

CSWS *Review*

The National Psyche and War

AN EXAMINATION OF GENDER, RACE, AND MILITARIZATION



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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

From the Director

BY SANDRA MORGEN

When women's research centers first appeared on university campuses in the 1970s, excitement arose about the enterprise of producing and sharing knowledge about women's lives. Since then, feminist scholarship has helped transform our understanding about women's lives historically and now. Deeper, too, is the sense of how gender intersects with race, ethnicity, class, nationality, and sexuality in shaping experience, institutions, and social inequality.

For over thirty years, the Center for the Study of Women in Society has nourished the development of knowledge that has the potential to inform public life, social policy, and how individuals think about their futures. Like other women's research centers in the U.S. and abroad, we engage in research across many fields and time periods, and support scholars who use a wide variety of methodologies. An important aspect of who we are is the value we attach to producing and disseminating research and sponsoring programming that can make a difference in women's lives today. Our center may be located in what's sometimes called the Ivory Tower, but we often cross that artificial border between the university and the larger society as we plan and design research agendas, sponsor conferences on timely subjects and produce reports relevant to social policy.

We're proud of our heritage, one that roots the emergence of women's research centers in the activism of women who believed that "knowledge is power." That insight continues to animate CSWS. We know there's no contradiction between producing rigorous research and caring about social justice for all women. Notably, the endowment that helps support us was bequeathed by William Harris in memory of his wife, Jane Grant,



an ardent advocate for women who helped catalyze social change.

The world we live in today is replete with challenges for women that call for research and public education. We've learned that the replacement for Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor may well be a jurist who will fail to uphold women's reproductive choice. The U.S. military continues to occupy Iraq. The livelihoods of many working women in the United States and Central America may well be jeopardized by the Central American Free Trade Agreement. The gender pay gap persists: In the United States, white women still earn less than white men, women of color earn even less. Poverty among women and children in the U.S. and in many other countries is growing. Safety net programs in the U.S. face severe federal and state budget cuts as well as policies designed to privatize social provisioning.

The pages of this newsletter should make clear the link between issues affecting women across the world today and some of the scholarship CSWS supports. As one example, we're proud to cosponsor, along with the Women's and Gender Studies Program, an October 28 conference on gender, race, and militarization. Please join us there to help continue a legacy begun three decades ago and fueled today by important continuing research that brings more clarity, meaning, and understanding into women's lives.

CSWS FACULTY AND STAFF

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From Our Researchers

Terrorism is a word most of us are confronted with every day, on television or radio reports, in newspapers and magazines, and even in our own conversations. We speak of terrorists as groups of individuals from "out there somewhere." However, the word terrorism also evokes a different meaning in other countries, where citizens know the reality of state terrorism—that is, state-sanctioned violence that aims to instill fear, squash political dissent, and make easier the implementation of political and economic agendas. Argentina is one such country. There, state terrorism is commonly associated with the military dictatorship that ruled the country from 1976 to 1983. This government turned against its own population. The military regime tortured thousands of people and "disappeared" up to 30,000, including students, teachers, scientists, artists, activists, nuns and priests, and political dissidents. During the period of military reign, censorship was rampant and most civil and political rights were gone. About one-third of the "disappeared" were women, and women were the first to protest the state violation of human rights. A movement alive still today—the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo—alerted the world to the horrors of state terrorism, and helped lead to its demise. Some of these tenacious women paid the price for the protest, becoming themselves part of the "disappeared." Astonishingly, thirty years after the military coup, three bodies from a collective grave have been identified as those of founders of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo. That evidence, along with recent court rulings ending amnesty for torturers and other repressors, may finally confirm the truth—and lead to justice.

—Barbara Sutton,
Research Associate, CSWS



Professor Calls for New Focus on Child Abuse

University of Oregon psychology professor Jennifer Freyd and five colleagues from around the country have brought a new focus on child abuse to a national audience. In April, their major policy recommendations regarding child sexual abuse were published in the journal *Science*, marking the first time the topic of child abuse was addressed in the journal. The article created a flurry of media attention.

As lead author of "The Science of Child Sexual Abuse," Freyd calls for both expansion of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, a federally funded coalition, and the creation of an Institute of Child Abuse and Interpersonal Violence, as part of the National Institutes of Health. Shortly after release of the journal, Freyd reiterated her ideas on NPR's popular *Science Friday* program.

This latest moment in the national spotlight follows many years of notable research and achievement. Freyd directs a laboratory at the University of Oregon whose aim is to investigate the psychology of trauma, and she is editor of the *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*. She is also author of the groundbreaking book *Betrayal Trauma: The Logic of Forgetting Child Abuse*, published in 1996.

