

what's your point, honey?  
(it's not about one...)



## VIEWERS GUIDE

Written by Susan Howard & Daphne Ottens

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For more information or inquiries go to:  
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# Questions and Discussion Points

1. What do you think the documentary filmmakers are trying to say with this film?
2. Did you like it? What did you get from this film?
3. Which COSMOgirl did you identify with?
4. If they were running for president who would you vote for and why? (go to [www.whatsyourpointhoney.com](http://www.whatsyourpointhoney.com) to get more info on each girl if necessary)
5. Seeing as these girls are not the typical COSMOgirl! reader stereotype, how did they end up entering this contest?
6. In the film, we are introduced to the COSMOgirls' families. Meals seem to be a major theme — did you get this impression? If so, why do you feel it was important?
7. What type of relationship did the COSMOgirls have with their parents? Could you get an idea by what the filmmakers showed us?
  - a. with their mothers?
  - b. with their fathers?
8. Why do you think the filmmakers decided to show the scene of Margot and her boyfriend in bed together?
  - a. Did this scene surprise you?
  - b. Did you notice tension between Margot and her boyfriend?
  - c. Margot is the only one we do not see with her family, why?
  - d. We do not see the other COSMOgirls with boyfriends, why?

9. Do you think a girl can be BOTH intelligent and read *COSMOgirl!*? What does that say about your own stereotypes, and how did this film affect them?
10. Do you think any of the girls will follow up with their goals? Which ones? Why?
11. In the film the "tweens" go around asking people if they would vote for a female president. How did you feel about some of the responses they got?
12. What purpose do you think the teens serve in the film? Did anything surprise you about their actions or reactions?
13. What different types of music were used to underscore the scenes featuring these different groups of females?
14. In what scenes do the filmmakers call your attention to the media?
- What messages are the media sending to young girls?
  - How do you think these messages influence girls and boys?
  - Do you think the media influence the number of women in politics today?
  - Why or why not?
15. Why do you think the filmmakers chose the title "What's Your Point Honey"?
- Have you ever been called "honey"?
  - The title of the film was inspired by a Jim Borgman political cartoon of Hillary Clinton identifying the many countries where women have been heads of state. Uncle Sam responds, "What's your point, honey?" What does Uncle Sam mean by that?

- c. Why does he use the word “honey,” and how might Clinton feel about that word?
- d. Do you think the filmmakers chose a good title? Why or why not?



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16. In the book *The Ten Year Nap* by Meg Wolitzer one of her characters describes the word “feminism” as having an “angry” feel to it. Do you agree with this? Why or why not?
17. Would you say that you are a feminist?
18. What feminist issues (or issues of inequalities) were raised in the film? Did you learn anything from this film that you didn't know before?
19. The mission of The White House Project is to help usher more women into positions of leadership. In your view, would the world be different if more women were heads of companies, states, countries, etc.? If so, how? If not, why?
20. Would you encourage men in your life to see the film, and how would you “sell” it?

# Where the COSMOgirls are now

**Jen** will start medical school at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall of 2008. She plans to run for public office. Jen has a boyfriend – he just “showed up” and is totally game to stay home with the kids and cook too (something she is “not that good at.”)

**Cat** is working for an advertising agency in San Francisco and is looking into running for public office. A hard one to pin down and get to talk about herself, we suspect she will go on to do something great – she’s one of the girls “we are all waiting for!” By the way, her golf swing has improved thanks to her dad!

**Patrice** is currently employed for Disney and is interested in seeking a position in Chicago where she can be close to starting up her nonprofit boys and girls center in Rockford. Don’t be surprised if she is the mayor of Rockford soon (and has a nanny!)

**Margot** works in Duluth, MN, splitting her time between an at-risk youth clinic and a women’s health clinic. She and Henry are still happily together. The filmmakers have been “Margotized” and we no longer say “you guys” when referring to a group of people. We say “hey, you all...” (or if you are Cat “Y’all...”). Whether Margot knows it yet or not, we will see her name on a campaign button in the future.

**Lexie** will start law school at New York University in the fall of 2008. She still says “she won’t rule out running for public office” but the filmmakers still can’t get her to definitely commit to it! We certainly know she can walk that fine line in the business and political world some day! (By the way, she drives a stick-shift car very well now!)

**Sonali** is working for a major record label in New York City. She took some time off to go to India this summer (we hope to sell some DVDs of “her” movie!). She has still not decided

if she will go to law school or not, but we can tell you that she is considering now running for public office. (P.S. Her mother will add great color to the White House closets!)

**Agxibel** is on her way to law school at the University of Arizona in the fall of 2008. She continues to volunteer for political campaigns (both local and the big one this year) while she spends her extra time substitute teaching until she starts to hit the books. She no longer has the Che t-shirt but she continues to fight for social justice causes in her community and beyond.

