



# Women in Society

ISA Research Council 32 | Newsletter December 2011

## FROM THE EDITOR

First, I would like to thank the regional representatives for sending me information on what is going on in their part of the world. Second, as you will discover, this Fall Newsletter includes reminders to send in your abstract by the 15th of December online via ISA for the ISA Forum in Buenos Aires.

I am also sending you a supplement to this Newsletter containing the abstract of each of our sessions (RC 32) so you can get a good overview of what will be happening within our research committee at the ISA Forum.

Inside this Newsletter you will also find a report of the Women's Worlds Conference this past summer written by **Ann Denis** with a link to videos, panel debates and more. Additionally, **Laura Corradi** has written an editorial based on inspiration she gained from the Women's Worlds Conference.

**Manisha Desai** is involved in planning a Sociology Day at the United Nations focusing on Sociologist's Contributions on Gender, Alternative Development and Human Rights. You can read more about this coming event within the Newsletter. And of course, the Newsletter would not be complete without "Announcements" including congratulations to some of our members, New Books, People on the Move and Funding possibilities for the ISA Forum. Don't miss "New Books." In this number we are reporting on five new and exciting books recently published by our members!

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Antoinette Hetzler

## Chair's Address

Dear RC 32 members,  
Warmest greetings to all!

I want to bring you up-to-date on the exciting preparations for our RC 32 Interim Conference "Women, Social Justice and Democratization" to take place at the 2012 ISA Forum in Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 1-4, 2012 (<http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/>). Reflecting the ISA 2012 Forum's main theme on "Social Justice and Democratization", Research Committee 32 ("Women in Society") will highlight the role, experiences and agency of women and women's movements in the processes and struggles for social justice and democratization.

## Call for Abstracts

The Second ISA  
Forum of Sociology,  
Buenos Aires  
Wednesday, August 1,  
2012 – Saturday,  
August 4, 2012

New Submissions may  
be entered until:  
Thursday, December  
15, 2011 at 11:59pm  
(EST)

Please select the  
group (Research  
Committee, Working  
Group, Thematic  
Group) to which you  
wish to submit your  
paper. The full list of  
groups is available  
under the section  
Academic sessions.  
The abstract text  
cannot contain more  
than 300 words.

<http://isaconf.onfex.com/isaconf/forum2012/cfp.cgi>

RC32 has planned 20 substantive, inspiring and timely sessions in total (including 3 joint sessions hosted by other Research Committees) and a business meeting. Session topics cover a broad range of issues relevant to women, social justice and democratization in various regions of the world and globally; from economic empowerment, to violence; gender policies; gender, science and technology; women and poverty; the ethics of intersectional politics; identity politics and skilled migration; the role of language in shaping gender justice and sexual rights movements; women, leisure and the family in an age of transformations; to challenging the logic of neoliberalism: labor-feminist coalitions and work-family policy campaigns (please check our website for more detail: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/rc/rc.php?n=RC32>).

Our sessions will be mostly in English, but we will make every effort to accommodate presentations in Spanish, relying on local volunteers and bilingual members. One of our sessions will be in Spanish with consecutive interpretation. Many thanks to session organizers for their wonderful ideas – it has been a pleasure working with all of you toward this exciting program! Many thanks to the local colleagues who have offered assistance in planning conference events: the major one for RC 32 will be a reception / party following our business meeting.

Abstracts should be submitted on line till December 15, 2011. There is limited funding by ISA and RC 32 to assist session organizers, chairs and presenters with registration, airfare and / or accommodation costs. Information about eligibility, deadlines and the process can be found at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/guidelines-for-grant-application-submission.htm>. For RC 32, a letter of application should be sent to our secretary, Bandana Purkayastha ([bandanapurkayastha@yahoo.com](mailto:bandanapurkayastha@yahoo.com)) by January 31. Please keep in mind you can only apply for a grant to one RC/WG/TG.

