

Sociology 231  
**SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER**  
Philip N. Cohen

Syllabus

“The emancipation of woman will only be possible when woman can take part in production on a large, social scale, and domestic work no longer claims anything but an insignificant amount of her time.”

--*Frederick Engels*  
*Origins of the Family, Private Property, and the State*

“Sexuality is to feminism what work is to Marxism.”

--*Catharine A. MacKinnon*  
*Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*

Thus, there are those for whom labor is the lynchpin of gender, and those for whom it is sexuality. In this seminar, we will discuss these competing theoretical orientations and others, as well as cover some empirical patterns and trends. The emphasis will be on theory and research findings, with discussion of research methods as needed. Beyond theory, we will focus on work, family and labor market issues, and gender intersections. Most material will be about the United States, with a case study of China and some comparative readings.

In addition to weekly seminar participation, students will submit a short weekly comment paper – no more than a page or two – and present occasional critiques of the readings to the group. At the end of the semester students will submit a final paper, which may be a piece of research in progress, a research proposal, or an extended essay on the course readings. We will discuss paper topics as we go.

We will read all of most of the following books:

Jacka, Tamara. 1997. *Women's Work in Rural China: Change and Continuity in an Era of Reform*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Jackson, Robert Max. 1998. *Destined for Equality: The Inevitable Rise of Women's Status*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.

Lorber, Judith. 1994. *Paradoxes of Gender*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

MacKinnon, Catharine A. 1991. *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

## Schedule

Almost all of these are available on-line through the UNC library. Please complete the reading by the seminar day listed, and bring your comment paper with you.

### **1/11: Introduction**

Cotter, David A., Joan M. Hermsen, and Reeve Vanneman. 2004. *Gender Inequality at Work*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Human Development Report. 1995. Gender and Human Development. Ch. 2, "Still An Unequal World." [http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/1995/en/pdf/hdr\\_1995\\_ch2.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/1995/en/pdf/hdr_1995_ch2.pdf).

World Development Indicators. 2002. Selected tables: "Gender in Development" <http://devdata.worldbank.org/genderstats/wdevelopment.pdf>; "Reproductive Health," <http://devdata.worldbank.org/genderstats/rhealth.pdf>; "Education Outcomes," <http://devdata.worldbank.org/genderstats/eoutcomes.pdf>.

Chafetz, Janet Saltzman. 1997. "Feminist Theory and Sociology: Underutilized Contributions for Mainstream Theory." *Annual Review of Sociology*, Vol. 23. (1997), pp. 97-120.

### **1/18: Feminist theory**

Lorber, *Paradoxes of Gender*.

### **1/25: Gender and modernity**

Jackson, *Destined for Equality*.

### **2/1: Marxist approaches and China**

Engels, *The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State*, Chapter 8 (<http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1884/origin-family/>).

Stacey, Judith. 1975. When Patriarchy Kowtows: The Significance of the Chinese Family Revolution for Feminist Theory. *Feminist Studies*, Vol. 2, No. 2/3. (1975), pp. 64-112.

Jacka, *Women's Work in Rural China* Chapters 1-4 (pp. 10-72).

Das Gupta, Monica, and Li Shuzuo. 1999. "Gender Bias in China, South Korea, and India 1920-1990: Effects of War, Famine and Fertility Decline." *Development and Change* 30:619-652.

Optional readings:

Janet W. Salaff. 1973. "Mortality Decline in the People's Republic of China and the United States." *Population Studies* 27(3):551-576.

Ansley J. Coale, Judith Banister. 1994. "Five Decades of Missing Females in China." *Demography* 31(3):459-479.

Cummings, Steven R., Xu Ling and Katie Stone. 1997. "Consequences of Foot Binding among Older Women in Beijing, China." *American Journal of Public Health* 87(10):1677-1679.

## **2/8: Radical feminism I**

MacKinnon, *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*. Cambridge, Mass., Chapters 1-7.

## **2/15: Marriage**

Budig, Michelle J. and Paula England. 2001. "The Wage Penalty for Motherhood." *American Sociological Review* 66(2):204-25.

Cohen, Philip N. 2002. "Cohabitation and the Declining Marriage Premium for Men." *Work and Occupations* 29(3):346-63.

Sayer, Liana. C. and Suzanne M. Bianchi. 2000. "Women's Economic Independence and the Probability of Divorce: A Review and Reexamination." *Journal of Family Issues* 21(7):906-43.

Oppenheimer, V. K. 1997. "Women's Employment and the Gain to Marriage: the Specialization and Trading Model." *Annual Review of Sociology* 23:431-53.

## **2/22: Home and market**

Cotter, D. A., J. M. Hermsen, and R. Vanneman. 2001. "Women's Work and Working Women: The Demand for Female Labor." *Gender & Society* 15(3):429-52.

Folbre, Nancy. and Julie A. Nelson. 2000. "For Love or Money -- or Both?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14(4):123-40.

Cohen, Philip N. 2004. "The Gender Division of Labor: 'Keeping House' and Occupational Segregation in the United States." *Gender & Society* 18(2):239-52.

England, Paula. 2005. "Emerging Theories of Care Work." *Annual Review of Sociology* 31:381-399.

## **3/1: Housework and Time Use**

Hartmann, Heidi I. 1981. "The Family As the Locus of Gender, Class, and Political Struggle: The Example of Housework." *Signs* 6(3):366-94.

