

**FOREWORD TO MARILYN PILKINGTON,
"THE CANADIAN CHARTER OF
RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS:
IMPACT ON ECONOMIC POLICY
AND ECONOMIC LIBERTY
REGARDING WOMEN IN EMPLOYMENT"
AND JACK CARR, "COMMENTARY"**

*Walter Block**

The articles which follow were originally written by Professors Marilyn Pilkington and Jack Carr as presentations for session 4 of a symposium held in Toronto entitled "The Economic Implications of the Changes in the Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights." This event was organized by the Fraser Institute of Vancouver in conjunction with the Liberty Fund of Indianapolis, Indiana in order to shed some light — from a perspective of both law and economics — on our recent constitutional changes.

The conference succeeded in obtaining a wide representation in the dimensions of academic discipline, geography and ideology, while covering in a reasonably thorough manner the high points of the recent constitutional changes. A deliberate decision was made by the conference organizers to specifically exclude, insofar as possible, all questions of Federalism. That is, we were not interested, in this conference, in exploring the relationships between the federal and provincial levels of the Canadian government. This is not due to a view that there are no interesting questions to be studied in this field. Of course, there are. Rather, this is because in our judgment there has traditionally been, and still continues to be, an overallocation of scholarly talent and effort in Canada devoted to consideration of intra-governmental relations, to the almost virtual exclusion of the relationship between government (at whatever level) and the citizenry. Federal-provincial squabbles over energy, resources, tax revenues, etc., have long dominated the Canadian intellectual scene, and we were determined, if at all possible, to avoid these battlefields and instead to focus on the economic rights of the individual.

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