Finally, a short report on the vibrant RC 32 participation in the *Women's Worlds 2011* Global Feminist Conference, entitled "Inclusions, Exclusions, Seclusions: Living in a Globalized World", held in Ottawa, Canada, 3-7 July 2011: We had a total of 13 RC32 affiliated panels and many more individual paper presentations which made for an overall successful though informal Interim RC 32 meeting. A substantive report on the conference by our member and member of the Local Organizing Committee, Ann Denis, is included in this newsletter. RC 32 shared a table at the conference with information about ISA and RC 32 activities and membership with another organization, the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAOW). Many thanks to the RC 32 members who volunteered time at that table and to those who stopped by to say hello and express their support. RC 32 held a social event as well, a book celebration / brown bag lunch. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our RC 32 Interim Conference at the 2012 ISA Forum in Buenos Aires and to working with you toward a successful program and conference.

With best wishes,

Evie Tastsoglou  
RC 32 Chair



## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### **Women's Worlds 2011 Global Feminist Conference**

By: *Ann Denis, University of Ottawa, Canada, President RC05, and former ISA Vice-President for Research 2002-2006*

Women's Worlds, an international interdisciplinary conference on women held every three years in different parts of the world, was co-hosted this year by Carleton University and the University of Ottawa/Université d'Ottawa, with the support of Université du Québec en Outaouais and St. Paul University. It took place in Ottawa-Gatineau, July 3-7. The 2000 registrations, some 800 presenters and participation from 92 countries underline the international breadth of the conference, while the daily plenary was complemented by a plethora of concurrent sessions (often up to 30 sessions in each of 3 time slots for the day). Participants were from academe and activist communities, and had diverse understandings about feminism and the inclusion of women (or its absence). This was a rich opportunity to dialogue and learn from each other.

The overall conference theme was 'Connect, converse. Inclusions, exclusions, seclusions: living in a globalized world.' Thus diversity and the international were fore-grounded. There was one theme each day: breaking cycles, breaking ceilings, breaking barriers, and breaking ground – in other words, from challenges to the constraints on women to innovations for a more inclusive and equitable future. Within each of these broad themes, sessions focused on such substantive areas as microcredit, HIV-AIDS, violence against women, women and the arts, and many more. In some sessions traditional conference papers were presented, in others there were conversations among presenters on a structured series of themes (and this was the format of all the plenaries), in still others the organizer led a focused discussion/reflection with those in attendance, and sometimes there were reports of initiatives aimed at greater autonomy or participation by women.

A distinctive feature of Women's Worlds 2011 was that it was trilingual – in English, French and Spanish. There was limited interpretation, concentrated in the plenaries. Some sessions were bilingual (with informal interpretation if needed) and others were exclusively in French or Spanish. This was also a conference which attended thoughtfully to disability/accessibility (for example, by sign language in sessions and wheelchair accessibility), and to the inclusion of young women, and aboriginal women. Each of these concerns was evident in the conference organization and programming. The inclusiveness and richness facilitated by consultation with advisory groups from each of these communities were evident throughout. Finally, this was a conference of participation by and dialogue between the academy and the community, and was very international in scope.

I have concentrated on conference organization rather than the content of the presentations in the hopes of providing a bit of the flavor of the conference, rather than a necessarily selective account of a few sessions – those I attended.

Members of RC32 of the ISA, Women in Society, were once again active participants at Women's Worlds 2011: in addition to organizing a RC32 brown bag lunch for exchange of news about our recent and upcoming



Ann Denis



Left to Right: Evie Tastsoglou, Liisa Husu, Margaret Abraham, Cynthia Joseph, Roberta Villalon, Maria Kontos, Catherine Berheide, Ann Denis and Jeff Hearn (on the side line). Women's Worlds Conference 2011

activities, and a RC32 information table at the WW11 Bazaar, RC32 Chair, Evie Tastsoglou, circulated a list (now on the ISA website for RC32) of the extensive and diverse RC32 participation at Women's Worlds, all of which helped us get in contact with each other, and showcased RC32.

For more information about Women's Worlds, including video clips and a discussion forum, along with a full listing of the program – which gives a more comprehensive taste of the range of speakers and topics than I could hope to do – see <http://www.womensworlds.ca>. The next Women's Worlds conference is in three years (2014): like the four I have attended since 1993 it is sure to be thought-provoking and energizing.

