

Introduction

Welcome to our 30th Anniversary volume! Atlantis began publication in 1975 and today it is one of a small number of women's studies/feminist journals published in Canada. To celebrate our 30th, we have updated our design, thanks to Darrell Freeman, MGDC, a communications specialist. We also invite readers to check out vol. 29.3, a completely different, full-text issue available only on-line at the Journal website (www.msvu.ca/atlantis). Subscribers may access vol. 29.3 by following the directions on the insert which accompanies this issue.

As you are most likely aware, the world of journal publishing is rapidly changing as more electronic journals appear around the world. In the next few years we expect that Atlantis will be transformed into an entirely electronic journal as Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council funding guidelines evolve.

In this issue we are pleased to lead off with a report on the "Feminism and the Making of Canada: Historical Reflections/Le féminisme et le façonnement du Canada: Reflexions sur l'histoire" conference held in Montreal in May 2004. The summary, by Magda Fahrni, Suzanne Morton and Joan Sangster, highlights the conference and is followed by two of the papers presented there. Nancy Forestell's "Mrs. Canada Goes Global" reassesses Canadian writing on first wave feminism. In order to "better understand feminism and the making of Canada," Forestell notes, we need "a more systematic exploration of citizenship, immigration and internationalism." She argues that Canadian women's history needs to pay more attention to international scholarship on feminism.

Katherine McKenna's contribution notes that most Canadians are unaware of women's roles in our national history and what Canadians do learn often comes from sites of public commemoration, such as

museums, plaques and historic sites. Her essay examines how women have been presented in public history, specifically in historic sites and monuments. Military sites are extremely common, and while some have belatedly recognized the presence of women at fortresses, recent archaeological finds reveal that women and children were present in much larger numbers than previously thought. McKenna also addresses the question of who gets to represent historical figures at historic sites: ironically, employment equity legislation resulted in the hiring of women to play soldiers, but men do not enact the female roles. In general, McKenna argues that historians need to produce women's history that engages us all, academics and the public alike.

Linda Trimble and Manon Tremblay's article is concerned with the representation of women cabinet ministers in Canada, 1917 to 2002. The authors examine the research questions pursued by scholars in recent decades, including the number of women in cabinet over time; the "higher the fewer principle" favoured by political scientists; and the types of ministries assigned to women cabinet ministers at the federal, provincial and territorial levels of government.

Evangelia Tastsoglou and Valerie Preston's survey of the current literature on gender, immigration and employment patterns reveals higher unemployment rates as well as lower average earnings for immigrant women. Their reading of the literature and a critical approach to labour market integration leads them to recommend a more effective and sensitive approach to research and "new means of assessing economic and in particular labour market integration."

"Making Experience Meaningful: Interpreting Chinese Canadian Women's Personal Experiences with Racism," by Jane Ku, picks up another thread in the lives of immigrant women. Drawing on a number of

feminist theorists, Ku discusses "the competition between dominant knowledge of racism and women's own experience" evident in interviews with six Chinese women living in Canada. Her research suggests the pitfalls of categories such as "Chinese Canadian women" while also demonstrating "how our knowledge production or meaning making is a difficult process, particularly for marginalized groups," but is essential in creating "communities of resistance."

Pierrette Fortin's "Un regard féministe sur les modèles de famille" situates its examination of family models and dynamics within a feminist philosophical framework. Her essay probes the relationship between family form and the goal of bringing up children who embrace egalitarian values, especially sexual egalitarian values, as part of a larger social transformation.

"Feminist Understandings of Embodiment and Disability: A 'Material Discursive' Approach to Breast Cancer Related Lymphedema" focuses on women's health and argues for a particular approach to understanding women's experiences of embodiment and disability. The findings are based on a case study of chronic Breast Cancer Related Lymphedema ("the accumulation of fluid in the arm or trunk" which "results in symptoms of pain and swelling"). The authors, Roanne Thomas-MacLean and Baukje Miedema, used focus groups and interviews to understand "how BCRL affects many aspects of participants' lives and how cultural standards shape these women's altered body image."

Women's work, a theme frequently covered in the pages of *Atlantis*, is the subject of Martha MacDonald, Shelley Phipps and Lynn Lethbridge's essay, "Total Packages of Work: Women in Atlantic Canada Compared to the Rest of Canada." The authors probe a variety of factors to explain why Atlantic Canadian women report longer hours of both paid and unpaid work than other Canadian women.

Finally, we feature Lori Chambers' interview with Aysan Sev'er, winner of the 2004 Canadian

Women's Studies Association Book Award and a new article by Sev'er entitled "In the Name of Fathers: Honour-Killings and Some Examples from South-eastern Turkey." In this latter piece Sev'er argues that patriarchy's aim is to control women's freedom, sexuality and reproductive lives. Despite legislation, legal loopholes provide little protection for women victims in a society where older women are often coopted into enforcing patriarchal rules on younger women. Sev'er concludes that a human rights approach is helpful but not enough, and that more substantive changes are needed. From an analysis of violence against women we wrap up with a snapshot of women's struggle for peace, as Katherine Side provides a synopsis of the cover art chosen for this issue.

We hope that you enjoy this 30th Anniversary issue which features contributions from a range of scholars in various disciplines, from creative writers, such as M. Travis Lane and Gloria Melhmann, to historians to health researchers, from political scientists to sociologists. Readers will also find five book reviews, including that of the Sev'er CWSA 2004 Book Award winner, for their enjoyment. We also invite readers to examine the list of nominees and the name of the winner for the CWSA 2005 Book Award.

Please remember to recommend *Atlantis* to colleagues and friends and take out subscriptions for your students. What better way to promote women's studies to the next generation?

The Editors