

# As a matter of fact...

## Battle won

After a two year legal battle, Unity Dow, a woman lawyer, has won the right for her children to be Botswana citizens. Although Dow is a Botswana citizen, two of her children, both born in Botswana, were not allowed citizenship because their father is American.

Dow proved the Citizen's Act discriminated against women and was unconstitutional. Dow argued Section 15 of the constitution does not allow discrimination on the grounds of gender, religion or race.



## Marriage is more work

A government study of Australian families found when women get married their unpaid work (housework) increases by more than 60 percent.



## Girls and boys are best

India has banned women having tests which tell the sex of an unborn baby. In future such tests will only be offered to women for special health risk reasons. The government wants to prevent the abortion of healthy female foetuses in communities that value boys more than girls.



## Cheryl wins appeal

Table tennis player Cheryl Roberts won back her place on the South African Olympic team to Barcelona. Roberts was removed from the team after testing positive for a banned drug. She was able to prove the test was positive because she was under medication for flu at the time the test was taken.



## Don't pass it on

It is now a crime in Kuwait for anyone who knows they have the HIV virus to intentionally pass it on to others. Kuwait is the first Arab country to pass such a law.



## Healthy young lungs

Malaysia hopes to ban cigarette smoking by people under 18 years old. The sale of cigarettes to anyone under 18 would also be banned.

## Japan may pay out

South Korean women who were chosen by the Japanese army during the Second World War as battlefield prostitutes for its soldiers may be compensated. Many of the women, some now in their 60s, are suing the government for medical and living expenses.



## Providing the muscle

The Swedish government may soon provide bodyguards for women threatened by violence from men, including ex-husbands. The government has put aside 1.75 million dollars (R4.7 million) to try out this programme.



Information from local daily and weekly newspapers, Women's Health Journal, Women's International Network News ◉

