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**GLORIA STEINEM EMBARKS ON 1,500 MILE ROAD TRIP
TO REACH WOMEN AND YOUNG VOTERS**

NEW YORK – Gloria Steinem, writer and feminist organizer, announced today that she will travel over 1,500 miles in an RV through Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin from October 25th through Election Day.

“I’m taking this action because I’ve lived through the election of every US President since Franklin Delano Roosevelt,” says Steinem, “and the fundamental differences in world view between Bush and Kerry make this the most crucial election in my lifetime.”

Steinem continues: “Whether young people go to war or not, whether women can make their own reproductive decisions or not, whether there is arsenic in our drinking water or respect for the United States in the world – these are just a few of the life and death questions that depend upon which of these two men is elected President and which Party is in control of Congress. Voters also need to be aware that the next President will likely appoint two or three of the nine Supreme Court Justice, who rule for a lifetime. We are not just talking about four years, but decades of influence over our rights.”

She notes that women and young people are the majority of undecided voters because they feel less in control of their lives and are less likely to have access to information. They make up their minds in the last weeks or days before the election. By that time, the media has often devolved into “gotcha” journalism or even-handed negativism.

“You can’t find out such simple things as the fact that college tuition has gone up a third since Bush took office,” says Steinem, “or that worldwide terrorism has increased dramatically since the invasion of Iraq. I want to offer facts, simple comparative lists of issues, and websites for people who want to know more. I also want to hear what people think about these issues.” Among the topics Steinem plans to discuss along the way include the war in Iraq, unemployment, healthcare, the environment, stem cell research and Supreme Court nominations.

The trip is being organized through People For the American Way Voters Alliance, and in each city, Steinem will participate in events with organizations such as the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, The Imagine Festival’s *Films to See Before You Vote Tour*, the Young Voter Alliance, the League of Pissed-off Voters, Women of Ohio, and punkvoter.com.

The road trip will kick off on October 25th in her hometown of Toledo, Ohio, and will finish on November 2nd in Wisconsin, one of only four states that have same day voter registration. (Others are Minnesota, New Hampshire and North Dakota.) Planned events include a stop with Michael Moore in Toledo, OH, a coffee and bagel hour at the Bagel Barrel in Doylestown, PA, an open-mike night at the Steel City Coffee House in Phoenixville, PA and an appearance with feminist rockers Le Tigre in Philadelphia. On the 31st, Steinem also plans to celebrate Halloween with a special *Trick-or-Vote* night in Milwaukee with the Young Voter’s Alliance. Spontaneous side trips to shopping malls, Laundromats, libraries, and nail salons will also occur.

Steinem’s tour will include stops in Mentor, OH; Toledo, OH; Cincinnati, OH; Delaware, OH; Pittsburgh, PA; State College, PA; Phoenixville, PA; Philadelphia, PA; Doylestown, PA; Madison, WI; Janesville, WI; and Milwaukee, WI.

For up to the minute information on Gloria's whereabouts beginning on October 25th, call 1-877-GLO-TOUR (456-8687) or visit www.pfaw-votersalliance.org###