

WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR MALE FEMINISM?

What is "The International Alliance For Male Feminism"? This question is being asked by more and more people today as the impact of the Alliance slowly spreads. Already it is North America's largest social and educational organization promoting male feminism and its ranks are steadily increasing.

The International Alliance is many things. It has different meanings for different people. A central thread, however, is that it is a loose union or association of male crossdressers (males who give full expression to their femininity; male women, transgenderists, femphiles, eonists, and transvestites) and wives, girlfriends, female feminists, transsexuals, and various other friends and supporters. They have joined together for the mutual benefit of themselves and their feminist oriented sisters everywhere. On behalf of all (even those who are not Alliance members and are not making any contribution to the effort), the Alliance is pooling resources and is working diligently to reach our sisters still "in the closet" and to further and promote increased knowledge and understanding of this life style. Specific activities engaged in to further and promote our objectives vary from chapter to chapter in accordance with individual interests and abilities of the members.

A primary objective of the Alliance is to put women (female & male), practising our feminist life style, in contact with each other and to assist them in organizing a viable Alliance chapter on the local level. This goal is pursued through a variety of methods. If you are relatively stable and mature, and have the time, willingness and energy to take a leadership role, you should immediately contact the central Alliance headquarters at: The International Alliance For Male Feminism, P.O. Box 623, Laurel, Md. 20810, telephone (301) 776-8832. If that situation does not currently fit you, there is still a very important place and role for you as an individual member of the International Alliance Sisterhood. You are encouraged to apply for membership to the address above. Annual (12 month) International Alliance membership dues are only \$20 (barely 5¢ per day). Checks and other monetary instruments should be made payable to "The International Alliance".

The minimum age limit for full Alliance membership is 18. There is no restriction based on age (except as stated above), race, sex, religion, national origin, politics, sexual orientation, economic status, occupation, education or any similar non-merit factor. Minors are welcome at Alliance meetings. As part of their special emphasis program of promoting female membership, two women, provided at least one is female, may join for the same total amount of dues as one. A separate application form is, however, required. The International Alliance For Male Feminism belongs to wives, girlfriends and single females just as much as to male women. One of their goals is for all of their memberships to be "dual memberships."

Alliance membership includes a subscription to *The Journal Of Male Feminism*, the well-known bi-monthly communications link of the movement. This is one publication in our field which you can proudly leave on your living room coffee table to be seen, read and discussed by any and all visitors. You judge its quality! As a member of the Alliance, the *Journal* becomes your forum, both for you as an individual and collectively, with your local area sisters for your local chapter. Printing and distribution has been in excess of 2000 copies for some time now. Circulation is obviously many times that. Your views, and other critical information affecting our feminist life style, thus reach a very wide audience. You also benefit from and enjoy keeping up with happenings elsewhere in the Alliance, with the views of your Alliance sisters, and with important developments in our field of interest.

The annual *Non-confidential International Alliance Membership Directory*, and periodic supplements thereto, is another important benefit accruing from your Alliance membership. This will allow you simple and almost instant contact with all your International Alliance sisters without cost for open address and/or telephone listings and at only the nominal handling and forwarding cost of 50¢ for the confidential ones. Although our *Directory* publishes only listings supplied by the members themselves for that specific purpose, and open listings are not required, we do encourage open listings and a large number of our members have supplied them. This *Directory* is a cornerstone of our program. The current annual edition, and all supplements, will be sent to you by return mail upon receipt of your application form and dues.

Your membership application and other records are strictly confidential with access limited to key officers. Information contained therein will not be divulged to others without your concurrence. The Alliance is proud of the reputation for trust and confidentiality which they have established and maintained over the years.

Although most Alliance members have never attended a chapter meeting, those who are able to and do so find a variety of exciting activities. Even though many feature programs of interest, these gatherings are invariably more on the order of informal parties. Food and drinks are often an integral part. Expected variations occur from group to group. Many chapters have active speaker bureaus as part of their outreach program to the local community. Whatever your forte is, there is a need and a place for it in the nearest Alliance For Male Feminism chapter. Won't you do your part?

Suggest you contact the Alliance as soon as possible so you can expeditiously begin an exciting and rewarding new experience as a full member and participant in The International Alliance Sisterhood. If you have any questions or suggestions, you should not hesitate to make them known. This is truly your program and sisterhood. The Alliance is here to serve you! Please remember though, that your regular voluntary support is crucial to their program and continued service and success. They are a non-profit organization with no paid staff. Everything they do costs money. Essentially, the Alliance is you! As a minimum, please help "spread the word" about the Alliance and try to sign up as many new members as possible. If you can use additional promotion material, please contact our International Office. Remember, the more you put into the Alliance, the more you will get out of it.

In the event that you decline Alliance membership for the time being, you may still desire to subscribe to the lively, avant-garde, pace setting *Journal of Male Feminism*. Annual subscription is only \$18. If you have any interest at all in the male feminist field, this is one magazine subscription you must have!

What is The International Alliance For Male Feminism? It is all of the above and then some! It is fast becoming a major focus and focal point for unifying numerous but too often small, secretive and publicity shy male feminist organizations in various North American metropolitan areas. Such isolated independent groups, frequently not even knowledgeable of similar groups in their own locality, have repeatedly resulted in wasting limited resources and in our having far less than optimal impact in our own community, on our numerous sisters still in the closet, and on the community at large. Duplication of effort, isolation and competition simply do not help our cause. Do you desire a large, unified, democratic, powerful organization promoting knowledge of feminist expression among males? If so, then the Alliance deserves your membership and other support! This is the Alliance Dream. You should and can be part of it! Join today!