

E-SOURCES ON WOMEN AND GENDER

Our website (<http://womenst.library.wisc.edu/>) includes recent editions of this column and links to complete back issues of *Feminist Collections*, plus many bibliographies, a database of women-focused videos, 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.

High-school English teachers can use standard classroom texts — *Lord of the Flies*, for instance, or *Their Eyes Were Watching God* — to teach about power, control, and preventing violence and abuse in teen relationships, with help from the **LESSONS FROM LITERATURE** program at <http://www.lessonsfromliterature.org>. The program is sponsored by the Family Violence Prevention Fund.

New forms of communication can make way for new forms of some age-old problems like harassment and stalking. For instance, along with the popularity of text-messaging comes the possibility of “textual harassment”; someone’s privacy can be violated by a boyfriend or girlfriend breaking into their email or FaceBook account; and the freedom to share photos online can become unwanted pressure to look at or post offensive images. “Where do you draw your digital line?” asks **THAT’S NOT COOL.COM**, a site for young people sponsored by the Family Violence Prevention Fund. Videos, “talk it out” forums, and shareable “callout cards” at <http://www.thatsnotcool.com/> address these contemporary dilemmas and encourage such time-proven solutions as honesty, respect, and clear communication. I’m not convinced, though, that all of the “callout card” messages further the site’s professed goals: “If you got this, it must have been lucky enough to make it through the billion texts from your boyfriend” just sounds snarky to me.

JEWISH WOMEN: A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA, originally published on CD-ROM by Shalvi Publishing Ltd. in 2006, is now available online and for free at the Jewish Women’s Archive: <http://jwa.org/encyclopedia>. Furthermore, it is a living, growing work: as the Archive staff explain, “Never has so much well-researched and well-written material about Jewish women been available in one place. Being online means an exponential increase in access to that information. Any encyclopedia is an unfinished work. By putting this one online, the Jewish Women’s Archive is making it possible for scholars and more

casual readers to propose updates and, in a later stage, to upload new articles. This first iteration creates easy access to the articles on the CD-ROM and gives users the opportunity to add links, updates, and suggestions for new content.”

The **NATIONAL ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN** offers a collection of tools for helping people learn about preventing violence against women, at http://new.vawnet.org/category/index_pages.php?category_id=867. The tools include classes and tutorials, slide shows and PowerPoint presentations, videos of lectures and workshops, podcasts, Web conferences, quizzes, and more.

Reference librarian Ken Middleton (Middle Tennessee State University) has assembled an amazing resource: a database indexing more than 400 “digital collections of primary sources (photos, letters, diaries, artifacts, etc.) that document the history of women in the United States.” From the home page of **DISCOVERING AMERICAN WOMEN’S HISTORY ONLINE**, <http://library.mtsu.edu/digital-projects/womenshistory.php>, it’s easy to browse or search subject headings that lead to such wide-ranging resources as the American Foundation for the Blind’s collection of Helen Keller’s letters; the National Library of Medicine’s materials on physician Virginia Apgar; an index of nearly 20,000 quilts; and materials in the Library of Congress about dancer Katherine Dunham. The database is also searchable by state, time period, and primary source type.

“The **CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS** uses the law to advance reproductive freedom as a fundamental human right that all governments are legally obligated to protect, respect, and fulfill.” Reproductive rights, and the Center’s work, are about much more than abortion, as a look around <http://www.reproductiverights.org> will show. Featured among the center’s publications, for instance, are “Maternal Mortality in India,” “At Risk: Rights Violations of HIV-Positive Women in Kenyan Health Facilities,” “Gender-Based Violence Laws in Sub-Saharan Africa,” and “Imposing Misery: The Impact of Manila’s Contraception Ban on Women and Families.” One of the Center’s major issue areas is “Safe and Healthy Pregnancy.”

The **OP-ED PROJECT** aims “to bring gender balance to the nation’s op-ed pages.” Because “women currently do not submit op-eds with anywhere near the frequency that men do,” the project “target[s] and train[s] women experts in all

fields to write for the op-ed pages of major print and online forums of public discourse.” No matter what your gender, you can pick up some great tips on writing opinion-editorial columns and letters to editors at <http://www.theopedproject.org/cms/> — you can even find out exactly how to submit a piece to the *Baltimore Sun*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, and ninety-eight other top U.S. newspapers.

