

SIXTH CANADIAN EDITION

FEMINIST ISSUES: RACE, CLASS, AND SEXUALITY

NANCY MANDELL
York University

JENNIFER L. JOHNSON
Thorneloe University, federated with Laurentian University

PEARSON

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Notes on Contributors

Carrie Bourassa is Professor of Indigenous Health Studies at First Nations University of Canada. She is proud to be the successful Nominated Principal Investigator on a Canada Foundation for Innovation Grant that funded the Indigenous Community-based Health Research Labs at FNUniv. She is a member of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists of the Royal Society of Canada. Carrie's research interests include the impacts of colonization on the health of Indigenous people; creating culturally safe care in health service delivery; Indigenous community-based health research methodology; Indigenous HIV/AIDS research; Indigenous end-of-life care and Indigenous women's health. Carrie is Métis, belonging to the Regina Riel Métis Council #34.

Shana L. Calixte is a PhD candidate in Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies at York University. Her teaching and research include critical race and sexuality studies in the history of the Caribbean Girl Guides movement. She teaches courses such as Girl Cultures, Female Sexualities, Hip-Hop Feminisms and Reproduction and Mothering at Thorneloe University federated with Laurentian University. She is also the full time Executive Director of NISA/Northern Initiative for Social Action, a peer-led mental health organization serving thousands of Northern Ontarians. Recent publications include articles in the *Journal of Mental Health*, and in *Difficult Dialogues About 21st Century Girls* (forthcoming).

Ann Duffy is a Professor at Brock University in Sociology and Labour Studies. Her research interests focus on the intersections between women, work (paid and unpaid), social inequality, and the economy. She has co-authored and co-edited a variety of books on the sociology of work, sociology of the family and family violence. With Professors Daniel Glenday and Norene Pupo, she is presently co-authoring a book on the crisis in Canadian employment. Having just completed a SSHRC-funded project on deindustrialization with Professors June Corman and Norene Pupo, she is also co-authoring a book on the collapse of manufacturing in Niagara Region.

Dr. Amber Gazzo is Associate Professor of Sociology, York University. She holds a PhD in Sociology (University of Alberta, 2006). Her current research interests include citizenship, family and gender relations, poverty, research methods, and social policy and the welfare state. Her recent publications focus on low income mothers on social assistance and Canadians and Americans' experiences of midlife. Her current research explores how diverse families make ends meet by piecing together networks of social support such as government and community and informal supports. Another ongoing and comparative project explores the relationship between health and income inequality among Canadians and Americans in midlife.

Christopher J. Greig is Associate Professor at the University of Windsor, in the Faculty of Education and Women's and Gender Studies Program, Canada. His research

is focused on historical perspectives on Canadian men, boys, and masculinities. Feminist analyses of social, political and economic periods and contexts inform Greig's research, which appears in journals such as *Educational Review*, *Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education*, and the *Alberta Journal of Educational Research* and include a co-edited book, *Canadian Men and Masculinities: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives* (2012) and *Ontario Boys: Masculinity and the Idea Boyhood in Postwar Ontario, 1945–1960* (2014).

Jennifer L. Johnson is Associate Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Thorneloe University federated with Laurentian University. Her research and teaching include feminist geographical approaches to the study of social reproduction and global economies; gender, race and racism, and feminist pedagogy. She sits on the editorial board of *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture & Social Justice/Études critiques sur le genre, la culture, et la justice*. Her current research explores how gender and race are socially constructed through the spatialization of work, and in particular, the nuclear family home.

Susanne Luhmann is Associate Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Alberta. Her teaching/research interests and published work concern feminist and queer pedagogies, sexuality studies, the formation of Women's and Gender Studies, and German cultural memory. She is currently finishing a book manuscript tentatively entitled "Domesticating the Nazi Past: Familial Legacies of Nazi Perpetration in Contemporary German Memory," which examines representations that restage, recover, and narrate legacies of perpetration from within the space of private and family life in Germany.

Nancy Mandell is a Professor in the Department of Sociology, York University. She is a faculty associate at the Centre for Feminist Research (CFR) and the Centre for Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement (CERIS). Her research and teaching interests include gender, aging, qualitative methods, schooling, and family. Recently she has published on life course analysis of midlife Canadian women, senior immigrants, and transnational family patterns, gendered and racialized forms of carework, and academic-community research partnerships. She is completing a SSHRC grant entitled "Worked to Death," which examines patterns of economic security among aging immigrant families.

