

CHAYANIKA
FASDSP

18/7/91

SVEN. (Dag Hamm.)

- Small foundation 30 yrs.

Very little importance given by Govt. - good for us
Only 5 members as staff.

Hold regional dialogues on issues of 3rd world esp.
and disseminate information & material brought out
in such dialogues.

Publication of 'Development Dialogue'

Seminars were converted to dialogue with an inbuilt
research component in these seminars.

Significant change in work in 1975 after an enviro. conference
in Stockholm. Report 'What Now, another Development'

Indians V. P. Naik & Prof. Banerjee & Surendra Patel
(his wife Krishna Patel) - raised issue of no paper on ♀
She wrote down

After this concentrate on development strategies brought
out in the report.

Dialogues after this where issues were developed.

→ Seminar on international monetary policy: report.
Help from other organisations.

One classification of 3 systems: 1st Govt. 2nd business
3rd. informal organisations with whom we have worked.
Also trying to enter into dialogue with 1st & 2nd systems
to have a global consensus.

'World in need of leadership' - latest report.

> Only one ♀ heading in any U.N. agency in all these yrs.
'No hidden agenda'

When everything is for a purpose ✓

Nothing never 'is'. ✓

Virgin forests exist to maintain eco. systems ✓

And economic forests for monetary systems ✓

→ Also all ^{trying to} maintaining power structures

And of course power balances.

And the 'human' man

With all his needs met and

luxuries attended to.

The good women and whores exist

All to ~~maintain~~ ^{con}tain patriarchy

And the continuity of man

The fertile and the infertile exist

to control and propogate the

right kind of population

Pupul Jaykar '♀ in India'

- Spent 50 years in 'social work'. First with Mahatma on Kasturba Trust then as asst. sec. ^{with} Mridula Sarabhai on ♀ in planning commission. Wonder if I am competent to do this plenary note.

Have done an inward journey to see what is this inherent 'nature of woman'?

First Mahatma got a lot of ♀ out to do various things. Inward qualities to 'cherish & to nurture' have to be discovered at global level.

First coming into own meant equality with men.

Then also discard what is our own - elements of ♀ diff. from men.

With industrial revolution labour strength became the centre. With time, physical strength is reduced. Strength with growing softer techno. she is becoming more competent. Assault on nature & on ♀ will increase.

Change of pace - most obvious in Gulf War.

You are overtaken even before you are aware of what is happening.

It is time to discover 'dharma' of woman.

'dharma': true to your self-nature.

This gives a strength of its own kind.

In the new millennium, these values ~~are~~ ^{will be} more imp. The kind of techno. today 'causality' has changed its meaning. Alertness hence demanded of humans esp. ♀, is of a totally diff. nature.

A new way of moving has to take place at the same pace to make any change.

Evolution of 'shakti' - very imp.

Repre-
sentation

First one ten thousand years ago found in M.P. A triangle ^{with the beej aksha.} placed on a circle. It was enclosing an energy.

Next shakti comes as prakriti.

Atharvaveda you have symbol of leaf used against everything. Then enters the animal world with body of human being with head of lion, boar, serpent change to human form.

She is continually transforming which is nature of woman to change & adjust to environment.

Human form with this hieroglyphic on heart & on genitals with mask & robes.

The concept: within you lies this energy which is so potent that it can transform everything & is the measure of herself. This is the dharma.

To discover these potencies, nature of transformation, the whole - leads to a journey into oneself.

This journey to discover what one is, is the major need for all human beings.

Metaphor of Ganga basin. Discovery of vast source of water, river underground. IIIrd can discover under currents, source of energy in oneself.

Virgins & mother goddesses - later taken over by male god. Capacity to create present in seed, in the ♀.

> The first seed always put by the woman in agriculture. No. of legends that support all this.

Hinduism is a 'vrata' culture.

If you look deep enough you can see the links of energy of nature & woman.

The magical, mystical part has been lost & the dgn, mystical design which was sought as the seat of the god & the link becomes a mere decoration.

- linking of ecology and health has its physical aspect. We have also to bring in the strength, to realise that conservation is her birthright.

♀ has the sense to see laterally, to see things not yet seen and to create processes which are not destructive. Finding, searching this is the other 'dharma' of women. This field is so open and wide. Need to conserve seed-banks & plant-banks locally.

Need to transform consciousness of humans, have to make the whole brain function. Why are all these scientists scared of going into the 'within' of not only human beings, but of nature, of trees etc.

Next phase: 'movement into the within' and to see if existentially it is possible to shape a world with no barrier in the within and the without.

Ancient civilisations called it 'descent into the underworld!'

Means opening windows of the brain.

Essence of all this is that ♀ has a special role. She holds life, creates life.

Question of moving the crucible into the brain so that the fertility of the brain is forever there.

- Tea break -

MIRA SHIVA

Health and Ecology

- Was asked to speak on 'Enviro. hazards are health hazards'. As a medical student, the kinds of shifts one has been forced to make, I realise we are not equipped to deal with the issues as they are posed before us. Today its a conflict betn. profits on one side & needs on the other.

Earlier maybe it was because of religion, tradition or, whatever but the plunder was not at this extent.

I wish to concentrate on how I see the problem.

① Denial of the basic essentials

② Bombardment with the irrational and unnecessary.

for ① you have to prove and fight whereas ② is forever available. Needs & what is offered are confused so much so that we are also at a loss as to what we actually need to do. We are at a loss.

- Chernobyl effects: butter little radiation O.K. so how to draw the line.

Bhopal: one did not even know what MIC was.

Earlier one knew what one was dealing with. Today we are even unaware of what could affect us.

All these things are invisible. Problems come up or issues realised only after disaster struck or when a group of people cared enough, dared enough & pursued. It wasn't the State, laws, authority, it cannot be there. It has to be what people think, ask & plan that will affect and for that it is imp. how people are going to think. ~~and~~ Without enough people who ~~cannot~~ collectively do all this, no amount of intellectual connection making is going to help. Most of the times motivation comes

from their own spiritual leanings.
Few case studies I want to make.

(i) Nutrition: Policy changes have affected nutrition of people
> 45% of pre-school children malnourished

Max. no. of malnourished people of the world

C. Gopalan (in 1983): Of 23 million children, 3 million die by one year. Only less than 3 million will be truly healthy, productive individuals.

> Rural kids - decline in heights of people.

What will happen after food subsidy removed?

Pulse/cereal per capita consumption declining.

Change in the cropping patterns.

Pulses provide protein supply to people. Pulse production gone down. In M.P. soyabean grown to feed E.E.C. cattle.

So even if more land, more production - who consumes is a question?

