Feminist Collections

A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources

Women's Studies Librarian
University of Wisconsin System
430 Memorial Library
728 State St.
Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 608-263-5754
Fax: 608-265-2754
Email: wiswsl@library.wisc.edu
Website: http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/

Editors: Phyllis Holman Weisbard, JoAnne Lehman

Line drawings, including cover: Miriam Greenwald

Graphic design assistance: Dan Joe

Staff assistance: Ingrid Markhardt, Teresa Fernandez, Christa Reabe, Caroline Vantine

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Numerous bibliographies and other informational files are available on the Women's Studies Librarian's World Wide Web site. The URL: http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/ You'll find information about the office, tables of contents and selected full-text articles from recent issues of Feminist Collections, many Core Lists in Women's Studies on such topics as aging, feminist pedagogy, film studies, health, lesbian studies, mass media, and women of color in the U.S., a listing of Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies, including full text of a number of them, a catalog of films and videos in the UW System Women's Studies Audiovisual Collection, and links to other selected websites on women and gender as well as to search engines and general databases.

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FROM THE EDITORS

Do you ever wonder how topics and titles are selected for Feminist Collections, or how we find writers to review them? Perhaps you’ve even thought you’d like to write for us yourself, but the path to publication has been unclear. We thought we’d use this column, this time, to elucidate those mysteries—and maybe even snag some new reviewers while we’re at it.

This Winter 2002 issue of FC provides a good example of the process behind the scenes:

About a year ago, we (Phyllis and JoAnne, the co-editors) had one of our semi-regular planning meetings. For some time, we’d been amassing titles, descriptions, and, in some cases, actual copies of new books and videos that had caught our attention as we’d browsed through each day’s office mail (which includes many library, mainstream, and women’s publications and catalogs, as well as cataloging-in-publication cards from the Library of Congress). For our meetings, we pull together tentative groupings of titles on different topics, then consider (1) the relevance of the titles and groupings for our audience (women’s studies faculty, researchers, librarians, activists, and students), (2) whether it seems like the right time to feature a particular grouping (for instance, if we very recently featured the same topic, perhaps we shouldn’t—or should!—address it again this soon), and (3) the likelihood of finding willing and able reviewers for the topic on our time line.

At this particular meeting, we noticed a lot of titles—including some interesting-looking books in hand—that could be loosely gathered under the broad topic of globalization and feminism—definitely of interest to the women’s studies community(ies) these days. We’d looked at a facet of the issue in a video review not long before (Terry Brown, “Women and Economics on the Global Scene,” in FC v.22, no.1, Fall 2000), but we hadn’t featured books, and much more could be done. Some subgroupings also presented themselves: sweatshop workers for transnational corporations; immigrant domestic workers; sex workers all over the world. It seemed we might even be able to publish a special issue of FC on this broad theme. We did online searches to find additional titles, then tried to narrow down the lists—for instance, by selecting the newest titles, or those we hadn’t seen reviewed much (if at all) elsewhere. We also like to include books from feminist and small presses that otherwise might not get as much notice.

Then it was time to find reviewers. We thought about people who had written for us before, although sometimes they are too busy to repeat the experience for some years. JoAnne went to the NWSA meeting in Minneapolis with an eye out for participants who might want to review on this topic. Later, NWSA’s International Task Force put out a call for us on its discussion list. And we searched online for names of people who had spoken or written or were doing research in this area. We approached potential reviewers as invitingly as we could. (After all, we don’t pay; on the other hand, we offer publication credit and a chance to provide a service to other academics and activists.)

By early fall we had lined up four writers to review four different sets of resources. Scheduling complexities led us to split the topic across two different issues of FC. So, instead of one special edition exclusively on globalization, we’re publishing two of our more typical, wide-ranging issues—volume 23, numbers 2 and 3 (Winter and Spring 2002)—each of which includes two reviews on this topic as well as several devoted to other themes.

In “The Domestic Is Global: Household Workers Around the World” (pp.1–4), Carol Mitchell, who works for the Library of Congress in New Delhi, India, wrestles with the situation of many Third World women—including some employed in her home—in a review of five books on domestic workers in the “global economy.” On pages 14–16, academic and activist Jean Grossholtz reviews films in which we hear the opinions of women from the global South about what is wrong with capitalism, transnational corporations, and the efforts of the World Bank. In the upcoming Spring 2002 issue, Catherine Orr (Beloit College) will discuss films about sex workers in Thailand, the Philippines, Fiji, and the United States; and Alex Descamps (University of Massachusetts) will review a list of books that includes Women Working the NAFTA Food Chain (Sumach Press) and The Globalized Woman: Reports from a Future of Inequality (Spinifex).

Don’t miss the other features—Karen Muench’s evaluation of fifteen texts on domestic violence that could be used in the classroom (pp.5–9), and Shannon Green’s analysis (pp.10–13) of films on women in popular music (ranging from Tin Pan Alley to hip-hop). And, if you’re so inclined, let us know about your own interest in reviewing for Feminist Collections, or suggest topics you’d like to see covered.

O J.L. and P.H.W.
Every day, millions of Third World women set out on a journey that will take them to countries where they do not know the language, have no family or support system, and work in virtual servitude. We call them household helpers, domestic staff or "domestics," or servants. These are the women who cook in the kitchens of Paris and Los Angeles, watch over children in Rome's parks, shop for groceries in Singapore's markets, and scrub the bathrooms of suburban America. The growth of a world pool of largely invisible women as migrant laborers is the dominant theme of five recently published books that explore the lives of women domestics and the politics and policies that shape their lives. The overlapping geographical and ethnographic focus of these books highlights the value of varied analyses and perspectives, while emphasizing the universality of the plight of domestic workers.

Immigrant black women in Rome are the subjects of Jacqueline Andall's *Gender, Migration and Domestic Service*. Rome and Los Angeles form the backdrop for Rhacel Parreñas’ study of Filipina workers in *Servants of Globalization*, while Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo limits her exploration to the Latina domestics of Los Angeles in *Doméstica*. Covering a much broader geographic area, Bridget Anderson in *Doing the Dirty Work* examines domestic workers in five European cities. She also broadens the historical scope by examining the legacy of American slavery, with its contemporary consequences. Grace Chang's stage in *Disposable Domestics* is the United States; she exposes the myths and stereotypes that shape our views and serve to define the lives of women domestics as part of the globalization of cheap sources of labor.

Given the overlapping geographies and ethnographies, it might be tempting to dismiss these books as
similar in their politics, outlook, and conclusions, but each author approaches her topic through a different lens, allowing us to gain new perspectives on the lives and issues surrounding women domestic workers. Although all of these studies are intended for an academic or activist market, some are far more approachable and can be recommended as introductions to the issue of women domestics and more generally for readings on race, women, and work.

Doméstica is a fine introduction to the stories of immigrant domestic workers. I was thoroughly engaged by Hondagneu-Sotelo's writing and the manner in which she combines explication of pressing issues with the specific stories of women employers and employees. She succeeds in her attempt to bring to life "the voices, experiences, and views both of the Mexican and Central American women who care for other people's children and homes and of the women in Los Angeles who employ them" (p. x). The stories in "It's Not What you Know..." clearly illustrate that both employers and workers are integral to social reproduction, with white women transferring the worst of their unpaid household duties to paid household staff. Doméstica is a welcome addition to the growing body of literature on women migrants as well as that about Latina life in Los Angeles.

Parreñas' well-documented and theoretically focused research reads easily as it reveals the complex nature of global migration. Her timely study of the Filipina domestic community brings overdue attention to one of the largest migrant communities in the world. The Filipino migrant community is truly global—a "transnational family," in her terms, whose members across the continents continually provide one another with moral, emotional, and material care. By setting Servants of Globalization in both Rome and Los Angeles, Parreñas gains comparative understanding of how the "nation-state, family, labor market and the migrant community" affect women domestic laborers' ability to integrate into their new communities (p. 2). Although the Filipinas in her book face different problems in these very different localities where they experience different "contexts of reception," Parreñas is surprised by the shared roles and similar identities they assume in their individual communities. Like Hondagneu-Sotelo, Parreñas relies on the words of domestics to tell a story that highlights the many contradictions in their lives as they experience downward mobility and loss of status, but continue in order to support their families in the Philippines, where the "middle class does not and cannot achieve financial security" (p.152).

Andall's in-depth scholarly study draws largely on recent Black feminist thought. Her historical analysis allows her to trace Italy's transition from using internal migration to meet the demand for live-in domestics to relying almost entirely on overseas migrants as the source of labor. To Andall, race as much as gender defines the domestic worker's life, and her study of these workers' lives individually and in relation to white Italian women contributes to the literature on race and feminism. The book also broadens our understanding of Italy's feminist movement and the evolution of the movement's own awareness of race in relation to gendered oppression.

Anderson in Doing the Dirty Work and Chang in Disposable Domestics are less concerned with geographies and ethnicities than with the larger social and political ramifications of a predominantly female globalized workforce. Drawing from a wide range of readings and studies, both seek to expose a globalized economy that includes globalized media as a causal force in the subjugation of Third World women as workers. There is an
undercurrent of anger as Chang dismantles U.S. immigration policies and practices, revealing them to be constructed in favor of large business interests. Media and politicians shape public perceptions of this latest wave of immigrants, passing them off as abusers of social services. Domestics who have yet to get their green cards are vulnerable to the vagaries not only of employers, who may actually enslave them, but also to the changing rules of the INS. Racist perceptions, as well as laws and regulations that can end in deportation, drive deserving domestic workers away from much-needed medical care, schools for their children, and social assistance.

Anderson's wide-ranging look at domestics begins with a geographical mapping of domestic workers in Athens, Barcelona, Bologna, Berlin, Paris, and the United Kingdom. Like Parreñas, she examines the living conditions of workers in relation to their immigration status and whether they live in with their employers or are day workers. More interesting is her chapter "Legacy of Slavery," which provides an arresting look at the parallels between historical and contemporary forms of slavery and the evolving rhetoric of racism used to dismiss the lives of nonwhite migrant workers.

The global economic restructuring of the last twenty years has introduced an unprecedented international flow of capital as well as labor. Transnational corporations are easily able to shift the production of goods to ever-lower wage centers, taking advantage of seemingly endless new pools of cheap—and often female—labor. But unlike the production of goods, social reproduction cannot be exported. The growth of the service sector economy, combined with the feminization of the workforce in the United States and Europe, has created a demand for workers who will clean houses, care for children and the elderly, and staff the reception desks of five-star hotels for minimal compensation. While the economic processing zones in Third World countries vie for low-wage factory workers fresh from rural areas, the suburban homes, nursing homes, and hotels of Europe, the United States, and Canada beckon the college-educated middle class. Across the globe, these new workers are marginalized, invisible, and disposable.

Anderson calls research on domestics "messy" because of the many "contradictions and tensions in individual experiences as well as theory" shaped by "prevailing discourses on the public and private, domestic work, immigration" (p.75). This is not unlike the view of Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, who recognizes and explores the nuances and discourses, noting that while paid domestic work may not be the worst job, often it "contradicts[s] American democratic ideals and modern contractual notions of employment" (p. x), and that employers often feel "highly ambivalent about the arrangements they make" (p. xi). The contradictions are apparent in the educated Filipina women who accept the humiliation of domestic work in alien households to provide for their families.

These tensions and conflicts became increasingly poignant for me as I read and reviewed these five books in my home in New Delhi, India. My world is filled with domestics. In impoverished India there is always someone to fill the role of cook, cleaner, ayah-nanny, or laundry maid. A large underclass provides an endless stream of labor, allowing most middle-class Indians the luxury of drivers, cooks, laundry help, and gardeners. Many of India's domestics are internal migrants following in the steps of others as they seek a better life in an increasingly globalized economy, but with little hope of escaping a sixty-dollar-a-month salary and virtual servitude in their birth country. As I read these books, I thought of my staff and the millions of others in India who long for an opportunity to do the same work in the United States or Europe, for they know these countries offer their children a better education and more opportunities.

The feminization of the global work force has occurred concurrently with the development of a domestic labor force of poor Third World women. Since the 1980s, when studies from Latin American and Southeast Asia explored the issues as an integral part of trade liberalization, the migration of domestics has been an integral part of Third World women's movements. These five titles serve to bring the problems faced by domestics to new audiences and broaden a debate that must include women, students, and labor unions in Europe and the United States.

Reading clubs will find Hondagneu-Sotelo's Domésticas the most readable book, with many avenues for discussion; readers can explore the daily life and problems domestics face by discussing the stories and perspectives of women domestic workers as well as those of the women who employ them to clean their houses and care for their children. Local labor
union leaders must not overlook Disposable Domestics in their labor education efforts; Chang's thorough analysis of domestic labor in the context of immigration laws is essential reading for all labor advocates. Her work can initiate a broader debate about labor and immigration policies.

Although Parreñas' Servants of Globalization, Anderson's Doing the Dirty Work, and Andall's Gender, Migration and Domestic Service assume background knowledge in sociology or anthropology, they can be used for introductory courses in labor studies, women's studies, or ethnicity in the United States. In this regard, Anderson's Doing the Dirty Work is especially good because of its broad historical analysis that incorporates an examination of slavery in the United States.

The complete story of domestics migrating to work in all areas of the world remains to be told. We await books that examine and advocate for women crossing the borders of Nepal to work in India or leaving Burma to work in Thailand. We need studies that examine the racism and prejudice against South Asian domestics in the Arab world, and more work on Indonesians working in Malaysia and Singapore. Only with more research and more stories can we begin to fathom the problems faced by women working as domestics.

[Carol Mitchell obtained her doctorate at the University of Wisconsin—Madison, where she worked for ten years as the Southeast Asia and South Asia Librarian. She now lives in New Delhi and works as the Deputy Director of the Library of Congress—New Delhi Office.]

**CORE LISTS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES 2002**

A new title has been added to this collection, which is compiled by the Women's Studies Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries:

*Antiquity,* by Connie Phelps

Most of the other topical lists in the collection have been reviewed and updated, as they are every year, to include only books currently in print. The lists, which focus on the United States, are intended to help collection development librarians and teaching faculty in selecting appropriate books for research and teaching.