Corinne L. Mason is Assistant Professor of Sociology and the Coordinator of Gender & Women's Studies at Brandon University. She conducts transnational critical-race feminist analyses of development discourses and popular news media, focusing specifically on representations of LGBT rights, violence against women, reproductive justice, and foreign aid. Her work has been published in *Feminist Formations*, *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, *Surveillance & Society*, and *Canadian Journal of Communication*. She is currently working a book-length project on sexuality rights and development, and exploring the connections between race, social media, and humanitarianism.

J. Maki Motapanyane is Assistant Professor of Women's & Gender Studies in the Department of Humanities, Mount Royal University. She teaches courses on global gender issues and transnationalism; colonialism and de-colonization; Hip-Hop culture;

environmental justice; and liberation ecology. Her research spans the fields of feminist theory, motherhood, and cultural studies. She has published on feminist theory, transnational feminist research methods, racialized comedy in Canada, and gender in Hip-Hop culture. She is the editor of *Mothering in Hip-Hop Culture: Representation and Experience* (Demeter Press, 2012), as well as the forthcoming *Motherhood and Lone/Single Parenting: A 21st Century Perspective* (Demeter Press, 2015).

Carmela Murdocca is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at York University, where she is also appointed to the graduate programs in Sociology, Socio-Legal Studies, and Social and Political Thought. Her work has appeared in *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Social and Legal Studies*, the *Australian Feminist Law Journal*, and the *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*. She is the author of *To Right Historical Wrongs: Race, Gender and Sentencing in Canada* (2013) and co-editor (with D. Brock and A. Glasbeek) of *Criminalization, Representation, Regulation* (2014).

Barbara A. Pollard is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Education at the University of Windsor, Canada. Her research interests focus on critical literacy and critical pedagogy as it is practised across educational contexts. Pollard draws on feminist and other critical theoretical frameworks in order to explore how culture, ideology, knowledge, and identity are linked to social justice. Her research examines factors such as gender and social class under circumstances of oppression and resistance in the lives of students and teachers. Pollard has presented her research at numerous peer-reviewed conferences and was recently published in *Critical Literacy: Theories and Practices*.

Katherine McKenna is an Associate Professor jointly appointed in the Departments of History and Women's Studies and Feminist Research at the University of Western Ontario. Her publications in the area of gender-based violence include a co-edited volume *Violence Against Women: New Canadian Perspectives* (2002) and co-authored reports *The Economic Costs and Consequences of Child Abuse in Canada* (2003) for the Law Commission of Canada and *Measuring the Economic Costs of Violence Against Women: An Evaluation of the Literature* (2005) for the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations.

Carla Rice is a Canada Research Chair at University of Guelph. A leader in the field of embodiment studies, Dr. Rice is founder and former director of the Body Image Project at Women's College Hospital in Toronto and the National Eating Disorder Information Centre. Her research explores representations and narratives of body and identity. Rice has published widely in international journals including *Feminism & Psychology*, *Women's Studies International Forum*, and *Cultural Studies <=> Critical Methodologies* among others. Books include *Gender and Women's Studies in Canada: Critical Terrain* (2013), and *Becoming Women: The Embodied Self in Image Culture* (2014).

Katie Warfield is faculty in the Department of Journalism and Communication at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Surrey, British Columbia. She is an authority on selfies and director of the Making Selfies/Making Self Research Project, which explicates visual presentations of gender and subjectivities via social media. She is also the director of the Visual Media Workshop, a centre for research and learning into digital visual culture.

She teaches classes in communication theory, popular culture, media and diversity, and social media; and is interested in phenomenology, new materialism, gender theory, and digital humanities. She has worked in the realms of media, cultural policy, and fashion design.

Michelle Webber is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at Brock University and is affiliated with the Centre for Labour Studies, also at Brock University. Her research interests lie in the sociology of labour, education, and gender. Her current research is an investigation of faculty associations and the politics of accountability governance in Ontario universities (with Larry Savage and Jonah Butovsky—both at Brock University).