Iron deficiency anaemia most prevalent.

70% of pregnant ♀ are affected by this. Well known.

Not looking at issue, holistically treatment with Fe tablets.

Evaluation of prog. shows that it was a failure. ^{is}

At the same time sources of Fe depleted & this is not part of anaemia prophylaxis programme.

Second is blindness by malnutrition.

Draught in Raj. leads to larger numbers. ∴ anyway small reserves of vit A. Blindness is, however, irreversible once it happens. Again, here, things like 'ajgari' which were a source of vit A disappeared due to use of pesticides & removed ∴ classified as weeds.

Vit. A is also not alone. There are all kinds of other malnutri
Same time excess vit A not good - toxic. So you have ^{also}

a section suffering with excess.

Now suggestion is that include in vaccination programme. Once this happens, nobody will bother about natural resources. Iodine deficiency: in Ganges basin also.

There are 50% people in this region affected by goitre & then 2% children are retarded. - totally helpless.

Increasing floods leading to washing out of iodine.

Soln. offered: universal iodination programme. Even in I₂ rich areas non-iodised salt sale banned.

Concern has just been creation of market, not victims of all this.

Question of vector control.

Diseases that are increasing are vector borne - malaria, phylarasia, dengue etc.; water borne - hepatitis, cholera, polio etc. Most of these are diseases of poverty.

Also diseases of industrialisation - stress laden diseases go on increasing.

Kalazar: India has largest no. of cases in the whole world. Treatment found by an India. It was endemic to Bihar. Spread to Bengal, U.P., Assam, Orissa.

26,000 registered & diagnosed cases. Disease caused by biting of a sandfly. Found in poor homes in cracks, under the rubble etc. Also was a rural problem.

Spread because no care taken.

Vectors are becoming resistant to pesticide.

So more toxic pesticides used which goes into food chain.

Resistance to drugs is also a pattern that is emerging.

These diseases of poverty are hence going to shape into a big problem.

Water: shortage & scarcity.

In some region, sugarcane cash crops drawing out all

water using tube wells leaving no water in wells.
Who owns subsoil water, who has control over it &
how does one pin down those who contaminate &
pollute the sub-soil water.

Cholera epidemic in Delhi - Water

Question of sewage disposal. Unless that taken care of, no
safe drinking water.

In such questions of epidemics, where do we intervene?

● Chlorophenicol - not regulated

Typhoid patients become resistant to drug.

Chemical: Caustic soda factories - Hg poisoning.

Shouldn't one use processes which do not use hazardous
materials.

Cases of infertility, abortions etc. in ♀ - effect of Hg
poisoning not listed in text books.

Minamata: Initially said that Hg was not organic.

But later found that it could enter into the food chain.

Company kept denying that some such effects could take
place. They had the info. and yet did not disclose it.

Doctors themselves did not tell, in fact, gave wrong
information for their companies.

Knowing the toxics alone ~~are~~ ^{is} not enough.

No info. today about even knowing which processes & comp-
anies are using toxic materials, will also be given.

We have to find out all this. No authority wanting
to give any of all this.

Vaccine programme, patenting of life forms.

New new bio-techno. in which we do not even know
what can happen, we ~~are~~ do not know what we will
be able to do.

Ayurveda - allopathy combinations. leading to patenting of plant forms.

Slowly, lose control over solutions, which were totally ours.

Today, dealing with envi. hazards of yesterday.

Hazards of which we know very little, are in store for the future.

live organisation know & follow no boundaries. so hazards from them are to be even more dangerous.

It is difficult to even determine the causes of diseases.

Connections necessary betn people working on various issues.

Ritu: Question of medical ethics was a very strong point.

Questioning kind of solutions offered.

Penny: The corporate sector creating problems as well as the 'problematic' solutions.

Vanaja: Also want to mention fluorosis caused by dams.

Fl. is deposition around spinal chord leading to paralysis. Initially endemic to Bhatinda but now spreading.

Farida: Absence of surface water is problem due to the high irrigation crops. Advert. by Ciba-Geigy for depression. Showing woman suffering from it. Medicine made available so there is a kind of introducing of a disease to get a market for their products.

Prasul: Obsns: Strong connections betn degradation & models of development & strategies used like high irrigation, pesticides etc. Interest groups tied up with these strategies. So we are caught in a clash of conflicts. You have to intervene at the policy level.

Arrogance of I & T establishment & impunity with which

it is pushing hazardous techno. It is partly out of ignorance or omnipresent belief in S & T. But there is also a lobby pushing all this there.

How to fight it? It calls for a massive re-education

Approaches used: (i) Regulatory measures to control, eliminate hazards (ii) Punitive approach in case causally effects are traced (iii) Structural transformation approach. Large no. of chemicals not studied at all.

F. D. A studying. In last 15 years, in depth studying possible only on 3. So thousands of chemicals on which we know nothing. So punitive measures.

Rosie: Same kinds of problems in Bangladesh too. Conflict betn users and distributors. Need to create awareness.

Anita: I am thinking of campaigns in consumer movements and I feel regulations & punitive measures are limited. No changing of mind possible but we have to become clever and maybe use some 'incentive' of doing good. Is there a possibility of getting together and maybe reward environmentally good industries.

Praful: I do not think these are the lessons that we have learnt. But we have to persevere. Incentives etc. could work only if people come to know of the -ve impact. Litigation is one example of growing the public awareness. One has to recognise conflicting interests.

Sven: Ciba is going to set up an environmental audit.

Kamle: Basic problem is short sighted, brutal profit making - Fragmented approach of S & T. I suffer 3 times more - one as with all, two with carrying it in the wombs and three as a nurse in every home. A. is how does one go back to their 'dharma'?

Mira: Need to have a session on 'what to do'. Also a lot more info. to be spread and awareness raised.

ANNE USHER AIDS as ecological collapse in Thailand.

- AIDS a major epidemic - ever spreading issue of concern. Nothing like it has happened before. Would like to attempt to understand what are the str & issues that allow spreading & sustaining of AIDS. Can see connections in the ecological crisis and the issues like AIDS - physically, metaphorically.

During mobile cabinet meetings, met a village headwoman who wanted to make a presentation on prostitution in her village.

In sex industry most ♀ have come from North.

I asked her what will happen when children come back dying with AIDS. Her answer said: First the forests died. With their disappearance physical, cultural & spiritual life of people got affected. Old styles were taken over by new needs. Along with it growing landlessness, lack of resources, dependance on market, lack of cash - leading to using young people's bodies.

