



# Consortium on Gender, Security & Human Rights

## Environmental Disasters: Gendered Impacts & Responses Bibliography with Abstracts 2017

The **Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights** created this bibliography to provide a guide to the landscape of research-based knowledge on the gendered impacts of and responses to environmental disasters. Our goal is to provide the policy, activist and scholarly communities with access to the findings of academic research, as well as to curate a selection of the extensive and valuable resources produced by policy agencies and international organizations.

**The Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights  
Bibliographic Resources Series**

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This bibliography is a collection of academic and non-academic sources that explore the gendered nature of environmental disasters—mostly, but not exclusively, in war-affected settings. Insofar as possible, entries include citations, published abstracts, and quotations of key sentences (indicated in quotation marks, and followed by page number). Books are briefly summarized, with the table of contents included.

The existing literature includes resources on gendered impacts of and responses to environmental disasters, as well as gendered approaches to disaster risk reduction (DRR).

- Much of the literature analyzes environmental disasters’ gender-differentiated impacts. Here, the academic sources often explore case studies that have shown that women and girls face different, and added, consequences of disasters than men and boys do.
- The second focus of the literature is on responses to environmental disasters, and it explores how the local, regional, national and international response to environmental disasters tends to be highly gendered, often with negative consequences for women and girls.
- Third, some of the literature also explores the concept of “Disaster Risk Reduction” (DRR), which addresses projects or potential plans for decreasing the negative effects of environmental disasters on the population and/or for preventing environmental disasters from occurring as frequently.

This bibliography was created by the **Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights**, as part of our **Feminist Roadmap for Sustainable Peace (FRSP) project**. The FRSP starts with the perception that postwar transitions and the sustainability of peace itself are often undermined by transnational political economic actors and processes. Its goal is to provide: forward-looking expert knowledge of those processes; analyses of their impacts on gender relations and other structural inequalities underlying armed conflicts; and recommendations for how to engage and modify those processes to be more supportive of the societal transformations critical to building gender-equitable, sustainable peace. Topics addressed in the FRSP include, *inter alia*: the economic recovery policy prescriptions of international financial institutions; extractives; land rights, large scale land acquisition and land grabbing; infrastructure reconstruction; and climate disruption.

Consortium interns Jackie Faselt, Ira Kassiel, and Isabelle Scarborough undertook the principal research for this bibliography, with additional contributions from Jessica Tueller and Clara Lee, as well as Consortium staff members. If you are familiar with additional resources that you think should be included in the next draft of this bibliography and/or in the Consortium’s Research Hub, please send us the citation, and, if possible, the pdf. Resources can be submitted through our website at: <http://genderandsecurity.org/projects-resources/bibliographic-resources>.

Please note that another excellent resource for research on gender and disasters is the [Gender and Disaster Sourcebook](#).

## I. Academic Sources

**Agarwal, Bina. 1990. "Social Security and the Family: Coping with Seasonality and Calamity in Rural India." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 17 (3): 341–412.**

**Abstract:**

This article examines how poor rural families in India cope with the food insecurity associated with seasonal troughs in the agricultural production cycle, and with calamities such as drought and famine; the effectiveness of the coping mechanisms they adopt; the intra-household sharing of the burden of coping; and the appropriate state and nonstate interventions that would strengthen the survival mechanisms adopted by the families themselves. The family is seen here as a bargaining unit, the ability of different members to command food (among other resources) depending on their relative bargaining strengths, determined in turn by their ownership endowments (of land, labour, etc.), exchange entitlements, and external social and communal support systems. Gender and age both form the basis of intrafamily inequality in this respect. While seasonality reveals a face of the family which is one of cooperation, famine mirrors one of disintegration. In both contexts, the burden of coping falls disproportionately on female members within poor households, traceable to women's already weak and further weakened (during calamity) bargaining position within the family. A re-interpretation of existing facts about the 1943 Bengal famine illustrates the process of family disintegration and the abandonment of wives and children during a severe calamity. State efforts complemented by nonstate interventions therefore need to be directed to programmes that 'empower' poor families and the more vulnerable members within them. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Akerkar, Supriya. 2007. "Disaster Mitigation and Furthering Women's Rights: Learning from the Tsunami." *Gender, Technology and Development* 11 (3): 357–88.**

**Abstract:**

Vulnerability has long been accepted as an important factor in post-disaster recovery which affects the ability of the survivors to recover from multi-dimensional impacts. This comparative and cross-cultural study of the effects of tsunami on women in four countries looks more closely into the factors and processes that have led to the exclusion of certain groups of women from relief and recovery assistance. These include female heads of households, widows, the elderly and those belonging to marginalized groups such as migrants and stateless communities. Examining the current gender-neutral framing of social protection systems in the disaster areas and their operations, I show that vulnerability is not only an outcome of localized and individual dimensions like age, gender and marital status but that they have deeper relations with national and global powers who perpetuate institutionalized discrimination through such systems, and how they are unable to give these groups of women the much needed protection and assistance to live with dignity. A case is made for the recognition of compounded discrimination based on the fact that their vulnerable positions prior to the disaster have indeed led to their exclusion from relief and recovery activities, leaving them poorer and worst-off. Further, to redress this trend I propose a women's human rights strategy in disaster management

which adopts as its core a combination of the recognition of vulnerability derived from identities with corresponding gender-based redistributive principles to be integrated in policies, practices and social protection systems. As a discursive construct, the women's human rights approach in disasters would not only reduce the vulnerability of disaster survivors but also create new gender-just post-disaster societies. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Quotes & Notes:**

“Socially-embedded constructions of sexuality also contributed to increase in domestic violence after the tsunami. In Toogwah village of Thailand, many cases of fights between husbands and wives were shared by women living in interim shelters. One said: ‘In the camp-like conditions, men are not able to have sex, and therefore it leads to stress amongst them, alcohol consumption and beatings’” (Akerkar 2007, 375).

“Following the tsunami, women were forced to enter the labor market with very little bargaining power and were vulnerable to exploitation. Better-off households were unable to continue employing housemaids in the aftermath of the tsunami and women who had been involved only in housework were now planning to work outside” (368).

**Akerkar, Supriya, and Maureen Fordham. 2017. “Gender, Place and Mental Health Recovery in Disasters: Addressing Issues of Equality and Difference.” *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* 23 (August): 218–30.**

**Abstract:**

UK and wider EU governments follow gender neutral policies in their disaster planning and management based upon a misconception that the gender gap has been eliminated. Findings from our quantitative and qualitative research, carried out as a part of an EU Project, ‘MICRODIS’, in two flood affected locations in England (Tewkesbury floods of 2007, and Morpeth floods of 2008), challenges this notion, revealing that disasters can have paradoxically equal and yet differentiated gendered impacts. Our findings highlight some of the more subtle ways that disasters differentially impacted women and men. It shows that although the degree of mental health recovery of affected men and women was mostly equal, they mobilised different recovery strategies, mostly consistent with their traditional gendered norms and socially constructed roles. Women's recovery strategies were mainly aligned with emotional notions of care, while men's were with notions of control. These findings also show that gendered identities, home-neighbourhood place attachment, and mental wellbeing are related in complex ways. Temporary displacement from their home-neighbourhood places after floods were traumatic for both men and women, although there were perceptible differences in this experience. The paper concludes that gender difference in disasters is ubiquitous globally, and thus analyses must include a gender and diversity analysis and ask more probing gender questions, even in apparently gender equal societies, in order to uncover sometimes hidden impacts. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: floods; gender; place; mental health; disasters; UK*

**Alam, Khurshed, and Md. Habibur Rahman. 2014. "Women in Natural Disasters: A Case Study from Southern Coastal Region of Bangladesh." *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* 8 (June): 68–82.**

**Abstract:**

Natural disasters are frequent phenomena in the coastal regions of Bangladesh, causing significant damage to the coastal community and environment. The present study was conducted in southern coastal region of Bangladesh with the aim to explore women's preparedness, risk and loss, cultural and conditional behaviour, adaptability and recovery capacity from the natural disasters. During disaster a kind of functional disorder gets created where women had to face challenges different from men. Women have to face loss of livelihood opportunities, deprivation from relief materials, sexual harassment and enjoy little scope of participation in any response or management activities. Likewise, they also suffer from inverse care law after disaster. Contrary to that, disaster also creates a condition to accrue diverse positive and constructive impacts including women's transformative role which often do not get reported. Disaster leads the planners to follow not merely the compensatory principle but also restoration and augmentation principles which give more benefits to the low income group of the coast. Nevertheless, in the coast the higher is the loss of property, the lower is the tendency among the dwellers to invest which has a long-lasting effect on capital formation and social development. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster warning; environmental hazard; disaster preparedness; disaster gain; coping strategy; recovery capacity*

**Alston, Margaret. 2013. "Environmental Social Work: Accounting for Gender in Climate Disasters." *Australian Social Work* 66 (2): 218–33.**

**Abstract:**

The person-in-the-environment concept has largely been interpreted by social workers to indicate social networks and relationships, ignoring the physical environment and its complex impact on human health and wellbeing. This article examines the environmental domain, noting the critical role social workers can have in this field as a consequence of climate events and global warming. The article notes the significance of gender as a key factor in vulnerability to disasters and outlines the need for social workers to consider gender as a critical indicator in their work in this emerging area. Embodiment, connection to place, poverty, and cultural awareness are also significant, but often overlooked, factors in a social work response to environmental disasters. Ecological and ecofeminist theories give a direction for social work theory and practice in the postdisaster space. The article challenges social workers to reconsider the person-in-the-environment as a complex and critical emerging domain of social work theories and practice, a domain where gender awareness is fundamental. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: environmental social work; accounting for gender in climate disasters*

**Alway, Joan, Linda Liska Belgrave, and Kenneth J. Smith. 1998. "Back to Normal: Gender and Disaster." *Symbolic Interaction* 21 (2): 175–95.**

**Abstract:**

Our earlier studies of Hurricane Andrew focused on the destruction of everyday life during the crisis itself and the reconstruction of a taken-for-granted world during the recovery period; this paper examines the significance of gender in these processes. The abrupt loss of taken-for-granted reality occasioned by the storm involved only a slight and momentary disruption of gender roles. The resilience of these roles can be understood only if gender is seen as a property of social organization that shapes not only interactional expectations and pressures, but also cultural and institutional processes, as well as bodily experiences. *(Abstract from original source)*

**Quotes & Notes:**

"...informants' accounts suggest that while gender roles were often suspended during the most acute phases of the crisis and were necessarily adapted to and re-negotiated under adverse conditions, they proved to be quite resilient, guiding behavior both before and after the storm" (Alway et al. 1998, 181).

"The storm caused many men to feel torn by the demands of family and work, and, in their accounts, they often expressed the centrality of a job for men's identities. Many felt they needed to take care of things both at home and at work-before, during, and after the hurricane" (185).

"Whether or not they returned to work, everyone had to deal with the delays and frustrations of rebuilding their homes and lives. It was frequently the women who were home, or could be home, to deal with these hassles. This was especially the case if there were young children at home. Some of these women had not worked outside the home before the storm. For other families, the decision might have been based on the wives' incomes being more expendable, or their jobs more flexible" (187).

**Anderson, Cheryl Lea. 2005. "Decolonizing Disaster: A Gender Perspective of Disaster Risk Management in the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands." PhD diss., University of Hawai'i at Manoa.**

**Abstract:**

This dissertation explores disaster risk management from a gender perspective in the US-affiliated Pacific Islands where several methodologies from feminism, postcolonialism, and disaster research are placed in conversation. This conversation illuminates elements in the design of risk management policies, programs, and projects that create inequities revealed in disaster. Gender analysis becomes tied to understanding local culture, social conditions, and power related to risk management. This research reveals that few women participate in formal risk management organizations, yet women are participants and leaders in informal risk management activities that contribute to disaster mitigation. The

overall structure of disasters and disaster management programs has emerged from the dominant political system, and has been overlaid on island communities. The results of this system alienate marginalized voices from the risk management process, devalue women's work, and ultimately result in continuing colonization through disaster management programs and policies. By increasing awareness of the social inequalities in risk management, it will be possible to engage in risk reduction planning with communities that sets up a process of dialogue between the formal and informal risk management sectors. Attention to the roots of disaster and the process of risk management can help build resiliency to deal with crises. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Anderson, Cheryl L. 2009. "Gendered Dimensions of Disaster Risk Management, Natural Resource Management, and Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific." *Women in Fisheries Information Bulletin*, no. 20, 3–9.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"Under the overarching frameworks of sustainable development and human security, the fields of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation have engaged in increasingly parallel tracks for planning and programming. In the Pacific, the cross-cutting themes of gender and traditional ecological knowledge are important perspectives for understanding the socioeconomic dimensions of disaster, environmental degradation, and climate changes. Explorations of gender dimensions of disaster and climate impacts provide a deeper understanding of these impacts, which enables the identification of solutions that may alleviate them" (Anderson 2009, 3).

**Anderson, Mary B. 1994. "Understanding the Disaster-Development Continuum: Gender Analysis Is the Essential Tool." *Focus on Gender* 2 (1): 7–10.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"These two motivations - an urgent need to deal with the causes of disasters rather than only with the symptoms, and the necessity of getting the best possible short-term and long-term outcomes from aid funds - are forcing a harder look at the tools that are available for effective planning and programming. One such tool, which can contribute significantly to addressing root causes and which can support effective, efficient and equitable long-term development, is gender analysis" (Anderson 1994, 7).

**Ariyabandu, M. M., and M. Wickramasinghe. 2004. *Gender Dimensions in Disaster Management: A Guide for South Asia*. Colombo, Sri Lanka: ITDG South Asia.**

**Abstract:**



This is the first book to look at gender issues in disasters in the context of South Asia, where disasters have a crucial impact on the development process. It shows how exploring the specific capacities and vulnerabilities of men and women in disaster situations, and taking account of them, will improve the chance of success in development projects. The book also includes two sets of guidelines, for policy makers and for practitioners, to help them address these issues in planning and implementing development and disaster management programmes. (*Abstract from Practical Action Publishing*)

**Austin, Kelly F., and Laura A. McKinney. 2016. “Disaster Devastation in Poor Nations: The Direct and Indirect Effects of Gender Equality, Ecological Losses, and Development.” *Social Forces* 95 (1): 355–80.**

**Abstract:**

The purpose of this paper is to quantitatively assess the drivers of suffering from disasters across less developed nations, with specific emphasis on the gender relations that potentially mitigate the breadth of devastation across affected populations. We draw on theoretical frameworks of environmental sociology, ecofeminism, gender inequalities, and development to inform our empirical analysis, which represents structural equation modeling of 85 less developed nations. While economic, political, and to a lesser extent environmental factors have been linked, theoretically and empirically, to vulnerability to natural disaster events, few consider the potential of improving women’s status to alleviate the toll of disasters on humans in affected nations. Our paper addresses this gap by theoretically developing and empirically analyzing the linkages that connect the environment, women’s economic standing, and disaster vulnerability. Our findings point to the beneficial effects of improving women’s status—itself conditioned by ecological and developmental factors—to limit the extent of human strife resulting from disaster events in important direct and indirect ways. Conclusions also point to interrelationships among additional social, economic, political, and ecological conditions in determining the distribution of disaster harm and death, such as ecological losses, democracy, underdevelopment, and provisions for health resources. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Azad, Abul Kalam, Khondoker Mokaddem Hossain, and Mahbuba Nasreen. 2013. “Flood-Induced Vulnerabilities and Problems Encountered by Women in Northern Bangladesh.” *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science* 4 (4): 190–9.**

**Abstract:**

This study examines flood-induced vulnerabilities among women in northern Bangladesh. Poor and disadvantaged women are more vulnerable to disasters than men due to the conditions that predispose them to severe disaster impacts. Women suffer from physical injuries and are often evicted from their dwellings due to floods. Difficulties in finding adequate shelter, food, safe water, and fuel for cooking, as well as problems in maintaining personal hygiene and sanitation, prevent women from performing their usual roles at home. All of these are problems related to women’s gender identity and social roles. Many poor and destitute women remain unemployed during and after floods. Women also suffer

from domestic violence and are subject to harassment when taking shelter or refuge at community centers. These particular vulnerabilities and problems interrupt women's mitigation efforts and adaptation capacities in disaster risk reduction. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: Bangladesh; flood; flood-induced vulnerability; vulnerability of women*

**Bairagi, Radheshyam. 1986. "Food Crisis, Nutrition, and Female Children in Rural Bangladesh." *Population and Development Review* 12 (2): 307–15.**

**Abstract:**

This paper investigates sex differentials in the effects of the 1974-75 Bangladesh famine and socioeconomic status on the nutritional status of children. Data on approximately 1400 children aged 1-4 years were collected from 12 villages in Matlab thana, a rural area in Bangladesh. Anthropometric indexes--weight for-age, height-for-age, and weight-for-height--are used as measures of nutritional status. During the famine, the number of severely malnourished children increased by 68 percent or 100 percent depending on the criterion used to define severe malnutrition. Children of all socioeconomic status groups were adversely affected by the famine; however, female children and children of low socioeconomic status were more seriously affected. Sex differentials were more marked among high socioeconomic status groups, suggesting that a simple improvement in household resources is not likely to decrease male-female differences affecting nutritional status in this population. (*Abstract from ResearchGate*)

**Balgos, Benigno, J.C. Gaillard, and Kristinne Sanz. 2012. "The Waria of Indonesia in Disaster Risk Reduction: The Case of the 2010 Mt Merapi Eruption in Indonesia." *Gender & Development* 20 (2): 337–48.**

**Abstract:**

This field note draws upon the concepts of vulnerability, marginalisation, and capacity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people to face natural hazards. As a case study, this paper highlights the response of waria, members of the LGBT community in Indonesia, during the 2010 Mt Merapi eruption. Through key informant interviews and observation of actual relief operations led by waria in several evacuation sites in Yogyakarta and Central Java, the paper highlights that waria contributed to disaster risk reduction (DRR) even though they are marginalised and discriminated in the country because of prevailing religious and societal attitudes. The paper argues that their needs and capacities should be acknowledged in DRR policies and practice. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: LGBT; waria; disaster risk reduction; humanitarian action; capacity; vulnerability; Indonesia*

**Banford, Alyssa, David C. Ivey, Thulitha Wickrama, Judith Fischer, Anne Prouty, and Douglas Smith. 2016. "The Role of Natural Disaster in Individual and Relational**

**Adjustment in Sri Lankan Mothers Following the 2004 Tsunami.” *Disasters* 40 (1): 134–57.**

**Abstract:**

The purpose of this study is to examine the associations between maternal mental health distress symptoms, including depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, the extent to which the presence of a child’s disaster-related physical health problem(s) have interfered with daily functioning, and family cohesion over time among Sri Lankan mothers who survived the tsunami on 26 December 2004. Study variables were measured using a self-report questionnaire administered approximately four months after the event and three years later in summer 2008. Univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses were conducted. Path analysis was employed to assess the relationships between the key variables over time and the correlations in the study variables at each time point. Among other findings, the results of the path analysis indicated that post-traumatic stress symptom distress four months after the disaster significantly predicted variance in family cohesion three years later. Clinical and empirical research implications are presented and discussed. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: mental health; mothers; Sri Lanka; tsunami*

**Becker, Per. 2011. “Whose Risks? Gender and the Ranking of Hazards.” *Disaster Prevention & Management* 20 (4): 423–33.**

**Abstract:**

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to examine if gendered differences in risk perception automatically mean that women and men rank the hazards of their community differently, focusing any risk reduction measures on the priority risks of only part of the population. Design/methodology/approach – The study applies survey research through structured personal interviews in three municipalities in El Salvador. The data are analysed using SPSS to find statistically significant associations. Findings – It was found that there are no significant differences between the ranking of hazards of women and men in the studied communities. However, several other parameters have significant associations with the ranking of hazards, indicating that there are more dividing lines than gender that may influence priorities of risk reduction initiatives. Research limitations/implications – A quantitative study can only indicate how gender and other parameters influence the ranking of hazards. In order to understand why, it must be complemented with qualitative research. Practical implications – This study indicates that it is vital to communicate with and invite as wide a group of people as possible to participate in the risk reduction process. Not only women and men, but representatives with various livelihoods, income levels, level of education, locations of their dwellings, etc. If not, there is a danger that vital needs and opinions are left out and community commitments to risk reduction measures limited. Originality/value – The paper presents a new pragmatic argument for wider participation in disaster risk reduction to policy makers and practitioners in the field. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: El Salvador; community planning; risk perception; risk reduction; gender; perception; hazard ranking*

**Begum, Rasheda. 1993. "Women in Environmental Disasters: The 1991 Cyclone in Bangladesh." *Focus on Gender* 1 (1): 34–9.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“Although disaster is a general concern which affects both women and men, it is particularly a women's concern when the social rules which govern their movements limit their access to relief supplies and safety; and when their gender is used to obtain relief - food and other assistance - which is then not fairly distributed. In desperation people can become unruly and aggressive, and it is women who often lose in the battle.

