

Summaries

Viricentrism and cultural anthropology

by J. Schrijvers

Anthropological literature tells us little about women, and hardly offers a theoretical framework to describe societies in terms of the ideas and activities of their women. This phenomenon is called 'viricentrism'.

A 'viricentric' tendency is pointed out in the work of different authors, like Lévi Strauss, Robin Fox and Jeremy Boissevain. It is argued to be the task of cultural anthropology to discover women as 'social actors'; after all, societies are created by men *and* women.

Women's emancipation and research

by H. d'Ancona

Articles, books and research with regard to the emancipation of woman reveal different views of the meaning of the word emancipation. In this article I have tried to relate differences of opinion to methods of research; the illustrations which I give, are based on research as actually taking place especially in the Netherlands.

A first type of research is related to that definition of emancipation which investigates the extent to which women, as compared with men, participate in the total culture. Census-data (especially on participation in the labour-market) are used for this type of research.

The second method is generally connected with the opinion that emancipation starts with the consciousness of women of their position in the social structure. Research is directed towards measuring this consciousness.

A third type of research is linked to the idea that the emancipation of women (and of men) can only succeed in a 'feminized' society.

Finally I have tried to point out the consequences that research results may bring for Government policy.

Woman's lib' in the country

by E. Brunt-de Wit

Country women are a relatively neglected category in the Dutch women's liberation movement and in the popular and sociological publications that deal with women's emancipation. This paper is an attempt to start filling in the extant lack of knowledge by presenting some research data concerning the formal aims and everyday activities of country women's voluntary associations.

The formal goals stress the importance of an orientation towards societal professions, while the local activities rather contradictorily seem to be designed to

Summaries

focus country women on their role as housewives and mothers. The main function of these associations seems to have been the introduction of bourgeois urban patterns of life into the country. In this they have succeeded so well, that country women lag behind their urban sisters more than ever now that the growing women's liberation movement encourages city women *not* to confine themselves to housekeeping and motherhood any longer. In the process the country women's associations have reduced themselves to political nonentities and it will be difficult to find a way to connect them and their members to the political aims of women's lib'.

Man and Woman in the textbooks of a primary school

by T. Schöne, J. van der Steen, J. Vijfhuizen

Textbooks in use at a primary school were analysed to reveal the image of the roles of man and woman these books offer. There turned out to be a great majority of men in these books. The books give a strongly conventional image of the activities and behavior of men and women. Men and women have different roles: women live only inside their family and care for their husband and children, while men have an occupation and know how to take action in the world outside the family. Subsequently the image of the roles of man and woman, as held by the children in this school, was identified by submitting a questionnaire. No great difference was found between the image the books present and the image of the roles of man and woman of which the children gave proof.

Towards a political economy of the family; woman, work and industrial capitalism by H. Safa

This article is a first attempt to outline a political economy of the family. It mainly deals with the economic position of women in Western Europe and the changes which were caused by the Industrial Revolution. This Western structure is compared with the situation in the Third World, especially Latin America. Its conclusion is that the position of women is closely linked with the class structure under the capitalist system.