

on the baseball field would probably have cheered to hear that leisure services are politically serious, but they would not believe it was necessary to wait for a social and economic revolution across society before girls and women could do better in public sports and recreation. A little more respect for distinct interests would have done. And with that, another nod would go to Tillotson for concluding with an introduction to the politics of equity and diversity.

WOMEN, SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY: SHARING GOOD PRACTICE

Darlene A. Kluka, Christine Melling, and Deena Scoretz, Eds.
Berlin, Ger.: ICSSPE/ CIEPSS, 2000

BY JEANNE MARANDA

Les bureaux du Comité international olympique (IOC) à Montréal ont reçu ces jours derniers in document en anglais, *Women, Sport and Physical Activity, Sharing Good Practice*, publié conjointement par le Conseil international d'éducation physique et de la science des sports (CIEPSS/ ICSSPE) et l'Organisation des Nations-unies pour l'éducation, les sciences et la culture (UNESCO).

La présidente du Women Sport International, est enthousiaste face au contenu de cette monographie qui selon elle répond aux attentes et aux besoins de tous les organismes destinés à promouvoir la place des femmes dans les sports et ajoute que ce document sera une inspiration pour les femmes et les jeunes filles qui auront à leur disposition des ressources qui donneront à leur vie et à leur travail une autre dimension.

Et Madame Margaret Talbot OBE, présidente de l'Association en éducation physique et les sports pour les femmes et les jeunes filles, écrit dans sa préface :

This collection shows how much physical education and sport have to gain from the contribution of women. Their work and experience in the various types of family units; in education, health and social justice, enhance, extend and enrich the ways in which activity programmes, competitions, training and education can be made more accessible to more people—women and men, girls and boys, people with different abilities and of different ages, people from different cultures, religions and regions of the world.

Cette importante monographie qui a exigé deux années de recherche regroupe près de cent réalisations et initiatives provenant de groupes internationaux et nationaux tout comme des organismes gouvernementaux et non-gouvernementaux (ONG) impliqués dans la promotion du sport chez les femmes. Il est divisé en trois parties qui se partagent une centaine de pages. D'abord les politiques qui ont été déterminées lors de congrès mondiaux tels la Conférence internationale des femmes à Beijing en 1995, les déclarations de principes de Brighton, de Manille, de l'Australie entre autres. Ainsi qu'un éventail des dispositions prises pour encourager la pratique des sports chez les femmes et les filles dans le monde.

Une deuxième partie est consacrée aux participantes, c'est-à-dire toutes les associations, les groupes de femmes qui ont initié des activités pour sensibiliser les femmes et les filles aux bienfaits du sport dans leur vie. On cite la Nouvelle-Zélande, l'Afrique, l'Angleterre, la Suède et j'en passe. On y trouve même des offres de bourses pour les jeunes filles qui veulent se spécialiser dans les sports. Dans la troisième partie ce sont les organismes qui chapeautent tels les confédérations, les associations régionales qui favorisent la formation de guides, de mentors,

préparent des séminaires pour la promotion des sportives et leurs entraîneuses.

Le tout est couronné par un bottin qui donne les noms et les adresses des personnes responsables et de leurs groupes implantés à travers le monde.

Les quelques pages de la fin de cet impressionnant travail sont consacrées à la publication de sept prises de position de la Women's Sport Foundation qui traitent de sujets aussi variés que les vêtements appropriés aux athlètes, le harcèlement et le sexisme, les femmes au baseball et le dopage. Une étude du Collège américain pour la médecine sportive (ACSM) sur la "Triade de la femme athlète" i.e., l'anorexie, l'aménorrhée, et l'ostéoporose ne manquera pas d'intéresser toute entraîneuse auprès des sportives.

Le mot de la fin revient aux présidentes des organismes internationaux impliqués dans la promotion de la femme dans les sports qui assurent que de grands pas ont été accomplis dans le monde du sport et des femmes mais elles regrettent qu'il se trouve si peu de femmes dans les postes décisionnels. Elles font des recommandations en ce sens, mais le facteur crucial pour l'implantation et l'initiation au changement permanent demeure l'individu, insistent-elles. "Chaque personne, une seule à la fois, peut créer une tapisserie souple, chatoyante, diversifiée qui représente la force de toute l'humanité."

