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ABSTRACT

Growing from a study of commercially produced books published since 1972 that appeared to be nonsexist or role free, this publication contains critical annotations of 193 picture books. The selections include stories of nonwhite cultures, single-parent homes, and women in nontraditional work roles and deal with diverse experiences such as adoption, disability, and death. Of the entries, 143 are recommended (free of sexism) 28 are recommended with some reservations, and 22 are not recommended because of sexist attitudes. Author and subject indexes are appended (FL)

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BOOKS FOR TODAY'S CHILDREN

An Annotated Bibliography
of Non-Stereotyped Picture Books

COMPILED BY
Jeanne Bracken and Sharon Wigutoff

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... and more!

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	v
ORDERING INFORMATION	viii
ANNOTATIONS	1
Highly Recommended	1
Recommended	8
Recommended with Some Reservations	20
Not Recommended	24
INDEXES	27
Title Index	27
Author Index	30
Subject Index	32

INTRODUCTION

For many small children, reading and listening to stories is one of life's most satisfying experiences. Ideally, picture books should stimulate the child's imagination, encourage a sense of self-worth, and further understanding of the complexities of the human experience. Sadly, the world of children's literature has not yet met this challenge. The picture it offers is a monochrome--a world of white, suburban families with severely limited options for females and males.

Traditionally, certain behaviors--passivity, obedience, domesticity, emotionality--have been termed appropriate for girls, while other characteristics--strength, bravery, independence--are seen as suitable for boys. This sex-typing is dangerous because it limits options and does not allow for individual differences within each sex. We believe that active girls and gentle boys deserve encouraging role models in order to develop a positive self-image. In addition, we believe that children living in a variety of cultures and family structures deserve to see themselves reflected in their literature.

A good picture book avoids stereotyped attitudes; at its very best, it offers encouraging examples of humanistic, multidimensional characters. A small number of these books have appeared sporadically over the years. During the 1970's, we have noted an increase in picture books that reflect a wider range of lifestyles and more varied images. The purpose of this list is to provide a critical guide to these books.

This bibliography has its origins in a Feminist Press study of commercially produced books published between 1972 and 1977 which appeared to be nonsexist or role free. We wanted to examine the new offerings of children's book publishers, to see what improvements, if any, had been made, and to share our findings with others concerned about children's literature. We began with reviews in School Library Journal as our primary source, adding other titles as they came to our attention. Some books could not be located, others may have been missed inadvertently. In a few cases, books from late 1971 and early 1978 were included.

Special mention must be made here of the important contribution of the small, alternative presses. They have served as courageous pioneers, taking risks with innovative themes and challenging established formulas. We have selected the best of their publications for inclusion in this list as well.

INTRODUCTION (continued)

In all, close to two hundred picture books met our criteria for inclusion on this list. As we read and analyzed them, we discovered that their quality was uneven. The majority were worthy of recommendation. Some, however, though well-intentioned, missed the mark. A number were didactic or self-consciously moralistic; some overemphasized competitive behavior; others were just boring. The biggest disappointment was the book that purported to be nonsexist, but in fact was not. For example, in some books, the protagonist's freedom from sexual stereotypes was depicted as unconventional or peculiar. In others, young girls were encouraged to be active, but the roles of older women were limited, thus saying that freedom of choice is restricted to childhood.

We also made a special effort to include stories of non-white cultures, single-parent homes, and diverse experiences such as adoption, disability, and death. In addition, a number of new books show women working outside the home in non-traditional occupations. A subject index has been included to help you locate books in each of these categories. While new books with these themes are available, proportionately their numbers remain frustratingly small. For example, our research turned up only one new nonsexist picture book on Asian Americans, two on Native Americans, and three on Hispanic peoples. In view of the thousands of books published in the last five years, we find these figures dispiriting. Not only is this insulting to the underrepresented cultures, it also deprives all children of exposure to our multifaceted society.

There are 143 books on the list that we are proud to recommend. Of these, some are particularly outstanding and have been singled out as Highly Recommended. Books in this category have achieved a special synthesis of content and style. The author's point of view is well integrated with those qualities that make a good picture book, literary excellence and visual appeal. We felt it would also be useful to inform the reader of books which are problematic in some way or just disappointing, so we added two smaller categories, Recommended With Some Reservations and Not Recommended.

All the Recommended and Highly Recommended books meet our criteria for nonsexism: there are girls and women in self-actualizing situations, there are boys and men who express their emotions, and there are books that address life experiences previously ignored in literature for young children. The fact that we can recommend so many books is encouraging. However, the reader should be

INTRODUCTION (continued)

reminded that, overall, publishers are still paying too little attention to these themes.¹ Parents, teachers, and librarians must exert pressure by using their purchasing power to buy books that meet children's needs. Eventually the message will reach publishers that we do not want literature that treats our children unfairly in any way, or that provides limited adult roles. What we want for our children-- what they deserve to have--is a humanistic literature that reflects the realities of the world we live in and which offers all children the widest possible range of choices from which to draw strength and a comfortable sense of self.

¹For additional information, see Bracken, Jeanne and Sharon Wigutoff, "Sugar and Spice: That's What Children's Books Are Still Made Of," Women's Studies Newsletter, Volume V, Number 3 (Old Westbury: The Feminist Press).

Please DO NOT ORDER these books from The Feminist Press. Addresses of alternative publishers are provided. All others may be found in LMP (Literary Market Place--a reference guide found in libraries and bookstores).

Addresses of alternative publishers:

LOLLIPOP POWER, P. O. Box 1171, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

ALL OF US, INC., 332 Oak Street, S.E., Dallas, OR 97338

NEW SEED PRESS, P. O. Box 3016, Stanford, CA 94305

JOYFUL WORLD PRESS, 466 Belvedere Street, San Francisco, CA 94117

BEFORE WE ARE SIX, 15 King Street, N., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

CANADIAN WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL PRESS, 305-280 Bloor Street, W., Toronto, Canada

OVER THE RAINBOW PRESS, P. O. Box 7072, Berkeley, CA 94707

THE FEMINIST PRESS, Box 334, Old Westbury, NY 11568

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

1. Adoff, Arnold. Black Is Brown Is Tan. Illus. Emily McCully. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. A unique exploration of a multiracial family based on the author's experiences. A black mother, a white father, and their children enjoy their different shades of skin. Told in singsong verse.
2. Baylor, Byrd. Hawk, I'm Your Brother. Illus. Peter Parnall. New York: Scribner, 1976. A sensitive Native American boy wishes he could fly like the hawk he has befriended. The emphasis is on his feelings, rather than the mechanics of flying. One of the few nonsexist stories of Native American culture.
3. -----, Sometimes I Dance Mountains. Illus. Ken Longtemps. Photos. Bill Sears. New York: Scribner, 1973. A free-spirited young girl expresses a range of emotion through the movement of dance. An interesting combination of drawing and black-and-white photography.
4. Blaine, Marge. The Terrible Thing That Happened At Our House. Illus. John C. Wallner. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1975. Traditional family roles are abruptly changed when Mother goes back to work. Her daughter worries that her parents will no longer be the "real mother and father" that she wants. A complex problem with a viable solution. The humorous, cartoonlike illustrations are excellent.
5. Blood, Charles and Martin Link. The Goat In The Rug. Illus. Nancy Winslow Parker. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1976. This is the story of a Navaho woman who shears her goat and weaves a rug from its wool. Told from the goat's perspective, this full-color book is funny and informative.
6. Bunin, Catherine and Sherry Bunin. Is That Your Sister? Photos. by author. New York: Pantheon, 1976. The true story of a family that becomes interracial through adoption. Six-year-old Catherine tells the story in her own words, accompanied by black-and-white family photographs.
7. Charlip, Remy and Lillian Moore. Hooray For Me! Illus. Vera B. Williams. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1975. With simple text and watercolor drawings, this book celebrates the uniqueness of individuals and the warm bonds of extended families, including such diverse relationships as stepfathers and half-sisters.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (continued)

8. Dragonwagon, Crescent. Will It Be Okay? Illus. Ben Shecter. New York: Harper & Row, 1977. A little girl expresses her fears about such things as thunderstorms, bee stings, animals--and the possibility of her mother dying. Her supportive mother comforts and reassures her. A good book for parents and children to share. Nicely illustrated.
9. -----, Wind Rose. Illus. Ronald Himler. New York: Harper & Row, 1976. A beautiful, poetic description of the love and joy that surround conception, pregnancy, and birth. The author presents a sensitive alternative to the scientific explanations offered on this subject. Soft, black-and-white wash drawings.
10. Eichler, Margrit. Martin's Father. Illus. Bev Magennis. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, 1971. A single father cares for his son both physically and emotionally. Black-and-white drawings, simple text for youngest readers.
11. Fassler, Joan. Howie Helps Himself. Illus. Joe Lasker. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1975. This is a positive, sensitive portrayal of children confined to wheelchairs. Howie learns self-reliance in his multiracial, nonsexist classroom. This colorfully illustrated book is an excellent way to introduce children to physical handicaps and to make the disabled child feel at home.
12. Gantos, Jack. Fair Weather Friends. Illus. Nicole Rubel. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1977. Maggie and Chester are two animal friends who live together, but she loves the North and he loves the South. The happy solution shows respect for individual differences. Excellent, full-color illustrations.
13. Gauch, Patricia. Grandpa And Me. Illus. Symeon Shimin. New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1972. A boy and his grandfather spend the summer together sharing companionship and good feelings. Beautiful watercolors enhance the characterization of this vigorous middle-aged man, a welcome change from the usual aged grandfather.
14. Goffstein, M. B. Fish For Supper. Illus. by author. New York: Dial, 1976. An independent grandmother spends her days fishing and preparing her catch. The simple text and illustrations make this delightful for the very young child.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (continued)

