
FEMINIST NEWS AND VIEWS

Morris County NOW

P.O. Box 394, Morristown, New Jersey 07960
Chapter Phone 973.285.1200



November/December 2011

Occupy Wall Street An Eyewitness Report

By Jo Sippie-Gora

I went to Occupy Wall Street in Zuccotti Park (now referred to as Liberty Park) recently, and it was an eye-opening experience! Joined in heart and mind with a desire to live in an environmentally sustainable, true democracy, they are single-handedly creating a model; living a microcosm for all the world to see and draw inspiration from, of what I hope for my children's future.

We sat in with several of the working groups who regularly meet inside the public space of the Atrium on Wall Street. The groups ranged in number from 8 to 35, were intensely serious, and totally zoned in. One group was focused on the emotional health and working relationships among the occupiers, and a need for Nonviolent Communication (NVC) training was addressed. Another group concerned itself with Direct Democracy and Facilitation Training. Another discussed how the Occupy Movement in the United States is contributing to the movement in other countries, and vice versa. Altogether, about 40 groups meet on a regular schedule and present items to the General Assembly for discussion, direction, and consensus.

By chance, I was video interviewed in the Atrium by a reporter from CBS News, and all went well until I politely questioned a loaded statement she had repeatedly recorded (to get it absolutely perfect). Her reporting was yet another illustration of CBS serving as corporate media. No "fair and balanced" here!

I gained much satisfaction from having engaged several pedestrians and occupiers around Liberty Park. Most were very positive, though two spoke AT me, basically venting and not listening. I called on my NVC training to stay calm, listen, and not engage, since the opportunity wasn't there to express my own views. I stayed on the periphery during the live General Assembly, since it was packed like a tin of sardines, and I felt not fully informed enough to take up that space. Next time, I plan to participate.

These committed occupiers – mostly young but some older - are making a fabulous effort, but they can't do it alone – no single group can. I am sure that the Occupy Movement has caused a virtual tilt in the earth's axis! But they need the proactive support of "We, the People" to effect real systemic change.

Edmund Burke said it perfectly: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." (this includes women too). And "evil" surely has visited itself upon our country and the world! No excuses! Systems economist David Korten strongly advises us to "organize in our own communities," where we can make meaningful change. Build from the ground up, and don't depend upon the mercy of Empire letting go of control willingly. Work toward creating a critical mass for change, and the "leaders" will follow.

I do intend to visit Wall Street again soon, along with several other "over-50's," to lend support and bring donations. *This time, there will be even more of us.* For more information call Jo at 973.838.8576 or email: josippie@optonline.net or click on the links below.

<http://readersupportednews.org/news-section2/318-66/7468-occupy-wall-street-take-the-bull-by-the-horns>

<http://www.occupynewjersey.org/news/livestream/>

<http://www.thenation.com/article/164197/where-are-women-occupy-wall-street-everywhere-and-theyre-not-going-away>

A Feminist Voice Rape is Still Rape

By Karen Lontka

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Report (UCR) has, since 1929, defined rape as "The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will." While the language is antiquated, it still colors what is reported as a rape to local law enforcement each year. Since "carnal knowledge" is strictly defined as sexual intercourse, this definition excludes oral sex, sodomy, and rape by fingers or objects. It also assumes that only a female can be raped. The implication of the word "forcible" has a wider impact. This is far too often interpreted by police as excluding rape where the victim is unconscious, under the influence of drugs or alcohol or otherwise mentally compromised.

This erroneous conclusion is not isolated to the FBI or the United States. The justice minister of Great Britain, Ken Clarke, suggests that only some violent rapes are "serious" and it is "unwilling" women who make them so. His comments feed into the belief that women who report rape are lying, that reporting a rape is relatively easy, and that some rapes aren't really rapes at all but buyer's remorse. We must insist that rape — penetration without consent — is always serious, no matter how much force or violence is used. We must say with one voice that "Rape is rape regardless of the relationship or the context."

On Thursday, October 20, 2011, a subcommittee of the FBI recommended that the definition of rape be expanded to include anal and oral rape and that they broaden it to include male victims. Women's groups have been lobbying during the past 80 years for this significant change. Before we break out the bubbly and start to celebrate, this recommendation is still subject to the approval of the full advisory board, and while there is sizable support among law informant officials, nothing is certain. We must continue to press this issue here and around the world until a realistic definition is universally adopted.



At the Garden State Equality Walk on Saturday, September 24th in South Orange, (L-R) Rosemary Lontka, Rebecca Lubetkin, Susan J. Waldman, Karen D. Lontka



Tabling at Madison's Bottle Hill Day on Saturday, October 1st, (L-R) (1) Shirley Henderson, Rosemary Lontka, Karen Lontka, (2) Shirley Henderson, Susan J. Waldman, Sharon Guarino.



Tabling at Morristown's Festival on the Green on Sunday, October 2nd, (L-R) Susan J. Waldman, Rosemary Lontka, Karen Lontka.