"Jennifer Freyd has applied the tools of science to this contentious area," said David Spiegel, professor at the Stanford University School of Medicine, "helping us understand the effects of trauma in the family and the disruption of cognition and memory that can occur during and after child abuse."

Marie Harvey Named One of Oregon's Women of Achievement

"I like to do work that matters," says Marie Harvey, director of CSWS's Research Program on Women's Health. "I want my research to make a difference and improve women's health and shape policies, not just be published in academic journals and sit on a shelf."

This commitment to useful solutions, as well as decades of work in fields related to women's reproductive health, that have recently earned Harvey a Women of Achievement Award, presented by the Oregon State University Women's Center in conjunction with National Women's History Month.

Harvey, chair of the Department of Public Health at OSU, has centered her work on the social, psychological, and cultural aspects of contraception, sexual behavior and abortion, and on the prevention of AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. She began as a social worker in Los Angeles in the 1960s, and is the cofounder and codirector of the Pacific Institute for Women's Health, a Los Angeles nonprofit organization focusing on domestic and global health issues for women. Her latest research project, funded by the National Institutes of Health, investigates the effectiveness of diaphragms in preventing the spread of sexually transmitted infections.

"Marie has achieved so much for women," says Meredith Branch, a CSWS research assistant who works closely with Harvey. "She was a strong advocate for reproductive health before her debut in academia, and ever since has worked tirelessly to contribute to the protection and advancement of reproductive choice."

"I'm delighted that Marie has been recognized for her many intellectual contributions to public health," adds CSWS research assistant Jocelyn Warren, who also works with Harvey, "and also for the generous support and encouragement she provides to students and junior researchers."

The Women of Achievement Award is given annually to those who have "advanced the status of women in some aspect of their work or their service," according to Beth Rietveld, director of the OSU Women's Center.

"It's very humbling," Harvey says of the award. "I do my work because it fills me up, and I love it, but to be externally acknowledged feels very nice."



Kudos Now on the Web

Awards, honors, book publications, presentations, papers—CSWS affiliates have accomplished great things over the past months. Read the complete versions of your colleagues' successes and milestones on our website. Visit <http://csws.uoregon.edu/> and click on KUDOS.

Kintz Wins Crystal Apple

Congratulations to Linda Kintz, professor of English who received the 2005 Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching. Chosen on the recommendation of faculty and students, winners of the Herman Award receive a \$2,000 annual stipend, and a crystal apple presented by UO president Dave Frohnmayer.

"Dr. Kintz's students receive a wonderful gift," Frohnmayer said. "Her ability to translate to them her dedication, her enthusiasm, her devotion to first-rate scholarly work, and her commitment to service."

AN EXAMINATION OF GENDER, RACE, AND MILITARIZATION



“Why does war continue to be supported when there’s no legitimate reason to do so?” Mann says she asked herself. “I decided it had to be the national psyche that would permit

Professor M. Jacqui Alexander, a recent visitor to CSWS, discussed these issues in relation to the war in Iraq. "It's important in empire building that the enemy become demasculinized," she said during her April 2005 lecture on campus. "The enemy's manhood cannot be made important in any way."



“The document presents a certain aesthetic tied into war that is tangled in a certain version of masculinity,” Mann says. “The report appeals to Hiroshima and Nagasaki—that’s the level of psychological destruction the writers urge. Because whatever makes the enemy weak, or feminine, makes them vulnerable. This has led to the constant gendering of the ‘other’ as feminine while U.S. soldiers of both gender are masculinized.”

Brown University professor Catherine Lutz points out in her book, *Homefront: A Military City and the American Twentieth Century*, that in the years leading up to the war in Iraq, the idea of the potent military man had become diminished. Soldiers had noncombat duty titles such as support to counterdrug operations, peacekeeping operations, peace enforcement, support for insurgencies

and counterinsurgencies and support to domestic civil authorities.

"These new missions and lessened risk have threatened to make soldiering less masculine," writes Lutz of that period. "So has the rise of women in uniform and the necessity of serving for some missions under the 'softer' banner of the U.N."

She goes on to write that "disaster relief soldiers are more feminized in popular imagery than those who attack in combat. Humanitarian missions can also be based in a universal definition of human needs and so undermines nationalism, which is itself gendered male. . . . A civilian is protected, a soldier the protector. A civilian enjoys peace and safety, the soldier faces danger and war."

