

The rapid rise in maternal employment has coincided with extraordinary social ferment on a number of fronts: a surging divorce rate, more children born to single moms, a drastic rise in crime, a decline in academic standards and a general sense that the nation's ethical climate has eroded. It was only a matter of time, say some, before mothers who work outside the home got blamed.

"Women have always been seen as the people who are the custodians of morals and values," said Caryl Rivers, co-author of the book, *"She Works, He Works: How the Two-Income Family Is Happier, Healthier and Better Off."* "They are seen as the people who are supposed to keep the culture tidy. So when it becomes untidy, there is a rush to say to women, 'It's your fault.'"

As a result, Rivers said, "we're loading all the issues of modern society—drugs, crime, violence, rap music—onto the question of whether Mom is home or not."

But it remains a subject of intense debate within academic circles whether children—and with them, society—suffer from that decision.

The early results of the most comprehensive study on the subject, released in April, appear to offer heartening news to women who work outside the home. In the first phase of a study overseen by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, psychologists tracked 1,300 families from a child's birth to 15 months. They found that the security of the bond infants form with their mothers is largely unaffected by their having been left in the care of others.

Behavioral scientists have long surmised, though not yet established, that a weak trust relationship between a mother and her infant often marks a child for future trouble. But the study found that only in cases where the mother is judged to be insensitive to a baby's needs does day care—especially extensive day care or poor-quality day care or a succession of day-care providers—adversely affect an infant's attachment to its mother.

A 1993 survey by the Education Department also reflects favorably on working mothers. The study gauged parental involvement in their children's school life—a strong predictor of student behavior and in turn, student achievement. It found that mothers in the workplace are, overall, more likely to be involved in their children's school life—going to plays, volunteering in classes, organizing fund-raising or school functions—than mothers who are not employed.

GOVERNMENT HELP

When it comes to working moms, many Americans appear willing to abandon their customary caution about the wisdom of out side intervention.

In a pool conducted in January 1996 as part of a National Issues Convention sponsored by the University of Texas at Austin, 80% said they believe that government should help with child care and preschool would be a "useful step in strengthening the family."

The Clinton administration and its Democratic allies on Capitol Hill have tried to seize upon such views in their efforts to shore up the party's values credentials. Arguing, for instance, that half of all low-wage workers in America have children, Clinton officials have pressed for a boost in the minimum wage, sought to stave off Republican efforts to restrict the earned-income tax credit for low-income families, and endorsed legislation to make women's pensions more comparable to men's.

"We as a society cannot and should not separate family values from economic values," said Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich. "And what is the most important family value? The ability to keep your family in shelter, food and clothing." On Capitol Hill,

Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.) is pressing legislation to create a more generous tax credit than currently exists for day-care costs incurred by families with annual incomes ranging from \$20,000 to \$80,000.

Many in the GOP have sought to improve access to day care as well, especially as a corollary to welfare reform, which would allow states to require recipients to go to work.

Republicans have added \$4 billion to bolster welfare recipients' access to day care, and legislation by Rep. Constance A. Morella (R-Md.) would expand poor women's access to day care by providing additional tax credits.

For middle-class parents, Republicans have argued that the broad design of their policy priorities is family-friendly: By balancing the budget, cutting taxes and reducing the deficit, they argue, Republicans would return more money to families, which they could use as they see fit.

WORKPLACE CHANGES

While politicians look for legislative remedies, women increasingly are voting with their pumps and work boots and rubber-soled uniform shoes.

In places like Sioux Falls—a tight labor market in which working mothers enjoy considerable clout—mothers are doing more than merely hoping their kids will not be adversely affected. They are commanding changes in the ways that employers and the community operate, making the care of children easier and higher in quality, and making vital family time better, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Sioux Falls' largest employer, Citibank, subsidizes a day-care center for its employees just across a grassy field from its sprawling campus. The firm's corporate culture is consciously pro-family. Supervisors try to accommodate the needs of their largely female work force, offering flexible working hours, insurance for part-timers, and a hotline offering employees advice on everything from breast feeding to balancing career and family.

Easing the burden on employed mothers is a challenge the Sioux Falls community is working to shoulder as well. The Sioux Empire United Way spends 20% of its funds to help provide day care, compared with a national average of about 9%. The Sioux Falls public schools have switched many of their parent-teacher conference times to evening hours, and family physicians like Dr. Jerry Walton have altered their hours so they can see many of their youngest patients, with parents in tow, after the standard workday.

Privately funded before- and after-school programs serve 600 children throughout the Sioux Falls school district, with sliding-scale fees for children from lower-income families. The school district has launched a summer-care program that combines learning and fun, and fills the vital child-care gap that working parents of school-age kids find during the summer months.