15. Goldman, Susan. Grandma Is Somebody Special. Illus. by author. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1976. A small girl spends the night at her grandmother's apartment. This contemporary view of an independent older woman who works outside her home effectively combats the ageist attitudes of most children's books.
16. Grant, Anne. Danbury's Burning. Illus. Pat Howell. New York: Henry Z. Walck, 1976. True story of Sybil Luddington's ride to warn the colonists that "the British were coming." The simple text with its beautiful illustrations makes the story of this heroic young woman available to beginning readers.
17. Himler, Ronald. The Girl On The Yellow Giraffe. Illus. by author. New York: Harper & Row, 1976. A small girl uses her imagination to transform her everyday, urban surroundings into a fanciful world. Black-and-white wash drawings.
18. Holmes, Efner Tudor. The Christmas Cat. Illus. Tasha Tudor. New York: Crowell, 1976. A gentle, sensitive man finds a lost cat in the woods and leaves it as a present for two small boys. The boys are shown baking cookies, and the recipe is included. Tasha Tudor's distinctive illustrations are beautiful.
19. Isadora, Rachel. Max. Illus. by author. New York: Macmillan, 1976. Max takes his younger sister to her ballet lesson on his way to baseball practice. One day, unable to contain his eagerness, he joyfully joins the class. This delightful book opens the world of dance to boys. Line drawings, multiracial.
20. Langner, Nola. Rafiki. Illus. by author. New York: Viking, 1977. Although the animals in the jungle tell her that little girls are meant to clean houses, not build them, Rafiki is not convinced. She tricks them into doing their own cleaning and shows them that she can indeed construct her own house. Several Swahili words are explained, and the illustrations are vibrant and exciting.
21. Lasker, Joe. Mothers Can Do Anything. Illus. by author. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1972. Lasker's colorful pictures and simple text show mothers in a multitude of occupations, both traditional and nontraditional. A good message book that makes its point in a light-hearted manner.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (continued)

22. Lasky, Kathryn. I Have Four Names For My Grandfather. Photos. Christopher G. Knight. Boston: Little, Brown, 1976. Expressive photographs depict the loving relationship of a boy, about five, and his grandfather.
23. Lenthall, Patricia Riley. Carlotta And The Scientist. Illus. by author. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, 1973. On her way to gather food for her family, Carlotta the penguin aids an injured scientist and helps her back to camp. The father remains behind, nurturing the egg until it hatches. The habits of Emperor Penguins are nicely woven into this imaginative story.
24. Lexau, Joan. Emily And The Klunky Baby And The Next Door Dog. Illus. Martha Alexander. New York: Dial, 1972. Emily expresses the feelings of a small child who misses the attention she got before her parents' divorce. The author treats a serious subject with sensitivity and realism.
25. Lisker, Sonia O. Lost. Illus. by author. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1975. A lost boy overcomes his own fear in order to help a smaller boy find his family. A wordless story told through expressive illustrations.
26. Litchfield, Ada. A Button In Her Ear. Illus. Eleanor Mill. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1976. This important book gives an excellent nonclinical explanation of a hearing disability. The illustrations show multiracial secondary characters free of sex-role stereotyping. This book can and should be shared with all children.
27. McGovern, Ann. Half A Kingdom. Illus. Nola Langner. New York: Frederick Warne, 1977. A king offers half his kingdom to the man who can find his lost son. To his surprise, a peasant girl succeeds. The role reversal is a welcome change from the traditional fairy tale. Black-and-white woodcuts.
28. Mahy, Margaret. Ultra-Violet Catastrophe. Illus. Brian Froud. New York: Parents Magazine Press, 1975. Sally hates the thought of dressing up to visit her fastidious aunt. Once there, she meets Great-Uncle Magnus, and the two go off on an afternoon of unexpected adventure, wading through streams and leaping over barbed-wire fences. The funny, full-color drawings are perfect.
29. Maury, Inez. My Mother The Mail Carrier/Mi Mama La Cartera. Illus. Lady McCrady. Old Westbury, NY: The Feminist Press, 1976. Lupita and her working mother share love and respect in a one-parent home. Spanish/English text with vibrant yellow-and-white drawings.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (continued)

30. Mayer, Mercer. What Do You Do With A Kangaroo? Illus. by author. New York: Four Winds, 1973. A delightfully funny book about a little girl who physically removes the huge, bothersome animals who take over her house. No message -- just fun.
31. Miles, Betty. Around And Around Love. Photos. New York: Knopf, 1975. Sensitive, humanistic photos show people sharing their love in a variety of situations. Multicultural, with minimal text.
32. Milgram, Mary. Brothers Are All The Same. Photos. Rosmarie Hausherr. New York: Dutton, 1978. Two sisters must convince a skeptical friend that their adopted brother is a real member of their family. The family has also become multiracial as a result of the adoption. Funny and sensitive, as well as instructive. Black-and-white photos.
33. Peter, Diana. Claire and Emma. Illus. Jeremy Finlay. New York: John Day, 1977. A mother writes the true story of her two deaf daughters, ages four and two. A single-parent home with an older male sibling who is able to hear. Full-color photographs, simple text.
34. Petersen, Palle. Sally Can't See. Illus. by author. New York: John Day, 1977. An excellent teaching aid, this informative book documents the daily life of a twelve-year-old girl who is blind. The simple text and full-color drawings are suitable for ages five and up.
35. Peterson, Jeanne Whitehouse. I Have A Sister--My Sister Is Deaf. Illus. Deborah Ray. New York: Harper & Row, 1977. A beautiful story expressing the realities of living with a deaf sister. A young girl explains how her sister feels certain sounds and will never understand others. Tender and understandable for a hearing reader. Soft pen-and-ink drawings.
36. Schlein, Miriam. The Girl Who Would Rather Climb Trees. Illus. Judith Brown. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1975. An active, athletic girl is disappointed when she receives a doll. She finds a way to remain true to her own values without rejecting the gift.
37. Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. I Don't Care. Illus. Lillian Hoban. New York: Macmillan, 1977. A small boy insists to everyone that he doesn't care about his balloon that floated away. He is obviously very unhappy, though, and finally breaks down and cries. Then he says, "I'm done," and his parents hug him. Simple blue-and-brown drawings, typical of Hoban.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (continued)

38. Simon, Norma. All Kinds of Families. Illus. Joe Lasker. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1976. Universal feelings of warmth and love exist in a variety of familial relationships. Multiracial and multicultural, with full-color illustrations. Part of the Concept Series from Whitman.
39. -----, I Was So Mad! Illus. Dora Leder. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1974. Multiracial children and parents realistically react to feelings of anger.
40. -----, Why Am I Different? Illus. Dora Leder. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1976. No two people are alike--Simon shows children that individual differences are what make us special.
41. Skorpen, Liesel Moak. Bird. Illus. Joan Sandin. New York: Harper & Row, 1976. One of the few books that allow a young male to express his nurturing tendencies. A boy finds a fledgling, cares for it lovingly, and grieves when it grows to maturity and leaves. Soft three-color illustrations.
42. -----, Michael. Illus. Joan Sandin. New York: Harper & Row, 1975. A young boy braves a frightening thunderstorm to rescue his pet rabbit. With rare sensitivity, the author allows a father and son to show their loving, nurturing feelings.
43. Steptoe, John. My Special Best Words. Illus. by author. New York: Viking, 1974. A father cares for his two preschool children in what appears to be a single-parent home. Steptoe's rhythmic text and distinctive, colorful illustrations bring out the strength of a loving family.
44. Surowiecki, Sandra Lucas. Joshua's Day. Illus. Patricia Riley Lenthall. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, 1972. Joshua spends a busy day at his day care center while his mother works. In the evening, they prepare dinner together and talk about their experiences. Good for preschool children.
45. Tobias, Tobi. The Quitting Deal. Illus. Trina Schart Hyman. New York: Viking, 1975. A mother and her daughter attempt to help each other break a bad habit--the mother, smoking; the daughter, thumb-sucking. Father is a supportive character. The story expresses human weaknesses without providing unreal answers.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (continued)

46. Waber, Bernard. Ira Sleeps Over. Illus. by author. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1972. Rather than risk ridicule, a little boy hesitates to bring his teddy bear on an overnight visit to a friend. The problem is solved when he discovers his friend has a teddy bear, too. Good, non-sexist illustrations.
47. Wasson, Valentina P. The Chosen Baby. Illus. Ole Coalson. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1977. This story of adoption, originally published in 1939, has been reissued with updated illustrations. In fictionalized form, the author explains all phases of adoption procedure.
48. Welber, Robert. The Winter Wedding. Illus. Deborah Ray. New York: Pantheon, 1975. Noncompetitive friendship between boys and girls in a nursery school setting is the subject of this book. The class is multiracial, and the teacher is a sensitive male.
49. Williams, Barbara. Kevin's Grandma. Illus. Kay Choroa. New York: Dutton, 1975. A boy with a contemporary but conventional, middle-class grandma envies his friend who has a free-spirited grandma. An amusing antiageist tale that will delight small children.
50. Zolotow, Charlotte. My Grandson Lew. Illus. William Pené duBois. New York: Harper & Row, 1974. A mother and her young son share memories of the boy's grandfather. A good book for introducing the subject of death to small children.
51. -----, The Summer Night. Illus. Ben Shecter. New York: Harper & Row, 1974. A patient father tries different methods to help his little girl fall asleep. Originally published in 1958 as The Night Mother Went Away, this has now been renamed, to include single-parent situations.

