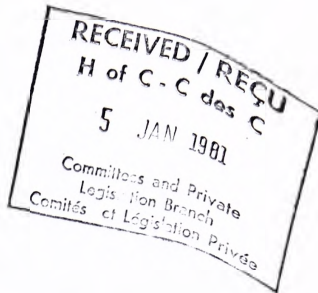


UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB
Barrie, Ontario

December 12, 1980



The Joint Clerks of Committee,
Special Joint Committee on the
Constitution of Canada,
South Block, Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa

Gentlemen:

The members of the University Women's Club of Barrie,
Ontario, are concerned that under the provisions of the
proposed Bill of Rights to be incorporated in the Canadian
Constitution, women are to have fewer rights than are now
given them by the laws of Ontario.

One of the disadvantages of a formal Bill of Rights,
which is not understood by many citizens, is that any
rights or privileges, however desirable they might be,
do not exist if they are not included in the said Bill.
Thus these rights which women of Ontario now enjoy would
be taken away under this Bill.

We are also concerned that nothing is to be done to
relieve the plight of our native Indian women. It seems
unfair and degrading that Indian women who marry non-Indians
lose their rights as Indians while Indian men may marry whom
they please with no loss of rights.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Smith

(Mrs. H.E. Smith)
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