“As a woman relief worker, I learned specific lessons from these experiences. First of all, the events surrounding this cyclone have shown that in environmental disasters women are made more vulnerable by their social status, both during and after the full impact of the event; and secondly, while it is necessary to have more women involved in relief work, discrimination can seriously impede their work” (Begum 1993, 34).

**Bhadra, Subhasis. 2017. "Women in Disasters and Conflicts in India: Interventions in View of the Millennium Development Goals." *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science* 8 (2): 196–207.**

**Abstract:**

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with their holistic perspective of development are focused on different issues of vulnerability. This article highlights the situation of women in disasters and the challenges in achieving the MDGs with special reference to India. It is accepted that there is no disaster without human engagement and that issues of differential impact on genders is an essential consideration for recovery. The international guidelines on disaster management and intervention have a considerable focus on gender equality, balance, mainstreaming, and sensitive programming, yet the situation is quite grim. India still lacks separate policy guidelines on gender aspects in disaster. In the twenty-first century, India has witnessed a series of disasters in different parts of the country. The author's personal experiences of working in intervention programs of these disasters showed that gender vulnerability depends on various factors like the intensity of the disaster impact, local sociocultural perspectives, effective disaster intervention strategies, the specific focus on issues of women in training of personnel, and gender-sensitive disaster intervention programs in the community. In the context of the MDGs, while development has become a priority concern to end age-old inequalities in society, the added challenge of disasters needs considerable focus on gender inequalities to achieve the goal of gender equity. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster intervention strategies; gender inequalities; gender vulnerability; India; Millennium Development Goals*

**Bradshaw, Sarah. 2010. "Reconstructing Roles and Relations: Women's Participation in Reconstruction in Post-Mitch Nicaragua." *Gender & Development* 9 (3): 79–87.**

**Abstract:**

Hurricane Mitch, which took place in October 1998, affected millions of people in Central America, in Honduras and Nicaragua in particular. In Nicaragua, following the hurricane, many civil society organisations mobilised to participate in reconstruction, and to present alternatives to the government's reconstruction plans. The newly-formed Civil Coordinator for Emergency and Reconstruction (CCER), a coalition of NGOs, undertook a large-scale social audit of the reconstruction process. This article presents the results of the audit alongside more in-depth research to provide a gendered analysis of the reconstruction. It focuses on the roles of women in reconstruction, their participation and leadership in reconstruction projects and in individual household responses, and questions whether reconstruction projects have had any impact on transforming gender relations in post-hurricane communities. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Quotes & Notes:**

"...the proportion of women in productive activities has in fact declined post-Mitch, both in absolute numbers and relative to men's employment in income-generating activities. What this means is that a larger proportion of households now rely on a single, male income earner. This typically decreases women's access to and control over household resources" (Bradshaw 2001, 81).

"While over half the women interviewed thought that women were participating most in reconstruction (compared with men) only a quarter stated that women were benefiting the most from reconstruction" (84).

"Women's participation in reconstruction generated conflict with male partners. This tendency highlights the need to pay attention to the possible negative indirect impacts of projects designed to 'empower' women" (86).

**Bradshaw, Sarah. 2013. *Gender, Development and Disasters*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing Limited.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

The need to 'disaster proof' development is increasingly recognised by development agencies, as is the need to engender both development and disaster response. This unique book explores what these processes mean for development and disasters in practice.

Sarah Bradshaw critically examines key notions, such as gender, vulnerability, risk, and humanitarianism, underpinning development and disaster discourse. Case studies are used to demonstrate how disasters are experienced individually and collectively as gendered

events. Through consideration of processes to engender development, it problematizes women's inclusion in disaster response and reconstruction. The study highlights that while women are now central to both disaster response and development, tackling gender inequality is not. By critically reflecting on gendered disaster response and the gendered impact of disasters on processes of development, it exposes some important lessons for future policy.

This timely book examines international development and disaster policy which will prove invaluable to gender and disaster academics, students and practitioners. (*Summary from Edward Elgar Publishing*)

**Bradshaw, Sarah. 2014. "Engendering Development and Disasters." *Disasters* 39 (S1): S54–S75.**

**Abstract:**

Over the last two decades the different impacts of disasters on women and men have been acknowledged, leading to calls to integrate gender into disaster risk reduction and response. This paper explores how evolving understandings of ways of integrating gender into development have influenced this process, critically analysing contemporary initiatives to 'engender' development that see the inclusion of women for both efficiency and equality gains. It has been argued that this has resulted in a 'feminisation of responsibility' that can reinforce rather than challenge gender relations. The construction of women affected by disasters as both an at-risk group and as a means to reduce risk suggests similar processes of feminisation. The paper argues that if disaster risk reduction initiatives are to reduce women's vulnerability, they need to focus explicitly on the root causes of this vulnerability and design programmes that specifically focus on reducing gender inequalities by challenging unequal gendered power relations. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disasters; feminisation of responsibility; gender; men; poverty; women; vulnerability*

**Bradshaw, Sarah. 2015. "Gendered Rights in the Post-2015 Development and Disasters Agendas." *IDS Bulletin* 46 (4): 59–65.**

**Abstract:**

This article explores how, 20 years after the Beijing conference, women's rights are being discussed within processes to develop a post-2015 sustainable development agenda and the parallel international disaster risk reduction framework. It is based on analysis of documents produced to date from the various processes, and also personal experience of seeking to influence both the post-2015 development and disaster agendas. It highlights how attempts to marry the environmental and development agendas reveal a continued problematic conceptualisation of sexual and reproductive rights. It suggests that in gender terms, while the post-2015 development agenda and the related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are over-ambitious to the point of being mere rhetoric, gender rhetoric is yet

to enter the international disaster risk reduction discourse. This, the article argues, coupled with the continued conceptualisation of disasters as outside mainstream development, has further negative implications for the recognition and fulfilment of women's rights.

*(Abstract from original source)*

**Bradshaw, Sarah, and Maureen Fordham. 2015. "Double Disaster: Disaster through a Gender Lens." In *Hazards, Risks and Disasters in Society*, edited by John F. Shroder, Andrew E. Collins, Samantha Jones, Bernard Manyena, and Janaka Jayawickrama, 233-51. Amsterdam: Elsevier.**

**Abstract:**

This chapter explores the impact of disasters on women and girls, with particular reference to the context of the developing world. It critically explores the conceptual and theoretical basis for assuming that a differential impact exists. It highlights that disasters are gendered events and women and girls experience them differently from men, suffering longer term and more intangible impacts such as a rise in violence or greater insecurity in employment. Given women and girls are impacted more and differently than men and boys, it might be expected gender issues would be a key policy concern, yet the chapter highlights that gender is still excluded from much policy on disaster risk reduction. Drawing on the lessons learned from processes to "engender development," it suggests that, although exclusion remains an issue, how women are included in disaster risk reduction and response can also raise concerns. It concludes by highlighting that tackling gendered risk demands both a reconceptualization of "disaster" and for disasters to become a development issue. *(Abstract from Elsevier)*

*Keywords: adolescent girls; disaster risk reduction; engendering; gender; women*

**Charan, Dhrishna, Manpreet Kaur, and Priyatma Singh. 2016. "Indigenous Fijian Women's Role in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation." *Pacific Asia Inquiry* 7 (1): 106-22.**

**Abstract:**

Climate change is progressively being identified as a global challenge and this has immediate repercussions for Fiji Islands due to its geographical location being prone to natural hazards. The intensity and frequency of natural hazards are projected to increase in the future. In light of such projections, climate change adaptation and disaster risk management should form integral structures in any response plans to reduce the vulnerability and increase the resilience to these potentially adverse impacts of climate changes. In the Pacific, it is common to find significant differences between men and women, in terms of their roles and responsibilities. In the pursuit of prudent preparedness before disasters, Fijian women's engagement is constrained due to socially constructed roles and expectation of women in Fiji. The focus of this study is to outline ways in which indigenous Fijian women can be actively engaged in disaster risk management, articulating in decision-making and empowering them to overcome the existent barriers that limit their capacity to effectively adapt to a changing climate. The study aims at highlighting social

constraints that limit women's access to practical disaster management strategic plan. This paper outlines the importance of gender mainstreaming in disaster risk reduction and the ways of mainstreaming gender based on a literature review. It analyses theoretical study of academic literature as well as papers and reports produced by various national and international institutions and explores ways to better inform and engage women for climate change per ser disaster management in Fiji. (*Abstract from original source*)  
*Keywords: climate change; disaster risk management; women empowerment; social constraints; gender mainstreaming*

**Cupples, Julie. 2007. "Gender and Hurricane Mitch: Reconstructing Subjectivities after Disaster." *Disasters* 31 (2): 155–75.**

**Abstract:**

Much of the gender and disaster literature calls for more gender-sensitive disaster relief and research by focusing on the ways in which women are more vulnerable in a disaster or on their unique capabilities as community leaders or natural resource managers, which are often overlooked or underutilised in emergency management strategies. As well as seeking to overcome the (strategic) essentialism that is part of these calls and debates, this paper pays closer attention to gender identity and subjectivity as these are constructed and reworked through the disaster process to highlight the complexities and contradictions associated with women's responses to a disaster. This focus, while crucial to gaining a deeper understanding of the gendered dimensions of disaster, also complicates attempts to create more gender-sensitive frameworks for disaster response. It draws on qualitative research conducted with a number of women in the wake of Hurricane Mitch (1998) in Nicaragua. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: development; disaster; gender; Hurricane Mitch; Nicaragua; subjectivity*

**Quotes & Notes:**

“In part, the ability to recover and rebuild from a major disaster depends on pre-disaster levels of community solidarity as well as more access to key resources such as aid and sources of income” (Cupples 2007, 164).

“Women move in and out of states of resistance and accommodation, of vulnerability and strength, and of self-sacrifice and self-assertion. This dynamism occurs because there are a number of identities active at a given time and the boundaries between them are very fluid” (169).

“Hurricane Mitch was a disaster that brought much suffering, but because in a Catholic culture images of suffering mothers evoke strength as well as weakness, the disaster allowed some women to re-imagine certain aspects of self in affirmative ways” (169).

**David, Emmanuel, and Elaine Enarson, eds. 2012. *The Women of Katrina: How Gender, Race, and Class Matter in an American Disaster*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.**



*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

The transformative event known as "Katrina" exposed long-standing social inequalities. While debates rage about race and class relations in New Orleans and the Katrina diaspora, gender remains curiously absent from public discourse and scholarly analysis. This volume draws on original research and firsthand narratives from women in diverse economic, political, ethnic, and geographic contexts to portray pre-Katrina vulnerabilities, gender concerns in post-disaster housing and assistance, and women's collective struggles to recover from this catastrophe. (*Summary from Vanderbilt University Press*)

**de Silva, Kushani, and Ramanie Jayathilaka. 2014. "Gender in the Context of Disaster Risk Reduction; A Case Study of a Flood Risk Reduction Project in the Gampaha District in Sri Lanka." *Procedia Economics and Finance* 18 (January): 873–81.**

**Abstract:**

During the last four decades floods have been the main disaster that affected the highest number of families in Sri Lanka. At present, flood risk reduction is seriously taken into consideration by relevant authorities taking mitigation actions to save lives and properties. Literature on gender and disasters shows the importance of gender in disaster mitigation to bring better results. Thus the present study is an attempt to understand the importance of gender dimension in a flood disaster risk reduction project implemented in Sri Lanka. The study was conducted in two Grama Niladari divisions Pamunuwila and Galedanda in the Gampaha district where the project "cleaning Natha Ela" was implemented during in to address the issue related to floods in the area. The overall objective of the research was to understand, whether gender has been adequately addressed in the project management cycle of the flood risk reduction project and its consequences.

The study revealed that women were more vulnerable to the flood disaster compared to men, due to differences in employment status, income, gendered social roles, social norms and restrictions governing behaviour. Even though the communities experienced a significant reduction of flood damages after the project implementation, the impact on the community could have been much greater if the project had considered the gender aspects related to floods.

The study thus reinforces the argument that gender planning is vital for any development activity. In the case of cleaning the Natha ela project, gender was neutral from the planning stage to the implementation stage. The low representation of the women in the decision making process also contributed to the lack of gender sensitivity in the project. Thus the study clearly revealed that although disasters affect both men and women, the impact could be different and therefore mitigation efforts need to address such differences to make both men and women resilient to flood disaster. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: gender; floods; disaster resilience*

**Dhungel, Rajesh, and Ram Nath Ojha. 2012. "Women's Empowerment for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response in Nepal." *Gender & Development* 20 (2): 309–21.**

**Abstract:**

It is generally accepted that women overall are more vulnerable to disaster risk and have specific needs during a crisis. But in Nepal, social taboos and norms restrict women's freedom to express their needs to humanitarian workers in times of crisis, as these are normally strangers to the community deputed by humanitarian agencies or state agencies. These norms are deep-rooted in Nepal and other South Asian countries, and they increase the vulnerability of women to disaster risks, be they natural or man-made. In this context, starting in 2008, the Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian programme (DRR-HP) in Nepal has introduced Women's Empowerment as a key component of community-based disaster risk reduction interventions in different DRR-HP projects. Altogether, 42 Women's Empowerment Centres (WECs), each with 30 women participants, have been supported to lead DRR and emergency response work in their local communities. The WECs have become a successful way of reducing socio-economic and physical vulnerability in the community, as well as an important means of strengthening women's empowerment and leadership. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: Women's Empowerment Centre (WEC); disaster risk reduction (DRR); vulnerability; Nepal*

**Drolet, Julie, Lena Dominelli, Margaret Alston, Robin Ersing, Golam Mathbor, and Haorui Wu. 2015. "Women Rebuilding Lives Post-Disaster: Innovative Community Practices for Building Resilience and Promoting Sustainable Development." *Gender & Development* 23 (3): 433–48.**

**Abstract:**

Disasters result in devastating human, economic, and environmental effects. The paper highlights women's active participation in community-based disaster recovery efforts drawing from the results of the 'Rebuilding Lives Post-disaster: Innovative Community Practices for Sustainable Development' by an international research partnership. Two case studies are presented from Pakistan and the USA to demonstrate how women contribute to building resilience and promoting sustainable development in diverse post-disaster contexts. The policy and practice implications are relevant for discussions regarding the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and framework. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: resilience; disasters; recovery; gender; partnership*

**Duramy, Bendetta Faedi. 2014. "Women in the Aftermath of the Earthquake." In *Gender and Violence in Haiti: Women's Path from Victims to Agents*, 137–52. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“This last chapter examines women’s and girls’ struggles in the after-math of the Haitian earthquake. In particular, it focuses on the grievous conditions in the displacement camps, conditions that foster the gender-based violence and abuse that is often perpetrated by members of armed groups or prison escapees. Indeed, the lack of lighting, private sanitary facilities, secure shelters, and police patrolling in the encampment areas endanger women’s and girls’ safety. The devastation and traumatic loss of family and community members following the earthquake further affect women’s resilience and increase their vulnerability to abuse and sexual violence. By examining the conditions and risks faced by women and girls in the displacement camps, this chapter suggests preventive measures and effective responses that international law and humanitarian aid programs should adopt to protect Haitian women and girls from gender-based violence in order to prevent them from engaging in further retaliatory practices” (Duramy 2014, 138).

**Eklund, Lisa, and Siri Tellier. 2012. “Gender and International Crisis Response: Do We Have the Data, and Does It Matter?” *Disasters* 36 (4): 589–608.**

**Abstract:**

For more than a decade the humanitarian community has been mandated to mainstream gender in its response to crises. One element of this mandate is a repeated call for sex-disaggregated data to help guide the response. This study examines available analyses, assessments and academic literature to gain insights into whether sex-disaggregated data are generated, accessible and utilised, and appraised what can be learned from existing data. It finds that there is a gap between policy and practice. Evaluations of humanitarian responses rarely refer to data by sex, and there seems to be little accountability to do so. Yet existing data yield important information, pointing at practical, locally-specific measures to reduce the vulnerability of both males and females. This complements population-level studies noting the tendency for higher female mortality. The study discusses some possible obstacles for the generation of data and hopes to spur debate on how to overcome them. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: crisis; disaster; evaluation; gender; gender mainstreaming; humanitarian response; sex-disaggregated data*

**Enarson, Elaine. 1998. “Through Women’s Eyes: A Gendered Research Agenda for Disaster Social Science.” *Disasters* 22 (2): 157–73.**

**Abstract:**

Gender is a central organising principle in social life and hence in disaster-affected communities, yet gender issues are rarely examined by disaster scholars or practitioners. Building on findings from emerging and industrial nations, three key research directions are identified: How is gendered vulnerability to disaster constructed? How do gender relations shape the practice of disaster planning and response in households and organisations? How are gender relations affected over time by the social experience of

disaster? The discussion suggests how analysis of the gendered terrain of disaster both develops disaster theory and fosters more equitable and effective disaster practice.