Find the complete set of Core Lists in Women's Studies on our website at:

[http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/core/coremain.htm](http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/core/coremain.htm)
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TEXTS: A REVIEW OF TEACHING RESOURCES

by Karen E. Muench


When I select books for my domestic violence class, I choose one that provides a solid knowledge base, and then one of high interest that will help students apply the concepts they’ve just learned. Autobiographies, novels, and photojournalists’ books meet the second criterion well. I also look for resources for future practitioners who will work directly with victims of domestic violence. Usually I discuss this third category of books in class, but do not require students to buy them.

Books That Provide Basic Knowledge

One of the best I’ve discovered is Karen J. Wilson’s When Violence Begins at Home. Wilson’s simple, straightforward writing style is easily understood by undergraduates. A survivor of domestic abuse herself, she passionately shares what the volunteers, staff, and board of the Center for Battered Women in Austin, Texas, have learned in twenty-five years of dedicated work.

Besides defining abuse and exploring the myths and realities surrounding domestic violence, Wilson discusses the effects of domestic violence on kids; teen dating violence; the correlation between substance abuse and domestic violence; problems with the legal system; living underground (which she herself did); domestic violence and women of color, lesbians, women in prison, women with disabilities, and older women; how family, friends, and loved ones can help victims; domestic violence and the workplace; domestic violence and the medical community; and what religious communities can do. She also includes strategies for developing interdisciplinary responses, intervention strategies for battered women and their children, and intervention and prevention programs for batterers. Her last three chapters address burnout, the National Domestic Violence Hotline, and the history of violence against women. Fifty-one pages of additional resources are appended.

Next Time, She’ll Be Dead is another informative and credible read. Author Ann Jones grew up in a family of violence, with an alcoholic father who abused her mother. Jones, who did not believe it should have been up to her mother or her to stop him, argues that all women and children have the absolute right to live free from bodily harm. She passionately takes to task the legal, medical, social services, and mental health systems for not believing this and consequently failing women and children. Laws began to change, she says, only when feminist attorneys brought class-action lawsuits against police departments and court officers to compel them to do their jobs.

Jones’s passion, directness, honesty, self-disclosure, strong feminist voice, and easy-to-read style are compelling, as are the cases she discusses. Her perspectives on why women stay and on what society can do to end domestic violence are especially powerful. This book will lay a strong base of knowledge, particularly for undergraduates.

Alan Kemp’s Abuse in the Family has only one chapter on domestic violence, but it covers a lot of ground. Kemp discusses the historical context of domestic violence, types of abuse, a working definition, incidences and prevalence, the impact of battering on victims, the cycle of violence, why women stay, explanations and risk factors, classification of perpetrators, and intervention. The chapter lacks, however, any discussion of such important issues as safety or the response of the judicial, medical, governmental, and religious systems; nor does it offer human interest stories or case studies. Thus, it would best serve as a supplemental text.

Susan Weitzman’s "Not to People Like Us" is both informative and personal. The book, which refutes the myth that domestic abuse afflicts only the underprivileged, resulted from a qualitative doctoral research study at the University of Chicago. Weitzman, a mental health professional for more than twenty-three years, first encountered domestic abuse in “upscale mar-
riages" while practicing at the University of Chicago Hospital's Department of Outpatient Psychiatry. Many highly educated women enjoying comfortable, even lavish, lifestyles were enduring emotional and physical abuse by their powerful and well-educated husbands, but only with great reluctance would they reveal it—even within the safe confines of her office. "Women felt it essential to keep silent about their suffering," she writes, "in order to preserve and protect personal life" (p.6).

This book challenges Lenore Walker's "cycle of violence" theory in terms of upscale battered women.\footnote{Weitzman contends, for example, that the "honeymoon phase" does not exist. She also explains such contemporary terms as "secondary wounding" and "traumatic bonding," and profiles upscale batterers as exhibiting narcissistic personality disorder. The chapter on how family, friends, and practitioners can either help or make things worse is very valuable. The book's practical appendices help readers identify abuse, traits of an abuser, and early warning signs and list extensive resources. I highly recommend "Not to People Like Us" for undergraduates, as well as for graduate students interested in Weitzman's research.}

Harvey Wallace's Family Violence, although it deals mostly with family violence issues, also covers issues that some of the other books don't, such as the consequences of family violence; stalking; victims' rights; gay and lesbian abuse; and abuse of "special populations" such as persons with disabilities. Each well-organized chapter includes an outline, definitions, learning objectives, "promising practices," a summary, key terms, discussion questions, suggested readings, and endnotes. The work reads like a textbook, however, and does not hold my interest as much as the others.

Each section of Helen Eigenberg's Woman Battering in the United States frames the issues in an overview and then reviews major debates in the literature. The author uses a combination of original work and previously published articles. Following Chapter 1, for instance, are reprints of two very interesting essays: Judith Lorber's "Night to His Day: The Social Construction of Gender" and Del Martin's "A Letter From A Battered Wife." The rest, however, is less engaging, including some lifeless, academic descriptions of research studies. This book might be suitable for a small graduate seminar, but probably not for undergraduates.

Books That Apply Basic Concepts

My favorite application book is I Am Not Your Victim, an autobiography documenting sixteen years of domestic abuse endured by author Beth Sipes. Evelyn Hall, her therapist, encouraged her to write this powerful and engaging true story, rich in examples of domestic abuse concepts; my students find it difficult to put the book down. Types of abuse, the cycle of violence, intergenerational violence, the "power and control wheel," child abuse, secondary wounding, traumatic bonding, and the characteristics of victims and batterers are all addressed. In a separate section, professionals comment on how their systems failed Beth, underscoring how far society needs to move in taking domestic violence seriously. It is clear from the commentaries that many of the systems that abused women turn to actually revictimize them, and that many people still think domestic abuse is a private, family matter that should not be interfered in. Students are never unmoved by Beth Sipe's story and always want to do something to make a difference. I highly recommend it for undergraduate domestic violence courses.
Students also find the novel *Crow Over A Wheatfield* engaging. Author Paula Sharp, a New York criminal lawyer, has keen insider knowledge of how the legal system fails to protect women and children. Students have trouble believing that this well-written work of fiction, which is set in Wisconsin, is not a true story. Suspenseful and emotionally compelling, it conveys powerful messages about domestic violence and deftly illustrates many domestic violence concepts. I highly recommend it for undergraduates.

Another novel to consider is Anna Quindlen’s intelligent and heartrending *Black and Blue*. Quindlen’s observations are acute and her arguments well reasoned, and the story is enormously readable, but I find it less credible than *Crow Over a Wheatfield*, especially concerning victim safety. My own knowledge of real victims’ experiences makes me doubt that abused women in fear for their lives would remain in a location once they thought their abuser had found them. (Quindlen’s main character stays put even when she suspects that her abusive husband has figured out where she and her son are hiding.) On the other hand, *Black and Blue* might generate an interesting class discussion about what a real victim would do.

Donna Ferrato’s photojournalistic *Living With the Enemy* is a powerful visual documentation of a ten-year mission—one that began when Ferrato saw a millionaire father of five hit his wife—to explore the domestic abuse of women. Driven to do something, she used her camera as her weapon, snapping pictures as she rode along with police, visited hospital emergency rooms, attended support and therapy groups, visited shelters and victim’s homes, and interviewed women in prison for killing their husbands and lovers. Ferrato strikingly captures the effects of abuse on women of different races, cultures, and socioeconomic levels. Another of the book’s strengths is its introduction by well-informed domestic abuse author Ann Jones, who writes, “These stark images are disquieting. It’s one thing to talk about domestic violence. It’s something else again to see it” (p.15). Because it shows the real faces and stories of a serious social problem, I highly recommend this resource. It would also be an asset for primarily visual learners.

In *A Woman Like You: The Face of Domestic Violence*, Vera Anderson uses photographs to counteract stereotypes of abused women. Anderson, like many of the other authors reviewed in this article, was herself a victim of domestic abuse but did not initially recognize her own abusive situation. Her book is a direct result of asking herself, “What does a battered woman look like?” With her camera, she explores the face of domestic violence at women’s shelters, coming up with thirty-five photos and stories that show battered women all around us. “We don’t recognize them,” she says, “because they look like us” (p.1). Although Anderson’s book is strong, and less expensive than Ferrato’s, I prefer Ferrato’s because it offers not only powerful photos and stories but a great deal of explicit information for students.

Books For Practitioners

I don’t require my students to buy any of these, but I discuss them in class so they know what is available. Marian Betancourt’s easy-to-read *What To Do When Love Turns Violent* is an excellent nuts-and-bolts resource for women who need to know how to protect themselves and get away from violence as safely as possible. Betancourt experienced domestic violence herself and knows the importance of safety for domestic abuse victims. She addresses how to evaluate a woman’s safety, safety at home and at work, how to keep children safe, and how to leave safely. I haven’t discovered any other text that discusses the safety issue so thoroughly. Many women are killed when they are leaving or are trying to leave an abusive situation.

Ginny NiCarthy’s *Getting Free*, another self-help book, was turned down by many publishers before Seal Press, believing in its marketability, took it on. The guide, which counselors and victims can use together like a workbook, targets women who have been physically, sexually, or emotionally abused. NiCarthy candidly discusses difficulties women may encounter when they leave abusive situations, such as financial problems, safety concerns for themselves and their children, and coping difficulties such as fear of being on one’s own. I appreciate her forthrightness and realism.

Still another excellent, comprehensive guide is the funny, sad, and inspiring *When Love Goes Wrong*. Based on interviews with fifty women from various backgrounds, classes, races, and stages in relationships, the book is designed for women interested in making changes. Authors Ann Jones and Susan Scheckter address such issues as the reasons for abuse, the likelihood of an abuser changing, victims’ choices to change, the choice to leave, and individual problems like substance abuse. They also include many checklists, including a unique one that evaluates...
whether or not a woman's partner is controlling. That six-page checklist alone makes this book worth discussing with students, who are often not aware of their own partners' controlling behavior.

All fifteen of the titles reviewed here have merit, but I would most highly recommend Wilson's *When Violence Begins at Home*, Jones's *Next Time, She'll Be Dead*, or *Family Violence Across the Lifespan* for solid, basic information; *I Am Not Your Victim* or *Crows Over A Wheatfield* for applying knowledge; and *Living With the Enemy* for visual learners. Any of the three practitioners' books would help victims gain a better understanding of themselves in relationship to domestic violence.

Notes

1. Lenore E. Walker, *The Battered Woman* (New York: Harper Perennial, 1979), pp.55-70. Walker describes three phases in the "cycle of violence": the tension-building phase, during which the victim feels like she has to walk on eggshells so as not to provoke abuse; the acute battering phase, when the batterer physically, emotionally, or sexually abuses the victim; and the honeymoon phase, in which the batterer, knowing he has gone too far, tries to win the victim back by being contrite, promising he will change, and showering her with gifts such as flowers, cards, candy, and trips. The violence subsides for awhile, but then the whole cycle starts up again, usually escalating, with less time between each phase.


[Karen E. Muench, who received her B.S., M.S., M.S.S.W., and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, is primarily a faculty member in the Department of Human Services and Professional Leadership, and is also a member of the Women's Studies faculty at the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh, where she teaches a domestic violence class each semester. She has received two grants to conduct art workshops with victims of domestic violence at a shelter near the Oshkosh campus; she believes that creating and discussing art helps victims regain their silenced voices.]

FOR FURTHER READING:

**VIOLENCE IN LESBIAN RELATIONSHIPS**

Some of the books reviewed in the accompanying article address violence in same-sex as well as in heterosexual relationships. Here are some works (not evaluated) that deal explicitly with the issue of lesbian domestic violence:


Feminist Visions
Playing Against Stereotypes: Videos on Women in Popular Music

by Shannon L. Green


STRINGS ATTACHED. 16 mins. color. 1999. Prod.: Marla Renee Leech, P.O. Box 460542, San Francisco, CA 94146; phone: (415) 28 1-0547. Distr: Chip Taylor Communications, 2 East View Dr., Derry, NH 03038; phone (orders): (800) 876-2447; fax: (603) 432-2723; email: sales@chiptaylor.com; website: http://www.chiptaylor.com/index.htm (look under title Women in Music: Strings Attached). Contact distributor for licensing/format/pricing information.

PUNK PRETTY: THE RIOT GRRL DOCUMENTARY. 50 mins. (new 30-min. version also available.) color. © 2000. Prod./Dir./Distr.: Jackie Joice, 4102 Orange Avenue #107-100, Long Beach, CA 90807; email: jackiejoice@yahoo.com. Sale: $45.00 (institutions); $13.00 (students, nonprofit orgs.). [Note: producer/director is available for panel discussions, Q&A sessions, and spoken word performances.]


These five videos have a common theme: all feature women who challenge traditional gender roles through their efforts as musicians. Each documentary portrays vividly the inner vision and drive of women who ignore the traditional gender line in their particular style of music, from Tin Pan Alley songs to rock, punk, and hip-hop.

Yours for a Song offers a brief and intriguing glimpse into the history of Tin Pan Alley and the careers of its four most famous female songwriters. Hosted by singer Betty Buckley and part of the American Masters series by Thirteen/WNET for National Public Television, this documentary profiles the careers of Dorothy Fields, Kay Swift, Dana Suesse, and Ann Ronell, all of whom became successful during the latter decades of the popular music industry (1920s–1940s). Although the women aren’t as readily recognizable by name as George Gershwin, Jerome Kerne, and Irving Berlin, they nevertheless helped to shape the music of Tin Pan Alley.

Several of their songs are still well known today, including lyricist Dorothy Fields’ “I’m in the Mood for Love” and “Big Spender.” Composer Kay Swift first became known with “Can’t We Be Friends” and later wrote the score for the Broadway musical Fine and Dandy (1930). Dana Suesse’s first success was the theme song for the 1939 World’s Fair, “Yours for a Song.” Also a composer of classical music, Suesse was aided in her career by Paul Whiteman and has been compared with George Gershwin. Composer Ann Ronell was successful both in New York and in Hollywood, where
she composed the scores for several films, including *The Story of G.I. Joe* (1945).

Between short historical segments, the video spends much of its time presenting the biographies of the songwriters and features a series of performances of their most successful and well-known songs. It glosses over the question why women were able to attain more success beginning in the 1920s in Tin Pan Alley than in any earlier period. Undoubtedly, each composer overcame gender-based barriers inherent in the music business, but the video scarcely mentions any, choosing instead to focus on the highlights of the songwriters' careers rather than on any difficulties they had in attaining success.