History of spread of AIDS: 1987 - Visit Thailand Year. Covert promotion to sex tourism. Largest no. of tourists come from Malaysia. In that year, AIDS spread more betn. drug addicts who were using IV drugs. Rapid growth in 6 months from 17% to 43%. (+ve detection of virus)

No. of prostitutes - 1/2 to 1 million (non-govt.)

Thailand has 200,000 child prostitutes (NGO group).

It also is a heroin producer and exporter.

Flourishing 'gay' community and there is a lot of acceptance. Yet spread of AIDS amongst them not very much.

Statistics really astounding. Projections are also mind boggling.

Response of state: first from gays to IV Drug users to promiscuous men & prostitutes.

Systematic compartmentalisation of groups of people.

Not recognised as disease of Thai society

Needs to be treated holistically.

① Nobody dies of AIDS - you die of some other infection which cannot be handled by the affected immune system. So a normal person is a greater risk to an AIDS patient.

Such effects on the eco-system too. Some kind of damages and all systems collapse. Also become more vulnerable to external

In South Thailand, mountains: The rain forests ^{hazards} removed/cut and rubber saplings planted. In '88, these hills just collapsed in a rain storm. Rain storm was a periodic happening but earlier it hadn't created such destruction. Also much more damage by typhoons to the coastal regions.

② People depended on forests. Can connect the natural disasters with sex trade historically. Now can see links betn. semi-natural disasters and sex trade, e.g. in resettlement due to construction of large dams and so on. Also connections betn. unnatural disasters - e.g. golf courses & their construction - mainly for Japanese who are now successful in not allowing construction of these in Japan.

? Social forestry: people's

Laws & policies still in the direction to continue the status 'Prostitution is illegal in Thailand'.

Laws for this control only ♀, not clients. Can arrest ♀ who are carriers of contagious diseases.

Selective implementation of laws pertaining to both.

Yet the crisis of the situation is similar in both.

National forest policy wanting to ^{do} forestry for market, once again unsettle people and displace communities.

Laws in both cases, victimise the victims

I see at a more conceptual level

Response to forest crisis - divide forests. Virgin forests - domain of plants and animals & industrial forests - " " companies. Does not account for all these people living there → These have no relation to the natural eco-systems.

In case of ♀ also IIIrd divisions of virgin & whore.

In forestry the answer is of community forestry. ~~What~~ How does one talk of women's bodies.

Gail: Structures spreading AIDS. Have to also look at medical profession & other health care institutions. Also have to see what is the 'value' of natural resources - looked upon as just a free resource available.

Mira: India will have max. no. of cases thanks to our various camps all over.

Vandana: What does one do to the virgin & whore separation. Value exists only when the producer & consumers are separate. Bodies are last resource left with people then how does one react to intervention in them.

Teresita: Prostitution also a problem in Philippines ♀ into prosti. not only for reasons of poverty. Finding in a study. They were also reacting to male violence on their bodies e.g. rape 'spoils' the body & so if raped they go in for prostitution. GABRIELA running a dropping centre for these pros. etc.

PENNY NEWMAN

- Explanation of what is happening in U.S.

Shift of toxic wastes from there to here is partly because of success in the U.S.

Problem in U.S. very clean. Production of large amounts of chemicals as wastes every year. Have areas marked where waste is dumped. Constant export of 'dangerous' pesticides.

Detailed studies on toxicity & every person carries toxic ~~an~~ contents. Coming from three components - Industry is one. Companies just do not care about what they are doing. How they define profitable - includes calculation of people affected, people asking for and payment of compensations. The other component has been the Govt. systems. They are co-conspirators in the actions against communities.

Problem is that some amount of dangers are accepted. Also protection is only for a section of people.

We have allowed ourselves to be sucked onto their terms. Toxic wastes have to exist that itself is not challenged. Also there is no pretence from the Govt. of being egalitarian. Well defined ideas of who would and who would not fight back, and actions taken accordingly.

(Same extended out of the country)

Racist tendencies of having all these waste heaps ~~in~~ located in only specific areas.

Third components are the old environmentalists who are negotiating on behalf of people when no negotiation is possible. Effort is at controlling population instead of eliminating it. Also linkages have not been made.

State acts with communities in same way as with the developing countries.

- We began to do something new. Started working with the communities themselves who were faced by toxic wastes. Share info. about chemicals, strategies, experiences.

Success at Love Canal led to formation of 'clearinghouse'. Many ♀, including myself joined in mainly because we needed to protect our families.

Twofold objectives: one eliminate population & two building of strong organisations.

Example of campaign against McDonald using styrofoam. It also shows that process of strengthening communities does give results.

Tried connecting people together. Add the human element. Agreement arrived is that it should not, not only go to my backyard but that it should not go anywhere at all. What one sees is export to other countries. We need to share a network so that info. is passed on across the countries.

Question of changing lifestyles -

What one is trying to do is start with their problem right now and then let them extend it to the whole scenario.

Praful: Have you tried contacting groups in countries where banned pesticides are coming in? Or groups in countries where wastes are being dumped? This awareness of destruction → of ozone layer has led to Montreal protocol treaty. This restricts all kinds of trades, biodiversity etc. It could also lead to a North/South divide in issues of environment.

Penny: Lack of people. One of the reasons I am here is to make such connections.

ANNE KEREPIA: Pacific Concerns Resource Centre

- Share a topic of interest from Papua ^{New} Guinea.
Not sharing as an expert but just what happened when U.S. came to dump toxic wastes.
People in the Pacific concerned about dumping by the multinationals. Maybe it is going to people who will not fight back.

1988, 1st approach made by 'Global Telesis Toxic Wastes Export' to Govt. Minister there opposed the move.

1990, new Govt. Approach made again and on 6th Dec '90 report of approval by minister to toxic waste incinerator being built. Lot of meetings organised all over to oppose this decision. 45 million dollar profit with 600,000 tonnes of waste coming in every month.

Place selected. People very frightened. Some group sent a fact finding team. In PNG all land owned by people so they in a sense can make decisions about allowing this to be built or not. Also meetings held. Q asked to U.S. When building houses do you build toilets in other people's houses?

Minister did ~~not~~ turn up for the meeting. U.S. embassy representative also called to find out if they are aware of the company's offer. Minister grilled about company & what he personally got out of all this.

Q: What is first money or life of people?

U.S. fellow said his Govt. not aware of this deal. After meeting we also got more info. through our own students and also from other countries.

In Feb. we got an answer that the deal is off.

Other islands in the Pacific are also being approached.

Other companies too. One went to Samoa. Negative response from people, church heads had intervened to refuse because each island responsible for other islands in the Pacific.

