

# Center

from the

1998

and margins

SPRING

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY · UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

## The Long Reach of Research

This past year, University of Oregon President Dave Frohnmayer has put an important question before the campus community: How can we make the university an even better place for students, faculty, staff, and the people of Oregon? He called for volunteers from across the campus to meet and form "solution teams" to grapple with this question. One of the most significant themes that has emerged from these discussions is in creating ever-greater linkages between the research, teaching, and public service missions of the institution.

Looking back at the success of our "Girls, Generations, and Globalization" conference on February 27, we feel confident that we are one of the leaders on campus in building relationships with the communities that lie beyond the borders of the campus.

We were pleased that the conference generated a larger-than-usual crowd of participants from outside the university community, including local activists and educators, researchers from Portland, and a group of students from Clatsop Community College in Astoria. Local radio, newspaper, and television stations—which seldom turn their attention to "academic" events—reported on the conference. The response affirmed how important and exciting research about women and gender can be in the community.

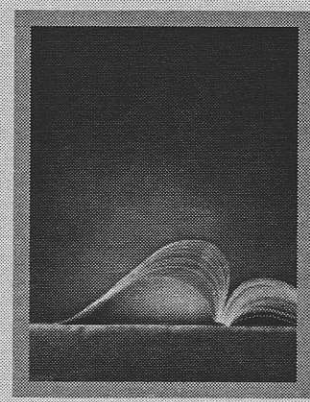
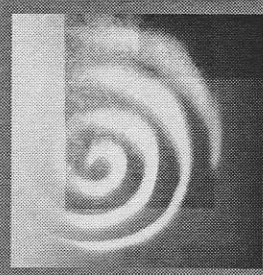
Part of the central mission of CSWS has always been to disseminate research on women and gender, and that task has taken many forms. One of the most obvious of those has been in sponsoring conferences, speakers, and other events that are open to the public. Another tool for dissemination has been publishing books, papers, and journals. These are fairly direct approaches to getting research out, and CSWS will continue to support these activities in ever-greater ways. But consider, for a moment, some of the "ripple-effect" methods of disseminating research:

- The Web. We not only have a beautiful Web site (check us out at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~csws>) but links to our research initiatives and other resources for people—whether across town or across the globe—interested in research on women and gender.
- RIG courses. At least two of the cooperative Research Interest Groups have developed their own courses, which have expanded opportunities to study women and gender here.
- Support of other conferences. This spring, CSWS was one of many sponsors of the "Race, Work, and Economic Justice" conference that brought such notable speakers as Delores Huerta, Manning Marable, and Linda Chavez-Thompson to campus. This is just one example of ways that CSWS builds partnerships with other constituencies to contribute to the intellectual life of the community.

In this issue of the newsletter are stories about the expanded directions CSWS is taking in disseminating research, from the inauguration of a public policy series to building new relationships with the women's basketball team. We believe that CSWS is one of the most community-oriented and accessible research centers on campus. CSWS has been called "a model of multidisciplinary research and teaching" by Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Steadman Upham because it brings together scholars of intellectual diversity.

"The center's research agenda is crafted to expand academic horizons, but it is not just an ivory tower think tank," Upham said. "CSWS also has lively and purposeful connections to the outside world. In fact, the spirit of civic engagement has been a hallmark of the center's activities since its founding. This focus on both academe and community, combined with programs of stipend and fellowship support for faculty and students, have made CSWS the intellectual 'center of gravity' for the study of women and gender in Oregon."

Center of gravity: we like that. And we believe it is true: the more we get the research out, the more we bring people in.



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## CSWS

By Sandra Morgen, Director

As scholars, most of us are far better at conceiving and doing research than we are at imagining and then implementing ways to disseminate the knowledge and insights our research spawns. Moreover, the system of career and campus rewards that we have internalized directs us to do research that climaxes in presentation at scholarly conferences and publication in professional journals, contributing to the expansion of knowledge among our scholarly peers. As valuable as this mode of dissemination of research remains, this is rarely a way to broadly influence public dialog or have an impact on social policy or political discourse.

CSWS has long been concerned with facilitating a broader reach for the research we generate and support. With the development of the CSWS Research Initiatives over the past year we are thinking strategically

### **CSWS has long been concerned with facilitating a broader reach for the research we generate and support.**

about how to make the research we do make a real difference on as many fronts as possible—within the scholarly community; in college and K-12 classrooms; with advocates for women and families; in social policy circles; and with the public at large. It is exciting work, and it is resulting in innovative discussions about multiple ways to get CSWS-sponsored and supported research “out there.”

This fall CSWS will be inaugurating a series of policy papers that are designed to influence the development of social policies that affect women’s lives in their families, their workplaces, and their larger communities. The policy series will be introduced by two publications. Leslie Harris, professor of law and a member of the Women in the Northwest Research Initiative, will be authoring the first publication in our policy series with an examination of family policy in Oregon. In addition, CSWS has agreed to be the co-publisher of an Institute of Women’s Policy Research (a Washington D.C.-based women’s research center) publication on the status of women in Oregon. We are very excited about both of these publications.

Each of the CSWS Research Initiatives are currently involved in research projects that have the potential to speak to the many different kinds of issues facing women and girls. The Feminist Humanities Project has

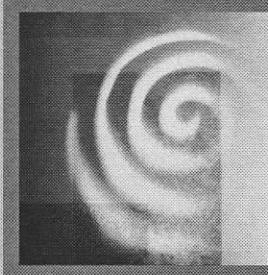
formed research co-ops that bring together high school, college, and university teachers to pursue research and explore innovative pedagogy to bring the wealth of new scholarship of women’s lives throughout history into a much broader range of classrooms. It is developing public programming that will take feminist scholars to audiences beyond the campus and across the state. And the Feminist Humanities Project has been exploring a variety of multimedia and Web-related projects that will both wire the arts and humanities and dramatically increase the public’s accessibility to resources too long restricted to university libraries and classrooms.

The Women’s Health and Aging Research Initiative has on-going research projects on health issues that span women’s health across the life cycle, from contraception and medical abortion to menopause. Initiative Director Marie Harvey is vigorously pursuing linkages with other women’s health research institutes on the West coast and is currently planning a meeting of scholars representing these institutes to plan collaborative research and dissemination vehicles.

