

ITS OKAY TO BE A MOTHER

In 1963 Betty Friedan wrote a book called 'The Feminine Mystique' in which she claimed that women are trapped in an unwanted life of domesticity. Translated into English that means that most women don't really want to be 'stay at home mums'. Three years later the same woman founded The National Organization For Women, a radical political organization designed to promote the cause now known as feminism. Radical feminism assaults the self-esteem of women who make motherhood a priority. To them the work of child raising is better done in a day care setting, while women find their place in the world by competing with men for all that the world of business and commerce can offer. Most people in our community don't want to be identified with the agenda of that radical movement, but the extremists have moved people in the middle toward the belief that it is not personally fulfilling just to stay at home and be a mother. The structure of our society is such that the woman who has worth and value is one who runs a business, serves in a political office or is the nightly T V newsreader. It's not for me to say women shouldn't do these things, but can't we do something to let the mothers of the world know that preparing meals, running the kids to dental appointments and to basketball practice, and putting a band aid in a child's skinned knee are all valuable acts of service and even essential to the development of children.