RECENT SOURCES FOR THE STUDY OF THE CULTURE OF WOMEN OF COLOR

Compiled by

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Introduction

This bibliography is the product of an in-house search for current books and periodical articles pertinent to the study of the culture of women of color in the United States. The list is very spotty; materials on Asian-American women, Puerto Rican women and Native American women, for example, are very few in number, while the more abundant materials on black women tend to cluster for the most part around the work of the remarkably small number of well-known black women authors (e.g., Audre Lorde, Toni Morrison, Zora Neale Hurston). We must repeat the common observation of researchers in this area: the paucity of materials for the study of minority women is reflective of continuing, tenacious racist priorities in both the scholarly and political arenas. Needless to say, much work remains to be done.

Our primary focus here is on literary criticism. We include, however, recent reference works and studies which fill in the general social and cultural background on women of color in the U.S.* The time frame is 1977-1979, with a few earlier works included when they seemed indispensable and still relatively unknown. We decided to omit current fiction and poetry, feeling ourselves unequal to the difficult task of identifying the work of minority women from among the morass of recent publications. Many of the sources included here, especially those in the reference section, will aid the reader in pinpointing such work.

Grateful acknowledgement is due to Elizabeth J. Donohue, head of Memorial Library's Periodical Room (UW-Madison), who facilitated our search of current periodical literature; and to Gretchen Lagana, Rare Books Librarian, Memorial Library, who opened the vaults of the Rare Books Little Magazine Collection to us. We would also like to mention Cristine Carol Rom's pamphlet "Women's Writings: Feminist Little Magazines in the Rare Book Department" (UW-Madison, 1978), which greatly simplified our search of recent feminist alternative periodical literature.

*We are currently compiling a bibliography of broader scope on women of color, which will include much social science material published during the last two years. This bibliography will be available free of charge from the Office of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large, 464 Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.
I. Reference

General Reference

Joan, Polly and Andrea Chesman. GUIDE TO WOMEN'S PUBLISHING. Paradise, Calif.: Dustbooks, 1978. Address and publication information on small feminist presses and feminist journals and newspapers.

Stinemeyer, Esther. WOMEN'S STUDIES: A RECOMMENDED CORE BIBLIOGRAPHY. Forthcoming, Libraries Unlimited. Among the more than 1700 entries there are many works of fiction and poetry by minority women, as well as considerable background material on the lives of minority women in the United States.

Williamson, Jane, ed. NEW FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP: A GUIDE TO BIBLIOGRAPHIES. Forthcoming, Feminist Press.

Reference Works Pertaining to Women of Color


INDEX TO PERIODICAL ARTICLES BY AND ABOUT BLACKS. 1973-. Boston: G.K. Hall.


Klotman, Phyllis Rauch and Wilmer H. Baatz, comps. THE BLACK FAMILY AND THE BLACK WOMAN: A BIBLIOGRAPHY. New York: Arno Press, 1978. (A bibliography of holdings in the Indiana University Library. Materials on the black woman are included in the following subject areas: general background and history; autobiography and biography; equal rights/status of women; psychology/sociology; literary works (including criticism); fine arts; performing arts; the professions; general labor force; sports; audio-cassettes; government publications; and ERIC).


NATIONAL LIST OF CHICANO CONTACTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION. Available from: Chicano Publications, Office of Chicano Affairs, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305.


Roberts, J.R. THE BLACK LESBIANS: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY. Forthcoming. (By the way, the author needs financial support to make publication possible in the near future; contributions can be sent to J.R. Roberts, 167 Auburn St., Cambridge, MA 02139).

Rowell, Charles H. "Studies in Afro-American Literature: An Annual Annotated Bibliography, 1976," OBSIDIAN v.3, n.3 (1977), p.80. (Includes book and periodical literature: Bibliographies; Reports; Interviews; General Studies; Fiction; Poetry; Drama; Autobiography; and Studies of Individual Authors. Authors include Maya Angelou, Jayne Cortez, Alice Ruth Dunbar-Nelson, Zora Heale Hurston, Adrienne Kennedy, and Phillis Wheatley).


Sims, Janet. BLACK WOMEN--A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY. Available from Reference Department, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, 2400 6th Street NW, Washington, DC 20059.


II. Social and Cultural Background


"Indian Woman Today: Southwest Indian Women's Conference (Window Rock, Arizona, September 24-25, 1975), ERIC, 1975. ED 125 818; MF $0.83 plus postage.


Sanchez, Rosaura and Rosa Martinez Cruz, eds. ESSAYS ON LA MUJER. Los Angeles, Calif.: Chicano Studies Center, University of California, 1977. (405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024).


Smith, Barbara. "Doing Research on Black American Women, or All the Women Are White, All the Blacks Are Men, But Some of Us Are Brave," THE RADICAL TEACHER v.3 (1976), p.25.


III. Criticism


CONDITIONS n.5 (1979). Forthcoming Special Issue, "The Black Women's Issue": Guest Eds.: Lorraine Bethel and Barbara Smith. (Will include poetry, fiction, autobiographical prose, journal excerpts, song lyrics, essays, and book reviews. Single copies available from Conditions, P.O. Box 56, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215; $3.00).


Grevatt, Marge. "Sex, Race, and Criticism: Thoughts of a White Feminist on Kate Chopin and Zora Neale Hurston," THE RADICAL TEACHER v.9 (September 1978), p.30.


