

SUMMARIES

► *Marijke Naezer*

Where is the Women's Movement?

Elder feminists regularly complain in the media about the lack of activism among younger women. The freedoms they fought for seem to be taken for granted by current generations of women. Younger feminists on the other hand complain that they are only seen as real feminists if they comply with the goals of the older generation. The author shares some of these complaints; many young female managers seem to be blind to blatant discriminatory practices at the workplace. But she points out that there is also a lively debate about feminism in the media. Objections of critics of an older generation that these feminists disagree about strategy are redundant. In no period in history have feminists agreed about the way forward. The presence of many women and men in networks within labour unions and politics, in debating societies and in the social media on internet show the Women's Movement is surely alive.

► *Jantine Oldersma and Louis van den Hengel*

Feminism for new generations?

Interview with Margo Brouns and Mieke Verloo

In 1998 *Tijdschrift voor Vrouwenstudies*, the only surviving academic journal on Women's Studies in the Netherlands, changed its name to *Tijdschrift voor Genderstudies*. The new journal would, according to the editors, pave the way for a more inclusive definition of feminist issues. Men, masculinity and biology were mentioned as worthy of more attention. In

2005 Margo Brouns, one of those editors, expresses her disappointment with the lack of openness of gender studies for new issues. Mieke Verloo in a letter to the editors disagrees vehemently. In this interview both colleagues look back on their careers in and outside gender studies and find they still disagree about important aspects. According to Margo Brouns it is important to take biological and neurological research more seriously and to accept that sexual difference can be a source of pleasure; Mieke Verloo stresses the importance of deconstructing the discourse on biology and on analysing relations of power that are still with us.

► *Liesbeth Woertman and Janneke van Mens-Verhulst*

Lovely, beautiful and autonomous: the choice biography of young adult women

Dutch universities have undergone a major gender shift during the past 40 years. Currently, female students outnumber men, and they finish their studies both faster and more successfully. Is this shift reflected in their role attitudes, role images and value-orientations? To begin examination of this question, we developed an on-line questionnaire, for bachelor students in psychology. Results showed that the 138 women respondents hold a somewhat traditional view in their role preferences, current time distribution and value orientations. This pattern can be typified as being 'lovely, beautiful and autonomous'. Their images of private and public roles can also be characterized as traditional. In our discussion, we consider the meaning of these findings for young adult women in realizing their choice

biography, and what feminist narratives could contribute to their development.

► *Wil Portegijs*

Young women nowadays

Opinions of young women and men compared over time

Do changes in the behaviour and opinions about the division of tasks between men and women indeed fit in the general trend towards increasing individualisation? To answer this question we compared young adults (20-29 years) since 1970. Until the mid 1990s the labour market participation of men and women indeed became more alike, whereas paid work by mothers became more accepted. Since then, however, this process has levelled off and more traditional views have revived. Thus, nowadays over half of the young men think that women are better suited to take care of young children, resembling the situation in the early 1980s.

► *Nicky Pouw*

**To a gender conscious economic science.
The surplus value of mathematics**

The purpose of this article is to show how gender can be integrated into economic epistemology and methodology in a robust manner. A broader conceptualization of economics is applied to emphasize the role of economic agents in the allocation process. In this way, the stage is set for incorporation of notions of gender identity, role and power more firmly into economic thinking. Moreover, it is argued that the complementary functioning of the paid and unpaid economy is important to take into account in economic analysis if we want to remove gender inequalities. Furthermore, the added-value of math-

ematics as an organizational and formalizing principle is shown by making use of mathematical set theory. Not only can mathematics help to clarify decision moments to make use of more objective *versus* subjective forms of knowledge, it can also reveal the (biased) choices made in selecting relationships that are included in economic analysis.

► *Anne van Putten*

From one generation to the next

According to second wave feminists, sharing of paid and unpaid work between partners in marriage is an essential precondition for changing unequal power relations. Their view is now widely accepted by men and women in the Netherlands. Nevertheless, men still primarily work full time and women part time, with women still doing the lion share of household work. Anne van Putten explores why this situation still prevails: what is the role of intergenerational transfers in the reproduction of gendered labour patterns? Her research covered three types of transfer: role modelling of children copying their fathers' behaviour in the household or their mothers behaviour in paid work; help provided by grandparents for their parenting children; and help children provide for ageing parents. The author concludes that children do copy their parents behaviour. Change, accordingly, is slow, but does occur. She urges women to realise their participation on the labour market is an asset for their children just as much – and maybe more – than their primary care in the family is.

► *Annemiek Richters and Leonieke van Mens*
**From feminist gynaecologist to guardian
of the right to self-determination for the
elderly**

Interview with Eylard van Hall

Eylard van Hall fought throughout his career as professor obstetrics and gynaecology for a feminisation of health care. As 'feminist gynaecologist' he criticized the 'male norm' in health care and opened the gynaecology specialization for females, expecting that this way a better, more feminist quality of gynaecological care could be realised. Additionally, he fought for the recognition of women's self-determination right regarding their bodies and selves, in particular the right to abortion. His deconstruction of the medical view of women – in particular of the 'menopausal woman' – as per definition sick was accompanied by his lobbying for a biopsychosocial obstetrics and gynaecology. The interview focuses on Van Hall's motivation and strategies for the transmission of the feminist body of ideas to a primarily conservative professional group of gynaecologists. In the end, he reflects on his own role in the past and the issues needing attention while growing older in an individualising society?

► *Iris van der Tuin*
**From paralyzing to visionary
A feminist epistemological study into
the effects of the wave model in gender
studies**

This article discusses the effects of the use of the wave model in gender research. It proposes to study these effects according to a post-humanist and onto-epistemological methodology, and follows the work of Karen Barad and Elizabeth Grosz in order to do so. The wave model is considered to be a disciplinary

apparatus in gender research. A disciplinary apparatus is an agential instrument, which is to say that scholarly instruments are not considered to be mute mediators in the process of knowledge production. Rather, they are active agents in world-making practices. As a disciplinary apparatus in the humanities, the wave model has a paralyzing effect on feminism in the here and now. By defining 'feminism' in a narrow manner, feminism is no longer seen as active. As a consequence, it is not available to contemporary feminists. Shifting the wave model by using Astrid Henry's term 'dis-identification' enables feminism to start moving again, and allows scholars to enliven a third-wave feminism.