

Sept 8, 2001

TO: Ventura County Commission for Women
FROM: Diana Goodrow

RE: Association of California Commission for Women Convention August 16-18.2001

I was pleased that I was able to attend the Convention in Santa Rosa and represent the Ventura County Commission. I was particularly delighted to be joined by our newest commissioner Etta Gilivan.

I found the conference very valuable as a networking opportunity and for sharing information on the various issues that are important to the women in our communities. I would like to encourage our Commission to continue this participation with the other Commissions to further the work we do for Women, Together we become a more effective force.

Below is a summary of the various information and materials covered at the convention:

The workshops and seminar subjects included the following:

1. "Clipping Coupons to Planning Portfolios" was a very interesting panel discussion on the various financial issues facing women.

- a. money management for the Independent women
- b. An economic portrait of women in the U.S. (see attachment)
- c. Social Security and Women particularly older women`

2. Seminar 'Pink to Power Suits' which featured women leaders in business discussing economic justice for women .Highlights of the discussion about economic justice for women, recognizing employers as work-life leaders and a pesronal testimony moving from poverty to success.

Jenny Irwin from the Dept of Labor.Women's Bureau and Tanya Neiman Director of Volunteer Legal Services Program of the Bar Association of San Francisco.Moderator was Suzy Marzalek, Financial Controller, Agilent Technologies. Inc.

3. Women and Industry Awards Luncheon with Keynote Speakerr Jackie Spier, California State Senator. This event honored thirteen women and businesses for their outstanding achievements.

4. Seminar "Path of Young Women Today" covered current and future issues and challenges facing young women; how to access when young girls are at risk; and model programs for violence intervention and leadership. The discussion was lead by Veronica Hendrix Program Manager Los Angeles City Commissioner on the Status of Women and included presentations by Stacey Camara, School Resource Officer, Santa Rosa.Police Dept. and Maria Martineez, Student Santa Rosa Junior College and Paula Petrotta, Director of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women.4

5. Workshop: From Shout to Clout-Institutionalizing Your Commission" This was a discussion of tools for developing political, Financial and community strategies to strengthen the local commission' work toward gender justice. This was led by Lorene Irizary, President of ACCW and Director of the Sonoma County Human Resources Dept. which the Sonoma County Commission for Women is a part.

6. A major highlight of the Conference was the Model for Change Luncheon which was by group of young women, members of the Sonoma County Junior Commission for Women who told us their individual visions for the future and how they are models for change.