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### ***Occupy Patriarchy! An Editorial based on the Women's Worlds 2011 Global Feminist Conference***

By: Laura Corradi Gender Studies, Dipartimento Sociologia, Università della Calabria

We really live in *Turbulent Times* – as per the successful title of the European Sociology Association meeting in Geneva, Switzerland (ESA, September 7-9, 2011) where several future scenarios have been outlined: ecological, economical and social problems seem to be reaching the zenith. Nation states in Europe and in the US are facing an epochal crisis and are losing their supremacy. Countries termed developing countries are being asked by transnational authorities to give up their food sovereignty and political freedom. A financial dictatorship seems to be establishing itself as a government based on beliefs found in neoliberal ideology. At the same time there new winds of a threat of war blowing in the horizon.

Yet, solutions are knocking on our doors, incessantly. Indigenous uprisings and people's struggles for common goods –in all continents have women in the leadership together with an emphasis on control and respect of natural resources. A new economy based on the idea of *buen vivir* – the well-being of everybody - is taking place in fair trade, solidarity of consumption, politics of commensality and ethics of gift. New sexual and gender relations are starting to replace the old ones, which are known to have oppressed women, did not make men happy, and everything in between was invisible.

During the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Women's Worlds in Ottawa, Canada* thousands of women experienced participation. The organizers received 1200 presentation proposals and selected 300 – among them 65 authors were Aboriginal and 31 were women with disability. Such a high representation is not incidental – it is the product of placing into practice the words about the importance of *the margin* as epistemological perspective in the struggle. The subtitle of the congress '*Inclusions, exclusions and seclusions: living in a globalized world*' was interpreted in two ways: looking at the marginalizing effects of globalization on women and disadvantaged communities; and in terms of agency, on transnational and local networks with successful practices. Three main arenas of debate: 'breaking cycles' of oppression 'breaking ceilings' – and 'breaking barriers' of exclusion were themes that gathered together the participants in an appreciation of all types of diversity.

## **Women in Society RC 32**

### **Objectives**

To promote the development of theory, methods, and practice concerning women in society and the gendered nature of social institutions; to encourage the critical evaluation of current sociological paradigms from the perspective of all subordinate groups, including women; to promote perspectives and foster consciousness concerning women's rights throughout the world; to improve research, organize meetings, and promote other means of communication, cooperation and collaboration among researchers at the national, regional, and international levels; to forge links with the research committees on women in other international social science associations.

Ottawa taught us how we should be occupying space –beyond the institutional domesticated spots devoted to those who behave well and respect the patriarchal order. A new feminist wave of protest and proposals is emerging in all recent mobilizations around the world. A healthy and non-violent antagonism to the priorities and the goals of neoliberalism is practiced by women of all ages, race, sexual orientation. They participate in separate milieus and in mixed context: they are part of the people occupying Wall Street, occupying Oakland, and the surrounding areas of Parliaments. This is happening in order to make women's protest visible to the powerful, and to state forcefully that our time is now, and our lives are not for sale!

Plenty of obstacles are in our path; among those to be faced in an urgent way, we have to take responsibility and deal with women's complicity in the patriarchal order and the norm of heterosexism. We should be able to admit the failure of reforming the unchangeable with pink quotas and equal opportunities. We should finally keep our distance from a vain femmocracy willing to share power in return for a politics of silence around issues such as war, anti-popular economics, and male dominated systems of legitimization and hierarchies, while reproducing exclusionary practices against other women on the basis of census, color, status, and degree of radicalism.

So much needs to be done. We may start extracting principles from our own experience: now we know that women can effectively represent women if women through an ethical and inclusive process of trust and commitment collectively choose them. If we are going to take the lead in a world that is about to collapse we don't want to repeat old mistakes of the past. Only a truly feminist politics can address reproduction as a central issue, contesting the supremacy of production and accumulation, placing social needs as the priority - the happiness of society as a program.

Occupy patriarchy! A cook can govern – the time has come, now.

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## COMING EVENTS

***SOCIOLOGY DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS "Past, Present, and Future: Sociologists' Contributions on Gender, Alternative Development and Human Rights at the United Nations. June 2012***

Prepared by Barret Katuna

Since it's founding, the United Nations has applied sociological research to increase its efficiency, identify high-impact interventions, and understand how to affect change. To highlight and strengthen this collaboration, we propose a UN-sponsored Sociology Day, "Past, Present, and Future: Sociologists' Contributions on Gender, Alternative Development, and Human Rights at the United Nations" in June 2012. We are seeking the support of the NGO Relations Section of the Department of Public Information to put this day together. Specifically, we are requesting administrative support to co-organize this event, organize a room at United Nations headquarters, and to provide audiovisual support.

