

# **Domestic Violence in China: Research, Intervention and Prevention**

## **Newsletter**

Issue Six

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#### **About the Newsletter**

As usual, the present newsletter is a new issue of the bi-monthly publication of the project *Domestic Violence in China: Research, Intervention and Prevention* (hereafter

sometimes referred to as the "anti-domestic violence project"). An abstract of the Newsletter in English is available. Generally, the Newsletter includes:

- 1) Briefs on personnel changes and project activities such as meetings, seminars, workshops, visits and other events;
- 2) Exchange of experiences; comments and observations of project participants;
- 3) Theoretical reflections upon research methods, concepts, gender-related viewpoints; problems and suggested solutions;
- 4) Legislative research, including introduction to present legislation, problems with present legislation and law-making suggestions
- 5) Information and materials from home and abroad;
- 6) Suggestions, including analysis of problems and recommended solutions;
- 7) Responses to suggestions.

The Newsletter is intended to be a channel through which the project network partners can share ideas and results, take part in decision making, monitor project management, supervise project implementation and urge more participation in project work.

Contribution of papers, ideas, suggestions and other involvement in our project are warmly welcome.

We wish to thank the Ford Foundation, the Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation (NOVIB), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Oslo University in Norway, who have contributed funding for the project, including the publication of the Newsletter.

The Newsletter is distributed among all project participants, relevant organizations, agencies and departments free of charge.

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### **Briefs on Recent Activities**

1. On April 29, 2001, the inauguration ceremony for the Women's Legal Rights Advisory and Service Center of Yanqing County, Beijing municipality was held. The Working Office against Domestic Violence attached to the Center was also opened, as was the Yanqing Women's Legal Aid Center. Nearly 100 local officials from government, judiciary and women's organizations attended the ceremony.
2. On May 11, 2001, a CLS anti-domestic-violence delegation of eight members began a study visit to Canada at the invitation of Dr. Jane Ursel, director of the Domestic Violence Research Center of Manitoba University. Among the delegates were Ms. Li Hongtao and Ms. Liu Meng from China Women's Institute, Ms. Guo Jianmei from Beijing University and five other lawyers.
3. On May 12 – 13, 2001, a gender training program was conducted in Xi'an, Shaanxi by the Mass Media Sub-project in cooperation with the Shaanxi Provincial Women's Federation and the Shaanxi Society on Women's Theory, Marriage and Family. Over 20 trainees were present.
4. On the morning of May 15, 2001, a lecture on "Changes and Transitions in Domestic Violence Law" was given by Professor Sally Engles Merry, head of the Anthropology Department of Wesley University in the United States. Professor Huang Lie, Ms. Feng Yuan, Ms. Xie Ninglan and Ms. Zhu Xiaoqing attended the lecture and exchanged ideas with Dr. Merry. On May 10, 2001, Dr. Merry visited the general project office at the China Law Society and held a discussion hosted by Professor Chen Mingxia.
5. On the evening of May 25, 2001, the second expanded meeting of the Project Management Committee (PMC) was convened and a decision was made to introduce two new committee members. The new Project Management Committee is comprised of the following persons: Cai Yiping, Chen Mingxia, Ge Youli, Huang Lie, Li Hongtao, Rong Weiyi and Zhang Erxi (in alphabetical order by surname).

6. On June 9 – 10, 2001, a gender training program was conducted in Changsha, Hunan Province. The program was sponsored by Oxfam Hong Kong and was attended by over 50 local officials from government agencies and women's organizations. Gender Training Sub-project members, including Rong Weiyi, Han Henan and Zhang Lixin, were present.
7. On June 9, 2001, the Pilot Urban Community Intervention Sub-project organized a gender and domestic violence intervention training, which was attended by enthusiastic pilot project members from the Beijing You'anmen Street Residents Committee.
8. On June 13 – 15, 2001, Leni Marin and Debbie Lee held discussions with Pilot Medical Intervention Sub-project members in two pilot intervention hospitals, Tiewing and Xiluoyuan. They discussed textbooks used for the sub-project and visited the project office to discuss future collaborations.
9. In June of 2001, financial reports on expenditures for the first half of 2001 were submitted and are to be made public at the 5<sup>th</sup> Network Conference scheduled for July of 2001.

By Liu Xiaojuan

## **Exchange of Experiences**

### Reflections on the training program conducted by British experts

I took part in a four-day training program which helped me not only learn British anti-domestic-violence practices in Leeds but also acquire training skills and understanding about participatory training methods.