The Women in the Northwest Research Initiative has just initiated a major research project on the impact of welfare reform on Oregon women and their families that has the potential to provide much needed information to Adult and Family Services administrators and workers, welfare clients and advocates, and state policy makers (see article on pages 8-9). We envision a policy paper resulting from the work of the Welfare Research Group, as well as others from the now-developing research activities of the Native American Communities Research Interest Group and the new Sex, Gender, and the Law Research Interest Group over the next several years.

### **This may be a time when we as a faculty can affirm the full meaning of the public education and public service mission of our university.**

As we work toward a greater emphasis on multiple forms of dissemination, we will also have to ensure that scholars who devote time and energy to multiple forms of publication and presentation will have that work “count” within the university system of rewards. With the many innovative ideas now under discussion on campus emerging from the Process for Change initiated by President Dave Frohnmayer, this may be a time when we as a faculty can affirm the full meaning of the public education and public service mission of our university.



Sandra Morgen,  
Director, CSWS

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# Feminist Voices and Visions

An exhibit that spans nearly two centuries of women's political and literary efforts in the Northwest is currently showing at the Knight Library and is sponsored by CSWS and the UO Foundation. "Feminist Voices and Visions from the Pacific Northwest: A Celebration of Abigail Scott Duniway, 1834-1915 and *Calyx*, 1976-Present" brings together the papers of a famous suffragist and the archives of the literary journal *Calyx*.

"It represents a long continuum of feminist publishing in Oregon," said Linda Long, manuscripts librarian for Special Collections, where the exhibit is on display. "In both cases, the press was used to publicize a point, to voice opinions and creative expression. Abigail headed a crusade for women's rights, and she had her own newspaper, *The New Northwest*," Long said. "*Calyx* publishes work by women, because it recognizes that women need their own vehicle to express themselves."

Long said that the library is continually increasing its collections of papers by women. The Duniway papers—which include Duniway's journal from her family's trek to Oregon when she was seventeen years old, numerous political and poetic writings, and the original proclamation when the suffrage amendment passed in 1912—were a gift from the family of David Duniway in 1993. The *Calyx* records were received partly as a gift and partly by purchase in 1997.



*Calyx staff and supporters celebrate the opening of the exhibit.*

Cheris Kramarae, former CSWS director, wrote the captions for the *Calyx* materials, which are on display for the first time. Judith Musick, CSWS director of development, said that support of the exhibit marks the beginning of an ongoing relationship with the library and other "centers of excellence" at the UO. "We're always looking for ways to draw and attract the public to research on women and gender," Musick said. "Special Collections is a great place to make a connection with the community."

The CSWS Web page has links to the "virtual exhibit" site, through which a groups of scholars of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century feminist activism have met. "Feminist Voices and Visions" will be on display at Special Collections, Knight Library, through May 29. The web site address is <http://libweb.uoregon/exhibits/feminist-voices>.

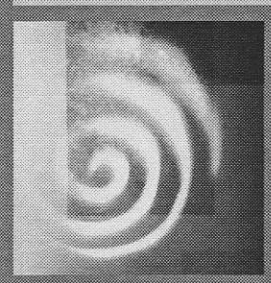
## Remembering Beverly Fagot

CSWS mourns the loss of a valued colleague and friend, Beverly Fagot, who died March 27 from complications of breast cancer. She was sixty years old.

A celebration of Beverly Fagot's life work will take place at 3:30 p.m. on May 29 at the Fir Room, Erb Memorial Union. A number of speakers will discuss her contributions, including Eleanor Maccoby, professor emeritus, Stanford University; and a representative from CSWS.

Beverly was dedicated to the work of CSWS, and over the past fifteen years energetically served on all the major CSWS committees, including the executive committee, the search committee, the research grant committee, and others.

Beverly was born March 22, 1938, in Phoenix, Arizona, to Dorothy and Albert Fields. She graduated from West High School in Phoenix in 1956 as the class valedictorian, and from Occidental College, with high honors, in 1960. Beverly obtained her Ph.D. in psychology in 1967 from the University of Oregon, where she later became a professor in the psychology department. Beverly's field of expertise was child development, and her contributions included the study of how children come to see themselves as girls and boys, and how sex differences in behavior develop. She conducted important studies on the influence of families on the development of children's behavior problems. She was a devoted teacher, training many graduate students in the field of child development. Her devotion was returned in the great affection shown her by her students, friends, and colleagues.

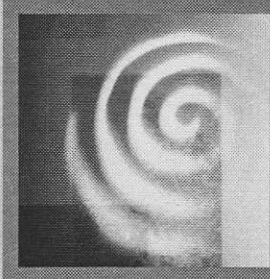


*Author Ursula LeGuin (top) and Calyx director Margarita Donnelly speak at the opening.*



*Beverly Fagot*





Anne Dhu McLucas



Inés Talamantez

On March 9, Anne Dhu McLucas publicly presented a paper in progress called, "The 'Silent' Role of Women: Apache Adolescents and Coming of Age Traditions" for the critique of Inés Talamantez and others at the UO before a combined audience of the Native American Communities RIG and the Reclaiming the Past RIG. McLucas said she hopes to publish the piece when it is ready.



The Reclaiming the Past RIG holds a roundtable discussion on historicizing 'girls.'

## Research Interest Groups

What would the RIG-A-FAIR be without the Research Interest Groups? This year the RIGs offered afternoon panels on topics such as girls, poverty, and welfare reform; girls and the media; and girls and globalization in Asia. Some of the RIGs held conversations and roundtable discussions on teaching math, science, history, and other topics. The Native American Communities RIG and the Jewish Feminist RIG explored intergenerational issues, and the Women in the Environment RIG went for a walk. The Wired RIG carried out its work beforehand by creating the Web site for the conference. The RIGs were well-represented on the plenary panels, whose speakers came from Women and Gender in Viet Nam RIG, the International Women in Leadership in Education RIG, and the Women and Media RIG.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**MAY 4, 4:00 P.M.**

"The Role of Women in Mexican Art," by Mexican artist Emily Bonilla, Parra, Knight Library Browsing Room. Sponsored by the Reclaiming the Past RIG.

**MAY 7, 7:30 P.M.**

"Androgyny and the Lion: Gender and the Making of Judeo-Christian Difference," by Daniel Boyarin, UC-Berkeley, 231 Gilbert. Sponsored by the Jewish Feminist and Women and the Environment RIGs.