*(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: gender; gender and disaster research; disaster vulnerability; disaster theory*

**Enarson, Elaine. 2000a. “Gender and Natural Disasters.” Working Paper 1. Infocus Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction. Geneva: International Labour Organization.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“This report augments the gender perspective of the ILO’s InFocus Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction by focusing on the case of natural disasters. Based on disaster social science, agency reports, and field worker accounts, it identifies the complex ways gender relations shape human experiences before, during, and after natural disasters.

“Written for a general audience, the report has four main topics: the social construction of vulnerability to “natural” disasters, particularly on the basis of gender relations; the specific impacts of disasters on women’s paid and unpaid work; six core action issues arising from these patterns; and policy and research implications for using knowledge about gender, work and employment in natural disasters.

“Three broad conclusions emerge: First, that both women and men have specific short-term needs and long-term interests in disasters; second, that women are key economic actors throughout the disaster cycle of preparedness, mitigation, relief, and reconstruction; and third, that women’s economic vulnerability to future disasters is increased by lack of attention to gender equity in disaster interventions” (Enarson 2000a, vii).

**Enarson, Elaine. 2000b. “‘We Will Make Meaning Out of This’: Women’s Cultural Responses to the Red River Valley Flood.” *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 18 (1): 39–62.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Recent work on gender relations in disasters focuses largely on women’s material experiences and vulnerabilities. This paper draws on cultural studies theory to interrogate gender symbolically in the context of a major U.S. flood. Based on analysis of cultural artifacts and “texts” as well as interviews conducted for a larger study of women’s work in the 1997 Red River Valley flood, the author argues that women particularly employ grassroots popular culture to interpret disastrous events. A close reading of two flood quilts illustrates how interpersonal networks and traditional quilting skills helped women express gender-specific experiences and feelings, and convey an otherwise neglected ecofeminist

critique of disaster vulnerability. The author concludes that women's cultural responses to disasters afford a neglected angle of vision on human responses to catastrophe. (*Summary from original source*)

**Enarson, Elaine. 2006. *Women Confronting Natural Disaster: From Vulnerability to Resilience*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Natural disasters push ordinary gender disparities to the extreme—leaving women not only to deal with a catastrophe's aftermath, but also at risk for greater levels of domestic violence, displacement, and other threats to their security and well-being. Elaine Enarson presents a comprehensive assessment, encompassing both theory and practice, of how gender shapes disaster vulnerability and resilience. (*Summary from Lynne Rienner Publishers*)

**Enarson, Elaine. 2013. "Two Solitudes, Many Bridges, Big Tent: Women's Leadership in Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction." In *Research, Action and Policy: Addressing the Gendered Impacts of Climate Change*, edited by Margaret Alston and Kerri Whittenbury. Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands.**

**Abstract:**

Despite commonalities in the theoretical, policy, and practical domains of climate and disaster work, unnecessary divisions persist. The chapter posits that gender analysis, too, overlooks important synergies and replicates the unhelpful 'two solitudes' approach. The discussion then turns to identifying positive models and concrete steps for bridging these gaps. Given the integral relationship on the ground between gender, climate and disaster, a 'big tent' approach is urged to reflect the concerns, resources, and expertise of gender, climate, and disaster actors equally. Neither disaster risk reduction nor climate adaptation is women's work alone, but the historic organizing of women for social justice positions them as leaders toward community resilience. (*Abstract from Springer*)

*Keywords: disaster; gender relations; climate change; environmental challenges; women's leadership*

**Enarson, Elaine. 2014. "Human Security and Disasters: What a Gender Lens Offers." In *Human Security and Natural Disasters*, edited by Christopher Hobson, Paul Bacon, and Robin Cameron. London: Routledge.**

**Abstract:**

This chapter explains the need for gender analysis in the ostensibly gender-neutral domains of human security, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation, emphasizing that gender is more than a cross-cutting concern and introducing the main outlines of the

subfield of gender and disaster. Human security discourse is surprisingly silent on some of the most critical human rights challenges of disasters while highlighting specific threats. Gender is a fundamental social organizing principle in all societies with implications throughout the disaster cycle and across all dimensions of human security. Nontraditional skills training for women postdisaster and such reforms as jointly titling post-disaster housing in both partners' names are further examples of how post-disaster recovery work can enhance human security by advancing gender equality. Gender-sensitive thinking about human security potentially strengthens civil society as it suggests the need for increased capacity in women's organizations, self-help groups, and networks, and highlights gender-focused work to enhance security in both the private and public sectors. *(Abstract from Taylor & Francis)*

**Enarson, Elaine, and P.G. Dhar Chakrabarti, eds. 2009. *Women, Gender and Disaster: Global Issues and Initiatives*. New Delhi: Sage Publications India.**

No abstract available:

**Summary:**

*Women, Gender and Disaster: Global Issues and Initiatives* examines gender within the context of disaster risk management. It argues for gender mainstreaming as an effective strategy towards achieving disaster risk reduction and mitigating post-disaster gender disparity. Highlighting that gender inequalities pervade all aspects of life, it analyses the failure to implement inclusive and gender-sensitive approaches to relief and rehabilitation work. While examining positive strategies for change, the collection focuses on women's knowledge, capabilities, leadership and experience in community resource management. The authors emphasize that these strengths in women, which are required for building resilience to hazards and disasters, are frequently overlooked. This timely book will be extremely useful to policy makers and professionals active in the field of disaster management and to academics and students. *(Summary from Sage Publications India)*

**Table of Contents:**

1. Sex, Gender and Gender Relations in Disasters – Madhavi Malalgoda Ariyabandu
2. A Gender Perspective on Disaster Risk Reduction – Helena Molin Valdés
3. Let's Share the Stage: Involving Men in Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction – Prafulla Mishra
4. Organising for Risk Reduction: The Honolulu Call to Action – Cheryl L. Anderson
5. Reducing Disaster Risk through Community Resilience in the Himalayas – Manjari Mehta
6. Gender Perspectives on Disaster Reconstruction in Nicaragua: Reconstructing Roles and Relations? – Sarah Bradshaw and Brian Linneker
7. Environmental Management and Disaster Mitigation: Middle Eastern Gender Perspective – Samia Galal Saad
8. 'Everything Became a Struggle, Absolute Struggle': Post-Flood Increases in Domestic Violence in New Zealand – Rosalind Houghton

9. Parenting in the Wake of Disaster: Mothers and Fathers Respond to Hurricane Katrina – Lori Peek and Alice Fothergill
10. Women in the Great Hanshin Earthquake – Reiko Masai, Lisa Kuzunishi and Tamiyo Kondo
11. Victims of Earthquake and Patriarchy: The 2005 Pakistan Earthquake – Azra Talat Sayeed
12. ‘A Part of Me Had Left’: Learning from Women Farmers in Canada about Disaster Stress – Simone Reinsch
13. Supporting Women and Men on the Front Lines of Biological Disaster – Tracey L. O’Sullivan and Carol A. Amaratunga
14. ‘We Can Make Things Better for Each Other’: Women and Girls Organise to Reduce Disasters in Central America – Maureen Fordham
15. Women’s Participation in Disaster Relief and Recovery – Ayse Yonder, Sengül Akçar and Prema Goplan
16. Work-Focused Responses to Disasters: India’s Self Employed Women’s Association – Francie Lund and Tony Vaux
17. A Climate for Change: Humanitarian Disaster and the Movement for the Commons in Kenya – Leigh Brownhill
18. Sri Lankan Women’s Organisations Responding to Post-Tsunami Violence – Sarah Fisher
19. ‘A We Run Tings’: Women Rebuilding Montserrat – Judith Soares and Audrey Y. Mullings
20. Women Responding to Drought in Brazil – Adélia de Melo Branco
21. Balancing Gender Vulnerabilities and Capacities in the Framework of Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management: The Case of Mexico – Cecilia Castro García and Luisa Emilia Reyes Zúñiga
22. Towards Gender Equality in Climate Change Policy: Challenges and Perspectives for the Future – Ulrike Röhr, Minu Hemmati and Yianni Lambrou
23. Engendering Tsunami Recovery in Sri Lanka: The Role of UNIFEM and its Partners – Chandni Joshi and Mihir R. Bhatt
24. Gendering Disaster Risk Reduction: 57 Steps from Words to Action – Elaine Enarson
25. Toolkit for Mainstreaming Gender in Emergency Response – P.G. Dhar Chakrabarti and Ajinder Walia

**Enarson, Elaine, Alice Fothergill, and Lori Peek. 2007. “Gender and Disaster: Foundations and Directions.” In *Handbook of Disaster Research*, edited by Havidan Rodriguez, Enrico Quarantelli, and Russell Dynes. New York: Springer-Verlag.**

**Abstract:**

Gendered disaster social science rests on the social fact of gender as a primary organizing principle of societies and the conviction that gender must be addressed if we are to claim knowledge about all people living in risky environments. Theoretically, researchers in the area are moving toward a more nuanced, international, and comparative approach that examines gender relations in the context of other categories of social difference and power such as race, ethnicity, nationality, and social class. At a practical level, researchers seek to

bring to the art and science of disaster risk reduction a richer appreciation of inequalities and differences based on sex and gender. As the world learns from each fresh tragedy, gender relations are part of the human experience of disasters and may under some conditions lead to the denial of the fundamental human rights of women and girls in crisis.

*(Abstract from Spring)*

*Keywords: disaster risk; social vulnerability; disaster risk reduction; gender relation; poor woman*

**Enarson, Elaine and Lourdes Meyreles. 2004. "International Perspectives on Gender and Disaster: Differences and Possibilities." *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* 24 (10/11): 49–93.**

**Abstract:**

This article provides an introduction and assessment of the English and Spanish literatures on gender relations in disaster contexts. We analyze regional patterns of differences and similarities in women's disaster experiences and the differing research questions raised by these patterns in the scholarly and practice-based literature. The analysis supports the claim that how gender is theorized makes a difference in public policy and practical approaches to disaster risk management. We propose new directions in the field of disaster social science and contribute a current bibliography in the emerging gender and disaster field. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: gender; gender analysis; vulnerabilities and capacities; disaster social science*

**Enarson, Elaine, and Betty Morrow, eds. 1998. *The Gendered Terrain of Disaster: Through Women's Eyes*. Westport, CT: Praeger.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Using specific disaster experiences from around the world, this text argues for a gendered perspective in policy, practice and research. It contains case studies which document the root causes of women's vulnerability to disaster and the central roles they play before, during and after disaster. *(Summary from WorldCat)*

**Table of Contents:**

- Gender? Why Women?: An Introduction to Women and Disaster – Elaine Enarson and Betty Hearn Morrow
1. Perspectives on Gender and Disaster The Neglect of Gender in Disaster Work: An Overview of the Literature – Alice Fothergill
  2. Gender Inequality, Vulnerability, and Disaster: Issues in Theory and Research – Robert Bolin, Martina Jackson, and Allison Crist
  3. The Perspective of Gender: A Missing Element in Disaster Response – Joe Scanlon
  4. Social Construction of Gendered Vulnerability Eve and Adam among the Embers: Gender Pattern after the Oakland Berkeley Firestorm – Susanna M. Hoffman



5. A Comparative Perspective on Household, Gender, and Kinship in Relation to Disaster – Raymond Wiest
6. "Men Must Work and Women Must Weep": Examining Gender Stereotypes in Disasters – Maureen Fordham and Anne-Michelle Ketteridge
7. Women and Post-Disaster Stress by Jane C. Ollenburger and Graham A. Tobin  
Balancing Vulnerability and Capacity: Women and Children during Philippine Disasters – Zenaida G. Delica
8. Domestic Violence after Disaster – Jennifer Wilson, Brenda D. Phillips, and David M. Neal
9. Case Studies of Women Responding to Disaster Gender, Disaster, and Empowerment: A Case Study from Pakistan – Farzana Bari
10. Women in Bushfire Country – Helen Cox
11. "Floods, They're a Damned Nuisance": Women's Flood Experiences in Rural Australia – C. Christine Finlay
12. Disaster Prone: Reflections of a Female Permanent Disaster Volunteer – Carrie Barnecut
13. Women's Disaster Vulnerability and Response to the Colima Earthquake – Carolina Serrat Vinas
14. Gender Differentiation and Aftershock Warning Response – Paul W. O'Brien and Patricia Atchison
15. Reflections from a Teacher and Survivor – Diane Gail Colina
16. Women Will Rebuild Miami: A Case Study of Feminist Response to Disaster – Elaine Enarson and Betty Hearn Morrow
17. Women in Emergency Management: An Australian Perspective – Doone Robertson
18. Women's Roles in Natural Disaster Preparation and Aid: A Central American View – Letizia Toscani
19. The Role of Women in Health-Related Aspects of Emergency Management: A Caribbean Perspective – Gloria E. Noel
20. Conclusion: New Directions Toward a Gendered Disaster Science--Policy, Practice, and Research – Elaine Enarson and Betty Hearn Morrow

**Enarson, Elaine, and Bob Pease, eds. 2016. *Men, Masculinities and Disaster*. Abingdon: Routledge.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

With a foreword from Kenneth Hewitt, an afterword from Raewyn Connell and contributions from renowned international experts, this book helps address the gap. It explores disasters in diverse environmental, hazard, political and cultural contexts through original research and theoretical reflection, building on the under-utilized orientation of critical men's studies. This body of thought, not previously applied in disaster contexts, explores how men gain, maintain and use power to assert control over women. Contributing authors examine the gender terrain of disasters 'through men's eyes,' considering how diverse forms of masculinities shape men's efforts to respond to and

recover from disasters and other climate challenges. The book highlights both the high costs paid by many men in disasters and the consequences of dominant masculinity practices for women and marginalized men. It concludes by examining how disaster risk can be reduced through men's diverse efforts to challenge hierarchies around gender, sexuality, disability, age and culture. (*Summary from Routledge*)

**Table of Contents:**

1. The Gendered Terrain of Disaster: Thinking About Men and Masculinities – Elaine Enarson and Bob Pease
2. Masculinism, Climate Change and ‘Man-Made’ Disasters: Towards an Environmental Profeminist Response – Bob Pease
3. Men and Masculinities in the Social Movement for a Just Reconstruction After Hurricane Katrina – Rachel E. Luft
4. Hyper-Masculinity and Disaster: The Reconstruction of Hegemonic Masculinity in the Wake of Calamity – Duke W. Austin
5. Re-Reading Gender and Patriarchy Through a ‘Lens of Masculinity:’ The ‘Known’ Story and New Narratives From Post-Mitch Nicaragua – Sarah Bradshaw
6. Men, Masculinities and Wildfire: Embodied Resistance and Rupture – Christine Eriksen and Gordon Waitt
7. Emotional and Personal Costs for Men of the Black Saturdays Bushfires in Victoria, Australia – Debra Parkinson and Claire Zara
8. The Tsunami’s Wake: Mourning and Masculinity in Eastern Sri Lanka – Malathi de Alwis
9. Japanese Families Decoupling Following the Fukushima Nuclear Plant Disaster: Men’s Choice between Economic Stability and Radiation Exposure – Rika Morioka
10. Disabled Masculinities and Disasters – Mark Sherry
11. Masculinity, Sexuality and Disaster: Unpacking Gendered LGBT Experiences in the 2011 Brisbane Floods, Queensland, Australia – Andrew Gorman-Murray, Scott McKinnon and Dale Dominey-Howes
12. Indigenous Masculinities in a Changing Climate: Vulnerability and Resilience in the United States – Kirsten Vinyeta, Kyle Powys Whyte, and Kathy Lynn
13. Youth Creating Disaster Recovery and Resilience in Canada and the United States: Dimensions of the Male Youth Experience – Jennifer Tobin-Gurley, Robin Cox, Lori Peek, Kylie Pybus, Dmitriy Maslenitsyn and Cheryl Heykoop
14. Firefighters, Technology and Masculinity in the Micro-management of Disasters: Swedish Examples – Mathias Ericson and Ulf Mellström
15. Resisting and Accommodating the Masculinist Gender Regime in Firefighting: An Insider View from the United Kingdom – Dave Baigent
16. Using a Gendered Lens to Reduce Disaster and Climate Risk in Southern Africa: The Potential Leadership of Men’s Organizations – Kylah Genade
17. Training Pacific Male Managers for Gender Equality in Disaster Response and Management – Stephen Fisher
18. Integrating Men and Masculinities in Caribbean Disaster Risk Management – Leith Dunn
19. Men, Masculinities and Disaster: An Action Research Agenda – Elaine Enarson
20. Afterword – Raewyn Connell

**Enarson, Elaine, and Jennifer Tobin-Gurley. 2013. "Gender." In *Social Vulnerability to Disasters*, edited by Deborah S.K. Thomas, Brenda D. Phillips, William E. Lovekamp, and Alice Fothergill. Boca Raton: CRC Press.**

*No abstract available.*

**Faas, A. J., Eric Jones, Linda Whiteford, Graham Tobin, and Arthur Murphy. 2014. "Gendered Access to Formal and Informal Resources in Postdisaster Development in the Ecuadorian Andes." *Mountain Research and Development* 34 (3): 223–34.**

**Abstract:**

The devastating eruptions of Mount Tungurahua in the Ecuadorian highlands in 1999 and 2006 left many communities struggling to rebuild their homes and others permanently displaced to settlements built by state and nongovernmental organizations. For several years afterward, households diversified their economic strategies to compensate for losses, communities organized to promote local development, and the state and nongovernmental organizations sponsored many economic recovery programs in the affected communities. Our study examined the ways in which gender and gender roles were associated with different levels and paths of access to scarce resources in these communities. Specifically, this article contrasts the experiences of men and women in accessing household necessities and project assistance through formal institutions and informal networks. We found that women and men used different types of informal social support networks, with men receiving significantly more material, emotional, and informational support than women. We also found that men and women experienced different challenges and advantages when pursuing support through local and extralocal institutions and that these institutions often coordinated in ways that reified their biases. We present a methodology that is replicable in a wide variety of disaster, resettlement, and development settings, and we advocate an inductive, evidence-based approach to policy, built upon an understanding of local gender, class, and ethnic dynamics affecting access to formal and informal resources. This evidence should be used to build more robust local institutions that can resist wider social and cultural pressures for male dominance and gendered exclusion. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster; resettlement; gender; social support; reciprocity; Andes*

**Fisher, Sarah. 2010. "Violence Against Women and Natural Disasters: Findings from Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka." *Violence Against Women* 16 (8): 902–18.**

**Abstract:**

This article presents a qualitative study of violence against women in post-tsunami Sri Lanka. It examines the types of violence occurring throughout the disaster's emergency and later phases, and whether overall levels of violence increased. Explanatory factors and responses by different humanitarian actors are analyzed and recommendations made for

future disaster management. It is argued that violence against women during natural disasters must be understood within the context of the violence against women that prevails in societies at “normal” times, which is exacerbated by disaster. Response therefore necessitates addressing both the social inequalities underlying women’s vulnerability to violence and specific factors that “trigger” violence during disaster. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: disaster management; domestic violence; gender; natural disaster; rape*

**Quotes & Notes:**

“Interviewees were able to recount specific, and sometimes numerous, incidents of domestic violence in temporary shelters. Husbands blaming their partners for failing to save their children from the waves was a common context for abuse. Male violence was used as a means of control and dominance during arguments over financial matters” (Fisher 2010, 908).