Thank You

A special thank you to everyone who helped out at our fall tabling events: Shirley Henderson, Sharon Guarino, Jo Sippie-Gora, Susan J. Waldman, and Rosemary Lontka.

Karen Lontka


**Drivers Wanted
Free Opera Tickets!**

I have a subscription to the Metropolitan Opera on occasional Wednesday evenings and need a driver, my car or yours.

Must leave Dover at 3:30 PM for dinner at Lincoln Center.

Your dinner is your only expense.


Paula Kassell - 973.366.6036



It's That Time Again Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble

Won't you join us at Barnes & Noble this year for our gift-wrapping extravaganza?
Here is the schedule:
Saturday, December 17, 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM & Saturday, December 24, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Morris County NOW has been gift wrapping at Barnes & Noble since 2003. It is always a fun time. I personally look forward to it every year. If you are interested in participating please call me, Susan J. Waldman, 973.895.2218 or email me at sueandned@optonline.net. You can pick the time slot that works for you. Hope to see you there.



Take Action

Petition to Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen to co-sponsor H.R. 2016: *Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act aka Campus SaVE Act*

A 2007 campus sexual-assault study by the U.S. Department of Justice found that around 28 percent of women are targets of attempted or completed sexual assault while they are college students. The Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN) reports that college-age women are four times more likely than any other age group to face sexual assault. There is an epidemic of sexual violence on campuses, and we must take steps to stop it.

The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act (H.R. 2016) would help to end sexual assault and violence on campus by requiring schools to spell out their policies, conduct prevention activities, and ensure necessary assistance for victims. It would constitute a step toward ending the sort of violence which prevents women from attaining their educational dreams. See <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php> then search bill number HR2016.

H.R. 2016 was introduced and sponsored by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (NY-14) on May 26, 2011. It currently has 39 co-sponsors. Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen is not one of them.

This petition will be available for your signature on our website, www.morriscountynow.org, very shortly. We plan to deliver the completed petition to Rep. Frelinghuysen's office. Please take a moment to sign. Thank you!

OOPS

The Take Action article in the September/October newsletter was incorrect. The Governor signed A2597 on August 18th. That information was not available on the legislature's website at the time the article was written. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Go Green

Let us know if you want to receive your newsletter by email only.

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Planning/Goal Setting Meeting

On Saturday, December 10, 2011, Morris County NOW will be holding its Planning/Goal Setting meeting for 2012. Join us at Susan J. Waldman's home at 10:00 AM. A light lunch will be provided.

We need ideas for programs and actions. Do you have an issue that you would like us to address. We can't do it without you. Please join us. Call 973.895.2218 for directions and additional information.

Cable TV Show Training

Want to join our Public Access TV Show crew? Cablevision is planning a training at the Randolph studio. Please call the chapter if you are interested.

Essay Contest

Do you have the perfect topic for our Essay Contest? Enquiring minds (ours) want to know. Please give us a call with your great ideas.

Holiday Party

Based on the success of last year's Solstice Party, we are thinking about having a holiday party this year. Plans are very flexible at this time. Watch your email for updates.

If we don't have your email address, please call us at 973.285.1200 or email us at [morriscoutynow@gmail.com](mailto:morriscountynow@gmail.com).

For Just \$50 You Can Sponsor
“New Directions for Women”
 Morris County NOW’s Public Access, Cable Television Show

Honor a Friend, Colleague, or Community Member
 Promote an Organization
 Celebrate the Memory of Loved One
 Support Morris County NOW



For more information, please contact us
MorrisCountyNOW@gmail.com ~ (973) 285-1200



TV Show Happenings

Ruth Gimbel at the camera.
 (Photo by Susan J. Waldman)



Rosemary Lontka adjusting the microphone on our host, Rebecca Lubetkin. At left, guest, Laurie James.
 (Photo by Ruth Gimbel)



Guest, Dr. Daisy Nelson Century, portraying Sojourner Truth.
 (Photo by Ruth Gimbel)

Ride Needed

We have a new member who would love to attend our chapter meetings but is unable to drive due to a disability.

Kay Robinson lives in Mountain Lakes and would greatly appreciate your help in getting to and from our monthly meeting. Please call Kay at 973 263 2534 if you would like to volunteer. Thank you so much.

Our TV show "New Directions for Women" is now available on YouTube

All of the shows from 2007-2010, many of our 2011 shows, and some from as far back as 1994 are now available for on-demand viewing. More recent shows are in one 29 minute presentation. Because of limitations previously imposed by YouTube, older shows are presented as three separate ten minute segments. To help improve continuity, each subsequent segment begins by replaying approximately the last 20 seconds of the previous part.

As time permits, the archives will expand to include all previous shows (to date we have produced 217 programs). To access “New Directions for Women,” go to www.YouTube.com/mcnownj. A hint: if you subscribe to our channel, you will receive an alert whenever new content is added.