Our group consists of sociologists who work within or on the United Nations in their research. We include members of the American Sociological Association (ASA), the Human Rights Section of the ASA, Sociologists for

Women in Society (SWS), Sociologists without Borders (SSF), and the International Sociological Association (ISA). (See bios below.)

The goal of the event will be to highlight the past and ongoing research of sociologists who work in conjunction with UN agencies. Specifically, the participants will address the relationship between scholarship and policy-level work. The sociologists who currently work for the UN—namely Dr. Bonini, Dr. Daponte, Dr. Kelly, and Ms. Miller will address how their training in sociology influences their policy-level work with UN agencies. Dr. Walby<sup>1</sup> will talk about her present research as the UNESCO Chair in Gender Research. The sociologists who have supported UN agencies in the past—namely Dr. Desai and Dr. Moghadam—will speak on the implications of their previous work with the UN for their scholarship and teaching. Ms. Katuna will work with the moderator from the DPI/NGO Relations section to facilitate the question and answer portion of the proceedings. We are requesting that Sociology Day at the United Nations take place in late June to accommodate our academic schedules.

### **Biographies**

**Astra Bonini, Ph.D.** is a Statistics and Research Analyst for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). She holds a Masters in international affairs from Columbia University and a PhD in sociology from Johns Hopkins University. Her dissertation examined the relationship between natural resource wealth and economic development from a comparative historical perspective. Dr. Bonini has extensive research experience in the fields of global inequality and international development and teaching experience in sociology. Most recently, she was an instructor of environmental sociology at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Bonini has worked for a number of offices within the UN system including the UNDP Sustainable Energy group, UNDP Mongolia, the UNSD Environment Statistics Unit, and the UNSD Development Indicators Unit.

**Beth Osborne Daponte, Ph.D.** is Chief of Section in the Inspections and Evaluation Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services at the United Nations. She has held this position since October 2010. Prior to coming to the United Nations, Dr. Daponte was on the faculty of Yale University, teaching Program Evaluation in Yale's School of Management. Prior to Yale, she was Associate Research Professor at the Heinz School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Daponte studied Sociology and Mathematics at the undergraduate level at Boston University. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago, where she specialized in Demography and Methodology. Dr. Daponte is the author of *Evaluation Essentials* (Wiley, 2009) and of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles. She has also worked closely with non-profits and foundations, helping them build their evaluation and research capacities.

At the United Nations, her work often becomes reports to the General Assembly. Substantively, she is primarily responsible for evaluating the United Nations' peacekeeping activities. Secondarily, she researches and writes on improving the United Nations' evaluation capacity. Thus far, her work at the United Nations has entailed, with the team under her supervision, evaluations of United Nations peacekeeping in Sudan, Haiti, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and a Thematic Evaluation on

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<sup>1</sup> We are hoping that Dr. Walby will be able to join the panel. Her attendance depends on whether or not she can obtain funding to make the trip from Lancaster University in the United Kingdom.

United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation and Coordination with Regional Organizations

**Manisha Desai, Ph.D.** is an Associate Professor of Women's Studies and Sociology at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Desai worked as the Senior Programme Specialist in the Gender Equity and Development Section of the Human Rights Division at UNESCO in Paris and served as the Sociologists for Women in Society's (SWS) NGO representative to the United Nation's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Dr Desai's research and teaching interests include Gender, Globalization, and Human Rights, Transnational Feminism, Gender and Development, and Contemporary Indian Society. Her recent publications include: *Gender, Family, and Law in a Globalizing Middle East and South Asia* (co-edited with Ken Cuno, 2010, Syracuse University Press); *Gender and the Politics of Possibilities: Rethinking Globalization* (2008, Rowman and Littlefield). Dr. Desai also wrote the report, "Women and Empowerment" for the Office of Human Development, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2010.

Through her research and advocacy work, Dr. Desai is committed to bringing in voices from the Global South and marginalized communities in the Global North to engage in a critical public sociology that is centered around social justice and a critical human rights perspective. Dr. Desai just recently returned to the United States from India where she was on a Fulbright Hays Faculty Research Fellowship in India studying Gender, Environment, and Development in a Globalizing Gujarat.