**MAY 15, 3:30 P.M.**

"Maoist Mappings of Gender: The Cultural Revolution Revisited," Emily Honig, 109 Friendly Hall. Sponsored by the Women and Gender in TransNational China RIG.

**JULY 20-AUGUST 14, 2:00-3:20 P.M.**

"Native American Women: Reclaiming the Body" course in Women's Studies, taught by Native American RIG members.



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*Nguyen Bich and Nguyen Tra discuss women, education, and work in Asia at a panel jointly sponsored by the China and Viet Nam RIGs.*

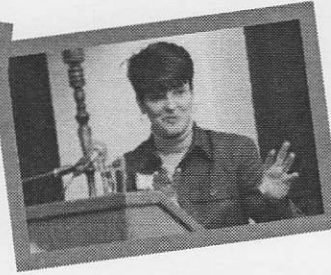


*The International Women in Leadership in Education RIG hold a "cross-continent cultural conversation" at the RIG-A-Fair.*



*RIG<sup>2</sup> members talk about math and science education for women and minorities at the RIG-A-Fair.*





## Girls, Generations, and Globalization

The one-day conference, Girls, Generations, and Globalization, was described by keynote speaker Sharon Thompson as "groundbreaking." "I'm not aware of another conference like this in the United States, that is aware of culture and economy and their effects on girls," she said. More than 150 people from the University of Oregon, the Eugene community, and beyond attended the annual CSWS event on Friday, February 27, at Gerlinger Lounge.

Also known as the "RIG-A-Fair," the event is designed to bring the twelve Research Interest Groups together with nationally known experts from other institutions for a day of intellectual discourse. Sandra Morgen, CSWS director, said she was pleased with the success of the conference, which offered a plenary session on broadening the research agenda for girls, a plenary session on girls and globalization, and ten concurrent sessions sponsored by the RIGs. "One of the main goals that I envisioned is broadening the research agenda to encompass more of girls' lives into our field of vision," Morgen said. "I was heartened by how well I thought the conference achieved that goal. The feedback I received from a number of major speakers, who often give talks at conferences on girls, was that this conference really was different, and we need more conference like it."

Here are some highlights from the plenary speakers:

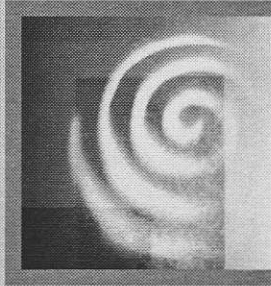
- Carol Stack, on her study of 200 teens working in the fast-food industry in Oakland, California: "I want to give you a sense of what girls in this study worry about. They worry about money. They are from very poor families—about a third of them were on AFDC. They worry about friendships and time pressures and coordinating work and school and sleep. Good and bad teachers, good and bad report cards. Reasons to get a job, reasons to quit a job. What life would be like without a boss. How to get a better job. Customers to watch out for. Experiences at

the wrong end of a gun. Car trouble. And sleep. Avoiding bad influences, like drugs, fistfights, friends who were killed. Suicide, pregnancy, disease, and sleep. Boyfriends to get rid of. Skills for the future. Sleep."

- Sharon Thompson, on the findings of her book, *Going All the Way*: "The more a teenage girl feared sex and viewed the elements of sex, reproduction, love, and danger as fused, the more she expected them to generate the central meaning of her life, the less likely she was to use protection or contraception, and the greater likelihood of producing tragedy or melodrama, or at least the loss of power, strength, and confidence."

- Kathleen Karlyn, on the emergence of "girl power" in popular culture: "I would like to propose two ways of thinking about 'girl culture.' One is to view it primarily as a canny creation of marketers seeking to create girls as a lucrative new market for merchandise of all kinds. The other is as a measure of the impact of feminism on media industries, registering an increased number of women in male-dominated industries as well as a heightened overall consciousness about cultural politics."

- Claudia Long, on the parenting roles Native Americans received in boarding schools: "Shared memories of boarding schools were of traumatic, lonely experiences of rigid discipline. Rules created a formalized regimen that began early in the morning with lining up in the hallway, being referred to by a number rather than a name, dressing in uniforms, performing daily chores,







attending school, and forever marching."

- Joanne Leslie, on the health conditions of adolescent girls in Africa: "The challenges facing adolescent girls in sub-Saharan Africa are similar to the challenges facing girls in the rest of the world. However, three factors make the situation particularly difficult for girls in Africa: poverty, low levels of school participation, and a very strong cultural tradition of early child-bearing."

- Kadiatou Coulibaly Doucoure, on the complicated nature of school drop-out rates for girls in Mali: "From the girls' point of view, teachers are the problem. Teachers sometimes want to have relationships with the girls, and if they don't want to, they get bad grades. From the teachers' point of view, it is the family that is to blame because they can't provide what is necessary for the girls' schooling."

- Nyugen Bich, on economic restructuring and challenges for women in Viet Nam: "We know that educating a woman is a high economic return for the society as a whole.

[Studies show] that in light of economic restructuring, girls and women are being left behind in education and technical training."

- Karen Kelsky, on the "discourse of female internationalization" in Japan: "Certain girls and women turn to the foreign—particularly 'the West,' as a construct, an idea, and a place—to oppose, escape, circumvent, and resist what they see as gender discriminatory structures and practices in the family, education, and work systems in Japan."

A related conference, "Success in the Middle," was co-sponsored by CSWS on Saturday. A "bridge" event, designed to bring attendees of both conferences and community members together, was held Friday night. "Girls Night Out!" featured a teen acting troupe from Ashland; music by the Eugene folk-rock band, *Babes with Axes*; and a talk-show format hosted by state Senator Susan Castillo. The event sold out at the downtown Hilton.



Plenary speakers: (top, left to right) Carol Stack, Karen Kelsky, Kadiatou Coulibaly Doucoure, Kathleen Kariyn, Claudia Long, Joanne Leslie; (center, left) Sharon Thompson; and (below, left) Nguyen Bich.

## Success in the Middle

By Jean Blanchard, Coordinator  
Women's Health and Development RIG

As I was walking around the Willamette Atrium on Saturday, February 28, around 9:15 in the morning, I was surrounded by more than 300 middle-school girls wearing T-shirts saying: "It's a Girl Thing." Soon the girls were off to their morning workshops focusing on topics such as friendships, health and well-being, leadership, and safety. After the first session, it was back to the atrium for lunch and a theater performance, and then off again for afternoon sessions exploring future careers.

