

# CONNIE COOK: A DOCUMENTARY

## Talkback outline for community groups



### INTRODUCTIONS -- moderator

- Name and title of panelists

### TOPICS for discussion

- Connie Cook lived and worked in Tompkins County 40-50 years ago, and many of the causes that she fought for are still relevant today.
- ASK the audience: **What are some of the important topics that are raised in this film that we could ask our experts about?**
  - *examples: abortion, women in politics, women attorneys, women in law school, gender roles, women in religious leadership, women's rights / civil liberties / feminism*

### QUESTIONS

To the Panelists: it would be nice to hear a comparison -- how is your work environment today different than Connie's era? What's different? What has not changed? (have each panelist answer)

- IN POLITICS: what is different now for women in politics, what progress has been made in terms of acceptance and women's ability to be taken seriously in politics? (Discuss women in politics today, Women's History Month, important political campaigns involving women right now)
- IN RELIGION: What progress has been made in the area of women in leadership positions within religious communities? How have religious communities responded to female priests? What other progress has been made?
- IN LAW: What challenges do female attorneys still face? In law school and in practice?
- PLANNED PARENTHOOD: Where are we at nationally and statewide with the abortion debate? What can we do to protect women's reproductive rights?
- PRODUCER/DIRECTOR: What was it like for you to put this film together? How did it affect you personally and what were your greatest realizations?
- ALL: Where is the women's movement today? What still needs work? What are some important 'areas of attention?' What can today's young people, male and female, do to foster equality?
- Questions from the audience



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