“Soon after the tsunami there was an increase in marriages of young women and girls. Men quickly sought to replace lost wives, sometimes marrying girls as young as 13. This situation was worsened by how a greater number of women died due to the tsunami than men” (909).

“Gender-blind programs and policies of governmental and nongovernmental agencies heightened women’s vulnerability to violence. An example of this was the government’s tsunami compensation scheme, which paid cash relief to the male head of household. Women’s economic marginalization and dependence on men worsened, increasing their vulnerability to violence” (910).

**Fordham, Maureen H. 1998. “Making Women Visible in Disasters: Problematizing the Private Domain.” *Disasters* 22 (2): 126–43.**

**Abstract:**

Gender awareness and sensitivity in disaster research and management remains uncommon and tends to focus on the developing rather than the developed world. This paper uses a feminist oral geography to present some findings about women's experiences in two floods in Scotland. It is conceptualised around public and private (masculinised and feminised) space, problematising the private domain and presenting it, in the feminist research tradition, as a legitimate object of research. It shows the ordinary and everyday to be more opaque and complex than usually imagined and makes recommendations for their recognition and incorporation into disaster management. While there is a specific focus on the private domain of the home, this is not intended to reinforce gender stereotypes but simply to recognise the reality of many of the women interviewed. It concludes that disaster research generally has yet to advance much beyond the earliest stages of feminist studies which merely sought to make women visible in society. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: gender awareness; vulnerability; floods; Scotland*

**Fordham, Maureen. 1999. "The Intersection of Gender and Social Class in Disaster: Balancing Resilience and Vulnerability." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 17 (1): 15–36.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Those who experience disaster are widely regarded as an undifferentiated group, labeled "victims." In the immediate crisis period, it is difficult for professionals to differentiate, except crudely, between varying levels of need and still carry out urgent duties and responsibilities. However, it soon becomes apparent that some are hit harder than others and that disasters are not the great levelers they are sometimes considered to be. Close examination reveals complex variations within, and not just between, social groups broadly understood as middle- and working- class. This paper examines the intersection of gender and social class in two major flood events and argues for a more nuanced appreciation of these factors, at both the conceptual and the practical level, to be incorporated throughout the disaster process. *(Summary from original source)*

**Fordham, Maureen. 2003. "Gender, Disaster and Development: The Necessity for Integration." In *Natural Disaster and Development in a Globalizing World*, edited by Mark Pelling. London: Routledge.**

No abstract available.

**Summary:**

Gender, disaster and development have traditionally been treated as separate categories within academic disciplines and in terms of professional practice. Workers and researchers only rarely transfer knowledge between them and yet each group could contribute much to the others. However, it is increasingly being recognized that these elements must be brought together to improve understanding and practical action. When disasters occur, they bring with them a convergence of external help focused on providing immediate relief and quickly returning the community to 'normality'. In doing so, they can overturn long-term development programmes; the 'tyranny of the urgent' (BRIDGE 1996) can drive out gender and other fundamental social issues, or relegate them to a lower priority. Similarly, many development programmes are planned and undertaken without ensuring they do not exacerbate hazardous conditions or make people (and particularly women) more vulnerable to disasters. *(Summary from Taylor & Francis)*

**Fordham, Maureen. 2011. "Gender and Disasters." In *Encyclopedia of Environmental Health*, edited by J. O. Nriagu, 834–38. Burlington: Elsevier.**

**Abstract:**

The gendered dimensions of disasters remain underreported and poorly managed. A growing body of evidence demonstrates that women and men (girls and boys) experience disasters and their aftermath in different ways. The differences arise, on the one hand, from women's frequent subordinate status, and on the other, from the socialization of boys and men to take risks and assume dominance, in societies around the world. This can lead to increased female workloads at one end of the scale, to gender-based violence (GBV) and excess female deaths at the extreme end. For men and boys it can create situations where their emotional needs are not met and they adopt negative coping behaviors. Key areas of environmental health including shelter/housing and livelihoods; water, sanitation, and waste management; general environmental health; and food safety and nutrition can be seen to have gender aspects in disaster contexts and require attention on both service delivery efficiency and equity grounds. (*Abstract from Science Direct*)  
*Keywords: gender-based violence (GBV); gender disaggregated data; gender mainstreaming; rights-based transformative approach; vulnerability approach; women (and child) friendly space*

**Fordham, Maureen. 2012. "Gender, Sexuality and Disaster." In *The Routledge Handbook of Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction*, edited by Ben Wisner, J. C. Gaillard, and Ilan Kelman. Oxon: Routledge.**

**Abstract:**

In the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake, The Independent newspaper reported occurrences of the rape and sexual abuse of women and girls (Nguyen 2010). This is the most recent evidence at the time of writing that cases of gender-based violence are frequent and still at an unacceptably high level in disasters. This raises questions about why women, as compared with men, continue to be disadvantaged, abused or made vulnerable in disasters, and highlights the importance of recognising gender as of vital consideration in disaster management and in instigating measures for disaster risk reduction (DRR). (*Abstract from Routledge*)

**Fothergill, Alice. 1996. "Gender, Risk, and Disaster." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 14 (1): 33–56.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Focusing on gender differences, this article synthesizes the literature on gender, risk, and disasters, and presents a comprehensive view of what is known in this area. Data are limited, yet, by using a nine-stage typology to delineate disaster preparedness, impact, and recovery, noteworthy findings are documented and discussed. The literature reveals a pattern of gender differentiation throughout the disaster process. The differences are largely attributed to childcare responsibilities, poverty, social networks, traditional roles, discrimination, and other issues of gender stratification. The emergent patterns have

important implications and recommendations for future directions are offered. (*Summary from original source*)

**Gaillard, J. C., Andrew Gorman-Murray, and Maureen Fordham. 2017. “Sexual and Gender Minorities in Disaster.” *Gender, Place & Culture* 24 (1): 18–26.**

**Abstract:**

This article introduces a themed section of *Gender, Place and Culture* on ‘Sexual and Gender Minorities in Disaster’. This introduction frames the articles constituting the themed section, which together contribute important insights to the growing body of research, policy and practice on the experiences of sexual and gender minorities in disasters. The introduction positions the themed section at the intersection of disaster studies and geography. We briefly discuss how each discipline has attended to sexual and gender minorities to date, and suggest ways in which each discipline can enrich the other through collaborative scholarship on sexual and gender minorities in disaster. Importantly, we draw attention to critical limitations and omissions concerning sexual and gender minorities in disaster risk reduction (DRR) policy and practice. Redressing these gaps in DRR globally should be a critical focus for future collaborative and applied research on sexual and gender minorities in disaster. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: sexual and gender minorities; LGBTI; disaster risk reduction policy and practice; geography; disaster studies*

**Gaillard, J.C., Kristinne Sanz, Benigno C. Balgos, Soledad Natalia M. Dalisay, Andrew Gorman-Murray, Fagalua Smith, and Vaito’a Toelupe. 2017. “Beyond Men and Women: A Critical Perspective on Gender and Disaster.” *Disasters* 41 (3): 429–47.**

**Abstract:**

Consideration of gender in the disaster sphere has centred almost exclusively on the vulnerability and capacities of women. This trend stems from a polarised Western understanding of gender as a binary concept of man-woman. Such an approach also mirrors the dominant framing of disasters and disaster risk reduction (DRR), emphasising Western standards and practices to the detriment of local, non-Western identities and experiences. This paper argues that the man-woman dichotomy is an insufficient construct with which to address the gendered dimensions of a disaster as it fails to capture the realities of diverse gender minorities in non-Western contexts. The paper presents case studies from the Philippines, Indonesia, and Samoa, where gender minorities display specific patterns of vulnerability associated with their marginal positions in society, yet, importantly, also possess a wide array of endogenous capacities. Recognition of these differences, needs, skills, and unique resources is essential to moving towards inclusive and gender-sensitive DRR. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: capacity; disaster; gender identity; gender minorities; vulnerability*

**Ganapati, N. Emel. 2012. “In Good Company: Why Social Capital Matters for Women during Disaster Recovery.” *Public Administration Review* 72 (3): 419–27.**

**Abstract:**

Although social capital has made inroads into the public administration literature, little is known about the gender dimensions of social capital in the context of a disaster. This article examines what kind of benefits, if any, social capital offers for women who are affected by disasters. Studying this question is important because it would help public administrators overcome the unique vulnerabilities of women and strengthen their capabilities in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters. This case study of the city of Gölcük, Turkey, suggests that social capital offers benefits for women affected by disasters because it is therapeutic in nature and helps women gain empowerment and avoid the stigma of public assistance. The article offers lessons on how public administrators could build social capital in disaster-stricken communities by enabling face-to-face interaction, initiating leadership programs, and putting in place institutions and policies that are conducive to collective action. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Gill, Teena. 1989. “Case of Famine Monitoring: A Gender Perspective.” *Economic and Political Weekly* 24 (43): WS91–95.**

**Abstract:**

Governments of famine-prone countries employ certain socio-economic indicators, with the household as the unit of enumeration, in order to monitor famines with a view to alleviating their impact. This paper points to the economic and gender-insensitive basis of such thinking and argues for a more gender-focused approach which while retaining the household as the basic unit of analysis comprehends the relative position of women to men within the household and society at large. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Ginige, Kanchana, Dilanthi Amaratunga, and Richard Haigh. 2014. “Tackling Women’s Vulnerabilities through Integrating a Gender Perspective into Disaster Risk Reduction in the Built Environment.” *Procedia Economics and Finance* 18 (January): 327–35.**

**Abstract:**

The majority of human and direct economic losses from natural hazards occur as a result of damage to the built environment due to the vital role that the built environment performs in serving human endeavours. One of the key reasons for people in developing countries to be more vulnerable to natural disasters than their wealthier counterparts is the limited capacities in their construction industries. Among the people in developing countries, women are evidently even more vulnerable to natural disasters. Due to higher disaster vulnerability of women, recognising the different roles, capacities, vulnerabilities and needs of women, and considering them in disaster risk reduction in the built environment is significant to reduce women’s disaster vulnerabilities. Gender mainstreaming as a way of



bringing a gender perspective into disaster risk reduction can be applied to recognise the varying needs and capacities of women, and integrate them into disaster risk reduction in the built environment. The paper in this context aims to demonstrate how gender mainstreaming helps to bring a women's perspective into disaster risk reduction in the built environment. It identifies two main steps which involve in the process, identification of women's DRR knowledge and needs, and integration of the identified DRR knowledge and needs into DRR in the built environment. The paper provides an account of the process that the study established to incorporate a gender perspective into disaster risk reduction in the built environment based on a case study conducted in Sri Lanka. It further discusses how the social, economic, political and environmental context influences the process of gender mainstreaming in disaster risk reduction in the built environment. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: gender mainstreaming; women's vulnerability; built environment; disaster risk reduction; women natural disasters*

**Ginige, Kanchana, Dilanthi Amaratunga, and Richard Haigh. 2016. "Mainstreaming Women into Disaster Reduction in the Built Environment." *Disaster Prevention & Management* 25 (5): 611–27.**

**Abstract:**

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to introduce a guideline to mainstream women into disaster reduction in the built environment in Sri Lanka.

Design/methodology/approach – the paper is based on ten in-depth interviews conducted with professionals engaged in disaster risk reduction in the built environment in Sri Lanka. The interviews are complemented by a comprehensive literature review conducted on the impacts of 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami on women in Sri Lanka, and the country's status of mainstreaming women into disaster reduction in the built environment.

Findings –The paper presents a guideline for mainstreaming women into disaster reduction in the built environment in Sri Lanka which consists of factors influencing the process, main steps, parties responsible, required resources, required expertise, appropriate stages of development to conduct the process, barriers to the process and how to improve the process.

Originality/value – At present, there are no guidelines which specifically inform how to mainstream women into disaster reduction in the built environment in Sri Lanka. Such guideline is significant to reduce women's vulnerability to natural disasters and also to tackle disaster vulnerabilities of the built environment in general. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: Sri Lanka; built environment; natural disasters; guideline; women's vulnerability*

**Gorman-Murray, Andrew, Scott McKinnon, and Dale Dominey-Howes. 2014. "Queer Domicide: LGBT Displacement and Home Loss in Natural Disaster Impact, Response, and Recovery." *Home Cultures* 11 (2): 237–61.**

**Abstract:**

This article examines lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans (LGBT) experiences of displacement, home loss, and rebuilding in the face of natural disasters. LGBT vulnerability and resilience are little studied in disaster research; this article begins to fill this gap, focusing on LGBT domicide—how LGBT homes are “unmade” in disasters. To do this, we critically read a range of non-government, scholarly, and media commentaries on LGBT experiences of natural disasters in various settings over 2004–12, including South Asia, the USA, Haiti, and Japan. Additionally, we utilize preliminary data from pilot work on LGBT experiences of 2011 disasters in Brisbane, Australia, and Christchurch, New Zealand. We find that disaster impacts are the first stage of ongoing problems for sexual and gender minorities. Disaster impacts destroy LGBT residences and neighborhoods, but response and recovery strategies favor assistance for heterosexual nuclear families and elide the concerns and needs of LGBT survivors. Disaster impact, response, and recovery “unmakes” LGBT home and belonging, or inhibits homemaking, at multiple scales, from the residence to the neighborhood. We focus on three scales or sites: first, destruction of individual residences, and problems with displacement and rebuilding; second, concerns about privacy and discrimination for individuals and families in temporary shelters; and third, loss and rebuilding of LGBT neighborhoods and community infrastructure (e.g. leisure venues and organizational facilities). (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: LGBT; disasters; domicide; home; home loss; shelter; rebuilding*

**Hamilton, Jennifer Parker and Sarah J. Halvorson. 2007. “The 2005 Kashmir Earthquake: A Perspective on Women’s Experiences.” *Mountain Research and Development* 27 (4): 296–301.**

**Abstract:**

The 2005 Kashmir Earthquake is illustrative of the intensity and scope associated with catastrophic earthquake disasters in mountainous regions. The experience of the immediate aftermath, relief and recovery, and community reconstruction underscores how this event impacted mountain women, particularly in their roles in rescue and relief efforts and in rebuilding households and communities. A situational analysis was undertaken in order to document and make recommendations for the significant challenges and concerns facing women earthquake survivors in 3 of the valleys most proximate to the epicenter. Earthquake planning and mitigation strategies in northern Pakistan and elsewhere need to focus on reducing women's vulnerability and increasing their resilience, while fostering feasible interventions to reduce disaster risk across the population. We propose that the main elements should include pre-disaster vulnerability assessments; the support of women's access to resources and science-based earthquake education; active roles for women in relief, rehabilitation, and rebuilding efforts; and gender training among all disaster relief and emergency services. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Hines, Revathi I. 2007. “Natural Disasters and Gender Inequalities: The 2004 Tsunami and the Case of India.” *Race, Gender & Class* 14 (1/2): 60–8.**

**Abstract:**

This research examines the link between gender and natural disasters. Specifically, it studies the 2004 Tsunami, that occurred in the Indian Ocean, and the inordinate impact it had on females in India. There are two fundamental gender issues that are examined in this paper: (a) The reasons why more women than men were impacted by the 2004 tsunami, and (b) The post-tsunami challenges that were faced by women. Through the research it is observed that following the tsunami, gender concerns were overlooked and social realities were ignored. As a result, women were marginalized in the process. The absence of any concrete gender analysis at the governmental level, indicates the nonchalant attitude toward gender concerns. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: tsunami; gender; India; natural disasters; disaster challenges; gender challenges*

**Quotes & Notes:**

“Globally, three times more women than men were killed by the tsunami... he reasons for the differential impact on women can be grouped into three broad categories: (1) Impact of Traditional Division of Labor; (2) Impact of Patriarchal Society; and (3) Impact of Gender Socializations” (Hines 2007, 62-3).

“Women living in camps were also victims of the patriarchal society in which it is a taboo for a woman to go to a male doctor. A lack of gender sensitivity in planning led to an overall ignorance of a woman's needs. Many of the doctors in the temporary shelters were male” (65).

“After the 2004 tsunami, many women suffered from depression and post-traumatic stress... Statistics indicated that 37.5 percent of women took up drinking in order to cope with stress. Stress combined with issues such as abuse, rape, early marriages, and a total lack of mental help weakened the status of women in these communities” (66).

**Hyder, Tina, and Johanna Mac Veigh. 2007. “Gender-Based Violence against Children in Emergencies: Save the Children UK’s Response.” *Gender and Development* 15 (1): 81–93.**

**Abstract:**

Violence against children is a global phenomenon. During humanitarian crises, and armed conflict in particular, the potential for gender-based violence (GBV), including sexual exploitation, increases. Children, particularly adolescent girls, are vulnerable. This article traces the impact of an expose of sexual abuse by humanitarian workers on the wider protection policies and practices of Save the Children UK. The article concludes that awareness of gender discrimination must underpin the implementation of protection policies for all children and their carers. Furthermore, it proposes that comprehensive responses to GBV must be devised, alongside prevention strategies, if children are to be effectively protected. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Ikeda, Keiko. 1995. "Gender Differences in Human Loss and Vulnerability in Natural Disasters: A Case Study from Bangladesh." *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 2 (2):171- 193.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“This paper investigates the gender aspects in human loss and vulnerability during quick on-set natural disasters by examining the case of the April 1991 cyclone in Bangladesh. First, after briefly reviewing some basic arguments on disaster victimisation and gender, the sex and age pattern of mortality in the April 1991 cyclone in Bangladesh is attained by using the results of three micro surveys. Second, the reasons for excessive female deaths are analysed, focusing on the differences in responses between women and men during the cyclone, based on several interviews, one of which was conducted by the author in April 1992. Last, gender issues in victimization and vulnerability during the disaster are discussed in relation to the prevailing norm of purdah which prescribes spatial movement, behavior and attitudes of women” (Ikeda 1995, 171).