#### 1. Participatory training methods

According to the British trainers, giving lectures is a one-way method of transferring information. It was emphasized that any lecture used in training should have a specific focus, that the lecturer should be very familiar with the content, that methods and language used in lectures should be designed in consideration of the particular audience and that lectures should not be too long.

My own experience tells me lectures could be very helpful in many circumstances. Sometimes a training program organized in a participatory manner within a short period of time might not be as effective as well-designed lectures over a relatively longer period of time.

I also find it very crucial to have specified objectives and ideas when a participatory training is organized. The trainer should have a very clear idea as to what she expects of the trainees during the training process. Ideas listed in the textbook for the Leeds multi-agency partnership program provide a good model and have in fact been followed in our gender training programs. Those ideas include, but are not limited to, the fact that “most domestic violence offences are imposed by men upon women;” “violence is a tool used to obtain and control power;” and “violence exerts a disruptive impact upon women's capability to respond to situations.”

## 2. Problems in designing objectives, content and activities

We agree with the British trainers that in designing training objectives and content, attention should be paid to consistency, procedures for generalization and training methods. Consideration should also be given to the trainees' perspective and access to sufficient resources and information. However, we have paid little attention to certain aspects, which, according to the British experts, should be taken, into consideration when conducting a training program. For example, we should first discuss with trainees the training plan, content and schedule; trainers should be well organized and appropriately divide the workload among themselves; different methods of training should be encouraged so as to hold participants' attention; and differences in understanding and methodology in a participatory training should be permitted.

## 3. Principles of training

Some principles elaborated by the British experts were either beyond our comprehension or were controversial given our circumstances. Still, we could learn a lot from British practices:

When participants are put in groups, they should be divided by sex because male participants could become resistant if surrounded and criticized by female participants.

Attention should also be paid to avoid direct debate between participants, for debate may put some on the defensive or/and make them feel alienated during the training.

In a training course, some participants may become disinterested, and this should be allowed.

Conclusions and generalizations made by participants should be highly valued. Trainers should be prepared in advance to respond to different questions and challenges put forward by trainees.

Overall, I found the training program given by the British experts very helpful for our project.

By Rong Weiyi

#### Gender training program conducted in Shaanxi under the Media Advocacy Networks Sub-project

On May 12 – 13, 2001 the Media Advocacy Networks Sub-project organized a training program on gender in cooperation with the Shaanxi Women's Federation and Shaanxi Society on Women's Theory, Marriage and Family.

The most significant result from this training was that all participants felt that the gender training changed their understanding of gender-related social problems and that they reached a more in-depth understanding of such topics as the concept of gender, the relationship between the mass media and gender, the role of the mass media in fighting domestic violence and the application of gender analysis in services for women. The training was also said to have promoted exchanges between different mass media organizations and facilitated cooperation with other sub-projects and partners. The event was covered by local newspapers.

By the Mass Media Intervention Sub-project

#### A brief on training on gender and domestic violence in Beijing's Fengtai District

Ever since the Pilot Urban Community Intervention Sub-project began its operation, extensive training on gender and domestic violence has been organized.

##### 1. Training background

On February 16, 2001, for the first time training was targeted at officials of the judiciary, public security organs and women's federation at the Fengtai district level and Yanqing

county level. On May 19 – 20, 2001, officials from relevant organs and organizations of Fengtai District's You'anmen Street were invited to attend a training program. On May 26 – 27, 2001, You'anmen Street local residential committee staff workers received training in gender and domestic violence. Both female and male officials and staff attended the training. The training was designed to promote gender sensitivity, understanding of a multi-agency approach to curbing domestic violence and exploration of intervention methods. Approximately 100 local officials, residential committee staff and women's federation workers received the training.

## 2. Major features of the community training

Local officials paid close attention to the training, and trainees were consulted prior to the training regarding the program details. Local partners actively participated in the training, which followed a well-planned schedule. Publicity activities and a questionnaire that had been conducted in Fengtai helped to generate extensive participation from community organizations.

Consideration was also given to having a different emphasis for different participants. For example, training for Fengtai District officials focused on ideological problems, and a participatory method was used so that those already familiar with the concept of gender could be more actively involved in facilitating a common understanding of gender and domestic violence among participants. Intervention methods were also explored on the basis of case analysis.