Also approached Martial Islands. Already devastated with nuclear testing - now getting incinerator. Senator has asked for research by their own scientists. Martial island also a colony but pressure from Pacific quite strong. We are questioning why they create so much rubbish which they cannot even take care of. Also what people of the U.S. who have denied burning there but allow it to come to us, other human beings?

Pacific is liquid continent. Has a lot of water which contains most of the food. This now being used for other people's interests.

Glad to come here. We are looking for support. We are asked for facts and figures. We do not have them but we know it's not good for us. Research done by their scientists give us only half the info.

Now we have a group doing research on our own. PNG is very rich with a lot of mines now discovered & we do not know what kind of problems can crop up. We are now doing research to inform our people.

Through the church of U.S. we are also trying a dialogue with the U.S. We are always told we will send researchers etc. We have had enough of that. We are suggesting we go to U.S. and talk of how these problems are not 'ours' alone, they are of the world which we share.

"If it is safe dump it in Tokyo, thrust it in Paris and store it in Washington D.C."

Farida: Share what happened in Bangladesh.

Proposed that they would make electricity of the dump. Newly formed enviro. ministry did not give permission. Also there was a lot of reports and other groups also got together. We do not know if they dumped it somewhere near. Only they could not use it in B'desh. In giving info we did not know how to translate 'toxic' into simple Bengali!

Anne: Offer to Marshall Islands was to use the rubbish to reclaim the ~~land~~ sea & extend land. We have 800 diff. languages in our country!

We have chosen pigeon English as a language we use. Our constitution allows freedom of speech.

I think the success was partly/mainly due to people's pressure. Land owners also helped. People also depend on subsistence farming. Mobilising mainly by the Church & W's groups. Health organisations did not stand up maybe because they get funds.

EVELYN HONG

- Racist perspective of the North should be kept in mind while talking of toxic wastes & other enviro. issues.
- Example of company producing Yttrium.
Waste product: Th hydroxide.
ARE: Asian rare earths
Almost the same story as IRE - Indian Rare earths.

19:07:91

VANDANA SHIVA

Cultural diversity & biodiversity

- How the natural becomes unnatural

Relocation of creativity leads to all kinds of gymnastics.
e.g. when we began the conservation challenge of limited natural resources Deeper eco. crisis not seen.

Transformation of regeneration into production

These shift in processes has restructured a lot - our thought too

Metaphor & perennial symbols seed & earth.

Change in this symbolism : change in where life rises from.
3 major streams.

- (i) Both seed & earth are live. Living interaction keeps life running.
- (ii) Seed as active & earth as passive - patriarchal region
- (iii) Both inactive/passive. Seed as modified by man is only the one responsible for life. Shift in boundary for creation.

East to West, ancient to modern - earth as passive is the way patriarchy has operated. This seed/earth symbolism thus created is not natural, it is a socio political construct.

Reproduction as a term comes up with industrialisation.

Procreation before that was used instead of creation.

Split betn paternity & maternity → shared with nature

↳ characteristic of male alone

It's assumed that where repetition is taking place, regeneration & life are maintained

While one feels that creation is out of nothing, there is always something which was there.

In fact there is never mere repetition - ∇ diversity.

Colonialism : shifts from fertile mother earth to empty earth which man had to come & develop. All use is now nonuse - Making of the empty earth.

- Once this denial of life & renewal of life takes place, invasive toxics have to be used.

This shift leads to vanishing of essentials.

→ Animal liberation by Peter Singer

→ New Ways of making babies

↳ terrible analysis of passive ♀s bodies.

changes in reproduction: what is natural, what is important, what kind of rights, new rights for whom.

e.g. fetal rights where fetus is protected from the mother

Fetal litigation against hazardous wastes.

IIIrd things happening in plant regeneration.

Seed is a closed, recycling thing.

- Hybrids are created to create a seed market. Get rid of or open up the seeds.

Turn cycle into a linear chain where one end is the raw material & the other is the product.

- Second thing is that seed & earth do not reproduce from themselves. They need extra; external supports.

> Patenting. based on concept of emptiness.

Same case for land, germplasm & ♀s bodies.

Creation by techno. & markets thereby

Patent rights separate farmers from their germplasm

Captured fetuses & captured seeds.

Pupul: It is necessary to go into ^{what} AI will do to human brain.

Will lead to making faculties within human brains obsolete. & then would be what is a human being? The capacity to see something new, distant, discern, differentiate is what makes human brain special. We have to look at all this as assault over life as a whole. These also should be included in the analysis.

→ Donna Haraway : merging of mechanical & the living.
Anita : Two worlds that we live in. One is the utopia that we want and the other is the real world which makes it difficult to think of a vision & makes us think that old is good. e.g. IVF makes mothers, makes them acceptable. Second is hazards on the womb making it difficult to give birth in which techno. helps.

Vandana : To me, its a conflict betn. one real world & another. New kind of internalisation that is happening for women & farmers all over. Shift in what is normal. Techno. introduced for an exceptional case but it slowly takes over all kinds of domains.

Farida : China also experimenting with IVF for sterilised women. In Korea, IVF allowed for those with forced sterilisations.

Gabriel : Question of social support structures which we have to really look into. Traditional repressive structures now being replaced with techno. fix.

Ritu : Slightly uneasy with this continuous relating creativity to reproduction esp. for ♀. Look upon it at one level as a question of choice.

Kamla : You should emphasise that creativity is not repro. alone.

Praful : Dissenting note. Obsessed with techno. which is socially neutral. The question then is a yes/no type & answer is 'NO'. There is one imp. link missing i.e. existence of capitalism 'human centered' & 'nature centered' - Vandana's.

From Vandana's view, a fight for better society implies going back.

Gail : How do we look at intervention in natural processes? ~~How~~

Anita : Techno. is just a knowhow. It's always been there and has been translated in recent times. ♀'s knowhow has been eroded & not given validity. How do we recapture this knowhow?

Also why we have not been able to do it productively? Part of the reason is that we have been socialised by capitalism. Vandana: Divide betn. naturalistic and humanistic. Capitalism uses this techno. and makes it a dominant mode of knowhow.

How to move democratically in an ecologically conscious way

Q. How does one distinguish betn science and technology? If one does not then these are basically philosophies of understanding 'life'. Then naturally the key to understanding of all this is to understand 'life', its creation, nurturance and sustenance etc.

Then one has to talk of seed, earth and womb

VANAJA RAMPRASAD Navdanya

- Would like to touch on invisible forms of malnutrition. Half starved people exist all the time everywhere. Green revolution has lead to social inequality. Problems of seeds, irrigation - redn. of diversity & shift of control from farmer to the state.

