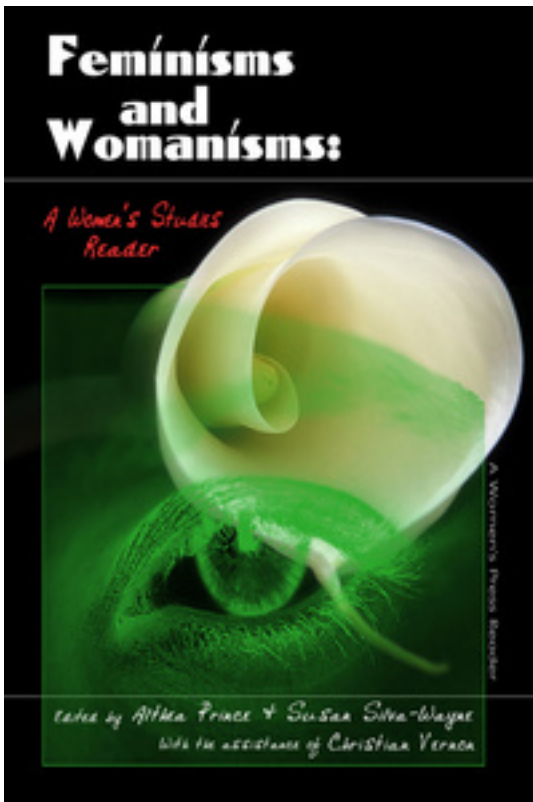


# Feminisms and Womanisms

## A Women's Studies Reader



### Subjects

Sociology of Gender and Sexuality  
Feminist Theory and Politics  
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies  
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies  
Sociology  
Sociology

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*Feminisms and Womanisms* brings together theory and practical application, so that feminist discourse interacts as a partner with the lived experience of women's social action. The selections combine classics in feminist thought with work from modern theorists and offer a solid foundation in international feminism.

The conceptual understanding embedded in the terms feminism and womanism contributes to feminist discourse, a carefully differentiated focus on the ideological uses of language to define relationships that have been historically mired in domination. The terms also define the way gender often has been used to signify and support domination. Given that feminism and womanism are interpretive concepts, there is always a sense that knowledge-making is in progress; for there is nothing static or stagnant about feminism, feminist theory and feminist action.

The formative nature of the feminist movement has, of necessity, a parallel interpretive theory. This reader embraces both the formative nature of the movement and the accompanying interpretive theories. It also pays attention to the chronological, cultural, geopolitical, racial and ethnic landscapes and sites where women live, carry out social action and theorize issues of equality. For both the general and academic reader, this book will be edifying while providing exposure to the feminist, womanist voices that inform the scholarship.

### Author Information

**Althea Prince**

Dr. Althea Prince has taught at York University and the University of Toronto. She is also a fiction writer and essayist.

**Susan Silva-Wayne**

Dr. Susan Silva-Wayne has taught social work at McMaster University, Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Wisconsin. She has 30 years of social work practice with women and families in Canada and the United States. Dr. Silva-Wayne is currently the social work editor at Canadian Scholars' Press and Women's Press.

### Reviews

*Feminisms and Womanisms* is an ideal text for teaching undergraduate courses. Its key strengths are that it includes the foremothers of feminism, has a nice mix of Canadian and international discourse, and covers the central issues underlying the history of feminism - it is thus a good foundation text. It strikes a great balance between the 'must-read' feminist foremothers and Third Wave feminists, while being inclusive of a diverse set of feminist voices, and, importantly, the voice of First Nations feminists. This reader offers students a balanced approach to the study of the history of feminist discourse, theory, and action.

Dr. Andrea O'Reilly, Director of the Association for Research on Mothering (A.R.M.) and Associate Professor of Women's Studies, York University

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### Table of Contents

#### \*\*SECTION ONE: FOUNDATIONS

Meg Luxton\*\*

Feminism As a Class Act: Working-Class Feminism and the Women's Movement in Canada

\*\*Sharon Donna McIvor\*\*

Self-Government and Aboriginal Women

\*\*L. Pauline Rankin and Jill Vickers\*\*

Women's Movements and State Feminism: Integrating Diversity into Public Policy

\*\*Emma Goldman\*\*

Marriage and Love

\*\*Simone de Beauvoir\*\*

Myth and Reality

\*\*Betty Friedan\*\*

The Crisis in Women's Identity

\*\*Germaine Greer\*\*

The Middle-Class Myth of Love and Marriage

\*\*Gloria Steinem\*\*

**\*\*bell hooks\*\***

Feminism: A Transformational Politic

**\*\*Samantha Sacks\*\***

Why Are You a Feminist?

