Dear Readers:

Barefoot, pregnant and in the kitchen . . . not a phrase you dare repeat to almost any female. Not only is this statement derogatory, today it is just not true. More and more women are breaking out of the traditional women's roles and becoming prominant members of the largely male dominated working world. This week At Ease has looked into some of the problems facing women in the work environment, and what they are doing - and can do - to improve their lives.

Our main story deals with women in the work force: their experiences with wage and hiring discrimination, the effect of their jobs on their family lives and the progress they've made in the last 50 years. We've analyzed the surveys and talked to the experts and have uncovered

some enlightening facts. Next, we've zeroed in on one aspect of the working mother: her children. Children left to fend for themselves while their parents are working are called "latchkey children," and their numbers have been growing. What do these children think of their working mothers? Is their home life suffering as a result of their mothers working? You might be surprised at what we found out. Along with this article. we've included a story on a program for local children which could keep them safer when left

And for all you readers who are working mothers, or will be one day, we've given you some helpful hints on balancing home and

Finally, our Aggienizing Answers reporter asked students how they felt about women in the work force. The opinions were varied, but most working women received a thumbs up from the Ags.

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Role reversal

We live in a changing world where women are striving for equality, especially in the work place. But what are they finding? This article examines the changing role of women in the job environment.

Unlocking the latchkey mystique _

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More and more families are relying on two incomes to support the household, but what is happening to the children? Are they still well cared for? Do they resent their parents? Look inside for an analysis of "latchkey"

Kid care _

St. Joseph Hospital is offering workshops for "latchkey" children, those who must be alone at some time during the day. Here's the scoop.

Motherly advice __

This article offers one word of advice to women who must balance a career with child care: Organize! Even non-working mothers will find some helpful suggestions here.

Aggienizing Answers _____

This week's Aggienizing Answers takes a look at how students feel about the increasing numbers of women in the work force. Most students polled think it's a change for the better.

Album review _

This week Tom looks at Squeeze's new album, "Babylon and On," which he says isn't up to par with the group's past accomplishments.

Movie review_

"Freaky Friday" fans may want to check out "Like. Father Like Son," a new movie that uses the same type of mind transfer scenario with the opposite gender and more adult humor.