

E-SOURCES ON WOMEN & 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.

*Follow us on social media! Our office now has a **Facebook** page, a **Twitter** account, and a **Tumblr** page! On Facebook (www.facebook.com/womenst) and Twitter (twitter.com/WisWSLibrarian), we post news about feminist issues, librarianship, and the activities and publications of the Gender & Women’s Studies Librarian and her staff. Our brand-new Tumblr (uwgwslibrarian.tumblr.com) focuses on visually presenting the resources housed in this office.*

ROLE/REBOOT (<http://rolereboot.org>) is “a contemporary online magazine on culture and gender roles” that is aimed toward “people ambivalent about the bill of goods they’ve been sold as a result of being a man or a woman.” Readers are encouraged to submit an essay, narrative, or cultural critique on “rethinking ‘tradition,’ breaking through stereotypes, and bucking expectations about their roles.” Writings cover topics relating to sex and relationships, families, culture and politics, or just life in general. *Role/Reboot* focuses on personal narratives as a way to raise consciousness regarding the restrictiveness of gender roles felt by men and women in society.

WORLD PULSE (<http://worldpulse.com>) is “an action media network powered by women from 190 countries. Through our programs, we lift and unite women’s voices to accelerate their impact for the world.” Started by journalist Jensine Larsen, this network sees women underrepresented in both media and in powerful positions around the world. “Most international institutions and organizations agree that empowering women and girls is the fastest way to solve world problems,” and *World Pulse* is doing its part to amplify the voices of women around the globe through the power of digital media and grassroots change by women leaders. *World Pulse’s* goal is to “bring women’s voices out of the shadows and onto the world stage.”

POSTER WOMEN (<http://posterwomen.org>), a project created by Zubaan (a continuation of the first feminist publishing house in India — Kali for Women), seeks to visually map the women’s movement in India through posters and

other visual images. Its vast collection of posters has been turned into a traveling exhibit that has been shown around India as well as in other countries. “The posters in the archive have been thematically organized and the attempt has been annotated in detail, mentioning the date, the campaign, the designer, the story/concept behind the poster, how it was used, the feedback and, where available, short essays that provide background information so that a complete archive is created that demonstrates the richness of the movement.” Some of the poster categories include health, literacy, environment, marginalization, violence, rights, the goddess, and politics. The Poster Women project also documents traditional forms of expression (such as needlework and painting) in its “Painting Our World” collection on the website, as well as in written accounts submitted by women involved in the women’s movement in India.

The online magazine **LEZBELIB** (<http://lezbelib.com>) is aimed at lesbians, bisexual women, and genderqueer individuals, as well as other members of the LGBTQ community. *Lezbelib* covers subjects ranging from national, international, and local news and politics to entertainment and culture stories.

FIRST WOMAN (<http://firstwoman.tumblr.com>) is a blog hosted by Tumblr (a microblogging and social networking site), run by Kay Steiger, associate editor at *Talking Points Memo*, and “devoted to the women who broke barriers, big and small.” Both current and historical “firsts” are documented on the site, including CEO and board member appointments as well as firsts in political offices and on magazine covers.

THE COLLECTIVE BIOGRAPHIES OF WOMEN, a project of Professor Alison Booth at the University of Virginia, features an annotated bibliography database of books containing “three or more short biographies of women.” The website (<http://womensbios.lib.virginia.edu>) contains a “Featured Subjects” section that directs users to information about well-known women of history, such as Joan of Arc, Pocahontas, Mary Somerville, and Florence Nightingale. The project’s bibliography contains about 1200 items that were published between 1830 and 1950, and can be browsed or searched through the website.

THE WOMEN’S ROOM (<http://thewomensroom.org.uk>) was formed to push back against the overly prevalent voices of white, middle, upper-class men in the media, especially when these men are the only “experts” to be found on popular women’s issues. The project “want[s] experience to be considered as valid as traditional ‘expertise.’ We want to question what knowledge is valued in our society — and why.” The Women’s Room’s website is set up to allow women a collective voice through a database system of experts and a forum for discussion; its database is searchable by region and topic, with registered experts on subjects ranging from the arts and mathematics, to law and sports.

OBJECT is a UK-based human rights organization dedicated to challenging and ultimately eradicating the sexual objectification of women. The organization notes the increasing prevalence and acceptance of objectifying women — through “lads’ mags,” Internet pornography, lap dancing clubs, and marketing of items like pole-dancing kits to children and women. While it does not align itself as anti-sex, anti-nudity, or as holding any particular religious or moral position, it continues to “challenge ‘sex object culture’ because of the role it plays in reinforcing sexism and the attitudes it promotes, which underpin inequality and violence against women.” OBJECT works through producing information, raising awareness, and continually campaigning with members of Parliament, media regulators, and others to change the social climate and sometimes legal status of sexual objectification. Reports and information on campaigns are available at OBJECT’s website (<http://object.org.uk>), which addresses topics such as lap dancing, prostitution, beauty pageants, and violence against women.

