



Perspectives:

Research Notes & News

December 2005, Volume 26, Number 1
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
<http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/>

Director's Notes

Fall 2005

Gale Summerfield



Veronica Montecinos, Günseli Berik, and Gale Summerfield at International Association for Feminist Economics conference in Oxford.

This year WGGP has strengthened its focus on global human security and gender equity – stressing migration, livelihood, and health. The year promises to be one of changes at UI as well as one of crucial challenges in world affairs. UI has a new president and our campus has a new chancellor and soon a new provost and a new associate provost for international studies.

As part of global human security issues, WGGP has sponsored two programs this semester on social security issues facing women in the US and other countries. We are finishing the interviews for a pilot study on immigrants in central Illinois and plan to expand our study soon. Other projects focus on recent changes in China such as new laws on property rights in agriculture that now require thirty-year leases and an end to redistributions. Paradoxically as families get more secure tenure to the land they farm, women's rights are becoming less secure in many ways, and children born after 2001 will no longer have guaranteed use rights.

Summerfield, continued on p.3

Research Notes

Between Islam and Feminism: New Political Transformations and Movements in Morocco

Zakia Salime



This study investigates the dynamics between two major competing women's movements in Morocco: Islamist groups that hold Islamic law (*shari'a*) as the unique framework for building a culture of women's rights; and feminist groups that use the United Nations' conventions and the feminist discourse of equality to amend the *shari'a*-based family law (*mudawana*). My study analyzes how the politics and agendas mobilized by these two movements over the past two decades are in a process of transforming the gender debates, the forms of organizations and the strategies of both movements. Rather than analyzing the feminist and Islamist women's movements as if they were of separate entities, my study looks at these movements as they relationally build their movements and politics of protest. The core of my dissertation shows how these interactions have led to an Islamization of feminist groups, on the one hand, and a feminization of the Islamist groups on the other. Thus, this approach is located at the intersection of local alternatives to global (universalistic) discourses of women's rights. By focusing upon subtle interpenetrations and interactions, my research challenges major dichotomizing assumptions at work in the social movement literature and mainstream feminist theory.

Salime, continued on p. 3

WGGP Fall 2005 Activities

WGGP sponsored events:

A Human Security Policy Forum in cooperation with the Institute of Government and Public Affairs featuring **Sunhwa Lee**, Study Director at the Institute for Women's Policy Research, Washington, DC. and **Joni Lavery**, Income Security Research Associate at the National Academy of Social Insurance, who spoke on **The Forgotten Beneficiaries of Social Security: Women and Children**, on Wed., September 14.



Joni Lavery and Sunhwa Lee

A Noon Seminar on "The Aging Population and Social Security: Women as the Problem and the Solution," by **Marianne Ferber**, Professor Emerita, Economics, UIUC, and **Patricia Simpson**, Associate Professor, Industrial Relations, Loyola University, November 8.

WGGP co-sponsored events:

Duncan Watts, Professor of Sociology, Columbia University and author, *Six Degrees: The Science of a Connected Age* (2003), gave a CAS/MillerComm lecture entitled **Social Networks and Social Dynamics in a Small World**, August 29;

John Feffer, independent journalist and author of *North Korea/South Korea: U.S. Policy and the Korean Peninsula* (2003) spoke on **The Global Food Court: Fast Food, Slow Food, Imperial Food**, September 8;

John Brady Kiesling, Independent scholar and U.S. Foreign Service/State Dept. official 1983-2003, gave a CAS/MillerComm lecture on "After Iraq" U.S. Diplomacy and the Crisis of International Legitimacy," September 22;

Jason DeParle, Senior Writer, The New York Times, gave a CAS/MillerComm lecture entitled **A Shot at the American Dream**, September 12;

Global Justice and Peace Teach-In, featuring **Nompumelelo Pinkie Magwaza**, a volunteer for Jubilee South Africa and Youth for Work, and **George Martin**, Program Director for Peace Action Wisconsin and Steering Committee

member of United for Peace and Justice, gave a workshop on October 4.

Norman Daniels, Professor of Ethics and Population Health, Harvard School of Public Health, gave a talk on "Why Justice is Good for our Health," October 17;

Kathleen Carley, Professor, Institute for Software Research International and Director, Center for Computational Analysis of Social and Organizational Systems, Carnegie Mellon University, gave a lecture on "Analysis Applied to Counter Terrorism" as part of The Age of Networks: Social, Cultural, and Technological Connections, a CAS Initiative, on October 24;

David Stark, Arthur Lehman Professor of Sociology and International Affairs, Columbia University and External Faculty Member, the Santa Fe Institute, gave a lecture as part of the CAS Initiative, on "Assembling Publics: New Technologies of Deliberation and Demonstration in Rebuilding Lower Manhattan," Oct. 31;

Allen Ezell, Co-author of *Degree Mills: The Billion-Dollar Industry That Has Sold Over a Million Fake Diplomas*, gave a lecture as part of the CAS Initiative on "Degree Mills – Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow," Nov. 14;

Jonathan Shay, Staff Psychiatrist, Dept of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic, Boston and author of *Achilles in Vietnam* and *Odysseus in America*, gave a CAS/MillerComm lecture on "From Troy to Baghdad," Nov. 17.

