

550 Park Ave, #12,
New York, N.Y. 10021
Nov. 27 '86

Dear Irene Angelico and Bonnie Klein,

This is just to express my appreciation to you for letting me keep the videotapes for so long in order to show them to friends here.

The other night, I showed If You Love This Planet, Dark Lullabies and Abortion Stories: North and South to a group of women in my living room. Marie Wilson of the MS Foundation was here, also author Phyllis Chesler, Esther Broner (author, A Weave of Women), Lilly Rivlin, film-maker (The Tribe, Myriam's Daughters Now), author Susan Schneider (editor of Lilith Magazine, author of Jewish and Female) and artist Bea Kreloff.

They were absolutely wowed. All agreed that Dark Lullabies was the best such documentary they had ever seen; we all cried painfully while watching it; they also agreed with me that only a woman would have kept in that incredible scene when Irene calls out to Mr. Lieber and he says "Remember Mr. Lieber, come to my house, my house is your house..."

"Oh wow," said Esther, "look, look how she keeps the connection." Esther, the most generous and tender-hearted of women, decided that Irene is the most beautiful and spiritual woman in the world.

All were in a state of excited rage when I told them that Jay Scott had criticized the movie, and all demanded to know why the film hasn't received much more notice in the U.S.

Susan Schneider wanted to know what the hell the New York office of the NFB does.

Abortion Stories elicited the same overwhelmed reactions. Everybody wanted to know how on earth Gail Singer had gotten inside that jail and that hospital. Everyone talked about her own abortion. We agreed that Henry M. is our personal saint. "Oh wow," said Esther, when Henry stroked the patient's hair.

Lilly Rivlin particularly stressed, to unanimous agreement, that cinematographer Susan Trow is brilliant.

Everyone was also excited about the Helen Caldicott film, and a lively discussion sprang up about the feasibility of an anti-nuclear film festival in New York. Since these women are all do-ers, something may yet come of it.

When I explained the financing difficulty faced by Bonnie's film on peace, Phyllis Chesler mentioned the name of Canadian Leslie Belzberg as someone wealthy who is anxious to make a feminist contribution.

A discussion of Not a Love Story (most had seen it) followed, along with a bitter discussion about civil rights-and-von Bulow lawyer Alan Dershowitz.

These random comments are just meant to let you know what an impact your work has, and how much it is appreciated and admired by your peers. Please let me know if there's anything I can do on

the New York front to further the publicity or distribution for
your films.

Warmest wishes,

Nichole Landsberg

P.S. I'll be sending the films back in the next few days.