment;
the more conscious and explicit recognition of woman as a
person. To what degree is this reflected in current literature?
- the changing concepts of authority in modern life generally,
in American life in particular. What concept of authority
is reflected in the husband-wife relations? parent-child
relations?
- the effect of changing concepts of the person and of authority
on marriage: what do people expect from marriage? what do
they expect to give to marriage?
- women and work: what picture of women at work is presented,
in the professions, in administrative-executive positions,
in the working class, etc.? What kind of commitment do
women make to their work? How does their work relate to their
marriages?

c. Bibliography on factual materials available on women's work,
education, and welfare from the U.S. Women's Bureau.
To be done by Carol Hartan.

d. Theology of woman:

Study of "Das Grosse Zeichen" by Dame Maura Boeckeler.

To be done by Lydwine van Kersbergen.



* She teaches American literature at the University of Cincinnati.



d. Theology of woman

Exegesis of key scripture texts on woman in light of new biblical scholarship: Ask Father Barnabas Ahern for this?

Study of "Die Frau im Heil" by the Benedictines of Herstelle.

e. Women in history.

How delimit? Maybe Grace Lamm will do something on this?

f. Study made by students at College of Mt. St. Joseph by under direction of Father Ryan, O.P. Check on material available from this: MKS

g. Study of woman in the Mayan Indian culture by friends of MKS: check on this.

3. Other possible lines of inquiry

a. The image of woman in popular culture

(1) What image of woman is presented in the women's magazines, in advertising, in films and TV?

(2) In the United States? In Japan? In Singapore? in other countries?

b. Women writers of stature in America today, e.g. Flannery O'Connor, Katherine Anne Porter, others??

How focus a study of these women? What would constitute a valid approach?

c. Difference in woman's role in Protestant and Latin cultures: is it true that women in the Latin cultures (southern Europe, Latin America) bring womanly values into the culture as a whole more than women in northern Europe and America? Complex factors are involved in this kind of cultural contrast, i.e. north and south, Germanic and Latin, Protestant and Catholic, masculine and feminine. Could this be formulated sharply enough to be studied a la Dawson?

d. The question of authority and the inter-relations of the different kinds of authority: husband-wife, parent-child, civil ruler-subject, clergy-laity. Cf. St. Paul to the Galatians, "no more Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female." Also St. Augustine to the fathers of families, "You are a bishop in your household." Also Ephesians, husband: wife ;; Christ: Church.

What kind of inter-action takes place here as social relations change? Cf. recent book on authority edited by John Todd.

e. Women in political life in the U.S.: history, facts of present-day women in politics, effects of women in politics.