RECOMMENDED

52. Adams, Florence. Mushy Eggs. Illus. Marilyn Hirsh. New York: Putnam, 1973. David and Sam must adjust to a new babysitter when their beloved Fanny has to leave. A supportive book about a full-time working mother coping with the practicalities of raising children after divorce. The boys have a good relationship with both parents.
53. Baldwin, Anne Norris. A Friend In The Park. Illus. Ati Forberg. New York: Four Winds, 1973. Feelings of loneliness and isolation overcome a little boy whose family moves from the United States to Paris. In spite of his inability to speak the language, he eventually succeeds in making friends. The theme is fine for small children, but the text is wordy.
54. -----, Jenny's Revenge. Illus. Emily Arnold McCully. New York: Four Winds, 1974. Jenny acts out her resentment of her working mother by harassing the woman who takes care of her. The understanding babysitter surprises Jenny by relating to her unhappy feelings. This helpful, realistic approach to an increasingly common situation is intended for the six- to eight-year-old.
55. Balian, Lorna. Sometimes It's Turkey, Sometimes It's Feathers. Illus. by author. Nashville: Abingdon, 1973. A woman hatches a turkey egg and fattens the bird for her Thanksgiving dinner. The story ends with a delightful, humanistic surprise, perfect for vegetarian children! Brown-and-white line drawings.
56. Bartoli, Jennifer. Nonna. Illus. Joan E. Drescher. New York: Harvey House, 1975. An extended family gathers together when Grandmother dies. The customs and traditions of an Italian funeral show children how one culture deals with death. Warm relationships outweigh the stereotyped roles of the males and females.
57. Blue, Rose. I Am Here: Yo Estoy Aqui. Illus. Moneta Barnett. New York: Franklin Watts, 1971. A young Spanish-speaking girl adjusts to her first day at school in America with the help of an understanding teacher. One of the few new books about Hispanic children. There are a few simple Spanish words included in the text.
58. Boccaccio, Shirley. Penelope Goes To The Farmer's Market. Illus. by author. San Francisco: Joyful World Press, 1973. Penelope, Peter, and their animal friends champion the cause of avocado rights in this funny book. Clever combination of black-and-white photos and line drawings. Lengthy text is suitable for six- to eight-year-olds.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

59. Bonsall, Crosby. And I Mean It, Stanley. Illus. by author. New York: Harper & Row, 1974. With simple text, this book depicts an imaginative girl building a large structure out of junk. She admonishes the unseen Stanley, who turns out to be a shaggy sheepdog, to stay out of her way. Good for small children.
60. Brightman, Alan. Like Me. Photos. by author. Boston: Little, Brown, 1976. This book explains mental retardation in simple, rhyming text enhanced by attractive, colorful photographs. The author, a consultant in this field, lets a small boy tell his own story.
61. Caines, Jeannette. Abby. Illus. Steven Kellogg. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. This is based on a true story of adoption in a black family. A small girl is secure within her loving, supportive home. Her older brother teases her about being a girl but clearly loves her.
62. Caines, Jeannette. Daddy. Illus. Ronald Himler. New York: Harper & Row, 1977. Windy spends Saturday with her father and his friend Paula. They share a close loving bond that surmounts their daily separation. Black-and-white wash drawings.
63. Campbell, Lorenzo Martin. Hooray For Ginger. Illus. Sherrie Wolf. Dallas, OR: All of Us, 1974. Ginger and her father enjoy a camping trip until he injures his ankle. By using her cup as a reflector, Ginger attracts the rangers. Staple-bound.
64. Carrick, Carol. The Accident. Illus. Donald Carrick. New York: Seabury, 1976. Terrible feelings of loss overwhelm a boy when he sees his dog killed by a truck. A sensitive treatment of a traumatic experience, suitable for advanced readers. The soft watercolors nicely complement the text.
65. Chapman, Kim Westsmith. The Magic Hat. Illus. Kitty Riley Clark. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, 1973. Girls and boys are unhappy when toys are divided up according to sex appropriateness. Although this book is selfconsciously nonsexist, it could serve to stimulate discussion.
66. Chora, Kay. A Magic Eye For Ida. Illus. by author. New York: Seabury, 1973. Rejected by the stereotypical girls at school and by her family, unconventional Ida runs away. She meets a fortune teller who helps her appreciate her personality and value her uniqueness.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

67. -----, Maudie's Umbrella. Illus. by author. New York: Dutton, 1975. Maudie, a nearsighted mole who is a potter, loses a special gift she has made for the queen. When she discovers her good friend assumed it was meant for her, Maudie accepts this in the spirit of giving.
68. Clifton, Lucille. Don't You Remember? Illus. Evaline Ness. New York: Dutton, 1973. Four-year-old Tate is continually disappointed when her busy family forgets its promises to her. When her birthday comes, however, she finds to her surprise that all her wishes are fulfilled. A good, realistic portrayal of working parents and their relationship to their children.
69. -----, My Brother Fine With Me. Illus. Moneta Barnett. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1975. When five-year-old Baggy decides to run away, his eight-year-old sister, who cares for him while their parents work, is delighted. She realizes, though, how much she will miss him and is glad when he changes his mind. A good portrayal of children left in the care of older siblings.
70. Costanzo, Lucio and Stephanie. Sugar Bus. Illus. by author. Yaphank, NY: Yaphank Publishing, 1977. An imaginative bus driver makes the daily ride to school adventuresome and fun. Based on a true story, it also promotes good nutrition and safety. Published independently, it can be obtained at the above address, zip code 11980.
71. Cutler, Ivor. Elephant Girl. Illus. Helen Oxenbury. New York: William Morrow, 1976. An imaginative story of a little girl who digs a hole with a teaspoon and unearths a friendly elephant. Funny drawings and very simple text.
72. Delton, Judy. Rabbit Finds A Way. Illus. Joe Lasker. New York: Crown, 1975. When Bear does not make his favorite carrot cake, Rabbit decides to go home and bake one himself. All characters in this enjoyable animal story are free of sex role stereotyping.
73. dePaola, Tomie. Nana Upstairs And Nana Downstairs. Illus. by author. New York: Putnam, 1973. A small boy grieves when his bedridden great-grandmother dies. A gentle, simplistic introduction to old age, death, and the cycle of life.
74. deRegniers, Beatrice Schenk. Little Sister And The Month Brothers. Illus. Margot Tomes. New York: Seabury, 1976. In this Slavic folktale, Little Sister is overworked and forced to perform impossible tasks. The solution to her problems comes partly from her courage and perseverance and partly from the magic of the Month Brothers. Clever cartoonlike illustrations.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

75. Dobrin, Arnold. Josephine's Imagination. Illus. by author. New York: Four Winds, 1973. While her mother is selling brooms at the village market to make a living, Josephine uses her resourcefulness and creates little broom dolls. Set in Haiti, this story is somewhat lengthy for a picture book.
76. Dragonwagon, Crescent. When Light Turns Into Night. Illus. Robert Andrew Parker. New York: Harper & Row, 1975. A small girl on a farm has a special, private time of day. Although not explicit, this appears to be a communal family with men and women sharing domestic tasks. Poetic text.
77. Fanshawe, Elizabeth. Rachel. Illus. Michael Charlton. New York: Bradbury, 1975. The mainstreaming of a little girl in a wheelchair is presented with sensitivity in this easy-to-read, colorfully illustrated book. The author, a wheelchair user herself, depicts Rachel's life as active and fun.
78. Gauch, Patricia Lee. Once Upon A Dinkelsbuhl. Illus. Tomie dePaola. New York: Putnam, 1977. Based on an old legend, a group of small children save a besieged medieval town. Their leader is Lore, the gatekeeper's resourceful daughter. dePaola's soft colors enhance the story. Would be better if there was less sex role stereotyping among the adult characters.
79. Goffstein, M. B. My Crazy Sister. Illus. by author. New York: Dial, 1976. Humorous, off-beat story about the love between two sisters, one a conventional homemaker, and the other, an adventurous feminist. Simple black-and-white line drawings.
80. Goldfeder, Cheryl and Jim. The Girl Who Couldn't Talk. Illus. Cheryl Goldfeder. Silver Springs, MD: National Association Of The Deaf, 1973. One of the few books treating deafness and special boarding schools for deaf children. The sign language alphabet is demonstrated.
81. Goodall, John S. Naughty Nancy. Illus. by author. New York: Atheneum, 1975. Nancy is an unconventional flower girl at a very proper wedding. She has a great time upsetting the perfect order in this wordless, cleverly illustrated story.
82. Goodyear, Carmen. The Sheep Book. Illus. by author. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, 1972. A farmer tends her sheep through the seasons of the year. Simple and informative, for the very young.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