Mann says that since the onset of the Iraq War, the "softer" soldier Lutz described has been dramatically altered and the image of the masculinized soldier—as well as the feminized enemy—has gained prominence. "For instance, the Jessica Lynch story, where the white woman is rescued from the brown men," Mann says. "We also have the gender bending of Linndie England, who's holding a whip during the torture of Iraqi prisoners, and women in fatigues gloating over male prisoners."

As the war in Iraq continues, so does the increasingly entrenched sense of the "invulnerable masculine."

"And for some reason," Mann says, "people at home can accept this without contradiction."



Catherine Lutz

Military by the Numbers

From Karen Houppert's book *Home Fires Burning: Married to the Military—for Better or Worse*



"When it comes to race, the military is also slightly out of sync with the general U.S. populations. Hispanics make up only 9 percent of enlisted soldiers but are 13 percent of the young civilian population. African Americans make up only 13 percent of the civilian labor force in the eighteen- to forty-four-year-old range, but they make up 22 percent of enlisted soldiers: the army has the highest percentage with 29 percent; the marines, the lowest with 17 percent.

Not only have African Americans not died in a higher proportion than their Caucasian counterparts in these wars, but African Americans are also slightly *underrepresented* in combat jobs. So while African Americans' overall numbers in the military may be higher, they have been more likely to fill support jobs. Some studies have shown that African Americans enter the service for slightly different reasons than Caucasians. An amazing 50 percent of eligible young African American men . . . actually applied to enter the armed services in the 1980s. There is speculation that because they face more discrimination in the civilian job market, African American youths find the military is an attractive alternative. For these soldiers, the draw may be less gung-ho patriotism than career training and skills that they can later apply in the civilian job market. If so, opting for the infantry may appear less attractive than, say, a job in computer programming.

Meanwhile, when it comes to gender parity, the military is, not surprisingly, severely skewed. Only 14 percent of enlisted soldiers are female compared with 47 percent of the civilian labor force. While direct combat positions remain closed to women, 92 percent of the career fields across the services are open to women. How "direct combat" is defined can vary. The Air Force has opened up the highest number of jobs to women (99 percent), and the army has opened the fewest (91 percent). In actual numbers, the Air Force has the highest proportion of women serving (19 percent), while the marines have the lowest (6 percent)."

Bonnie Mann, Catherine Lutz, and Karen Houppert are featured Gender, Race, and Militarization conference speakers. See page 7 or visit our website at <http://csws.uoregon.edu/> for details.



"My support for our country and for our people dictates that I be prudent, that I not rush to judgment on decisions, and that we step back for a moment and realize the impact war could have on young men and women of color, and on all young Americans."

—Congresswoman Barbara Lee, on casting the lone vote against President George Bush's War Resolution on September 17, 2001

Congresswoman Lee is the keynote speaker during the October 28, 2005, gender, race, and militarization conference.

From the WGS Director

BY JULIE NOVKOV

May 13, 2005, was the date of the second annual Currents in Gender Studies symposium.

Cosponsors for the event were the Women's and Gender Studies Program, CSWS, the Oregon Humanities Center, and the College of Arts and Sciences. The 2004–5 invited scholar was Chandra Talpade Mohanty, who discussed her book, *Feminism without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity* (Duke University Press, 2003). More than sixty faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students attended the lunch discussion.

Chandra Mohanty, professor of women's studies at Syracuse



University—where she is also a Dean's Professor of the Humanities—has been a crucial force in reformulating feminism and its intervention into politics and society. Her path-breaking essay, "Under Western Eyes," challenges concepts such as "third world," and her entire body of work has promoted richer theoretical considerations of inclusion, coalition building, and the possibilities for transnational solidarity. Mohanty was a good choice for the Currents program, as her work intersects in interesting ways with that of M. Jacqui Alexander (with whom she has coedited a volume). Alexander delivered a major lecture on patriotism and militarization under the auspices of a Savage grant cosponsored by CSWS and the Women's and Gender Studies Program.

New Approach to Women's and Gender Studies

When undergraduates walk into their WGS 101 classes this fall, they'll be in for a different experience. Instead of being taught by graduate students, as in past years, the course will be led by a team of three core faculty members: Elizabeth Reis, Lynn Fujiwara, and Judith Raiskin.

The idea behind the team-teaching model, according to WGS director Julie Novkov, is to reorganize this "major gateway course" with two goals in mind. first, to expose students to the latest feminist pedagogy, and second, to provide a rigorous forum for teaching graduate students how to excel as classroom instructors.