Bianchi, Suzanne M., Melissa A. Milkie, Liana C. Sayer, and John P. Robinson. 2000. "Is Anyone Doing the Housework? Trends in the Gender Division of Household Labor." *Social Forces* 79(1):191-228.

Brines, Julie. 1994. "Economic Dependency, Gender, and the Division-of-Labor at Home." *American Journal of Sociology* 100(3):652-88.

Gupta, Sanjiv. 1999. "The Effects of Transitions in Marital Status on Men's Performance of Housework." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 61(3):700-711.

### **3/8: 3/22: U.S. Labor Markets**

England, Paula. 2005. "Gender inequality in labor markets: The role of motherhood and segregation." *Social Politics* 12(2):264-288.

Cohen, Philip N. and Matt L. Huffman. 2003. "Individuals, Jobs, and Labor Markets: The Devaluation of Women's Work." *American Sociological Review* 68(3):443-63.

Acker, Joan. 1990. "Hierarchies, Jobs, Bodies: A Theory of Gendered Organizations." *Gender and Society* 4(2):139-158.

Tomaskovic-Devey D, Skaggs S. 2002. "Sex segregation, labor process organization, and gender earnings inequality." *American Journal of Sociology* 108(1):102-128.

### **3/29: Intersections**

Cotter, David A., Joan M. Hermsen, and Reeve Vanneman. 1999. "Systems of Gender, Race, and Class Inequality: Multilevel Analyses." *Social Forces* 78(2): 433-460.

Glenn, Evelyn Nakano. 1999. "The Social Constructuion and Institutionalization of Gender and Race." Pp. 3-43 in *Revisioning Gender*, edited by Myra M. Ferree, Judith Lorber, and Beth B. Hess. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Taniguchi, Hiromi and Rachel A. Rosenfeld. 2002. "Women's Employment Exit and Reentry: Differences Among Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics." *Social Science Research* 31(3):432-71.

### **4/5: Radical Feminism II**

MacKinnon, *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*. Cambridge, Mass., Chapters 8-13.

Optional readings:

Carr, Joetta L; VanDeusen, Karen M. 2004. "Risk Factors for Male Sexual Aggression on College Campuses." *Journal of Family Violence* 19(5):279-289.

Milburn, Michael A; Mather, Roxanne; Conrad, Sheree D. 2000. "The Effects of Viewing R-Rated Movie Scenes That Objectify Women on Perceptions of Date Rape." *Sex Roles* 43(9-10):645-664.

A. Ayres Boswell; Joan Z. Spade. 1996. "Fraternities and Collegiate Rape Culture: Why Are Some Fraternities More Dangerous Places for Women?" *Gender and Society*, Vol. 10, No. 2. (Apr., 1996), pp. 133-147.

Beth E. Schneider. 1991. "Put up and Shut up: Workplace Sexual Assaults." *Gender and Society*, Vol. 5, No. 4. (Dec., 1991), pp. 533-548.

#### **4/12: Immigration and globalization**

Acker, Joan. 2004. "Gender, Capitalism and Globalization." *Critical sociology* 30(1):17-41.

Hagan, Jacqueline M. 1998. "Social networks, gender, and immigrant incorporation: Resources and constraints." *American Sociological Review* 63(1):55-67.

Jacka, Tamara. 2005. "Finding a Place: Negotiations of Modernization and Globalization among Rural Women in Beijing." *Critical Asian Studies* 37(1):51-74.

Semyonov, Moshe and Anastasia Gorodzeisky. 2004. "Occupational destinations and economic mobility of Filipino overseas workers." *International Migration Review* 38(1):5-26.

Optional reading:

Parrenas, Rhacel Salazar. 2001. "Transgressing the Nation-State: The Partial Citizenship and 'Imagined (Global) Community' of Migrant Filipina Domestic Workers." *Signs* 26(4):1129-1154.

#### **4/19: Biology and social construction**

Udry, J. Richard. 2000. "Biological Limits of Gender Construction." *American Sociological Review* 65(3):443-457.

Miller, Eleanor M. and Carrie Yang Costello. 2001. "The Limits of Biological Determinism." *American Sociological Review* 66(4):592-598.

Kennelly, Ivy, Sabine N. Merz and Judith Lorber. 2001. "What Is Gender?" *American Sociological Review* 66(4):598-605.

Udry, J. Richard. 2001. "Feminist Critics Uncover Determinism, Positivism, and Antiquated Theory." *American Sociological Review* 66(4):611-618.

Bearman PS. 2002. "Opposite-sex twins and adolescent same-sex attraction." *American Journal of Sociology* 107(5):1179-1205.

#### **4/26: Comparative research**

van der Lippe, Tanja, and Liset van Dijk. 2002. "Comparative Research on Women's Employment." *Annual Review of Sociology* 28: 221-241.

Batalova, Jeanne A. and Philip N. Cohen. 2002. "Premarital Cohabitation and Housework: Couples in Cross-National Perspective." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 64(3):743-55.

Fuwa, Makiko. 2004. "Macro-Level Gender Inequality and the Division of Household Labor in 22 Countries." *American Sociological Review* 69(6):751-67.

Mills, Mary Beth. 2003. "Gender and Inequality in the Global Labor Force." *Annual Review of Anthropology* 32:41-62.