**Ikeda, Keiko. 2009. “How Women’s Concerns Are Shaped in Community-Based Disaster Risk Management in Bangladesh.” *Contemporary South Asia* 17 (1): 65-78.**

**Abstract:**

This article elaborates on how concerns regarding gender in community-based disaster risk management are shaped through interaction between local agents of development and communities in Bangladesh. As women and men have different experiences in disaster, gender concerns should be fully addressed by the community and integrated in the action they take up to reduce disaster risks. The term ‘local agents of development’ refers to individuals engaged in implementation of development policy in their own community. Recent trends in community-based disaster risk management policy seek what is called a ‘whole community approach’ engaging various stakeholders such as traditional village elite, ‘local civil society’ and leaders of community-based organizations - mostly poor villagers supported by non-governmental organizations. Within the context of the historical evolution of community development approaches in Bangladesh, this is quite new in terms of bringing together traditional leaders and poor target groups including women's groups. By drawing from the experience of women and focusing on the functioning of local agents of development during the flood of 2004, the author aims to assess the gaps between the primary concerns of women and those taken up in the risk-reduction action, to see whether, why, and when they have widened or been bridged. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster management; gender; participation; local elite; Bangladesh*

**Iqbal, Muhammad Jawed, Muhammad Naseem Baig, Haleema Sadia, Muhammad Bilal Khurshed, and Sadaf Saleem. 2013. “Gender Mainstreaming in to Community Based Disaster Risk Management.” *European Scientific Journal* 9 (32): 463–70.**

**Abstract:**

Although women are considered as the most vulnerable group in the society; but very little attention has been made to take into consideration the issue of gender sensitivity during the phase of Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction as well as Management in both natural and manmade disaster. In Pakistan a very limited number of organization are working to address the issue of mainstreaming of women in pre and post disaster activities. The goal of this paper is to synthesize and review the issue of disaster and gender mainstreaming. This paper highlights the gaps in terms of disaster preparedness by adopting CBDRM; and also critically analyzes the importance of the mainstreaming the element of gender in the phase of Disaster Mainstreaming overall in general and specific in the context of Pakistan. Recommendations and suggestions of the paper can be used to design and implement comprehensive CBDRM Preparedness Plan by mainstreaming the element of Gender sensitivity. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: gender mainstreaming; disaster; CBDRM*

**Irshad, Humaira, Zubia Mumtaz, and Adrienne Levay. 2012. “Long-Term Gendered Consequences of Permanent Disabilities Caused by the 2005 Pakistan Earthquake.” *Disasters* 36 (3): 452–64.**

**Abstract:**

This study documents the long-term gendered impact of the 2005 Pakistan earthquake on women and men who were rendered paraplegic as a result of spinal cord injuries sustained during the disaster. Coping mechanisms are also mapped. The findings show that three years after the disaster, paraplegic women are socially, emotionally, and financially isolated. The small stipend they receive is a significant source of income, but it has also led to marital distrust, violence, and abuse. In contrast, men receive full social and emotional support. Their key concern is that the government is not providing them with opportunities to be economically productive. Contemporary discourse and post-disaster policies, while acknowledging the importance of incorporating a gender perspective in the immediate post-disaster period, have failed to acknowledge and address the longer-term gendered impact of disasters, in terms of the different types of impact and strategies adopted by women and men. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: disability; disasters; earthquake; gender; paraplegia; Pakistan*

**Islam, Mir Rabiul, Valerie Ingham, John Hicks, and Ian Manock. 2014. “The Changing Role of Women in Resilience, Recovery and Economic Development at the Intersection of Recurrent Disaster: A Case Study from Sirajgang, Bangladesh.” *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 52 (1): 50–67.**

**Abstract:**

Two million people were affected in the floodplains and low-lying areas in Sirajgang in 2012. Seven hundred and fifty families were made homeless and forced to live in small temporary huts on the river protection embankments. Unemployment rose alarmingly and

the jobless left their villages to find work in larger cities, leaving behind their vulnerable and insecure families. Consequently, women were increasingly required to take on totally unfamiliar roles. Our research utilised in-depth interviews with women managing without the support of their husbands. Key findings highlighted that community resilience would improve if these women were engaged at the local operational level of disaster management. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: resilience; vulnerability; disaster; recovery; Bangladesh*

**Quotes & Notes:**

“Risk is gendered not only because gender is a determining factor in risk to disaster impacts, but also because women are often in charge of assessing and reacting to risk as women’s traditional role as caregivers extends to risk management” (Islam et al. 2014, 3).

“In particular, certain groups of women are considered more vulnerable than others. This is an important step to examining the pre-disaster status of women as it recognises that this status is directly connected to how women experience disasters. This idea is consistent with a conception of vulnerability as a matrix of interconnected factors” (5).

“Women’s work is not considered important and post- disaster rebuilding efforts are male-centred, focusing on rebuilding infrastructure rather than livelihoods (Beck, 2005). Rebuilding efforts therefore, tend to employ men, rather than women. This means that the position women were placed under in the crisis phase is likely to continue” (8).

**Jayarathne, Saranga Subhashini. 2014. “Women’s Potential in Dealing with Natural Disasters: A Case Study from Sri Lanka.” *Asian Journal of Women’s Studies* 20 (1): 125–36.**

**Abstract:**

Disaster is gender indifferent but its impact is usually gender differentiated. The 2004 Tsunami statistics show that male survivors in Sri Lanka outnumbered female survivors. The notion of women being the “weaker sex” gives them limited space for learning physical skills that are deemed vital for surviving disasters. Their knowledge and experience regarding the environment is always undermined. This further limits and discourages them from contributing towards disaster management. Women should be incorporated at every level in the disaster management cycle. Women-centered public awareness and skills training can help increase women and children's disaster preparedness and equip them with the skills necessary to overcome disasters. Women’s participation in national-level decision-making is also a necessity. A gender-blind disaster management system can only worsen the impact of disasters, especially for women and girls. This paper challenges the depiction of women as mere victims of disasters, while attempting to point out the vital nexus between women's untapped potential and disaster management.

*(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: disasters; vulnerability; women; untapped potential*

**Juran, Luke. 2012. "The Gendered Nature of Disasters Women Survivors in Post-Tsunami Tamil Nadu." *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 19 (1): 1–29.**

**Abstract:**

The impacts of disasters rarely reveal themselves equally across an affected population. Rather, the extent of impact is determined by social constructs, such as religion, caste, socioeconomic status and most notably, gender, which cuts across all of these spheres. This article focuses on the variable of gender and the role it played in post-tsunami Tamil Nadu, India. In particular, gender will be discussed in relation to: mortality; access to aid and rehabilitation resources; conditions at temporary shelters; violence against women; and impacts on health. This article argues that women confront human rights gaps during 'normal' times and that such pre-existing inequalities are simply reified and magnified in times of disaster. These contentions are upheld by providing a theoretical review of gender and disaster, a survey of actual accounts of gender and disaster across space, and by buttressing the literature with examples from post-tsunami Tamil Nadu. The aim of this article is to analyse salient gender-based issues in a specific post-disaster context and to add to the discourse on gender and disaster writ large. (*Abstract from original source*)  
*Keywords: gender and disaster; disaster rehabilitation; tsunami; Indian women and tsunamis*

**Juran, Luke, and Jennifer Trivedi. 2015. "Women, Gender Norms, and Natural Disasters in Bangladesh." *Geographical Review* 105 (4): 601–11.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"Women and men are impacted differently by natural disasters, leading to claims that there exist gendered disaster vulnerabilities and a "gendered terrain of disasters" (Enarson and Morrow 1998). What makes this contention even more academically and practically relevant are recent increases in the number of natural disasters and affectees (Guha-Sapir and others 2004; Paul 2011). The confluence of gender and disaster is particularly clear in Bangladesh, a country challenging twin specters of gender issues and an array of regularly occurring natural disasters. Bangladesh's unique geographic situation of extreme population densities overlaid on a low-lying deltaic and coastal landscape interacts with the nation's range of social and environmental transitions: issues of democracy, government corruption, poverty, rural-urban divides, and gender parity, coupled with problems related to multihazard risk, looming effects of climate change, and issues of environmental justice that predispose certain demographics to heightened levels of risk. Thus, the topic of gender and natural disasters presents a valuable junction for practical and academic exploration, representing a space where these transitions jointly manifest, coexist, and both create and reveal vulnerability" (Juran and Trivedi 2015, 601).

**Kelly, Marion. 1993. "Infant Feeding in Emergencies." *Disasters* 17 (2): 110–21.**

**Abstract:**

Recent experience of emergency relief operations in middle-income countries has shown that infant feeding issues can greatly complicate attempts to protect infant health. The two main problems are: how to protect and support breastfeeding in communities where it is no longer the norm and how to assist artificially fed infants without exposing them to the dramatically increased risks associated with artificial feeding under disaster conditions. This article explores the underlying issues and makes a number of recommendations for policy and programmes. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Khondker, Habibul. 1996. "Women and Floods in Bangladesh." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 14 (3): 281–92.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This paper examines the consequences of a flood disaster on rural women in northern Bangladesh. Based on fieldwork, it is argued that floods affect rural women more adversely than rural men. Floods destroy the household resources undermining the economic well-being of rural women. Researchers and authorities in charge of rehabilitation have not paid enough attention to the uneven impact of flood disasters on gender groups. Women are rarely involved in the decision-making process regarding disaster response. The lack of participation of women in particular and the local community in general in the planning and execution of counterdisaster plans insure that such issues are not noticed. Bureaucratic disaster respondents to be short term in its scope and fails to link disaster response and rehabilitation with development activities. Various nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) operating in rural Bangladesh seem to have closer ties with the local community and a better understanding of the linkage between rehabilitation and development. However, because of the limited scope of their operations and constraints of resources, the influence of these NGOs are not sustainable. The rural women cope on their own. The status quo ante is achieved, a continuation of impoverished existence which makes the vulnerable to the next flooding or other such disasters. Successful counterdisaster strategies need to take gender dimension into account and link crisis response and rehabilitation strategies to development initiatives. This would entail participation of women in counterdisaster plans and assuring the economic well-being of rural women. (*Summary from original source*)

**Krishnaraj, Maithreyi. 1997. "Gender Issues in Disaster Management: The Latur Earthquake." *Gender, Technology and Development* 1 (3): 395–411.**

**Abstract:**

This study maintains that the impact of disasters depends on the nature and intensity of the event, but in all cases the impact varies according to the degree of vulnerability of the social groups that constitute the affected population. Women, being more socially and economically vulnerable than men in most societies, are more severely affected than men.



This article highlights the gendered impact of the earthquake and the bias against women in the management of the earthquake in Latur, India. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Kusakabe, Kyoko, Rajendra Shrestha, and Veena N., eds. 2015. *Gender and Land Tenure in the Context of Disaster in Asia*. Vol. 21. SpringerBriefs in Environment, Security, Development and Peace. Heidelberg: Springer.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This book explores an interdisciplinary field at the intersection of gender and development studies, disaster and land tenure policy. It is well known that women generally have weaker claims to land. But how does that translate to increased vulnerability during disaster? Using case studies from Asia, this book argues that land tenure is a key factor in mitigating the impact of disasters on women. The scale and frequency of disasters have been increasing in recent decades due to human impact on the landscape and climate. Unsustainable farming and land management systems have increased environmental risks and social vulnerabilities. However, around the world the costs of disasters are disproportionately borne by women, due largely to their reduced mobility and lack of control over assets. In post-disaster settings, women's vulnerabilities increase due to gendered rescue and rehabilitation practices. As such, a gendered approach to land rights is critical to disaster preparedness and recovery. (*Summary from Springer*)

*Keywords: Asia; disaster; gender; land tenure; post-disaster policies*

**Table of Contents:**

1. Gender and Land Tenure in the Context of Disaster – Veena N. and Kyoko Kusakabe
2. Gender Impact of Large-Scale Deforestation and Oil Palm Plantations Among Indigenous Groups in Sarawak, Malaysia – Carol Yong and Wee Aik Pang
3. Displacing Women, Resettling Families: Impact of Landslides on Women's Land Tenure Rights in Sri Lanka – Subhangi M.K. Herath
4. Impact of Flash Floods on Matrilineal Society in West Sumatra, Indonesia – Yonariza and Mahdi
5. Urbanization and Disaster: Loss of Women's Property Ownership in Leh, Ladakh – Bhuvaneshwari Raman
6. A Coir Mill of Their Own: Women's Agency in Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka – Ramanie Jayatilaka
7. Gender, Land Tenure, and Disasters in the Mentawai Islands, Indonesia – Carol Yong, Frans R. Siahaan and Andreas Burghofer

**Larson, Grant, Julie Drolet, and Miriam Samuel. 2015. "The Role of Self-Help Groups in Post-Tsunami Rehabilitation." *International Social Work* 58 (5): 732–42.**

**Abstract:**

This article provides an analysis of the importance of self-help groups for women in post-tsunami rehabilitation efforts in Tamil Nadu, India. The finding is one of eight key themes identified in a larger study of the long-term social, economic and gender implications of post-tsunami rehabilitation work. While self-help groups were reported as having provided women with a measure of new social and economic opportunities, status and power, little evidence existed for a substantial reduction of poverty levels or a change in the prevailing patriarchal attitudes. The authors suggest that multiple long-term sustainable approaches to post-disaster reconstruction are needed to provide fundamental social and economic change for women. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: India; rehabilitation; self-help; tsunami; women*

**Le Masson, Virginie. 2016. "Gender and Resilience: From Theory to Practice." Working Paper, BRACED Knowledge Manager, London.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This paper presents a synthesis of four case studies documenting strategies towards building gender equality through resilience projects. It draws on the experience of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in the implementation of the Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) projects: Mercy Corps (Uganda), ActionAid (Myanmar), Concern (Sudan/Chad) and Christian Aid and King's College London (Burkina Faso). The analysis also reflects on discussions held during a writeshop that brought together NGO practitioners, donor representatives and researchers, to examine different approaches to integrate gender and social equality as part of efforts to build communities' resilience to climate change and disasters.

The papers seeks to document how gender inequalities manifest themselves in all four contexts affected by climate change; how gender is conceptualised in project theories of change (ToCs); the operationalisation of objectives to tackle gender inequalities; internal and external obstacles to the implementation of gender-sensitive activities; and drivers that help NGOs transform gender relations and build resilience.

The four case studies describe how disasters and climate change affect gender groups in different ways and also underscore the patriarchal social norms that disproportionately restrict women and girls' equal access to rights and resources. The resulting inequalities are likely to undermine women and girls' resilience, and ultimately that of their households and communities – an assumption that underpins projects' ToCs. Hence, projects that aim to enhance people's resilience capacities have to recognise social diversities, inequalities and their inter-sectionality. If they fail to do so, they risk further marginalising and undermining the capacities of those who lack access to decision-making or experience discrimination.

Based on lessons from NGOs' experience, and challenges they face in the particular contexts where they operate, this papers aims to inform practitioners on how to draw on promising practices to make resilience projects inclusive and equitable. It also provides a

set of recommendations to point out areas where further research is required to increase understanding of resilience to climate extremes and longer-term changes, and to suggest how donors and funding can best support efforts to build communities' resilience.

*(Summary from original source)*

**Lebel, Louis, Phimpakan Lebel, and Boripat Lebel. 2014. "Gender and the Management of Climate-Related Risks in Northern Thailand." *International Social Science Journal* 65 (217/218): 147–58.**

**Abstract:**

In much past research on the sustainability of natural resource management, gender was either ignored or women were essentialised as care-takers or victims. Recent programmes on disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change seem to be retracing these myths. There is a need for more critical research on how gender influences the experience and management of climate-related risks. This paper draws on a set of earlier studies to explore the influences of gender on climate risk management by farming households in northern Thailand. We find that women fish farmers perceived greater climate-related risks to profits, and this corresponded with attaching greater importance to risk management practices at the farm and community levels. Women and men crop farmers had very similar perceptions of changing drought risks. Research on the roles of women in community-level water management, and gendered social norms suggest that it will be more difficult for women to reduce risks to their farms at the larger, collective, scales than it is for men. This study shows that gender can influence risk-taking and decision-making and therefore should be taken into account when strengthening climate risk management practices or designing adaptation interventions. *(Abstract from Wiley)*

**Liu, Chu-Li Julie, and Faye Mishna. 2014. "Resilience in a Cultural Context: Taiwanese Female Earthquake Survivors." *Qualitative Social Work* 13 (2): 288–303.**

**Abstract:**

The aim of the current study was to examine how females survive natural disaster in non-western culture and to gain understanding of their unique experiences in rebuilding their lives. In September 1999, a major earthquake, named '921 Earthquake,' measuring 7.3 on the Richter Scale occurred in Taiwan. Many people survived, struggling a great deal in their efforts to reconstruct their lives. Five years after this earthquake, many survivors, including women, were reported to have rebuilt self-sufficient lives. Given the vulnerability of women and their greater difficulties in resuming their lives, an important question was how these women were able to be successful in this endeavor. Utilizing a grounded theory approach, 16 female 921 Earthquake survivors who had been helped by social workers, no longer received government aid and had successfully regained their self-sufficiency, voluntarily participated in this study. The study findings revealed that the coping strategies guided by female gender norms in the family, embedded in Taiwanese culture, including: children's needs are the first priority as a maternal role norm; men working outside and women working inside; and female gender norms of supporting the

family when husbands could not, were the major resources participants accessed and utilized to successfully cope with the difficulties after the 921 Earthquake. The participants' narratives demonstrated that cultural norms can serve as coping resources for survivors. Implications for social work practice are addressed. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: coping strategies; cultural norms; female earthquake survivors; grounded theory approach; Taiwan*

**Lopez, Yany, Jacqueline Hayden, Kathy Cologon, and Fay Hadley. 2012. "Child Participation and Disaster Risk Reduction." *International Journal of Early Years Education* 20 (3): 300–8.**

**Abstract:**

It has been shown that child participation can have positive results in the rescue, relief and rehabilitation phases of a disaster. Currently child participation is achieving increased attention as a component of disaster risk reduction (DRR). This paper examines the ongoing dialogues on child participation and reviews pertinent literature describing effective DRR outcomes within diverse contexts. A myriad of factors such as gender, age, socio-economic status, caste, religion and geographic location play a role in socialising children into particular ways of being. These factors are considered in light of the ways in which they may influence opportunities for children to participate in DRR and other activities in meaningful ways. The roles of adults in facilitating or preventing child participation, with particular regard to complex power structures and attitudes towards children's rights, are also discussed. Drawing out the potential implications of these factors calls for analyses of attitudes and possible restructuring of societal systems at several levels to enhance child participation. Planning for DRR may represent a crucial sequeway for challenging social norms and promoting equity, inclusion and participation – for children and other groups. This paper explores the role of child participation in DRR plans and practices, and identifies directions for developing an evidence base to support this potentially significant connection. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: child participation; child-led DRR; child rights; childhood; power relations*

**Moreno-Walton, Lisa, and Kristi Koenig. 2016. "Disaster Resilience: Addressing Gender Disparities." *World Medical & Health Policy* 8 (1): 46–57.**

**Abstract:**

This article explores the impact of gender on disaster resilience and survival within diverse populations. Through a review of the relevant literature, five categories of gender-related disparities are identified: biology, responsibility for dependents, development of skills, clothing, and vulnerability to assault and trafficking. Identification of gender disparities is a first step in building resilient communities, and enhancing survival across a wide range of disaster scenarios when future events occur. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster; women; gender; survival disparities*

**Morrow, Betty Hearn and Elaine Enarson. 1996. "Hurricane Andrew Through Women's Eyes: Issues and Recommendations." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 14 (1): 5–22.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

While gender is a central organizing principle in social systems, limited attention has been paid to differences in the disaster-related experiences of women and men. To address some gender-related we conducted a qualitative sociology analysis of women's experiences in the most heavily impacted areas of Dade County, Florida after Hurricane Andrew. Through interviews, focus groups, surveys, secondary data analysis, and fieldwork we document ways in which the private and public caregiving responsibilities of women expanded, often under very difficult and stressful circumstances. Being particularly interested in the intersection of gender with race/ethnicity and class, much of our work focused on minority groups having particular problems with recovery, including migrant workers, recent immigrants, single mothers, and battered women. The effects of household and community losses tended to be different for women and in many respects more profound. Being female was an important dimension which appeared to increase the negative effects of being a victim and to retard personal and family recovery, especially when compounded with poverty and minority status. Based on issues which emerged from the experiences of women victims and care providers, we offer a series of recommendations to disaster planners to increase the involvement of women at every level of disaster response.

