

6th INTERNATIONAL WOMEN AND HEALTH MEETING
PHILIPPINES, 3 TO 9 NOVEMBER 1990

DECLARATION

We women from different parts of the world attending the 6th International Women and Health Meeting in the Philippines from 3 to 9 November 1990 declare that:

- * women's entitlement to health and wellbeing is a fundamental human right;
- * women's health and wellbeing are dependent upon adequate housing, food, clean water, sanitation, education, living wages, safe occupational conditions and adequate health care.

Whereas:

18. Women's choices are limited by:

- (a) internal and external factors of individual lives;
- (b) race, ethnicity, class, sexual preference, nationality, age, and/or disability;
- (c) dominant ideologies of the subordination of women to the needs of the

patriarchal state (including governments, bureaucracy and corporations) ;

(d) eugenically and racially motivated political uses of human sterilisation and population policies;

(e) violence against women inflicted by individual men and by nation states.

2. The conferring of presumed “choices” by patriarchy, and presentation of patriarchally determined “solutions”, merely perpetuates conditions of oppression and maintains the status quo.
3. Population control policies are generally motivated by eugenicists, racist and classist notions imposed by supremacist governments, donor agencies and avaricious drug companies.
4. The status and wellbeing of women is not enhanced by “solutions” that are drug-company driven and determined, in collaboration with the state or global powers.

We demand:

- A. A recognition that health and wellbeing are integral to women’s personhood.

- B. An acknowledgement that women's health and wellbeing are often compromised or actively harmed by many high technological "solutions", that promote inequity through inequitable, skewed allocation of resources.
- C. An end to collaboration between multinational drug companies, the population control industry and governments.
- D. Legislation, practices, policies and programmes promoting and ensuring the proper resourcing of adequate housing, food, clean water, sanitation education, living wages, safe occupational practices, and adequate health care for all the women of the world.
- E. The promotion and proper resourcing of woman defined health care, including the reclaiming by women, for women, of beneficial traditional women's healing and methods of reproductive control.

We recognise that we women must:

- (a) maintain our integrity in our lives and particularly in our relationships with other women;

- (b) acknowledge that to assert a woman has full, free and wholly autonomous choice where the range of options exists only among negative options, is to perpetuate the illusion of real choice;
- (c) oppose legislation, practices, policies and programmes that promote or perpetuate the commodification of women's bodies.

We as women recognise:

- * We are not separate from our bodies.
- * Our bodies are not property.
- * We are spirit, mind and body.
- * Our bodies are ourselves.