

Abstracts

Edith Saurer, Love, gender relations and feminism

Edith Saurer postulates in her article a history of gender relations from the perspective of the history of love. This perspective has been neglected by feminist historians for a rather long time. She discusses three aspects of the problem: In the first part she analyzes the conflictladen relationship of feminist theories towards the topic of heterosexual love (Simone de Beauvoir, Germaine Greer, Shulamit Firestone, Francesca M. Cancian, Jessica Benjamin, Genevieve Fraisse). In the second part she gives a short outline of the historiographical development of the history of love, a development which was influenced by the triumph of sexual sciences in the 19th century. In the third part she uses a "love story" from the late 18th century to demonstrate the cognitive value of the introductory theses.

Herta Nagl-Docekal, Feminist critique of reason: a work in progress

The paper attempts to provide a brief summary of the "feminist critique of reason". It claims that, generally speaking, three different approaches have envolved: While sharing the central concern to expose the masculine connotations typically associated with the concept of "reason", these three lines of argumentation differ with regard to the alternative conceptions they suggest. Some authors (1) plead for a complete "dismissal of the Logos", whereas others (2) advocate a concept of difference, focussing on "women's way of knowing", or (3) call for a "feminist epistemology" that redefines the notion of objectivity. The paper also points out some overdrawn forms of critique that might impair the consistency of a feminist discussion of "reason".

Susanna Burghartz, Between integration and exclusion. The dialectics of the Reformed theology of marriage in the exemple of Heinrich Bullinger

The impact of the reformation for the history of marriage is a controversial research topic. The marriage-tractats of Heinrich Bullinger, who followed Zwingli in Zurich, are an exemple depicting how the Reformed doctrine reformulated the discourse-field of marriage as a new one. Whereas this field was first constituted by the three focal points celibacy/chastity – marriage – sexuality/indecency until then, it was later structured by a binary opposition of marriage versus indecency. The Reformed discourse of purity first strongly revalued conjugal sexuality. But in consequence, the differentiation of conjugal sexuality versus non-conjugal sexuality became more and more a matter of priority, and the exclusion of all forms of non-conjugal sexuality became more rigorous. However, this logic of discourse (with its revaluation of traditionally legitimate and usual behaviour) was only slowly accepted by the practice of the marriage law courts, as the case of Basle can demonstrate.

Ute Gerhard, Human rights are women's rights – former questions and new approaches of critics of law

The feminist critique of androcentrism in human rights law are incapable of furthering emancipation and implementing justice in gender relations. Therefore this contribution develops a dynamic concept of equality that takes differences into account and relies on the experiences of historical women's movements in their compaigns for equal rights. First drawing on sociological, philosophical and ethic theories of law, the paper illustrates different approaches to feminist legal critique. Then, looking at various historical stages in women's movements, the contribution analyzes experiences of injustice that raised con-

sciousness in order to base a comprehensive concept of social citizenship on them. For the fundamental experiences of injustice and claims to autonomy and rights for women do not by chance correspond to the broadly discussed concept of social citizenship that includes three elements of a citizenship status that must be guaranteed: political, civil and social rights. And finally, these relations are applied to the present feminist campaign for women's human rights.

Erna Appelt, Can the social contract be thought as a feminist concept?

Since the enlightenment, the 'Social Contract' has been one of the most influential concepts of the political philosophy. However, feminists have criticized this concept as a male one, that excludes women and creates the political sphere as a male sphere. The most prominent feminist critic is Carole Pateman. She refuses every form of reconciliation of feminism and the concept of contract. Erna Appelt examines the argument of Pateman. Appelt presents a new understanding of the Social Contract based on a new concept of individuals. She suggests some normative foundations that ensure the inclusion of women, and that merge the domain of needs, of care, of dependence into the political sphere.

Hanna Hacker, Affairs of state or the body of the women duellist. Elements for a history of provocation

As a whole, this essay aims at situating the duel in the history of women and restoring women to the history of duelling by analyzing cultural constructions of provocation rather than by discussing gendered concepts of honour. Its central question reads: How are the social phenomena of the late 19th century linked: the self-representation of European states in the duel as a honour-regulating institution, and the production of gendered and sexualized figures as reflecting and determining the actual state?