(iii)^{bn} to what had been spoken at Comilla)

Difference in way food and nutrition are looked at by the West and have been looked at by in our tradition

→ Navdanya: nine seeds linked to nine planets and nine plants. All nine seeds sown at the same time.

Should not go into scientific connections betn. all this or interpretations thereof. What we have to do is understand how things were understood in the past.

→ Navdunga & १२५॥११११॥ : full cycle covers everything from creation to nurturance to destruction. So shakti is this whole cycle of energy.

S.T.S. REDDY : Will carry on from Vanaja to talk of what it does ~~to~~ or how it is taken care of in agriculture. Biodiversity not only for humans but for animals too. Seeds always exchanged betn mothers, and daughters not betn or with sons & brothers. Men do not sow at all.

That religion is peculiar in picking up all folk
practices and calling it its own.

- Historically, when Columbus entered N. America's second time he carried sugar cane. From the beginning capitalism has affected agricultural practices everywhere.

The ruling classes adopted and continued with all this and gave schemes to

What do we mean by com agri -

(i) Large no. of external inputs, water, elec, seeds, ferti. etc

(ii) Production: consumption large scale & long distance transportation

(iii) Increasing predominance of monoculture

(iv) Uneven development: areas of prosperity with dry patches
Prosperity of Punjab contrasted with poverty of Bihar etc.

To understand this one has to look at the whole system.

Tendency in enviro. groups of making cash cropping farmer and the poor peasant enemies. They are both sufferers in this:

(v) Intensification of inequalities. Many areas increasing landlessness

(vi) System that is both destructive and exploitative. One sees exploitation of agri. labour & peasants by the state and landlord using capitalist power.

Question is how do they identify labour?

You have hired & domestic labour.

Govt's rules → paid⁺ at the rate of bonded labour.

(vii) Ecologically very destructive

In recent decades many struggles Two types

① Peasants fighting direct exploitation - local, small scale

② Cash crop growing farmers & peasants for market rates etc

Have been involved in both these kinds of mass people's movements.
Non-party. Not dealing with party because no new vision there.
i.e. what will happen once peasants get land.

Peasants movements fear take over by party.

(M.S.) Mukti Sangharsh: One taluka Shetkari Sanghatana 2/3 of districts in the state.

M.S. started with textile workers coming back starting off with draught - leading to Baliraja dam.

Water distribution out of Krishna river - this struggle beginning at Thakari.

Both these struggles had problems with State, with local landlord (∴ equal distribution was sought)

Baliraja: King Bali looked down upon by Ramayana.

♀'s role: Mukti Sangharsh (SMS). No role in decision making.

Taken up abandoned ♀. In villages, ♀ are coming together as Mahila Mandals. Start or propose to start some work on alternatives in agri etc. Also ask for land. Election panel.

S.S. Initial focus on higher prices & we take care of all other problems. Fundamental ambivalence in peasants' expectations ^{from} new techno. & yet disappointment.

Actions: break contact betn. urban & rural areas or with the bureaucracy.

There is an element of going back to self subsistence vill. Connections of green revolution, Punjab situation & the national farmer's agitation.

Mass movement trying to gain more gains and yet go back 1986: Chandvad ♀'s role.

Suggested ♀'s panels at ZP elections not yet held.

Samagra Mahila Aghadi (SMA) formed.

Issues raised were drinking water, toilets, alt. medical care, alt. education, alt. work, alt. financing for ZP.

One thing happened in 1989 समूह चयन elections, all ♀ panels contested and won.

♀ campaigning against alcohol.

1989: date chosen for 2nd conf. issues communalism, prop. rights for women. '83: Bodhgaya.

Politically scene changing totally.

Vita: Gave legal rights to ♀

All through 1990 land given to village ♀. About 1000 villages.

Agri. policy: Sharad Joshi heading as secretary. Lot of bureaucratic foot dragging.

Min. wage for agri. labour same as jawans (जय विद्यार्थी, जय शिक्षार्थी)

Series of suggestions for land development.

Substitution of chemical fertilisers with natural

Decentralisation - no talk generally on economic policy.

Agri. policy - common prop. resources in control of vill population

All land in the name of the gram panchayat.

This policy completely scuttled.

- Big and small movements all over. Defeats at higher level

"Sita temple"

- It is a battle of life not really about commercial agriculture
We are not working with big plantations
But then what to present was the question before us.
We are an orgn. working with peasant ♀ : 25,000 ♀ all over
Only 9 ♀ in the secretariat. Volcano eruption

- Biggest environmental hazard is presence of American
military bases. Air base near the erupting volcano.

Blast on June 12th - day that U.S. claim that they gave
independence to Philippines.

21st second blast : U.S. Phil. Friendship day.

The eruption helped pull out which had been a demand.
Philippines not even allowed to pass thro' a base to evade
the eruption. Hence, created a strong anti-bases reaction

- Another hazard is the war situation.

War declared against insurgents - strong national movement.
U.S. very much behind it. Massive bombing affecting
production, agriculture etc. Half a million internal
refugees mainly ♀ & children.

These issues have, however, always been discussed.

So we decided to focus on 2 major development prog.

A lot of struggles all over for reclaiming one's lands.
Pockets of resistance opposing KALABARIZON project.

They want to transform under this, five rich agriculture
provinces into industrial zones.

Development schemes such that they are raising a very
dependant society.

Implications of these projects.

Landlords with large holdings selling to industry instead
of Govt. and getting land changed from agri to industrial

- Threat to ~~economic~~ ^{food} resources ∴ rich areas now not allowed to do agriculture.

Ecological damage that would be created. Only one lake which they will use for water needs of factories. So lot of fishermen displaced. Expansion of thermal plant which is already creating problems. Diseases like T.B. on rise. Added to all this will be industrial pollution.

- Another problem with loss of land is of men migrating to cities for low paid jobs barely supporting him leaving female headed households. Then ♀ doing service work. It's a breakdown of family, society etc.

The second project is the Green Revolution programme.

Similar experience as described in earlier paper.

Golden apple snail: Snail i.e. edible & of size of apple.

High protein - told to be very delicious.

Farmers realised that these snails were very destructive in the rice fields. Initially they tried to actually pick them up. To solve this MNCs Hoechst came with pesticides which killed all the snails but was also dangerous to human flesh & ~~toe~~ ^{toe} nails kept coming off. (Brestan & Aquatini)

Also itchiness & burnt skins. ♀ had swollen genitals

In Feb a news report that 20 ♀ died because of wading thro' water having these chemicals. Report said that the women did not know of Brestan being put in the water previous day.

But the story was not true. There is no conclusive decision

In Jan AMIHAN had this meeting when we got a report ^{of} that above story from people. We wanted to recheck. But before that the info. leaked to the press & it came all over.