When You'anmen Street officials were trained, emphasis was placed on social support, a multi-agency approach and an operational model of intervention. A short play was performed that portrayed the process by which a female victim approaches a local police station and the responses she receives from the police and the community. The same performance was organized to train residential committee staff except that more emphasis was placed on resolving disputes in the interest of the woman concerned. Participants were encouraged to show respect to a battered woman and to consider her situation in order to avoid imposing solutions that might result in her suffering further violence. It was emphasized that rather than imposed solutions, women should be provided with options from which they could choose.

## 3. Impressions and comments from participants

All participants highly valued the training program and the participatory method used.

Most participants felt the training was helpful and that they had more confidence in fighting domestic violence than prior to the training. They all complained that the length of the training was too short and suggested that further training be conducted for several more days in "a mountainous area." The sub-project officials also noticed that the You'anmen Street government had issued an administrative order requiring officials to participate, but it was also noted that prior publicity activities helped to guarantee such extensive participation.

By Zhao Ying

#### A brief on a training program in Changsha, Hunan Province

On June 9 – 10, 2001, under the sponsorship of Oxfam Hong Kong and with the assistance of the Gender Training Sub-project, the Changsha Women's Federation organized a training on gender and domestic violence for nearly 50 officials from Changsha provincial government organs, the Changsha Women's Federation and relevant agencies. Survey results showed that nearly 90% of participants regarded the concept of gender and the strategy of domestic violence intervention most helpful for their work. Some local officials said the training was "well beyond their expectation" and the participatory method was not only interesting but also effective. After the training, many participants felt eager to begin anti-domestic-violence work.

Still, some participants felt that their desire for more in-depth theoretical explanations was not yet satisfied. While the participatory method was welcomed by trainees, they had also expected to hear more theoretical lectures. The sub-project workers discovered the importance of using different content and methods for different types of trainees. Further study of training skills is desirable.

By Rong Weiye

### **Theoretical Reflections**

#### Conclusions and suggestions from a case analysis

Abstract of the concluding chapter of the "Report on the Analysis of Domestic Violence Cases," a sub-project undertaken by the Red Maple Hotline for Women's Psychological Counseling)

#### 1. Conclusions

1.1 Domestic violence exists among highly educated persons in cities. Contrary to the common-sense expectation that domestic violence mainly takes place in rural families,

analysis of 100 cases selected from those received in recent years by the Red Maple Hotline showed that 74% of the cases came from the city of Beijing, 7% came from other big cities and 11% came from medium- or small-sized cities.

Again, contrary to the common belief that most domestic violence is perpetrated by people with a low educational level, this survey showed that 58% of the female victims covered by the sub-project were those who had received higher than a senior high school education, that 35% of them had received specialized professional education and that among the 33 perpetrators of domestic violence, 62.7% of them had a high level of education.

The survey also found that 70% of the victims in the sub-project were employed as follows: 18.57% were white-collar workers; 15.71% were civil servants; 14.29% were blue-collar workers; and 12.86% were academicians. Normally such abused women did not depend on their husband for support and some even had a higher salary than their husbands.

1.2 A high percentage of domestic violence takes place immediately after marriage. The survey revealed that 54% of domestic violence offences take place within three years after the couple is married, and a significant portion of such offences occur immediately after marriage. It is also worth noting that 12% of all domestic violence takes place before a couple is engaged and continues after the wedding.

1.3 Women and children constitute the majority of victims of domestic violence. 63 out of 100 cases involved husbands beating their wives, and in 10 out of 100 cases the husband beat both his wife and children. Of the 11 cases where victims received a medical examination or judicial examination, 10 cases involved serious injuries. According to Chinese criminal law, perpetrators should be held criminally responsible for inflicting anything above a "light injury." The home, which should be considered a "safe and warm" place for women and children, has instead turned into a place of "agony and distress."

1.4. Women respond in varied and complicated ways to domestic abuse. Some beg for mercy, blame themselves and resist asking for a divorce. Others resist domestic violence and refuse to pardon the perpetrator. This is possibly because these women have grown up in a new China and have a very strong awareness of equality between men and women. Statistics showed that out of 100 cases, 26 victims approached the people's court and 23 victims asked their work units for help; another 18 victims

contacted the police through either going to the police station or by calling 110 (emergency). However, most victims sought help from family members (34 victims) or relatives of their spouse (30 victims) before they called the Red Maple Hotline. We are distressed to find that most responses women obtained before calling the Red Maple Hotline either exacerbated the violent situation (63%) or were only temporarily helpful (24%).