Summerfeld, cont. from p. 1

Other projects include putting together a publication on transnational migration for care work and projects on the global labor market and health care labor. Budget cuts pose a challenge, but we are fortunate to have donors who support student research in this area, and we have received additional support from them. I encourage those who are graduate students at UI or have students here to apply for the Goodman Fellowship (\$12,000 for the next academic year plus tuition and fee waiver) and the Due-Ferber, Cloud, and Yates awards. We also are grateful for some donations to the Friends of WGGP fund which allows us to print the newsletter and do other projects; we are able to direct all of the donations to projects instead of overhead. People really can make a difference in promoting research efforts on global gender equity issues -- even with small donations. When you are thinking of sharing as this calendar year ends, please consider the WGGP funds [you can send a check to us made out to University of Illinois/WGGP and specify which fund you would like to receive your gift; we have a form at the end of the newsletter.]

Ruth Pearson,
Professor of Development Studies,
University of Leeds,
Wednesday April 19, 2006, 4 pm
**"Calling Capital to Account:
Corporate Gender Responsibility
in the Global Era"**

Dr. Pearson's lecture will address the "Maria Tax," her recent policy innovation that proposes a tax on all multinational corporations in export processing zones to be used to fund health care and other benefits for employees in these areas, most of whom are women. Her talk will also explore corporate responsibility for acting against gender-based violence, e.g. in the killings in Ciudad Juarez. She will also talk about the dangers of relying on companies complying with "good practice conditions of production" -- e.g. the GAP and the Cambodian trade agreement. This event is cosponsored by WGGP and the Transnational Seminar.

Salime, cont. from p. 1

This dissertation aims to come to terms, empirically and conceptually, with some of the questions posed by the parallel development and interaction between the secular feminist movements and Islamist women's movements, over the two past decades. It strives to address some basic questions left unanswered by the literature on women's movements in the Middle East, as follows: 1) How do these movements interact and what are the changes that have occurred in this process? 2) How do these two movements articulate religion, politics and the universal framework of women's rights? 3) What are the effects of these articulations on reframing the three spheres of religion, politics and gender debates in Morocco? 4) How are the conjectural factors such as the structural adjustment program, economic liberalization, political democratization, and the "War on Terrorism," expressed in these movements' competition over the leadership of the women's movement in Morocco?

In short, this study identifies the various ways secular feminist groups have shaped the politics of protest among Islamist women and vice versa. This turn in the discussion is related to my definition of women as "hegemonic agents" (Laclau and Mouffe 1985) articulating competing definitions and agendas about key issues such as democracy, citizenship, women's rights and religion. Thus, this study is not a mere addition to the existing cases on the women's movement in the Middle East. It is rather an innovative approach that challenges the static view, based on the opposition between feminism and Islamism, with a more dynamic view that looks at interdependencies, relationships and exchanges between these movements. Furthermore, by locating these dynamics in the changing historical conjunctures of the 1980s to 2003, my study also identifies the interpenetrations among these movements and their environments--state, political parties, law, and media.

Zakia Salime earned a PhD in Sociology with a GRID minor from UIUC in 2005. She received the Goodman Fellowship in 2003-04. Zakia is currently Assistant Professor of Sociology at Michigan State University. She can be reached at salime@msu.edu.

NEWS FROM WGGP ASSOCIATES

M. Jocelyn Armstrong, Community Health, published "Grandchildren's influence on grandparents: A resource for integration of older people in New Zealand's aging society" in *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, 3(2) 7-21, 2005. This study draws on interview data collected in qualitative research of social aging among young old women in urban New Zealand to examine grandchildren as a resource for social integration of older adults.

Maimouna Barro, PhD GRID Alum, Curriculum & Instruction, began work in Aug. 2005 as Coordinator of Special Programs and Director of Graduate Studies at the Center for African Studies, UIUC. She is responsible for the MA Program in African Studies and will also be doing outreach work. Maimouna earned a PhD in Education with a GRID minor from UIUC in May 2005.

Sibel Cekic, PhD GRID student, Sociology, presented two papers at conferences in Philadelphia in Aug. 2005: "A Necessary but Insufficient Condition for Democracy: Civil Society" at the annual meeting of The Society for the Study of Social Problems, Aug. 12-14 and "Feminist Critique of the Notion of Civil Society" at American Socio-logical Association Annual Meeting, Aug. 13-16.

Junjie Chen, PhD GRID student, Anthropology, co-organized a panel and presented a paper on "Graduated Citizenship in Postsocialist States: Regulating Population in China, Poland and East Germany" at American Anthropological Association, Nov. 30- Dec. 4, Washington, DC.

Angelina Cotler, PhD GRID Alum, began work in Aug. 2005 as Associate Director of Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at UIUC. She is responsible for Academic Programs, Outreach and Development. She earned a PhD in Anthropology with a GRID minor from UIUC in May 2005.

Congratulations to Angelina for this appointment and also for her recent marriage, Oct. 17, to Mahir Saul.

Manisha Desai, WGGP/Sociology, is President-Elect of Sociologists for Women in Society beginning 2006. She was invited to two conferences this Fall: a conference organized by the Women of Color Resource Group from California on Women's Global Strategies for the 21st Century at Sarah Lawrence College, September 10-13 and Syracuse University's

symposium on Gender Justice Post Beijing where she gave a paper on transnational feminism.