**Barret Katuna, M.A.** is a Ph.D. student in sociology at the University of Connecticut. Barret's research interests span the areas of gender and human rights. Her M.A. thesis focused on the social impact of feminist network organizing. In addition to her M.A., Barret has completed a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies and will complete a Graduate Certificate in Human Rights. Barret's research pertaining to Hurricane Katrina and human rights matters has appeared in the volume, *In Our Own Backyard: Human Rights, Injustice, and Resistance in the United States*, edited by William T. Armaline, Davita Silfen Glasberg, and Bandana Purkayastha. Furthermore, Barret's dissertation will address the experiences of women in key leadership positions on college campuses. Barret is a United Nations delegate to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS). In 2005, Barret interned at UN Headquarters for the Department of Public Information, Non-Governmental Organization Section.

**Kristy Kelly, Ph.D.** does feminist policy analysis work for UN Women in Vietnam. Dr. Kelly is also working on issues pertaining to women in educational planning and management for UNESCO. Dr. Kelly is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Modern Southeast Asian Studies 2010-12 at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University. She has a concentration in international and comparative education and the sociology of gender. She is working on a book manuscript, titled "Whatever happened to comrade? The politics of gender mainstreaming, training and development," which examines the role that training plays in moving policy through different levels of social scale and how gender equality discourses and practices are transformed in the process. Dr. Kelly has written on higher education, HIV/AIDS, women and leadership, and the politics of gender, class and citizenship in post-socialist Vietnam. Her research and teaching interests include: globalization and development, the politics of knowledge, transnational feminisms, post-socialist transformation, social change policy, Vietnam, and Southeast Asia. Dr. Kelly has extensive experience working for the United Nations and education development organizations in Vietnam, Hong Kong and the United States. She continues to consult on gender and

development issues with multilateral and non-government organizations in Asia.

**Kellea Miller, M.S.**, is a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and has worked for a decade in international women's rights and grantmaking. She joined UNIFEM (now UN Women) as a Programme Specialist in 2009 and helped established the Fund for Gender Equality, one of the world's largest grantmakers for global women's rights. At UN Women full-time for two years, Ms. Miller analyzed trends in the Fund's grant applicant pool and completed her Master's thesis, "Defining Actors, Constructing 'Women,' and Mapping Impact: Global Strategies for the Implementation of Gender Equality Laws & Policies" (2010). Her research continues to focus on the gender equality policies and their relationship to real changes in women's lives. She currently serves as a research consultant with the UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality and is completing an article based on the Fund as a mechanism for advancing women's economic and political empowerment. She intends to present her article in June.

**Valentine Moghadam, Ph.D.** is a Professor of Sociology and Director of Women's Studies at Purdue University. From 2004-2006, she served as Chief of the Section on Gender Equality and Development in the Social and Human Sciences Sector of UNESCO, in Paris, France.

Born in Iran, Dr. Moghadam has devoted much research to development, social change, and gender in the Middle East, North Africa, and Afghanistan, but she also studies and publishes on the social and gender dynamics of globalization. Her first book, *Modernizing Women: Gender and Social Change in the Middle East* (1993, 2003) was selected as a *Choice Outstanding Academic Book* for 1993-94. Her third book, *Globalizing Women: Transnational Feminist Networks* (2005) received the American Political Science Association's Victoria Schuck Award for the best book on Women and Politics in 2005 (August, 2006). She also has edited and contributed to seven books, most recently *Social Policy and Economic Development in the Middle East* (2006) and *From Patriarchy to Empowerment? Participation, Rights and Women's Movements in the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia* (2007). She is currently under contract with SUNY Press for an edited volume on social rights, trade unions, and women's economic citizenship, to appear in 2011.

Dr. Moghadam is a founding member and past president of the Association for Middle East Women's Studies and a founding contributor to the *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*.

