

Archive No. 88

Kassa (Karen) Bird (1956, year of the Monkey -)

General education:

Diploma of Teaching (Monash University)

Graduate Diploma in Women's Studies (Deakin University)

Work experiences:

1977: Primary School Teacher with Department of Education Victoria

1980: Women's Liberation Halfway House

1982: Victorian Women's Refuge Group research writer, *"I could just tell they weren't happy: children talk about their parents separating"*

1983: Sybylla Feminist Press and Publications

1985: Collected Works (Small Publishers' Collective)

1987: Women's Liberation Halfway House

1989: Domestic Violence and Incest Resource Centre

2001: Lismore Women's and Children's Refuge

2005: Women's Resource Service, Byron Bay NSW

Overview of the collectives and activities I was involved in during the the '70s. '80s and '90s

- member of Victorian Three Teacher Unions' Counter Sexism Committee
- collective member of Women's Liberation Halfway House 1980-1989
- director Sybylla Feminist Press and Publications 1983-1987
- member and choreographer Blistir Sistirs (Lesbian tapdancers) 1984-1987
- collective member Domestic Violence and Incest Resource Centre 1989-1992
- voluntary administrator Zelda's Young Women's Incest refuge 1990-1991
- organizer of Lesbian Domestic Violence Action group 1990-1992
- member Amazon Theatre 1990-1992

Up to date information about these days

Current employment (2008)

- Coordinator: Women's Resource Service, Byron Bay NSW
- Contract trainer with NSW Education Centre Against Violence, delivering program entitled "Responding to Same-Sex Domestic Violence"

Current studies (2008)

- Current Masters candidate at Gnibi College, College of Indigenous Australian Peoples at Southern Cross University, researching Aboriginal lesbians' experience of relationship abuse

Most recent publication: *Making Waves: attending to lesbian relationship violence*, Wayward Concepts, Byron Bay (2004)

Personal statement

I consider that one of my contributions to Women's Liberation theory and practice has been in the field of domestic violence. I am pleased to have contributed publications and education on Australian lesbians' experience of relationship abuse, and hopefully in the future, my current research will add to our understanding of Aboriginal lesbians' experience of relationship abuse.