Fiona Whittington-Walsh is Chair of the department of Sociology at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in British Columbia. She teaches in the area of media, disability, and gender. Her research examines beauty, the body, disability and difference, media, and popular culture. Her current research is exploring the history of disability representation in film using participant action research methodology. She is a member of the Board of Directors for Inclusion BC, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in every facet of society. She resides in British Columbia with her partner, daughters, and grandchildren.

As always, we have sought contributors who are both seasoned academics as well as new-entry scholars in an effort to further collaborative research and teaching about feminism. We have done this by reaching out to scholars in universities of all sizes across Canada, who have deep commitments to the intellectual communities they work within.

The production of knowledge about feminism can be a minefield of politics, social tensions, and debate, both within communities that already consider themselves “feminist” (and there are many) and those who baldly oppose gender, racial, class, and sexual equality (and sadly, there still exist some of those as well). In other words, the production of knowledge about feminism is messy and often partial and incomplete. One of the most important features of this book is that authors write the material for this collection, drawing upon their own original research and assessment of their fields as they stand today. They have sifted through mountains of literature, firsthand interviews, popular media, policy and legal documents, and records of individual/collective experiences to distill for the reader some key ideas about their topic. Authors have been asked to present answers to the following questions: Why is the topic an issue for feminism? Why discuss it now? How have some of the core issues for feminists been taken up within this topic? How would/how do feminists working on this topic define problems that exist for women?, and: What solutions does are posed for these problems? In their answers, authors challenge our ideas about what topics feminism can be applied to and where feminist understandings of these issues still need to grow.

Putting together this collection of ideas, arguments, and research has been a privilege and a pleasure. The contributors and peer reviewers of this text have been generous with their time, constructive criticism, and written work. We thank each one of them for their work. For one of us—Jen Johnson—work on this collection represents a full circle return to a text that was first introduced to her as a student in 1995. Working with Nancy Mandell, the originator and editor of this text, has been a privilege and a tremendous learning experience. For Nancy, bringing Jen on board was an inspired choice as she has completely revitalized the discussion and moved it in new and fascinating directions. We each do our part in the ongoing struggles for women’s equality in Canada. We the editors and the contributors are very proud to offer this edition as our small contribution to these movements.

Acknowledgements

Numerous people have read versions of these chapters and generously offered rigorous and thoughtful critiques. Given their attention to peer review, we are confident that these chapters represent the best possible versions of the contributors' work and for this we are extremely grateful. We thank also the seven anonymous reviewers of the previous edition, feminist scholars from all over Canada who teach about feminism to 'new' audiences and to those students who have given invaluable feedback over the years—we are listening. At Pearson we would like to thank Madhu Ranadive, Matthew Christian, and Keriann McGoogan for their guidance and timely suggestions on the composition and framing of the collection. To Pearson's staff and copy editors Ruth Chernia, _____, _____, we are grateful for your attention to detail and for bringing this collection to fruition.

Nancy would like to welcome Jennifer Johnson on board and thank her for agreeing to co-edit *Feminist Issues*. Jen's lively sense of humour and her considerable energy and enthusiasm for the project have made her an ideal collaborator. The sixth edition is markedly stronger because Jen has joined the team. Nancy also thanks the people from whom she gains strength and affection: her long time partner Lionel; her 'boys'—Jeremy, Ben, and Adam—and their partners—Marissa, Caroline, and Jamie—and now their children—Micah, Eli, Charlotte, Brooke, and Emily. As *Feminist Issues* has grown, so too has Nancy's family!

Jen is very thankful to Nancy for the opportunity to join you in co-editing this text—thank you for taking a chance on me! Working with you afforded me the opportunity to learn far more than I ever could have on my own. I am extremely thankful also to my research assistant, Taynia Rainville: thank you for your exceptional work ethic and ability to ask good questions fearlessly. To my partner Shana, thank you for your patience into the many months of drafts and editing. My hope is that this book is one small part of shifting our culture to allow our trio of proto-feminists: Leandré, Rhys, and Maël, a chance at living in a more just society.

Dedication

Micah, Eli, Charlotte, Brooke, and Emily

and

Leandré, Rhys, and Maël