The quality of the music and picture is high, the performances of the songs are well done, and the interviews with colleagues and family members are lively and engaging. Buckley, however, appears so infrequently in the documentary that her appearance interrupts the flow, though her performance of several songs clearly demonstrates her enthusiasm for the music. Most intriguing are the snippets of film from the era, which give a sense both of the songwriters themselves and of the times in which they were working. But while I don't doubt the claim that these four songwriters helped shape the music of the time, I would have preferred to see more time devoted to proving it.

*Strings Attached* is a very short (16-minute) documentary profiling the musical backgrounds of five San Francisco-area women guitarists. Each musician, profiled individually, offers reflections on her early experiences with guitar and how she ended up playing her particular type of music.

The guitarists profiled represent five distinct types of music. Terri Winston, labeled "alternative," relates her efforts to learn guitar as a young girl in a class of adults. She describes her journey as she matured from playing the "nicer, prettier" songs to addressing personal issues such as anger in her music. Slide blues guitarist Karen Almquist, whose inspiration was Robert Johnson (he "turned my head around"), directly addresses the exploitation of women in blues lyrics. Latin jazz guitarist Jackeline Rago explains her instrument, a Quattro (4-string guitar). She optimistically faces the issues of ethnicity and feminism as she finds herself continually explaining to listeners not only her Quattro but also her place as a woman in a traditionally male field: "If you're good, no matter what, you always have a place."

Celtic/blues guitarist Lynn Vidal, who had been inspired by Elvis Presley's playing in her youth, uses her guitar to cope with her own adolescent troubles: "I wasn't a very happy girl, spent a lot of time pouring my sorrow into playing guitar and teaching myself how to play." Rock guitarist Carrie Baum had wanted to be a rock star in her youth, but found the barriers to women in music "disappointing." She reflects that it is more difficult for women to be successful, citing the different criteria for female and male musicians: The most frequent question asked about a female band is, "What do they look like?"

Most intriguing about each guitarist are her reflections on the musicians who inspired her in her youth and her recollections of those who helped her along the way. These women have obviously made sacrifices for their music and clearly have an inner drive that keeps them playing.

The video is a sampler, leaving you wanting more information and more in-depth coverage of each musician. Its strength is presenting each guitarist as an individual as well as touching on feminist issues such as access to training, lookism, and the music industry's separate treatment of men and women. It is perfect for a short classroom or lecture presentation, where it can serve as a good lead-in to a discussion about women and music and what it takes to become famous as a musician. Musicians will appreciate the film's good sound quality.

Both *Punk Pretty: The Riot Grrl Documentary* and *Nobody Knows My Name* also directly confront the treatment of women, but in the alternative music fields of punk rock and hip-hop. In what at first may seem to be an incongruous pairing of feminists and punk music, *Punk Pretty* features extensive, unscripted personal reflections of a number of female punk musicians through an exploration of the feminist punk band The Riot Grrls.

*Punk Pretty* shows female musicians from the Southern California punk movement in live performance and in personal interviews that provide snapshots of their lives, as well as their personal reflections about their place in the music as a whole. Musician Renae Bryant of All or Nothing H.C. acknowledges her debt as a feminist punk musician to the sacrifices made by the first wave of feminists in the last century. Another musician admits frustration with some women in the field who say they are trying to change...
are frequently called names, while those dressed more conservatively are given more respect.

Like *Punk Pretty*, *Nobody Knows My Name* provides a fascinating and insightful glimpse into feminism within a radical musical style. Although it does not provide much history of the hip-hop movement, it is an excellent snapshot of women within the field in various aspects of the industry in 1999. It is clear from the interviews that women face more hurdles than men do in this alternative and marginalized musical style. The film provides a good starting point for discussions about the industry and women's place in it.

Of all the videos reviewed in this essay, the well-produced and thoughtfully edited *Righteous Babes* presents the most thorough exploration of the intersection of feminism and popular music. It features interviews with such artists as Chrissy Hynde, Ani DiFranco, Courtney Love, Queen Latifah, Tori Amos, and Sinead O'Connor, all of whom discuss how being female has affected their musical careers. Using commentary by Gloria Steinem and Andrea Dworkin, among others, *Righteous Babes* addresses such issues as lookism and its effect on women in the industry, the political baggage around the term “feminist,” and rape and sexual abuse.

The film addresses the sacrifices women musicians are required to make to succeed in the field of rock music. Perhaps the most interesting segment is a deconstruction of the Spice Girls as a media-constructed, false example of “girl power” in direct contrast to the 1980s Riot Grrl movement of punk rock.

Though dated (it refers to “women of the 1990s”), this documentary’s most obvious shortcoming is its assertion that rock is the only form of music in which feminists can make a difference. It also makes the debatable claim that women in rock music, more than women in any other cultural phenomenon, brought feminism into the mainstream in the 1990s.

While each of these videos differs in format, length and quality, they share one goal: to show the collective passion for music exhibited by the women who are profiled, and, except for *Yours for a Song*, the women’s efforts to overcome gender-based barriers in the male-dominated field of popular music. *Yours for a Song* is appropriate for discussions of popular song in the era before rock ‘n roll, but it only superficially addresses issues of women in music. For those seeking a more in-depth exploration of the intersection of feminism and popular culture, *Nobody Knows My Name* and *Punk Pretty*, with their profiles of women in hip-hop and punk, provide a blatant juxtaposition of stereotype and reality, while *Righteous Babes* presents the most thorough exploration of feminism as manifested in popular music.

[Shannon L. Green holds a Ph.D. in musicology from UW–Madison and currently teaches music history and theory at UWC–Rock County.]
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FEMINISM, WOMEN WORKERS, AND GLOBALIZATION: FILMS AND BOOKS

by Jean Grossholtz

DOLLS AND DUST: WOMEN WORKERS IN SRI LANKA, THAILAND, AND SOUTH KOREA. 60 mins. 1998. Prod.: Committee for Asian Women (CAW). Dist.: WAYANG, P.O. Box 52, Bungthonglang, Bangkok 10242, Thailand; email: waying@yahoo.com. Purchase of video and companion book (see below) together, shipped to U.S. address: US $67.00 (includes check clearance fee and airmail postage).


MARKETISATION OF GOVERNANCE. 34 mins. 2000. Prod.: Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN). Dist.: WAYANG, P.O. Box 52, Bungthonglang, Bangkok 10242, Thailand; email: waying@yahoo.com. Purchase of video and companion book (see below) together, shipped to U.S. address: US $67.00 (includes check clearance fee and airmail postage).


These films, taken together (along with the books that accompany two of them), provide a rich background for students in a global feminism course or for grassroots organizers attempting to link local, national, and global struggles. Dolls and Dust is a detailed description of the effects of globalization on women in Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Korea. The different experiences of women in these cultures and countries are made clear while we are shown in intimate detail the painful similarities of their plight under the neoliberal trade system. Marketisation of Governance introduces the viewer to the world of women working for social change, relying more on the talking heads of a wide variety of women activists. The sheer number of women and their passionate statements is impressive. The three films that make up the New Directions series describe particular women-centered projects intended to better the lot of women.

Dolls and Dust, the Committee for Asian Women’s documentary on women workers, makes very clear the effects of the privatization and deregulation policies of the global trade system. The film shows women workers and union organizers in Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Korea struggling against the effects of neoliberal economics, debt, and structural adjustment. Women in these countries were driven off the land and out of their villages by World Bank and corporate economic development projects in the first decades after independence. Mobilized into a new work force employed by companies that make export goods for transnational corporations, these women now serve as the world’s cheapest labor force. Their governments, who earn large amounts of foreign exchange from the labor of women either in the home country or working abroad, serve the needs of transnational corporations for cheap
change. And the message that comes through loud and clear is, "We realized that our shared experiences in the shifting, contested terrain of governance and political power had certain commonalities."

From this commonality, women from the global South confront and examine the place of the state and nonstate power in the globalized neoliberal economy. Along with the global social justice movement, the women of DAWN face the dilemma of trying to protect the states of the global South from the international economic and political attacks of the Northern capitalist states. The new world trade system (of GATT, the WTO, NAFTA, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund) has been created by and for the profit of Northern—now transnational—corporations. In theory, the results of this enterprise will "raise all boats."

The state as the protector of domestic welfare is under challenge. In the Western hemisphere, for example, "dollarization" is being pushed to bring all economies under the direction of the U.S. dollar. Local regulations to protect local economies, public safety, or the environment are outlawed if they prevent corporations from making a profit. Capital is king. Feminists find themselves working to protect the state and its commitment to domestic welfare, while at the same time challenging the state's masculinized and classist reality.

The book raises a challenge to the oft-repeated argument that the "democratization" of South America—that is, the replacement of military dictators with elected officials—has provided more spaces for women to participate and push their agenda. In fact, there has been no democratization and there are no such spaces. Instead, a new set of local millionaires tied to transnational corporations and committed to the "free trade" system has taken control of the state.

The incredible differences in economic well-being between North and South play out in this debate. North American and European feminists can often ignore the reality of their exclusion from state power. But in the global South, where political and economic agreements made through international institutions at the global and regional levels (most recently at Doha, Qatar) have effectively disenfranchised citizens and the sovereignty of their laws, this is very clear. The causes of poverty, ignored in the North, are daily reality in the South. Northern feminists' commitment to providing a "helping hand" to Southern women ignores their own governments' role in causing the desperate living conditions for most women in the world. The massive ignorance of Northern women of the realities of their governments' global economic policies is actually not seen as ignorance, but as agreement with the capitalist conspiracy; and the potential of a collective, global women's movement that could lead the anti-globalization forces is destroyed.

The question of the role of the state and state power is critical, but is often ignored in the face of the very real economic crises in the global South. The women of DAWN have brought this dilemma to the forefront in this amazing collection of the voices of women.

New Directions is a series of case studies of women-centered projects that have incorporated women into the "new" economy. The argument of the three films in the series is that with economic independence, women can stand up for their political and social rights. But if one takes a cue from the other films, the question remains: whether being incorporated into a global economy that reduces the local political power of the state to a holding company is really a step forward for women. In my view, although these are short-term and very limited solutions, they save women's lives and enable them to raise healthy, educated children. Northern feminists may rail against actions that are less than adequate, but women of the global South need to compromise.

These films leave us both enlightened and hopelessly confused as to directions. One thing is clear: The women who made these movies will be out in force to fight against globalization and the globalized economy. Anyone who does not understand the fuss in Seattle, Prague, Quebec, Genoa, and Qatar could do well to look at these films.

Note


[Jean Grossholtz is Chair of the Women's Studies Program at Mount Holyoke College. She works with the Western Massachusetts Global Action Coalition, Diverse Women for Diversity, and Women for Life on Earth to educate and mobilize citizens about corporate globalization.]
labor by putting legal and extra-legal barriers in the way of labor union organizing.

This film presents a firsthand look at the period of the "Asian miracle" and how it went bust from the point of view of the neglected community—women. It is a remarkable document, accessible and useful both to those who have knowledge of the World Bank and to those ignorant of its work.

In the broader context outside the purview of the film, the struggles of these women represent the powerless stance of labor against the economic force of global corporations that are able to transfer capital instantaneously all over the world. Capital moves freely from country to country. Governments in search of foreign exchange to pay their debt willingly build new factory sites and pass laws to discourage labor union activity.

Describing the new world economic order, Susan George writes: "Starting from a tiny embryo at the University of Chicago with the philosopher-economist Friedrich von Hayek and his students like Milton Friedman at its nucleus, the neo-liberals and their funders have created a huge international network of foundations, institutions, research centers, publications, scholars, writers and public relations hacks to develop, package and push their ideas and doctrine relentlessly." To the neoliberal, capital becomes the critical force in development. If capital makes a profit, the benefits are supposed to trickle down to everyone. Thus it follows that all governments and laws should be constructed and enforced to allow profit to corporations. To maximize corporate profits, cheap labor and unlimited access to resources and markets are necessary. Prosperity for all will be built on an international trade system that emphasizes the private ownership of any potential profit-making enterprise and seeks an end to any national or local regulations that interfere with access to markets and to cheap labor and resources.

But the film and its accompanying text make clear that quite the opposite has happened.

Privatization has in effect turned the most profitable of businesses, even those built and sustained by public funds, over to transnational corporations. Under the rule of the international trade agreements and the World Trade Organization, these corporations move freely across state boundaries. Furthermore, the emphasis on the rights of capital to profit has forced the canceling of health, safety, and environmental regulations. Having no particular commitment to the land and people, corporations take what they want and move away, leaving behind devastated communities, governments corrupted by bribery, and land destroyed by unlimited, unregulated industrialization, mining, and agriculture.

The film gives the women workers a forum to speak out to describe the real effects of the "new world order" and "free trade." The accompanying text clarifies the developing regional and international resistance. It lays out the various strategies for controlling global capital and redistributing profits, and the kinds of controls and alternatives that have been proposed.

Marketisation of Governance: Critical Feminist Perspectives from the South is a report from the Political Restructuring and Social Transformation research project of Development Alternatives for Women in a New Era (DAWN). Hundreds of participants from a wide variety of organizations took part in a series of meetings held around the world during 1999 and 2000. The film and the companion book provide a remarkable view of the world of women organizing for social
Remember that our website (http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/) includes electronic versions of all recent “Computer Talk” columns, plus many bibliographies, core lists of women’s studies books, and links to hundreds of other websites by topic.

Information about electronic journals and magazines, particularly those with numbered or dated issues posted on a regular schedule, can be found in our “Periodical Notes” column.

WORLD WIDE WEBSITES

ADVENTURE DIVAS—“your globetrotting revolution on screen and online”—is a PBS series and also a website, at http://www.adventuredivas.com, that best describes itself: “a broad enterprise that unites adventure travel and modern-day heroines to create fresh new media for television and the web. Home base is Seattle, Washington, USA. On our up days we call ourselves a girl-driven media empire. On our down days...well, we just drink more coffee. Our PBS television series captures the humor, debacle and discovery inherent in low-rent travel and explores cultures with divavision—that is, through the lens of the independent women whose vision, individualism and actions will rule the future. This web site is a home for like-minded to join our exploration, as well as to connect and exchange information—whether it’s a recipe for Kiwi tea cakes or the ingredients for accessing the diva within. There are also strategies for planning your own pilgrimage, profiles and essays, and avant-garde travel advice from columnist Inga La Gringa.” One of the founders, Holly Morris, was an editorial director at Seal Press; another (Holly’s mother, Jeannie Morris) was a CBS sportscaster.

