

Editorial

The diversity of feminist approaches to a wide variety of topics in this issue satisfies the goals of *Atlantis* to publish research on topics that span geographic location, historical periods and modes of analysis. We are eager to increase the diversity of submissions of both scholarly articles and creative pieces.

Atlantis, like many other journals, alternates between "Special Theme" issues and "Open Topic" issues. "Special Theme" and "Open Topic" issues each have their own strengths, and each is equally rewarding to produce. The "Special" issues address a particular subject, and enable the reader to develop a deeper and more informed understanding of that topic, of the debates between the scholars engaged in the research, and the new directions in research. Readers are encouraged to send submissions for two upcoming Special Theme issues: one, scheduled for spring 2005, is on the topic of Indigenous Women: The State of Our Nations; the other, on the topic of Women, Arts, Politics/Power, is scheduled for spring 2006. For more details visit the *Atlantis* website - www.msvu.ca/atlantis.

This Open Topics issue begins with an article by Karen Hadley who argues that most commonly used statistical measures of the gender gap obscure the true extent of women's income inequality and can give the impression that women's economic inequality is close to being a non-issue. She uses data from Statistics Canada's 1998 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics to compare the incomes of women and men in Canada and offers a careful discussion of how such data can best be used. She reports that, while there has been a gradual narrowing of the income gap between women and men since 1970, the gender gap remains unacceptably wide: women's median, after tax incomes were 61 percent of men's in 1998, almost 40 percent less than men's comparable incomes.

Nettie Bozanich shifts the focus by presenting a thoughtful, sometimes poetic, and reflective account of the struggles of a young feminist to find a voice. In her candid account she

analyses how her reading of literary and theoretical texts has helped her to understand and work through her own struggles and panic and anxiety, to locate herself in communities of shared collective consciousness and to find suitable modes and tactics of self-expression.

Peter Chimbos transports readers to Greece through a discussion of the involvement of women in the Greek resistance movement and their attempts to combat Axis occupation from 1941 to 1944. Based on documents and personal accounts of events by resistance veterans, his analysis shows that women were motivated by social and political influences prior to the war, the egalitarian philosophies of the national Liberation front and the dreadful socioeconomic conditions of the Axis occupation.

Back to contemporary Canada, Janice Ahola-Sidaway and Margaret McKinnon examine teen women's understanding of emotional labour as experienced within their frontline service jobs. Often in their first employment situations, these young women draw on service scripts and self-monitoring to resolve stressful exchanges and, in very difficult situations, develop a range of resistance strategies to preserve their dignity.

Sylvie Frigon and Chris Bruckert explore the complex meanings of women's bodies in strip clubs (beautiful, sexy and labouring bodies), and the ways in which women who strip for a living assert agency and resist patriarchal constructions of "the stripper." By examining women's bodies as contested terrains and by giving a voice to women in the skin trades, they offer insight into the corporeality of control and resistance.

In the context of the burgeoning use of battered women's shelters in Canada, Linda Davies and Julia Krane draw our attention to the importance for the women's movement to reflect critically on its analysis of spousal assault, feminist counselling, and the power relations that may develop between clients and shelter workers.

In keeping with the social policy theme, Laura Dreuth's article on models of parenting used

in the United States is especially relevant in these times of financial challenge and rising demand for service across sectors serving children and families in Canada. Her assessment of primary and competing parenting paradigms fills the gap for practitioners struggling with competing clinical and administrative pressures.

Putting policy issues relevant to women on the political agenda is tied to electing feminist politicians. Manon Tremblay and Réjean Pelletier demonstrate that feminist women in Canadian electoral politics constitute a diverse group and that the forces which influence feminist women's support for special measures to increase the number of women in politics vary according to the ideological orientation of the parties.

Taking a trip back in time, Kathleen Lord moves back and forth between the academic discussion and the semi-fictional recreation of daily life in late 19th century Montreal based on newspaper coverage of a six month trial in 1895 that centred around domestic violence and murder.

Peter Twohig's article uses the work experiences of Mary Black to explore the development of occupational therapy as one of the health care professions where women predominate. While Black is best known in Atlantic Canada for her work in the arts community, Twohig uncovers her earlier involvement in occupational therapy from 1919-1943. He documents the reasons for the growth of this field, the debates about appropriate qualifications and its relationship with organized medicine, showing the gender dynamics that were central to its development.

We are also pleased to offer creative work by Vera Golini and Joanna M. Weston, as well as reviews of books on a variety of topics about women. The cover artwork reproduces a poster for the Transition House Association of Nova Scotia's annual Purple Ribbon Campaign commemorating the fourteen women killed at École Polytechnique in Montréal, 1989. We are grateful for the Association's permission to use the image.

Concurrent with the release of this issue, we are pleased to offer a special issue entitled *INTERNATIONAL FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES: Women and Violence*, a collection of previously published articles on women and violence from a selection of international journals that participate in the Feminist Knowledge Network. We are grateful

for assistance from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council in facilitating the research transfer of this unique collection of articles. We hope you find it useful and will draw the issue to the attention of your colleagues. Look for future special collections with subsequent issues of *Atlantis*.

This issue marks June Corman's last as editor. Meg Luxton is joined by Linda Kealey (History, University of New Brunswick) and Rhoda Zuk (English, Mount Saint Vincent University). We welcome Maureen Hynes (Labour Studies, George Brown College) as the Creative Arts editor and Adrianna Benzaquen (History, Mount Saint Vincent University) as Book Review editor.

June Corman, Brock University

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