

# AUCKLAND RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

C/- Women's Health Centre, 63 Ponsonby Road, Ponsonby • Telephone 764-404

Rape Crisis (Auckland) Inc. is at present based in the Women's Health Centre, 63 Ponsonby Rd. It is part of the National Collective of Rape Crisis and Related Groups.

Rape Crisis offers a support and information phone service to women who have been raped. We also offer to see women face to face if they wish. We work on government submissions and public education; trying to change attitudes that cause rape. We see this as a vital part of our work, as only by changing attitudes towards women will rape stop and women be safe from its effects.

Rape Crisis would be an integral part of services offered by the Well Woman's Clinic. So often women's mental health is upset by sexual abuse, as figures such as : over 90 % of women in mental health institutions have been sexually abused, show. Often rape leads to self-abuseive behaviour such as alcoholism or anorexia nervosa. We see offering women who have been raped support and someone to talk to is a way of preventing such things from happening. Women's physical health is often linked to their mental health so that working through a past trauma may aid a woman in gaining total health.

As part of the Well Woman's Clinic we see ourselves sharing with the other groups in the clinic office resources, information - through the library and through our files - possibly sharing a switchboard and answering service with other groups in the clinic and sharing meeting space and counselling rooms.

We see our work within the new centre would be much the same sort as we do now but we would ensure a better use of all our resources. We also hope our facilities and information would become more available to a wider range of women.

20073-292-044