*(Summary from original source)*

**Mulyasari, Farah, and Rajib Shaw. 2013. "Role of Women as Risk Communicators to Enhance Disaster Resilience of Bandung, Indonesia." *Natural Hazards* 69 (3): 2137–60.**

**Abstract:**

This study addresses the need for women risk communication and highlights the potential role of Women Welfare Associations (WWAs) of Bandung, Indonesia, as risk communicators. A risk communication framework is modeled for women's risk communication process. A set of indicators in social, institutional, and economic resilience activities (SIERAs), with a scope of 45 activities covering three different disaster periods, were developed to characterize the delivery process of risk information by women in WWAs through their activities at sub-district and ward levels. The data were collected through a questionnaire survey method using the risk communication SIERA approach. Women's leaders at wards were surveyed concerning their perceptions on these 45 scopes of SIERA, ongoing activities, and their risk information source and dissemination process. Correlation analysis was applied to determine the relationship between the variables such as periods of disaster, types of activities (social, institutional, economic), and attributing factors (location, population, and education institution) in finding variations in risk communication activity that functions for women and communities. Five risk

communication processes of WWAs are identified and implemented that work for women in Bandung. When their perceptions and ongoing activities are compared, activities such as dissemination of disaster risk information, conveying early warnings to their peers, and involvement of the local government have been confirmed to match the risk communication plans and implementation of WWAs. These indicate that WWAs' activities in Bandung implement a certain degree of risk communication that is embedded in their activities. The results confirm that women through their social networks can become active agents of change and thus act beyond their usual domestic roles and responsibilities in order to contribute to the overall enhancement of community resilience. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: Bandung; disaster risk; resilience; risk communication; SIERA; women; Women Welfare Associations*

**Myers, Mary. 1994. “‘Women and Children First’: Introducing a Gender Strategy into Disaster Preparedness.” *Focus on Gender* 2 (1): 14–16.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

PIP: Women have been included in development strategies, but women's issues and women's involvement have been missing from centrally planned government programs of disaster relief. The axiom of putting women and children first has been lost in the maelstrom of immediate need planning without consideration of consequences. The UN developed a training manual and seminars for disaster management. Included in one of the UN manuals are directives that emphasized priorities for nine main components of disaster relief: 1) vulnerability assessment, 2) planning, 3) institutional framework, 4) information systems, 5) resource base, 6) warning systems, 7) response mechanisms, 8) public education and training, and 9) rehearsals. Gender issues should be addressed for each of these components. The question of whether gender was included in a disaster assessment must be answered. Male planners may not be sufficiently informed of how women are affected; therefore, women need to be consulted at the planning stage. A national ministry of women should be involved in disaster relief planning. Women's needs and coping strategies must be accounted for in data-gathering instruments. Emergency supplies must include gynecological and obstetric supplies. The media must be able to reach women and children with disaster warnings. Relief plans must consider whether women will be unduly burdened by the strategy. The inclusion of women in disaster relief efforts not only helps women in crises but helps to break down gender inequalities and imbalances in general.

*(Summary from the US National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health)*

**Neal, David and Brenda Phillips. 1990. “Female-Dominated Local Social Movement Organizations in Disaster-Threat Situations.” In *Women and Social Protest*, edited by Guida West and Rhoda Blumberg, 243–55. New York: Oxford University Press.**

*No abstract available.*

**Neumayer, Eric, and Thomas Plümer. 2007. "The Gendered Nature of Natural Disasters: The Impact of Catastrophic Events on the Gender Gap in Life Expectancy, 1981-2002." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 97 (3): 551–66.**

**Abstract:**

Natural disasters do not affect people equally. In fact, a vulnerability approach to disasters would suggest that inequalities in exposure and sensitivity to risk as well as inequalities in access to resources, capabilities, and opportunities systematically disadvantage certain groups of people, rendering them more vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters. In this article we address the specific vulnerability of girls and women with respect to mortality from natural disasters and their aftermath. Biological and physiological differences between the sexes are unlikely to explain large-scale gender differences in mortality rates. Social norms and role behaviors provide some further explanation, but what is likely to matter most is the everyday socioeconomic status of women. In a sample of up to 141 countries over the period 1981 to 2002 we analyze the effect of disaster strength and its interaction with the socioeconomic status of women on the change in the gender gap in life expectancy. We find, first, that natural disasters lower the life expectancy of women more than that of men. In other words, natural disasters (and their subsequent impact) on average kill more women than men or kill women at an earlier age than men. Since female life expectancy is generally higher than that of males, for most countries natural disasters narrow the gender gap in life expectancy. Second, the stronger the disaster (as approximated by the number of people killed relative to population size), the stronger this effect on the gender gap in life expectancy. That is, major calamities lead to more severe impacts on female life expectancy (relative to that of males) than do smaller disasters. Third, the higher women's socioeconomic status, the weaker is this effect on the gender gap in life expectancy. Taken together our results show that it is the socially constructed gender-specific vulnerability of females built into everyday socioeconomic patterns that lead to the relatively higher female disaster mortality rates compared to men. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: gender; mortality; natural disaster; socioeconomic status; vulnerability*

**Ofreneo, Rosalinda Pineda, and Mylene D. Hega. 2016. "Women's Solidarity Economy Initiatives to Strengthen Food Security in Response to Disasters." *Disaster Prevention & Management* 25 (2): 168–82.**

**Abstract:**

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to present the knowledge gained from the experiences of community-based, women-led organizations of workers in the informal economy which strengthen food security, enhance livelihoods in peri-urban areas through solidarity economy initiatives, and advance women's empowerment as they respond to disasters arising from climate change.

Design/methodology/approach – This paper is based on case studies of Buklod Tao in San

Mateo, Rizal, and the PATAMABA chapter in Sta. Barbara, Iloilo. The study was conducted within the tradition of gender-responsive participatory action research anchored on a human rights-based approach.

Findings – Experience of flooding motivated mature organizations of women informal workers to establish community-based peri-urban gardens connected to other solidarity-based sustainable livelihood initiatives to address food security concerns, increase income, and mitigate the impact of similar disasters. Although women have been empowered through these initiatives, much still has to be done to transform gender relations in various spheres.

Research limitations/implications – This research process lends itself toward unearthing gender inequalities which would otherwise remain hidden.

Practical implications – The solidarity-based initiatives documented in these case studies may be adopted by women informal workers' organizations in similar situations to advocate for and attain food security.

Originality/value – Solidarity-based strategies to attain food security among women informal workers are rarely documented for assessment and knowledge sharing. How they are or can be further empowered by these initiatives is a significant contribution to the literature on gender and disasters. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: informal economy; food security; disaster risk reduction and management; solidarity economy; women's empowerment*

**Parida, Pradeep Kumar. 2015. "Natural Disaster and Women's Mental Health." *Social Change* 45 (2): 256–75.**

**Abstract:**

Based on a case study in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand, this article examines women's vulnerability to the June 2013 floods in constructing mental health outcomes. By means of qualitative research and diverse vulnerability approaches such as entitlement, livelihood and political economy, the study draws attention to the initial well-being, livelihood resilience, self-protection, societal protection and social capital of women and underlines how their lack of capacity to avoid, cope with and recover from disasters increased mental health exposure to risk. To this point, women's vulnerability and mental disorders are reciprocally related to each other. In conclusion, while physical exposure to the flood was a necessary element, it was women's pre-existing symptoms and developmental processes that were most influential in generating mental health consequences after the disaster. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: vulnerability; mental health; natural disaster; Uttarakhand; gender inequality*

**Peacock, Walter Gillis, Betty Hearn Morrow, and Hugh Gladwin. 1997. *Hurricane Andrew: Ethnicity, Gender, and the Sociology of Disasters*. New York: Routledge.**



*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Hurricane Andrew has proved to be the most costly natural disaster in US history. This book documents how Miami prepared, coped and responded to the hurricane which slammed into one of the largest and most ethnically diverse metropolitan areas of the United States. With estimated winds of 145mph, the area's infrastructure was laid to waste - nearly all public buildings were severely damaged or destroyed. Approximately 49,000 private homes were rendered uninhabitable, leaving more than 180,000 people homeless. Total losses were in excess of \$28 billion. This book explores how social, economic and political factors set the stage for Hurricane Andrew by influencing who was prepared, who was hit the hardest, and who was most likely to recover. Disasters are often seen as natural physical phenomena that impact our communities in impartial ways. As a result, the damage they inflict and the difficulties experienced in recovering are simply seen as a function of the strength of the agent itself and where it happens to hit the hardest. But disasters are inherently social events. *(Summary from Routledge)*

**Pincha, Chaman. 2008. *Indian Ocean Tsunami through the Gender Lens: Insights from Tamil Nadu, India*. Mumbai: Earthworm Books.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“This study attempts to analyze the differential impact of the Tsunami on men, women, and Aravanis. It captures the experience of the most marginalized communities and of the women within them, i.e., experiences of unmarried girls, widows without children as against those of widows with children. Although the analysis focuses on women’s lives, it does so with the understanding that their lives operate within a system of gender inequalities and gender power relations. The study also focuses on understanding the role played by NGOs at the time of the Tsunami, as they were working actively alongside government agencies in the delivery of relief and development of rehabilitation programs. An attempt has been made to look at the gender mainstreaming strategies of NGOs, an area, which has hitherto not been systematically analyzed. This initiative by the gender researcher and her team was made under the auspices of Anawim Trust and with support from Oxfam America to understand and analyze the steps taken by NGOs to enhance the agency of women, vulnerable men, and excluded groups (such as Aravanis), with the purpose of cross-agency learning and replication. This work therefore documents both the good practices as well as missed opportunities with the belief that these will deepen our understanding of “what works” and “what does not” in integrating the SGNs and PGNs of both men and women in disaster response and preparedness” (Pincha 2008, 12-13).

**Pittaway, Eileen, Linda Bartolomei, and Susan Rees. 2007. "Gendered Dimensions of the 2004 Tsunami and a Potential Social Work Response in Post-Disaster Situations." *International Social Work* 50 (3): 307–19.**

**Abstract:**

The majority of people who died in the 2004 tsunami were women. Women endured rape, and sexual and gender-based violence in camps and places of supposed refuge. Similar reports have come from other disasters. This article examines the roles that social workers can take to respond to these issues. (*Abstract from Sage*)

*Keywords: advocacy; disaster relief; gender; sexual violence; tsunami*

**Racioppi, Linda, and Swarna Rajagopalan, eds. 2016. *Women and Disasters in South Asia: Survival, Security and Development*. 1st Edition. London: Routledge India.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

South Asia is one of the most vulnerable areas of an increasingly disaster-impacted world, with cyclones, earthquakes, floods and droughts causing several casualties and disrupting lives and livelihoods every year. Yet the impacts of disasters are not equally distributed across the peoples of the region. Women and men experience disaster differently, and their needs in the aftermath of disaster often differ.

Bringing together perspectives from academics, emergency response specialists and development practitioners, the volume investigates to what extent and in what ways gender affects the course of post-disaster reconstruction. Conversely, it also explores in what ways gender politics may be altered by disaster and post-disaster reconstruction.

The study includes:

- a comprehensive overview of key issues facing women and men, as gendered beings, in reconstruction and development;
- a targeted observation of specific South Asian disaster contexts; and
- a sustained discussion of case studies and their implications and lessons.

This book will interest scholars and researchers of disaster management, rehabilitation studies, gender, environment, ecology and sociology. It will also be useful to institutions dealing with natural and man-made disasters, non-governmental organisations and disaster recovery professionals. (*Summary from Taylor & Francis*)

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**Rashid, Sabina Faiz, and Stephanie Michaud. 2000. “Female Adolescents and their Sexuality: Notions of Honour, Shame, Purity and Pollution during the Floods.” *Disasters* 24 (1): 54–70.**

**Abstract:**

This paper explores the experiences of female adolescents during the 1998 floods in Bangladesh, focusing on the implications of socio-cultural norms related to notions of honour, shame, purity and pollution. These cultural notions are reinforced with greater emphasis as girls enter their adolescence, regulating their sexuality and gender relationships. In Bangladeshi society, adolescent girls are expected to maintain their virginity until marriage. Contact is limited to one's family and extended relations. Particularly among poorer families, adolescent girls tend to have limited mobility to safeguard their 'purity'. This is to ensure that the girl's reputation does not suffer, thus making it difficult for the girl to get married. For female adolescents in Bangladesh, a disaster situation is a uniquely vulnerable time. Exposure to the unfamiliar environment of flood shelters and relief camps, and unable to maintain their 'space' and privacy from male strangers, a number of the girls were vulnerable to sexual and mental harassment. With the floods, it became difficult for most of the girls to be appropriately 'secluded'. Many were unable to sleep, bathe or get access to latrines in privacy because so many houses and latrines were under the water. Some of the girls who had begun menstruation were distressed at not being able to keep themselves clean. Strong social taboos associated with menstruation and the dirty water that surrounded them made it difficult for the girls to wash their menstrual cloths or change them frequently enough. Many of them became separated from their social network of relations, which caused them a great deal of anxiety and stress. Their difficulty in trying to follow social norms have had far-reaching implications on their health, identity, family and community relations. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: Bangladesh; 1998 floods; adolescence; sexuality; gender; women*

**Ray-Bennett, Nibedita. S. 2009. "The Influence of Caste, Class and Gender in Surviving Multiple Disasters: A Case Study from Orissa, India." *Environmental Hazards* 8 (1): 5–22.**

**Abstract:**

Sociological and anthropological studies in India reveal that caste, class and gender in everyday life are both rigid and dynamic, but little is known about how they influence the survival mechanisms of women during 'multiple disasters', nor about how women negotiate with these structural mores to meet their cultural and biological needs. This is explored through the experiences of 12 women-headed households from different social castes in Orissa, India. Multiple disasters or disasters that occur in 'one specific place' (such as floods, cyclone and drought) are regular events in coastal parts of the state of Orissa. The super-cyclone of 1999, two floods of 2001 and 2003 and drought of 2000 and 2002 form the case study. Participant observation, in-depth interviews and documentary evidence complement the fieldwork. The findings suggest a complex interplay of caste, class and gender in surviving the multiple disasters including structural mutability under the purview of social organization. In doing so, women demonstrated their individual and collective agencies in order to meet their cultural and biological needs under severe crisis. This research stresses that gender and disaster studies must include a consideration of caste and class for effective disaster management and social vulnerability reduction. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: caste; class; gender; multiple disasters; Orissa; women-headed households*

**Ray-Bennett, Nibedita S. 2010. "The Role of Microcredit in Reducing Women's Vulnerabilities to Multiple Disasters." *Disasters* 34 (1): 240-60.**

**Abstract:**

This article explores the relationship between microcredit and vulnerability reduction for women-headed households in 'multiple disasters'. Here multiple disasters are understood as disasters that occur in one specific place and cause severe devastation. The case study covers the super-cyclone in 1999, floods in 2001 and 2003, and drought in 2002 in Orissa, India. The study entailed eight months fieldwork and interviews with several governmental and non-governmental officials and 12 women-headed households from different social castes. The findings suggest that micro-credit is a useful tool to replace women's livelihood assets that have been lost in multiple disasters. But inefficient microcredit delivery can cause microdebts and exacerbate caste, class and gender inequalities. It is posited that microcredit delivery cannot achieve vulnerability reduction for women in multiple disasters unless it is complemented by effective financial services, integrated policy planning and disaster management between government, non-governmental organisations and the community. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: microcredit; multiple disasters; Orissa; vulnerability; women-headed households*

**Raza, Hassan. 2017. "Using a Mixed Method Approach to Discuss the Intersectionalities of Class, Education, and Gender in Natural Disasters for Rural Vulnerable Communities in Pakistan." *Journal of Rural & Community Development* 12 (1): 128–48.**

**Abstract:**

During the floods of 2014, Pakistan lost 267 human lives. 2.5 million people were displaced, 129,880 houses were fully or partially destroyed, and over 1 million acres of cropland and 250,000 farmers were affected, which resulted in the loss of cash crops and standing food. Using Intersectionality Theory, the current study examines the effects of income, education, land ownership, land type, disaster type, gender, and disability on the loss of agricultural crops, controlling for respondents' age. Secondary data was used for this study from a 2012 baseline survey of disaster risk reduction, conducted by a nongovernment organization in District Muzaffargarh, Punjab, Pakistan. Logistic regression was used to analyze the data. Results indicated that education of household head, high income, and land ownership decreased the likelihood of losing agricultural crops, whereas floods, women-headed households, and disabled family members increased the likelihood of losing agricultural crops. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: intersectionality; natural disasters; rural vulnerable communities*

**Reyes, Daniella Dominique, and Jinky Leilanie Lu. 2016. "Gender Dimension in Disaster Situations: A Case Study of Flood Prone Women in Malabon City, Metro Manila." *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* 15 (March): 162–68.**

**Abstract:**

This study looked into the gendered experiences of women in a disaster-prone area in Metro Manila, and at the relations of both the cultural, and socio-economic factors on women's vulnerability to disasters. The research strategy was sequential where understanding of the target area was done through situational analysis and interviews, and then quantitative data were gathered through a survey of 68 women. In this study, the women said that their responsibilities during disasters exceeded those of their partners. These were looking and providing food for the family (77.9%), keeping up hope for the family midst the disaster situation (70.6%), taking care of the sick or injured members of the family (55.9%), among others. Majority of the women belonged to the lower income group, and a considerable number were single parents. Being tied to the home while their male counterparts were away for work is detrimental to the women because they immediately encountered the brunt of the effects of the disaster. While men were recognized as the household heads and leaders, it is evident from the data gathered that women took more roles and responsibilities before, during, and after disasters. Both the poverty of the women, and their traditional roles at home put them in a vulnerable position. Hence, there is a need not only to include gender in disaster planning, but also to reconceptualize what gender means and how it should be applied in disaster reduction planning in particular, and in the development process in general. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster; women in disasters; gender dimension in disaster*