Plan International has issued **ASIA CHILD MARRIAGE INITIATIVE: SUMMARY OF RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH, INDIA, AND NEPAL**, a report on a study of child marriage in Asia that was conducted with the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW). The 2013 report, by Tina Khanna, Ravi Verma and Ellen Weiss, connects child marriages with early and potentially harmful or fatal pregnancies, gendered poverty, and a resulting lack of education for girls and women in these areas. The authors suggest programs that strengthen community-based organizations, spread awareness, empower children to voice their opinions on child marriage, increase the value of educating young girls, and help support the children who do marry early. The 20-page report can be downloaded in PDF from the ICRW’s website, on the Publications page: <http://www.icrw.org/publications>.



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The Human Security Report Project — a research center affiliated with Simon Fraser University in Canada that focuses on trends in organized violence — released its 2012 report, titled **SEXUAL VIOLENCE, EDUCATION, AND WAR: BEYOND THE MAINSTREAM NARRATIVE**, which complicates some of the dominant narratives we hold surrounding conflict and violence. The report challenges the common narratives by asserting that conflicts with extreme sexual violence are not the norm, but rather the exception; that sexual violence in wartime is not increasing; that strategic rape is less common than believed; that domestic sexual violence is responsible for more violence than is stranger/

armed forces sexual violence; and that, while women make up the majority of wartime sexual violence victims, male victims are more numerous than thought. The complete report, which numbers some 230 pages, is available in one large PDF file as well as split into smaller sections, at <http://hsrgroup.org/human-security-reports/2012/text.aspx>.

“Gender inequalities, and the violence that maintains them, are not simply a matter of individuals and their behaviours; they are maintained by the social, economic and political institutions that structure all of our lives.” With this in mind, the **MOBILISING MEN** program works with men to participate and ally with women in their fight for sexual and reproductive health and rights. The program’s guide, ***MOBILISING MEN IN PRACTICE: CHALLENGING SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS*** (2012, 114 pages), offers sections called “Becoming Activists for Change,” which includes information on self-reflection, allyship, privilege, and support; “Understanding Institutional Violence,” which analyzes power structures and conditions that contribute to violence; and “Taking Action for Change,” which helps men invent strategies and actions to combat gender inequalities and violence and enact in social change. Available from the Institute of Development Studies at <http://www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/MobilisingMeninPracticeonlinefinal.pdf>.

The 2012 ***STUDY ON GENDER, MASCULINITY, AND SON PREFERENCE IN NEPAL AND VIETNAM***, by the International Center for Research on Women, the Center for Research on Environment, Health, and Population Activities in Nepal, and the Institute for Social Development Studies (Vietnam), looks at son preference, as well as at men’s attitudes toward gender equality, violence, and reproductive health and rights in Nepal and Vietnam. The 98-page report is available online in PDF at <http://www.icrw.org/files/publications/SON-F-PRINTING-web.pdf>.

COUNT ME IN! RESEARCH REPORT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST DISABLED, LESBIAN, AND SEX-WORKING WOMEN IN BANGLADESH, INDIA, AND NEPAL looks at the intersectionality of gendered violence against women and other categories of marginalization such as disability, sexual orientation, or occupation. Lesbian, disabled, and “sex-working” women experience violence differently from each other, but also experience violence differently from able-bodied, heterosexual, and “respectable” women. The full findings are available online in PDF (<http://web.creaworld.org/files/cmir.pdf>).

WORK AND WELFARE: REVISITING THE LINKAGES FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE, by Sarah Cook and Shahra Razavi, interrogates the ties between employment and social policy through the lens of gender. The 40-page paper, published in late 2012, analyzes gendered hierarchies in work, “masculinization” of women’s working lives, and the welfare system. The authors argue that the “critical challenge is to rethink labour markets/work to bring unpaid work, and particularly the reproductive sector, within the frameworks of analysis of the economy and markets, while also addressing the inequalities inherent in welfare systems that privilege market- and labour-based ‘contributory’ entitlements over ‘needs-based’ claims to social assistance.” Available from the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development at <http://www.unrisd.org> (browse by publication year under the Publications tab).



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The World Economic Forum’s ***GLOBAL GENDER GAP REPORT*** looks at global gender-based disparities and tracks their progress (or lack thereof) around the world. The Global Gender Gap Index used to track these inequalities holds to three underlying concepts: tracking gaps vs disparities in levels of available resources, tracking outcomes rather than inputs, and ranking gender equality rather than women’s empowerment. The Index uses economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and surviv-



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al, and political empowerment to define its four fundamental categories of analysis. A PDF of the 380-page report for 2012, by Ricardo Hausmann, Laura D. Tyson, and Saadia Zahidi, can be downloaded at http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GenderGap_Report_2012.pdf.

Writer **NELLIE BLY** (a.k.a. Elizabeth Jane Cochrane, 1864-1922) was noted for having traveled the world in 72 days, as well as for writings that included an expose on brutality and neglect in mental asylums and descriptions of the lives and culture of the Mexican people. Bly's fiction writing also reflected her progressive values, touching on the plight of the working class through character interactions with impoverished factory workers. Her 1889 novel, *THE MYSTERY OF CENTRAL PARK*, follows a young man, Dick, as he attempts to solve a murder in New York. Reportedly, only three print copies of the book exist in U.S. libraries, but it can be found online in the archives of the Library of Congress (<https://archive.org/details/mysteryofcentral-00coch>).

