Liberation women march, comment
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Boston Globe (1960-1979); Mar 9, 1970; pg. 3

PROTESTING women march along Beacon st. demanding rights to abortion and equality in work opportunities and conditions. They are led by Bread and Roses. (Don Preston Photo.) Other photo, Page 1.

Liberation women march, comment

By Nancy Green
Globe Staff

In song, chant and speech yesterday, the women liberators of Boston led by the organization, Bread and Roses, raised a hearty cry for women's independence in celebration of International Women's Day.

From the State House, where "236 men (but only four women) make the laws which deny us our freedom" to Faneuil Hall, where they marched to declare their "independence as women," the banners of "Smash Male Supremacy" and "Liberate Mommies" snapped in the cold afternoon wind.

Mar. 8 has been celebrated annually by Socialist women throughout the world since New York city women demonstrated for suffrage on that date in 1908. Russian women marched for bread on March 8, 1917. Yesterday, Boston women marched for what they claimed to be their unalienable rights.

The marchers, estimated by police and by others at 250, hissed the boutiques of Charles Street for offering the "groovie chick" image.

At Charles Street Circle they called the Charles Street Jail a "symbol of rampant political repression."

Passing Massachusetts General Hospital, the crowd, which was orderly, denounced the "hierarchy of doctors and administrators" which force "male supremacy on nurses and patients by patronizing, intimidating and ignoring them."

At the foot of Samuel Adams' statue before Faneuil Hall at Dock Square, part of the preamble to the Declaration of Women's Independence read: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all women and men are created equal and made unequal only by socialization."

"What's the solution?" the chant goes.

"Start a revolution," the chant answers. Or, sisters unite — you gain abortion, birth control, economic equality, a valid image, and child care centers.
"EQUALITY" is what these women shouted for as they marched through Boston yesterday, led by the Bread and Roses group. Mar. 8 has become a traditional day for women to march for their rights since the 1908 woman's suffrage demonstration. (Don Preston photo.) Story, other photo, Page 3.