1.5 The major reason why women remain in a violent relationship is that they are dominated by a culture of patriarchy, which attributes the highest value to the family system. When any domestic dispute occurs, social custom discourages divorce as a solution and work unit leaders tend to say that "everything will be successful as long as the family remains intact." When women seek help from certain organizations, they are always faced with ideological obstacles. For example, they are often asked why they were beaten and what they did to provoke it. It is thus taken for granted that women themselves are partly to blame for their condition. **This situation obscures the nature of the offence.** 26% of female victims insist on divorcing their violent husbands because it seems to them that a violent husband is no longer a husband. However, when their words are ignored, they are injured a second time, this time by society's negligence.

In cases of domestic violence, work unit leaders, lawyers and relatives always remind women of the "children" and the value of the "family." They make women feel that if they divorce their husbands they are evil mothers. As good mothers always put children's interests first, a woman is supposed to fulfill the sacred mission of "maintaining the family at the sacrifice of herself." **This situation makes women believe remaining in a violent relationship is a virtuous action.**

Elderly women, due to their own experience of living in a patriarchal culture, have acquired the deep-rooted idea that "**being beaten is the fate of being a woman.**" They often persuade women victims of domestic violence to tolerate such offences because this is the "fate" women have to accept.

Women's experiences of seeking help outside their families tend to reinforce their acceptance of the role of traditional wife and mother. After they are repeatedly lectured and persuaded to uphold "family values" and to be a "wise wife and dutiful mother," they tend to attach themselves more closely to their family. It is difficult for abused women to distinguish between the interests of the family and their own self-interest. They may begin to believe that remaining in a violent relationship would be safer than

divorcing their husband. Indeed, divorced women often find it difficult to remarry to their satisfaction. Furthermore, battered women gradually lose faith in the social support system and choose to remain in a violent relationship. As a result, abused women tend to be apathetic or fixated on retaliation.

## 2. Suggestions

The most difficult as well as most important task for eliminating domestic violence is to challenge the prevailing patriarchal culture and traditional notions about domestic violence. This is a complicated task requiring tremendous effort over a long period of time. It is necessary to **establish an education center** that specializes in designing, organizing and operating regular training for different groups of people. Such an education center would also be helpful for in-depth study of domestic violence in China.

Research should be conducted on **establishing shelters, particularly in cities** where female victims, far from relatives, face particular difficulty in searching for a safe refuge after domestic violence occurs.

It is an urgent task **to set up self-reliance organizations** to help women, who, as individuals, may be too weak to resist domestic violence. International experience demonstrates that when well organized, women themselves can provide support and advocacy for women's rights.

By the Red Maple Hotline Case Analysis Sub-project

### **Introduction to Legislation**

#### Legislation on domestic violence in different countries

Ever since the appointment of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women in 1994, governments of different countries have been requested to offer information on law making regarding domestic violence. Here is a brief on such information. (omitted)

By Huang Lie

### **Experiences and Practices at Home and Abroad**

#### The work of Manitoba, Canada against domestic-violence (Part I)

On May 11 – 21, 2001, a CLS anti-domestic violence delegation comprised of eight key members made a study visit to Canada at the invitation of Dr. Jane Ursel, director of the Research Center on Domestic Violence of Manitoba University. In addition to myself,

the seven other members were sociologist Li Hongtao, Ms. Liu Meng from China Women's Institute, Ms. Guo Jianmei, Ms. Liu Shoufen, Ms. Yu Rong, Ms. Liu Wei and Ms. Lin Lixia from the Center for Women's Law Studies and Legal Services of Beijing University.

During our stay in Canada, we were not only moved by the warm welcome we received, but we were also deeply impressed by the remarkable progress our Canadian colleagues have achieved in both theory and practice against domestic violence. We saw the whole process by which a domestic violence offence was reported, investigated, prosecuted and tried. We also had the opportunity to see how women victims were supported, assisted and aided. We held meetings with police, prosecutors, judges, government officials and female legislators who are committed to the protection of women.

Upon returning home, many delegates eagerly wrote down their impressions and comments for the Newsletter. These writings are to be published in two consecutive issues of the Newsletter with the present issue publishing three of them.

