

bring to the surface, even if we don't resolve, our personal issues of identity and authenticity so as to bring these hidden dimensions of ourselves to bear on our advocacy, our scholarship, our teaching, our everyday interactions.

## **II. The Contextual Dilemmas Presented by Work and Home: The Scarcity of Time and the Persistence of Hierarchy**

*Trensas* are a metaphor not only for my professional mask but also for my braiding together of my professional and personal lives. I try for a tight braid, but, because of the constraints of time and housework, I rarely succeed.

I am the mother of two daughters, Diana, age 10 and Alexandra, age 4. Family life, I have learned, cannot be lived between the hours of 7:00 pm and 7:00 am. Children, and families of all types, take time.

Even when I have been successful in finding good child care, I miss the activities that get delegated: I miss bathing Diana and Alex, I miss cutting their nails, I miss the everyday maintenance activities which reveal their growth and development. It is very important to me to see them off to school in the morning. I find fulfillment and identity in combing their hair, in seeing that they are well dressed for school.

I follow generations of mothers caring for daughters. I feel my mother's and my grandmother's fingers stroking my daughters