**Sylvia Walby, Ph.D.** is the UNESCO Chair in Gender Research and a Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University. She was appointed to the UNESCO Chair in Gender Research in 2008. In this role, she facilitates the development of policy-relevant research on gender equality and women's human rights around the world, supports and develops international networking to facilitate the exchange of ideas, research and policy developments, especially between the North and South, supports research and builds capacity on policy-relevant gender equality issues; curriculum development, student training at graduate level; staff exchanges, facilitates exchanges between researchers and policy makers, in the context of UN instruments for promoting women's human rights and the Millennium Development Goals, and collaborates with UNESCO in its Gender Equality policy and strategy. Dr. Walby has written extensively in the field of gender and is interested in both theoretical development and policy impact. Substantively, she is interested in economic change, fascinated by new political forms (e.g. European Union) and concerned about marginalized groups (domestic violence matters). She argues that these issues are



framed by globalization, the understanding of which requires the use of complexity theory, and 'human rights' which has become the most important framing of contemporary projects for global justice. Most recently, she published *The Future of Feminism* (2011, Polity) that acknowledges the role that feminism plays in today's society.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONGRATULATIONS!

**BANDANA PURKAYASTHA** (University of Connecticut) elected as the 2013-2014 President of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS). She will serve as President elect 2012-2013.

**ROBERTA VILLALON**, (St. John's University), elected as Committee Chair, Discrimination, Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) 2012.

**MARLESE DURR**, (Wright State University), elected as Committee Member, Publications, Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) 2012.

**DAVITA SILFEN GLASBERG**, (University of Connecticut) named President of Sociologists Without Borders, a human rights organization.

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## NEW BOOKS

***Human Rights in Our Own Backyard: Injustice and Resistance in the United States***. William T. Armaline, Davita Silfen Glasberg, and Bandana Purkayastha, Editors 320 pages | 6 x 9 Cloth 2011 | ISBN 978-0-8122-4360-4 | \$59.95 | £39.00 A volume in the [Pennsylvania Studies in Human Rights](#) series.

*Human Rights in Our Own Backyard* examines the state of human rights and responses to human rights issues, drawing on sociological literature and perspectives to interrogate assumptions of American exceptionalism. How do people in the U.S. address human rights issues? What strategies have they adopted, and how successful have they been? Essays are organized around key conventions of human rights, focusing on the relationships between human rights and justice, the state and the individual, civil rights and human rights, and group rights versus individual rights. The contributors are united by a common conception of the human rights enterprise as a process involving not only state-defined and implemented rights but also human rights from below as promoted by activists.

***The New Maids. Transnational Women and the Care Economy***. Helen Lutz. London: Zed Books.

*The New Maids* is a pioneering book, grounded on rich, empirical evidence, which examines the relationship between globalization, transnationalism, gender and the care economy. Expertly addressing the thorny questions that surround the increasing number of migrant domestic workers and cleaners, child-carers and caregivers who maintain modern Western households, the author argues that domestic work plays the defining role in global ethnic and gender hierarchies. Using a central ethnographic study of immigrant domestic workers and their German employees as its starting point, *The New Maids* uses the voices of such women themselves to provide unique



Bandana  
Purkayastha



conceptual and evidential support for this vital new approach argument.

***Framing Intersectionality. Debates on a Multi-Faceted Concept in Gender Studies.*** Helma Lutz, Maria Teresa Herrera Vivar and Linda Supik (eds.). Abingdon: Ashgate.

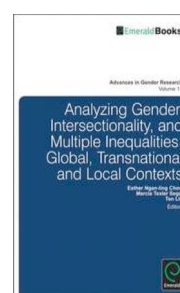
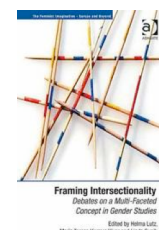
"Framing Intersectionality" brings together proponents and critics of the concept, to discuss the 'state of the art' with those that have been influential in the debates that surround it. Engaging with the historical roots of intersectionality in the US-based 'race-class-gender' debate, this book also considers the European adoption of this concept in different national contexts, to explore issues such as migration, identity, media coverage of sexual violence against men and transnational livelihoods of high and low skilled migrants. Thematically arranged around the themes of the transatlantic migration of intersectionality, the development of intersectionality as a theory, men's studies and masculinities, and the body and embodiment, this book draws on empirical case studies as well as theoretical deliberations to investigate the capacity and the sustainability of the concept and shed light on the current state of intersectionality research.

