

## International Conference on Homebirth

A two-day International Conference on Homebirth will be held in London in October 1987 and will be followed by a week of workshops.

It aims to unite people from many countries who are concerned about childbirth and the tendency throughout the developed world to deliver babies in hospitals. The view that hospital is the best place for birth has gone largely unchallenged and the conference has invited an international guest list of speakers to address this issue.

For more information contact:

Home Birth Conference  
65 Mount Nod Road  
London SW<sub>16</sub> 2LP  
England

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## Women At Work Weekend Conference

**April 8-10-1988**

**Call for Papers** in occupational/ managerial/ organisational psychology which contributes new information to feminist literature, research or hypotheses, incl. decisionmaking; leadership; conflict; job satisfaction; design or stress; ergonomics; unemployment; promotion; intimacy needs of career women; group theory; the male ego; creativity, sexuality and power; motivation; personality cults; mobility; access; bureaucracy; systems analysis etc.

Outlines to Sandra Oliver, Faculty Office, Thames Polytechnic, Oakfield Lane, Dartford, Kent, DAI 2SZ. Conference details to follow.

**REGISTRATION DETAILS**

from Administrator (same address).

## The Gulf and Arab Peninsula Women's Conference

The Gulf and Arab Peninsula Women's Fourth Conference was the first to be held in Muscat Oman on 13-17 December, 1986. Sayyid Thuwainy bin Shihab, Personal Representative of His Highness Sultan Qaboos, opened the conference. The representative of Oman's 27-member delegation to the conference was Huda bint Abdallah Al-Ghazali, Director-General of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

Among the topics discussed at the conference, two were of a contraversal nature and attracted much attention.

One topic dealt with the influence of foreign «nannies» on Arab society. The controversy surrounding foreign «nannies» was sparked by Bahrain's Dr. Munira Fakhro, who holds a doctorate in social policy and planning from Columbia University. Dr. Fakhro suggested that the «nanny» issue was being blown out of proportion to distract attention from real social problems Arabs are facing. However, there was a mixed reaction and Mona Khamees, a UAE journalist working with Sharjah's Al Khaleej, warned of the influence in culture and religion that foreign «nannies» may have on their children.

The other topic touched on polygamy and its negative effects. The paper was given by Iraqi team leader Farqat Ahmed, which evoked sharp reaction from the participants.

Decisions based on recommendations of the four-day deliberations by delegates from the UAE, Iraq, Bahrain, the Yemen Arab Republic, Kuwait and Oman, were drafted and conveyed to the respective Ministries of the member countries for implementation.

**Khaleej Times** 18 December 1986