Marianne Ferber, Economics, recently published the 5th edition of her book *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work*, 2005 (with Francine D. Blau and Anne E. Winkler) Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall as well as the translation of *Beyond Economic Man Feminist Theory and Economics*, eds. (with Julie A. Nelson), Ediciones Catedra SA, 2005. She also published the following articles: "Do Detailed Work Histories Help to Explain Gender and Race/Ethnic Wage Differentials?" (with Carole Green). *Review of Social Economy* 63, 1 (March 2005): 87-100 and "The Long-Run Effect of Part-Time Work (with Carole A. Green)," *Journal of Labor Research* 26, 2 (Spring 2005): 323-33.

Alma Gottlieb, Anthropology, published "The Anthropologist as Mother: Reflections on Childbirth Observed and Childbirth Experienced" (originally published in *Anthropology Today*), reprinted in *Talking about People: Readings in Contemporary Cultural Anthropology* (4th edition), ed. William A. Haviland, Robert J. Gordon and Luis A. Vivanco. McGraw-Hill, 2005 and "Comment on: 'Parent-Offspring Weaning Conflicts among the Bofi Farmers and Foragers of Central Africa' by Hillary N. Foutes, Barry S. Hewlett and Michael E. Lamb," in *Current Anthropology* 46 (1):41-42, 2005. She gave a talk on "Breastfeeding as Culture: A View from West Africa," presented at the University of California at Los Angeles, to the "Mind, Medicine, and Culture" seminar, Oct. 17, and worked on a set of short videos connected with her new book, *The Afterlife Is Where We Come from: The Culture of Infancy in West Africa* (U. of Chicago Press, 2004). With the assistance of UIUC undergraduate honors student, Anita Chary, produced six short video clips on: Bathing, Jewelry, Breastfeeding, Playing, Speech, and Carrying. The videos are now available online at: http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/gottlieb/gottlieb_videos.html She also published the following articles: "The Location of the Spanish in Latinidad: Examples from contemporary U.S. popular culture" (2005). *Letras Femeninas*, 31:2; "Geographies of Latinidad: Constructing Identity in the Face of Radical Hybridity" (2005) in W. Critchlow, G. Dimitriadis, N. Dolby, and C. McCarthy [Eds.], *Race, Identity, and Representation*, New York: Routledge; "Exploring Dora: Re-embodied Latinidad on the Web" with S. Harewood (2005) in S.R. Mazzarella [Ed.] *Girl Wide Web: Girls, the Internet, and the Negotiation of Identity*. New York: Peter Lang and "Film Producers" (2005) in Suzanne Oboler and Deena Gonzales (eds.) *Oxford Encyclopedia on U.S. Latinos*. New York:

Oxford University Press.

Ethel Hazard, PhD GRID student, Anthropology, presented a paper in Newcastle, England on "Living on the Edge of Empire and Colony" at the 29th Society for Caribbean Studies Conference in July 2005. In August, she traveled to Jamaica for archival research on Cuban migrants to Jamaica at the end of the first War of Independence in 1878. (See her report on p. 10.)

Cynthia Oliver, Dance/Gender & Women's Studies, recently screened *AfroSocialiteLifeDiva*, a dance film collaboration with German Filmmaker Marcus Behrens in Urbana at the Krannert Art Museum. The film premiered in New York in November. Oliver is on leave in Fall 2005 working on her book manuscript on Pageantry and Black womanhood in the Caribbean.

Aida Orgocka, PhD GRID Alum, Human and Community Development, represented the Eastern European offices of the Christian Children's Fund at their headquarters in Richmond, VA in October 2005. She also contributed to a recent publication titled: *Reforming the World Bank: Will the Gender Strategy Make a Difference?* (See p.12 for details.)

Marcia Phillips, PhD GRID student, Agricultural and Consumer Economics, was awarded the Outstanding M.S. Thesis award in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics in May 2005.

Mahir Saul, Anthropology, published a chapter titled, "Women Cross-border Traders in West Africa" (with Gayle A. Morris) in *Women in African Development: The Challenge of Globalization and Liberalization in the 21st Century*, ed. By Sylvain H. Boko, Mina Balianmoune-Lutz, and Sitawa R. Kimuna, 53-82. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press 2005 and "Africa South of the Sahara," in *A Handbook of Economic Anthropology*, ed. by James G Carrier, 500-514. London: Edward Elgar, 2005.

Gale Summerfield, WGGP/Human and Community Development, co-edited with J. Jaquette, 2006. *Women and Gender Equity in Development Theory and Practice: Institutions, Resources, and Mobilization*, Durham NC: Duke University Press, including her chapter "Gender Equity and Land Reform in Rural China." In addition, she published a chapter with Aslanbeigui, Nahid, 2006. "Globalization, Labor Markets and Gender: Human Security Challenges from Cross-Border Sourcing in Services," in B.N. Ghosh, ed, *Globalization and the Third World*, New York: Palgrave/Macmillan and she is one of the guest editors (with Berik, Gunseli, Xiao-yuan Dong), of a special issue, *Gender and China after the WTO*, *Feminist Economics*, in progress. Gale gave a

conference presentation: Human Security Issues. National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) Conference, New York, June 2005 and participated in the conference for the International Association for Feminist Economics, Washington, DC, 2005. She was selected as a faculty fellow in the Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 2006.

