

Another workshop was on sustainable development and biodiversity by Indigenous women from South America. This workshop was given by a speaker with a translator. She talked about the traditional Indigenous knowledge of her people and how this knowledge has been exploited by outsiders for profit. She was very detailed in her presentation about the knowledge and medicines of her peoples and she expressed anger at outsiders who, instead of respect, showed disrespect for the contributions they have made to the world.

This issue was frequently raised by many Indigenous women throughout our gatherings and its obvious importance is highlighted in the in-

tellectual property sections of the Indigenous Declaration.

Conclusion

The "peoples" issue was one identified by all the participants in the Indigenous Caucus and it is well represented in all of the documents resulting from the Forum. The fur issue is reflected in the subsistence issue of the Declaration. In the fall of this year, the European Parliament will be voting to see if they will accept the report done by experts from different countries regarding a process to determine "humane trapping standards." The outcome of this vote will determine international humane trapping standards and the regula-

tions with respect to the import of wild fur products.

Excerpted from a report prepared for Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association.

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Plotting Courses (Or, What They Teach'Em Now in High School)

For Karyn, Kayli, Sarah, and David.

You learn
about peer pressure
and saying no to drugs and
sex and avoiding hormone laden
heat darkened rooms and
drunken driving and
all other irresponsible acts and then
they promise you'll
grow up
(and please
please be lucky and live to 20
and you and your mother can
survive) and they tell you
all about choices and
safe sex or safes,
and sex, and now
they have diagrams with
velcro parts, and you
put'em in the right places
and you pass, because now
you know
everything
but
I remember fifteen
and wonder:
would my life have turned out different with
decision models and flour

sacks like babies on my hip and
would I have married at
nineteen and leapfrogged to
independence and been a mom
by twenty-two and grown
slowly and painfully into
adulthood?
and can talk really tell
how you
get into those hormone
darkened rooms
in the first place?
and can words make you
feel what you'll face with that
rush of heat and affection and love and
tumble and beckoning thresholds
and no becomes yes almost by
accident maybe and who
knows now how you got there and
can you stop it if you want to if you try
or is it too late too
late and now you live with it.
And I wonder
twenty years
past fifteen
how we learn it and do
we ever

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