AMERICANS AND THE WORLD, a site maintained by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (University of Maryland), reports on public opinion about a huge range of topics, including women’s international issues: http://www.americans-world.org/digest/global_issues/women/women_summary.cfm

The ASIA PACIFIC ONLINE NETWORK OF WOMEN IN GOVERNANCE, POLITICS, AND TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP, at http://www.onlinewomeninpolitics.org, is run by the Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics in the Philippines as a “digital working space for Asian and Pacific women leaders.” The network “believes that all women from different races, religious background, social status and political persuasions should come as one and be united in upholding women’s rights and pushing for the advancement of all women through active participation and involvement in politics, governance and decision-making.” The site offers background and news on the situation of women in countries from Australia and Azerbaijan to Thailand and Vietnam, as well as a fascinating section on women’s suffrage worldwide.

The ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (APAWLI), based in the United States, offers leadership training to Asian and Pacific Islander American women through its year-long fellowship program and one-day regional workshops. The Institute, which maintains a website at http://www.apawli.org, also hosts “national summits”; the next one will be in May 2003 in Washington, D.C.

The ASIAN WOMEN’S CENTER offers help with “troubles or problems such as visa, family matters, children, Japanese, diseases and jobs” to foreign women living in Japan. The Center’s website at http://www1.plala.or.jp/AWCenter/index01.html only offers such basic details as a hotline phone number, contact numbers for support groups in five cities, and times and locations for a Japanese language class, but it gives that vital information in English, Japanese, Tagalog, Korean, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, and Thai.

Women’s rights and gender parity in Singapore are championed by an NGO called the ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN FOR ACTION AND RESEARCH (AWARE), which maintains a website at http://www.aware.org.sg. Online discussion forums on workplace issues and other topics are available.
The CANADIAN BREAST CANCER NETWORK (CBCN), in English and French at http://www.cbcn.ca/, "is the national voice of breast cancer survivors and serves as the pulse of Canada's breast cancer community." The site includes news releases, papers on current issues (e.g., "Environmental Chemicals and Breast Cancer"), and articles about activism.

The CANADIAN WOMEN'S INTERNET DIRECTORY, http://directory.womenspace.ca/, has more than 1200 links, in categories ranging from "aboriginal women" and "anti-poverty" to "women's studies" and "work," to sites that are "promoting awareness of women's equality issues, debates, campaigns, activism, creativity, services, research and policy issues."

The CENTRE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH in New Delhi, India, "aims towards making women empowered and self-reliant individuals, conscious of their rights." The website (http://www.csrindia.org/) offers information on legislation affecting women (e.g., the Domestic Violence Bill), a newsletter, and more.

CO-ABODE: SINGLE MOTHERS HOUSE SHARING offers a network of support—including a way to link up with potential housemates to share expenses—to women raising children alone. Membership costs $29.95 for six months; members get access to an electronic bulletin board and chat room and help in finding or setting up a single mothers' support group, as well as the opportunity to fill out a "personal profile" and search the listings of other moms seeking home-sharing arrangements. Website is at http://www.co-abode.com

The endeavors of the COMMITTEE FOR WOMEN, POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CWPE) include "challeng[ing] the belief that population growth is the primary cause of environmental degradation, conflict, and growing poverty" and "support[ing] women's right to safe, voluntary birth control and abortion, while strongly opposing demographically driven population policies." CWPE's website: http://www.cwpe.org/old_website/index.html

DEŠA HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION in Dubrovnik, Croatia, originally founded to help women suffering from the psychological effects of the war, "now promotes economic and community development through public education, while continuing to provide a space for women to support one another." One of Deša's economic development projects is to bring back the local women's silk-production craft. See http://desa.dubrovnik.org/

DIGITAL EVE, "a global, non-profit organization for women in new media and digital technology," has chapters in many U.S. and Canadian metropolitan areas as well as in Israel, Japan, and the U.K., and a website at http://www.digitaleve.com The organization is "committed to providing a supportive, educational community for women."

ENGENDERHEALTH, a nonprofit organization whose website was introduced in this column last season (Feminist Collections v.23, no.1), now offers online mini-courses in sexual and reproductive health for health care workers in "low-resource settings" around the world. Anyone can access the courses at http://www.engenderhealth.org/res/onc/

FEAST, the association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory, is "dedicated to promoting feminist ethical perspectives on philosophy, moral and political life, and public policy." The association's fledgling website at http://www.afeast.org/ offers two listservs (one specifically for graduate students), information on membership and conferences, and links to other organizations.

The worldwide electronic GENDER AND DISASTER NETWORK seeks to answer the question "Why Does Gender Matter?" by inviting its members to submit material that can "illustrate the range of first-hand experiences women and men have in disaster, thinking of survivors, agency officials, front-line responders, relief workers, community activists, technical specialists, academics, government spokespersons, and all the other actors." One of the papers available through the website is titled "Women's Disaster Vulnerability and Response to the Colima Earthquake," by Carolina Serrat Viñas. See the network's offerings at http://www.anglia.ac.uk/geography/gdn/

Girls can design robots! GIRLSTART, a nonprofit with a Web presence at http://www.girlstart.org, "provides a supportive and empowering atmosphere in which girls perform hands-on activities with robots, microscopes, environmental
science, math, engineering, and technology." Many of the organization’s activities take place at its physical site in Austin, Texas, but “Club Girlstart,” a twenty-week program for school-based or community girls’ groups, can be used anywhere via CD-ROM.

The GLOBAL SISTERHOOD NETWORK (GSN), at http://home.vicnet.net.au/~globalsn/, “monitors electronic and print media for developments in agriculture, economics, employment, environment, health, law, militarism, politics, technology, trade and science which have a direct impact on the realities of women’s lives. GSN provides regularly updated information including critical comment and displays of newspaper and journal articles that reinforce patriarchy/misogyny but which have attracted sparse attention and/or comment as the world moves closer and closer to undemocracy.”

The INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (ICW), “the only international network run for and by HIV positive women,” is a U.K.-based organization with a membership of over 800 women and a website at http://www.icw.org/ Still under construction on the site is an online “survival kit” in English, Spanish, and French.

Feminist author Jo Freeman has a site of her own, at http://www.jofreeman.com. Includes some of Freeman’s photographs (e.g., of civil rights demonstrations and the 1968 Democratic Convention), a gallery of her personal collections of political buttons (the feminist collection includes “Women Make Policy Not Coffee”), and many of her articles (including eight on women at political conventions and six on the feminist movement).

KIDMA: THE PROJECT FOR ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN ISRAEL, based at the University of Haifa, aims to strengthen “civil society, women’s rights in Israel, the advancement of women in general, and multiculturalism.” One of the project’s many specific goals is “to bring marginalized women together (Druze women from towns outside of Haifa, Arab women from villages in the Galilee, or new immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia), in order to seize the opportunity for future growth.” Website: http://kidma.haifa.ac.il/index.htm

KVINNSAM, an interdisciplinary scholarly database of more than 90,000 citations reflecting the women’s history collections of the Göteborg University Library (Sweden), is free online at http://www.ub.gu.se/samlingar/dvinn/kvinnsam/

The MACHREQ/MAHREB GENDER LINKING AND INFORMATION PROJECT, “a forum for learning, communication and exchange on women, gender and development in the Arab world,” has a website at http://www.women-machreq-maghreb.com/ The project is supported by OXFAM.

THE MEN’S BIBLIOGRAPHY, produced by Michael Flood since 1992 “to promote feminist and pro-feminist scholarship,” has been updated with about a thousand new references. Use of the bibliography is free: http://www.anu.edu.au/~a112465/mensbiblio/mensbibliomenu.html

“Women are veterans too!” proclaims the web “captain” of the site MILITARY WOMEN VETERANS YESTERDAY – TODAY – TOMORROW, at http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/. Women in the U.S. military from the Revolutionary War to Operation Desert Fox are highlighted, and there are pages devoted to pilots, astronauts, musicians, and spies.

The NATIONAL CENTER FOR WOMEN AND RETIREMENT RESEARCH has done surveys and polls on financial literacy, divorce over age forty, retirement preparation among the Baby Boom, and other issues, and offers summary reports, publications, links, and an archive of articles on its website at http://www.agingfocus.com/

SAKYADHITA (“Daughters of Buddha”) is the name of the International Association of Buddhist Women, founded in 1987. The association’s website, http://www.sakyadhita.org/, includes a 79-item bibliography on “Women and the Female in Buddhism,” extensive notes on “Female Deities in the Tibetan Buddhist Tradition,” biographies of women Buddhist teachers, and much more.

SAVING WOMEN’S LIVES is dedicated to implementing the goals of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development as they relate to women’s health and rights. The initiative’s website at http://www.savingwomenslives.org/index.htm includes news up-
The Women’s Issues Network of the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada (HSSFC) has electronically published *IVORY TOWERS, FEMINIST ISSUES: SELECTED PAPERS FROM THE WIN SYMPOSIUM, 2000-2001* at http://www.hssfc.ca/english/policyandadvocacy/ win/ivorytwcontents.cfm. Of the network’s purpose, HSSFC Vice-President Wendy Robbins writes in the foreword: “We work for women’s equality and for gender-sensitive teaching, research, and scholarship on campuses and in communities across Canada. We examine the academy—its infrastructure, culture, politics, organizations, and impacts—through a feminist lens, and make recommendations and take action for educational equity and social change.”

The collection of papers, which includes “Scaling Glassy Slopes to the Ivory Tower: Graduate Female Students Negotiate Education, Research and Academic Life,” by Jane Zigman of Queen’s University, can be read on the site or downloaded as .pdf files.

The NOVA SCOTIA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN offers downloadable publications on DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and other topics at http://www.gov.ns.ca/staw/pub.htm

Joanna Fine of *Women & Environments International* magazine has compiled lists of links to ON-LINE BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF ECOFEMINIST WRITING and INTRODUCTORY READINGS ON-LINE in the Fall 2001 issue (featuring ecofeminism), which can be found at http://www.wemag.com/ (under “Current Issue,” scroll all the way down to “WE Surf”).

**SEE HOW THEY GROW: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR WOMEN’S BUSINESS GROWTH**, by Simel Esim (International Center for Research on Women, 2001), looks at the importance of women’s microenterprises to their family, local, and national economies. Listed with publications on poverty and economic growth at http://www.icrw.org/publications_poverty.htm

The text of *THE WOMEN’S RIGHTS MOVEMENT: WHERE IT’S BEEN, WHERE IT’S AT*, a talk given to the Women Lawyers of Utah in 2001 by Sonia Pressman Fuentes, is available on the WMST-L File Collection at http://www.umbc.edu/wmst/womens_rights.html.

**EMAIL LISTS**

A discussion list called BALKAN WOMEN AND FRIENDS has been launched as a resource for anyone doing research on women in the Balkans. Find out more and join at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BalkanWomen/

ETUDESFEMINISTES-L is a French-language women’s studies discussion list. To subscribe, go to http://listes.univ-tlse2.fr/wws/info/etudesfeministes-l

FEAST, the association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory, offers two discussion lists: FEAST and FEAST GRAD (the latter for graduate students). Details are at http://www.afeast.org/Listserv%20Page/listserv.htm

H-GENDER-MIDEAST, sponsored by H-Net and other groups and based at the American University in Cairo, is “an electronic venue for discussion of crucial gender issues in the Arabic-speaking Middle East, Turkey, the Caucasus, Central Asia, Western Asia, the Mediterranean, and sub-Saharan Africa.” Read recent posts and find out how to join at http://www2.h-net.ms/~gend-mid

**OTHER**

Find distributors of WOMEN-RELATED VIDEOS on the website of the University of Wisconsin System Office of the Women’s Studies Librarian: http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/distribs.htm. Distributors listed may be companies, organizations, or individuals; many have websites.

O compiled by JoAnne Lehman, with special thanks to ARROWS for Change, CRIAW Newsletter, James Danky, Gender & Development, Penney Kome of Womenspace, We! (ISIS International), WID Bulletin, and all who point us to new online resources.
New Reference Works in Women’s Studies

Reviewed by Phyllis Holman Weisbard, with contributions by Barbarly Korper McConnell

Beauty and Grooming


O.K., O.K., so not all material on good looks, beauty, and grooming pertains to women—but the vast majority of entries in For Appearance’ Sake do, and therefore this title is suitable for inclusion as a new reference work of interest to women’s studies. Even a seemingly unisex topic such as “bad breath” contains women-specific information: Sherrow reveals that halitosis did not become a social problem until Listerine told the American populace that it was one, with their classic ad warning of being “always a bridesmaid but never a bride.” Later Cets chimed in with, “If he kissed you once, will he kiss you again?” (p.66). Similarly, after reviewing the history of cosmetic surgery, the entry for plastic surgery describes each procedure in use today, calling attention to the disproportionate number of women who undergo tummy tucks (abdominoplasty), liposuction (now the most frequently performed cosmetic surgery in the United States among people aged thirty-five to fifty), brachioplasty (tightening the loose skin of the upper arm), eye-lifts (blepharoplasty), breast reduction, implants, and various forms of soft-tissue augmentation (women outnumber men having this surgery ten to one). Although the number of men seeking cosmetic surgery is on the rise, Sherrow states that surgeons report that men have a lower tolerance for pain, require more medication pre- and post-surgery, and bleed more, but also heal more quickly. About half the entries in For Appearance’ Sake are about individuals, companies, and organizations associated with beauty and grooming. This is a convenient place to find a page or two on Christie Brinkley, Cindy Crawford, and other models; cosmetics entrepreneurs such as Elizabeth Arden and Mary Kay Ash; the founding and growth of L’Oreal, Revlon, and other well-known cosmetic companies; the unnamed, expert “noses” of the perfume industry; and a progression of critics of the cosmetics industry. Subjects such as body image, beauty contests, and weight are listed as “social issues” in a Guide to Selected Topics provided at the beginning of the book, signaling Sherrow’s approach to these topics. Other entries treat each body part associated with appearance and a variety of grooming techniques and practices.