Supported by a grant from the Tom and Carol Williams Fund for Undergraduate Education, the reorganization began last academic year, when three noted teachers of women's and gender studies courses visited campus and discussed their various approaches with WGS faculty.

"This fall," says Novkov, "our core faculty will put together the pedagogical ideas we received from those scholars and create a new version of 101."

Graduate teaching fellows working alongside faculty members will be trained as primary instructors for winter and spring terms. In subsequent years, the pattern will continue—the course will rotate among core faculty members in the fall, who will train graduate students to take over during winter and spring terms.

Join a RIG!

CSWS supports the continuing activities of collaborating scholars. Our research interest groups (RIGs) have memberships that include faculty and graduate students of the University of Oregon as well as community participants. Current RIG topics are shown at right. Call (541) 346-5015.

Feminist Philosophy
Gender in Historical and Transnational China
Gender in Latin America
Healing Arts
Native American Communities
Reclaiming the Past
Social Sciences Feminist Network
Violence, Gender, and Society
Welfare, Work, and Economic Restructuring



Manliness and its Discontents

In *Manliness and Its Discontents: The Black Middle Class and the Transformation of Masculinity, 1900–1930* (University of North Carolina Press, 2004), Martin Summers, UO associate professor of history, explores how middle-class African American and African Caribbean immigrant men constructed a gendered sense of self through organizational life, work, leisure, and cultural production.

From the book: "For black men in the United States, manhood was equally a matter of some consequence. The arrival of the twentieth century marked the maturation of Jim Crow in the South, a complex of legal, economic, political, and social practices whose logic and mechanisms of oppression were primarily based on race but which also shaped the gender identity formation of blacks and gender relations with black communities. Disenfranchisement, implemented at the state level and upheld by state and federal judiciaries between 1890 and the first decade of the twentieth century, attenuated the links between manhood and citizenship for blacks. Economic discrimination and the inability of most black families to survive solely on a male breadwinner's income militated against the patriarchal organization of the black household, further making it difficult to obtain manhood by dominant cultural standards. The ever-present threat of lynching and mob violence, which purportedly sought to police an aggressive black male sexuality and often incorporated the horrific act of castration, made any assertion of independence or brazen behavior a potentially perilous act."

Gender, Race, and Militarization

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2005, 9:45 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

Lakshmi Chaudhry



Lamia Karim



Barbara Sutton



ERB MEMORIAL UNION, UO CAMPUS

10:00–11:30 a.m.

Panel Discussion: "Contesting Militarization: Global Perspectives"

- Lakshmi Chaudhry, scholar, editor, and journalist
- Lamia Karim, UO assistant professor of anthropology
- Gwyn Kirk, coauthor of *Greenham Women Everywhere: Dreams, Ideas, and Actions from the Women's Peace Movement*

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Roundtable Discussions

- "Military Recruitment and Counter-Recruitment": Carol Van Houten
- "Militarization in the Classroom": Simona Sharoni and Ron Smith
- "Echoes from Latin America": Lynn Stephen and Barbara Sutton
- "Moral Vacuums: The Soldier-Citizen and the State": Shaul Cohen and Leonard Feldman

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Panel Discussion: "Homefronts and Homefires"

- Catherine Lutz, professor, Brown University, and author of *Homefront: A Military City and the American Twentieth Century*
- Karen Houppert, author of *Home Fires Burning: Married to the Military—For Better or Worse*
- Bonnie Mann, UO assistant professor of philosophy

4:00–5:30 p.m.

Keynote address, U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Lee: "Gender, Race, and Militarization: Toward a More Just and Effective Alternative"

Reception to follow

The conference is made possible through a grant from the Carlton Raymond and Wilberta Ripley Savage Visiting Professorship in International Studies and Peace, cosponsored by CSWS and the Women's and Gender Studies Program. Progressive Response is a cosponsor for Congresswoman Lee's visit. For more information, visit our website, <http://csws.uoregon.edu/>, or call (541) 346-5015.

Brown Bag Lectures

Wednesdays, October 19, 2005–January 25, 2006. Noon–1:00 p.m., 330 Hendricks Hall, University of Oregon.

OCTOBER 19: "Hasta la victoria: The Sandinista Revolution, Women, and Tourist Nicaragua," Josh Fisher, graduate student, anthropology

NOVEMBER 9: "The Hidden Baroque in Britain and the Gendering of Literary History," Dianne Dugaw, professor, English

NOVEMBER 30: "CSWS Grants: A Question and Answer Seminar," Judith Musick, associate director, CSWS

JANUARY 11: "Underrepresented Perspectives on Indigenous Cultural Survival in Southern Africa," Holly Lemasurier, director, Africa and Oceania, Global Internships

JANUARY 25: Gender, Sexuality, and Marriage in a Changing Papua New Guinea Society, Aletta Biersack, professor, anthropology

For more information call CSWS at (541) 346 5015.