By Chen Mingxia

The historical and current social service system against domestic violence in Manitoba, Canada (omitted)

By Liu Meng

The role of the Canadian police in handling domestic violence offences (omitted)

By Lin Lixia

The system of direct prosecution by public prosecutors of domestic violence offences in Manitoba, Canada

I was deeply impressed by Canada's adoption of a direct prosecution system of domestic violence offences. As a lawyer providing legal aid to abused wives, I have always seen women put in a difficult position when they must decide on private prosecution. Chinese law makes no distinction between injury by domestic violence and by strangers. Female victims of domestic violence are expected to lodge a private suit against the abuser if "light injury" and/or "light circumstances" have occurred. The people's procuratorate seldom intervenes and lodges a public prosecution. In most cases of "light circumstances" or "light injury," abused wives seldom sue their husbands

unless they want a divorce. Wives who sue their husbands but do not seek divorce are seen as too harsh towards their husbands and will most likely face a new cycle of violence. The direct prosecution system means that the public prosecuting agency will directly sue the abuser without prior consent from the abused wife. This challenges the traditional doctrine that "wife beating is a family matter." Furthermore, abused wives need not bear any responsibility for the lawsuit in such cases. I believe that the direct prosecution system adopted in Canada is a very practical and effective legal mechanism for curbing domestic violence. I highly recommend that it be adopted by the Chinese judiciary.

By Liu Wei

### **Domestic Violence and Interventions in China**

According to a survey by the All Chinese Women's Federation, nearly 30% of families are estimated to have seen domestic violence, and in 90 – 95% of such cases, abuse is perpetrated by the husband on the wife.

The Chinese government has made a great deal of effort to control domestic violence:

\*The Development Program for Chinese Women 2001 – 2010 expressly prohibits any form of violence against women.

\*All Women's Development Programs of different provinces expressly stipulate women's protection against violence in accordance with the national development program for women.

\*China is among the earliest signers on the Convention against All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

\*On January 1, 1996, Changsha, Hunan Province adopted the Provisions on Prevention and Control of Domestic Violence, which was the first local legislation against domestic violence in China. In March 2000, Hunan province promulgated the Decision on Prevention and Control of Domestic Violence. In May 2001, Furong District of Changsha city adopted the Implementation Program on Zero Domestic Violence Community, which is widely regarded as a great development in anti-domestic violence campaigns in China.

\*Since 1996, Xi'an in Shaanxi, Huzhou in Zhejiang and Changzhou in Jiangsu have

successively adopted local regulations against domestic violence. Hainan province is now drafting relevant legislation. As of 2000, a total of 13 provinces, cities and counties had passed regulations against domestic violence.

\*The Beijing Court Science & Technology Authentication Institute is the first ever organization to provide examination and authentication services for those reporting domestic violence. In 1998, Qingdao in Shandong set up the Authentication Center for Injuries from Domestic Violence.

\*Shaoxin in Zhejiang has initiated a multi-agency approach for handling domestic violence.

\*In Datong, Shanxi a specialized Tribunal of Protection of Women and Children was established in 1995. By 1998 the number of such tribunals at different levels in Shanxi had increased to 87.

\*As of this writing, most provinces and regions in China have set up women's protection institutions. 85 – 90% of counties in China have set up legal aid or legal consultation organizations for women's protection.

NGOs are especially active in fighting domestic violence:

\*Women's federations at different levels throughout China are often the first to be approached for help by abused women.

\*In October 1994, a hotline for domestic violence complaints was opened in Beijing.

\* In June 1995, a women's legal service center was established in Beijing.

\* On September 22, 2001, China's first Marriage Shelter providing accommodation for abused women was set up in Wuhan in Hubei province.

\* In December 1995, the Center for Women's Law Studies and Legal Services was established at Beijing University.

\*In January 1996, the Southern Shelter for Abused Women and Children was established in Shanghai.

\*The Red Maple Hotline began in Beijing in 1994.

\*The Women's Legal Service Center in Shaanxi began anti-domestic-violence campaigns in 1998.

\* In December 1995, the Women's Legal Service Center was set up in Qianxi county of Hebei province.

\* Anti-domestic violence associations were successively established in Anshan city and Tangshan city.

\* An Anti-domestic violence working group, comprised of famous member organizations from Beijing and Shaanxi, was established in June 1999.

\* The China Law Society project, *Domestic Violence in China: Research, Intervention and Prevention*, was formally launched in June 2000. It includes over a dozen sub-projects and has become one of the largest projects combating domestic violence in China.