**Richter, Roxane, and Thomas Flowers. 2010. "Gender-Aware Disaster Care: Issues and Interventions in Supplies, Services, Triage and Treatment." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 28 (2): 207–25.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Many non-medical policy makers, planners and response teams have in the past assumed the mass post-disaster population to be homogenous, and have staged disaster shelters and services that overlooked the specific needs of women. This has led to unnecessary suffering, discomfort and slower recoveries for female disaster victims. This research seeks to not only identify gender disparities in disasters, but also socially constructed and biological differences in health and behavior, and to emphasize interventions that could significantly reduce long-term care costs and recoveries. It is the authors' contention that proactive "Gender-Aware Disaster Care"—coupled with supplies, services, triage and treatment—would facilitate more efficient interventions in mitigation, needs assessment, care and recovery for women and their families. Thus this work can make significant contributions to gender-aware disaster care and policies, especially among first responders, emergency managers, EMS crews and volunteer organizations that stage and provide shelter and services to evacuees. *(Summary from original source)*

*Keywords: gender; disaster; women*

**Ruwanpura, Kanchana N. 2008. "Temporality of Disasters: The Politics of Women's Livelihoods 'after' the 2004 Tsunami in Sri Lanka." *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 29 (3): 325–40.**

**Abstract:**

The devastation caused by the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami in Sri Lanka is represented as a 'natural disaster'. Yet, the tsunami did not occur in a sociopolitical and historical vacuum. How people responded to the tsunami, the challenges of and attitudes to relocation and post-tsunami livelihoods, were/are shaped by uneven development, social exclusion and ethnonationalist war. All these responses are embedded in structures of gender, caste, class, and ethnicity. The tsunami, thus, brought to the forefront preexisting inequalities, showing up complexities in the temporality of disasters. Drawn from fieldwork in two coastal areas in the Southern and Eastern provinces, this paper shows how gendered structures within the local political economy influenced the ways that institutional actors as well as the displaced communities and women initially devised livelihood strategies. These reactions show how place matters as much as preexisting gendered political economy conditions and reveal the complex ways in which women continue to mediate and negotiate everyday responses in the aftermath of a 'natural' disaster. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: ethnic dynamic; conflict; livelihoods; tsunami; women; Sri Lanka*

**Saito, Fumie. 2012. "Women and the 2011 East Japan Disaster." *Gender and Development* 20 (2): 265–79.**

**Abstract:**

This article describes the gender issues that have emerged after the earthquake and tsunami that hit East Japan in March 2011, and how the government and society responded to these issues. The gender issues that emerged were not new; rather, they repeated what had already happened following earlier emergencies in Japan, indicating a failure on the part of the government to integrate a gender perspective into emergency planning and response, and ongoing gender inequality in Japanese society. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disaster response; women's participation; government policy; East Japan Disaster; reconstruction*

**Sapir, Debarati Guha. 1993. "Natural and Man-Made Disasters: The Vulnerability of Women-Headed Households and Children Without Families." *World Health Statistics Quarterly* 46 (4): 227–33.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Since 1980, over 2 million people have died as an immediate result of natural and man-made disasters and by 1992, the refugee population registered nearly 16 million people. This article reviews the human impact of disasters as a composite of two elements: the catastrophic event itself and the vulnerability of people. It also examines the specific case of women and children in the current world emergency context. It identifies four broad policy areas that affect women and children in disaster situations and discusses them with examples and field evidence. The first policy area addresses humanitarian assistance and armed conflicts, and armed conflict and international humanitarian law, the use of food as instrument of war, mines and civilian disability, and rape and sexual violence are discussed within this context. The second problem discussed is the issue of unaccompanied and abandoned children in terms of its magnitude and implications for relief response. Thirdly, the article examines the differential risks in emergencies for mortality and morbidity, specifically for women and children. Finally, it addresses certain policies and approaches to disaster rehabilitation which effectively mirror and reinforce inherent inequities in the affected society. The article notes that: (i) the largest proportion of disaster victims today arise from civil strife and food crises and that the majority of those killed, wounded and permanently disabled are women and children; and (ii) the ability of any country to respond effectively to disasters depends on the strength of its health and social infrastructure, and its overall developmental status. It concludes by identifying seven areas where concrete measures could be taken to improve the current situation. (*Summary from US National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health*)

**Schroeder, Richard. 1987. "Gender Vulnerability to Drought: A Case Study of the Hausa Social Environment." Working Paper 58, University of Wisconsin, Madison.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This study investigates the effects of different class- and gender-based relationships on the relative drought vulnerability of Hausa households on the southern fringe of the Sahel. In particular, it describes the economic and social relationships that make certain people in that part of Africa (in particular, women) more likely to occupy the ecological and economic margins where drought and famine are commonplace.

The customs and beliefs associated with gender roles among the Hausa range widely, and the degree of vulnerability of different households varies accordingly. The study divides women's roles and relationships to their society into three categories -- the 'dominant' form (characterized by the practice of wife seclusion), the 'residual' form (a less restrictive role found primarily among rural, agricultural population), and the 'emergent' form (a 'modern,' more liberal life style) -- and examines the effects of each on vulnerability.

The study shows that women bear the brunt of the gender vulnerability in Hausaland and details the reasons for their disproportionate risk. In addition, it finds that there is a marked increase in vulnerability among peasant and working class women; they seem to experience all of the negative aspects of any particular form of gender relationship, while enjoying few, if any, of the benefits. Although it is difficult to make any quantitative comparisons of the relative levels of drought vulnerability due to gender relationships, it does appear that seclusion poses the greatest risks to lower class women.

The study concludes that environmental relations are in all respects social relations, and that clearly, gender constructions have environmental implications. It follows that an understanding of how these relationships are formed and how they change is essential to an understanding of the relationship of a particular society to its environment. (*Summary from original source*)

**Shah, Payal K. 2006. "Assisting and Empowering Women Facing Natural Disasters: Drawing from Security Council Resolution 1325." *Columbia Journal of Gender & Law* 15 (3): 711–45.**

**Abstract:**

In the wake of the tsunami that hit the coastal communities of the Indian Ocean, images of women were splashed over the media's reports of the catastrophe. But while sympathy for women has garnered a great deal of aid, "[b]eyond the camera lens in the follow-up policies. . .there is a trend for women to be rendered almost invisible." Reports by women's groups streaming in from all over the region reflect the same message--women were among the hardest hit by the tsunami, and women continue to be the most marginalized in relief efforts. While the relative lack of women-specific initiatives in the tsunami effort arguably could be attributed to the cultural norms of the region and the particular nature of the disaster there, a broader look at disasters worldwide shows that women's needs and abilities are systemically ignored in rehabilitation and restoration



efforts. Although this trend has been recognized by international organizations ranging from the United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly, the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA), the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW Committee), the U.N. Office for International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), the International Labor Organization (ILO), and the European Union (EU), there is yet to be a binding global initiative that explicitly calls for gender-mainstreaming in disaster prevention and reconstruction efforts. As a result, when the time comes for nations to respond quickly and efficiently to disasters, the lessons learned in gender-sensitivity are lost in the tumult once again. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Shrestha, Mandira Singh, Shesh Kanta Kafle, Min Bahdur Gurung, Hari Krishna Nibanupudi, Vijay Ratan Khadgi, and Gautam Rajkarnikar. 2014. "Flood Early Warning Systems in Nepal: A Gendered Perspective." ICIMOD Working Paper 2014/4, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu, Nepal.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This publication captures the findings of a study on flood early warning systems in Nepal that assessed the institutional arrangements, key stakeholders, legal provisions, coordination and linkage mechanisms, and four key elements of early warning systems from a gender perspective. It also gathered experience from two villages with functioning community-based flood early warning systems.

This report aims to improve understanding of the existing flood early warning systems in Nepal, and suggests ways to make early warning systems more effective and responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups, and women in particular. By promoting the integration of the gender perspective into disaster risk management efforts, this study contributes to the Hyogo Framework for Action. The report can be a valuable tool for use by key national stakeholders, policy makers, planners, and community members who are risk from flood hazards in Nepal. (*Summary from Prevention Web*)

**Smyth, Ines. 2009. "Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, Manila, October 2008." *Development in Practice* 19 (6): 799–802.**

**Abstract:**

The Congress on Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (held in Manila 19–22 October 2008) was the Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance. Its purpose was to provide a forum for decision makers to formulate gender-responsive programmes related to climate change and disaster-risk reduction. More than 200 people participated, including parliamentarians, representatives of environmental and women's organisations, and donor agencies. Proceedings focused on the fact that climate change magnifies existing inequalities, and in particular gender inequality. The Congress

issued the Manila Declaration for Global Action on Gender, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Reduction. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: environment; gender and diversity; governance and public policy; East Asia*

**Sohrabizadeh, Sanaz, Sogand Tourani, and Hamid Reza Khankeh. 2016. “Women and Health Consequences of Natural Disasters: Challenge or Opportunity?” *Women & Health* 56 (8): 1–17.**

**Abstract:**

Disasters do not affect people equally; the impact of disasters on the lives of women is different from other groups of a community. Women’s fundamental rights to health and safety are violated after disasters. The authors of this study aimed to explore various factors of women’s health with reference to previous natural disasters in Iran. A qualitative approach using in-depth unstructured interviews and field observations was employed to explore women’s health factors in the affected regions. A total of 22 participants affected by disasters, as well as key informants, were interviewed applying the purposeful sampling method. Data were collected in 2014 in three provinces, including East Azerbaijan, Bushehr, and Mazandaran. A content analysis using the Graneheim approach was performed for analyzing the transcribed interviews. Two themes and four categories were extracted from the data. The themes that emerged included psycho-physical effects and women’s health status. Physical and psycho-emotional effects and reproductive and environmental health effects were the four emergent categories. The findings implied that managing women’s health challenges may result in reducing the distressing effects of disaster. These findings support identification and application of the mechanisms by which women’s well-being in physical, mental, reproductive, and environmental aspects can be protected after disasters. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: disasters; gender; health; Iran; women*

**Takasaki, Yoshito. 2017. “Do Natural Disasters Decrease the Gender Gap in Schooling?” *World Development* 94 (June): 75–89.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Rapidly decreasing gender gaps in schooling in some developing countries can be partly explained by a gendered division of child farm labor as a coping response to natural disasters. This paper makes a case for this conjecture by analyzing original household survey data from rural Fiji. Boys, not girls, contribute to farming only among cyclone victims with dwelling damage, independent of housing-aid receipt. Boys’ school enrollment is significantly lower than girls’ only among victims who did not receive aid early enough. Boys with no elder brother and an educated father are particularly vulnerable in their progression to higher level schools. (*Summary from original source*)

*Keywords: gender gap in schooling; child labor; natural disaster; disaster aid; Pacific; Fiji*

**Tatham, Peter, and Gyöngyi Kovács. 2010. “The Impact of Gender on Humanitarian Logistics.” *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 28 (3): 148–69.**

**Abstract:**

Logistics performance in the humanitarian context has been linked to gender issues in several ways. From the perspective of the beneficiary, gender-based disaster vulnerabilities and gender disparities in accessing aid have been highlighted. However, the gender of humanitarian staff in contact with beneficiaries, making purchasing decisions, and responsible for last-mile deliveries, i.e., humanitarian logisticians, also impacts on the way in which the needs of female and male beneficiaries are met. This conceptual article focuses, therefore, on the links between gender, logistics performance, and logistics skills—discussing the implications of these three areas in the humanitarian context. From this, an agenda for further research is proposed. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: logistics skills; logistics performance; gender; humanitarian logistics*

**Thorat, Meenakshi. 2008. “Gender Budgeting in Disaster Relief: Need for a New Methodology.” *Economic and Political Weekly* 43 (17): 73–6.**

**Abstract:**

While making policies and designing disaster recovery programmes, the different gender roles and responsibilities that are socially attributed to men and women should be taken into account. The programmes should focus specifically on the women's component in the general scheme or women-specific schemes. The gender perspective should be incorporated into disaster budgeting in such a way that the vulnerable are catered to according to their specific needs. (*Abstract from original source*)

**True, Jacqui. 2013. “Gendered Violence in Natural Disasters: Learning from New Orleans, Haiti and Christchurch.” *Aotearoa New Zealand Social Work* 25 (2): 78–89.**

**Abstract:**

Why are women so vulnerable to violence and death as a result of disaster compared with men? This article investigates how global environmental forces in the form of natural disasters from floods, droughts and famines to earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes affect women and men differently. Disasters are known to have direct and indirect impacts on gender-based violence particularly against women and girls, revealing a pattern of heightened violence and vulnerability in their aftermath. These gendered impacts are directly relevant to social work theory, practice and advocacy, which seek to promote social wellbeing and to prevent violence in homes and communities during and in the aftermath of disasters. The article argues that women's unequal economic and social status relative to men before a disaster strikes determines the extent of their vulnerability to violence during and after a crisis. If gender-based violence and women's particular needs are not addressed in disaster preparedness, disaster recovery plans and humanitarian

assistance, then women and girls' vulnerability will increase. The article offers some lessons based on primary research of responses to the 2010-2011 Christchurch earthquakes against the backdrop of what we know about the responses to an earthquake of similar magnitude in Haiti in 2009. It draws implications from this research for social work theory, practice and advocacy, highlighting the importance of ensuring that future disaster planning and decision making is gender-sensitive. (*Abstract from original source*)  
*Keywords: Canterbury earthquakes; Christchurch earthquakes; disaster; women; gender; Haiti earthquake; violence; gender planning*

**Von Kotze, Astrid. 1996. "Why Disasters Are a Gender Issue." *Agenda: Empowering Women for Gender Equity* 12 (29): 22–6.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"As women are the hardest hit in times of disaster, and their very survival strategies impact on the environment, Astrid Von Kotze believes it is imperative that disaster management programmes consider gender in all stages of planning and implementation to reduce risks to disasters" (Von Kotze 1996, 22).

**West, Darrell M., and Marion Orr. 2007. "Race, Gender, and Communications in Natural Disasters." *Policy Studies Journal* 35 (4): 569–86.**

**Abstract:**

We examine public attitudes toward vulnerability and evacuation in hurricane natural disasters. Using the results of an opinion survey in a coastal, New England state, we find important differences in how men and women, and Whites and minorities perceive natural disasters. Race, gender, and geographic proximity to the coast affect how vulnerable people believe their residence is to a major hurricane, while government officials and media reporting telling people to evacuate influence evacuation decisions. In order to avoid future breakdowns, governments need to understand the different information processing approaches of various groups of people. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: natural disasters; emergency planning; race; gender; communications; public opinion*

**Witvorapong, Nopphol, Raya Muttarak, and Wiraporn Pothisiri. 2015. "Social Participation and Disaster Risk Reduction Behaviors in Tsunami Prone Areas." *PLoS ONE* 10 (7): 1–20.**

**Abstract:**

This paper examines the relationships between social participation and disaster risk reduction actions. A survey of 557 households in tsunami prone areas in Phang Nga, Thailand was conducted following the 2012 Indian Ocean earthquakes. We use a

multivariate probit model to jointly estimate the likelihood of undertaking three responses to earthquake and tsunami hazards (namely, (1) following disaster-related news closely, (2) preparing emergency kits and/or having a family emergency plan, and (3) having an intention to migrate) and community participation. We find that those who experienced losses from the 2004 tsunami are more likely to participate in community activities and respond to earthquake hazards. Compared to men, women are more likely to prepare emergency kits and/or have an emergency plan and have a greater intention to migrate. Living in a community with a higher proportion of women with tertiary education increases the probability of engaging in community activities and carrying out disaster risk reduction measures. Individuals who participate in village-based activities are 5.2% more likely to undertake all three risk reduction actions compared to those not engaging in community activities. This implies that encouraging participation in community activities can have positive externalities in disaster mitigation. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Yamashita, Azusa, Christopher Gomez, and Kelly Dombroski. 2017. “Segregation, Exclusion and LGBT People in Disaster Impacted Areas: Experiences from the Higashinihon Dai-Shinsai (Great East-Japan Disaster).” *Gender, Place & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography* 24 (1): 64–71.**

**Abstract:**

The Great East-Japan Disaster, which began with the earthquake and tsunami of March 2011, prompted discussions throughout the Japanese lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community on the vulnerabilities that LGBT people face during disaster because of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. This short essay shares some of the post-disaster experiences, challenges and discussions of the LGBT community in Japan. Reports coming out of the LGBT community have stressed that pre-disaster discrimination and fears of discrimination and repression among LGBT people have hampered their recovery. There is a real fear of being discriminated against and having their family and friends discriminated against. This situation has led to the isolation and vulnerability of LGBT individuals. Despite the majority being reluctant to come out publically, the disaster forced numerous individuals to reveal their gender identity, particularly when confronted with life in shelters, the lack of supply of medication and so on. In turn, this has resulted in instances of discrimination and bullying. These accounts reveal that the main aims of disaster policies and disaster ethics – based on addressing the greatest good of the majority – largely fail to cater for LGBT people, who are not only victims of the disaster but can also be valuable contributors in the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) process. (*Abstract from original source*)

*Keywords: vulnerability; inequalities; disaster management; LGBT; Great East Japan Disaster; social exclusion*

**Young, Kim A., Robert T. Greenbaum, and Noah C. Dormady. 2017. “Sex, Gender, and Disasters: Experimental Evidence on the Decision to Invest in Resilience.” *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* 24 (September): 439–50.**

**Abstract:**

Increasing sensitivity to terrorism, economic volatility, frequent and severe natural disasters, and infrastructure disruptions has intensified interest in resilience, the ability to withstand or recover from catastrophe. The growing research on disaster preparedness and recovery policies have been aggregate-level analyses focusing on communities, organizations, or the physical environments. Absent from this literature is an exploration of the role of individual decision-makers in determining the resilience strategies of firms, even though the hardiness of business is crucial to maintaining robust local, regional, and global economies. To address this, our research uses a randomized controlled experimental design to examine whether biological sex or gender diversity might lead to decision-making that improves investments in resilience to calamitous events. We study decisions related to a core resilience strategy, investment in inventories, across professional manager and student subject pools. We find that although females perceive a higher probability of a catastrophic event, male and female subjects do not make different investment decisions when faced with uncertainty and risk. Importantly, a gender construct capturing congruence with feminine personality attributes does correspond with increased resilience investment and is driven by differences between managers and students. Increased gender diversity in decision-making bodies may serve to improve economic resilience of firms and other organizations. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: economic resilience; gender; experimental economics; disasters; decision-making; middle-market*

**Yumarni, Tri, Dilanthi Amaratunga, and Richard Haigh. 2014. "Assessing Gender Vulnerability within Post-Earthquake Reconstruction: Case Study from Indonesia." *Procedia Economics and Finance* 18 (January): 763–71.**

**Abstract:**

Understanding types of gender vulnerability and its determinants within disaster management context is useful to protect women and men from greater destabilization, to achieve better process of disaster management, to enhance sustainability of reconstruction and to build community resilience. Using mixed method combining qualitative and quantitative data analysis, this study reveals various dimensions of gender vulnerability within post-earthquake reconstruction at Yogyakarta province. This study found that the physical dimension (i.e. women with disabilities, pregnant women, elderly women), four types of social dimension (i.e. homeless women, violence against women, widow with many dependents, women heading household), and two types of economic dimension (i.e. women with debt burden and women with lack of productive assets) are the most prominent dimension. Existing patriarchal culture and weak of gendered institution are the root causes of gender vulnerability. This study suggests assessing gender vulnerability within post-disaster reconstruction helps key stakeholders to identify dimensions and determinants of gender vulnerability that should be tackled to ensure gender equality within post-disaster reconstruction. *(Abstract from original source)*

*Keywords: gender; vulnerability; post-earthquake reconstruction; Indonesia*

## II. Non-Academic Sources

**Australian Agency for International Development, and United Nations Development Programme. 2009. *The Gendered Dimensions of Disaster Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change - Stories from the Pacific*. Suva, Fiji: UNDP Pacific Centre.**

*No abstract available.*

### **Summary:**

“The Crisis Prevention Recovery (CPR) Team of the Pacific Centre understands that conflict, disaster and climate change impacts men and women differently. Women have been seen as playing particularly strong roles in disaster preparedness, management and recovery. Therefore the CPR-Unit ensures that gender is mainstreamed across all support provided to ensure that their work has an impact on women’s lives, security and dignity as described in the UNDP Eight Point Agenda for Gender Equality in Crisis Prevention and Recovery.

