

FA, cartella 3, 101

Cable sent  
to Priscilla  
in Paris

PHONED MARIAROSA STOP BRIGITTE'S INVITATION TO BETTINI COMPLETELY  
UNACCEPTABLE STOP HOPE YOU AGREE STOP INFORM FLAME WOMEN STATEMENTS  
ABOUT WOMEN IN MALE ORGANISATIONS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST THEM STOP  
MEET WITHOUT BETTINI OR DONT PARTICIPATE

PRISCILLA ALLEN

C/O GALTIER

ENS

48

2X/BOULEVARD JOURDAN

PARIS 14

STOP INSIST ON  
MEETING  
OR DONT PARTICIPATE  
STOP FOLLOW OTHER ITALIANS. SGLMA.

the community outside it to  
the home and out of it.

The immediate implications of this analysis for the women's movement are obvious. If the situation of the housewife determines the situation of all women, then we have to find ways of reaching women in the home, of doing something about that situation of housewife. We have often shied away from organising with housewives as a group because it seems so difficult, each woman isolated in her home. (This is one reason why the idea of going to factories, where women are already together, has been given a lot of emphasis. This is important too if we see that the peculiar discrimination that women suffer when they work outside the home is based on their situation as housewives, or housewives to be, and thus link the struggle of women in a factory with that of women in the home.) But we need to develop forms of struggle that will end the isolation of women, and their economic dependence on a man, both of which often force them to take on a second job outside the home. Dalla Costa's analysis suggests that a very important struggle at this stage is that of making the state pay us for what we do, whether by making them pay us family allowances so we at least have some kind of income of our own, or by signing on at the Social Security offices and demanding an independent income for housewives (as the Claimants Union is suggesting), or by forcing the State to provide nurseries instead of leaving women to do the work of looking after young children in isolation and without pay - or in any other ways we can think of. Some groups are already involved in struggles of this kind, here and abroad. We need to hear about them and learn from each other.

November 1972

Suzie Fleming