By Zhang Xiaohong

#### The Zero Domestic Violence Community Program

Recently, the Furong district of Changsha in Hunan province embarked on the development of a "Zero Domestic Violence Community," which means that domestic violence is no longer to be considered a family matter and abusers can no longer beat wives without external intervention. On May 23, 2001, the Furong district government issued the Notice of Implementation Furong District Program on Development of "Zero Domestic Violence Community," which was based on a draft program jointly initiated by the Furong district Women and Children's Working Committee and the Furong district women's federation. The Implementation Program has been integrated into the 10<sup>th</sup> five-year plan for economic, social and cultural development of the district.

"Zero domestic violence" does not mean a community free of domestic violence. It means that priority should be given to preventive, conciliatory and comprehensive measures so that family disputes which might otherwise deteriorate into violence could be resolved at an early stage. It also means that agencies involved in women's protection should intervene in a timely manner in any domestic violence case in order to

stop it or prevent it from further escalating. No case of domestic violence is exempt from external intervention.

The Implementation Program stipulates a five-year schedule of actions (2001-2005) with the following objectives:

1. Extensive and intensive awareness campaigns should be organized in a continuous manner so that a favorable environment against domestic violence could be developed.
2. Sensitive, effective and comprehensive intervention networks and mechanisms should be established for the protection of women. Seven "women's protection networks" involving different agencies are covered by the action program.
3. A group of "zero domestic violence" model communities should be developed over the next five years and the "zero domestic violence" community should occupy 85% of the total Furong District.

The seven women's protection networks to be developed according to the Implementation Program are as follows:

1. A **domestic violence prevention and control network** will be developed in close cooperation with the police and will set up such services as complaint receiving centers, police warning rooms and injury examination and authentication centers.
2. A **judicial protection network** will be set up in close cooperation with the courts; women's federation officials will sit in court as people's assessors.
3. An **advocacy network** for women will be set up in close cooperation with the judicial bureau, law firms and basic legal service offices.
4. A **government protection network** will be set up to give full voice to women and children's working committees at different levels.
5. A **network for receiving and handling domestic violence complaints** will be more fully developed in order to give full play to women's federations at different levels.
6. **Community-based women's protection stations, liaison officers or other regular mechanisms** will provide immediate assistance to battered women.

**7. Shelters and psychological advisory offices** for abused women, children and the elderly will be established in cooperation with civil affairs departments.

The Implementation Program for the Development of a "Zero Domestic Violence Community," which has been put into practice for several months, has been warmly welcomed from people from all walks of life, particularly women. Several women's protection networks have already been established in Dongtundu Street and Huoxing Street in the Furong district, and these have played a very effective role in handling domestic violence cases. For further expansion and development of the program, local residential committees have distributed to residents "women's protection liaison" cards, which provide the telephone number and other contact information of women's protection organizations. The activities have been widely covered by the local mass media.

### **Suggestions and Responses**

As of June 6, 2001, the Resource Center of the anti-domestic violence project has collected 482 books in Chinese and 117 books in English. The Resource Center encourages readers to borrow books from the Center so as to make full use of the books available in carrying out the work of the project.

On the evening of May 25, 2001, the Project Management Committee (PMC) held its second expanded meeting. All PMC members and sub-project directors attended the meeting except Ge Youli, Liu Meng, Li Mingxun and Zhu Xiaoqing, who took part in the meeting via telephone. The meeting established that PMC members should be those devoted to work, competent in coordination, of good character and in favor of democracy and unity. The meeting introduced two new PMC members through anonymous election. They are Gender Training Sub-project director Rong Weiyi and the Media Advocacy Networks Sub-project director Cai Yiping. The following decisions were also reached at the meeting:

1. Financial reports from sub-projects will be made only once for the first half of 2001 due to reasons related to project evaluation. Accountants for different sub-projects

should prepare to submit the report by mid-June.

2. The 5<sup>th</sup> Network Conference is scheduled for mid-July, 2001.

3. The National Conference on Domestic Violence is scheduled for early or mid-November 2001, prior to the International Day on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women.

4. The subsidy to each accountant for work over the annual budget will be 100 yuan and the subsidy to each accountant for work over the annual financial report will be 200 yuan (to be covered by the item "fee for draft and translation of sub-project budget and financial report").

5. The division of work among PMC members is to be confirmed. Future meetings will be reduced and discussions via telephone will be encouraged so as to save time and raise efficiency.