"We don't take the place of parents, no one could do that," said Dennis Barnett, president of Sioux Falls' Volunteers of America, and organization that funds three day-care centers in the city. "But we are partners with parents in teaching some of these values we would all expect in our children. In many cases, parents choose to have that kind of partner in raising their children."

Some in Sioux Falls would take the concept of partnering with working parents even further.

Mark Britzman, a psychologist and 35-year-old father of two, is laboring to create the Circle of Hope Family Enrichment Center, which he calls a "one-stop shopping center for families."

Britzman's center would provide day care with a holistic twist: When a child is enrolled, his or her family would undergo a family assessment, designed to identify areas of strength and weakness, and would agree to volunteer a certain amount of time to the program.

For families, and especially for stressed-out working mothers, he says, the family enrichment center would be a place to "relax and connect" with an extended network of neighbors and other helpers.

TOP ENVIRONMENT

Sioux Falls recently topped a list of cities with the friendliest environment for working mothers, compiled and published by the women's magazine *Redbook*. Some observers caution that the city is still far from nirvana for employed moms and their families. Wages for both men and women remain quite low—part of the region's draw to big corporations like Citibank.

For all their growing economic clout in their families and the community, professional women here still react coolly to feminist rhetoric.

Yet it may be that Sioux Falls and other communities like it represent the best available synthesis of our culture's traditional commitment to family and mothers' increasing commitment to work.

"There's a quiet revolution going on in this city," said Susan Randall, development director of Turning Point, a social service agency that works with troubled children.

"There are still the trappings of traditionalism, but the reality is very different."

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN R. BRASWELL

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the retirement of the esteemed Vice President and Chief Ethics Officer of The Prudential, Mr. Stephen R. Braswell.

Mr. Braswell began his career with The Prudential in Jacksonville, Florida in 1963. He held a wide variety of positions before rising to the position of Vice President of Prudential's Group Insurance Department. In 1975, he was transferred to Prudential's Government Relations Division in Washington, DC where he was responsible for Prudential's federal government relations. Mr. Braswell spent five years, working with Congress, the White House, Federal Regulatory Agencies, and the National Trade and Business Organizations. In 1981 Mr. Braswell was named President of Southwestern Operations in Houston, Texas with overall responsibility for ten southwestern states. He also served as Senior Vice President in charge of Human Resources and as President of the Prudential Property and Casualty Company for four years. Mr. Braswell ends his years of service from the New Jersey headquarters as the Senior Vice President and Chief Ethics Officer of The Prudential.

Mr. Braswell has been personally involved in the communities in which he has lived. He served as President of both the Jacksonville, Florida and Houston, Texas Mental Health Associations. He also has acted as Vice Chairman of the Metropolitan YMCA Board and served on the Board of Trustees of the Rice Center, while he was a resident of Houston.

His commitment to excellence and dedication to service clearly extend past the realm of his professional commitments. His involvement is admirable.

The retirement celebration honoring Mr. Braswell's many years of service will take place on the twenty fourth of June. Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Braswell for 33 years of service and devotion to the Prudential.

TRIBUTE TO STELLA PODBELSKI KUKULSKI

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Stella Podbelski Kukulski of Sayreville, NJ, a valued and cherished member of our community who recently passed away.

Stella Kukulski lived her entire life in Sayreville. She served with distinction as a valued employee for Sunshine Biscuit in Sayreville for 17 years before her retirement in 1981 and as a supervisor for the Marion Dress Company in South River, NJ, where she worked for 40 years. For her involvement in community service, Stella Kukulski was well respected and admired. She served as a member of the Sayreville Saint Stans Seniors Club, the Sayreville Senior Citizens Thursday Club, and as a charter member of the Union of Polish Women Group 81. Her deep faith and generosity was consistently demonstrated as a communicant of Our Lady of Victories Roman Catholic Church in Sayreville, and as member of its Rosary Society.

As a testimony to the high esteem in which Stella Kukulski was held, the New Jersey General Assembly enacted a resolution, introduced by Assemblyman John Wisniewski who represents Sayreville in the State legislature, paying tribute to the memory of Stella Kukulski and extending profound sympathy and sincere condolences to her family.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join in paying tribute to Stella Kukulski, an exceptional person who will be deeply missed by all those who knew her.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH MILTEER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this evening a retirement dinner is being held in honor of Ralph Milteer. Mr. Milteer is "a man for all seasons." He has spent all of his adult life helping others. When I think of achievers, Ralph is always on my list. His achievements have benefited him personally but more importantly, they have benefited many, many New Jerseyans.

