

Abstracts

Friederike Hassauer

Commemorative Speech: Clever Women. *Dignitas, Auctoritas, Nobilitas*. Is Science sexual mature?

Keywords: Science, Querelle des Femmes, Participation, Academic Studies

Sabine Hark

What is and why Critique? On Possibilities and Limitations of Feminist Critique today

Starting with a critical rereading of a passage in Virginia Woolf's essay *Three Guineas* on the »premature burial of feminism« (M. Hawkesworth) this essay discusses possibilities and limitations of feminist critical thought today. That is to say in a context in which *post-2nd-wave* and anti-feminist forces alike work to both desarticulate *2nd-wave-feminism* and rearticulate it as a heteronormatively grounded solipsistic project of a female elite. It argues for a critical analysis of the politics of narration of feminism as well as for a new ethos of feminist knowledge production, i.e. a practice in which we ask by what norms and rationalities feminist theory wants to be governed and how feminist theory wants to govern itself. Following Michel Foucault and Judith Butler the essay consequently suggests to understand critique as a practice in which we pose the question of the limits of our most secure ways of knowing, i.e. a practice that questions the nexus of power, knowledge and ontology.

Keywords: Critique, Practice, Feminist Theory, Power, Knowledge, Ontology, Governmentality

Ina Kerner

Is it all intersectional? On the Relation of Racism and Sexism

Intersectionality has recently become one of the most prominent issues of feminist theory in Europe, calling for accounts of gender and of gender-related forms of inequality that acknowledge their complex interrelations with forms of inequality that are related to »race«, ethnicity, and religion, among others. But is it conceptually sufficient to focus on the ways in which different forms of inequality intersect when one attempts to understand the complex ways in which they relate to each other? Focusing on the relation of racism and sexism, the basic argument of this article is that it wasn't. What is suggested instead is a multi-faceted approach that takes similarities, differences, connections as well as intersections into account.

Keywords: Intersectionality, Power, Racism, Sexism, Feminist Theory

Nira Yuval-Davis

Intersectionality

This article explores various analytical issues involved in conceptualizing the interrelationships of gender, class, race and ethnicity and other social divisions. It compares the debate on these issues that took place in Britain in the 1980s and around the 2001 UN World Conference Against Racism. It examines issues such as the relative helpfulness of additive or mutually constitutive models of intersectional social divisions; the different analytical levels at which social divisions need to be studied, their ontological base and their relations to each other. The final section of the article attempts critically to assess

a specific intersectional methodological approach for engaging in aid and human rights work in the South.

Keywords: Identity Politics, Intersectionality, Social Divisions, Social Positionings

Tina Spiess

» ... I tell you something ...«. Subject Positioning in the Context of Discourses on Violence, Gender, and Ethnicity

In the discussion on juvenile delinquents with migration background, discourses on violence, gender and ethnicity are being mixed up. As an example, one could take the popular assumption that the divergent concepts of manhood depend on the cultural and ethnic background, and that those are responsible for the increased number of violent criminals among different ethnic groups. Various sides have criticized this perception. But to what extent do those discourses influence the biographical positioning? A first step in the discussion of this question will be to analyze the relation of violence, gender and ethnicity in the public discourses in order to find out how discourse and subject – on a theoretical level – can be linked. In this context Stuart Hall's concept of articulation will be introduced as helpful for the subsequent analysis of conflicting self-positioning in biographical interviews. On the basis of an interview with a juvenile delinquent it will be concluded that biographical self-positioning is influenced by the aforementioned discourses, but that the very same juveniles are not helpless facing those discourses. They seem to be very well able to – at least in parts – avoid those discourses and to position themselves beyond the given public image, but furthermore to even take the offered positioning and to use it strategically for their own purposes.

Keywords: Violence, Gender, Ethnicity, Biographical Research, Discourse Analysis

Felix Krämer

»Playboy tells his story«. History of a Crisis Scenario: The Case of Hegemonic US-Masculinity in the 1970s

Any discourse concerning modern »masculinity in crisis« deals with a hegemonic gender ideal – that of white, middleclass heterosexual masculinity. This article demonstrates how the crisis of masculinity was shaped in the mid 1970s within the historically significant US-magazine *The Playboy* – among other places. The magazine was founded in 1953, proclaiming from its very beginnings to free the male gaze with respect to pictures of nude female bodies, and simultaneously engender a self-confident masculine identity. After a brief survey of the theoretical debates surrounding »masculinity in crisis« the article moves on to examine various different *Playboy*-texts in the 1970s that constructed and proclaimed a crisis of the dominant model of masculinity. Within this process other (and *othered*) bodies – such as feminists, black power activists or gays – were inscribed as sources of harassment in relation to the dominant role model. Finally, consideration is given to the contemporary socio-cultural consequences, which were affected by the trope of a »masculinity crisis«.

Keywords: Gender, Masculinities, Crisis, Media, Body History

Angelika Schaser

On the Introduction of the Women's Vote ninety Years ago on November 12 1918

Up to the 20th century, most people in Germany didn't think about women's suffrage, or were oblivious to it. Only a small minority of the population demanded voting rights for women. Hardly any political parties included women's suffrage in their programs until the end of World War I. Even though the Social Democratic Party (SPD) included the vote for women in its program in 1891, it was the women's movement that was the essential force for achieving the women's vote in the 1918 revolution. This article argues that the women's movement itself paved the way for the vital change in public opinion by organizing petitions, publications, lectures and demonstrations.

Keywords: Franchise Reform, Imperial Germany, Weimar Republic, Women's Movement

Rita Schäfer

Sexualized War Violence and Justice for Raped Women in Postwar-Societies

UN Resolution 1820, adopted in June 2008, was a milestone in the prosecution of sexualized war violence. It considers rapes committed during wars as crimes against humanity and as war crimes. Perpetrators need to be punished in order to prevent the continuation of patterns of violence after peace is restored. Otherwise rape and domestic violence become widespread problems. At all levels of politics and society, changes in male attitudes are needed. For years, women's rights organizations such as *Medica Mondiale* have demanded justice for victims of sexualized violence. *Medica Mondiale* staged an international conference in September 2008 and invited women's rights activists from all continents as well as UN officials to discuss reforms of international legal standards and national legislation.

Keywords: Sexualized War Violence, UN-Resolutions, Women's Organisations

Themen der nächsten Hefte

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