Some Lessons from the Starr Report

by Phyllis Schlafly *September 23, 1998*

Two of the eleven impeachable offenses in the Starr report are that Clinton lied for seven months to his White House staff and Cabinet, expecting them to relay the falsehoods to the grand jury and the media, which they did. Those Clinton lies were extremely explicit about the sex he told them he didn't have.

Several of the senior Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee have been some of Clinton's most aggressive defenders and are among those who participated in regurgitating Clinton's lies. They should recuse themselves from sitting in judgment on Starr's report.

A better way to handle this sticky problem is for the House Judiciary Committee to dispense with hearings, release Clinton's grand jury testimony, and send the impeachment issue directly to the House floor. Clinton's defense can then be handled by Congressmen who are not compromised by having participated in the vast Clinton fabric of lies.

A second reason why the House Judiciary Committee should simply meet and vote out impeachment is that the purpose of a legislative hearing is fact-finding, and there is no longer any dispute about the facts. Clinton's lawyers have ranted and raved and indulged in tantrums, but they have not disputed the facts in the Starr Report.

Beyond the facts in the Starr report that point to impeachment, let's consider the facts that expose the feminists for the ridiculous subset of the Democratic Party that they are.

"I feel disposable, used and insignificant." Monica Lewinsky's plaintive words quoted in the Starr report sum up Bill Clinton's treatment of women.

The star-struck, ambitious girl, who had stalked and courted Clinton, desperately wanted him to treat her like "a person." That was not to be. He used her to service him sexually while he conducted his business by phone with Congressmen and with his famous adviser, Dick Morris.

Monica was insignificant to Clinton. After all, he told her he had had hundreds of adulterous liaisons, so she was just as disposable as all the others.

The feminists are always whining that we need more laws and regulations to assure that women will be treated like "persons." Clinton is typical of the men who push for feminist laws and policies, pretending that mistreatment of women is a societal problem.

It's not. The treatment of women as second-class or subservient is a personal offense by individual men like Bill Clinton who treat women like things rather than persons.

The way Clinton used his secretary Betty Currie was almost as degrading. Acting like the lord of the White House plantation, Clinton required Betty Currie to serve as facilitator for

his sexual encounters.

Currie guided Clinton's women into the Oval office, told him how much time he had before his next appointment, and protected him from sudden discovery. She, too, was disposable, used and insignificant, just a stage manager to facilitate the show going on behind closed doors.

Contrary to the whines of Clinton's defenders, Monicagate is not "just about sex," nor is he entitled to shield it as "his private life." It was a workplace offense that must be punished as it would undoubtedly be punished if he were a corporate CEO.

The acts took place in a taxpayer-financed office, with a taxpayer-salaried very subordinate employee, with a taxpayer-salaried secretary as facilitator, with taxpayer-salaried secret service standing guard, with taxpayer-salaried surrogates sent out to lie about it on the media and to the grand jury, and with taxpayer-salaried lawyers devoting full time to defending the illicit acts.

It took very clever lawyers to come up with bizarre defenses reminiscent of "I didn't inhale." He's a liar but he's not a perjurer. He was body-to-body close to Monica, but she had sex and he didn't.

The feminists say they want to be treated like equals, like persons, and with respect in the workforce. But they picked the wrong man as their standard-bearer.

Clinton didn't treat any women as equals or with respect. He humiliated his wife, he used subordinate employees (Monica, Paula) or otherwise vulnerable women (Kathleen Willey) to service his sexual wants, he used his secretary as a facilitator, and the few strong women he had around (Madeleine Albright, Donna Shalala, Ann Lewis) he used to lie for him.

Will the feminists learn their lesson? Don't count on it. The front page of the New York Times describes how the message now taught in high• school classes is: Clinton's "just a man. All men cheat. So it's biological destiny."

It will be a tragedy if the discredited feminists are able to sell that falsehood. Men who don't cheat must act immediately to cry "shame" and to impeach the President for his outrageous misbehavior. Our problem is not men, it is Bill Clinton.