Fact finding team was late - the villagers would not speak. The woman who had got info. was harassed by the military. No

conclusive evidence found. Retracting of statement not printed. We then found that Brestan was banned ~~in~~ by the Govt. in 1990 which nobody knew of. In remote areas, however, this pesticide is still being sold. Due to all this uproar we are getting a lot of info about these chemicals from groups outside Philippines.

Another peasant organisation (of rich farmers mainly) asking for lifting of ban because no other alternative available.

Project proposed by WDP to Amihan against pesticides even giving police powers to arrest farmers who use these.

Our positions: ① Stop using all pesticides & fertilisers.
② Start rehabilitating the soil with subsidies from Govt.
- This is a voice in the wilderness.

Starting to network.

Also have alternatives of having backyard natural farming. Process & problems of organising:

3 kinds of organisations: male; married peasant ♀ & youth organisations (which include all ^{un} married women).

It helps empowerment ∵ ♀ not able to speak in mixed grps. But this reinforces stereotypes of male/female jobs.

मिस मिस

20:07:91

RITA SEBASTIAN

Ecology, militarisation & ethnic conflict //

Ethnic conflict: consequences on political & eco. movement

- Beginning of conflict in 1956 making the country Sinhalese. Languages were Tamil & Sinhalese dividing the children. Also gave rise to Tamil nationalism. 1977 - Tamil state 1983: ~~Farm~~ ^{communal} conflict - State sponsored. Tamil refugees. Tamil militants given refuge, trained and funded by India. May '87. - Op. liberation July - peace accord.
- Vast ecological damages but naturally major priority for the people has been survival.

Creation of militant group JVP in the South.

This occupation of Indian army in Sri Lanka led to hostility towards Indians & also efforts for peace by Tigers trying to collaborate with the Govt.

Indians thrown out but battle has again begun all over. With recent events, once again Tamils have become enemies of both the Indian & the Sri Lankan governments.

'Freedom birds' : ♀ militant group as aggressive & violent

> What does one mean by a 'liberation' struggle?

How does one deal with these struggles of ethnicity and why does it take this kind of a turn?

How does one draw a line betn. fascist struggles and the nationalist struggles?

How does one cope with these kind of struggles which are made possible in the abstract without people's & community's support?

→ Militants have made the divide but why are they successful?
Why is it that others who are more unifying, who want to get people together, are not successful?

→ This is a crucial question that needs to be answered.

Is it just creation of terror?

What is the environment which is making this the modus operandi? How does one try to make any impact on it.

The whole environ. is of violence, the philosophy of living is totally coloured by the 'terror' that pervades, the existence is tainted with fear. What is the approach then? How & one needs to understand all this but in a society in which all this is growing it is even more difficult to not only sharpen one's understanding but it is almost impossible to revive all this 'feminine' principle, and a worldview of coexistence and compassion.

Where and how does one begin? It is so difficult to do that even in a micro-reality. How can one do it for all humanity across cultures, religions, regions - national & geographic boundaries?

It is very depressing and unmoving/hopeless a situation. How does one move before we lose even what hope and aspirations and energy is left?

GABRIELLE DIETRICH: Ethnicity, ecology and feminism

- Ethnicity is something that we are reeling under all the time. Militarisation also leading to police / State violence. So there is no headway in evolving a perspective. Why and how is it that liberation struggles become so destructive to others & to themselves.

Caste is a living reality & caste is also ethnic issue. Tribal communities and their problems also similar.

① Ethnicity & nationalism ② Connection betn. ethnicity & caste
③ " & adivasi movements ④ Victory of the defeated.

① Ideology of nationalism is also a colonial heritage. Example of Sri Lanka.

Large group or races with common culture: ethnicity.

Ethnicity or nationality comes thro' a process of colonisation. One thing is history of migration, subjugation etc.

Nationalism is a category under which these struggles of identities thus formed.

Problems of Marxism: Lot of underestimation of cultural factors of kinship and the material base for these.

Text book defn. of nation also bring up this link of ethnicity & nationality. So liberation struggles are up against the State against exploitation. State with its nervousness of its own, retaliates & leads to armed struggles.

All of it links up in the economic struggles and the development programmes alongside.

Although it is cultural, it becomes a biological defn. Decolonisation needs to assert territorial sovereignty and that backfires. . . .

② Dravida movement very anti-Brahman.

Racism came as a term with 'scientific' understanding of genes.

But this caste etc is not anything to do with genetics. All terminology used has this commonality of togetherness. It has a social connotation and not a biological connotation. It was necessary to stress the Tamil identity.

In Tamilnadu, worship is not of Shakti but of 'mother' which leads to a kind of faith in womanhood. Imagery leads to some impact on minds of women and people. Similar kind of problems in Dalit movement with Dravids & Aryans clashing and opposing each other leading to coming up of middle castes and then lower castes coming up as proto Dravidians as the true 'sons' of the soil.

We need to be aware of the plurality all around and also take into account this ~~proto~~ reality of ethnic struggles. How difficult to come to terms with 'Dalit' identity and the 'feminist' identity @.

③ Tremendous difference betn. tribals in north east, the other tribal regions and those in the South. In South there are only pockets remaining who are almost being kept in wildlife reservoirs. It is a question of whether to keep them as it is or how to integrate them within the mainstream.

Opsns made on earlier history of the Jharkhand movement. Also asking for a separate state with a lot of tribal population, mineral resources and victims of state policies - colonised by them to lose the agri. practices and the forests.

The tribal population here is also not homogenous. How much of struggle is ecological is questionable. It is more over control over resources and anti-'colonisation'.

Imp. that it has joined a large population not necessarily tribal but under a tribal ethos.

I feel we need to have alliance with such movements to be able to move ahead.

♀'s movement.

We should not be stuck with any particular cultural expression but have to keep in mind other pluralities around us.

③ How do we link up with these?

We need an effort. One reason is why that while dealing with ♀ we have to face these realities.

Also ♀ are also colonised people and we need to get into this debate of what is production.

Though resource base gets destroyed, subsistence production goes on increasing as the informal sector - with worse & worse living condns. It is all these deprived sections which are employed in this way.

State has tried to co-opt the ♀'s movement.

How do we try to turn our backwardness into strength? ④

④ We need these multi cultural identities.

'Obstinacy to refuse getting absorbed'

Minamata declaration: Summer '89 Jap. & Asian movements. It is the counter image to these nationalist struggles where one is talking of transcending all national & other boundaries. How to bring in all this at the local level.

Vandana: Lack of material resources leading to cultural identity searches. A homogenised world system leading to these kinds of distorted cultural identities.