83. Gray, Genevieve. Send Wendell. Illus. Symeon Shimin. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1974. While his brothers and sisters make excuses, Wendell is always running errands for his family. A visit from his admired Uncle Robert makes him feel special. Strong family relationships.
84. Greenfield, Eloise. Me And Neesie. Illus. Moneta Barnett. New York: Crowell, 1975. Neesie, Janell's imaginary friend, is her free-spirited alter ego. Although her parents are skeptical, an understanding older aunt gives support to the young child's need to pretend. When Janell makes friends on her first day of school, Neesie disappears.
85. -----, She Come Bringing Me That Little Baby Girl. Illus. John Steptoe. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1974. Although Kevin hoped for a baby brother, he overcomes his disappointment and decides to accept his baby sister. Some of Kevin's attitudes toward girls are sexist, but the warm family relationships make this story worthwhile. Colorful illustrations by Steptoe.
86. Harper, Anita. How We Live. Illus. Christine Roche. London: Harper & Row, 1977. This simple text, which describes a wide variety of living situations, is amplified by complex, descriptive illustrations. The pictures may be seen as amusing, but on another level, they offer commentary on the inequities in society.
87. -----, How We Work. Illus. Christine Roche. London: Harper & Row, 1977. Similar to How We Live but more pointed in its observations. Both books afford good opportunities for parent-child discussions about social and economic differences. The author and illustrator are both members of the Kid's Book Group, a collective of women writers and illustrators.
88. Herman, Harriet. The Forest Princess and The Return Of The Forest Princess. Illus. Carole Petersen Dwinell. Berkeley, CA: Over the Rainbow, 1974, 1975. An updated fairy tale about an independent princess who changes the stereotypical attitudes of the inhabitants of a kingdom. It takes a sequel to convince the king, however.
89. Jarrell, Mary. The Knee Baby. Illus. Symeon Shimin. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1973. A toddler misses his mother's affection when she is busy with the new baby. He daydreams about his grandmother and wishes she were there with him until it is his turn on Mother's knee. Shimin's distinctive drawings lend a dreamlike quality to the story.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

90. Jeschke, Susan. The Devil Did It. Illus. by author. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1975. With the help of her understanding grandmother, a young girl confronts a frightening fantasy and learns to deal with her fears. The illustrations create a nonsexist environment.
91. Jewell, Nancy. Try And Catch Me. Illus. Leonard Weisgard. New York: Harper & Row, 1972. An active, imaginative girl finds pleasure and interest in everything around her when she plays outside. A quiet boy hesitantly asks her to play with him. Nice color illustrations.
92. Kantrowitz, Mildred. Goodbye Kitchen. Illus. Mercer Mayer. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1972. Emily feels the sorrow of losing her best friend as she watches movers loading the furniture into the moving van. Mercer Mayer's colorful illustrations add humor.
93. -----, When Violet Died. Illus. Emily Arnold McCully. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1972. Children deal with the death and burial of a pet bird. This method of explaining death through an animal is useful, but it is better developed in The Tenth Good Thing About Barney (1971) by Judith Viorst.
94. Kindred, Wendy. Lucky Wilma. Illus. by author. New York: Dial, 1973. Wilma spends every Saturday with her father going to interesting places. One week when there is nowhere to go, they walk and talk and have an extraspecial day. A positive father-child relationship in a divorced family. Large, blurred woodcuts.
95. Kroll, Steven. If I Could Be My Grandmother. Illus. Lady McCrady. New York: Pantheon, 1977. A small girl imagines what it would be like to be her loving grandmother. Nice relationship, but the mother gets caught in the middle as the antagonist. McCrady's wonderful drawings add much to the story.
96. -----, That Makes Me Mad! Illus. Hilary Knight. New York: Pantheon, 1976. Free-spirited Nina copes with her feelings of anger and frustration. The realistic situations are presented in comic book format.
97. Lasker, Joe. He's My Brother. Illus. by author. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1974. The story of a slow learner and his understanding family. Lasker describes the occasional and natural impatience of the older brother, and the problems and frustrations of school. Another in the series of Albert Whitman Concept Books.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

98. Levy, Elizabeth. Something Queer At The Ball Park. Illus. Mordecai Gerstein. New York: Delacorte, 1975. Jill is a terrific baseball player until her special bat is stolen. With the help of her friend Gwen, she discovers that it was taken by one of the boys on the team who is envious of Jill's ability. Good detective story.
99. Lexau, Joan. Me Day. Illus. Robert Weaver. New York: Dial, 1971. On his birthday, Rafer waits apprehensively to see if his father will come to visit. Although the story ends happily, this book speaks to the anxieties of children coping with divorce. Urban setting.
100. Lund, Doris Herold. The Paint Box Sea. Illus. Symeon Shimin. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1973. A boy and girl, at the sea-shore, invent the game of describing the changing colors of the ocean. Imaginative, romantic imagery is combined with vivid illustrations. The relationship between the two children is noncompetitive.
101. Mack, Nancy. Tracy. Photos. Heinz Kluetmeier. Milwaukee: Raintree Editions, 1976. Tracy has cerebral palsy, and this is her own story of her daily activities. She has a positive, encouraging attitude that will help the reader. Mixture of color and black-and-white photos.
102. Mangi, Jean. ABC Workbook. Illus. Kathie Abrams. Old Westbury: The Feminist Press, 1975. An alphabet coloring book which depicts a variety of roles and activities for girls and boys.
103. Manushkin, Fran. Bubblebath. Illus. Ronald Himler. New York: Harper & Row, 1974. Two little sisters enjoy a bubblebath together. A delightful story with simple text and soft color drawings.
104. -----. Swinging And Swinging. Illus. Thomas diGrazia. New York: Harper & Row, 1976. A girl on a swing is joined by the sun, the moon, the clouds, and the stars. A very simple bedtime story for small children.
105. Miles, Miska. Aaron's Door. Illus. Alan E. Cober. Boston: Little, Brown, 1977. A powerful story of a boy's fear of rejection by his new foster parents. Aaron refuses to come out of his room and become part of the family. Unusual theme, for the advanced reader.
106. -----. Otter In The Cove. Illus. John Schoenherr. Boston: Little, Brown, 1974. A young girl befriends an otter while she is fishing. She convinces her father not to shoot the otter herd which threatens his fishing business. A humanistic adventure story for six- to eight-year-olds.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

107. Parrish-Benson, Barbara. Families Grow In Different Ways. Illus. Karen Fletcher. Waterloo, Ontario: Before We Are Six, n.d. Two friends, Sara and Jamie, each get a new baby sister, one through natural birth and one through adoption. A simplistic treatment for very young children.
108. Paterson, Diane. Eat! Illus. by author. New York: Dial, 1975. Parents try to entice reluctant Martha to eat. An amusing story that addresses a common problem. Bright, larger-than-life illustrations.
109. Pearson, Susan. Monnie Hates Lydia. Illus. Diane Paterson. New York: Dial, 1975. A critical older sister rejects Monnie's efforts to win acceptance. In absolute frustration, Monnie takes the birthday cake she has baked and throws it in Lydia's face. This story of sibling rivalry ends with understanding, aided by the sympathetic father. May be a single-parent family.
110. Pratt, Ellen. Amy And The Cloud Basket. Illus. Lisa Russell. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, n.d. Amy helps the villagers in her town see the folly of assigning jobs by sex. A definite message book, but pleasant to read. Multiracial drawings.
111. Rockwell, Harlow. My Doctor. Illus. by author. New York: Macmillan, 1973. This simple story introduces the physical checkup to small children. The doctor shows the little boy her instruments and explains how she uses them to examine her patients. A good way to show women as professionals in an unselfconscious way.
112. Rosen, Winifred. Henrietta, The Wild Woman Of Borneo. Illus. Kay Choro. New York: Four Winds, 1975. Messy Henrietta feels inadequate compared to her "perfect" older sister. She decides to ship herself off to Borneo in a wooden crate. Although her parents reassure her of their love, their acceptance is in spite of, rather than because of, her unruly nature. Younger siblings can easily identify with this situation.
113. Ryder, Joanne. A Wet And Sandy Day. Illus. Donald Carrick. New York: Harper & Row, 1977. A free-spirited little girl has fun at the beach on a rainy day. This is the type of story that has traditionally been reserved for little boys.
114. Scott, Ann Herbert. On Mother's Lap. Illus. Glo Coalson. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1972. An Eskimo boy happily discovers that there is room on his mother's lap for both him and the new baby. Simple text, suitable for very young children.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

115. Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. I Want Mama. Illus. Emily Arnold Mc Cully. New York: Harper & Row, 1974. A nurturing father helps relieve the anxieties of a small girl whose mother is in the hospital. Soft line drawings in green and brown.
116. Sobol, Harriet Langsam. My Brother Steven Is Retarded. Photos. Patricia Agre. New York: Macmillan, 1977. Eleven-year-old Beth describes her feelings--both positive and negative--about living with a retarded sibling. A unique perspective, suitable for advanced readers. Black-and-white photos.
117. Sonneborn, Ruth A. I Love Gram. Illus. Leo Carty. New York: Viking, 1971. A small girl is frightened when her grandmother, who cares for her while her mother works, becomes ill and is hospitalized. A strong story of a cooperative extended family.
118. Stein, Sara Bennett. About Handicaps. Illus. Dick Frank. New York: Walker, 1974. Aided by a sensitive father, a healthy boy overcomes anxieties and establishes an unself-conscious friendship with a handicapped child. Designed as a teaching tool for parents and educators, the book has a double text, one for the child, and one for the adult. Excellent color photographs.
119. Taylor, Barbara. I Climb Mountains. Illus. Barbara Yacono. Toronto: Canadian Women's Educational Press, 1975. Lucy and Annie convince a skeptical Peter that they are capable of doing all sorts of exciting things. Colorful watercolors, rhythmic text.
120. Terris, Susan. Amanda, The Panda, And The Redhead. Illus. by author. New York: Doubleday, 1975. Amanda stops talking when her parents are too preoccupied with the baby. Once aware, her mother and father are sensitive and supportive. Illustrations depict both parents completely sharing all household and childcare tasks.
121. Thomas, Ianthe. Lordy Aunt Hattie. Illus. Thomas diGrazia. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. Jeppa Lee spends a wonderful summer on Aunt Hattie's farm in the rural South. A warm and loving glimpse into kinship.
122. Thomas, Jane Resh. Elizabeth Catches A Fish. Illus. Joseph Duffy. New York: Seabury, 1977. For her seventh birthday, Elizabeth gets her own fishing gear and spends a special day alone with her father. Unfortunately, the woodcut illustrations are uninspiring and not on a par with the excellent text.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

123. Tobias, Tobi. Moving Day. Illus. William Pene duBois. New York: Knopf, 1976. A young girl works out her anxieties about moving by talking to her teddy bear. When the hectic day ends, they are both comfortably settled in their new home.
124. Tompert, Ann. The Clever Princess. Illus. Patricia Riley. Chapel Hill, NC: Lollipop Power, 1977. Princess Lorna must prove herself to her father the king and his skeptical male counselors. With Old Krone's advice, she passes many tests and inherits the kingdom. Black-and-white line drawings, lengthy text.
125. Uchida, Yoshiko. The Birthday Visitor. Illus. Charles Robinson. New York: Scribner, 1975. Emi is disappointed when the upcoming visit of a minister from Japan threatens to disrupt her birthday celebration. The minister turns out to be a friendly young man, and the party is a success. This is one of the only stories about a Japanese-American family.
126. Udry, Janice May. How I Faded Away. Illus. Monica DeBruyn. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1976. A sensitive boy feels ignored and isolated at school. He expresses his unhappiness by believing that he is invisible to others. He finally feels accepted when he learns to play the recorder. Colorful line illustrations. An important book that speaks to a problem many children face.
127. VanWoerkom, Dorothy. Becky And The Bear. Illus. Margot Tomes. New York: Putnam, 1975. Eight-year-old Becky, left at home while the men go hunting, outwits a bear and is applauded for her bravery. Set on the colonial frontier, the stereotypes reflect the historical context. The text is geared to the advanced reader.
128. Waber, Bernard. But Names Will Never Hurt Me. Illus. by author. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1976. A girl whose parents have named her Alison Wonderland admirably handles the resulting ridicule. She grows up to become a veterinarian in this light story about a serious subject.
129. Welber, Robert. The Train. Illus. Deborah Ray. New York: Pantheon, 1972. A gentle story of a girl who is afraid to walk alone to see the train. With the encouragement of her close-knit family, she gains the courage she needs.
130. Wells, Rosemary. Unfortunately Harriet. Illus. by author. New York: Dial, 1972. When Harriet spills varnish on what appears to be the new rug, she tries all sorts of ingenious methods to remove it. Her problem is solved when she finds out she has only damaged the padding. Very simple text.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

131. Williams, Jay. Petronella. Illus. Friso Henstra. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1973. Petronella courageously rescues a prince from the spell of an enchanter. She then decides the enchanter is more interesting and brings him home instead. A modern fairy tale.
132. Wolde, Gunilla. Betsy's Baby Brother. Illus. by author. New York: Random House, 1975. Betsy expresses her ambivalent feelings toward her baby brother in this sequel to This Is Betsy. Colorful illustrations portray Mother nursing and changing soiled diaper. A small book (6x6) with very simple text.
133. ----- This Is Betsy. Illus. by author. New York: Random House, 1975. This simple book introduces Betsy, an active, independent preschooler. Youngest readers will easily identify with Betsy's range of emotions. Nonreaders will enjoy self-explanatory illustrations,
134. ----- Tommy And Sara Dress Up. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1972. Two friends have fun trying on old-fashioned clothes.
135. ----- Tommy Goes To The Doctor. Illus. by author. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1972. Tommy's doctor carefully explains each procedure as she gives him a physical examination. A nice introductory book for small children.
136. Wolf, Bernard. Anna's Silent World. Photos. Mike Levins. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1977. The subject of deafness is explained in documentary style. Black-and-white photographs show Anna's activities at school and at home.
137. Yolen, Jane. The Girl Who Loved The Wind. Illus. Ed Young. New York: Crowell, 1972. An overprotected princess learns from the wind that there is an interesting world outside her castle. She ponders this message and finds the courage to leave. The illustrations are beautiful. It is unfortunate that the wind is identified as male instead of neuter.
138. Young, Miriam. So What If It's Raining! Illus. Carol Nicklaus. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1976. A boy and girl amuse themselves inside on a rainy day. Colorful, imaginative illustrations complement this egalitarian, though somewhat competitive, friendship.

RECOMMENDED (continued)

139. Zindel, Paul. I Love My Mother. Illus. John Melo. New York: Harper & Row, 1975. In the absence of a father, a small boy enjoys a special relationship with his mother. The very simple text alternates with vibrant illustrations of the boy's fantasies. The status of the missing father remains unclear, and the drawings may be too dramatic for some.
140. Zolotow, Charlotte. Hold My Hand. Illus. Thomas diGrazia. New York: Harper & Row, 1972. With simple words and images, this book expresses the friendship of two small girls as they explore a snowy day.
141. -----, May I Visit? Illus. Erik Blegvard. New York: Harper & Row, 1976. The return visit of an older sister makes a little girl promise to be neat if Mother will let her come back too, someday. Her mother's loving acceptance of her just as she is makes this a good book for parents and children to share.
142. -----, When The Wind Stops. Illus. Howard Knotts. New York: Harper & Row, 1976. Parents explain to their little boy about the cycles of nature. Told in sensitive, poetic dialogue.
143. -----, William's Doll. Illus. William Pene duBois. New York: Harper & Row, 1972. This very popular message book has legitimized the desire to nurture in little boys. The irony is that children growing up in nonsexist environments may find the opposition to William's feelings confusing.

RECOMMENDED WITH SOME RESERVATIONS

144. Brown, Margaret Wise. The Steamroller. Illus. Evaline Ness. New York: Walker, 1974. In this fantasy, a girl receives a steamroller for Christmas and happily flattens everyone in sight. She then gets a steam shovel and scoops them all up again. While this was progressive when first released in 1952, today the illustrations appear stereotyped.
145. Clifton, Lucille. Everett Anderson's Friend. Illus. Ann Grifalconi. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1976. Everett is disappointed when a girl moves next door. She has to prove herself before he will accept her as his friend. Multiracial.
146. Cretan, Gladys Y. Messy Sally. Illus. Pat Grant Porter. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1972. Sally is a lively, uninhibited hero in this story. However, the contrast with her prissy male cousin is too contrived and makes her behavior seem unnatural. The illustrations include multiracial secondary characters.
147. Deveaux, Alexis. na-ni. Illus. by author. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. A child waits for a welfare check that will pay for a new bicycle. Her dreams are shattered when the check is stolen from the mailbox. Although this book contains sexist elements, it is unique in addressing this subject. May be better read with an adult.
148. Dragonwagon, Crescent. Strawberry Dress Escape. Illus. Lillian Hoban. New York: Scribner, 1975. This innocuous fantasy of a girl who daydreams in school does not compare with Dragonwagon's other stories. Emily's adventures are less than exciting and the illustrations are bland.
149. Ichikawa, Satomi. Friends. Illus. by author. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1977. A pleasant book about children in noncompetitive nonsexist friendships. The lack of cultural diversity is insensitive and limits its usefulness.
150. Klein, Norma. Girls Can Be Anything. Illus. Roy Doty. New York: Dutton, 1973. In this girl-boy friendship, the boy insists on being the dominant character in every game they play. Even though the girl meets his challenge, each time, there is an emphasis on competition rather than cooperation. Cartoonlike illustrations.

