have been imposed. Temporary refusals have been instituted. Time limits—for instance, of only being eligible for two years out of five—have been imposed. Rate reductions have been imposed.

9 All welfare rates as well as minimum wage rates in the country are below the poverty line.


11 Welfare workers and social workers are sometimes reported to us as abusers of their clients. They have much more power to abuse if the women know they have no enforceable right to welfare: they are dependent on the discretion in his hands.

12 Personal communication, October 2001.

13 In our work we have become aware of the ownership and prostitution dealings of (at least) The Hell's Angels in every province except the Maritimes, the Big Circle Boys gang, the Lotus gang, Fukianese, the Russians, the Mafia-related gangs, and the Vietnamese gangs.

14 Most of the Canadian women's movement has agreed that prostitutes and low-level drug dealers should not be jailed or even criminalized. We have also agreed that those women trafficked as indentured labour or sex slaves should not be criminalized or deported. Our debates are about how to deal with the men and how to interfere with the trade.

15 Gunilla Eckberg, personal communication, September 2003. She is special advisor to the government of Sweden on prostitution.

16 For instance, see online www.naring.regeringen.se/fragor/jamstaddhhet/aktuellt/trafficking.htm.

17 And here we mean johns and pimps. We rarely see the women as the sellers.

18 See online: wwwrapreliefshelter.bc.ca/herstory/rr_files_86.html.

19 The extra A is because the cookie company DARE threatened women organized under that name with lawsuits if we used their trademark name, although the police have a drug abuse program with the same name.

20 Justice for Girls is a group focusing on feminist intervention against the exploitation of young women.

21 Cherry Kingsley, personal communication, October 2001. Cherry Kingsley escaped prostitution and often speaks as a woman who has experienced these conditions. She works in the International Centre to Combat Exploitation of Children.

22 Decriminalization used to mean preventing charges against the women. Now it is shorthand for the legitimating of the trade. We continue to stand with the women and against the trade.


24 Such as the member groups of Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA) and the British Columbia CEDAW group.

25 See online <http://www.fafia-afai.org/index_e.htm>

References


JOAN BOND

An Apartment Dweller's Desire

Across balcony balusters and a chartreuse lawn edges blur wingborne;
hems float as clouds and sweep aside billowing sleeves.
Brassieres touch pants; pillowcases whirl around skirts.
The sun perfumes the dancers lined-up, moved by breeze as by melody.
They tease back and forth swell, flip, then fall limp.

My back to the dryer, I stare wishing for cool, cotton sheets smoothed upon my bed, heavy with love making heavy with the scent of clover.

Joan Bond's poetry appears earlier in this volume.