***Between Feminism and Islam: Human Rights and Sharia Law in Morocco.*** Zakia. Salime. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

There are two major women's movements in Morocco: the Islamists who hold shari'a as the platform for building a culture of women's rights, and the feminists who use the United Nations' framework to amend shari'a law. *Between Feminism and Islam* shows how the interactions of these movements over the past two decades have transformed the debates, the organization, and the strategies of each other. In *Between Feminism and Islam*, Zakia Salime looks at three key movement moments: the 1992 feminist One Million Signature Campaign, the 2000 Islamist mass rally opposing the reform of family law, and the 2003 Casablanca attacks by a group of Islamist radicals. At the core of these moments are disputes over legitimacy, national identity, gender representations, and political negotiations for shaping state gender policies. Located at the intersection of feminism and Islam, these conflicts have led to the Islamization of feminists on the one hand and the feminization of Islamists on the other. Documenting the synergistic relationship between these movements, Salime reveals how the boundaries of feminism and Islamism have been radically reconfigured. She offers a new conceptual framework for studying social movements, one that allows us to understand how Islamic feminism is influencing global debates on human rights.

***Analyzing Gender, Intersectionality, and Multiple Inequalities: Global Transnational and Local Contexts,*** (eds.) Esther Ngan-ling Chow, Marcia Texler Segal, and Lin Tan. London: Emerald Press, 2011.

The papers in this volume were selected and revised from among those presented at the conference "Gender and Social Transformation: Global, Transnational, and Local Realities and Perspectives", Beijing, China in 2009. Through case studies and interview data from across the globe we see how intersectionality and inequality are contextualized shaping women's



agencies, gender relations, identity, the politics of belonging, power structures, institutional arrangements, and empowerment (self and/or collective) in local communities and cultures influenced by transnational and global networks and processes. Those who experience inequality, the politics of exclusion and social injustice by virtue of gender, ethnicity and/or class and other differences are the most vulnerable in the face of new adversities, including those that occur in response to globalization. Broader theoretical and methodological contexts for these nation- and region-specific studies are provided in essays by leading gender theorists. Divisions of labor, migration, war and peace-building are among the specific topics addressed in papers from China, India, Israel, Korea, Germany, Australia, Turkey and the United States.

### ON THE MOVE...

As of January 2012, **Val Moghadam**, currently Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies and the Director of the Women's Studies Program at Purdue University, will be joining the faculty of **Northeastern University in Boston** as Professor of Sociology and as Director of the International Affairs Program. Congratulations and Good Luck with your new position, Val!



**Bandana Pukayastha** has been appointed the interim Head of Sociology at the University of Connecticut and has also joined an international recruitment committee for the Presidency College /University, Kolkata, India.

### LIMITED FUNDING AVAILABLE

**Bandana Pukayastha** has the following information for RC-32 members on the availability for funding to subsidize member participation to the **ISA 2012 Forum in Buenos Aires**.

**“Limited funding is available through the ISA and RC 32 to subsidize member participation to the ISA 2012 Forum in Buenos Aires.** This is the formal call for registration and travel grants for our 2012 RC-32 meeting at Buenos Aires. The ISA has allotted us a total of \$1500, RC-32 will add an additional \$750 for this combined funding.

Please read the grant allocation rules that have been set by the ISA (these appear on pp.23). Your completed funding application should be sent to Bandana Purkayastha ([bandanapurkayastha@yahoo.com](mailto:bandanapurkayastha@yahoo.com)) NO LATER than January 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. The application form appears on pp.4-5

Please note if you are a paper presenter, your abstract has to be accepted by the session organizer, for you to qualify as active participant. We will assign the money after all the applications are in, not on a first-come-first-serve basis. However, we will NOT consider any application that arrives after the deadline. For the ISA portion of the money, ISA will pay the recipient directly. For the RC-32 portion of the money, it will only be given, as cash – US dollars – at the end of the RC 32 meetings in Buenos Aires. Thank you,

***Bandana Purkayastha, Secretary/Treasurer, RC-32***

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**RC Newsletter, Fall 2012  
has the entire  
Abstract Program  
for  
RC-32/ISA Interim Conference**

**“Women, Social Justice and  
Democratization”  
Program Co-ordinator:  
Evangelia Tastsoglou  
RC 32 Chair**

**(Sent as a Supplementary e-mail  
to the Newsletter and as a  
separate document.)**