SOME RESERVATIONS (continued)

151. Levy, Elizabeth. Nice Little Girls. Illus. Mordecai Gerstein. New York: Delacorte, 1974. Unconventional Jackie discovers that it is difficult to be different. She is rejected by her teacher and classmates for her "unfeminine" clothes and activities. She stands firm and gains their approval, but a painful message about nonconformity comes through.
152. -----, Something Queer Is Going On. Illus. Mordecai Gerstein. New York: Delacorte, 1973. This is not as non-sexist as Something Queer At The Ball Park. The two girl sleuths search for their lost dog, aided by Mother who takes the day off to help. All the secondary characters are stereotyped.
153. Lisker, Sonia O. I Am. Illus. by author. New York: Hastings House, 1973. An early attempt at consciousness raising for children. Boys and girls explore different careers in a slightly self-conscious, but amusing, way. The lack of neutral terminology for occupations is unfortunate. Black-and-white line drawings.
154. ----- and Leigh Dean. Two Special Cards. Illus. Sonia O. Lisker. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1976. The authors' attempt to present a positive image of divorce results in an idealized situation that minimizes reality and makes an unpleasant experience look attractive. The contrast between Daddy's neatness and Mommy's sloppiness and selfishness is disturbing.
155. Mahy, Margaret. The Man Whose Mother Was A Pirate. Illus. Brian Froud. New York: Atheneum, 1972. This appears to be a simple, humorous story of a mild-mannered businessman and his unconventional mother. Actually, this is a satire of middle-class values that may be too sophisticated for children.
156. Mark, Susan Elizabeth. Please, Michael, That's My Daddy's Chair. Illus. Winnie Mertens. Waterloo, Ont: Before We Are Six, n.d. Six-year-old Jill resists the new man in her mother's life. Her father's absence is not explained. Although heavyhanded in its treatment, this may be a useful book for children in this situation.
157. Mayer, Mercer. Liza Lou And The Yeller Belly Swamp. Illus. by author. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1976. Liza Lou is a brave, adventurous hero, but the depiction of Southern black culture is controversial and has been considered racist by some reviewers. Written in dialect.

SOME RESERVATIONS (continued)

158. Merriam, Eve. Boys & Girls, Girls & Boys. Illus. Harriet Sherman. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1972. This was one of the first books to depict equal, noncompetitive friendship. Originally a good consciousness raiser; today, however, the message appears too obvious.
159. Ramage, Corinne. The Joneses. Illus. by author. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1975. A wordless, rather silly story of a family with thirty-one children. The gimmick here is role reversal: Mother pilots a submarine, Father is a househusband. Line drawings are very complex.
160. Rothman, Joel. I Can Be Anything You Can Be. Illus. Susan Perl. New York: Scroll, 1973. Boys and girls argue about what they can be when they grow up. Although this emphasizes competition between the sexes, it could serve as a consciousness raiser with adult supervision.
161. Sherman, Ivan. I Am A Giant. Illus. by author. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1975. Every child's fantasy of being a giant person, towering over her parents and others in her community. The stereotyped secondary characters detract from the simple amusing story.
162. Skorpen, Liesel Moak. Mandy's Grandmother. Illus. Martha Alexander. New York: Dial, 1975. A disappointed grandmother learns to accept and appreciate her nontraditional granddaughter. Mandy's mother is portrayed as overly domestic.
163. Stanek, Muriel. I Won't Go Without A Father. Illus. Eleanor Mill. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1972. A boy refuses to attend parents' night because he has no father. An important problem, but the solution is oversimplified.
164. Tompert, Ann. Little Fox Goes To The End Of The World. Illus. John Wallner. New York: Crown, 1976. A young female fox sets out to see the world, apparently fearless and full of adventure. Excellent idea, visually beautiful, but the mother's fretfulness interferes with the positive female image.
165. Udry, Janice May. Mary Jo's Grandmother. Illus. Eleanor Mill. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1972. A strong black grandmother who lives alone on a farm resists her family's attempts to limit her independence. An accident forces her to summon them for help, thus subverting the positive image of the elderly.

SOME RESERVATIONS (continued)

166. Van Leeuwen, Jean. Too Hot For Ice Cream. Illus. Martha Alexander. New York: Dial, 1974. Two young sisters successfully cope with the disappointment of their divorced father cancelling his visiting day. The valuable theme is marred by the characterization of the mother as preoccupied and unconcerned. For advanced readers.
167. Van Woerkom, Dorothy. The Queen Who Wouldn't Bake Gingerbread. Illus. Paul Galdone. New York: Knopf, 1975. This role reversal on a royal level has the king baking the gingerbread and the queen playing the slide trombone. Children will find the story amusing, but it makes certain sexist assumptions about beauty and marriage.
168. Wahl, Jan. Grandmother Told Me. Illus. Mercer Mayer. Boston: Little, Brown, 1972. This humorous story of Grandmother's vivid imagination is spoiled by the stereotyped illustrations of her as a "little old lady."
169. Yolen, Jane. The Sultan's Perfect Tree. Illus. Barbara Garrison. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1977. A young serving girl solves a problem for a foolish Sultan in search of perfection. The "mere girl" notion is an unfortunate element of the tale. The length of the story and the sophisticated etchings are better suited to the advanced reader.
170. Zolotow, Charlotte. Janey. Illus. Ronald Himler. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. When one friend moves away, the other remembers their special times together. The illustrations present the girls as too passive, and, overall, this does not compare to other Zolotow stories.
171. -----, The Unfriendly Book. Illus. William Pene duBois. New York: Harper & Row, 1975. One girl is unable to share her friend with others and reacts with petty criticism. The feelings of jealousy are realistic, but girls who gossip and compete in relationships are poor examples for children to follow.

172. Alexander, Martha. I'll Be The Horse If You'll Play With Me. Illus. by author. New York: Dial, 1975. Competition at the expense of others is the theme of this story. An older brother repeatedly teases his sister, who in turn decides to do the same to a younger brother.
173. Berson, Harold. Balarin's Goat. Illus. by author. New York: Crown, 1972. This supposedly funny story depends on the interchangeable personalities of a wife and a goat. The humor is demeaning to both.
174. Coombs, Patricia. Dorrie And The Goblins. Illus. by author. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1972. Although amusing, this is typical of stories which credit magical powers rather than the protagonist's own resourcefulness. One of a series of Dorrie books about the adventures of a little witch.
175. -----. Molly Mullet. Illus. by author. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1975. Molly sets out to be a hero in this folk tale in order to gain her father's approval. It is to no avail, as he still insists he would rather have had a son. Particularly destructive.
176. Duncan, Jane. Brave Janet Reachfar. Illus. Mairi Hedderwick. New York: Seabury, 1975. Janet's bravery depends upon the help of two male farm hands. There is a strong, independent grandmother who is unfortunately depicted as a witch when she asserts her authority.
177. -----. Janet Reachfar And The Kelpie. Illus. Mairi Hedderwick. New York: Seabury, 1976. As a sequel to Brave Janet Reachfar, this has similar failings.
178. Gauch, Patricia Lee. Christina Katerina And The First Annual Grand Ballet. Illus. Doris Burn. New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1973. One of a series of Christina Katerina books. The secondary characters are all stereotyped. Of the four friends, it is the three girls who dance, and the boy who is the stage manager in charge of mechanicals.
179. Haas, Irene. The Maggie B. Illus. by author. New York: Atheneum, 1975. Maggie starts out wanting an adventurous day on her own ship, but she spends all her time cooking and caring for her baby brother. This visually beautiful book is particularly disappointing because it tells readers that females can never escape their traditional roles.
180. Hirsh, Marilyn. George And The Goblins. Illus. by author. New York: Crown, 1972. A little boy with a birthmark is ostracized by his village but is allowed to return after goblins steal it away. This escapist solution is unrealistic and misleading to children.

NOT RECOMMENDED (continued)

181. Johnston, Johanna. Speak Up Edie! Illus. Paul Galdone. New York: Putnam, 1974. A bright, inquisitive child is unfortunately portrayed as a loud, incessant talker. The secondary characters are sexist.
182. Kennedy, Richard. The Porcelain Man. Illus. Marcia Sewall. Boston: Little, Brown, 1976. Pieces of porcelain arrange themselves in a variety of magical, masculine shapes and enable a young woman to escape her father's domination. Her passive acceptance of male guidance and her poor self-image spoil this folk tale.
183. Krahn, Fernando. The Family Minus. Illus. by author. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1977. This is meant to be an amusing nonsexist story of a professional working mother. However, the illustrations completely undermine the text. Of the mother's eight children, the only girl is always weeping, wailing, and watching her brothers do interesting things.
184. Kraus, Robert. Rebecca Hatpin. Illus. Robert Byrd. New York: Dutton, 1974. An obnoxious, self-centered girl alienates everyone--including the reader. The contrived nonsexist ending comes too late to help.
185. Lapsley, Susan. I Am Adopted. Illus. Michael Charlton. Scarsdale: Bradbury, 1974. Included in this very simplistic story of adoption are all the usual stereotypicals about male and female roles in the family.
186. Maestro, Betty. A Wise Monkey Tale. Illus. Guilio Maestro. New York: Crown, 1975. A female monkey escapes from a hole by luring the other animals in and climbing over their bodies. Although she displays initiative, it is only at the expense of others.
187. Roberts, Thom. Pirates In The Park. Illus. Harold Berson. New York: Crown, 1973. A girl floating her toy boat in a pond is taunted by a group of boys. She deals with them by retreating into a fantasy where she imagines herself their equal. Unrealistic and unsatisfying.
188. Ross, Jessica. Ms. Klondike. Illus. by author. New York: Viking, 1977. Pamela Klondike is a new taxi driver whose nervous behavior and sense of inadequacy make her a poor role model. Although she becomes a hero at the end, the ridicule of her efforts by male characters defeats any intended feminism.

