

# Letters

## Reference to a hatchet Job

I am writing in response to your article "Has Feminism Failed?" (Spring 1991, Volume IX, No.53), which was culled in large part from coverage on the international women's movement in Newsweek and time magazines.

The feeling in North America about this piece (the newsweek article by Kay Ebeling, "Has Feminism Failed?") was that it was a hatchet job. This is bad enough, but it is distressing to see a courageous and cutting edge feminist publication (al-Raida)- the major one in the Arab world and one looked to by feminists all over the globe - unquestionably picks up on what Time magazine defines as "feminism". . .

As for the activities of the International women's movement, as we well know, it is an explosion of energy in every region of the world. The international feminist movement embraces all issues as women's issues, from the debt in Latin America, to colonization struggles, to peace in the Middle East, to a free and self-determining Palestine, to disarmament and environmental concerns, etc. Women are the majority of the human species, after all, so there is no issue that is not a "feminist issue."

Let me take this opportunity to say how important Al-Raida is to me personally, and to activists for women's rights, for justice, and for peace all over the world. Even in the midst of such an unstable situation as Lebanon suffers, you still manage to produce a wonderful, courageous, and illuminating periodical. Brava!

Robin Morgan, Editor in Chief  
Ms Magazine, The world of Women New York, USA

## Appreciation of the Editorial and Articles Written

I have read with pleasure most of the articles contained in the last two issues of Al-Raida. I appreciate your editorial and your articles, especially your criticism about Helen Khal's oil paintings, your presentation of Nawal Saadawi's speech at BUC. I am glad to see that Al-Raida has doubled in size but feel sorry that only those who read English can benefit from this publication.

I would like to point out certain mistakes which may be called grammatical or due to careless printing and editing. I know it is impossible to produce an issue completely free from mistakes but noticing them might help avoid them.

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Letters to the editor may be sent to : Al-Raida, Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World,  
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# Sayings

**Women's Liberation** will not have been achieved until . . . . .

. . . . . a woman can become paunchy and bald and still think she's attractive to the opposite sex !

. . . . . we read about an absent-minded woman driving away and forgetting her husband at the filling station !

. . . . . there are as many men as there are women rushing home from work to prepare dinner ! (Reader's Digest, June 1991 quoted from Gil Stern in the Wall Street Journal).

When the Arab husband accepts the idea that women's paid labor is not a reflection on his ability to provide, and is a source of pride for both, he is willing to change his attitude. (Dr. Suha Sabbagh from an interview with the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, July 1991).

There is no better no better person to be informed or used than the Woman. (Kenya Water for Health Organization taken from Women and the Environment by Annabel Rodda.)

A man's home may seem to be his castle on the outside, inside it is more often his nursery. (Claire Booth Luce b.1903, American ambassador and writer).

Woman's discontent increases in exact proportion to her development. (Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) suffragist).

When a man gets up to speak, people listen, then look. When a woman gets up, people look, then if they like what they see, they listen. (Pauline Frederick (1883-1938), actress)

No woman should be shame faced in attempting through her work, to give back to the world a portion of its lost heart. (Louise Bogan (1897-1970) Poet).

Men are taught to apologize for their weaknesses, women for their strengths. (Lois Wyse, b.1926, advertising executive).

My husband and I figured out a really good system about the house work; neither of us does it. (Dottie Archibald (twentieth century), writer).

The hardest thing about a girl's life is to prove to a man that his intentions are serious. (Helen Rowland, (1878-1950), journalist).