E-SOURCES ON WOMEN & GENDER

Published in Feminist Collections v.30, no.4 (Fall 2009).

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.

ARCHIVES, BLOGS, DIRECTORIES, PORTALS...


Everything’s coming up Google... Sure, you knew that, but did you know that you can do targeted searches for resources on gender issues in GOOGLE DIRECTORY, where categories are edited by real people? Start at http://directory.google.com/; pick “Society” and then “People” from the categories that show up on the screen. From here, you’ve got choices that include “Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual,” “Men,” “Transgendered,” and “Women,” and each of those sub-sub-categories is searchable. (For more about the “edited by live humans” Open Directory Project, see http://www.dmoz.org/about.html.)

Launched on International Women’s Day 2009, the “interactive network portal” GRASSROOTS FEMINISM: TRANSNATIONAL ARCHIVES, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITIES at http://www.grassrootsfeminism.net was described in a press release as “a new and unique feminist meeting point.” The site is maintained by activists in Austria, England, and Sweden; anyone can join the community and post to its blogs.

The HERSTORY SCRAPBOOK links to 900 archived pieces in The New York Times covering the final four years of the women’s suffrage battle (leading up to the 1920 presidential election): http://www.herstoryscrapbook.com. Unfortunately, you can’t read the actual archived articles unless you are a paying NYT subscriber or are willing purchase individual pieces. Even so, there’s useful material on the scrapbook site, including the current “HerStory 360° Challenge”: for the first
90 days of 2010, a new story will be posted every day about a key woman in the suffrage campaign: “90 stories about 90 women over 90 days to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment.”

The thirty-six employees profiled so far on the LATINA WOMEN OF NASA website are engineers of all stripes, information technology specialists, program analysts, electronics designers, executives, and researchers. They include a microbiologist, a secretary, and, yes, an astronaut (Dr. Ellen Ochoa). Read about them at http://oeop.larc.nasa.gov/hep/lwon/.

“Welcome to the SISTERSPACE,” writes Kimberly Seals Allers, editorial director of the Black Maternal Health project at Women’s eNews, and “prepare yourself for a groundbreaking conversation about our health and our lives as black women and mothers.” Allers has been posting to her new blog at http://womensenews.org/sisterspace since October 2009, commenting on such topics as breastfeeding, parenting an infant, domestic violence during pregnancy, pregnancy while single, pregnancy and the flu, foremothers who were slaves, and a mother’s anxieties about giving birth to a son in a society where the odds are stacked against young black males.

The first thing you’re likely to encounter on WOMENS LAW’s resource for women experiencing domestic violence (http://www.womenslaw.org) is a comprehensive and highly understandable guide to Internet security, or, more to the point here, how to keep your abuser from monitoring your computer use or reading or interfering with your email. Sobering, yes, but essential and practical for anyone in danger — as is everything on this site, which presents straightforward help in seven main categories: “Staying Safe” (including safety while visiting womenslaw.org!), “Know the Laws,” “Preparing for Court,” “Learn About Abuse,” “Where To Find Help,” “Helping Others,” and “Legal Statutes.”

The WOMEN’S REVIEW OF BOOKS now has a blog at http://www.wcwwonline.org/wrbblog, called WOMEN = BOOKS. The bloggers are selected reviewers and authors from the print publication, and comments are moderated, “making [the blog] a safe place for discussion of controversial topics.” One of those topics has been the feminist ethics of adoption; another, the ignorance of most of us in the West of “the bloody facts” of the Burmese regime. Some posts are more personal; Rebecca Meacham’s September 2009 reflections on “middle-aged spread” are elegant.

EXHIBITION IN CYBERSPACE

ECONOMICA: WOMEN AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY is now showing at the e-location of the International Museum of Women: http://www.imow.org/economica. Offerings include nine audio slideshows (for example: “Womb Economics: Are women paying for China’s economic prosperity with their bodies?” and “The Business of Women: What do leadership and power look like? Arab businesswomen are redefining roles in the Middle East”); thirteen podcasts (first on the
list is a 75-minute conversation with Nicholas Kristof about the oppression of women around the world); forum conversations; and other resources, including films and books.

**FREE DATABASES**

Headed by five principal investigators at three universities, the **WOMAN STATS PROJECT** (http://www.womanstats.org) claims to be “the most comprehensive compilation of information on the status of women in the world.” The project’s “data extractors” — graduate and undergraduate students — “comb the extant literature and conduct expert interviews to find qualitative and quantitative information on over 294 indicators of women's status in 174 countries.” Users must register to use the database, but there is no charge.

Gerri Gribi has donated her **WOMEN’S CENTER DATABASE**, which she and her mother, Marian Gribi, started developing back in the 1980s, to the National Women’s Studies Association, on the condition that it will always be available for free online. The database can now be found at http://www.nwsa.org/research/centerguide.

**TEXTS TO DOWNLOAD**


Order or download PDF from
Chapter titles include “Pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period,” “Psychosocial aspects of fertility regulation,” “Spontaneous pregnancy loss,” “Menopause,” “Gynaecological conditions,” “Women’s mental health in the context of HIV/AIDS,” “Infertility and assisted reproduction,” and “Female genital mutilation.”


New in 2009 from GENDERACTION: *GENDER TOOLKIT FOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCE WATCHERS; DOUBLING THE DAMAGE: WORLD BANK CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS UNDERMINE CLIMATE AND GENDER JUSTICE; THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION: THE CHALLENGES IN DEVELOPMENT AID*. Get these and others, in PDF, at


The World Economic Forum has published its *GLOBAL GENDER GAP REPORT* for 2009: from http://www.weforum.org/en/communities, choose “Women Leaders and Gender Parity” from the menu on the left, then “Gender Gap Report.” From this page, you can download the full report or parts of it and watch a YouTube interview with report co-author Saadia Zahidi.


THE SISTER FUND (TSF) ([http://www.sisterfund.org](http://www.sisterfund.org)) is “a private foundation that supports and gives voice to women working for justice from a religious framework. We call these women the Healers of Our Time, because we believe that the healing work of progressive religious women plays a crucial role in the development of a society in which all people can be socially, economically, politically and spiritually empowered.” TSF, which believes that “women can transform faith, and faith can transform feminism,” has published the results of a study, conducted by the Institute for Women’s Policy Research and supplemented by Women in Theology and Ministry (Candler School of Theology, Emory University), called *HEALERS OF OUR TIME: WOMEN, FAITH, AND JUSTICE* that “examines the intersection of women and religion in activism, academia, and pop culture.” Download the 80-page report from [http://www.sisterfund.org/sites/default/files/TSF-Mapping-Report.pdf](http://www.sisterfund.org/sites/default/files/TSF-Mapping-Report.pdf).

Compiled by JoAnne Lehman