Two New International Programs from CSWS

Women Without Borders: Stories of Resistance from around the World—A Film Series

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., fall 2005, beginning Wednesday, September 28. 180 Prince Lucien Campbell Hall, University of Oregon. Cosponsored by the Center for the Study of Women in Society and the Sociology Film Collective.

For a schedule of films, visit our website: <http://csws.uoregon.edu/>

International Perspectives on Women, Gender, and Sexuality: An Interdisciplinary Colloquium Selected Wednesdays and Tuesdays, noon–1:00 p.m., beginning Wednesday, October 5. Jane Grant Room, 330 Hendricks Hall, University of Oregon. Open to the public. Seating is limited.

For a schedule of talks, visit our website: <http://csws.uoregon.edu>

Road Scholars Catalogs



The 2005–6 Road Scholars Program catalog, featuring twelve presentations offered by twelve CSWS affiliates, is now available; call (541) 346-5015 or e-mail

gwartney@uoregon.edu. Do you know a civic organization or community group that could benefit from this programming? Please pass on the news of our catalog.

CSWS Review

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Grants and Fellowships Recipients

2005

BY SHIRLEY MARC

The Center for the Study of Women in Society congratulates the awardees of our 2005 grants and fellowships and thanks the members of the review committee. For more detailed descriptions of the recipients' projects, please visit our website, <http://csws.uoregon.edu/>.

CSWS Jane Grant Dissertation Fellowship

HEE-JUNG "SERENITY" JOO, graduate student, comparative literature, \$7,500, "Speculative Fiction and the Spectacle of Race: The Nation as Utopian Belonging in the 20th-Century Asian American and African American Futurist Narratives."

CSWS Laurel Research Award

JESSICA LEIGH MURAKAMI, graduate student, psychology, \$2,250, "Beyond Gender Differences in Rates of Depressions: Issues of Comorbidity." Her adviser-mentor is Anne Simons, associate professor, psychology.

Research Support Grants

ELIZABETH A. BOHLS, associate professor, English, \$6,000, "Caribbean Crossings: Gender, Place, and Identity in the British West Indies, 1770–1833."

TINA BOSCHA, instructor, English, and research analyst, intoCareers, \$450, "River in the Sea: A Novel."

KATY BRUNDAN, graduate student, comparative literature, \$2,500, "Mysterious Women: Memory, Trauma, and Madness in the 19th-Century Sensation Narrative."

LISA DIMARNI CROMER, graduate student, psychology, \$2,500, "Bias in Believing Accounts of Child Abuse: The Role of the Participant Gender, Media, and Characteristics of Reported Abuse."

MARIE DE LA TORRE, graduate student, sociology, \$2,500, "The Social Construction of Racial and Ethnic Identities of Mexican Migrant Women in Chicago."

JOSH FISHER, graduate student, anthropology, \$1,720, "*Hasta la victoria*: The Sandinista Revolution, Women, and Tourist Nicaragua."

ADRIA L. IMADA, assistant professor, ethnic studies, \$6,000, "Aloha, America: Hula and Hawaiian Performance in the U.S. Empire."

LAMIA KARIM, assistant professor, anthropology, \$6,000, "Struggles within Islam: The Emergence of Human Rights Discourse for Women in Bangladesh."

DEANNA LINVILLE AND KRISTA CHRONISTER, assistant professors, counseling psychology and human services, \$1,140, "Understanding Career Needs and Experiences of Women Domestic Violence Survivors."

SHARILYN LUM, graduate student, counseling psychology and human services, \$2,500, "Moderating Sociocultural Influences on Body Dissatisfaction in Asian American Women: An Examination of Critical Consciousness."

DEBRA MERSKIN, associate professor, journalism and communication, \$6,000, "Squaw: Oregon's Debate about Names, Place, Meaning, and the Image of Native American Women."

AMANDA POWELL, senior instructor, Romance languages, \$4,800, "Queering the Quarrel: Contexts and Conflicts in the Sapphic Poetry of Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz."

COURTNEY SMITH, graduate student, political science, \$2,500, "Transforming Cultural Identities: The Eradication of Female Genital Cutting."

CSWS grant applications are available for download beginning October 1 of each academic year. Call (541) 346-5015 or visit our website, <http://csws.uoregon.edu>.



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