The approach to this question concentrates on fin-de-siecle France and investigates first the images of two major sexualized/gendered figures positioned on the edge of the dominant discourse and orchestrated by the creation of ideal republican manhood: the *demimondaine* and the *femme d'attaque*. The *demimondaine* can be recognized as situated halfway between several im/possible female subject positions of her time – the *mondaine*, the *bohémienne*, the actress, often the feminist as well. The notion of the *femme d'attaque* assembles and reflects the diversity of feminist symbolic resistance, including the stake of the body and "deviant" dress.

Two so-called *femmes d'attaques* intervened in an affair of state in 1890. The sensationalist activist of the women's movement Marie-Rose Astie de Valsayre and the – biographically mystified – authoress and paintress G(isele) d'Estoc attacked Madame Severine, an outstanding left-wing journalist who had been involved in disclosing the attempts of the former war minister George Boulanger to overthrow the young and unstable Third Republic. Astie's and Esto's public judgement of Severine's decision to let a man fight a duel on behalf of her professional honour as "inqualifiable" can itself be read as a provocation into duel. It did in fact provoke heated debates over the site of un/femininity in the modernizing and consolidation-seeking French nation.

Karin Hausen, History as a patrilineal construction and historiographical offer for identification. A commentary on Lothar Gall, *Bürgertum in Deutschland*, Berlin 1989

Gall presents his history of the Bassermann family in Mannheim as a general history of the German bourgeoisie from 17th to the 20th centuries. In fact in his book he combines the approach of family history with the traditional concept of men making history and excludes to a large extent – with one remarkable exception – the female side of the families' history. This essay demonstrates by a close critical reading how and to which costs Gall's construction of traditional general history works, and discusses the question, why such an outline of history still receives broad applause.

Christa Hämmerle, "Habt Dank, Ihr Wiener Mägdelein". Soldiers and soldiers' comforts (*Liebesgaben*) in the First World War.

Social constructions of gender, which were offered to soldiers, appropriated and transposed by them, can be defined as a kind of weapon brought in to fight the war. To demonstrate

this function of gender constructions in the trenches of the First World War, this article focusses on soldiers' perception of a very popular war-welfare-activity in Austria-Hungary as well as in the German Empire. It was carried on mainly by women and schoolgirls, who produced and sent many millions of soldiers' comforts – so-called *Liebesgaben* – to the fronts. This activity was propagated according to the concept of *labour of love*, which ascribed to *Liebesgaben* the might to protect the soldiers even from death.

The first part of the article analyzes gender metaphors in those field-post writings which accompanied the *Liebesgaben* and were a mass phenomena during the early war. By their answers to the female givers, soldiers participated in the public discourse of gender and war. Thus they helped to popularize the renaissance of traditional gender roles which was massively pushed ahead when war broke out. The second part of the article concentrates on interpreting the reception of *Liebesgaben* in male war-memories and war-diaries. The comparison of texts written by officers and ordinary soldiers, who in general describe a very different war-experience, comes to the result that both groups similarly attached only marginal importance to female *Liebesgaben*. It seems that the popularized *mise en scene* of the *Liebesgaben-system* during the early wartime was followed by its almost complete fading-out from the male war-recollection – the weapon had lost its function.

This issue further contains an article of **Birgit Bolognese-Leuchtenmüller**, who describes the particular conditions and characteristic attributes in the development of professional nursing in Austria with the main interest on the mental and psychological aspects of the constitution of modern hospital nursing; a historical comment written by **Waltraud Heindl** on politics of women and for women especially in the Austrian Parliament of the First Republic and its changes up till our times; a book review of **Brigitte Mazohl-Wallnig**, who reflects on the richly illustrated monograph of Sabine Weiss on "The female Austrian. The Role of Women in Thousand Years of History", published in 1996 as an attempt to confront the male dominated 1000 years of Austrian history with a female point of view of this anniversary by giving a survey of women's history within the frame of traditional Austrian historiography; a document chosen by **Regina Schulte**, who comments a letter written by the young (21 year old) historian Gustav Droysen to his three sisters, sent from Berlin to the country-side; a book review of **Claudia Ulbrich**, where she presents a new biography of Chevalier d'Eon which stimulates to reflect on gender boundaries in the 18th century.