Podcasts of a 2013 National Public Radio (NPR) special series called **THE CHANGING LIVES OF WOMEN** are

available online at <http://www.npr.org/series/177622347/the-changing-lives-of-women>. Subjects covered include depictions of working women on TV, stay-at-home dads, gender equality in the workplace, health, and the careers of NPR women.

UNESCO's first *WORLD ATLAS OF GENDER EQUALITY IN EDUCATION*, published in 2012, looks at global trends in the participation of girls and women in primary, secondary, and tertiary education. The atlas is used to "monitor the progress of girls and the educational attainment levels of women" so that effective policies can be created on national and international levels to "focus on ensuring girls 'full and equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality.'" The 90-page document, which includes charts, tables, and maps, is available in PDF at <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/unesco-world-atlas-gender-education-2012.pdf>.

Breast Cancer Action's *THINK BEFORE YOU PINK TOOLKIT* is a downloadable PDF (registration of a name, email address, and zip code is required) that critiques the "pinkwashing" of products, the "corporate takeover of the pink ribbon," and the use of carcinogens in consumer products (specifically, products being used to promote breast cancer awareness). As part of a campaign by Breast Cancer Action, the *Toolkit* provides background information on pinkwashing, encourages consumers to think critically about breast cancer awareness products and the presumably donated funds, and offers recommendations for taking action against pinkwashing. More information and a link to the registration form for downloading the materials can be found at <http://www.bcaction.org/resources/breast-cancer-action-toolkits/>.

WAYWARD SONS: THE EMERGING GENDER GAP IN LABOR MARKETS AND EDUCATION, a paper by MIT economists David Autor and Melanie Wasserman and published by Third Way, an organization whose mission is "to advance moderate policy and political ideas" (and whose honorary co-chairs include U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill and U.S. Rep. John Dingell), analyzes the "growing disparity between men and women in both educational attainment and economic well-being" and the impacts of the change in U.S. family structure. The authors note that "over the last three decades, the labor market trajectory of males in the U.S. has turned downward along four dimensions: skills acquisition; employment rates; occupational stature;

and real wage levels.” Autor and Wasserman also relate a decline in male achievement to males born into single-parent households, noting that females in single-parent households do not seem to be as adversely affected. The paper is available for download in PDF from <http://www.thirdway.org/publications/662>.

In the popular podcast series **FREAKONOMICS RADIO**, a variety of experts and commentators (economists, sociologists, and the Freakonomics blog editor) weigh in on the topic “**WOMEN ARE NOT MEN.**” The podcast asks why only 16% of Wikipedia’s editors are women, compares male-female differences between a patriarchal tribe in Tanzania and a matrilineal tribe in India, and looks at the “female happiness paradox” and gender gaps in crime rates. The podcast is available for listening online at <http://freakonomics.com/2013/02/24/women-are-not-men-a-new-freakonomics-radio-podcast/>; a transcript is also available.

The **WOMANSTATS PROJECT** (<http://womanstats.org/index.htm>) is “the most comprehensive compilation of information on the status of women in the world.” Its Board of Directors and investigators include professors from Brown University, Brigham Young University, the University of Minnesota, and other international locations such as universities in Italy, the UK, and Colombia. Most of the project’s sponsors are affiliated with Brigham Young University, but other funders include the Sorenson Legacy Foundation and Hunt Alternatives Fund. The project “facilitates understanding the linkage between the situation of women and the security of nation-states.” The researchers and database managers collect both quantitative and qualitative information on over 360 indicators of women’s status from almost 200 countries. The database is free to access, and the Project also has world maps showing various trends available online.

THE WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IN AGRICULTURE INDEX, published by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), a group dedicated to finding sustainable ways to end poverty and hunger, is designed to “measure the empowerment, agency, and inclusion of women in the agricultural sector.” The WEAI has two subindexes that measure gender parity and the degree of empowerment women enjoy in the “five domains of empowerment in agriculture,” such as decision-making power in production or resources, control of use of income, leadership, and time allocation. The full report on this new survey-based index is available online at <http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01240.pdf>.

In **STRATEGIES TO END DOUBLE VIOLENCE AGAINST UNDOCUMENTED WOMEN: PROTECTING RIGHTS AND ENSURING JUSTICE**, a 2012 report published by the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Immigrants (PICUM), researchers present strategies for informing undocumented migrant women about their rights to live free of violence, forming an evidence base on this violence, raising awareness, empowering undocumented women, and ensuring that these women have access to the shelters and legal resources they need. The researchers note that “their existence in society has been considered illegitimate, so the violence against them has been disregarded and their access to justice denied.” The paper uses the term “double violence” to refer to the violence again enacted on undocumented women when they are denied institutional support for violence they have experienced. The full 128-page report is online at <http://picum.org/en/publications/reports/>.

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