



Produced by  
The National Film Board of Canada  
for the program

## challenge for change société nouvelle



one of a group of films about

### **WORKING MOTHERS**

designed to promote discussion about  
the issues faced by women concerning  
their work and their children in this  
society



in cooperation with departments and  
agencies of the Government of Canada

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## Tiger on a Tight Leash

16mm Color  
Time: 7 minutes 35 seconds

Cathy is a university department head in a Maritime city. She is the mother of three school-age children. She speaks of the insecurity she experiences because of unpredictable day care arrangements – and of the reflection of the same difficulty in the work of her married students: “They don’t work as creatively as they could.”

“The idea is still fairly prevalent that the woman’s place is in the home . . . If she has to go out to work, or if she chooses to go out to work, that’s alright providing she does both.”

*Production, Direction and Editing:*  
Kathleen Shannon  
*Photography:* Bob Nichol  
*Assistant Camera:* Susan Gabori  
*Assistant Editors:*  
Gloria Demers and Elizabeth Joutel  
*Location Sound:* Ron Seltzer  
*Negative Cutter:* Mae Walsh  
*Re-recording:* Jean-Pierre Joutel  
*Executive Producer:* Len Chatwin

#### *Questions to ask ourselves:*

Why do so many people still think women must choose between a family and a career?

Why are many of us less understanding of the problems of working mothers who aren’t poor?

When Cathy has some time off we show her sailing a boat. Would it have been different if we’d shown her working on a manuscript for a book?

Why does domestic work have so little prestige? Motherhood is probably the most time-honored profession. Why is it not equally honorable to work as a replacement of a mother?