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F B, Costello 2, 18

June, 1975

Dear Sisters,

In the International Newsletter No. 1, I submitted a hurried report of happenings in Los Angeles which contained a serious error for which I am responsible. It stated, namely, that we were planning to work on a journal together with men.

This was incorrect for a number of reasons. One is that this project was not a project of the L.A. collective, but something I was considering doing as an individual.

But beyond this point is another more important one. The statement was sloppily written and could easily be interpreted incorrectly. What I had in mind was the encouragement of certain men to develop the perspective in relation to the unemployed and to the undocumented Mexican workers. This implied no organizational connection with the network. (I would like to note, however, that any connection with men has to be made with the utmost caution, if at all.)

The statement as I made it implied precisely the kind of connection which we must avoid. Our autonomy is not subject to compromise. It is not a question of taste or circumstance. It is a necessity given power relations within the class.

I now suspect that the wording of my report was inexact because it reflected a wavering in my own mind. We are relatively isolated in Los Angeles and the weakness of our movement here may have affected my sense of power and autonomy.

This is an example of capital in our heads. But, in fact, it is only one example. Our sense of powerlessness makes us all vulnerable, more at ^{some} moments than at others.

This should neither shock nor discourage us. The growing power of our movement and consistent criticism of ourselves and each other will give us the strength to find our political direction.

Love and Struggle,

Beth
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