

WOMEN'S NEWS



A NEWSPAPER OF DISCUSSION DESIGNED FOR PROFESSIONAL WOMEN



Christine Steiger of Christine's Fitness & Personal Training for Women. Please see page 3 for details.

The truth hurts KENT PEACOCK

Françoise Ducros, Jean Chrétien's communications director, had no choice but to offer her resignation for calling President George Bush a "moron," and the Prime Minister had no choice but to accept it. But didn't you feel a small glow of pride that here was a Canadian who had the guts to say what many of us think? Yes, as a civil servant in a highly visible post, she should have known that the "mike is always on," as Margaret Wente put it. But dammit, can't anyone tell the truth these days?

Well, is Bush a moron, and if so, what do we do about it? I'm not a neurologist and I can't offer a diagnosis of Bush that would stand up in court. I will grant the possibility that he is smarter than he seems to be. I guess a person



has to have a lot of street smarts of some sort to end up as President of the U.S.A., even with the head start Bush enjoyed and the massive financial backing he received from the rich and powerful. (Something like \$190 million was spent to elect Bush.) But the way it seems to me is that Bush is little more

than a spoiled child of extremely limited intellectual attainments who seized office by dint of shameless electoral fraud. It also seems to me that he was put in office mainly to act as a compliant front man for corporate interests (especially oil) who would like to continue despoiling the green places of the world so they can make even more money than they have now. (If you'd like to find

out how Bush's usurpation of power was engineered for him, read Michael Moore's *Stupid White Men* — and weep with frustration.)

One could also note that Bush presides without any hint of discomfort over a nation that spends \$2 billion per aircraft for its Stealth bombers, but cannot find the money to educate or vaccinate all of its children (especially those whose ancestors happened to have been slaves). But Clinton did that, too, and no one called him a moron.

At times the U.S.A. has elected presidents who had measures of character and intellect that were proportional to the inhuman demands of the job. It has elected presidents who could write books and constitutions. Now it has a president who may not even be able to read them. It's like putting someone with the intellect of *Ernest Gynn* and the morals of