Gail: I think hope is that there is more search for alternatives of a totally diff. kind.

Vandana: How does one talk of transborder politics for people in a situation where capital is removing boundaries betn. nations but at the same time forcing militarisation & extra boundaries.

FARIDA AKHTAR : New Reproductive technologies

- Cyclone killing 100,000 people.

Links between natural disasters and family planning needs
Shifts from food scarcity to population can't be supported
by the resources available on the planet.

Population control is leading to fear of the ruling class

Poor overnumbering the rich & taking away rights of the rich.

The need to depopulation has come from the aid agencies & it
has to be attacked there.

Husband at home shifted to husbands outside which is the
donor agencies and others

Quality of scissors very imp. and is needed for cutting.

III^{ly} any techno. in whosoever's control can have problems because
of the inherent nature of these technologies.

In implants, teach only how to insert. Do not teach how
to remove to the health workers

Pop. control by quantity or quality

Sadhya: Look at SD/SP as part of medical technology

How do we look at transplants?

Area of privatisation. Legislation not passed ∴ NRR.

Net-en study ~~based on~~ ^{for} return of fertility based
on failure of using the Net-en.

Rina: Promote barrier methods.

Nov 4:30

INDIRA JAISINGH & SATHYA 'Bhopal'

- Disaster described as an accident. Do not believe it because of earlier history of its installation. Potential to raise questions about chemical industry was suppressed. Why? Have to look at responses of medical, legal and State.

Medical: No info re symptomatic treatment. / not questioned ^{except by one petition}

State alone to file cases - parent patriare role of the state.

Settlement suggested at 350 million dollar initially.

Not accepted by India. Reasons not known. Anyway no data available ~~with~~ ^{with} the state.

Shifting of case from U.S. to India.

Gradual process of disempowerment of the victims.

Claim of 3 billion dollars - again no basis.

Interim relief 350 crore rupees

Reduced by high court to 250 crore

In Supreme Court - again appeal. - debate purely legal about whether or not there was a ground for S.C. to offer such an interim relief.

14th Feb '89. - settlement 470 million dollars.

Mar. '89 to July '89 case heard challenging p.p. role

Dec '89 - judgement accepts role but

- No right to settlement without consulting victims and obligation to support the victims until settlement

N.F. gives 200 Rs. per person interim relief.

& remains basis for challenging the settlements.

Can injuries of all kinds be monetarily compensated.

Spontaneous abortion has been reported to be most sensitive indicators of dangerous effects of chemical - mutagenic effects.

Epidemiological 3rd study:

80% of population near by had permanent injuries.
"Post traumatic stress disorder"

Estimate 4 lakh seriously injured.

NF: Exposure seen synonymous to injury for interim relief.
Released ICMR data - multisystemic effects & injury being shown now.

- There is no difference in responses here or in the U.S. States have a tendency to not only appropriate natural resources but also disaster.

To date composition of gases has not been disclosed.

Medical response would have been the same anywhere

∴ of view of modern medicine of health & disease.

There is no looking at disease in a social, anthropological sense. If it did not do this, it could have predicted disaster.

Reaction anywhere would have been therapeutic. No epidemiological studies would have been done. // with AIDS.

NR
H

LAST SESSION

Blinding to a series of processes of where the roots of the problem lie. Growing incapacity to act in a way that healing can take place. How do we act to close the chain?

① Chemical toxics → → →

Penny: Use the network that we have to put pressure on the companies there and. Carry info. from here to there. Also share all the info. that we have collected about them.

- Get a case study of Bhopal ready for the U.N. conference on Enviro. & Development. 16 areas chalked out. Trade not allowed to be discussed there.

"UNCTAD conf."

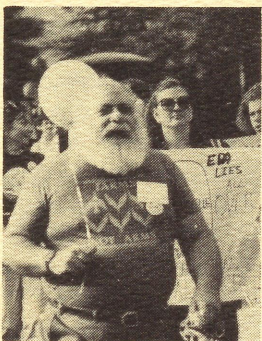
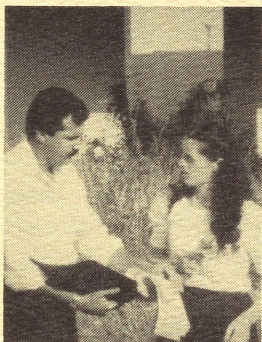
Virgin forests exist to maintain eco-systems
Economic forests are for monetary systems
The good women and the whores exist
All to maintain patriarchy ~~while~~ by preserving continuity of man
The fertile and the infertile exist
To maintain the right kind of populations
And Almost everything seems to exist
To maintain power structures and power balances
And 'man' with all his lux-
And the purpose of life ^{itself} to exist
Seems to be man ^{with} ~~and~~ his needs & luxuries.

When everything thus is for a purpose
Nothing never is.





**PEOPLE HELPING
PEOPLE TO
HELP THEMSELVES**



**Citizens Clearinghouse for
Hazardous Wastes, Inc.
An Environmental Crisis Center
P.O. Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216
(703) 276-7070**

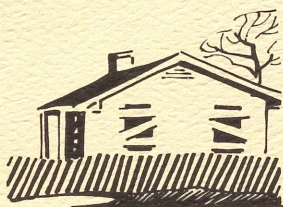
WHAT IS THE CITIZENS CLEARINGHOUSE FOR HAZARDOUS WASTES?

CCHW is the only national environmental organization which was started and is led by grassroots leaders. *CCHW* was founded in 1981 by Love Canal leader, Lois Gibbs. Thousands of people contacted Lois at Love Canal, as the efforts of her and her neighbors captured national attention and proved, for the first time, that chemical hazards is an issue that not affects us all, but can and must be addressed by each of us. *CCHW's* principles and way of working are based on the lessons learned at Love Canal. At Love Canal, we learned that the best policy comes from the bottom, up, from grassroots' efforts when the people who are most directly affected speak for themselves. While other groups lobby for changes in national and state policy, *CCHW* sticks to the principle that people can and must speak for themselves and devotes all of its energies and resources toward helping them do that most effectively. In that approach, *CCHW* is *unique* among all groups working on the environment today!

For most people, *CCHW* is a crisis center. It's *CCHW* they call when people find out other approaches don't work! It's *CCHW* they call when they want an honest answer about whether their well water is safe to drink when tests show it contains certain chemicals. It's *CCHW* they call when they hear the local dumpsite is leaking and officials say "there's no cause for alarm." It's *CCHW* they call when a company announces its plan to build an unsafe facility in their neighborhood. It's *CCHW* they call when government officials announce a "clean-up" plan that doesn't clean up anything! It's *CCHW* they call when they discover that policymakers are more interested in political or economic self-interest than the facts!