Laurian Unnevehr, Agricultural and Consumer Economics, has been appointed to the Board of Academic Advisors for the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy in the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. She attended their 10th Anniversary conference in Sept. 2005 and made a presentation on Globalization in Food Markets. **Angharad Valdivia**, Communications Research, published the following articles: "The Location of the Spanish in Latinidad: Examples from contemporary U.S. popular culture" (2005), *Letras Femeninas*, 31:2; "Geographies of Latinidad: Constructing Identity in the Face of Radical Hybridity" (2005) in W. Critchlow, G.

Dimitriadis, N. Dolby, and C. McCarthy [Eds.], *Race, Identity, and Representation*, New York: Routledge; "Exploring Dora: Re-embodied latinidad on the Web" with S. Harewood (2005) in S. R. Mazzarella [Ed.] *Girl Wide Web: Girls, the Internet, and the Negotiation of Identity*. New York: Peter Lang; "Film Producers" (2005) in Suzanne Oboler and Deena Gonzales (eds.) *Oxford Encyclopedia on U.S. Latinos*. New York: Oxford University Press. **Mary Arends-Kuening**, Agricultural and Consumer Economics, was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. She was named to the Spring 2005 Incomplete List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by their Students (Outstanding) for ACE 474. She also received the 2005 Outstanding Faculty Award, from the ACE Graduate Student Organization. She was a co-author on the paper "The Effect of Remittances on Investments in Housing: Evidence from Nicaragua," (with S. Duryea and A. Olgiati), presented at the Population Association of America Annual Meetings, Philadelphia, PA, April 2005 and at the Latin America and Caribbean Economics Association Annual Meetings, Paris, France, October 2005. She also presented "The Impact of School Quality and School Incentive Programs on Children's Schooling and Work in Brazil," at the American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meetings, Providence, RI, July 2005.

Doing Gender in Africa: the value of experiential knowledge in dissertation fieldwork

Joy Williams-Black

Doing Gender: rethinking gender analysis

My decision to undertake a gendered analysis was influenced by my coursework, instructors, review of literature, my interaction with the *Women and Gender in*



Joy at the Kenya National Archives.

Global Perspectives (WGGP) Program, and my interest in development (or underdevelopment as Walter Rodney puts it) in sub-Saharan Africa. Joan Scott's seminal work, *Gender and the Politics of History* (1988), which is considered a foundational text for the discussion of gender analysis, played an important part in my decision to tackle gender. However, it is the work of Black and Third World scholars (like hooks, 1984; Hill Collins, 1990; Basu, 1995; Oyewumi 1996, 2002) who criticized Western scholars for subsuming the categories of race, ethnicity, and class rather than equalizing them with gender that I looked to in order to gain a more nuanced perspective of gender, especially since I am a Westerner who would be looking at African women. Gender as a method of historical analysis does not carry one meaning and is interpreted in varied ways. Gender studies has shifted the discourse away from the assertion that one's consciousness of *WGGP Perspectives*, Vol. 26(1), Page 6

being "women" has to do solely with the fact that they share a common bond, a community based on their biological sex. This shift has resulted in a focus away from essentialism (examining patriarchy, women, men) to a more enhanced focus on deconstructing the continuities and discontinuities of gender relations in particular contexts (Turner 1997).

My dissertation is titled, "Women, Gender and Participation: a gendered analysis of study abroad opportunities in Kenya, 1959 to 1969." My fieldwork was funded by a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant and supplemented by a Kathleen Cloud International Research Grant from WGGP. In the initial stage of formulating this project, whenever I spoke with someone regarding my topic—higher education and Kenya—I always received a "You'll be looking at men." When I stated that I was doing a gendered analysis with a focus on women's participation, they would look at me apprehensively. When I revealed the time period, 1959 to 1969, they would inevitably reiterate, "Oh yeah, you'll just be looking at men." It's true that education was poor for women and girls during this period, especially as a result of colonialism; however, preliminary research undertaken at the Kenya National Archives disclosed this to be a unique opportunity for Kenyans. Hence, the aim in undertaking this project was to determine to what extent women were able to take advantage of this opportunity, if at all.

The Dissertation Process and Intellectual Pursuit: when world's collide

Shortly upon my arrival in Kenya, I was asked by a member of the faculty of Kenyatta University (of the masculine persuasion) about gender and what that meant to me. His concern was with how I was using gender within the context of examining African women. I explained the purpose of my research stating, "I am using gender as the category of analysis in order to examine the participation of men and women who studied abroad." I informed him that imploring a gender analysis calls for examining the disparity and inequality that

existed since it acknowledges unequal social relations between the sexes. "From there," I remember continuing matter-of-factly, "it is a matter of analyzing the degree, form, and consequences the inequality has taken," quoting Ayesha Imam. I summed up by saying that his concern with my using the binaries of men and women, which he stated African women scholars have challenged, was unavoidable in a study that sought to examine the positionality of women as opposed to that of men. However, after having time to fully reflect upon his concern (and reread my proposal), it dawned on me that perhaps it was necessary to rethink how I was 'doing' gender, even within the framework of gender disparity.

