

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED Feb. 17, 1986

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. There's an old saying: "Man works from sun to sun. Woman's work is never done." What, exactly, is woman's work? It used to be that women ran the home, cooking, taking care of the house and raising the children. Men did outside work. That's not so true any more. Pull into a gasoline station and you are as likely to give your money to a woman attendant as to a male attendant. Some jobs, once virtually monopolized by men, are now being performed by women. How did that come about?

Our guest today has been wondering about that same question. Being a sociologist, Dr. Patricia Roos decided to find some answers. Speaking of women's work, Dr. Roos, has your field of sociology undergone a change in gender domination over the past generation?

INTERVIEW PATRICIA ROOS:

- Background on gender roles (cite Ruth Cowan's work)
- Roots of job determination:
 - Biological differences, male/female
 - Social expectations: "breadwinner"
 - Job requirements: hours, skills, traditions
- When did major changes first take place?
- What factors caused the changes?
- What factors are being changed to encourage more role changing in the workplace? (e.g., maternity leaves)
- What changes lie ahead?

14:00

We'll take a short break now. When we return, we'll be talking with Patricia Roos about some of the changes in the workplace that you may have noticed. Stay with us, please.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

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Hi. I'm Al Oickle and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. I'm with Dr. Patricia Roos, a sociologist whose research interests include gender changes in the workplace. She and her colleagues are interested in such questions as: Why are we seeing more female janitors and male telephone operators? As we've already noted, there's no simple answer, is there?

INTERVIEW DR. ROOS:

- How did she get started on this project?
- Funding; collaborators; August paper
- Discuss changes in typography positions
- Other job/gender changes:
 - Health care (MDs, PAs, RNs etc.)
 - Teaching (note Peter Meeker's child care center)
 - Administration (bank managers, principals)
 - Recreation and sports
- What does it all mean?
 - To the (threatened?) male
 - To the (liberated?) female

29:00

OUTRO

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