# **WORTH EVERY MINUTE**





"I think we've got to change the world. We can't just change ourselves and somehow cope with it all."

This documentary is a tribute to the late Pat Schulz. A working-class hero known for her feisty battles for human rights since the '50s, she was a pioneer in the resurgent women's movement of the '70s and became one of Toronto's most respected feminists. In focussing on her life, Worth Every Minute provides a model of feminist leadership and an overview of an important period in the Canadian women's movement: what the feminists of the '60s and '70s fought for and why; current issues; and emerging directions. Filmed in 1980-81, the film reveals that the issues of concern to the women's movement in the early '80s remain major concerns almost a decade later.

A tribute to Pat Schulz, a working-class feminist committed to women's struggles for unionization, equal pay, and universally accessible child care.



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A segment of Worth Every Minute records Pat Schulz's powerful speech to an outdoor crowd in Toronto on International Women's Day, 1980. She stresses women's continuing struggle for safer work conditions and equal pay, for social services, for an unpolluted environment, and for control of their own bodies and sexuality. A keynote address highlights one of her main concerns, the need for universally accessible, quality child care. In clear, no-nonsense terms, she explains the short- and long-term psychological, social, and economic advantages of publicly funded child care.

Pat Schulz is also shown in more intimate moments with her daughter, then 12 years old, and with some of her women friends. She speaks candidly about her own upbringing, how she coped with her husband's death shortly after her daughter was born, her experiences as a single parent, her battle with cancer, what the women's movement has meant to her, her relationships, and her goals, hopes, and regrets. The voices of her daughter, her friends, and young feminist colleagues broaden the perspective on major issues within the women's movement, past and present.

#### **Audiences**

Women in the labour movement; Groups interested in child care; Education (women's studies — grade 11 through university, family life/guidance, counselling/psychology, social history); All women's groups.

## Some points for discussion

 Compare what life was like for women in the 1940s and '50s, and what it is like today. You may wish to consider: main concerns; degrees of freedom; life options; relationships (with other women, and with men); perceived place or role within society; social support networks (e.g., friendships, child care, medicare); belief systems; fertility control, reproductive technologies and sexual freedom.

- 2. Discuss Pat Schulz's arguments for quality child care. What changes might universally accessible child care bring about in future generations?
- 3. Discuss how financial considerations and non-traditional family lifestyle options have given rise to new living arrangements and new "family" relationships: co-op housing, co-ownership of homes, shared accommodation without intimate relationships, co-parenting, blended families, shared multi-family child care, support groups for single parents, etc.
- 4. What effects does considering heterosexuality as the status quo have on women, on men, and on social structures and patterns of behavior?
- 5. How has gender prejudice influenced the medical care of women?
- 6. What did Pat Schulz mean by a "human society"?

Writings by Pat Schulz:

Ross, Kathleen Gallagher (ed.). Good Day Care: Fighting for It, Getting It, Keeping It. Toronto: The Women's Press, 1978.

Women's Labour History Collective. Women at Work, Ontario: 1850-1930. Toronto: Canadian Women's Educational Press, 1974.

Note: The Pat Schulz Memorial Trust Fund was founded to honor one of Pat Schulz's major concerns — to provide working women with quality child care facilities. Its intent is to create a hub-model daycare centre that will include parent counselling, pre-school and school-age child care, and other forward-looking support services. For information, write: The Pat Schulz Memorial Trust Fund, 333 Walmer Road, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2X3.

Filmed in 1980-81 by One Woman Collective with Studio D assistance.

Directors Catherine Macleod Lorraine Segato

With thanks to Laura Sky

Cinematographers Don Virgo

John Phillips Susan Trow

Sound Recordists Tim Wilson

Michel Hazel Esther Auger

## Completed by Studio D

Editor Signe Johansson

Stills Research Katherine Schulz

Signe Johansson uts Bozenna Heczko

Graphic Layouts Bozenna Heczki
Animation Camera Claude Lebrun
Sound Editor Danuta Klis

Original Music

Re-recording

Hans Peter Strobl

Producers

Catherine Macleod

Kathleen Shannon Signe Johansson

Executive Producers Kathleen Shannon

Rina Fraticelli

Filmed with the assistance of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Canadian Labour Congress, and the Labour Council of Metropolitan Toronto

Produced by Studio D of the National Film Board of Canada

Distributed by the National Film Board of Canada

Color

Screening time: 28 min. 27 sec.

16 mm: 106C 0187 110 VHS: 113C 0187 110 Beta: 114C 0187 110 3/4": 116C 0187 110

Studio D's filmmaking approach has been grounded in women's culture, politics and values. Winning awards and respect around the globe, Studio D productions embrace diverse concerns but share common goals. Designed to engage audiences, spark discussion and raise consciousness, they are conceived as tools for social change and empowerment.



