

Did You Know ...

Women earn only 77 cents for every dollar earned by men.

Women's sports programs must fight for equal funding and professional status.

Homemakers are denied social security benefits.

The right to safe and legal abortion is constantly threatened.

Minority women face staggering unemployment rates.

Lesbian women are denied equal protection under the law, often facing the loss of their jobs or children because they love another woman.

Sex role stereotypes persist, denying both men and women individual growth and fulfillment.

The Constitution of the United States has yet to be amended to guarantee full equality under the law.

National NOW

With headquarters in Washington, D.C., NOW functions through a National Board, committees and lobbyists, in addition to national officers and staff. National NOW formulates policy, sets priorities, and organizes national actions to dramatize the feminist position of vital women's issues. All NOW members receive the quarterly National NOW Times. A yearly National Convention provides an opportunity to set priorities and participate in the election of officers.

New York State NOW

In Albany, New York State NOW officers and State Council members meet to organize and coordinate the activities of NOW members throughout the State. NOW-NYS employs a full-time lobbyist to ensure a feminist impact on State legislation.

Westchester NOW

NOW members organize local activities and work in coalition with other groups in support of National NOW policies and concerns within Westchester. Westchester NOW delegates participate in the NOW New York State Council. The planning Committee plans programs for the chapter members, including community and political activities, such as letter writing, lobbying, and demonstrations. Planning Committee meetings are open to all chapter members. Members receive national, state and local newsletters.

Westchester NOW

(914) 428-7744

P.O. Box 1135

White Plains, NY 10602

Women and Men

Working Together

For Equality ...



WESTCHESTER NOW

NOW

The National Organization for Women is a civil rights organization dedicated to achieving full equality for women.

We urge you to join us in working to eliminate sexist attitudes, practices, and policies that limit the rights and opportunities of women.

WHAT WE DO

The NOW Telephone and Website

Westchester NOW telephone volunteers answer requests for information and make referrals. Our website includes information about upcoming meetings and events and about drives to support local, state and federal legislation favoring equality. The NOW telephone and website are vital links between the Westchester Chapter and the local community.

Marriage and Divorce

NOW connects women to the Westchester network of resources and support services for women and monitors legislation related to divorce and child custody.

Reproductive Rights

NOW believes that every woman must have control of her own body and decide for herself if or when to bear a child. We work actively for widespread sex education, availability of contraceptives, and ready access to safe and legal abortions. We also offer an escort service to support women entering abortion clinics.

Lesbian Rights

Westchester NOW works for passage of local, state, and federal legislation to protect the civil rights of lesbians and gay men. We put women in touch with local organizations to share their joys and concerns about loving themselves and loving women.

Older Women

Women make up the majority of the aging population. Older women are most likely to live alone, live longer, have a low income, and be subject to chronic illness. NOW seeks societal and legislative changes to improve the lives of older women.

Violence Against Women

In working to increase awareness of the seriousness and prevalence of violence against women and children, NOW actively supports legislation to provide effective protection for victims of domestic violence, rape, and sexual abuse. We support emergency shelters to help individuals escape abusive situations.

Employment Discrimination

Employees and job applicants who encounter discrimination based on age, sex, race, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical handicap can get information on legal action. We make referrals for employees who are faced with sexual harassment and women who are discriminated against because of pregnancy.

Feminist Book Discussion Group

The Chapter feminist book group was started in the mid-1970s to analyze books from a feminist perspective. Discussing only books written by women, the group meets once a month to discuss books from a wide range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds, both fiction and non-fiction.

Young Feminist Task Force

The membership of National NOW voted in July 2003 to create a permanent task force of young feminists aged 30 or under, appointed by the president of NOW, to advise on matters of agenda, leadership recruitment and issue prioritization regarding young feminists in the organization. Task force topics include advancing reproductive justice, promoting diversity and ending racism, stopping violence against women, ensuring economic justice, achieving equality, and winning lesbian rights. If you would like to be active in our chapter's local task force, contact us at info@westchesternow.org. And while you're at it, check out NOW's myspace pages: <http://www.myspace.com/nowactioncenter> <http://www.myspace.com/westchesternowinfo>

Membership Application

name _____
street _____
city _____
state, zip _____
e-mail _____
telephone () - _____

Dues regular \$40, student/limited income \$25 or more.
Make check payable to:
"Westchester NOW" and sent to

Westchester NOW
P.O. Box 1135
White Plains, NY 10602