It has been said that "all social life is theoretical and therefore all theory is real social practice" (Aseka et al, 1999). Or as Louise Tilly puts it "gender analysis should be a social history that gives due respect to human initiative (Tilly, 1989; Varikas, 1995). However, Joan Scott would beg to differ since her position is that ultimately it is the theory not praxis that should determine the



Staff of the History Department, Kenyatta University

research agenda. Creating a balance between gender theory and practice became a major issue in my research as I began to rethink how I was 'doing' my analysis, especially the collection of data. Initially, I began to 'look for the women' in the archival material I was surveying. I was told they weren't there so I was going to prove that they were. However, after being queried by my peer at Kenyatta, I began to ask myself how I could integrate my western mentality with an African sensibility that would do justice to the lives of the individuals I am studying. They are African, which doesn't say much about them aside from denoting geographical location. They are Kenyan either by birth or as permanent

residents who migrated from other countries. They are men and women; husbands and wives; students and teachers. They are also mothers and fathers; daughters and sons; sisters and brothers. They are all of these things individually with many identity markers overlapping. So I asked myself, "How does one do a gendered analysis on such a vastly different group of individuals?" Following are the experiences that helped me discover an answer to this question:

Getting the most out of overlooked resources:

> News Shows

While contemplating the above question, a Kenyan news program aired that featured Minister of Health, Charity Ngilu. In the interview, Minister Ngilu made a comment that opened up a potential space that could provide an answer to my dilemma. She was asked how she reconciles all of the roles she has—wife and mother, politician, businesswoman. Minister Ngilu replied that she does so as an extension of her self in service. She extends herself in her nurturing role as wife and mother. She

extended herself as a parliamentarian in service to the government. She's extending herself as minister of health in service to her constituency. I thought, "the extension of one's self in service, to what we put our effort to the most, could provide an outlet by which to move away from generalizing about individuals based purely on the categorizations of women and men. Male/female binaries, even though they apply to one's biological sex (and even this category is being blurred by trans-gendered individuals), say little of substance about an individual in and of itself. In addition, I thought, if I examine women am I doing so at the expense of men? Further, I wondered *WGGP Perspectives*, Vol. 26(1), Page 7

what categories of analysis should be the focus. This forced me to rethink how I was collecting data, which was very important since it would profoundly impact how I ultimately structured my dissertation.

➤ **Listening to the Archives**
Ultimately, with this renewed outlook, I began to re-examine archival material but with a more nuanced perspective. I asked myself “what are they saying about themselves? What information was solicited and what did they volunteer? As a result, what categories emerge as primary?



Joy with Grace Msangi, GRID Alum and Lecturer at Kenyatta University

Secondary?” After doing so, I realized that gender, race and ethnicity, class, and demography are all categories I should be examining. Sure, it is necessary that I address gender disparity; and the number of women who were given an opportunity to extend themselves in higher education is important. However, more important is the need to explore the changing dynamics of gender relations during Kenya’s transition from a colonial to a post-colonial society by studying the scope and limitations of external higher education opportunities. As a result, I found that race and ethnicity are equally central to this study. I realized being Kenyan was arbitrary for the period I’m studying. One could be Kenyan-African, Kenyan-Asian, Kenyan-Indian as well as being a British Citizen (European or other nationality who

migrated and took up permanent residence), or citizen of the U.K. and its territories. Who were given opportunities to external higher education as Kenya transitioned from a race-based to a non-racial nation state? Class is another pertinent category of analysis, which this dissertation must explore. Although education, especially higher education, was historically the reserve of the European, Asian, Indian, and an elite African class, the scholarships offered relaxed class distinctions. It was not necessarily one’s social class that determined whether an individual received the opportunity to study abroad as scholarships made without regard to race, ethnicity, or economic status. What mattered was one’s score on the national examination, known as The Cambridge. As a result, individuals from very poor backgrounds were given access to higher education and obtained scholarships, which were advertised in various local newspapers. By opening up access in this way, there was a belief that this made the process equitable.

➤ **Rethinking the dissertating question**
When I began my fieldwork, I was looking at gender from a very basic perspective. However, after my interactions with faculty, staff, and students at Kenyatta University, re-analyzing archival materials, listening to news programs, reading newspapers and magazines, and rethinking about my topic, I found the need to shift my perspective on examining equality during the period under study. I realized that it would be necessary to define what constituted equality during the period under study, then determine if that equality was reproduced in the distribution of scholarships. To do so, it became necessary to undertake an analysis that locates education in the historical, economic and political context of Kenya’s national development. That called for using an analytical framework to understand the role that gender, race and ethnicity, class and demography have played in external educational attainment during Kenya’s transition from British colony to independent nation state.

Conclusion

The discourse on commonalities and differences has been beneficial and transformative to gender studies. I believe that in spite of the problems and issues that have yet to be resolved, gender studies, as pointed out by many scholars, has enhanced the exploration of power relations at various historical moments by deconstructing relationships from the household level to that of the state. It has done so by exploring the impact of change on women’s lives from both internal and external forces. The ways in which gender interests are conceived and investigated, the importance of lived experiences of women, and tension over who is speaking for African and Third World women continue to dominate gender discourse. They are elements to be considered when ‘doing’ gender, which Western scholars examining non-Western people must contend with in their research.

My best advice:

- 1) When you write your proposal, do it as if what you are proposing is absolutely without a doubt, the project you will undertake. This doesn’t mean it won’t change. You may have to make small adjustments to it or totally abandon it as happened in my case. However, if you write a tentative or weak proposal it could prohibit you from getting funding. So, be of the mindset that you have a strong, well-grounded, totally doable and fund-worthy research topic. If you don’t believe that, you won’t be able to convince any one else that it’s true.
- 2) Be flexible and open to change. There’s a saying that goes “change is good.” Personally, I’m a creature of habit and hate change, but I try to deal with it in such a way that it doesn’t totally unravel my sense and sensibilities. Being open to change only prepares you. You may not have to change anything about your proposal or project. If not, there’s no problem. If so, you’ll be ready to make whatever changes are necessary and also be able to defend your work if called upon

to do so.