Less than a year had passed since the idea of having a conference for middle-school girls in Lane County had emerged. The Women's Health and Development RIG had just formed a subgroup on girls and was trying to recruit members who were interested in issues facing girls in our community.

One of our first steps was to offer a

summer workshop for middle- and high-school-aged girls, which we billed as an opportunity to "create a conference." The girls brainstormed ideas for a conference, providing us with some thoughts about what middle-school-aged girls wanted to see at the conference. We began drawing others into our girls group who wanted to develop an opportunity for parents to network with girl-focused community service providers around the issue of mother-daughter relationships. This became the foundation for the adult piece of the conference.

I can't begin to describe the time and energy each willingly contributed to the conference. We spent many hours working together organizing, planning, and promoting the event. From all reports, it was a great experience for the girls who participated this year. We hope "Success in the Middle" will become an annual event, providing enrichment activities for girls in Lane County.



# WOMEN IN THE NORTHWEST

One of the best ways to describe the mission of the Women in the Northwest Research Initiative is to refer to the strategic insight emblazoned on so many car bumper stickers—think globally, act locally. What this means from a research perspective is that we direct our research toward the lives, the voices, the needs, and the interests of women and girls in the Northwest. Of course, this region is part of a global economy and a complex larger society, and the lives of women and families in the Northwest are powerfully influenced by these interconnections as well as by their particular racial, ethnic, and class locations and the historical periods in which they have lived. A regional focus helps to paint a fuller picture of women's lives in the United States, and provides a strong foundation for research that has the potential to influence public policy and dialog.

The seeds of what has become the Women in the Northwest Research Initiative were planted in 1992 when CSWS announced its intent to develop a specific focus on the lives of women in this region. Since that time we have accomplished a number of things, including publication of the sourcebook *Women in Oregon: A Profile from the 1990 Census* (Margaret Hallock, Sandra Morgen, and Karen Seidel, 1993); hosting a women's legislative forum in 1993 that brought state and local elected women officials into dialog with members of the university and larger community about issues affecting women and families; and planning and sponsoring a 1994 conference called "Widening the Circle" for and about Native women in higher education in Oregon.

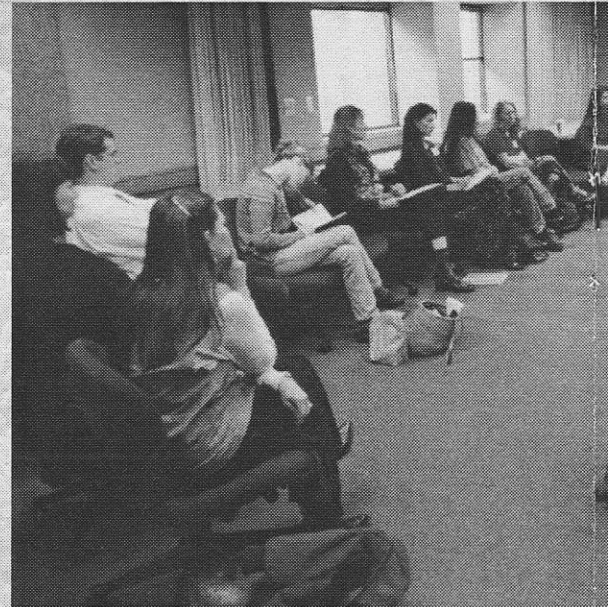
One of the priorities of the Northwest project is to do research that meaningfully influences women's lives. The initiative has taken the lead on envisioning a CSWS public policy research paper series that will be inaugurated this fall with a paper on family policy to be prepared by University of Oregon law professor and initiative affiliate Leslie Harris. At the same time, CSWS will be co-publisher of a more general report on the status of women in Oregon currently being prepared by the Washington D.C.-based Institute for Women's Policy Research and funded by the Ford Foundation.

The goals of the Women in the Northwest Initiative are to:

- Promote, support, and disseminate research on women in the Northwest
- Create and facilitate links between researchers, policy advocates, and educators concerned with women in this region



Welfare reform researchers include Suzanne Williams, Kate Barry, Sandra Morgen, and Joan Acker.



The Native American Communities RIG discusses intergroup

- Make CSWS more visible in the state and region with this research and outreach focus
- Explore how race, class, ethnic, and cultural differences among women have been constructed, maintained, contested, and negotiated in the Pacific Northwest.

Currently there are three Research Interest Groups that are encompassed by and supported through this initiative. Their work is described briefly below.

## WELFARE REFORM RESEARCH

The Welfare Research Group emerged out of the Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring RIG to develop a research agenda examining the impact of welfare reform on two groups of Oregon women: low-income women seeking welfare assistance and staff working in agencies responsible for implementing welfare reform. Our goal is to provide policy-relevant information that can be used by advocates, service providers, and policy makers to improve the lives of women who are welfare clients and welfare workers.

Nationally and in Oregon, welfare reform emphasizes rapid job placement as the key to client self-sufficiency. Cash assistance is linked with job search and job readiness activities, and longer term education is discouraged. Declining caseloads and growing employment among clients are accepted indicators of program success. However, a significant body of research suggests that welfare-to-work programs do not lift many families out of poverty.



# WEST RESEARCH INITIATIVE



*Generational grief and healing at the RIG-A-Fair.*

The research project, *Welfare Reform, Self-Sufficiency and Family Well-Being in Oregon*, has three interwoven components. An institutional ethnography of Adult and Family Services, the state agency that administers welfare programs, will describe policy implementation and the work lives of agency staff. Research teams will observe client and staff interactions in three branch offices, interview agency staff and administrators, and review program documents. A combination of client surveys and in-depth case studies will monitor changes in family well-being and self-sufficiency as clients participate in welfare programs and transition between welfare and work over a two-year period.

Observations in the Eugene site began in March; a Portland site and a coastal site will soon follow. Principle investigators and researchers include Sandra Morgen, Joan Acker, Leslie Harris, Margaret Hallock, Larry Carter, Suzanne Williams, Jill Wright, Johanna Brenner, Sonya Vegdahl, Beth Green, and Kate Berry. In a related project, Leslie Harris is conducting archival research to analyze the historical shifts in welfare policy over the past fifteen years in Oregon. Adult and Family Services has been generous in giving its support and cooperation in these projects.

## NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

The Native American Communities RIG has grown with an ever-wider vision of what it can accomplish on the campus and in the region. Originally formed as a mentoring group to

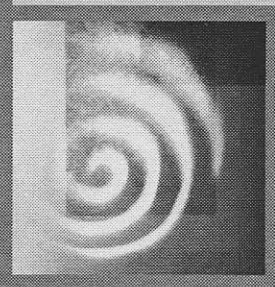
support Native American women students through relationships with scholars and elders, the group is now pursuing relationships with Oregon tribal governments that can lead to meaningful research projects.

This spring, the RIG has been exploring ways to partner with two Oregon tribes to conduct a welfare reform project, in cooperation with the Welfare Research Group. In addition, the RIG has formed relationships with the Native American Research Team at the Oregon Social Learning Center and is supporting research methods classes on campus that are designed for Native American communities.

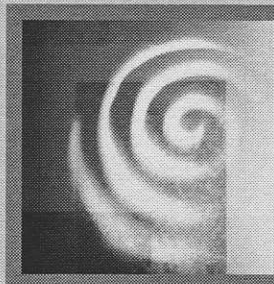
Several members of the RIG developed and will be team-teaching a summer course in the Women's Studies Program called, "Native American Women: Reclaiming the Body." During this past year, the RIG sponsored a book and film discussion series focusing on the work of Pacific Northwest Indian women. Many of the past and current projects of the RIG have focused on broadening the educational experiences of native and non-native members of the university community. In the future, the RIG hopes to build stronger alliances with reservation and urban native communities. Active members of the RIG, who represent different tribal affiliations, ages, and academic interests, include Twila Souers, Gretchen Freed-Roland, Tom Ball, Alison Ball, Allison Davis-WhiteEyes, Lorraine Brundige, Shari Huhndorf, Beth Hege Piatote, Tana Atchley, and Teresa Garcia.

## SEX, GENDER, AND THE LAW

The newest part of the Women in the Northwest Research Initiative is the Sex, Gender, and the Law RIG. Formed in December 1997, the Sex, Gender, and the Law RIG is made up of faculty members from the School of Law and from the departments of history, political science, and sociology. The RIG hopes to build on the interests of several members currently engaged in projects on the Pacific Northwest to try to build a research and teaching program on topics of sex, gender, and the law. Its immediate plans include: holding a faculty and graduate student research-in-progress series; exploring ways to encourage graduate and undergraduate student research; and offering assistance on historical and legal questions to the other wings of the Women in the Northwest Research Initiative. Members of the RIG include: Bonni Cermak, Caroline Forrell, Leslie Harris, Ellen Herman, Lisa Kloppenberg, Donna Matthews, Julie Novkov, Peggy Pascoe, Arlene Stein, and Barbara Welke.







CSWS Research Interest Groups provide not only an arena for collaborative research and formal group projects, but also a forum for networking and discussion of individual research interests, such as those of the following RIG affiliates.

## Research Profile: Anne Dhu McLucas

By Beth Hege Piatote

Anne Dhu McLucas, dean of the School of Music, calls herself a maverick. Anyone else might call her an innovator. As an undergraduate at the University of Colorado, she became a professional accompanist at the School of Music, rather than a student, while she completed bachelor's degrees in German and Italian languages. In graduate school at Harvard, she wasn't content to focus her work on composers of the European tradition, instead pursuing the oral traditions of British-American folksong.

As a scholar, she has developed expertise in several areas, and collaborated with colleagues on research projects, even though the academic system most often rewards a single focus and singular authorship. Her most recent work includes a continuing collaboration with Inés Talamantez, professor of religious studies at the University of Santa Barbara, on the music of the Mescalero Apache initiation rites for young women. Talamantez is a scholar of religious studies and of Apache heritage. She was a visiting professor at Harvard and came to a seminar taught by McLucas when the two met some fifteen years ago. "Inés had been studying the ceremony for many years, but she came to Harvard without any particular musical knowledge, even though music was central to the ritual," McLucas said. "We became friends and I decided to go with her to Mescalero. Working together has been wonderful, and has broadened our idea of what we could discover. For example, she was inhibited about asking certain questions because she is Apache and was therefore expected to know the answers. I got to ask the 'dumb' questions," she said. Taping the music was forbidden in the culture, but McLucas was allowed to learn one of the songs by ear and notate it in order to study it. She said she has spent many years cultivating relationships with the people at Mescalero, and that from the first time she experienced it, she was captivated by the five-day ceremony. "It continues to be one of the most stunningly beautiful events of my life," she said.

Studying the music of the initiation ceremony has given her cultural insights about music that she tries to pass on to her students, McLucas said. "This study has completely changed my point of view of what music is for and how it can bind a

community," she said. "You can't change Western ways of doing music—they are culture-bound, too, but I try to impart on my students that one shouldn't 'waste' music. Apache music isn't heard all the time; it is saved for special moments, when one can feel its connection to life and its celebration of life."

## Research Profile: Julie Novkov

By Beth Hege Piatote

Julie Novkov does what every sharp attorney can do: find a weak spot in an argument and push an opposing point forward. But Novkov, who earned a J.D. at New York University School of Law before getting a Ph.D. at Michigan, is not a practicing attorney. She's an assistant professor in the political science department whose scholarship grows out of her interest in law, gender studies, and politics, with particular attention to definitions of marriage, family, and children.

Currently Novkov is working on three research projects that address various aspects of early twentieth-century protective labor legislation and miscegenation laws in the United States. Her first project is to complete a book manuscript based on her dissertation, which considers the impact of socially constructed definitions of women's work in persuading the Supreme Court to uphold protective labor laws.

Novkov's work joins that of other scholars who have studied a period of the court's history known as the Lochner Era (1905–1937), during which many protective labor laws passed by states were struck down, often on the argument that such legislation interfered with citizens' rights to work. After many retrogressive five-to-four votes in the early 1930s, the tide shifted on the Court, and in 1937, it began to defend state protective labor laws. "Most scholars just look at the rulings and try to figure out what the Supreme Court was trying to say," Novkov said. "But you can't just look at what the judges were doing. I'm looking at the social context—the activities of women's groups and the impact these groups had on litigation."

