

MEMO TO: Women Moving Forward Graduates

FROM: Susan Van Vleet

DATE: April 21, 2004

RE: We're Not Done Yet!

In the last week I have read two new statistics that lead me to believe we women do not have time to rest on our recent accomplishments.

First, the current Department of Labor statistics show that women still make less than men. Their current data shows women make 75 cents to a man's dollar. So we are 25 cents off on every dollar we make.

Second, The Committee of 200, a Chicago based women's advocacy group, did an extensive study using 10 benchmarks to see how influential women were in comparison to men and also how we were doing regarding net wealth.

They used benchmarks like MBA degrees, business ownership and wage gaps. What they found echoes the findings of the Department of Labor but also goes much deeper. Women received a score on average of 4.66 out of 10 while men received a score of 10. They went on to say in the study that if women continue to progress at the current rate we will not reach parity with our male counterparts until 2019!

What does this mean for all of us? It means we will have less money and influence than men for at least 15 more years. I don't think we as women should accept these results as inevitable. I know I just don't have the time anymore to wallow in the frustration I feel every time a study brings the lack of parity between men and women to the fore. At my age I only have time to fight back by increasing my numbers and helping you increase yours. Woman by woman, one by one, we need to increase our ability to influence and our ability to bring home the money!

I welcome you joining me in this endeavor. Let me know how you feel by fax, e-mail and phone call.

Susan



WOMEN MOVING FORWARD

The fall classes are filling up so if you plan to refer someone it would be best to do it by July at the latest.

The June class is filled but we are taking two more registrations on a waiting list in case someone has an emergency.

If you are interested in observing any of the classes you should contact us at the office so we can reserve a space for you.

ORGANIZATION MAN MEETS ORGANIZATION WOMAN

This is a course which can help you and your company deal in more effective ways with Gender Diversity. Susan and John co-lead this special course which takes you through your thoughts, ideas and feelings about the opposite sex and what is true.

We recommend a male/female work team attend together as well as couples.

GRADUATE DINNERS

Susan will be in the LA area this month and in Chicago in September. She plans to hold **Graduate Dinners** in these areas. Please let our office know if you are interested in attending.

If you are in a different city and you would like to have a **Graduate Dinner** scheduled for your area contact our office. You will need to have 10 women who also want to attend. There is no cost for the dinner. Susan will discuss current issues and also let you in on the newest schedule for SVVCI courses.