The *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN & ISLAMIC CULTURES* is a six-volume work, published in English over a period of several years beginning in 2003 (Brill Academic Publishers), and described as “a broad based, interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, transhistorical encyclopedia, focusing specifically on women and Islamic cultures, but also including non-Muslim women in cultures where Islam has had a significant presence.” With funding from the Swedish Institute of Alexandria and the Ford Foundation, and supervised by the Women and Memory Forum, Volume 1 of this important work has been translated into Arabic and is now available online to the public, without charge, at <http://sjoseph.ucdavis.edu/ewic/volume1.htm>.

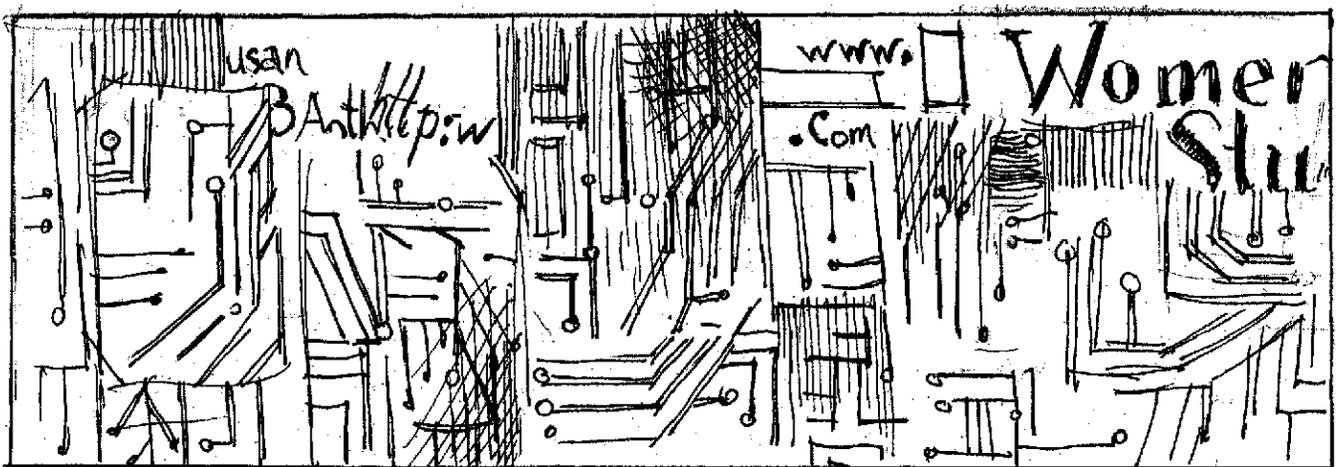
The **WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN (WMW)** is, according to the organization’s site at http://www.worldmarchofwomen.org/qui_nous_sommes/en/, “an international feminist action movement connecting grass-roots groups and organizations working to eliminate the causes at the root of poverty and violence against women.” In 2004, the WMW articulated a “global charter for humanity” that “describes the world women want to build,” based on the values of “equality, freedom, solidarity, justice, and peace.” In 2005, the movement took this charter to the road, the airways, and the sea in a “relay around the world,” visiting sixty-four places where women contributed quilt blocks signifying their commitment to those values. The resulting **SOLIDARITY QUILT** is on display in the offices of the

WMW in South Africa, as well as in the online International Museum of Women: <http://www.imow.org/wpp/stories/viewStory?storyid=1867>.

Transcripts of interviews with nearly sixty women who distinguished themselves as leaders, activists, organizers, and advocates in the late twentieth century are housed in the Sophia Smith Collection of Smith College Libraries, and most of these transcripts, along with biographical sketches of the featured women, are available online via Smith’s **VOICES OF FEMINISM ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**: www.smith.edu/library/libs/ssc/vof/vof-intro.html. Visitors to this resource can learn about Katherine Acey’s work in “progressive philanthropy,” Charon Asetoyer’s directorship of the Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center, Brenda Berkman’s class-action lawsuit against New York City’s fire department, Mary Chung Hayashi’s “path towards becoming the first Korean American elected to the California State Assembly,” Meredith Tax’s combining of writing and activism, and the lives and accomplishments of many other pillars of feminism, both well- and less-well-known.

New for the University of Wisconsin System, from the Women’s Studies Librarian! An online guide to researching topics related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, or questioning issues, using the UW System libraries and the Internet: **LESBIAN-GAY-BISEXUAL-TRANSGENDERED-QUEER STUDIES: INTRODUCTION TO RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHING LGBTQ TOPICS IN UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM LIBRARIES** at http://researchguides.library.wisc.edu/LGBTQ_Library_Resources_UW_System. There is also a format specifically for UW–Madison users, **LGBTQ STUDIES RESOURCES AT UW–MADISON**, at http://researchguides.library.wisc.edu/LGBT_Studies.

○ Compiled by JoAnne Lehman



Miriam Greenwald