For Appearance’ Sake gathers information on beauty and grooming in many cultures and across time from the ancient world through the present. Several countries or regions have their own entries (Arabia from ancient times through the Middle Ages, Byzantine Empire, Nazi Germany, etc.). Sherrow credits the Chinese as the first people to use cosmetics for personal beautification, some 4,000 years ago. A pale complexion was the ideal for women, who wore heavy makeup to achieve this look and treated their skin each night with white lead and rice powder. Like contemporary Westerners, ancient Chinese women followed fashions, including eyebrow styles, which went from sharp-pointed arches in the second century, through curved arches, “sorrow brows,” and “distant mountain” brow designs drawn on foreheads made yellow using pigment from Cambodia. The tradition of foot-binding is explained, as is the attitude toward appearance under the Communists. Other articles describe henna, the body paint used by women in India and Arab lands; the Wodaabe nomads of Niger, known for their personal adornment; and the beauty-products consumption patterns and interests of Hispanic Americans. A book on these topics would be much less desirable or interesting without pictures, and thankfully, For Appearance’ Sake has plenty of them. The most chilling is a photograph accompanying the article on animal testing, of a bunch of bunnies lined up with their heads poking through restraints (p.18). It’ll make you want to run out and join PETA. A close second is an X-ray of Chinese bound feet that have become permanently disabled (p.120).

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On the other hand, there is a pretty shot of singer/actress Erykah Badu illustrating dreadlocks and one of Lillian Russell, an actress regarded as a model of feminine beauty in 1900. All entries contain suggestions for further reading that range from articles in People Magazine and Roseanne Show interviews to academic books. Web-based information is also cited.

Perhaps not an essential purchase for libraries, but an interesting survey nonetheless of beauty, grooming, and other aspects of personal adornment.

**Books for Girls**


Two founders of Black Books Galore, an organizer of African American children’s book festivals, have selected and annotated a list of 360 books about girls and women. Each features a female main character who is “attractive, bright, thoughtful, strong, resourceful, and capable” (p.1), providing young readers with protagonists, situations, and illustrations in which they can recognize parts of themselves, their families, and friends. The compilers claim no “professional” expertise other than being parents (and running their book distribution business), and only list books they would give to their own daughters. Yet their choices and comments seem quite well made, and “professionals” as well as parents should find the book quite helpful. Rand and Parker point out features that librarians and teachers would want to know about, such as “Caribbean dialect” (used in *Jump Up Time: A Trinidad Carnival Story*, by Lynn Joseph, Clarion/Houghton-Mifflin, 1998), positive use of the word *nappy* (in *Happy to be Nappy*, a picture book by bell hooks, Jump at the Sun/Hyperion, 1999), and the presence of a glossary with definitions for *koppies*, *klofi*, and other Zimbabwean terms found in *Where Are You Going, Manyoni?*, written and illustrated by Catherine Stock (William Morrow, 1993).

The book is arranged in sections by reading level: books for babies and preschoolers, for early readers (kindergarten through third grade), and for middle readers (approximately fourth through eighth grades). Each section opens with examples of the types of books described in themes addressed, mentioning several titles. An Index of Topics also helps find selections with particular themes, including Africa, friendship with peers, religion, and many books with “adolescent situations.” Throughout the book there are numerous black-and-white reproductions of book covers accompanying the entries, and, less often, quotations, such as “You and I are Africa’s daughters...My father told me once that Africa’s daughters are the children of the sun; the sun has touched us. Our darkness is proof of its blessings” (p.92), from *Jewels*, by Belinda Rochelle (Lodestar/Dutton, 1998). Both fiction and nonfiction are included; biographies constitute most of the nonfiction.

Remembrances from famous authors, illustrators, and public figures about childhood reading and favorite books are shared throughout the book. Over and over these commentators make the point that when they were growing up there were no black characters in the books they read (one exception being *Little Black Sambo*, later scorned). As children’s book author Eleonora E. Tate recalls, “It is hard to miss what you don’t know you should have...I’m not sure which is worse—to be left out of books completely or be included and written about in a racist manner...But I’m sure it would have been nicer to have had more shared childhood racial experiences in literary print” (p.151). No African American girl need feel that way again. The books described in this *Guide* and those that are sure to follow will see to that.

**British Women**


Oldfield’s bibliography might also have been titled *Corrective Collective Biography*. What’s interesting is that she’s not targeting the usual suspects—male biographers throughout history who paid no attention to women of their time—but rather feminists Gerda Lerner and Carolyn Heilbrun, who in Oldfield’s opinion overstate that women were, by and large, ignored as subjects. Not so, says Oldfield, offering 364 instances through 1901 (the variation in dates from the title allowed her to include the volumes of the *Dictionary of National Biography Supplement* issued that year) in which a significant number of British women...
were included in collective biographies. What’s more, she’s convinced that women readers of their day would have been familiar with many of the lives portrayed, though no single reader would have known them all, because religious divisions limited which influential women were deemed worthies. A “category index” points users of the bibliography to entries with material on artists, freethinkers, martyrs, learned women, midwives, women religious, women of various ethnicities, women by century in which they lived, and more. Oldfield signals her awareness that many of the accounts are stilted—in her picturesque imagery, “a film of dull, pietistic varnish covers all too many” (p.xvi)—but she believes that beneath the varnish, and in the hands of some biographers, lie lives of vitality. Perhaps to stimulate that thinking among the users of the bibliography, she includes numerous portraits and reproductions of illustrations from the books listed.

Oldfield found three types of collective biography: biographical encyclopedias often compiled by clerics, women-only collections without a common theme, and women-only collections of particular categories of women. She comments in her introduction on the relative preponderance of the three types over time and wisely arranges the bibliography chronologically so that a historiography of the genre emerges.

Oldfield’s annotations often make an entertaining read. R. Polwhele’s The Unsex’d Females (1798) she describes as an “[a]nti-Jacobin, misogynist versified listing of reprehensible radical women headed by Mary Wollstonecraft... Deeply unpleasant triumphing that M.W. ‘Died a death that strongly marked the distinction of the sexes...’” (Item 66). Sara Josepha Hale’s Woman’s Record, or Sketches of...
think distance learning is a contemporary invention, but College by Post, founded in 1881 to help young women improve their education by means of correspondence, puts that erroneous notion to rest. The League of Isis promoted motherhood and "more rational and humane sex relations generally" in pre–World War I years. Women's Institutes in rural areas stimulated interest in agriculture, helped develop local co-ops, and proved to be centers for educational and social activities. The Rational Dress Society, formed in 1888, objected to fashions that deformed the body, impeded movement, or injured health. They set a maximum weight for women's outfits (not including shoes) of seven pounds! The United Women Bookfolders' Union must have accepted academic paradigm" as well as opposed it. Those reasons may themselves be open to debate, but that won't happen without research on more of the organizations and, as the authors correctly mention, on their individual members. It is also the case that the availability of material affects what is studied. Unfortunately for historians who will find the Dictionary such a valuable resource in other ways, the authors do not list the location of archival holdings for any of the groups for which such records exist. Presumably this information is embedded in the sources listed, but a more direct listing would have been more of an incentive to researchers. Nevertheless, any budding historian looking for a project on British women's history would find reading the Dictionary a useful experience.

**DICTIONARIES**


The colorful alliterative title masks a work with a serious purpose: exploring the patterns of language bias that disparage heterosexual women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people. Herbst points to the large number of animal and food terms that are used to put down women. Women and girls and/or their genitals have been called beavers, pussies, heifers, fillies, dogs, bunnies, cows, and worse. Who could take seriously a female referred to as a tomato, tamale, cutie pie, cupcake, or dish? Sometimes gender bias interweaves with other biases, as in "hag" and other words that denigrate old age; "rednecks," directed at rural or small-town whites; "squam" and "Jezabel" as Indian and Black epithets, respectively; and a host of ways to hurt large women's feelings. Occasionally heterosexual men are the targets, but when they are, the words often veil appreciation as well as disparagement. (Think of the difference between "slut" and "stud.") Source material for the dictionary came from a variety of books listed in the bibliography and usages noted in the media.

Herbst provides a definition and history of the usage for each of the thousand-plus entries, along with cross-references to synonyms and related terms. One of the longer entries, for "girl/girlie," makes a good example. Herbst begins with the Middle English origin as girle. Surprisingly, it started out meaning a young person of either sex. Boys were knave girls and young females were gay girls. By the fifteenth century it solely denoted females. But that gain in specificity was offset by many new negative connotations as low-class ("serving girl") or prostitute (as in today's "call girl"). Herbst then leaps across to the twentieth century to when girl was established as referring to a woman of any age, citing Dorothy Parker's "Men never make passes at girls who wear glasses," with its asymmetry between men and girls. He provides a series of further examples of asymmetrical usage. A G-girl was 1930s slang for a woman employed by the federal government; a G-man worked only for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Schoolgirl connotes frivolousness and a crybaby; a schoolboy is a prankster. Female friends refer to each other as girl friends; males don't use boy friends. He notes the 1940s usages pinup girl and sweater girl, the success of feminists in the 1970s in removing from common parlance the demeaning office girl and girl or gal Friday, and the persistence of single girl, glamour girl, cover girl, and working girl. The negative use of girl to mean a soft or effeminate boy or...
man comes next, followed by the mostly positive associations carried by daddy's girl compared to mama's boy. Grrrl and girlie are also described. Rounding out the nuances is a discussion of the way 1990s young women began using girl to connote strength and assertiveness, as in girl-power, Tank Girl (the comic-book heroine), the various grrrls around, and the relationship of this usage to Black English. In a similar vein, the entries for queen and queer chart the positive uses by members of the gay community of terms that were used disparagingly about them.

The entries in Wimmin, Wimps & Wallflowers are amusing to browse and rather comprehensive. Nevertheless, Herbst asks for suggested additions for a future edition. Readers may enjoy thinking of some. I'll offer one: trophy wife for a second wife much younger than her predecessor and husband.

The intended audience for Wimmin, Wimps & Wallflowers is "anyone interested in issues of gender and sexual orientation," along with educators, writers, speakers, students of language and society, and nonnative speakers of English. Most of the contemporary connotations will be familiar to adult native speakers of American English, but the historical usages may not be, and certainly nonnative speakers will glean a great deal about the ways biases wormed their way into English and often persist today.

Perhaps it is best to start with what this book is not. It is not a basic how-to-go-about-getting-a-Ph.D., nor is it designed to offer tips on self-improvement so that women can better succeed in a masculine setting. Instead, it is a feminist, research-based volume that assumes that women are "positioned inequitably within the supposedly liberal, cerebral world of postgraduate studies" and need guidance on "how best to push back or move around problems and come out in front—without selling out" (p.2). Like the good feminist sociologist that she is, Leonard sees gender differences as an effect rather than a cause ("Gender is the effect of participating in particular social practices, rather than the other way around...It is not a question of socially constructed/performed differences giving rise to inequality, so much as inequalities in a binarily divided society giving rise to constructed and reconstructed 'differences'" (p.7)). Leonard sees academia as a place that "actively constitutes gender...within which individuals construct and reconstruct themselves as gendered subjects by engaging in masculine and feminine ways of thinking and talking, and sexual and other social interactions." To her, "the very concept of 'being an academic' (or a 'professional', or a 'research student') is gendered and classed" (p.7). These quotations should make it clear that this is no ordinary guidebook.

So, what does a research-based guide contain? For starters, an examination of the effects on doctoral studies of higher education being seen today as increasingly market-driven and managerial, where the dominant goal is efficient production of skilled workers rather than commitment to the values of a traditional liberal arts education. Although Leonard sees some gains for doctoral students in a managerialist university (more supervision), she finds implicit a "new masculinism" that "over-values rationality, individual autonomy, objectivity, and scientism, and now also political passionlessness and economism" (p.45). Leonard's own passion is conveyed—another difference from standard guides to higher education. In this case, she cites her own work on the subject ("Transforming Doctoral Studies: Competencies and Artistry," in Higher Education in Europe v. 25, no. 2, pp.181–92), but numerous other scholars are quoted and referenced throughout the book. The other chapters cover topics more typical of guidebooks: things to consider in deciding to do a doctorate; finding the right supervisor/major professor, department, university, and even country; finding the time and money; the research process; combating barriers to completion (problems within the university, including the chilly climate for women, harassment, and violence, as well as pressures from personal life); formal assessment of doctoral work, and life thereafter. In each case, Leonard interweaves gendered considerations with general ones. For example, in Chapter 3, "Where to Study? Finding the Right Supervisor and the Right University," she states that universities need students and therefore that potential students are in a buyer's market, while cautioning women who may lack self-confidence and feel flattered by acceptance to be careful in their choice. Down the road, the reputation of the institution and the willingness of the advisor to be supportive will be highly

**DOCTORAL STUDIES**


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important in obtaining an academic position. She goes over general information on what to seek in a supervisor, then turns to factors that research has shown contribute to successful doctoral experiences for women (close relationship with an accessible supervisor/advisor, often female, and integration into a student reference group). She also discusses the added necessity for those students who expect to do feminist work of finding an advisor familiar with feminist scholarship and methodology. In terms of finding the right department, she covers variations in departmental ethos and the importance of being somewhere with a critical mass of women staff and students and women-friendly policies and organizations (especially an active women's center). Each chapter ends with annotated suggestions for further reading.

One chapter expands on the problems associated with doing feminist doctoral research (mentioned in the chapter on finding the right supervisor). Chapter 6 warns that advisors often direct the doctoral student's reading, but may do a poor job when they themselves have not read much (if any) of twenty-five years of feminist work. Leonard advises finding a specialist on gender, or at least doing a thorough reading of the works listed at the end of the chapter. She also spends some time reviewing the stages of feminist scholarship since 1970, distinguishing it from an equal rights perspective, and situating women's studies. Women's studies program directors and others uneasy with a suggestion or directive to change the name of their program to gender studies may want to read Leonard's defense of women's studies. She says, in part, that "gender studies" has been a term employed by some in the UK with an equal rights approach, and who (a) don't want to be tarred by radical feminist associations, (b) think focusing specifically on women is unacceptable and (c) have little sense of the inequality between men and women...[It] tends to undermine feminism/women's studies...It makes it not only easy to 'mainstream,' but also easy to lose sight of women (again) as subjects, actors and academics" (p.189).

As can be seen in the last quotation, this book is oriented toward doing a doctorate in the U.K. However, Leonard is quite careful in all chapters to add comparative and contrasting information for the U.S., Australia, and elsewhere. Indeed, she does this much more than most U.S.-based writers ever do. American readers should bear this in mind and read what she actually says, rather than being put off by headings such as "Why Have a Viva?" (oral thesis defense) or the use of "supervisor" for what would be termed a thesis advisor and committee here. The combination of discussion of issues confronting doctoral students and findings from research makes A Woman's Guide to Doctoral Studies a unique book, useful to potential doctoral candidates and to others interested in the nature of academe.