Both **Jen** and **Agxibel** are two of 35 young women under the age of 35 featured in a book called *She's Out There! The Next Generation of Presidential Candidates* due out early 2009.



# Crossword Puzzle Fred Piscop

## What's Your Point, Honey?

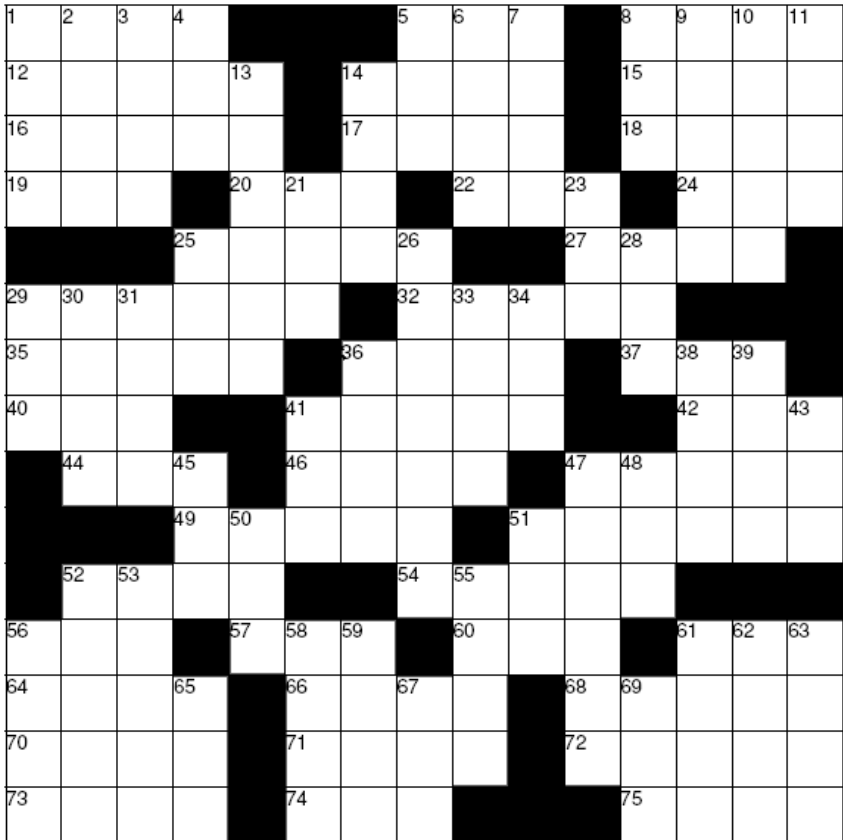
### ACROSS

1. Margot works on campus for this group that educates about rape and violence toward women
5. If a woman is president and still has to do the housework, it's harder than a man's \_\_\_
8. Like 101 courses: Abbr.
12. Danish topper
14. Sonali asks for \_\_\_ food, when referring to non-Indian food
15. Source of poi
16. Lexie refers to a character knowing what she wants from the movie "The Devil Wears \_\_\_"
17. Start the pot
18. Reasons for overtime
19. Slithery swimmer
20. Winery vessel
22. \_\_\_ Bee (honey brand)
24. Goose formation shape
25. Burn, to create an aroma
27. Brewpub offerings
29. She defines the "typical Indian thing" as becoming a doctor or lawyer
32. Be gaga over
35. Sonali's friends have \_\_\_ and MCATS books in their arms when she meets them in the park
36. Cat says the boys used to try to \_\_\_ her when playing tackle football
37. Antonym: Abbr.
40. Starchy veggie
41. Congresswoman Maloney wants to go after \_\_\_ and pimps for sex trafficking
42. Congresswoman Maloney wants Margot to create a \_\_\_
44. Roll call vote

46. No \_\_\_ (Spanish for "no grapes?")
47. Three things young girls are according to Gloria Steinem: \_\_\_, wonderful and deep
49. Radioer's "Got it!"
51. The little girl's response to not seeing any women on the ruler with all the presidents: "That \_\_\_"
52. Board game turn
54. Use a baton
56. The song "American Woman," by the Guess \_\_\_, starts the film
57. Overhead rails
60. "It \_\_\_" (reply to "Who's there?")
61. Amendment first brought before congress in 1923 but never passed
64. Corn Belt state
66. Memo heading abbr.
68. Miner's filing
70. Can't do without
71. Lexie says a powerful woman today must \_\_\_ a fine line
72. Herb Alpert's "A \_\_\_ of Honey"
73. Ukraine, Belarus, etc., once: Abbr.
74. "\_\_\_ is the beauty capital of the world" (sign on street in movie)
75. Tess is going to make 77% of every dollar \_\_\_ makes