THE PROBLEM IS LARGER THAN MOST PEOPLE THINK...

As many as 100,000 waste sites need clean-up action. It's already too late for some communities where large-scale relocations have been ordered, places like Love Canal, Times Beach (MO),



Ciudad Christiana (Puerto Rico), Kent (WA), Savannah Place (Augusta, GA), Globe (AZ) and more each day. *CCHW* is working in communities all across

North America to help residents identify and clean up problems *before* it's too late, before they become ghost towns.

Despite massive, existing problems, companies and government agencies still propose new, unsafe facilities. Many of these proposed sites are sites deliberately targeted for low-income, rural communities, majority Black, Hispanic or Native American population. This must be stopped.



Nearly every metropolitan area faces a garbage "crisis," usually of local government's own creation. Their "answer" is to build mass-burn incinerators, often giving them fancy names like "Resource Recovery Centers." Unfortunately, these incinerators create more problems than they solve and *CCHW* is dealing with this "crisis" through a new program of public education and community organizing.

PEOPLE ARE DIRECTLY BEING AFFECTED...

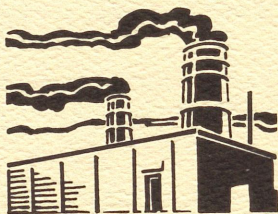


Children often suffer the most and have the highest risk from toxic exposure. For example, almost two dozen children developed leukemia from industrial chemicals in their drinking water. In the Silicon Valley, CA, children throughout the community were born with birth defects after “clean” high-tech industries polluted water. The same story was repeated in Morrison, CO; Jacksonville, Ark.; New Bedford, MA; Tucson, AZ; Butte, MT and elsewhere.

In Triana, AL, residents ate catfish from a local pond (contaminated by chemicals), got sick and were found to have the highest measured levels of the deadly pesticide DDT in their blood.

Dioxin is the most toxic chemical known to man and is a by-product of incineration and both comes out the smoke-stack and remains behind in the flyash.

Despite this, incinerators are being proposed as the “answer”. In Europe, incinerators have been shut down after dioxin was found in the mothers’ milk of women living near incinerators. Times Beach was evacuated because of dioxin contamination. This, too, must stop!



All across the country, people report rashes, illnesses, cancer, birth defects and deaths from toxic exposure. Drinking water supplies have been declared unfit to drink. Lives have been ruined, some have been lost. Unless people stand together and fight—mistakes will be repeated. Grassroots people who have organized and taken a stand have produced results, but so much more needs to be done! And *CCHW* will be there to help!

WHAT CCHW DOES...

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

CCHW collects information on chemicals and their effects, various disposal methods, technology for cleanup, activities of generators and disposal companies and the work of many organizations working on the problem. We digest the information, convert it to "plain language" that people can use! We link groups with similar problems or interests and help them find qualified resource people and organizations. We use our two newsletters (*EVERYONE'S BACKYARD* and *ACTION BULLETIN*) as tools to educate, stimulate new thinking and create an effective working network. We have over 3 dozen, plain language citizens' guidebook on a wide variety of topics.

ORGANIZING ASSISTANCE AND OUTREACH

CCHW helps people fight for their rights, for their homes and families, by providing direct, one-on-one assistance. We help people figure out what needs to be done and how to do it. Often this involves going to their community to conduct training programs and community meetings. And we follow through until residents are confident that they can win their fight!

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The average person often lacks the confidence and background to understand the nature and extent of toxic problems or to evaluate the threat posed by an unsafe facility. We help people overcome this problem by direct help in reviewing technical material. We not only review and comment on technical reports local residents send us, but we also do on-site visits, teach people how to do their own analysis and provide resource materials, as well as referrals to qualified experts.

CCHW is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. We count on individuals, organizations, churches and foundations for their tax-deductible support for our existence. We do not seek or accept grants from government or from industries that pollute!

YES!

I want to fight the improper disposal of toxic wastes and help suffering families. Include me as a member of CCHW. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation.

\$25 regular membership

\$35 for citizens' groups or sponsoring individuals

\$50 for sustaining members*

\$150 for corporations/institutions or individual patrons*

\$1000 for lifetime members*

\$35 for the newsletter only (non-member)

Other _____

*Individual donors of \$50 or more receive a free, autographed copy of *Love Canal: My Story* by Lois Marie Gibbs. All members receive CCHW's quarterly newsletter, *Everyone's Backyard*.

Name _____

Address _____

Charge my VISA/Mastercard (circle one) # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature: _____

CITIZEN'S CLEARINGHOUSE FOR HAZARDOUS WASTES, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX 926, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22216

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

- To help save a family from needless suffering and perhaps save a child's life.
- To protect our soil, air and drinking water from being destroyed for future generations and to provide a healthy future for our children.
- Because you may already be affected. People at Love Canal and other sites were not aware of a pollution problem in their communities until living there for years—years too late.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Be informed—get involved.
- Join an environmental group in your area and support your local group in their fight for a clean environment.
- Write your Representatives and support new regulations which control toxic waste production, transport, treatment, and disposal.
- Support the Clearinghouse so we can continue to help you and others who desperately need our assistance.
- Find out if there are hazardous waste sites near your home or in your community. CCHW has a list of most of the waste disposal sites in the country.

WHAT ARE THE SOLUTIONS?

CCHW and the grassroots movement against toxics have made major progress towards its first goal of ending land disposal of toxic waste. But there's no time to celebrate, because many solutions favored by industry and government—such as incineration—are nearly as bad! The longterm answers proposed at *CCHW*'s First National Grassroots Convention on environmental hazards (May 31-June 1, 1986) call for policies to:

- *REDUCE* the amount of waste that is created, aiming for elimination;
- *CHANGING* production methods so waste that can't be handled safely is no longer made;
- *RECYCLING and REUSE* of wastes that can't be eliminated;
- Complete *DESTRUCTION*, through innovative technologies, of wastes that can't be reduced, eliminated or recycled;
- *PERMANENT CLEANUP* of existing sites, not by simply digging it up and take it "somewhere else" (often another leaking dump in a low-income, minority community) but on-site destruction and neutralization, using new technologies that have been created.
- Promote creative ways to help companies change their practices to *PREVENT POLLUTION*, using proven methods of waste reduction that even help companies prosper!

WE can meet the challenges of the future! We can cleanup sites that have already been contaminated. WE can help victims of toxic exposure fight for justice. WE can prevent new mistakes from being made and the same, old mistakes from being made over and over again. To do all of this, it'll take people, resources and it will take your help!