- 3) Also a very simple suggestion—read and reread your proposal, especially before beginning fieldwork. Know what you are supposed to do, then go about the business of doing it. Keeping in mind, of course, that your field experiences will affect your proposal in some way, for the good and bad, maybe a little; maybe a lot.
- 4) Use the resources you’ll encounter in the field wisely. This includes reading newspapers, magazines, interacting with individuals—strangers, faculty at the university you are affiliated with, students, watching news shows, and even impromptu discussions. I was having lunch with a faculty member at KU and we were talking about my research. A stranger who happened to be sitting at the table joined in our discussion. He encouraged me to write a book, saying that my topic was interesting and would be widely read by Kenyans. It was encouraging to talk about my work and get such a positive response. However, I just want to get this dissertation finished.
- 5) And finally, use your dissertation fieldwork to write articles, do presentations and begin to sort out what you’ve learned, share your work and get feedback early in the next phase—dissertation writing. My fieldwork has already produced two paper presentations.

The challenges I faced in my dissertation fieldwork have forced me to stretch myself beyond my own narrow thinking. I believe this is especially important for those of us who are examining individuals from cultures different than our own. If you are using gender as a category of historical analysis in your work, I would just caution you to be open to alternative approaches to undertaking such an endeavor and be mindful so that you ‘do’ gender well.

Joy Williams-Black is a GRID student and PhD candidate in History at UIUC. She conducted research in Kenya during September 2004-April 2005. She can be contacted at jwilblk25@yahoo.com.

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Research Report from England and Jamaica

Ethel Hazard



Ethel at the National Library of Spain in Madrid where she conducted research.

In July 2005, I traveled to Newcastle, England and presented a paper at the 29th Society for Caribbean Studies (SCS) Conference. The paper entitled, "Living on the Edge of Empire and Colony" addressed the practice of political philanthropy by Cuban migrants to Jamaica at the end of the first War of Independence in 1878. In August, I traveled to Jamaica where I conducted archival research on

this same community.

The two experiences have enabled me to identify a serious gap in both our conceptualization of philanthropy (i.e. philanthropy as an elite only practice that precipitates charity to the deprived and less privileged) and our identification of who and what counts as a philanthropic contributor.

Specifically, I learned that newly emancipated

slave and free women of color contributed to the Cuban War of Independence and the abolition of the illegal slave trade in Cuba in ways similar to and different from those of their male counterparts. Equal cultural and economic

value for contributions were easily discernable and locked in a web of political complementarity. For example, these women worked as battlefield medics, contraband transporters, diplomatic negotiators, spies, and political agitators.

The SCS was an extension of my research in that I learned there are less than seventy-five female faculty members (professors and lecturers) of Afro Caribbean or African origin throughout the entire United Kingdom. This was a cause that concerned me and Dr. Cecily Jones at Warwick University whom I met by attending the conference. Both experiences showed me that silences and gaps in knowledge are frequently due to the divergent interests of those who already have a place to speak and do not live on the edge of colony and empire--metaphorically and literally.

Ethel Hazard is a GRID student and a PhD candidate in Anthropology. She can be contacted at hazard@uiuc.edu.



Dr. Peter Hanoomansingh and Dr. Cicely Jones at SCS conference in Newcastle.

Research on Brazilian Immigration to Portugal

Beatriz Padilla

In the last few years, I have been working on a post doctorate project, funded by the Portuguese National Foundation, about Brazilian immigration to Portugal. It is quite interesting, as there is a long and historical relation between Brazil and Portugal. On the one hand, Brazil was the rebel colony that won independence without a war and also that attained a higher level of growth and development than the former metropolis, but with the entrance of Portugal to the European Union, the situation changed drastically, especially regarding immigration. Thus beginning in the 1990s, many Brazilians started to come to Portugal, and in the last few years they have become the larger immigrant community in the country. This wave of immigration, which is primarily labor migration, has been mainly male migration. However, the fluxes are becoming more balanced regarding sex.

Some interesting findings about this migration are: a-) Brazilian immigration to Portugal is mainly based on social networks with roots in the place of origin (Brazil) although those networks may be diversified in the country of destiny; b-) the integration of Brazilians occurs although it is more difficult than expected due to a number of factors: initial cultural shock which they were not expecting due to perceived cultural similarities and languages; they are used to being in Portugal although most of them do not feel fully integrated, especially due to discrimination and prejudices; ethnic solidarity becomes more complex and difficult as the labor market shrinks and job availability suffers; obstacles to legalization make immigrants feel less integrated, etc.

Even though there are many interesting facts that characterize Brazilian immigration, two are the most relevant. One is the central role that immigrant social networks play in

the migration experience being an element that enhances adaptation/integration, insertion in the labor market, etc, both for men and women. Another is the connotation that Brazilian women have as sexual objects, which ends up branding their experience negatively. Since in Portugal, prostitution and human trafficking are associated with the Brazilian female, most Brazilian women suffer discrimination and prejudices based on this image.