### DOWN

1. The tween with the braids says the man in "Bye Bye Birdie" smokes his \_\_\_ waiting to be served
2. Land measurement
3. Perfume container
4. Pull the plug on
5. She says "It's important that people live with dignity and opportunity"
6. Feed bag filler
7. Chicken cordon \_\_\_
8. "The Addams Family" cousin
9. Cat says teenagers are \_\_\_, just like she was too
10. Jen's family farm grows Christmas \_\_\_
11. "Honeysuckle \_\_\_" (Willie Nelson movie)
13. Auctioneers' hammers
14. Wharf pests
21. Singer DiFranco
23. Shucker's unit
25. She says her project has legs
26. Cat refers to Amelia \_\_\_ when she says the guys must have said "you can't do it!"
28. Patrice doesn't want to say she is bossy but that it is the \_\_\_ in her
29. Like a fox
30. Anthem starter
31. The first chapter of Betty Friedan's "The Feminine Mystique" is titled "The Problem With No \_\_\_"
33. Loud noises
34. Post-\_\_\_ (surgical follow-ups)
36. "Slithy" critter in "Jabberwocky"



- 38. Sketch out
- 39. Recreational spot
- 41. Hillbilly band instrument
- 43. Lb. and oz.
- 45. Jackie O's hubby
- 47. The little girl asks the little boy if a woman president can be \_\_\_
- 48. \$1,000,000, for short
- 50. \_\_\_ in four women under the age of 18 are sexually assaulted every year

- 51. Bro's sib
- 52. Item the one little girl did not like about Hillary Clinton's outfit
- 53. “\_\_\_ Girls” (title on the magazine page that shows the seven 2024 girls)
- 55. Cat's brother gets punched by a \_\_\_ when he gets the age of presidential eligibility wrong
- 56. Takes the crown
- 58. Croquet surface

- 59. Hang around
- 61. Lighten up
- 62. The Beatles' meter maid
- 63. Call from the congregation
- 65. PC pop-ups
- 67. Special attention, for short
- 69. \_\_\_ Cruces, N.M.

# Answer Key

P	A	V	E			J	O	B		I	N	T	R	
I	C	I	N	G		R	E	A	L		T	A	R	O
P	R	A	D	A		A	N	T	E		T	I	E	S
E	E	L		V	A	T		S	U	E		V	E	E
			C	E	N	S	E			A	L	E	S	
S	O	N	A	L	I		A	D	O	R	E			
L	S	A	T	S		T	R	I	P		O	P	P	
Y	A	M			J	O	H	N	S			L	A	W
	Y	E	A		U	V	A	S		S	M	A	R	T
			R	O	G	E	R		S	T	I	N	K	S
	S	P	I	N			T	W	I	R	L			
W	H	O		E	L	S		I	S	I		E	R	A
I	O	W	A		A	T	T	N		C	L	A	I	M
N	E	E	D		W	A	L	K		T	A	S	T	E
S	S	R	S		N	Y	C			S	E	A	N	

# Bios

## Authors

**Daphne Ottens** and **Susan Howard** are a mother-daughter team whose combined 100 years as avid readers of all books, fiction and nonfiction, have made them ideal authors of book club reader guides and now documentary film club guides. Ottens got her start leading youngsters in book discussion groups with a series called Great Books. Howard has been a member or leader of numerous book clubs over the years. When she is not creating guides for books and films, Ottens makes her home in Asheville, NC, and Punta Gorda, FL, where she volunteers, publishes a community newsletter, and sails with her retired husband. Howard is a landscaper based in Cumberland, RI, the mother of three children, and is kept company by her loving husband who shares that love with their dog Sammy and cat Izzy.

## Filmmakers

**Amy Sewell** is the creator/writer/producer of Paramount's 2005 crowd-pleasing documentary, *Mad Hot Ballroom*. *What's Your Point, Honey?* is her directorial debut. On the doc's trail is a soon-to-be published book, *She's Out There! The Next Generation of Presidential Candidates*, presenting a "doc in book form" to a mass audience. Her first published book, *The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker* (Hyperion 2007), provides an introductory "how-to" of documentary filmmaking while painting a narrative picture of the making of *Mad Hot Ballroom*. She is the founder/director of a nonprofit organization (Give It Up for the ARTS!), with the primary goal of helping kids get exposed to the arts. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan, has an MBA, and formerly worked in the publishing arena.

**Susan Toffler** has over 15 years of experience producing short films, music videos, commercials (Coca-Cola, American Express, Visa, Budweiser, Nike, Reebok, Pepsi, AT&T), and a feature-length film, *The Cost of Living* (1997), that won Best Picture and Best Actress awards from the American Film Institute International Film Festival, and Best First Feature award from the Long Island Film Festival. *What's Your Point, Honey?* is her directorial debut. She has also served as consultant/advisor for ActNow!, an organization that provides filmmaking programs for young girls. She has a BA in Journalism from George Washington University.



graphic design emily knight  
emknight@packer.edu