**Lesbian History**


A measure of the strength and maturity of lesbian studies scholarship and activism so wonderfully captured in *Lesbian Histories and Cultures* can be taken before reading a single entry, by beginning instead with the biographies of the contributors (rightfully placed by Zimmerman at the start of the volume rather than relegated to the end). Calling them a veritable Who's Who of lesbian, gay, queer, and women's studies and activism around lesbian, gay, queer, and feminist issues may be a cliche, but an accurate one. Some of the sketches are interesting because of the amazing string of tags used to describe the contributors: black, Puerto Rican, lesbian, feminist, socialist editor (Juanita Diaz-Cotto); writer, publisher, academic, and aerialist (Susan Hawthorne), lesbian feminist theologian, Episcopal priest, professor, and poet (Carter Heyward); physician, psychiatric consultant, lesbian activist, and filmmaker (Dee Mosbacher); the only English-born Jewish lesbian feminist academic economist in Aotearoa/New Zealand (and could drop several components and still be the only one!) (Prue Hyman); and essayist, editor, poet, historian, teacher, and Archives co-founder (Joan Nestle) are just some examples. And it's not only who they are but what they are doing that is exciting to read about. Carolyn Gage does a one-woman show and has written the first manual on lesbian theater; Giney Villar chairs the Womyn Supporting Womyn Centre, a lesbian organization in the Philippines. Victoria Krane studies lesbians in sports; Alice Hom, lesbians of color in Los Angeles and New York. Vera Whisman wrote *Queer By Choice* (1996); Toni McNaron co-edited _The New Lesbian Studies: Into the 21st Century_ (1996, with *Lesbian Histories and Cultures* ed-
tor Zimmerman) and Celia Kitzinger has published eight books and nearly one hundred chapters and articles on lesbian and feminist issues. These are just a sampling of the scores of contributors to the volume.

Although the entries (all signed by contributors and followed by bibliographies) are arranged alphabetically, Zimmerman provides a guide to subjects, again conveniently placed in the front matter. Biography is, as expected, the biggest category, with literature a close and sometimes overlapping second. Geography, History, Language, Lesbian Movement, and Sociology each have more than forty entries, while Cultural Identities, Education, Media/Popular Culture, Politics, Sexuality, and Theory/Philosophy are also well-represented. Associations and Organizations, with only thirteen entries, seems lighter than one might expect, but additional groups mentioned are accessible through the general subject index. Having separate volumes for gays and lesbians gave Zimmerman and Gay Histories and Cultures' editor George E. Haggerty the leeway to cover appropriate subjects in two fields that have until very recently developed independently (as they point out in their joint introduction) without having to force either one to mirror the other. That's most obvious with respect to entries for individuals, but there are many other differences as well. Many stem from the fact that gays are men and lesbians are women, with all the societal structures imposed on women throughout history, leading to a close association between lesbians and feminism. For example, there are no parallels in Gay Histories and Cultures to Ecology and Ecofeminism, Female Support Networks, the New Woman, Patriarchy, Women's Liberation Movement, or Women's Studies. Situational Lesbianism (called controversial in the entry by Paula C. Rust), Woman-Identified Woman, Butch-Femme, and Separatism are other entries associated with lesbians but not gay men, and therefore only appear in Lesbian Histories and Cultures.

The two-volume set was published the same year as the Reader's Guide to Lesbian and Gay Studies, edited by Timothy F. Murphy (Fitzroy Dearborn, 2000; reviewed in Feminist Collections v.21, no.4, Summer 2000, pp.36–37), but arrived in our office somewhat later. Some comparison is now in order. Obviously, a one-volume, 720-page work can't match two volumes totaling 1848 pages (their dimension is smaller, but so is their font) for breadth or depth. But their aims are slightly different. The Reader's Guide entries are structured as bibliographic essays, covering research in an area, using terms familiar to academic users; it is therefore quite well-suited to university users, whereas Lesbian Histories and Cultures and its companion volume aspire to serve a wider audience by explaining each entry without a great deal of jargon. In the Reader's Guide entry for "Memoirs, Female," for example, contributor Lynn Domina describes seven works (six scholarly, one more general) analyzing the process of autobiographical writing and situating lesbian writing within it. About Felicity Nussbaum's The Autobiographical Subject: Gender and Ideology in Eighteenth-Century England (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995), she writes: "Nussbaum concludes that despite the transgressive behavior of [Charlotte] Charke and others, their autobiographies reinscribe gender distinctions, because they essentialize men" (Reader's Guide, p.389). Users familiar with terms like "reinscription" and "essentialism" would gain an excellent summary of the positions taken in Nussbaum and the other scholars described by Domina. The closest essay in Lesbian Histories and Cultures is "Autobiography," by Linda Dunne. While some of Dunne's bibliographic references are the same as Domina's, she uses the space to discuss the characteristics of lesbian autobiographies, several examples of the genre, and the coming-out story (the last has its own entry in the Reader's Guide, covering scholarly works analyzing both gay and lesbian coming-out stories). Dunne begins her essay by explaining in an accessible fashion the importance of autobiographical writing to lesbians: "Autobiographies by lesbian authors have played an important role in defining and changing lesbian identity, providing a way for lesbians to rewrite the stories of their lives, and, in doing so, to change those lives themselves" (p.87). The linkage to real lives beyond the academy is perhaps another, implicit goal of Lesbian Histories and Cultures. Does this mean that one of these works is "better" than the other? I don't think so. They actually complement each other very well. Academic libraries for sure should acquire both.

**Middle Ages**


The restoration of the stories of individuals and the collective experi-
ences of women are enduring features of the field of women's history. The massive seventeen-volume Women in World History set edited by Anne Commmire and Deborah Klezmer, nearing completion from Yorkin Publications, Gale Group, is the definitive biographical reference work on women of all times and all places—and should be acquired by all institutions able to afford the $995.00 cost—but there are many public libraries and schools for whom that figure will be prohibitive and its very size daunting. For those institutions, single-volume works such as Extraordinary Women of the Medieval and Renaissance World, edited by Carole Levin et al. (Greenwood, 2000; reviewed in Feminist Collections v.22, no.1), and the Encyclopedia of Women in the Middle Ages offer satisfying choices for biographical coverage of women in medieval times. Both have their place. The Levin book has longer biographies and, as is obvious from its title, adds Renaissance women; Lawler's combines individual biographies of actual and fictional women (e.g., Guinevere, Grendel's mother, Kriemhild) with topical entries such as "medicine and health," "social class," "Inquisition," "chivalry," and "education."

The Encyclopedia also contains several other useful features, such as a twenty-eight-page bibliography, conveniently subdivided into categories such as "science and technology" and "theology, philosophy, and religion," and an informative glossary (e.g., "Curfew: Restrictions placed on activities after certain hours. From the cry 'Cover fires!' [in French, couvrir feur]. In the Middle Ages, people were not allowed to work once the sun had set since they would be unable to see well enough to do their jobs correctly, nor could they leave their homes after dark"), and sixty-four pages of genealogical charts for royal houses and occasionally for other women covered in the book. The genealogies are easy to read and compare quite favorably with those in Volume 1 of Women in World History, except that Lawler's lack birth and death dates. Longer entries in the Encyclopedia proper contain suggestions for further reading, and see references are plentiful.

Lawler's writing is suited to her intended, general audience. Academics may find rather choppy her tendency to pile up a series of short phrases and sentences. The entry for Olga of Kiev (d. 969), for example, begins:

Russian princess and regent of Viking Kiev from 945 to 964. She married Igor, the grand prince of Kiev. After he was assassinated, she seized power. Immediately, she murdered the conspirators who had killed him. (p.127)

Neither Extraordinary Women nor the Encyclopedia presents many women from outside Europe and the Mediterranean region, perhaps because source material in English on medieval women of Asia and Africa is sparse. Extraordinary Women seems to sport more non-Westerners than does the Encyclopedia, though that may be an artifact of providing a geographical appendix, which the Encyclopedia lacks. The Encyclopedia's general index could have helped in this regard, but doesn't. There is no index entry under Japan or Japanese, for example, even though there are entries for sixth-century empress Shiko, novelist Murasaki Shikibu (978–1031), and possibly others. In fact, there are few if any places indexed at all, though it's an obvious look-up category for readers.

The strengths of the Encyclopedia (topical and biographical entries, helpful glossary, bibliography, and genealogies) dwarf the deficiencies (some choppy sentences, light on non-Westerners, and lack of indexing by locale), and it is recommended for appropriate collections.

NEVADA WOMEN


Nevada has had a wild and colorful history, hinted at throughout this bibliography of more than 400 books useful to understanding women's roles in that saga, from works wholly on women—such as Women of the Sierra, by Anne Seagraves (Wesanne Publications, 1990), the stories of fifteen women who lived in Virginia City, Carson City, and Carson Valley in the nineteenth century—which would turn up on standard library searches of "women" and "Nevada," to much less obvious titles whose coverage of women would only be gleaned by examining the actual books. It is especially the inclusion of those books and descriptions that makes Women in Nevada History of assistance to researchers. There are community, institutional, organizational, and general histories of Nevada surveyed by the editors and other volunteers who teased out where and how women were men-
tioned. For example, the annotation for John M. Townley’s Tough Little Town on the Truckee (Great Basin Studies Center, 1983), a history of Reno to 1900, states that women were only briefly mentioned (in association with social, religious, and other activities covered in territorial newspapers, since that was the source material for the book), except for a chapter concerning the murder trial of an accused female perpetrator and details about a messy divorce. A history of a Reno hospital is cited because it contains background on the Dominican Sisters in the American West, the founding order. Some remembered...Some Forgot: Life in Central Nevada Mining Camps, by Firmin Bruner (Nevada State Park Natural History Association, 1974), and Comstock Women: The Making of a Mining Community, edited by Ronald M. James and C. Elizabeth Raymond (University of Nevada Press, 1998), are two of several works listed that recount Nevada’s mining history. Who wouldn’t want an excuse to pick up Saloons of (Old and New) Nevada: Commentaries on the Role and Development of the Nevada Saloon, by Raymond M. Smith (Silver State Printing, 1992), now that we know it contains “an interesting account of a fight between Bulldog Kate and Hog Eyed Mary; two women in Eureka who were, ‘obstreperous, vile mouthed, antagonistic and usually heavily addicted to strong drink’” (Entry 356). Also listed are numerous biographies and memoirs of individual women, including Phyllis Barber (How I Got Cultured: A Nevada Memoir, University of Nevada, 1994), Barbara Bennett (Barbara Bennett: Mayor of Reno and Community Activist, University of Nevada, 1989), and Susan Berman, who grew up in a “casino family” in the 1940s and 1950s, a childhood that only a Nevadan could have had in the U.S. in those years (Lady Las Vegas: The Inside Story Behind America’s Neon Oasis, TV Books, 1996). The project’s criteria for inclusion were broad enough to include women who passed through Nevada briefly, whether as members of the ill-fated Donner Party (George R. Stewart’s Ordeal By Hunger: the Story of the Donner Party, Houghton Mifflin, 1963) or as residents of Reno only long enough to obtain divorces (Temporary Address: Reno, by Faith Baldwin, Farrar and Rinehart, 1941).

About half the pages in the bibliography are given over to indexes: topics, Nevada women’s organizations, personal names, race or ethnic identity, and genre. The wild and colorful history is readily identifiable in the topical index, with entries for Alamo Bawdy House, brothels, women casino dealers, the Cathouse News, female outlaws, medicine women, Alimony Park, The Amazing Nelly Bly, and more. The race and ethnic identity index makes it clear that Native American women’s history has been scoured with the same thoroughness as that of the white settlers. There are both specific entries for Paiute, Shoshone, Washo, and other nations and general entries for Native Americans. Besides various nonfiction historical categories pointed to in the genre index, there are listings for fiction, cookbooks, and poetry. Recent scholarship has noted the importance of cookbooks as a primary source for women’s history, and the bibliography offers several good examples, such as The Virginia City Cook Book, by Helen Evans Brown et al. (Ward Ritchie Press, 1953), containing recipes by women restauranteurs, businesswomen, and housewives from Virginia City. Women’s poetry collections with poems tied to Nevada is an unexpected but welcome category for a bibliography such as this one.

Every state should have a project like the one that resulted in this bibliography.

**Politics**


In 1997 the Inter-Parliamentary Council, the governing body of an organization of legislatures of sovereign countries, passed a Universal Declaration on Democracy. Included is a carefully crafted statement: “The achievement of democracy presupposes a genuine partnership between men and women in the conduct of the affairs of society in which they work in equality and complementarity, drawing mutual enrichment from their differences.” To promote research on the status of women’s participation in the democratic process, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) published this bibliography, which includes citations to scholarly books and articles on the topic, as well as references to documents issued by world-wide or regional international organizations, and a six-page listing of websites. Subsequent to publication, the IPU mounted a database version at http://www.ipu.org/bdf-e/BDFsearch.asp. Because the

Feminist Collections (v.23, no.2, Winter 2002)
database adds entries for newer material and has many useful search capabilities, that version of the publication is a better bet long-term. On the other hand, it is much easier to get a grasp on the scope of the endeavor from the print edition, and until it is significantly out of date, researchers may want to browse through a copy.

The printed book contains some 650 citations from over a hundred countries and international organizations. As of this writing (in April 2002), the database expands the number of records to 1,226. Books and articles listed were primarily published after the Nairobi World Conference on Women, held in 1985; legal conventions, declarations, and other legal instruments created before 1985 are also cited. Cited works are in English, French, Spanish, and a smattering of other European languages. Each entry contains full bibliographic information, including subject index terms (some citations have over a dozen); most are also annotated (most are in English, some in French). The printed version includes subject terms in both English and French throughout, regardless of language of the item; only English-language subject terms are found online. Although there is a country-by-country section in the print version, paralleled in the database by using the geographic search field and limiting to a particular country, the introduction to the book alerts users to the fact that entries included all deal with political life at the national or federal level; none deal with the state, provincial, or region-within-country level.

About half the printed volume consists of citations arranged in broad subject chapters, such as career profiles and biographies, gender equality policy, public perceptions and stereotyping, women in civil service, women's suffrage, and gender partnership. The browsability in broad subject areas is lost online, because the database constructors eliminated the chapter headings and rely on the more specific subject index terms assigned to the items.

