

Feminism in Scandinavia and in the U.S.

While some Americans complain or even ridicule the exaggerated activity of American feminists and deplore the huge sums of money spent on feminist research and publicity, a comparison between this movement and other similar movements in the Western World will show its superiority.

According to Brigitte Grue, a Copenhagen journalist writing in "Aktuelt", Scandinavian women, although among the best educated in the world, are far behind Americans in holding top jobs. As opposed to American women who admire wealth and achievement, Scandinavian women are still handicapped by the fear of progress. According to the Swedish Industrial

Directory, out of 2431 corporation executives only 28 and out of 5000 key decision-makers only 46 are women. The situation is not much better in Norway and Denmark.

In the U.S. career planning for women began to be organized in the 1970's. Fifteen percent of the middle management in the U.S. is female, compared to only 2% in Sweden and even less in Norway and Denmark. Nobody in Scandinavia is studying the problem of careers to women, a subject that has however preoccupied Americans for 20 years.

(From an article in International Herald Tribune, 9 March 1982, p.6)