Novkov found that state-level efforts by groups such as the Consumers' League and the National Woman's Party to define women's work laid the foundation for the Supreme Court to defend protective legislation. "Women were being paid low wages, and because it was the Depression, they may



have been the only wage-earners for their families," she said. "Lawyers would argue that the state had a public interest in protecting women, because they are the ones bearing and raising children. These lawyers claimed that because women's wages were so low, they were not able to fulfill their roles with regard to children. This argument was used to override the liberty rights argument the court had been using. Beliefs about women's roles became the weak spot to push the protective legislation agenda forward," she said. "It created a situation where courts increasingly focused on the capacity of workers rather than the type of labor that was being performed."

In a second, related study, Novkov is looking at the successes and failures of Progressives to gain protective labor laws for children in the early twentieth century. At first, Progressives were successful in getting child labor legislation passed in many states—until manufacturers challenged the laws, claiming they went against the prohibition to regulate interstate commerce. "Both sides were enormously successful at portraying children as 'other,'" Novkov said. "Children were either extremely pitiful, as portrayed by the Progressives, or dangerous. Manufacturers would argue that if children didn't work, the boys would become criminals and the girls would become prostitutes. There are a lot of doctrinal legal stories you can tell about this period, but what is lurking in the background is a fight over how to think about children themselves," she said.

A third project, now in its initial stages of research, addresses miscegenation laws in the South and Northwest since the end of the Civil War. Novkov is looking at the ways in which racial identity was legally defined by courts in miscegenation cases, and social beliefs about mixed-race children.

Novkov said that in her work she has always been interested in women's issues, but that her interest in children as a locus for analysis is more recent.

"The more I thought children and their existence as quasi-public property," she said, "The more it became a key of understanding a lot of legal questions."

## Research Profile: Deborah Sang

By Beth Hege Piatote

Contested territories are familiar grounds for Tze-lan Deborah Sang, a Taiwanese scholar and assistant professor of Chinese in

the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures.

"Taiwan represents a certain contact zone between Western and Eastern culture. It is shaped primarily by China, Japan, and America," she said. "By focusing on Taiwan in my work, I get to reflect on some issues that are pertinent to my own identity. I grew up in Chinese society, and I have to grapple with the fact that much of modern Taiwanese culture and economy are influenced by Western society. There is a process of negotiation on a personal level and an academic level."

Sang earned her undergraduate degree at National Taiwan University in Taipei in English, then came to the State University of New York-Albany to complete a master's degree in English. From there, she switched disciplines and entered Ph.D. studies in comparative literature at the University of California-Berkeley.

"I realized I needed to know more about my own culture," she said. "Comparative literature as a discipline demanded that I have a broad perspective, that I look at texts and cultures from within and without and to not take anything for granted."

Sang developed an interest in gender studies and gay and lesbian studies. Her dissertation, "The Emerging Lesbian: Female Same-Sex Desire in Modern Chinese Literature and Culture" is currently under revision for a book series called "Worlds of Desire" by University of Chicago Press.

Now, in her second year of teaching at the UO, she is working on a project that explores Chinese pop culture, particularly the relationship between pop literature and cinema.

Sang recently presented an essay, "Writing Popular: Femininity and Eileen Chang's Theory of the Vulgar," at the international conference of Chinese Literary Theory and Popular Culture in Taipei. Eileen Chang wrote many short stories and novels in Shanghai during the 1940s. "Many people consider her the best Chinese female writer of this century," Sang said. "She wrote primarily for an urban, middle-class audience. Most of her stories dealt with relationships between men and women during a time of transition."

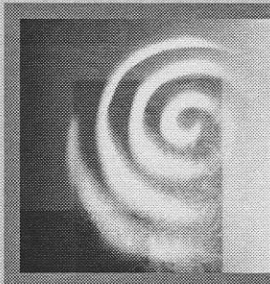
Chang's novel, *Eighteen Springs*, was recently made into a movie directed by Ann Hui On-wah, in Hong Kong.

Sang said the movie, based on a love affair between a man and a woman over eighteen years, is able to maintain much of the novel's originality in the way it addresses

*Continued on page 13*







## Open House

All friends and affiliates of CSWS are invited to our spring open house from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, at CSWS on the third floor of Hendricks Hall. Please join us for light refreshments, visiting, and a chance for us to show how much we appreciate everyone who is part of the center.

# Women's Studies a Major

By Judith Raiskin, Director, Women's Studies Program

As of fall 1998 the Women's Studies Program at the University of Oregon will be offering a new B.A./B.S. undergraduate degree in women's studies. Since 1976, hundreds of students have graduated from the university with minor degrees and graduate certificates in women's studies. Due to their frequent requests, the commitment and hard work of outstanding feminist scholars on the faculty of the university, and increased support from CSWS and from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Women's Studies Program proposed an innovative and challenging program of study that was recently

**The major seeks both to engage students with the intellectual challenges offered by the interdisciplinary field of women's studies and to prepare graduates of the program for employment and for entrance into graduate and professional schools.**

approved by the university and by the State Board of Higher Education. The major seeks both to engage students with the intellectual challenges offered by the interdisciplinary field of women's studies and to prepare graduates of the program for employment and for entrance into graduate and professional schools.

With both of these goals in mind we have designed a rigorous major that includes interdisciplinary courses on a variety of topics, feminist theory courses, internships, research seminars, and cross-listed gender-related courses in a range of fields. In addition to these courses, students must either fulfill the requirements for a disciplinary minor of their choice or pursue a double major.

In preparation for the major, the program has developed an exciting curriculum and, with a grant from CSWS, now funds new courses every year designed and taught by faculty members from departments across the university. One such course being taught this spring is "Gender in History" taught by the Reclaiming the Past RIG. Coordinated by Stephanie Wood, a Latin American historian, this course brings together nineteen faculty members trained in a variety of disciplines to introduce students to a range of historiographic questions raised by feminist scholarship. In addition to the rich array of courses being offered through the Women's Studies Program during the year, the summer program this year is particularly extensive offering both 4-credit courses and a number of 1-credit weekend workshops. Information on the new major, course offerings, and upcoming events will appear soon on the Women's Studies Program Web page, which is currently under construction.



## Wednesdays at Noon

This year CSWS is continuing its schedule of talks and workshops on Wednesdays between noon and 1:00 p.m. in the Jane Grant Room, (330 Hendricks Hall). We invite you to join us. Watch for our reminder fliers about our noon talks, with an occasional "Happy Hour" speaker at 4:00 p.m.