Ralph Milteer is a product of the East Orange, NJ, school system where he attended elementary and high schools. After graduation from Montclair State College Ralph returned to the system as a teacher. For 36 years, he has been affiliated with the same school system in

many different capacities. He has been a classroom teacher, a counselor, a coordinator, a director, an administrative assistant, and an assistant principal during his career.

Ralph believes in being prepared and has spent a great deal of his life attending school. He has done a great deal of graduate work and received his Master's degree from Newark State College Graduate School. Coursework at the NASA Center is also a part of his résumé. Ralph has used his experience in the classroom in a great deal of his community work where he has been active in many recreation programs.

Ralph's love of the communities he serves is evident in his work in East Orange and in his hometown of Hillside, NJ. He has been active in the Citizens' Advisory Committee of the Hillside Board of Education, a member of the Hillside Board of Education, and president of the Hillside Democratic Club. Realizing that he could serve his community better from an elected position, Ralph was elected to the Hillside Township Committee where he has served as the Finance Commissioner, the deputy major and major of Hillside for two terms.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I offer my congratulations to Ralph Milteer and extend my best wishes to him and his family for a happy, active and healthy future.

STOP SUBSIDIZING CHINA'S MILITARY FORCES

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced H.R. 3684, which prohibits the importation into the United States of civilian and military goods produced, manufactured, or exported by the People's Liberation Army [PLA] or any Chinese defense industrial trading company. I strongly urge my colleagues support of this initiative which will deprive the PLA and its subsidiaries of the hard currency that supports activities which are inimical to U.S. economic and national security interests.

Two Chinese Government defense firms have been implicated in the largest assault weapons smuggling operation in United States history. Some of the heads of these firms, which sought to smuggle over 2,000 AK-47 semi-automatic weapons into the United States, are relatives of China's top leadership.

Moreover, the PLA and the defense industrial trading organization are responsible for a series of events which are a threat to vital United States interests, including: the recent belligerent gestures toward Taiwan during the first democratic elections in Chinese history; the transfer of cruise missiles to Iran, M-11 missiles and nuclear technology to Pakistan and the purchase by China of SS-18 strategic missile technology and equipment from Russia; the violation of United States-Chinese textile agreements and intellectual property rights [IPR]; and the flagrant human rights violations in the form of the occupation of Tibet, the maintenance of political prisoner camps known as Laogai and the repression of the religious freedom of Chinese Christians. Finally, let us not forget the repression wrought by the PLA

on the democratic protesters in Tainamen Square.

Accordingly, enactment of this bill will curb the activities of the PLA which threaten our economic and national security and are an affront to our form of government and free society. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor and support H.R. 3684 and ask that the full text of H.R. 3684 be printed at this point in the RECORD.

H.R. 3684

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF POLICY

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) According to the Defense Intelligence Agency, the People's Liberation Army of China owns and operates a number of enterprises which produce both civilian and military products.

(2) The General Staff Department of the People's Liberation Army owns and operates Polytechnologies, which is the weapons trading arm of the People's Liberation Army and has a representative office in the United States.

(3) The General Logistics Department of the People's Liberation Army owns and operates a large international conglomerate known as Xinxing Corporation, which also has a representative office in the United States.

(4) The People's Armed Police, which is partially controlled by the People's Liberation Army, is responsible for the occupation and suppression of dissent in Tibet and the execution of prisoners throughout China, and provides guards for the forced labor camp system in Laogai, China, owns and operates China Jingan Equipment Import and Export, which also has a representative office in the United States.

(5) These and other enterprises owned by the People's Liberation Army regularly export a great variety of products to the United States, including, but not limited to, clothing, toys, shoes, hand tools, fish, minerals, and chemicals.

(6) The export of products allows the People's Liberation Army to earn hard currency directly, which in turn can be used to modernize its forces.

(7) The average consumer in the United States is unaware that products they are purchasing were produced by the People's Liberation Army.

(8) Trade with the People's Liberation Army effectively is a subsidy of military operations of the People's Republic of China.

(9) The China National Nuclear Corporation exported illicit nuclear technology to Pakistan in contravention of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Arms Export Control Act, thereby contributing to the threat of nuclear war on the Indian Subcontinent.

(10) Naval units of the People's Liberation Army have committed aggression against the Republic of the Philippines and threatened the United States Navy's right of free passage in the South China Sea.

(11) Chinese defense industrial trading companies have transferred cruise missiles to Iran, thereby threatening the safety of United States military personnel in the region.

(12) Representatives of China North Industries Corporation, a Chinese Government organization, have been indicted by the U.S. federal government for smuggling of firearms and conspiracy related thereto, importation of firearms without a license, importation and sale of firearms with obliterated