My research was based on interviews with immigrants and some leaders of immigrant associations. However recently, I decided do a multi-sited ethnography in order to study immigrant social networks in the country of origin. Thus I have been conducting fieldwork



Beatriz Padilla (holding child) with family in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil

with some families from Mato Grosso do Sul who live in Lisbon, and went to Brazil to their town of origin to meet their families and friends and to see their environment. While I just came back and have had little time to reflect on the experience, I can say that in order to understand immigration, it is very important to understand not only people in the receiving society, but also, it is crucial to understand what goes on in the origin that leads them to leave, what happens when immigrants go back to their country of origin, and what can be done at both ends. Some of the issues I intend to explore in more depth now are the relationships among and between these families and networks.

Beatriz Padilla is a GRID Alum (PhD, Sociology, UIUC) who is currently a postdoctoral fellow at CIES/ISCTE (Social Sciences University in Lisbon) and visiting professor at ISG (Superior Institute of Management) in Lisbon, Portugal. She can be contacted at beatriz.padilla@netcabo.pt.

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WGPP 2006 SPRING SEMINAR SERIES AT NOON ON MONDAYS

WGPP will host several visiting speakers and campus colleagues who are involved in cutting-edge research on global women's issues. WGPP's noon seminar series is designed to encourage multidisciplinary, policy-oriented explorations of gender, development and globalization issues. Watch for details on our web page about upcoming talks in Room 101 International Studies Building and join this gathering of scholars to collaborate and discuss topics of current interest.

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Recommended Reading:

Human Development Report International cooperation at a crossroads: Aid, trade and security in an unequal world

The 2005 Human Development Report takes stock of human development, including progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Looking beyond statistics, it highlights the human costs of missed targets and broken promises. Extreme inequality between countries and within countries is identified as one of the main barriers to human development—and as a powerful brake on accelerated progress towards the MDGs.

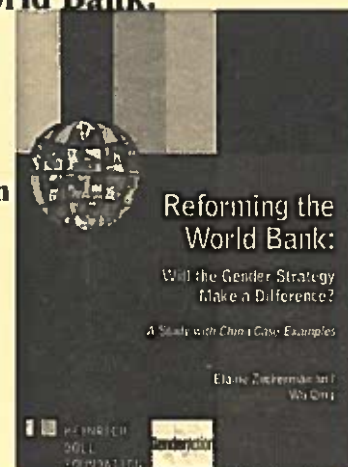


To read the full report, go to the United Nations Development Programme's website at <http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005>.

Reforming the World Bank: Will the Gender Strategy Make a Difference?

By Elaine Zuckerman and Wu Qing

This study draws on case examples from China and some examples from other countries.



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Apple Pie and Enchiladas Latino Newcomers in the Rural Midwest

By Ann V. Millard and Jorge Chapa
With contributions by others including Eileen Diaz McConnell, Assistant Professor of Sociology at UIUC.



"The region has become the scene of dramatic change involving major issues facing our country—the intertwining of ethnic differences, prejudice, and poverty; the social impact of a low-wage workforce resulting from corporate transformations; and public policy questions dealing with economic development, taxation, and welfare payments."

Made in China: Women Factory Workers in a Global Workplace

By Pun Ngai

"Right now, anything that happens in China's economy affects all of us. Pun Ngai's book should be required reading. It is jam-packed with richly drawn and provocative insights mined from her field work as a 'factory girl' in the midst of South China's migrant workers."—Andrew Ross, author of *Low Pay, High Profile: The Global Push for Fair Labor*.

MADE IN CHINA



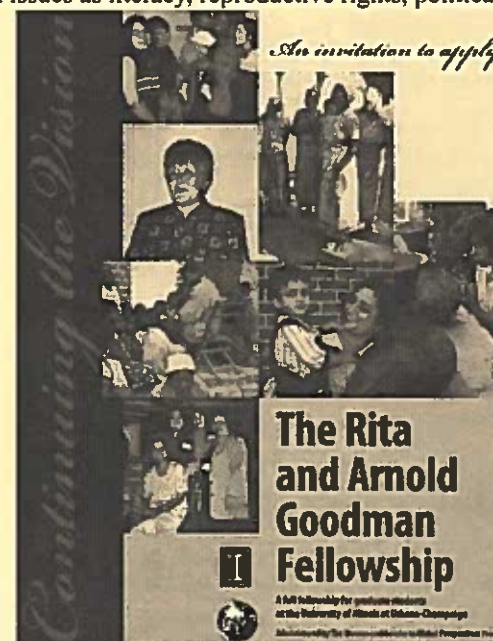
AN INVITATION TO APPLY WGGP Annual Award Opportunities

Available to new and continuing graduate students in any program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:

RITA AND ARNOLD GOODMAN

FELLOWSHIP:

A full scholarship of \$12,000 plus tuition and service fee waiver to support graduate students working on such issues as literacy, reproductive rights, political



participation, economic security, child welfare, and environmental protection with preference given to students whose work promises to make a significant practical contribution to the improvement of women's lives and gender equity in the developing world.

Also available to new and continuing graduate students in any program who select the multidisciplinary graduate minor, Gender Relations in International Development (GRID), offered by WGGP [see GRID enrollment details, next column]*:

DUE AND FERBER INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD FOR DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH:

Grants of up to \$1,000 for travel expenses related to dissertation research addressing international issues of

women, gender, and development for international students from developing countries whose work promises to make significant contributions to the improvement of women's lives and gender equity in the developing world.