BLOOD RELATIONS: ANIMALS, HUMANS, AND POLITICS

Charlotte Montgomery
Toronto: Between the Lines Press,
2000

BY STACEY C. MORTIMER

In *Blood Relations*, Charlotte Mont-

gomery provides an analysis of the animal rights movement here in Canada and abroad. Her goal to expose the strengths and weaknesses within the animals rights movement was aided by her background as a seasoned journalist. Her introduction, aptly titled "Pigs From Mars," launches *Blood Relations* with an interesting comparison: human beings' encounters with extra terrestrials ... compared to humankind's troublesome relationship with animals. She suggests that "man" views extra terrestrials as intelligent life forms with emotions and feelings not unlike our own, and that most would therefore treat them with dignity and respect. Replace the ET with an animal, she argues, and the willingness of humans to treat that animal as an equal with thoughts, feelings, and emotions similar to our own essentially disappears. Montgomery states that because of an apparent absence of true "scientific" evidence, some humans assume that animals are inferior to the human species in all ways ... emotionally, psychologically, physically ... and it is this assumption that is the basis of the animal rights movement.

Montgomery takes her readers through the ideologically conflicted world of animal activists and so-called animal advocates. Her story demonstrates how the two groups would like to have the same end result, yet their ideological struggles and conflicts over the "how" of the movement creates such a barrier that the movement becomes unproductive. Montgomery lays out for her readers how *activists* consist of an "outlaw" fringe group who go to great lengths, illegal or otherwise, to save all animals from unfavorable conditions. She continues with a critique of how well meaning *advocates*, fearful of being equated with "extremists," pick and choose which animals need rescuing and how they go about doing that

One of Montgomery's strengths is her thorough analysis of how animals are mistreated in research, agri-

culture, entertainment, and in the world of human companionship. Within these worlds, particularly that of capitalist-driven animal research, Montgomery pinpoints the stumbling point. Because there has been no clear definition to the term animal "pain and suffering," and an apparent lack of "scientific research" proving animal pain and suffering, researchers continue to use animals for the benefit of a small component of humankind. Montgomery's work in providing her readers with numerous examples supporting the notion that animals do indeed experience pain and suffering supports what most readers of *Canadian Woman Studies* already knew.

Montgomery shifts to a discussion and analysis of the problematic policing practices involved with the treatment of animals in research. According to Montgomery, self-policing is the norm, with most results of investigations not being made public. It is easy to see that if agencies, organizations, and researchers are left to self-police, the general population will be left in the dark in regards to the atrocities done to animals in the name of "medical progress." Montgomery lays out the need for clear new legislation that will be required to protect animals. Until then she tells us that the movement is in need of "extremists" to protect the animal species. More importantly she calls for political reform within and outside of the movement, and for activists and advocates to find a middle ground where they can work together.

Blood Relations is an emotional read and the reader may need someone to debrief with at times. It exposes, in a strong journalistic style, the hidden realities of the animal rights movement. Montgomery gives her readers an eye-opener in terms of what still occurs out in the world and why ... unfortunately when money is the basis of how animals are viewed and used, the arguments used by agriculture, entertainment and research will continue to suggest to the

uninformed public that the ends justify the atrocious means.

But it seems that Montgomery tried to do too much in one text, and in doing so failed at times to go beyond the surface of the issues. For example, she could have done more in terms of her analysis of how animals have been commodified and how this in and of itself is the biggest stumbling point in all of our abilities to protect our friends. As well, she fails to critique the language of the movement, i.e. critiquing how "extremists" are constructed and by whom. Indeed she presents the movement without critiquing its underlying assumptions. Lastly, as an environmentalist, I would have liked her to make broader links and connections, including to how the commodification of our planet is fueled by the very same drive.

Other recommended reading: Moussaieff-Masson, J. and McCarthy, S. *When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals*. New York: Delta Trade Publishing, 1995

A WOMAN'S EDUCATION: THE ROAD FROM COORAIN LEADS TO SMITH COLLEGE

Jill Ker Conway.
New York: Alfred Knopf, 2002.

OVERNIGHT FLOAT

Jill Ker Conway and Elizabeth Kennan, writing as Clare Munnings
Penguin, 2001

BY CLARA THOMAS

A Woman's Education, Jill Ker Conway's third book of memoirs, records the ten years she spent as