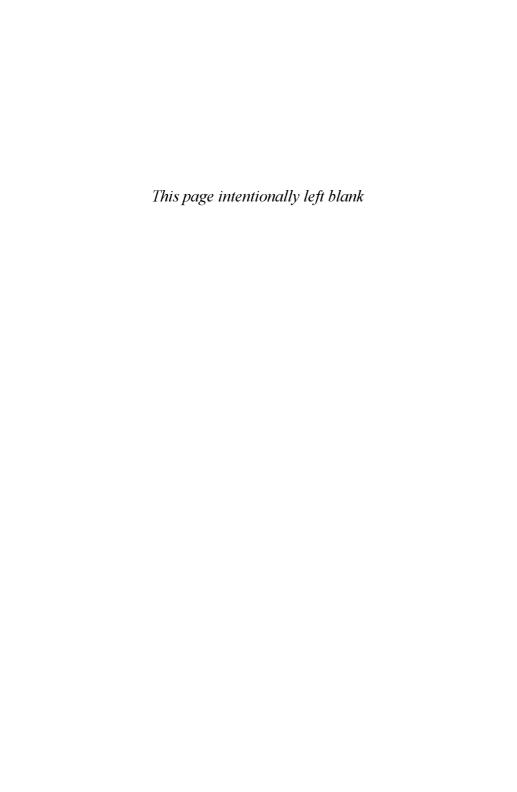
GENDER, RACE, AND NATION: A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

The terms 'woman' and 'women' have been the organizing concepts for feminist politics and scholarship on women in Western countries for several centuries. 'Women,' it was assumed, shared characteristics based on biology and experiences of subordination; other aspects of their lives, such as language, national or ethnic identity, 'race,' or sexual orientation were considered secondary to the identity of womanness. In this work, Vanaja Dhruvarajan and Jill Vickers call into question feminism's presumed universality of gender analysis, and bring to the foreground the voices of marginalized women in Western society, and of women outside of the Western world.

Gender, Race, and Nation discusses opening scholarship to the experiences of women in all of their diversity. Making links between the differences in local contexts and global contexts, and relating to other women with the understanding of each woman's relative position in terms of power and privilege, will facilitate coalition building and the development of strategies to address issues of common concern to usher in a just and caring world for all. This change in perspective presented by Dhruvarajan and Vickers represents a paradigm shift in the study of women and women's issues, and forges a new approach to women's studies/scholarship on women, women's movements, and global social transformation.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS Toronto Buffalo London

www.utppublishing.com

© University of Toronto Press Incorporated 2002 Toronto Buffalo London Printed in Canada

ISBN 0-8020-3636-8 (cloth) ISBN 0-8020-8473-7 (paper)



Printed on acid-free paper

National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data

Dhruvarajan, Vanaja

Gender, race, and nation: a global perspective

Includes bibliographical references and index. ISBN 0-8020-3636-8 (bound). – ISBN 0-8020-8473-7 (pbk.)

- 1. Women's studies. 2. Feminism. 3. Feminist theory.
- 4. Minority women. I. Vickers, Jill, 1942- . II. Title.

HQ1190.D47 2002 305.4'07 C2001-904091-1

This book has been published with the help of a grant from the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada, using funds provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

The University of Toronto Press acknowledges the financial assistance to its publishing program of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Ontario Arts Council.

University of Toronto Press acknowledges the financial support for its publishing activities of the Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program (BPIDP).

We wish to dedicate this book to all those around the world engaged in collaborative efforts across differences to usher in a world that is just and caring for all.

