

we are awaiting the judgment from the May trial of Red Hot Video in Victoria.* There the onus is upon the Crown to prove that the contents of three seized video tapes transgress "community standards" — the community being the community of Canada from coast to coast. While some communities are organizing to express their refusal to tolerate violent pornography, many feminists maintain that it is an issue which divides the "community" into two halves, along gender lines. While there are exceptions on both sides, it has been suggested that, until this division is acknowledged and until it is recognized that women are victims of pornography which is, in fact, hate literature directed against one-half

of the population, discussions of "standards of tolerance" will be fruitless.

Drawing the line to prohibit some forms of sexual degradation may be useful for mobilizing community support in the short-term, but it will not address the concerns of those working toward the long-term goal of ending violence in the lives of women. Prohibiting specific forms of sexual degradation implies a legitimizing of other forms of "antifemale propaganda."

**Editor's note: Red Hot Video was found guilty and fined \$300.*

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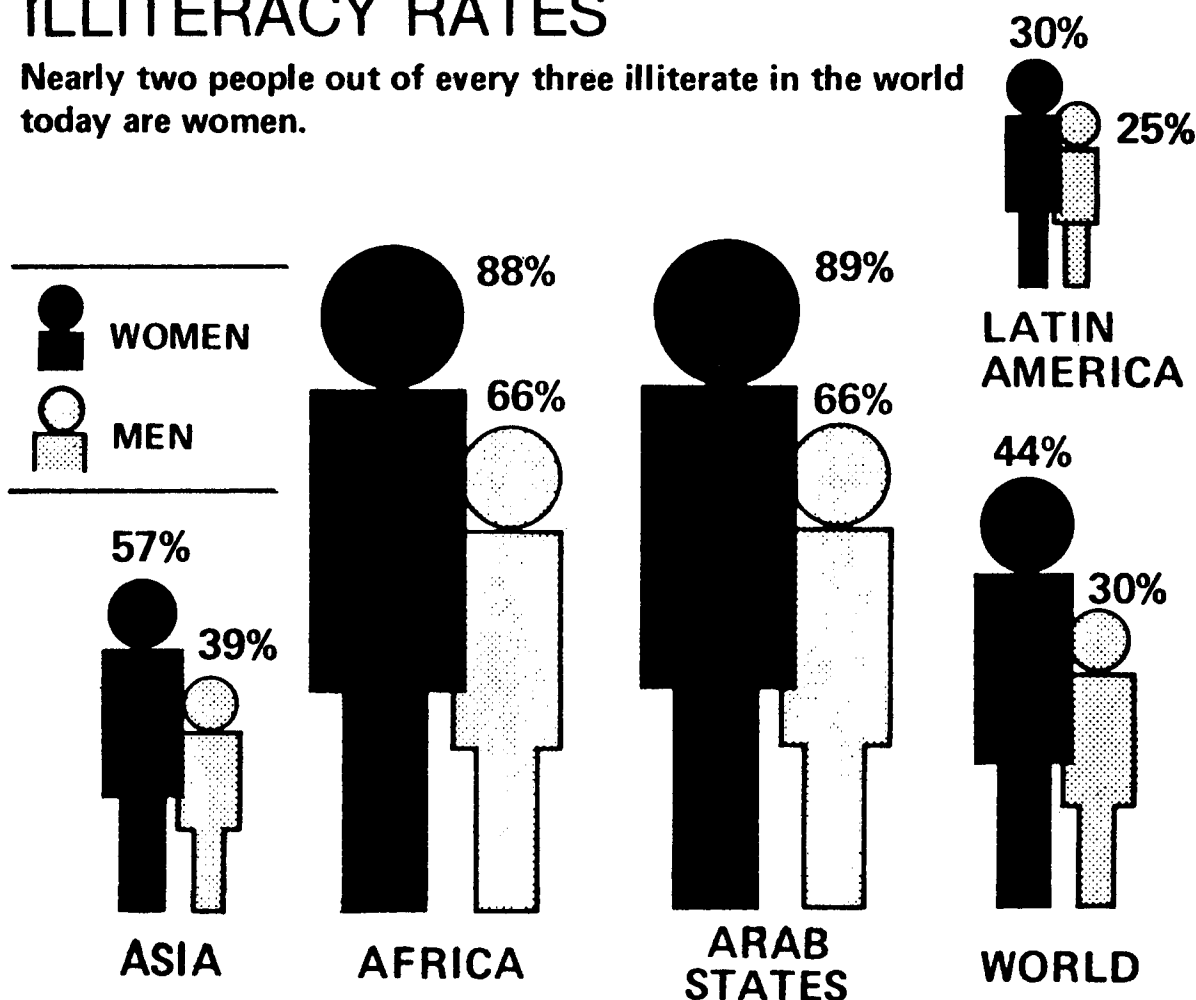
29th of December

It seems to me that if I speak of friendship in this day of sun and snow it would frame the beauty of the day with adequate poetry and connect for ever two delicate beauties.

Giovanna Peel
Toronto, Ontario

ILLITERACY RATES

Nearly two people out of every three illiterate in the world today are women.



1979 'State of the World's Women' Report for the United Nations Decade for Women.