NOT RECOMMENDED (continued)

189. Rudolph, Marguerita. The Sneaky Machine. Illus. Linda Strauss Edwards. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1974. Henry is fascinated with the noise and power of the vacuum and cleans Grandma's house. The theme of a boy doing housework fails because his real interest is in the machine, not in actually being helpful.
190. Ungerer, Tomi. Allumette. Illus. by author. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1974. This retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Match Girl is a depressing tale of deprivation and greed. Although the central character shows strength and compassion, the resolution of her plight is simplistic, and the irony in the story is too adult.
191. Wahl, Jan. Doctor Rabbit's Foundling. Illus. Cindy Szerkes. New York: Pantheon, 1977. Dr. Rabbit nurtures an abandoned tadpole and faces disappointment when it grows up and leaves. Unfortunately, it is the secondary female characters who wind up doing the actual work. Delightfully illustrated, well-intentioned book, but subliminally sexist.
192. Weil, Lisl. The Funny Old Bag. Illus. by author. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1974. A group of multi-racial children in an apartment project make fun of an elderly couple. The author's attempt to develop a relationship between the two generations fails because of the sexist and ageist characterizations. The stereotyped illustrations add to the problem.
193. Winthrop, Elizabeth. Bunk Beds. Illus. Ronald Himler. New York: Harper & Row, 1972. Competitive relationship between a brother and sister where the older brother always has the upper hand. Her passive acceptance of her secondary role makes this a poor choice for young children.

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TITLE INDEX

- ABC Workbook, 102.
 Aaron's Door, 105.
 Abby, 61.
 About Handicaps, 118.
 Accident, The, 64.
 All Kinds Of Families, 38.
 Allumette, 190.
 Amanda, The Panda, And The Redhead, 120.
 Amy And The Cloud Basket, 110.
 And I Mean It, Stanley, 59.
 Anna's Silent World, 136.
 Around And Around Love, 31.

 Balarin's Goat, 173.
 Eecky And The Bear, 127.
 Betsy's Baby Brother, 132.
 Bird, 41.
 Birthday Visitor, The, 125.
 Black Is Brown Is Tan, 1.
 Boys & Girls, Girls & Boys, 158.
 Brave Janet Reachfar, 176.
 Brothers Are All The Same, 32.
 Bubblebath, 103.
 Bunk Beds, 193.
 But Names Will Never Hurt Me, 128.
 Button In Her Ear, A, 26.

 Carlotta And The Scientist, 23.
 Chosen Baby, The, 47.
 Christina Katerina And The First Annual Grand Ballet, 178.
 Christmas Cat, The, 18.
 Claire And Emma, 33.
 Clever Princess, The, 124.

 Daddy, 62.
 Danbury's Burning, 16.
 Devil Did It, The, 90.
 Doctor Rabbit's Foundling, 191.
 Don't You Remember?, 68.
 Dorrie And The Goblins, 174.

 Eat!, 108.
 Elephant Girl, 71.
 Elizabeth Catches A Fish, 122.
 Emily And The Klunky Baby And The Next-Door Dog, 24.
 Everett Anderson's Friend, 145.

 Fair Weather Friends, 12.
 Families Grow In Different Ways, 107.
 Family Minus, The, 183.
 Fish For Supper, 14.
 Forest Princess, The, 88.
 Friend In The Park, A, 53.
 Friends, 149.
 Funny Old Bag, The, 192.

 George And The Goblins, 180.
 Girl On The Yellow Giraffe, The, 17.
 Girl Who Loved The Wind, The, 137.
 Girl Who Would Rather Climb Trees, The, 36.
 Girl Who Wouldn't Talk, The, 80.
 Girls Can Be Anything, 150.
 Goat In The Rug, The, 5.
 Goodbye Kitchen, 92.
 Grandma Is Somebody Special, 15.
 Grandmother Told Me, 168.
 Grandpa And Me, 13.

 Half A Kingdom, 27.
 Hawk, I'm Your Brother, 2.
 Henrietta, The Wild Woman Of Borneo, 112.
 He's My Brother, 97.
 Hold My Hand, 140.
 Hooray For Ginger, 63.
 Hooray For Me!, 7.
 How I Faded Away, 126.
 How We Live, 86.
 How We Work, 87.
 Howie Helps Himself, 11.

TITLE INDEX (continued)

- I Am, 153.
 I Am A Giant, 161.
 I Am Adopted, 185.
 I Am Here! Yo Estoy
 Aqui, 57.
 I Can Be Anything You
 Can Be, 160.
 I Climb Mountains, 119.
 I Don't Care, 37.
 I Have A Sister--My Sister
 Is Deaf, 35.
 I Have Four Names For
 My Grandfather, 22.
 I Love Gram, 117.
 I Love My Mother, 139.
 I Want Mama, 115.
 I Was So Mad!, 39.
 I Won't Go Without
 A Father, 163.
 If I Could Be My
 Grandmother, 95.
 I'll Be The Horse If You'll
 Play With Me, 172.
 Ira Sleeps Over, 46.
 Is That Your Sister?, 6.
- Janet Reachfar And
 The Kelpie, 177.
 Janey, 170.
 Jenny's Revenge, 54.
 Joneses, The, 159.
 Josephine's Imagination, 75.
 Joshua's Day, 44.
- Kevin's Grandma, 49.
 Knee Baby, The, 89.
- Like Me, 60.
 Little Fox Goes To The End
 Of The World, 164.
 Little Sister And The
 Month Brothers, 74.
 Liza Lou And The Yeller
 Belly Swamp, 157.
 Lordy Aunt Hattie, 121.
 Lost, 25.
 Lucky Wilma, 94.
- Maggie B., The, 179.
 Magic Eye For Ida, A, 66.
 Magic Hat, The, 65.
- Man Whose Mother Was
 A Pirate, The, 155.
 Mandy's Grandmother, 162.
 Martin's Father, 10.
 Mary Jo's Grandmother, 165.
 Maudie's Umbrella, 67.
 Max, 19.
 May I Visit?, 141.
 Me And Neesie, 84.
 Me Day, 99.
 Messy Sally, 146.
 Michael, 42.
 Molly Mullet, 175.
 Monnie Hates Lydia, 109.
 Mothers Can Do Anything, 21.
 Moving Day, 123.
 Ms. Klondike, 188.
 Mushy Eggs, 52.
 My Brother Fine With Me, 69.
 My Brother Steven Is
 Retarded, 116.
 My Crazy Sister, 79.
 My Doctor, 111.
 My Grandson Lew, 50.
 My Mother the Mail Carrier/
 Mi Mama la cartera, 29.
 My Special Best Words, 43.
- Nana Upstairs And Nana
 Downstairs, 73.
 Na-ni, 147.
 Naughty Nancy, 81.
 Nice Little Girls, 151.
 Nonna, 56.
- On Mother's Lap, 114.
 Once Upon A Dinkelsbuhl, 78.
 Otter In The Cove, 106.
- Paint Box Sea, The, 100.
 Penelope Goes To The
 Farmer's Market, 58.
 Petronella, 131.
 Pirates In The Park, 187.
 Please, Michael, That's My
 Daddy's Chair, 156.
 Porcelain Man, The, 182.
- Queen Who Wouldn't Bake
 Gingerbread, 167.
 Quitting Deal, The, 182.

TITLE INDEX (continued)

- Rabbit Finds A Way, 72.
Rachel, 77.
Rafiki, 20.
Rebecca Hatpin, 184.
- Sally Can't See, 34.
Send Wendell, 83.
She Come Bringing Me That
Little Baby Girl, 85.
Sheep Book, The, 82.
Sneaky Machine, The, 189.
So What If It's
Raining!, 138.
Something Queer At The
Ball Park, 98.
Something Queer Is
Going On, 152.
Sometimes I Dance
Mountains, 3.
Sometimes It's Turkey, Some-
times It's Feathers, 55.
Speak Up, Edie!, 181.
Steamroller, The, 144.
Strawberry Dress Escape,
The, 148.
Sugar Bus, 70.
Sultan's Perfect Tree,
The, 169.
Summer Night, The, 51.
Swinging And Swinging, 104.
- Terrible Thing That Happened
At Our House, The, 4.
That Makes Me Mad!, 96.
This Is Betsy, 133.
Tommy And Sara Dress Up, 134.
Tommy Goes To The Doctor, 135.
Too Hot For Ice Cream, 166.
Tracy, 101.
Train, The, 129.
Try And Catch Me, 91.
Two Special Cards, 154.
- Ultra-Violet Catastrophe!, 28.
Unfortunately Harriet, 130.
Unfriendly Book, The, 171.
- Wet And Sandy Day, A, 113.
What Do You Do With A
Kangaroo?, 30.
When Light Turns Into
Night, 76.
When The Wind Stops, 142.
When Violet Died, 93.
Why Am I Different?, 40.
Will It Be Okay?, 8.
William's Doll, 143.
Wind Rose, 9.
Winter Wedding, The, 48.
Wise Monkey Tale, A, 186.