**May 13**

Zoe Borovsky, assistant professor, Germanic languages and literatures, "Gender, Giants, and the Generation Gap."

**May 27**

Cynthia Adams, research associate, Women's Health and Aging Initiative, CSWS, "Menopause and Memory: Am I Losing My Mind?"



# Hypatia Comes to the UO

An international journal of feminist philosophy will be edited and published from the University of Oregon beginning this summer, with support from CSWS.

Nancy Tuana, professor of philosophy, was named coeditor last spring of *Hypatia*, a quarterly journal dedicated to feminist thought and theory. She will serve as an editor with Laurie Schrage, an associate professor of philosophy at California State Polytechnic at Pomona, for the next five years.

"For the university, it is an honor to be the location of an internationally known, high-quality journal," Tuana said. "For the philosophy department, it contributes to a successful graduate program in feminist philosophy. And for me, it is a chance to give back to a journal that I've been a part of since its beginning."

Tuana has served on the editorial board since the publication was founded in 1986 by the Society for Women in Philosophy. The journal is named for Hypatia, the leader of a neo-Platonic school in ancient Alexandria. "It's a reminder that although many of us are the first women philosophers at our schools, we are not the first in history," Tuana said.

Future directions for *Hypatia* include an emphasis on diversity, with proposed issues devoted to feminism and disability; transgender issues; Native American philosophy; and cognitive psychology. "We want to make sure the journal encourages a diversity of voices, diverse perspectives and situations, and diverse methods for writing and doing philosophy," Tuana said.

She's looking forward to working with Schrage, who brings a background in ethics and social philosophy, and shares Tuana's research interests in sexuality and critical race theory. Tuana described Schrage as "a computer whiz" who will be developing a Web site for the scholarly journal.

## Research Profile

*Continued from page 11*

women's struggles for liberation in a traditional culture. In the story, the main character, Manzheng, is a young woman working as a clerk in a factory. She falls in love with an engineer, and although their relationship unfolds in a beautiful way, it is undone by a number of external forces.

"One has to see this movie in its historical context: starting in the 1920s, there was an idea of women's liberation, and most people were optimistic about this," she said. "In *Eighteen Springs*, it shows how impossible it can be for a woman to be independent. It is rather pessimistic in dealing with some of the real issues that the early intellectuals did not want to grapple with.

"Chang points out that liberation doesn't succeed overnight," she said. "Even someone as hardworking and intelligent as Manzheng cannot separate herself from tradition. Such a sad story provides the right framework for a sentimental movie. But I am interested in the fact that there is depth to this sentimental plot, especially when one sees it in the context of women's liberation in China." Sang said she hopes to write more articles on Chinese cinema. She is a member of the China RIG and believes that "mutual sharing is a very important part of scholarship."

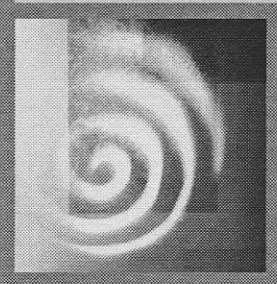
## Breast Cancer and Filmmaking

By Susan Glassow, CSWS Affiliate

Oscar and Emmy award-winning filmmakers, Allie Light and Irving Saraf, will screen their 1997 feature-length documentary, *Rachel's Daughters: Searching for the Causes of Breast Cancer*, on May 16 at 1:00 p.m. in the Lane Community College Mainstage Theater. Accompanied by co-producer Nancy Evans of the San Francisco Breast Cancer Fund, they will talk with the audience about filmmaking and breast cancer.

Known internationally for their Oscar-winning study of San Francisco Opera's chorus, *In the Shadow of the Stars* (1991) and Emmy-winning *Dialogues with Madwomen* (1993), Light and Saraf came to make *Rachel's Daughters* as they have made many of their films: from personal experience. *Rachel's Daughters* began its odyssey in 1993 when Light's daughter learned she had breast cancer.

The event is free and open to the public. It is cosponsored by Lane Community College and the Oregon Breast Cancer Coalition.





## 1998 Research Support Grants

CSWS awarded nine research support grants for the fall funding cycle. We extend congratulations to our nine awardees. The recipients, amounts received, and proposal titles follow:

**Diane Baxter**, Carlton Savage Professor in International Studies and Peace and adjunct assistant professor, anthropology: \$4,350—*Gender and National Struggle: Palestinian Women in the West Bank*. Baxter's project will examine gender and gender-role changes and issues of identity in times of national development and political conflict among young Palestinian women in the West Bank.

**Jacqueline Cruz**, assistant professor, Romance languages: \$6,000—*Women in the Avant-Garde in Spain, 1918-1936*. Cruz's proposed book will present some hypotheses to explain the limited presence of female authors in the avant-garde canon, and to study gender and social issues and attitudes towards writing in several individual women.

**Leslie Harris**, professor, law: \$1,214—*Welfare-to-Work in Oregon: Examining Twenty Years of Experimentation*. This study will examine previous programs that have attempted to move welfare recipients to economic self-sufficiency. In addition, the project will discuss the current welfare-to-work program being implemented in Oregon.

**Denise Matthews**, assistant professor, journalism and communication: \$3,000—*The Warner Documentary Project*. This project will explore the life of Gertrude Bass Warner in a documentary video format. Warner was a patron, collector, founder, curator, and director of the University of Oregon's Museum of Art.

**Anne Simons**, associate professor, psychology: \$6,000—*Depression in Disadvantaged Minority Women: Role of Life Stress*. Because most depression research has studied predominantly middle-class white people in tertiary care settings, little is known about how depression is experienced by other groups. In order to explore depression among different ethnicities, Simons's study will investigate life experiences from a sample of African-American, Latina, and Caucasian women.

**Sherwin Simmons**, associate professor, art history: \$4,628—*Fashionable Textile Art: The Professionalization of Women's Work in Germany, 1908-1922*. This project will examine the growth of textile art and fashion in Germany during World War I as areas in which women could find acceptance and earn their livings as professional artists.

**Laura Hebert**, graduate student, international studies: \$2,000—*Culture, Law, and Domestic Violence: A Cross-Cultural Study of Malaysia and South Africa*. Hebert's study will explore the hypothesis that, regardless of the geographical context, culture has important implications for international human rights law pertaining to gender violence, the implementation of national domestic violence laws, and in turn, the experiences of battered women at the grassroots level.

