

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Mailed January 5, 1988

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - "They're teaching lessons of violence."

That's Alix Dobkin's message about the music industry's Top 40 recordings.

The singer, songwriter and musician has been speaking across the country urging awareness of the messages in the top tunes. She will give a free, public lecture and mixed media presentation from 3-5 p.m. Jan. 21 in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center at Youngstown State University.

Her slide, tape and lecture program is entitled "Woman-Hating, Racism and Violence in the Top 40." There will also be an exhibit of relevant material.

Her appearance on campus is sponsored by Student Government, the student Organization for Women's Equality and the University's Women's Resource Center.

Dobkin, 47, graduated cum laude from Temple University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. She began as a folk singer, produced three albums and authored a songbook-autobiography, and has performed at many music festivals across the county in addition to making lecture tours.

She believes the music industry has been providing slick products pushing violence, women-hating and racism as cultural norms. Through its music and lyrics, much of the Top 40 graphically reflects and reinforces a dangerously alienated reality, Dobkin says, and the solution is not in censorship, but through analysis and understanding.

"I like rock and roll. I'm not advocating censorship; I'm advocating education and consciousness," Dobkin says.

Danna Bozick, coordinator of YSU's Women's Resource Center, said small group discussions will follow the program.

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