Gender Equity Project Sponsorship Program  
Spring 2004 Workshop # 3

Marital Equality  
March 24, 2004

Agenda

1:00 – 1:05 pm  
Program Administration

1:05 – 2:55 pm  
Marital Equality

1:05 – 1:20  
Presentation  V. Valian

1:20 – 1:50  
Discussion and Activity 1: Break into groups of 4  
Each group will be assigned one of the 4 scenarios

1:20 – 1:35:  Discussion  
Discuss strategies for negotiating for conditions approaching equality at home with your partner. Consider what unexamined assumptions each of you may hold about division of labor at home. Try to articulate what barriers you perceive. Keep the assumptions and barriers in mind as you work on activity 1.

• See Topic Discussion and Activities handout for additional details.

1:35 – 1:50:  Activity 1  
Read the assigned scenario and discuss the negotiation.

• Consider what the husband’s interests in the issue might be and how you can either address his concerns in order to negotiate more effectively, or how you can create a solution that is mutually beneficial.

• Think about the wife’s position on the issue. Identify the tradeoffs she has available and how she can use them to generate compromise.

• Decide on the best way to conduct the negotiation and come up with a plan of action.

• See Topic Discussion and Activities handout for additional details.

Once the group has decided on the best plan of action, choose two people to act out the negotiation for the entire workshop. One person will negotiate as the husband and the other as the wife. Practice the negotiation if time permits.

1:50 – 2:50  
Role play and discussion

15 minutes will be devoted to each scenario: 5 minutes for the negotiation followed by 10 minutes of group discussion

1:50 – 2:05: Scenario 1 – Housework
2:05 – 2:20: Scenario 2 – Childcare
2:20 – 2:35: Scenario 3 – Home workspace
2:35 – 2:50: Scenario 4 – Entertaining relatives

(See Topic Discussion and Activities handout for scenario details)

2:50 – 2:55  
Workshop Evaluation:  Complete part I before leaving