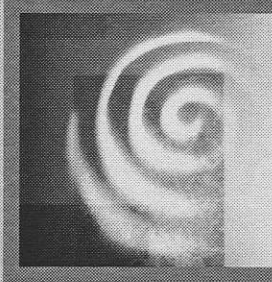
**Kate Harkness**, graduate student, psychology: \$1,722—*Stress Sensitization as a Pathological Process Underlying the Relationship between Life Events, Depression History, and Symptom Profile in Women's Depression*. This project will investigate the manner in which negative life events preceding depression, history of depression, and negative childhood experiences interact to determine symptom profile of Major Depressive Disorder.

**Heather Scott**, graduate student, psychology: \$1,332—*Relations between Resources and Communication Patterns in Lesbian Relationships*. Scott's study will examine associations between power, communication processes, and personal and relational outcomes in lesbian relationships.

### CSWS Grant Program Deadlines for 1998

Executive Grants	Open deadline
Jane Grant Dissertation Fellowship	May 4, 1998
Research Support Grants	Fall 1998
RIG Development Grants	May 11, 1998
Speakers and Events Grants	Open deadline
Travel Grants	Fall 1998

All applications can be picked up outside the CSWS main office, 340 Hendricks Hall, downloaded from our Web site, or mailed to you (make your request by E-mail: [csws@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:csws@oregon.uoregon.edu) or call Shirley Marc, office manager, at 346-5015).





## From the Garden Mac Court: Notes on Development

By Judith Musick, Development Director

I just can't start this piece with another allusion to gardening—it's just not possible. My mind is elsewhere. (The weekend was gorgeous. I should have been outside working in the garden. I really should have, but how could I? There was the game on T.V.)

It's the end of basketball season and the Oregon women have just returned from an unprecedented fifth trip to the NCAA finals. They were awesome.

Although eliminated (barely) in the first round of the tourney—these young women battled injuries and inspired fans of all ages with their athleticism and courage the entire season. It is amazing for this middle-aged, "would-have-been" jock to witness what I know to be the results of the second-wave of feminism via the specific mandates of Title IX.

The players are magnificent in every way. So are the fans. This year, even more than last year or the year before, I noticed the fans. All ages. Children—boys and girls, families of every composition and, somehow most touching, elders. They all love to watch the women play. These folks, who certainly don't come together otherwise, seem to share more than one roaring voice at Mac Court—they share a common bond, a singular pride.

And I know that the energy and support of the fans are what has made women's basketball the high-pitched success that it is. The fans fill Mac Court with enough noise to almost literally carry our field goal attempts into the basket. The response of the fans to the team—to each player—is a necessary part of every game. When the fans are energetic, our players play better. You can see it. The fans and the team will, I am sure, beat Stanford and capture the PAC-10 title next year and/or the year after. It is a building thing.

We can all use fans and enthusiastic support. CSWS tries to provide that to scholars and teachers whose work is a lot less visible than that of Coach Jody Runge and her team. The grants and awards we provide make a difference in the lives and careers of young scholars and established faculty. We regularly receive notes and words of gratitude from our faculty and graduate students thanking us not just for the money they received to do their research but for the encouragement an award from CSWS represents. It is very gratifying to be in a position to help individual scholars and teams of collaborating scholars with their work.

And we need your help both for what additional funds will allow us to do and for what it represents. Your financial support will allow us to do many things next year that we are not able to do alone. Some examples are:

- Provide research fellowships to graduate students to work on studying the impacts of welfare reform on women and children, "wiring" the humanities, and a host of other subjects of importance to women (each fellowship costs \$15,000 plus tuition)
- Initiate a series of policy papers that will influence public discourse and inform legislative deliberations on critical topics such as "family values" and health care for women and girls (\$10,000)
- Launch a public lecture series that will take our affiliates and their most interesting work to Portland, Bend, and other Oregon communities (\$1,000 per lecture)

And, just like fans of a basketball team, your support and involvement in our program makes our work stronger, better, and a lot more fun.

### CSWS Mailing List Information

If you would like to receive this newsletter and other CSWS mailings, please provide us with the information requested below. If you are already on the list, but are receiving duplicate mailings, or if your address has changed, please let us know so that we may correct your label. Thanks!

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If the idea of supporting the activities of CSWS appeals to you, please call Judith Musick or Sandi Morgen at 346-5015 for more information. Please make checks payable to the University of Oregon Foundation and return them to: Center for the Study of Women in Society, 1201 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1201.



## Between Jesus and the Market

*Between Jesus and the Market: The Emotions That Matter in Right-Wing America*, Duke University Press, 1997.

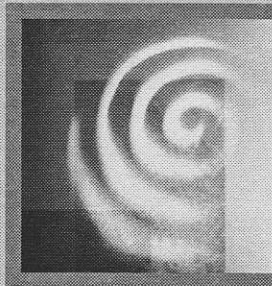
By Linda Kintz

*Between Jesus and the Market: The Emotions That Matter in Right-Wing America* analyzes two groups: traditionalist religious right and secular traditionalist conservatism in the U.S., both of which rest on a very narrow reading of natural law and the family.

The book begins with an analysis of books, videotapes, and public presentations by women of the religious right, in particular Concerned Women for America, to show the appeal of traditionalist conservatism to women. It also studies the Christian men's movement, Promise Keepers, which provides solace and guidance for men by reconstructing manhood as tender but virile, and counters feminism by reclaiming the man's place as head of the household and remasculinizing Christ to counter religion's long association with women. The book

shows how such overtly religious interpretations are echoed in secular texts that call for the reconstruction of manhood in the interests of free-market capitalism. The symbolic language of the traditional family is used to ensure a stable national social base from which global economic activities might flourish. A sound economy is said to depend on mandatory heterosexuality, traditional womanhood, and the belief that capitalism is part of God's natural order, with the U.S. seen as God's unique experiment. In this, religious and secular conservatives find a passionate symbolic cohesion.

I argue that analysts of conservatism must recognize the deep needs for solace and community in periods of economic dislocation and rapid change. Yet the larger frame must be made visible to show its exploitation in building political machines, in slipping easily into theocratic public policy, and in relying on rigid binary oppositions that exclude ambiguity and difference, with dangerous resonances among extremist groups.



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