**\*\*Anne-Marie Kinahan\*\***

Women Who Run from the Wolves: Feminist Critique as Post-Feminism

**\*\*SECTION TWO: DIVERSITY**

**Anne Fausto-Sterling\*\***

The Five Sexes, Revisited

**\*\*Ruth Frankenberg\*\***

Growing Up White: Feminism, Racism, and the Social Geography of Childhood

**\*\*Yvonne Bobb-Smith\*\***

Caribbean Feminism versus Canadian Feminism

**\*\*Amita Handa\*\***

Modest and Modern: Women as Markers of the Indian Nation State

**\*\*Makeda Silvera\*\***

Man Royals and Sodomites: Some Thoughts on the Invisibility of Afro-Caribbean Lesbians

**\*\*SECTION THREE: SOCIALIZATION AND GENDER ROLES**

**Lois Gould\*\***

X--A Fabulous Child's Story

**\*\*Naomi Wolf\*\***

Nakedness: Pride and Shame

**\*\*Andrea O'Reilly\*\***

Mothers, Daughters, and Feminism Today: Empowerment, Agency, Narrative, and Motherline

**\*\*Michelle Hammer\*\***

How I Almost Killed My Mother in Childbirth

**\*\*Margaret Cho\*\***

Crush Crash

**\*\*Patricia Payette\*\***

The Feminist Wife? Notes from a Political "Engagement"

**\*\*SECTION FOUR: IDENTITY, BODY, AND HEALTH**

**Kim Anderson\*\***

The Construction of a Negative Identity

**\*\*Julie Glaser\*\***

Eat and Disorder

**\*\*Kathleen LeBesco\*\***

Fat and Fabulous: Resisting Constructions of Female Body Ideals

**\*\*Mariko Tamaki\*\***

Angry Naked Women

**\*\*Inga Muscio\*\***

Blood and Cunts

**\*\*Nancy Graham\*\***

Mother Root: Constant Craving

**\*\*Carolyn Egan and Linda Gardner\*\***

Racism, Women's Health, and Reproductive Freedom

**\*\*Susan Sontag\*\***

The Double Standard of Aging

**\*\*Clarissa Pinkola Estes\*\***

The Howl: Resurrection of the Wild Woman

**\*\*Margaret Cruikshank\*\***

Gerastology: A Feminist's View of Gerontology and Women's Aging

**\*\*SECTION FIVE: WORK**

Class Is a Feminist Issue

**\*\*Chris Bruckert\*\***  
The World of the Professional Stripper

**\*\*Himani Bannerji\*\***  
In the Matter of "X": Building "Race" into Sexual Harassment

**\*\*SECTION SIX: THE CLASSROOM**

Linda Briskin\*\*  
Privileging Agency and Organizing: A New Approach for Women's Studies

**\*\*Viviane Namaste with Georgia Sitara\*\***  
Inclusive Pedagogy in the Women's Studies Classroom: Teaching the Kimberly Nixon Case

**\*\*Jean Bobby Noble\*\***  
Queer Pedagogies of the Closet: Teaching Ignorances in the Heteronormative Classroom

**\*\*SECTION SEVEN: POPULAR CULTURE**

Janice Acoose\*\*  
Discovering the Spark

**\*\*Motion (Wendy Brathwaite)\*\***  
Black Woman Rage

**\*\*Adrienne Rich\*\***  
Credo of a Passionate Skeptic

**\*\*Margaret Atwood\*\***  
Review of \_Diving into the Wreck\_

**\*\*Catharine A. MacKinnon\*\***  
Not a Moral Issue

**\*\*Audre Lorde\*\***  
Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power

**\*\*Angela Davis\*\***  
Mama's Got the Blues

**\*\*SECTION EIGHT: PRAXIS--SOCIAL CHANGE**

As told to Janet Silman\*\*  
All for a Decent House

**\*\*Harriet G. Rosenberg\*\***  
From Trash to Treasure: Housewife Activists and the Environmental Justice Movement

**\*\*Diane Driedger\*\***  
Emerging from the Shadows: Women with Disabilities Organize

**\*\*Neita Kay Israelite and Karen Swartz\*\***  
Reformulating the Feminist Perspective: Giving Voice to Women with Disabilities

**\*\*Joanne Cohen\*\***  
Identity, Community, and Same-Sex Marriage

**\*\*Beverly Smith\*\***  
Equal Marriage for Same-Sex Couples

**\*\*Federation des femmes du Quebec 1999\*\***  
2000 Good Reasons to March

**\*\*Tammy C. Landau\*\***  
Women's Experiences with Mandatory Charging for Wife Assault in Ontario, Canada: A Case against the Prosecution

**\*\*Cornelia Sollfrank\*\***  
Women Hackers: A Report from the Mission to Locate Subversive Women on the Net

**\*\*SECTION NINE: GLOBALISM\*\***

**\*\*Lee-Anne Broadhead\*\***  
The Gender Dimension to the Search for Global Justice

**\*\*Naila Kabeer\*\***  
Gender Equality and Human Development Outcomes: Enhancing Capabilities

**\*\*Maria Mies and Vandana Chivutt\*\***

