



Large firms sued for sexual discrimination

THIRTY-THREE women from three people's organizations filed sexual discrimination suits against Korea's giant corporations—the first such suit filed against the country's conglomerates.

Members of the National Teachers' Labor Union, the Korea Women's Association for Democracy and Sisterhood, and the Citizens' Group for Genuine Education lodged discrimination charges against 44 representatives of major industries last May 25. They complained against the conglomerates' hiring practice of requiring physical attributes such as a certain range for the heights as well as weights of prospective female staff.

The complainants argued that the industries seriously violated the Equal Employment Opportunity

Act in specifying qualifications such as 'over 160cm, under 60kg and good appearance' in their advertisements for

Lesbian celebration—an art spree

More than a hundred women came to take part in 'Women-Loving-Women Celebration', which turned out to be a major cultural and literary event, complete with music, story-telling, poetry reading, improvised theater and dancing.

The huge turn-out of friends and supporters at the affair proves "once again that women-loving-women do support and reach out to help each other grow," the lesbian publication *Switchboard* raved.

The occasion was held last February 13 in the New Age-style Dreams Cafe, located in the heart of Manila.

Women artists who performed included the popular singer Susan Fernandez-Magno. Writer Tezza Parel read an excerpt of 'Every Full Moon' (by Nice Rodriguez) from *Throw it to the River*. Former spokesperson of the National Democratic Front Bobbie Malay read an obit-poem while Pia Arboleda silenced the crowd with a reading from Jeanette Winterson's erotic collection *Sexing the Cherry*. Activist-writer Aida F. Santos gave the opening remarks and read a number of her poems in the anthology *Woman to Woman*, the first lesbian anthology to be published in the country.

Lesbond gave a mime performance which essayed the travails of a modern-day lesbian heroine. Ome Quijano was inimitable in her coming-out. The complex comic-advised portion done by Cris Brigoli as a counselor gone wrong was likewise hilarious.

Giney Villar and university professor Joy Barrios also read a piece each from the *Woman to Woman*, while Kathleen Maltzahn read a poem published in a previous issue of *Women in Action*.

More songs were rendered by Tess Raposas, PaMaSa and activist singer-song writer Aster Delgado.

Dancing lasted until the wee hours of the morning after the program ended at about midnight.

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