A very useful free resource for finding citations to topics concerning women in politics.

**RUSSIAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS**


For feminism to take root in a country, it must feel organic to the culture of the place. It doesn't flourish when imported lock, stock, and barrel from elsewhere, though outside ideas can be useful influences. In the case of Russia in the post-Soviet era, local academic feminists have created a new concept, "feminology," which emphasizes the historical role of women in Russia and their place in contemporary Russian society. On the other hand, just as Western feminists have come to recognize feminism and women's movements, so too have Russian scholars when assessing the viewpoints, purposes, and structures of women's rights organizations on their soil. The *Encyclopedia of Russian Women's Movements* surveys many of those founded in the last two centuries, with an emphasis on those established since perestroika in the mid-1980s, for which few published works exist compared to the voluminous amount available on the earlier periods.

The book is divided into three time periods: nineteenth century and early twentieth up to the Revolution in 1917; the Soviet period, 1917–1991; and the transitional era and post-Soviet movements, 1985+. (Developments that began during perestroika, 1985–1991, are covered in the third section). Each section has an introductory overview of developments during that time period. The editors used a broad definition of women's movements, encompassing "any group that purported to support or advance improvements in the status of women" (p.xi). Similarly, in addition to entries for organizations, individuals are included if they "advanced the status of women in some way, even if they personally were not directly involved in women's movements" (p.xi). There are also some thematic entries for such topics as reproductive rights, women in the military, women's periodicals, and grouped descriptions of developments in particular cities or regions. A "Chronology of the Russian Women's Movements in Historical Context" helps readers keep track of external events as well as developments within the movements.

The division by era works fine for individuals and organizations that came and went within the time period. With a topic like "women's periodicals," however, there's some unevenness. The first section has good surveys of both "Women's Periodical Publishing in Late Imperial Russia (1860–1905)" and "Women's Periodicals in Early Twentieth-Century Russia," but no commensurate treatment appears in either of the other two sections.
Contributors are scholars in the United States and Russia. Their entries for organizations start with a basic statement of the purpose of the group, its founding date and founder(s), and location. A history follows, finished off by suggested readings and cross-references where appropriate. Entries for individuals adapt this model by stating at the outset what the person is best known for, then reviewing her biography from early years onward.

In the early 1990s, the University of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Consortium had exchanges and considerable contact with several women involved in Russian women's movements. Eight of them visited Wisconsin in October 1991, just as the Soviet Union was breaking up. They traveled to campuses throughout the state and were hosted by women's studies faculty and friends. Their hosts and others will be able to find out from the Encyclopedia more about the efforts of four of them (Valentina Konstantinova, Tatiana Klimenkova, Zoya Khotkina, and Olga Voronina). Librarians will be interested in the Moscow-based Information Center of the Independent Women's Forum (ICIWF), with its library, planned by Larisa Fedorova, and publications. According to the entry on the Center, by Sarah Henderson and Anna Rotkirch, with help from the Ford Foundation the ICIWF has now branched out into several other locales throughout Russia. The Encyclopedia does not provide websites, but the ICIWF can be found at http://www.owl.ru/eng/women/org001/.

The Encyclopedia of Russian Women's Movements is a useful and interesting guide to the people, organizations, and themes that make up the history of feminism in Russia.
For its extensive coverage of twentieth-century American figures, this volume might be useful to augment a collection that includes only such titles as Marilyn Ogilvie and Joy Harvey's *The Biographical Dictionary of Women in Science: Pioneering Lives from Ancient Times to the Mid-20th Century* and/or Martha J. Bailey's *American Women in Science: A Biographical Dictionary*, both of which end their coverage in the mid-twentieth century. I would not recommend this as the sole volume of this type in a collection.

[Barbarly Korper McConnell, who wrote the two reviews above, is Reference and Instruction Librarian at California State University—Fullerton.]

**WOMEN'S MOVEMENT HISTORY**


Like other resourceful scholars, Cheryl Law realized she had the basis for a second book as a by-product of her doctoral research, which was published as *Suffrage and Power: The Women's Movement 1918–28* (Tauris, 1997). She compiled files, particularly on the women she encountered, noting each instance when each woman appeared. By the end of her research, she had 133 women who made frequent appearances and over 800 others. Additional study and an extension of the time period through 1984 resulted in *Women: A Modern Political Dictionary*. It is predominately a biographical dictionary divided into two parts—1914–67 and 1968–84—heavily weighted toward the first period (153 pages for that versus 35 for the second). Law's intention for Part 1 was to "reveal women from the past whose contribution to women's emancipation has been lost or obscured, together with women whose stories are more familiar, to capture the diversity and intermeshing nature of their contribution" (p.vii.). Selecting women for Part 2 gave her more trouble, she says, since many are still active and not enough time has elapsed to fully assess who is significant. Perhaps also, she was on less sure ground than with the earlier period for which she was dealing with "her" women. At any rate, the value of *Women: A Modern Political Dictionary* for most users will be in studying the careers of numerous less well-known figures and using Law's references to trace back to newspaper accounts and other primary sources. The source material for the women in the second era is mostly other reference books, such as Kathryn Cullen-DuPont's *The Encyclopedia of Women's History in America* (Facts on File, 1996), Lisa Tuttle's *Encyclopaedia of Feminism* (Longman, 1986), and various editions of *Who's Who*. The biographees are primarily from the U.K., though women from the U.S., Australia, Canada, and elsewhere are also present. Each part also includes sections listing and describing the women's organizations active during the era (respectively twenty-five and eighteen pages).

The biographical entries include facts (birth and death dates, profession/endeavors, birthplace, parents, schools, marriage(s), recreational activities, organizations, and address) and a narrative paragraph that ranges from a few lines for a Mrs. Hobbs, who was active in the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organizations, to a page and a half each
for physician Louise Martindale, trade unionist and Labour politician Margaret Grace Bondfield, and Labour politician Dr. Edith Clara (Baroness) Summerskill. The entries conclude with a list of publications by the woman and sources.

A chronology of UK emancipatory legislation from 1918 to 1984, a bibliography, and a glossary of acronyms round out the offerings. There is no subject index.

**Briefly Noted**


When the first edition of this work appeared in 1993, published by Garland, I was quite impressed with it. As Bataille said in her introduction to that edition (lightly revised for the new edition), it filled in missing figures in history and cast the biographies of better-known Native American women in a corrective perspective, since “the European views that incorporated both fascination and repugnance obscured accurate depictions” (2d ed., p.xiv). There was nothing else like it in 1993, and except for Liz Sonneborn’s *A to Z of Native American Women* (Facts on File, 1998), profiling one hundred women (compared to more than double that number in the first edition of the *Biographical Dictionary*), there still isn’t. The new edition now includes 270 entries, with most of the newcomers being women born since 1921.

However, the entries for women included in the first edition have not been updated as much as one would like to see in a second edition. The entry for Roberta Hill White mans has her teaching at the University of Minnesota, though she’s been at University of Wisconsin–Madison for several years and now goes by the name Roberta J. Hill. Ada Deer’s biography still stops with 1993, when she was confirmed as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs. She is also at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, directing the American Indian Studies Program. Surely there has to be something more recent than 1993 about Wilma Mankiller—at least her co-editing of *The Reader’s Companion to U.S. Women’s History* (Houghton Mifflin, 1998) could have been mentioned. The entry for Louise Erdrich has been updated to reflect that she was married to Michael Dorris. Something else that has changed since 1993 is the availability of material on the Web. The lack of any website listings in the “Selected Bibliography” or references following individual entries is therefore a disappointment.

My recommendation to libraries is therefore cautionary. If you’ve got the first, you may want to pass on the second edition and wait for a complete overhaul.


Another of prolific Nordquist’s ready reference compilations, *Feminist Theory II* cites material published in English between 1995 and 2000 on the topic in general, plus its application in various disciplines and concerning women of color and feminist theory. Listed are books, articles, and chapters in anthologies. Because material on feminist theory appears in a variety of contexts, it is a convenience to have so much (661 entries) brought together in one place.

[Phyllis Holman Weisbard, who wrote all of the above reviews except as otherwise noted, is the Women’s Studies Librarian for the University of Wisconsin System and co-editor of Feminist Collections.]
PERIODICAL NOTES

NEW AND NEWLY DISCOVERED PERIODICALS

DAUGHTERS: FOR PARENTS OF GIRLS 1996-. Ed.: Lynette Lamb. 6/yr. Subscription: $34.95/yr. ($45.00 international). ISSN: 1521-4273. P.O. Box 3820, Duluth, MN 55803-3280; phone: (218) 728-5507; fax: (218) 728-0314; email: subscriptions@daughters.com (Issue examined: v.6, no.7, Nov./Dec. 2001)

The current form and ownership of this sixteen-page magazine, which aims to give parents “information and support, intended to help them communicate with and enjoy the company of their adolescent daughters,” are new: Daughters, which was started as an independent newsletter in 1995 by a couple of friends with girl children, was later published by the Pleasant Company, and was recently purchased by the nonprofit group Dads and Daughters, is now edited by Lynette Lamb, former editor of New Moon Network: For Adults Who Care About Girls (a companion newsletter to New Moon magazine). Publisher Joe Kelly, who is executive director of the nonprofit, promises that the new magazine “will not be a male-dominated publication, nor will it be a mouthpiece for Dads and Daughters. In other words, Daughters is staying true to its tradition. And that’s because Dads and Daughters is unlike many other men’s organizations in this country, which put down women. Instead, our mission is parallel to that of Daughters: raising healthy, confident girls.”

Daughters has an impressive advisory board that includes Andy Steiner, an editor for the Utne Reader; Dr. Evelyn Basshoff, author of Cherishing Our Daughters; and Dr. Harriet Mosatche of the Girl Scouts of the USA. The November/December 2001 issue discusses cliques and bullies and how to talk to pubescent daughters about body changes; there’s also a good guide to evaluating teen magazines.

A FRIEND INDEED 1984-. Ed.: Kathleen O’Grady. 6/yr. ISSN 0824-1961. Subscription: US$30.00/yr.; Can$35.00/yr. Initiatives for Women’s Health Inc., 419 Graham Ave., Main Flr., Winnipeg, MB R3C 0M3, Canada (in the U.S.: P.O. Box 260, Pembina, ND 58271-0260); fax: (204) 989-8029; email: afi@afriendindeed.ca; website: http://www.afriendindeed.ca (Issue examined: v.18, no.5, Nov./Dec. 2001)

The goal of this eight-page newsletter, whose subtitle is “for women in the prime of life,” is to help menopausal and midlife women “make knowledgeable decisions about their own health and well-being.” The feature article in the November/December 2001 issue is “Second Thoughts: Breast Self-Examination Under Review.” Also includes questions from readers, with responses from the AFI team, about yeast infections and possible risks of prescription drugs; book reviews; and short news items about research findings.

GIRLCRUSH 2000-. Founding Ed.: Anna-Kate Humphrey. New content approx. 6/yr. (issues not numbered or dated); articles from past issues also remain on the site. Free: online only. Website: http://www.girlcrushzine.com; email: girlcrushzine@hotmail.com (Visited: March 26, 2002)

This e-zine, managed by a twenty-three-year-old Canadian writer and university student, is “written for, and mostly by, girls 13-18. It is a safe (i.e., non-racist, non-sexist, non-homophobic) environment, where girls can speak frankly. GirlCrush also aims to be a place where girls can develop their voices as writers.” An impressive cast of contributors—all volunteer—from Canada, the U.S., Argentina, Australia, the Philippines, Japan, and the U.K. are listed (with crayon-drawn portraits and funky bios)—mostly young women and girls, but also a few “boys,” including “Dr. Chris,” a family physician who answers health questions. Columns in this issue talk about political activism, rudeness, fashion, sex, music, depression, a new book for girls called Hey, Day, and menstrual periods, and...
there's a very readable and sensible article called "Why Dieting Doesn't Work" that includes a link for anyone worried that a friend might have an eating disorder. Site navigation is a little puzzling (no obvious link back to the main page/contents list from other sections of the site, for instance), but there's lots of interesting content wherever you click.

**JENDA: A JOURNAL OF CULTURE AND AFRICAN WOMEN STUDIES 2000-.** Co-eds.: Nkiru Nzegwu, Mojuabaolu Okome, & Oyeronke Oyewumi. 3/yr. ISSN: 1530-5686. Published by Africa Resource Center, Inc. Free; online only (sign up via website to receive email notice when new issues are published). Email: jen-editors@africaresource.com; website: http://www.jendajournal.com (Issues examined: v.1, no. 1, 2000; v.1, no.2, 2001)

This peer-refereed journal’s co-editors are currently at Binghamton University, Brooklyn College, and SUNY-Stonybrook, respectively. The advisory and editorial boards draw from universities in Ghana, Zanzibar, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Canada, and the U.S. The journal “is committed to disseminating to as wide an audience as possible the research findings, analyses, and interpretations of scholars whose field is African Women studies.” Editor Nzegwu writes in the premiere issue of the main objectives of Jenda: “the first is to create a space from which to theorize our experiences, presently marginalized in today’s global context of unequal economic relations; and the second is to wrest ourselves from the mould of stereotypical assumptions in which this international economic order and its attendant culture of hierarchy have cast us. We chose to publish online because it offers an immediate and cost-effective way to reach a global audience. We can take our issues directly to our audience without being subjected to the demeaning practices in place in the publishing industry.”

A few article titles from the first two issues: “Ties that (Un)Bind: Feminism, Sisterhood and Other Foreign Relations” (Oyeronke Oyewumi); “The Challenge of Marginalization: The Experience of Africans in Europe and in the United States” (Rose Uchem); “Gender Discourses and Representational Practices in Gold Coast Newspapers” (Audrey Gadzekpo); “Islam and its Bigots: The Case of Safiyatu Huseini Tugur Tudu” (Nkiru Nzegwu); “Alice in Motherland: Reading Alice Walker on Africa and Screening the Color ‘Black’” (Oyeronke Oyewumi).