National NOW’s Top Six Priority Issues

Abortion and Reproductive Rights
Economic Justice
Ending Sex Discrimination
Lesbian Rights
Promoting Diversity & Ending Racism
Stopping Violence Against Women

Be A Newsletter Contributor

Would you like to see your name in print? How about submitting an article to the Morris County NOW newsletter? Maybe you have an idea or an issue that you would like to publicize? Please send any articles to our email address, morriscountynow@gmail.com. Since our newsletter is published bi-monthly at the beginning of the "odd" months (July, September, November, etc.), the deadline for submitting articles is the third Monday of the "even" months (June, August, October). This would apply for advertisements also.

Please note that all articles and advertisements submitted for printing are subject to the discretion of the editor.

Email Alerts

Morris County NOW wants your email address so we can keep you aware of important up-to-the-minute chapter news. Perhaps there is an upcoming event or action on an issue important to you that came up after the newsletter was published.

Since our newsletter is bi-monthly, this can easily occur. In this day and age of instant communication we want to keep in touch with our members.

Please write to us at morriscountynow@gmail.com

Join Us On Facebook

Morris County NOW can now be found on Facebook, a social utility site that keeps people connected. If you are not already a member of Facebook, it is free and easy to join. You can use the link www.facebook.com/mcnownj



FOLLOW US ON **twitter**

<http://twitter.com/mcnownj>

Come to Our Morris County NOW Monthly Meetings

Have you been getting our newsletter but have never attended a monthly chapter meeting? Wonder what NOW is all about? Looking for sisterhood and good conversation? Is there a women's rights issue you would like to get active around? Here's your opportunity. All are welcome. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Morris Plains Community Center, 51 Jim Fear Drive, Morris Plains, New Jersey. We hope to meet you there. For more information, call our chapter phone or visit www.morriscountynow.org.

Chapter Calendar

Saturday, November 19, 2011
NOW-NJ State Board Meeting
South Jersey NOW
9:30 AM — 3:00 PM

Thursday, November 24, 2011
HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Tuesday, December 6, 2011
Morris County NOW Chapter Meeting
Election of Officers
(See Below)

Saturday, December 10, 2011
Chapter Planning/Goal Setting Meeting
10:00 AM
Susan J. Waldman's Home
(See Article Page 3)

December 17 & 24, 2011
Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble
(See Article Page 3)

Chapter Election

Please join us at our December Meeting. We will be electing our officers for 2012.

Help Wanted

Newsletter Editor Susan J. Waldman is ready to retire. We are looking for someone to edit Feminist News And Views. Looks great on a resume. Susan will be happy to mentor.

Representative to the NAACP The Morris County Branch of the NAACP has reached out to our chapter. Our President, Karen Lontka has been attending their meetings (first Monday of the month). We are looking for someone to take over and be our representative.

Interested? Contact us at 973.285.1200 or www.morriscountynow@gmail.com

Your Ad Could Be Here

Advertising Rates:

Members: \$15/Issue

Non-Members: \$25/Issue
(Business Card Size)

Let us help you reach
Like-minded women and men

Membership Application

Morris County NOW (NJ0200)

P.O. Box 394

Morristown, New Jersey 07960

I wish to join NOW and commit myself to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Email _____

National, State, and Local Dues:

___ \$35. Regular Dues

___ \$15-\$34. Reduced Dues

___ Additional support

___ \$5. Newsletter Only

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please return form with your check to the address above.

Morris County NOW TV Coverage

Mondays

Comcast: Channel 21, 6:30 p.m. (Morris/Hunterdon)

Channel 208, 6:30 p.m. (Somerset)

Wednesdays

Morris Cablevision, Channel 21, 9:30 p.m.

Thursdays

Oakland Cablevision System, Channel 76, 9:30 p.m.

Throughout Philadelphia

DUTV, Channel 54,

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. and Fridays, 10:00 a.m.

New Directions for Women Program Schedule feministtv@optonline.net

November: "Pay Equity: Are We There Yet?"

December: "Women in Recovery: Struggling Through Stigmas"

January: "Alice Paul and the Battle for the Ballot"

February: "What's Love Got to Do With It?"

Morris County NOW
P.O. Box 394
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Feminist News and Views

News 'n Views is published six times a year by Morris County NOW as a means of informing the membership of current activities and issues.

Chapter Officers

Karen Lontka, President - 973.584.0612

Anna Tivade, Executive V.P. - 973.635.2218

Shirley Henderson, Treasurer

Rosemary Lontka, Secretary - 973.584.0612

Susan J. Waldman, Membership VP - 973.895.2218

Anna Tivade, Fundraising VP - 973.635.2218

Rosemary Lontka, State Board Rep - 973.584.0612

Winifred Bunch - TV Task Force - 973.895.5595

Susan J. Waldman, Newsletter Editor - 973.895.2218

Advertising Rates (business card size)

Members: \$15/issue; Non-members: \$25/issue

For Information

Chapter Phone - 973.285.1200

morriscountynow@gmail.com

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