

SpeakersTraining

Monday, April 04, 2016 3:48 PM

THE NORTHSIDE CRISIS CENTER
PRESENTS:

Lenny Bruce, where are you now that we need you, or,

SPEAKERS TRAINING DAY
APRIL 19th, 1970 10:00 -- 5:00
Wobbly Hall: 2440 North Lincoln

You get to be a star, a heavy, an elite, a "strong woman", and a lot more media bullshit competitive Amerikan things by SPEAKING AT PUBLIC GATHERINGS OF MORE THAN 2 PERSONS. Once your name is known, you are then a hero of the revolution. The media court you, people listen to you in meetings, guys give you a crumb of respect (I mean, what do you want, dignity? That's all they can afford) and retainers with distant-sounding trumpets precede your step playing fanfares and assorted seventeenth century tunes.

The women's liberation movement, being the best movement in the world, is not going to succumb to this assault. We understand that the kind of prestige you get for being a heavy is a destructive prestige: you get it at the expense of your sister. We understand that if we can do something that our sisters cannot do, then it doesn't mean shit until our sisters can do that thing too. Either we are all heavies, or none of us are heavies. What this means is that everybody learns how to SPEAK AT PUBLIC GATHERINGS, not just those who have gone to Cuba, been fired from jobs, written articles, been child stars, or have otherwise irrelevant credentials.

Now those of us who have had a lot of speaking experience (by virtue of one counterfeit credential or another) have developed various degrees of competence at speaking. Some of this has to do with content; some with style. Let's talk about style first. A style gets you over your terror; and it can, ideally, be more than this, too. It can convey to an audience what the movement means, its spirit and its vision. Style is partially tricks, but it can be deeper than tricks. We think that we can draw on the common culture of women to develop our style, just like the black movement drew on the black experience and culture in developing their public style. What is the common culture of women? Some of it belongs to the common culture of all oppressed peoples: puttin' on massa is a highly developed art. But some of it is almost unique to women. This is our intense personalism, our years of training in sensitivity, in picking up every nuance of emotion, of mood, our drill and practice in sensing the velocity of every trip in every male head. This style can be transferred to public speaking: we can address a crowd as if we are talking directly, personally, to each of them, open, frank, direct, as if talking in private to a friend. This can become one of our most effective women's liberation movement style. We've used it, and we've seen it work incredibly well. And it is a speaking style that all women can learn because it is part of our culture, part of our common experience.

We propose a session in which we train women in speaking, in developing a style that they are comfortable with. We will work all day, we will drill, role play, criticize, and drill again; we will take turns being audience and star, co-panelist, second speaker and camera crew, we will video tape and play ourselves back, we will not leave our speaker training session until everybody has spoken and felt sure about it, and spoken again and felt double sure about it.

Now some of us who are going to be at this session have developed a particular style, but we will attempt to train in the style of all current heavies:

Lenore Bruce (self-deprecating, personal, squeakly little voice, etc.)

Saint Joan (soft, strong, saintly, southern, chaste, with a character of iron)

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PSYCHOLOGIST TO SPEAK

Dr. Eleanor Maccoby, a well-known psychologist from Stanford University, will be at Northwestern University for a two-day extended colloquium April 13 and 14. Dr. Maccoby's major research has been on sex-role socialization and child development, set out particularly in her widely-read text The Development of Sex Differences. Her visit will include raps with students from Northwestern Women's Liberation and Female Studies groups, an open colloquium (Monday, April 13 at 4:00 pm Room 155 Centennial Hall at Northwestern), and a social gathering Monday evening.

Psychology and Sociology students doing research on women, sex-role socialization, sex differences, etc. who would like to discuss their research with Dr. Maccoby and other students will also have an opportunity to do so.

If interested in participating in any of these, contact Mary Stewart (home: 274-6947; work: 492-7373).

"LA DOLORES" OPENS-1980 N. Armitage

A new northside womens liberation center opened April 1st with the motto: "It is better to die on our feet than to live on our knees." The name of the center is taken from Dolores Ibarruri who is the author of the quote and who was a fighter for freedom in the Spanish Civil War.

The Center will serve as a northside meeting hall for all union chapters that want to use it. It will house a library, reading room, and will have on-going projects for the organization of northside women.

One first and primary project is a Day Care Center to open June 1. We will provide Spanish-English classes for pre-schoolers, housework & cooking classes to involve all kids in the responsibility for the care of the home, and many other programs within the day care project.

The center will also offer workshops on women and the war on April 14 beginning at 12 noon and continuing into the evening. Call Betsey 465-4943, Arlen 764-6873, Polly 337-6297, Mike 935-6947.

SPEAKERS TRAINING PROGRAM CONTINUED.....

Attila the Hun (Wait Attila the Hun Shines Nellie): the street fightin' woman, the woman who's been there, in the Sierra Miestra, in the streets of Berkeley, on the steps of the Pentagon, the woman who's known the terror & the exultation, and who's rough and tough and strong and wrong.

Lady Godiva: Sexy, aristocratic, elegant, different; who requires inordinate sacrifices of women (leave husband, eat only brown rice, etc.) but after all, if she can ride through the streets naked on a horse, why can't you?

Florence Nightingale: self-sacrificing and Oh so Nice. Understands that women have oppressions, but after all, sisters, there is a battle going on, and our men need help.

Etc.

Now, for the content:

We are actively soliciting basic, 2nd and n-level raps and rap outlines (preferably rap outlines) which we will distribute to everybody at the session. These will include: basic women's liberation rap, abortion and medical concerns; women & work; politics of sex; legal position of women; marriage & the family; training their women to know their place; sex again; the power of a non-conscious ideology; women's history; free children; free women; women and psychology; and anything else that anybody has thought of and can speak about. Please send ra' outlines to: Weisstein 6912 Sheridan Road, Chicago 60626. Anybody WHO HAS EVER SPOKEN ANYPLACE OWES US AN OUTLINE: IF WE DON'T GET ONE FROM YOU, WE WILL ASSUME THAT YOU ARE AGAINST THE TRAINING SESSION & FOR ELITISM, & WE WILL BADMOUTH YOU ALL OVER THE PLACE.

So come and role play with us, and speak and move into different styles.

April 19th, Sunday, Wobbly Hall, 10:00 -- 5:00.