**NIKK MAGASIN 2001-.** Ed.: Trine Lynggard. 3/yr. (first two in Scandinavian language and the third in English). Print and online (.pdf format). Free. ISSN: 1502-1521. Nordic Institute for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, P.O. Box 1156, Blindern, NO-0317 Oslo, Norway; phone: +47 22 85 89 21; fax: +47 22 85 89 50; email: nikk@nikk.uio.no; website: http://www.nikk.uio.no (Issue examined: No. 3, 2001; “first English edition”)

NIKK’s plan is to publish two Scandinavian-language issues each year, then translate selected articles from those and publish them in a third, English-language issue along with some new pieces written expressly for English-speaking readers. The first English issue features “Heterosexual Couples Talking About and ‘Doing’ Gender,” by Eva Magnusson; “Sexism, Support and Survival in Academia: Finnish Experiences,” by Liisa Husu; and “Young, Muslim and Woman, Norwegian Style,” by Christine M. Jacobsen; plus other columns, including an interview with Hanne Haavind, author of The Myth of the Good Mother.

**SPECIAL ISSUES OF PERIODICALS**

Partial contents: "Illusive Evidence: Patricia Cornwell and The Body Double" (Linda Mizejewski); "Interrogating Judicial Bodies: Women and the Legal Thriller" (Priscilla L. Walton); "The Butler Didn’t Do It So Now They’re Blaming the Maid: Defining a Black Feminist Trickster through the Novels of Barbara Neely" (Nancy D. Tolson); "Warshawski’s Situation: Beauvoiran Feminism and the Hard-Boiled Detective" (Kenneth Paradis).

CEASED PUBLICATION

It was reported by Amy Wilentz in The Nation (Feb. 11, 2002, p.37) that WORKING WOMAN magazine “was closed by new management (a bank) last September, on its twenty-fifth anniversary. The magazine went on ‘hiatus,’ as the holding company that still owns the name puts it.” The magazine’s website, http://www.workingwomanmag.com/, has been subsumed under that of WORKING MOTHER.

TRANSITIONS

DREAM/GIRL MAGAZINE, reviewed in Feminist Collections v.19, no.4 (Summer 1998, p.33) has a website now, at www.dgArts.com, and lists its current subscription price as $22.95 for six issues, and its mailing address as P.O. Box 97365, Raleigh, NC 27624; phone: (919) 676-2694.

GOOD GIRL, introduced in this column in the Spring/Summer 2001 issue (v.22, nos.3–4), has a slightly changed mailing address: Box 2, 2735 Dundas St. West, Toronto, ONT M6P 1Y1, Canada.

Editor-in-chief Phyllis Noerager Stern of HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL has turned over the reins to former associate editor Eleanor Krasen Covan after leading the journal for its first eighteen years.

Compiled by JoAnne Lehman
Calling attention to certain disadvantages women face when it comes to trade agreements, *WOMEN AND THE FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS*, by Marceline White, is free at http://fpif.org/commentary/0103femftaa.html. For more information, contact the Interhemispheric Resource Center/Institute for Policy Studies, Foreign Policy In Focus Program, Box 4506, Albuquerque, NM 87196; phone: (505) 842-8288; fax: (505) 246-1601; email: infocus@fpif.org

A fact sheet from the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIA W) (Institut Canadien de Recherches sur les Femmes, or ICREF) targets specific topics dealing with women’s health. *WOMEN, HEALTH AND ACTION* provides statistics and important facts pertaining to the well-being of women everywhere and describes where to go for more information. To view this and other informational sheets, write to CRIA W, 408-151 rue Slater Street, Ottawa, ONT K1P 5H3, Canada; phone: (613) 563-0681; email: info@criaw-icref.ca; website: http://www.criaw-icref.ca

Carol Putnam, Anne Fenety, and Charlotte Loppie have collaborated on a study that reports the effects job-related stress can have on female telemarketers’ health. *WHO’S ON THE LINE? WOMEN IN CALL CENTRES TALK ABOUT THEIR WORK AND ITS IMPACT ON THEIR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING* gives women employees in the telemarketing field a chance to relate stories about their work. Free copies are available from Mary Ann Martell, Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women’s Health; phone: (902) 420-6739; fax: (902) 420-6752; email: mary.martell@dal.ca

The Center of Concern and the International Gender and Trade Network launched the first paper in its Occasional Paper Series on Gender and Development, called *WOMEN’S ECONOMIC AGENDA IN THE 21ST CENTURY*. The paper, by Maria Riley, tracks why the women’s advocacy movement has branched off from the UN into other international institutions. It can be downloaded at http://www.genderandtrade.net Click first on the archives link, then on the paper series link. For hard copies, email: secretariat@coc.org ($2.95 shipping and handling).

*WISCONSIN WOMEN’S RESOURCES 2001* is a directory of dozens of Wisconsin organizations that women may find helpful. To receive a copy of this 120-page publication, mail the Wisconsin Women’s Council, 14 W. Mifflin St., Suite 103, Madison, WI 53703; phone: (608) 266-2219; fax: (608) 261-2432; email: info@wwc.state.wi.us. Other useful sources for women are available on the Council’s website: http://www.state.wi.us/static/

The Women’s Research and Education Institute (WREI) report *IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF MIDLIFE WOMEN* concentrates on issues facing middle-aged women face in terms of health, health care, and careers in the health care industry. The 100-page report identifies gaps in health policies and provides recommendations that work toward preventing the emergence of future issues. For a copy ($8.50 each), write to WREI, 1750 New York Ave. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20006; phone: (202) 628-0444; fax: (202) 628-0458; email: wrei@wrei.org; website: http://www.wrei.org/health.html

From 1975 to 1995, the United Nations World Conferences for Women and related meetings have helped with “the development of lesbian feminism globally.” In *LESBIANS TRAVEL THE ROADS OF FEMINISM GLOBALLY/LA TRAVESIA DE LAS MUJERES LESBIANAS POR EL FEMINISMO INTERNACIONAL*, authors Charlotte Bunch and Claudia Hinojosa present stories surrounding the work of the World Conference meetings. The nineteen-page English/Spanish publication is available by email: cwgl@igc.org

K. Lynn Stoner and Mario González are making *MINERVA*, a historical journal by and about black women in Cuba, available on forty-five microfiche. Included in the four-part set is an essay relating *Minerva*’s historical background, a collective table of contents, a microfiche copy of *Minerva*, and an author’s index. Send requests along with $307.00 for purchase, shipping, and handling to K. Lynn Stoner, 333 N. Pennington Dr., #7, Chandler, AZ 85224; email: lynn.stoner@asu.edu

Available in magazine or online in .pdf format, the publication *FCNL PERSPECTIVES* from the Friends Committee on National Legislation covers a wide range of important sociological and economic topics. For instance, *WOMEN AND POVERTY: GENDER BASED INEQUITY AND ITS CAUSES* (June 2000, No.1) studies governmental policies toward women in need. For individual copies of this
A recent study in Canada reports on the unjust tax burdens the government places on lesbian couples. **THE IMPACT OF RELATIONSHIP RECOGNITION ON LESBIAN WOMEN IN CANADA: STILL SEPARATE AND SOMEWHAT "EQUIVALENT"** by Kathleen A. Lahey, calls attention to unfair legislative decisions affecting same-sex couples, especially low-income women. The 138-page report is available online in .pdf format at the website [http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/](http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/). Order hard-copy results of the study by writing to Status of Women Canada, 123 Slater St., Ottawa, ON K1P 1H9, Canada; email: research@swc-cfc.gc.ca

The **2001-2002 CATALOG** of the WEEA EQUITY RESOURCE CENTER AT EDC offers fact sheets, reports, and teaching outlines designed to promote gender equity and better opportunities for girls in the classroom. For a catalog, contact the Education Development Center by phone: (412) 741-1968 (toll fee in North America: (800) 225-3088); fax: (617) 332-4318; email: WEAActr@edc.org. The EDC catalog can also be accessed online at: [http://www.edc.org/](http://www.edc.org/)

What started a year ago as a small collection in the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture at Duke University has grown enormously to become one of the foremost zine collections in the U.S. Sample images from the **SARAH DYER WOMEN'S ZINE COLLECTION** can be accessed online at [http://photo1.dukenuws.duke.edu/pages/Duke_News_Service](http://photo1.dukenuws.duke.edu/pages/Duke_News_Service) by clicking on Zine1 or Zine2. To contribute a zine to the archives, write the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture, Rare Book Manuscript and Special Collections Library, Duke University, NC 27708-0185; phone: (919) 660-5967; fax: (919) 660-5934; email: sbcwhc@duke.edu; website: [http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/women/newsletter/issue01/index.html](http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/women/newsletter/issue01/index.html)

Dress styles during the nineteenth century are featured on an 800-page CD-ROM, **AMERICAN DRESSES, 1780-1900: IDENTIFICATION AND SIGNIFICANCE OF 148 EXTANT DRESSES**. Collected in part by Cornell University's professor emeritus Elise Frost McMurry, the set follows a progressive timeline depicting facts and dress illustrations over the 120-year period. The set costs $49.95; order from Cornell University Resource Center, 7 BTP, Ithaca, NY 14850; phone: (607) 255-2090; fax: (607) 255-9946.

Briefs and full-text versions of many discussion papers from the **INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE** are free on the Institute's website at [http://www.ifpri.cgiar.org/divs/fcnd/dp.htm](http://www.ifpri.cgiar.org/divs/fcnd/dp.htm). Here is just a sampling of the available papers: **INTRAHOUSEHOLD IMPACT OF THE TRANSFER OF MODERN AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY: A GENDER PERSPECTIVE** (No. 85), by Ruchira Tabassum Naved, analyzes Bangladeshi women's food and agricultural decision-making powers and suggests possible alternative agriculture methods. Such practices could provide women with greater amounts of essential micronutrients. **WOMEN'S ASSETS AND INTRAHOUSEHOLD ALLOCATION IN RURAL BANGLADESH: TESTING MEASURES OF BARGAINING POWER** (No. 86), by Agnes R. Quisumbing and Bénédicte de la Brière, studies how current wealth and
wealth brought in through marriage affect bargaining power. Also available is INTRAHOUSEHOLD ALLOCATION AND GENDER RELATIONS: NEW EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM FOUR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, by Agnes R. Quisumbing and John A. Maluccio (No. 84). Full versions can be obtained from B. McClafferty, Food Consumption and Nutrition Division, IFPRI, 2033 K St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

The 2000 World Bank policy report ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT THROUGH GENDER EQUALITY IN RIGHTS, RESOURCES, AND VOICES provides thirty-seven pages of information pertaining to gendered economic and social issues surrounding countries in development and transition. To purchase a full report, write the World Bank, 1818 H St. N.W., Washington, DC 20433; phone: (800) 645-7247; fax: (703) 661-1501; email: books@worldbank.org; website: http://www.worldbank.org/gender/prr


RECORDS OF SOUTHERN PLANTATIONS FROM EMANCIPATION TO THE GREAT MIGRATION is a microfilm collection of primary documents related to Louisiana, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida plantation life. Included is information about “the new roles of women and children in Southern domestic life.” Further details from Lexis-Nexis: phone: (800) 638-8380; fax: (301) 657-3203; website: http://www.lexisnexis.com/academic

The voices of Cuban women can be heard in THROUGH WOMEN’S EYES, a newsprint publication of EVERYWOMAN’S DELEGATION TO CUBA 2000 (connected with the Northwest Labor and Employment Law Office in Seattle). Featured articles discuss the future of Cuba’s youth and national heritage as well as maternal care for women. The cost for a copy is $5.00 for individuals and $10.00 for institutions. Write to EveryWoman’s Delegation, c/o LELO, 1419 S. Jackson St., #112, Seattle, WA 98144; phone: (206) 860-1400; website: http://www.lelo.org

INFORMATION FOR WOMEN ABOUT THE SAFETY OF SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS is a thirty-page report from the Institute of Medicine. It can be ordered for $10.00 from the National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Ave. NW, Lockbox 285, Washington, DC 20055; phone: (888) 624-8373; fax: (202) 334-2451; email: zjones@nas.edu; website: http://www.nap.edu/books/0309065933/html

The WOMEN’S COMMISSION FOR REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN is working hard to better the lives of Afghani, African, and Middle Eastern women and children. Presented in the Commission’s 1999 Annual Report are highlights of the advancements made by the organization since its establishment ten years earlier under the auspices of the International Rescue Committee. The report is available through the Commission at 122 East 42nd St., 12th floor, New York, NY 10168-1289; phone: (212) 551-3088; fax: (212) 551-3180; email:wcrwc@therc.org; website: http://www.womenscommission.org/

The Women’s Studies Program of the University of Illinois publishes a series of occasional papers that include such titles as GLOBALIZATION, GENDER AND PEDAGOGY: PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT OF WOMEN’S STUDIES AND SOUTH/WEST ASIAN GLOBAL STUDIES SEMINAR SERIES, AUGUST 1988; MOVEMENTS AS COALITIONS: THE NEED FOR STRONGER COALITIONS AMONG WOMEN; “CONTINGENT” WORK AND ITS IMPACT ON WORKERS; and GENDER AND GLOBALIZATION: FEMALE LABOR AND WOMEN’S MOBILIZATION. Order from the Women’s Studies Program, Campus Box 4260, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4260. The complete list of eleven papers and an order form can be found at http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/womenstudies/publications/occasionalpapers.html

Compiled by Teresa Fernandez
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IN OUR OWN IMAGE: POVERTY IN WISCONSIN (VIDEO). Statham, Anne. The University of Wisconsin Women's Studies Consortium Outreach, 1996.


SEX MATTERS FOR WOMEN: A COMPLETE GUIDE TO TAKING CARE OF YOUR SEXUAL SELF. Foley, Salie and others. Guilford, 2002.


WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: ASSESSING STRATEGIES FOR EMPOWERMENT. Datta, Rekha and Kornberg, Judith, eds. Lynne Rienner, 2002.


Feminist Academic Press Column

Edited quarterly by Mev Miller

http://www.litwomen.org/fapc.html

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Purpose of the Column
Originally published as the University Press Column for Feminist Bookstore News; I edited this column between 1994 and 2000. When FBN ceased publication in 2000, I decided to continue the column as a service to the Feminist Bookstore Network. In this Internet format, I hope it will also appeal to academics and librarians in Women’s Studies, Lesbian Studies, and other related fields. If you have suggestions on how to make this column more useful, please contact Mev Miller. All serious comments will be considered and addressed as possible.

- Titles of both general/trade and academic interest will be reviewed from both university and academic presses.
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- Only books that are recently published and available will be reviewed.
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University and academic presses interested in more details should contact Mev Miller, Reviewer
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