AUTHOR INDEX

- Adams, Florence, 52.
 Adoff, Arnold, 1.
 Alexander, Martha, 172.
 Baldwin, Anne Norris, 53, 54.
 Balian, Lorna, 55.
 Bartoli, Jennifer, 56.
 Baylor, Byrd, 2, 3.
 Blaine, Marge, 4.
 Blood, Charles, 5.
 Blue, Rose, 57.
 Boccaccio, Shirley, 58.
 Bonsall, Crosby, 59.
 Brightman, Alan, 60.
 Brown, Margaret Wise, 144.
 Bunin, Catherine, 6.
 Bunin, Sherry, 6.
 Caines, Jeannette, 61, 62.
 Campbell, Lorenzo Martin, 63.
 Carrick, Carol, 64.
 Chapman, Kim Westsmith, 65.
 Charlip, Remy, 7.
 Choroa, Kay, 66, 67.
 Clifton, Lucille, 68, 69, 145.
 Coombs, Patricia, 174, 175.
 Costanzo, Lucio, 70.
 Costanzo, Stephanie, 70.
 Cretan, Gladys Y., 146.
 Cutler, Ivor, 71.
 Dean, Leigh, 154.
 Delton, Judy, 72.
 de Paola, Tomie, 73.
 de Regniers, Beatrice Schenk, 74.
 Deveaux, Alexis, 147.
 Dobrin, Arnold, 75.
 Dragonwagon, Crescent, 8, 9, 76, 148.
 Duncan, Jane, 176, 177.
 Eichler, Margrit, 10.
 Fanshave, Elizabeth, 77.
 Fassler, Joan, 11.
 Gantos, Jack, 12.
 Gauch, Patricia Lee, 13, 78, 178.
 Goffstein, M. B., 14, 79.
 Goldfeder, Cheryl, 80.
 Goldfeder, Jim, 80.
 Goldman, Susan, 15.
 Goodall, John S., 81.
 Goodyear, Carmen, 82.
 Grant, Anne, 16.
 Gray, Genevieve, 83.
 Greenfield, Eloise, 84, 85.
 Haas, Irene, 179.
 Harper, Anita, 86, 87.
 Herman, Harriet, 88.
 Himler, Ronald, 17.
 Hirsh, Marilyn, 180.
 Holmes, Efner Tudor, 18.
 Ichikawa, Satomi, 149.
 Isadora, Rachel, 19.
 Jarrell, Mary, 89.
 Jeschke, Susan, 90.
 Jewell, Nancy, 91.
 Johnston, Johanna, 181.
 Kantrowitz, Mildred, 92, 93.
 Kennedy, Richard, 182.
 Kindred, Wendy, 94.
 Klein, Norma, 150.
 Krahn, Fernando, 183.
 Kraus, Robert, 184.
 Kroll, Steven, 95, 96.
 Langner, Nola, 20.
 Lapsley, Susan, 185.
 Lasker, Joe, 21, 97.
 Lasky, Kathryn, 22.
 Lenthall, Patricia Riley, 23.
 Levy, Elizabeth, 98, 151, 152.
 Lexau, Joan, 24, 99.
 Link, Martin, 5.
 Lisker, Sonia, 25, 153, 154.
 Litchfield, Ada, 26.
 Lund, Doris Herold, 100.
 McGovern, Ann, 27.
 Mack, Nancy, 101.
 Maestro, Betty, 186.
 Mahy, Margaret, 28, 155.
 Mangi, Jean, 102.
 Manushkin, Fran, 103, 104.
 Mark, Susan Elizabeth, 156.
 Maury, Inez, 29.
 Mayer, Mercer, 30, 157.
 Merriam, Eve, 158.
 Miles, Betty, 31.
 Miles, Miska, 105, 106.
 Milgram, Mary, 32.
 Moore, Lillian, 7.

AUTHOR INDEX (continued)

- Parrish-Benson, Barbara, 107.
Paterson, Diane, 108.
Pearson, Susan, 109.
Petersen, Palle, 34.
Peterson, Jeanne Whitehouse, 35.
Pratt, Ellen, 110.
Ramage, Corrine, 159.
Roberts, Thom, 187.
Rockwell, Harlow, 111.
Rosen, Winifred, 112.
Ross, Jessica, 188.
Rothman, Joel, 160.
Rudolph, Marguerita, 189.
Ryder, Joanne, 113.
Schlein, Miriam, 36.
Scott, Ann Herbert, 114.
Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman, 37, 115.
Sherman, Ivan, 161.
Simon, Norma, 38, 39, 40.
Skorpen, Liesel Moak, 41, 42, 162.
Sobol, Harriet Langsam, 116.
Sonneborn, Ruth A., 117.
Stanek, Muriel, 163.
Stein, Sara Bennett, 118.
Steptoe, John, 43.
Surowiecki, Sandra Lucas, 44.
Taylor, Barbara, 119.
Terris, Susan, 120.
Thomas, Ianthe, 121.
Tobias, Tobi, 45, 123.
Tompert, Ann, 124, 165.
Ungerer, Tomi, 190.
Van Leeuwen, Jean, 166.
Van Woerkom, Dorothy, 127, 167.
Waber, Bernard, 46, 128.
Wahl, Jan, 168, 191.
Wasson, Valentina P., 47.
Weil, Lisl, 192.
Welber, Robert, 48, 129.
Wells, Rosemary, 130.
Williams, Barbara, 49.
Williams, Jay, 131.
Winthrop, Elizabeth, 193.
Wolde, Gunilla, 132, 133, 134, 135.
Wolf, Bernard, 136.
Yolen, Jane, 137, 169.
Young, Miriam, 138.
Zindel, Paul, 139.
Zolotow, Charlotte, 140, 141, 142, 143, 170, 171.

SUBJECT INDEX

ADOPTION: 6, 32, 47, 61, 107, 185.

ANIMAL STORIES: 5, 23, 67, 72, 81, 164, 173, 183, 186, 191.

ASIAN/ESKIMO: 114, 125.

BIRTH: 9.

BLACK/AFRICAN: 1, 20, 37, 43, 61, 62, 68, 69, 83, 84, 85, 94, 99, 110, 117, 121, 129, 145, 147, 148, 157, 165.

DEATH/ILLNESS: 50, 56, 64, 73, 93, 115, 117, 126.

FAIRY/FOLK TALES: 27, 74, 78, 88, 124, 131, 137, 164, 167, 169, 173, 174.

FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN GIRLS: 67, 92, 98, 140, 152, 170, 171.

FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN BOYS AND GIRLS: 12, 27, 48, 65, 91, 100, 119, 134, 138, 145, 149, 150, 153, 158, 160.

HANDICAP: 11, 26, 33, 34, 35, 60, 77, 80, 97, 101, 116, 118, 136, 180.

HISPANIC: 29, 57, 75.

HOMES WITH SINGLE PARENTS: 10, 29, 38, 43, 44, 75, 94, 109, 139, 156, 163.

INDIVIDUAL BOYS/MEN EXPRESSING EMOTION: 2, 10, 11, 13, 18, 19, 22, 25, 37, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 50, 53, 64, 83, 85, 89, 97, 99, 105, 114, 126, 139, 142, 143, 163, 189.

INDIVIDUAL GIRLS/WOMEN AS ACTIVE MAIN CHARACTERS: 3, 16, 17, 20, 23, 30, 36, 55, 57, 58, 59, 63, 65, 66, 71, 75, 76, 79, 90, 92, 96, 98, 104, 106, 110, 113, 122, 123, 125, 127, 128, 129, 130, 133, 144, 146, 147, 148, 151, 152, 158, 161, 176, 177, 178, 179, 181, 184, 187, 188, 190.

NATIVE AMERICANS: 2, 5.

PROBLEMS ARISING FROM SEPARATION AND DIVORCE: 24, 52, 62, 99, 154, 166.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CHILDREN AND GRANDPARENTS: 13, 14, 15, 22, 28, 49, 50, 56, 73, 95, 117, 162, 165, 168, 192.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CHILDREN AND PARENTS: 4, 8, 9, 10, 29, 42, 45, 49, 51, 54, 62, 63, 68, 84, 89, 94, 106, 108, 112, 114, 115, 120, 122, 125, 128, 139, 141, 142, 155.

SUBJECT INDEX (continued)

SIBLING RELATIONSHIPS: 61, 69, 79, 103, 109, 112, 132, 166,
172, 193.

WORKING WOMEN: 4, 14, 15, 21, 23, 29, 44, 52, 54, 61, 68,
69, 70, 79, 82, 87, 102, 111, 117, 135, 159, 183, 188.