KATHLEEN CLOUD INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT:

Grants of \$1,000 or less for travel expenses related to doctoral dissertation research addressing international issues of women, gender, and development.

BARBARA A. YATES INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD:

Awards of up to \$500 to support graduate students focusing on policy-oriented research on socioeconomic issues related to women and gender in developing countries for study on campus, conference presentation, or research abroad.

CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANT FOR GRID STUDENTS:

Up to three \$100 travel grants will be awarded for GRID students making presentations at academic conferences.

*ENROLL IN THE GRID MINOR:

Submit the one-page GRID minor form available at the WGGP office, 320 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (phone: 217-333-1994) or you can download the form at <http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/Griddoc.shtml>

TO APPLY FOR WGGP AWARDS:

Submit the award application form available at the WGGP Office or at <http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/grantfund.shtml>.

A student can submit a single application form to be considered for one or more awards. To apply for the fellowship or grants, select the appropriate box (or boxes) on the application form and submit the required materials (listed on the form) by the **deadline of February 15, 2006** to: Women and Gender in Global Perspectives, 320 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (phone: 217-333-1994; fax: 217-333-6270); WGGP website: <http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/>.

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New Illinois International Publication and Website

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is pleased to announce a new international publication, the *Illinois International Review*. The first issue, released in fall 2005, included articles on human trafficking in Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia; North Korea's weapons of mass destruction program; Illinois' agricultural initiatives in Afghanistan; and an article by WGGP Director Gale Summerfield on human security issues in the Midwest. Additionally, 'The Arts at Illinois' features the broad range of visual, fine or performing arts at the University. The 'Academic Nook' features a department, activity or school within the University and its efforts to promote international programs. Finally, as a joint project among the University's area studies centers, the *Review* provides easier access to the University's broad K-16 international program offerings in the "Global Engagement" section. The *Review* may be viewed online at <http://www.ilint.uiuc.edu>



In fall 2005, the Office of the Associate Provost for International Affairs launched a redesigned web site as a comprehensive guide to international programs and resources available on the Urbana campus. As the campus online portal to international programs, the Illinois International site connects faculty, staff and students with programs and resources to assist in their international studies. For visitors external to the university, Illinois International provides connections to resources available to the public, including links to international programs across campus, an international faculty experts database, and a calendar of international events. As the international dimension of the Illinois campus grows, the Illinois International site will continue to provide up-to-date information on Illinois' international resources. For more information, please visit the site at <http://www.ilint.uiuc.edu>

NCRW Letter to the Editor in Wall Street Journal

The *Wall Street Journal* printed a letter to the editor from the National Council for Research on Women (of which WGGP is a member) and ran it as the "lead" letter on November 7, 2005. The letter points out that it's not women who are responsible for the snail's pace at which they're moving into leadership positions across industries and fields, but rather inflexible structures and attitudes that constrain rather than encourage and support them:

Women as Leaders: Structural vs. Personal

I applaud Carol Hymowitz's "In the Lead" column, "Too Many Women Fall for Stereotypes of Selves, Study Says" (Marketplace, Oct. 24) debunking the stereotype that women don't have what it takes to be great leaders. Surely, shifting the debate from whether women can cut it to how companies can retain them is long overdue.

Studies by the National Council for Research on Women's members show that the remaining barriers to women's advancement are structural, not personal. Despite Neil French's egregious remarks about women in advertising being "undeserving" of advancement in his field, women leave because the workplace doesn't accommodate workers with families or other commitments, and because discrimination still exists at critical points along the way.

Let's hope both the advertising industry and Harvard University (whose president made equally uninformed remarks about women in science) will take the cue and devote time and money to changing the structures in which we work. Such transformation will only be good for both worker retention and the bottom line. After all, it's not only women who want flexible workplaces, adequate childcare and family leave. Our members' studies are finding that younger men want these things, too.

Linda Basch

President, National Council for Research on Women, New York

For further information, see <http://www.ncrw.org>

Giving Opportunity:

An Easy Way to Support WGGP Research

Your contributions, even small donations, can make a real difference in promoting research efforts on global gender equity issues. During this holiday season, please consider supporting any of WGGP's programs listed below. Please make your check payable to "University of Illinois/WGGP," include this form and send to WGGP at UIUC, 320 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820. Please include your return address. Your gift is tax deductible. We greatly appreciate your support.

Friends of WGGP: supports faculty and grad student research projects, publication of the newsletter, and symposia with visiting speakers.

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other

Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellowship: supports graduate students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) who are preparing to work in the field of women, gender, and international development on such issues as literacy, reproductive rights, political participation, economic security, child welfare, and environmental protection. In selecting recipients, preference is given to students whose work promises to make a significant practical contribution to the improvement of women's lives and gender equity in the developing world.

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other

Due and Ferber International Research Award for Doctoral Dissertation Research: International graduate students at UIUC from developing countries selecting the Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) Interdisciplinary Minor offered by WGGP are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$1,000 for travel expenses related to their dissertation research addressing international issues of women, gender, and development. Preference will be given to female students whose work promises to make significant contributions to the improvement of women's lives and gender equity in the developing world. One quarter of the funding will be made available to African women.

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other

Barbara Yates International Research Award: established by the founding director of WGGP (originally the WID Office), supports graduate students enrolled in WGGP's Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) Minor Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other

Kathleen Cloud International Research Grant: supports GRID students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign doing doctoral dissertation research on gender relations in developing countries.

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other