“To further these objectives, the CPR team of the UNDP Pacific Centre, with support from the Australian Government’s Agency for International Development (AusAID), invited 38 people from more than 10 Pacific Island countries, multiple government agencies, civil society, and Non- Government Organisations (NGOs) in the Pacific to attend the Forum on the Gendered Dimensions of Disaster Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change held in Suva, Fiji, on 21 and 22 February 2008. At the forum participants identified strategies for integrating gender, disaster risk reduction and climate change into resource management programming in the Pacific. They also explored ways expert practitioners in the region could collaborate in these areas, paying particular attention to understanding the gender dimensions of their respective fields. Until recently, the disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change sectors have worked along parallel lines and paid little attention to gender. The forum highlighted that successful strategies require women and men in rural and urban communities to be engaged in decision making at all levels” (Australian Agency for International Development and the United Nations Development Programme 2009, v).

**Bhatt, Mihir. 1995. "Gender and Disaster: Perspectives on Women as Victims of Disasters." Discussion Paper. Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad, India.**

*No abstract available.*

**Bradshaw, Sarah. 2004. "Socio-Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters: A Gender Analysis." 32. CEPAL - SERIE Manuales. Santiago, Chile: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), under the supervision of the Women and Development Unit.**

**Abstract:**

This paper analyses the socio-economic effects of hurricane Mitch using a gender approach and proposes new analysis indicators for crisis situations that may better reflect women's disadvantageous position relative to men. The first section of the document discusses key concepts used in gender and disaster analysis, in the context of the region and hurricane Mitch. The following section examines the direct and indirect impacts, and looks at how they have affected women, as well as the responses to Mitch at three levels: first, that of individuals and their strategies for coping with the crisis; second, the actions of governments and the coordinated bodies of civil society; and third, reconstruction initiatives carried out by national and international organizations. The final section attempts to draw together the salient points and challenges suggested by the analysis. It also offers some recommendations for integrating this approach into future emergency and reconstruction scenarios and for reducing women's current vulnerability. (*Abstract from original source*)

**Butterbaugh, Laura. 2005. "Why Did Hurricane Katrina Hit Women So Hard?" *Off Our Backs* 35 (9/10): 17-9.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"Why were so many women left behind? How do women experience a natural disaster differently from men? Why are women more vulnerable? These were questions that should have been asked by the disaster planners, media, and commentators. While they were asking hard questions about race and class and the impact of the hurricane, how did they all miss that gender was an equally important issue? In an analysis of the disaster, race, class and gender are inextricably linked. Why, even at their most visible, are women still invisible?" (Butterbaugh 2005, 17)

**Carson, Marcus, Åse Johannessen, Atakilte Beyene, Elise Remling, Cecilia Ruben, and Sophie Peter. 2013. *Institutionalizing Gender Equality in Disaster Risk Reduction: DRR Challenges and Impacts on Women and Men, Girls and Boys in the Context of a Changing Climate*. Karlstad: Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB).**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

While MSB has many years of experience of implementing environmental and gender perspectives in its humanitarian work, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation present a different set of opportunities and challenges, including a larger need for social change along with conventional development work.

This report clarifies the links between adaptation and DRR and examines how gender aspects relate to each area. It also provides an overview of the ways in which a gender



perspective informs adaptation efforts and how these relate to MSB's work, and an analysis of the relevant stakeholders, capacity, and main actors at different levels of governance.

This report takes two complementary approaches to the gender issue. The first, commonly referred to as "intersectionality", examines gender in conjunction with other social structures. The second is a systems approach to understanding social stability and change, and brings to light the variety of ways social interactions can be structured.

The findings make it clear that women and girls are especially vulnerable to climate change impacts and disasters, and there is an urgent need to examine gender differences and to better understand women's needs as beneficiaries of DRR efforts and their roles as actors in these efforts.

The authors conclude that the implications of climate impacts for gender issues need to become an integral component in MSB's operations. Implementing gender policies and actions requires clarity, institutional change, and senior management buy-in, supported and informed by accurate sex-disaggregated information. The report addresses how to achieve this by formulating strategic areas for action, and describing potential activities under each. *(Summary from Stockholm Environment Institute)*

**D'Cunha, Jean. 1997. "Engendering Disaster Preparedness and Management." *Asian Disaster Management News* 3 (3).**

*No abstract available.*

**Duryog, Nivaran. 1996. *Proceedings: Workshop on Gender and Disasters*. Multan, Pakistan, March 6-8.**

*No abstract available.*

**Enarson, Elaine. 1997. *Responding to Domestic Violence and Disaster: Guidelines for Women's Services and Disaster Practitioners*. British Columbia: Disaster Preparedness Resources Centre.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"Hurricane Andrew hit many people hard, but especially low-income women, single mothers, and recent immigrants. Long after city workers cleaned up the visible destruction, displaced families still camped out in half-repaired homes and overcrowded trailers. Residents discovered how little disaster grants and vouchers could replace and how fragile the spirit of shared struggle during crisis was. Women like Beatrice, Diana, and Lois were

less safe than ever from violence in their own homes when Betty Hearn Morrow and I met them six months later while documenting the social impacts of the hurricane “through women’s eyes. This US and Canadian survey of women surviving violence and disaster was inspired by their experiences” (Enarson 1997, 1).

**Enarson, Elaine. 2004. “Making Risky Environments Safer: Women Building Sustainable and Disaster-Resilient Communities.” *Women 2000 and Beyond*. New York: United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This issue of *Women 2000 and Beyond* addresses gender issues in disaster reduction and sustainable development. It provides a gender analysis of the increasing risks and the impacts of disasters, and discusses the notions of risk and physical and social vulnerability from a gender perspective. Early warning and risk reducing approaches that enhance women’s disaster resilience are discussed. Other issues raised include gender roles that put women in hazardous positions and gender-specific impacts of degraded environments and natural disasters. The issue draws important links between women’s empowerment and sustainable development and disaster reduction. (*Summary from UN Women*)

**Food and Agricultural Organization. 2013. *Striving for Gender Equality in Emergencies*. FAO in Emergencies Guidance Note. Rome: Food and Agricultural Organization.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“Gender equality is central to FAO’s mandate to achieve food security by raising the levels of nutrition, improving agricultural productivity and natural resources management, and improving the lives of rural populations.

“Crises, conflicts or natural disasters do not affect everybody equally. In wartime, women and children disproportionately suffer. Men’s and women’s different needs, priorities and capacities need to be considered for FAO’s emergency and rehabilitation work to be effective and durable.

“A gender-sensitive disaster risk management (DRM) approach increases the resilience of vulnerable men and women of all ages, their capacity to recover from disasters in a sustainable manner as well as their ability to contribute more effectively to, and benefit more fully from, opportunities offered by emergency and transition programming” (FAO 2013, 1).

**Hannah, Carolyn. 2002. “Mainstreaming Gender Perspectives in Environmental Management and Mitigation of Natural Disasters.” presented at the Roundtable Panel and Discussion organized by The United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women and the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in preparation for the 46th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women on Disproportionate Impact of Natural Disasters on Women, United Nations Conference Room 5, January 17.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“In my presentation I will focus on the gender mainstreaming strategy in relation to environmental management and mitigation of natural disasters and touch on some of the changes that need to take place at the level of policies and strategies. I strongly believe that the momentum for effective change should come through a “bottom- up” rather than a “top-down” approach. Policy and strategy development at global and national levels – must be based on lessons from the ground if it is to achieve people-centred sustainable environmental management and disaster mitigation” (Hannan 2002, 2).

**Le Masson, Virginie, and Lara Langston. 2014. “How Should the New International Disaster Risk Framework Address Gender Equality?” Policy Brief. London: Climate and Development Knowledge Network.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“Today, international development policies have an increased focus on gender inequality. This is thanks to decades of lobbying by women’s organisations to improve women’s status and promote equal participation in economic, social and environmental decision-making. The Beijing Declaration, agreed at the United Nations (UN) ‘Fourth World Conference on Women’ in 1995, called on governments to design and implement effective gender-sensitive development policies and programmes, with the full participation of women at all levels. However, by the end of the 1990s there was no significant progress in reforming legal, political, economic and social structures.<sup>1</sup> In response, the UN made the empowerment of women and the promotion of gender equality one of the eight internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be realised by 2015. The approach adopted by the MDGs focused on achieving equality in education and improving maternal health, but it excluded key aspects of gender relations such as gender-based violence and did not address disaster risk” (Le Masson and Langston 2014, 1).

**Marshall, Lucinda. 2005. “Were Women Raped in New Orleans? Addressing the Human Rights of Women in Crisis.” *Off Our Backs* 35 (9/10): 14-15.**

*No abstract available.*

**Mlambo-Ngcuka, Phumzile, and Robert Glasser. 2017. “Gender Equality Can Save Women’s Lives in Disasters.” *HuffPost*, May 9.**

**[https://www.huffpost.com/entry/gender-equality-can-save-womens-lives-in-disasters\\_b\\_5910a273e4b056aa2363d790](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/gender-equality-can-save-womens-lives-in-disasters_b_5910a273e4b056aa2363d790).**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

In an op-ed ahead of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and Robert Glasser, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction and head of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, highlight the importance of recognizing the greater risks women experience and their unique roles in resilience building, disaster response and recovery. *(Summary from UN Women)*

**Oxfam International. 2005. “The Tsunami’s Impact on Women.” Briefing Note. Oxfam International.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“This briefing seeks to promote debate and awareness of the issues and to ensure that the recovery phase of the relief effort integrates the problems raised. It looks at the impact of the tsunami in Indonesia, India, and Sri Lanka, and in particular at how it has affected women. It concludes with some recommendations about how we can start addressing the problems raised” (Oxfam 2005, 1).

**Oxfam International. 2013. “Oxfam Minimum Standards for Gender in Emergencies.” Oxford: Oxfam GB for Oxfam International.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“These standards were originally developed for Oxfam staff to ensure a consistent approach to promoting gender equality in humanitarian preparedness and response programming. They are provided here as a tool for humanitarian programme practitioners and as part of our commitment to transparency, sharing good practice and improving quality across the sector. These standards should be referred to throughout the project cycle to inform planning, programme design and implementation, and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning” (Oxfam 2013, 1).

**Pan American Health Organization. 2000. "Gender and Natural Disasters." Fact Sheet. Women, Health and Development Program. Pan American Health Organization.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"Human beings have been at the mercy of natural disasters since the beginning of time. Floods, fires, earthquakes and tremors, mudslides, volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunami, tropical storms, ice storms, landslides, droughts and famine consistently remind us of how vulnerable we are.

"The recent increase in attention to the effects of natural disasters has resulted in a plethora of different perspectives on the issue. In particular, several authors have brought a gender focus to the analysis of disaster mitigation and response, with some very interesting results (See Enarson, Delaney and Shrader, Byrne and Baden). The image of the suffering woman and child during a disaster is a popular one in the media. Women are disproportionately affected by natural disasters, usually as a result of their gendered status in society. What the media does not show, however is that women are a vital part of disaster mitigation and response efforts, whether acting within their traditional gender roles, or transcending them" (Pan American Health Organization 2000).

**Seager, Joni. 2005. "Natural Disasters Expose Gender Divides." *Chicago Tribune*. September 14.**

*No abstract available.*

**Seager, Joni. 2006. "Editorial: Noticing Gender (or Not) in Disasters." *Geoforum* 37: 2-3.**

*No abstract available.*

**United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) and the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UN/ISDR). 2001. *Environmental Management and the Mitigation of Natural Disasters: A Gender Perspective*. New York: United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

"The Commission on the Status of Women decided to consider the topic "Environmental management and mitigation of natural disasters: a gender perspective" as a priority theme at its forty- sixth session in 2002, and as a possible contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, South Africa) in September 2002. The Division for the Advancement of Women, in collaboration with Inter-Agency Secretariat of the

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), and in consultation with the Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSD/DESA) organized an Expert Group Meeting on “Environmental management and the mitigation of natural disasters: a gender perspective”, which took place in Ankara (Turkey) from 6 to 9 November 2001.

“The expert group meeting discussed the links among gender, environmental management, natural disaster reduction and risk management and the role of different actors. It adopted a number of recommendations on policies, legislation, participation, information and capacity building, research and the role of the international community” (DAW and UN/ISDR 2001).

**United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs. 1996. *Summaries and Analysis: Report on 1995 Day for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: Women and Children: Key to Prevention*. New York; Geneva: United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs.**

*No abstract available.*

**United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. 2015. *Women’s Leadership in Risk-Resilient Development: Good Practices and Lessons Learned*. Bangkok: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“The present publication, entitled Women’s Leadership in Risk-Resilient Development: Good Practices & Lessons Learned, aims to shed some light on women’s capabilities to take leading roles in building disaster resilience. It features women as drivers of change in different socio-economic contexts, and under various gender conditions.

“While the examples portrayed in this publication present a broad range of approaches to women-led disaster risk reduction across humanitarian, environmental and development sectors, a single common thread binds them together – each practice is an effort to shift the identity of women from beneficiaries to key actors in shaping, building and sustaining resilience to disasters.

“The selected case studies also reflect the way gender issues are understood in disaster risk reduction across the globe, and offer unique perspectives of and approaches to the subject” (UNISDR 2015, VI).

**United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and International Union for Conservation of**

**Nature (IUCN). 2009. *Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive: Policy and Practical Guidelines*. Geneva: UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

“Disasters don’t discriminate, but people do. Existing socio-economic conditions mean that disasters can lead to different outcomes even for demographically similar communities - but inevitably the most vulnerable groups suffer more than others. Research reveals that disasters reinforce, perpetuate and increase gender inequality, making bad situations worse for women. Meanwhile, the potential contributions that women can offer to the disaster risk reduction imperative around the world are often overlooked and female leadership in building community resilience to disasters is frequently disregarded.

“IUCN, UNDP and UNISDR have been working jointly to integrate gender issues into disaster risk reduction across the board. For IUCN, the growing impact of climate change-related disasters on women is of immense concern. Meanwhile, UNDP’s Eight Point Agenda for Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality in Crisis Prevention and Recovery, emphasizes the need to promote gender equality in disaster risk reduction initiatives and to support women and men to build back better. This joint publication is a result of a UNISDR-led process supporting implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA).

“This pivotal publication offers much-needed policy and practical guidelines for national and local governments to further implement the HFA. Disaster risk reduction that delivers gender equality is a cost-effective win-win option for reducing vulnerability and sustaining the livelihoods of whole communities. Urgent risk reduction action from the global to the local level is also crucial for tackling climate change adaptation, and for strengthening overall development gains in an integrated manner. We hope this landmark document will help reverse the slow and inconsistent progress thus far on confronting these pressing challenges” (UNISDR, UNDP, and IUCN 2009, IV-V).

**van der Gaag, Nikki. 2013. “In Double Jeopardy: Adolescent Girls and Disasters.” *Because I Am a Girl: The State of the World’s Girls 2013*. Plan International.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

This report presents an analysis of how the different stages of a disaster can affect adolescent girls’ rights in many different ways. Not all are necessarily negative. It takes as its framework the four categories of rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child – survival, protection, development and participation – and examines how they relate to adolescent girls in disasters. Although disasters are our primary focus, there are some parallels with the way girls are affected in conflict situations, which we also look at.

In the introductory chapter, we set the scene and show how adolescent girls are uniquely vulnerable in a disaster, but also how they can be extremely resilient during all its phases. We examine how the way they are treated in an emergency bears a direct relation to their lack of status and power over their own lives under ‘normal’ circumstances. We argue that the humanitarian community needs to be answerable to the rights and wellbeing of adolescent girls. And with this in mind we call for aid delivery to be restructured to take account of their needs.

In Chapter 2, on survival, we examine how gender inequality has an impact on adolescent girls in disasters that may put their lives at risk. We explain the psychological effects of disasters on adolescent girls, and show how their needs, including sexual and reproductive health, are often not attended to. We examine the problems caused by inadequate sanitation facilities and lack of provision for menstruation. We examine family planning and maternity services and issues arising in disasters from sexually transmitted diseases and HIV. Finally, we show how adolescent girls can be involved in activities that build better health by learning about prevention and protection.

In Chapter 3 on safety and protection, we show how the risk of violence, including sexual violence, both in and outside the home, increases during disasters, and how adolescent girls may be particularly vulnerable because of their age and sex. We look at coping strategies that actually make things worse for girls, such as child marriage or transactional sex. We explain why it is difficult for girls to speak out about abuse. We give examples of good practice and outline what can be done by governments, donors and the humanitarian community to protect adolescent girls during disasters.

Chapter 4 focuses on development and, in particular, girls’ education and learning in disasters. We look at the importance of education for girls, both formal schooling, but also learning about disaster risk reduction and skills that will protect them. We examine the reasons why girls leave school in emergencies. We explore the fact that there may be a small window of opportunity, just after a disaster, to ensure that adolescent girls have access to education, training, and more choice in their lives. This window quickly closes. But it can also be used by the humanitarian community to take disaster work beyond ‘do no harm’ to develop new skills to adapt to a more disaster-prone future.

Chapter 5 looks at adolescent girls’ participation in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and the positive roles they can play. We look at why girls are not listened to, particularly those with a disability, or from a minority group, or with a different sexual orientation. This report also showcases stories and quotes from adolescent girls who have shown their resilience even in such difficult circumstances; for example, by being involved in monitoring work or helping to set up complaint mechanisms. In this way, they were also able to challenge humanitarian organisations to make themselves and their work more accountable to girls.

Finally, Chapter 6 presents an action plan and specific recommendations for donors, governments and the humanitarian community that will hold them accountable for improving provision. In order to make girls in disasters visible but also to keep them safe,



decision-makers must listen to what they have to say, and allow them to play a role in disaster planning and risk reduction programmes. They need to allocate funds and pay attention to girls' needs as separate from those of boys or women. And those working in the humanitarian arena need to be aware of their responsibilities towards girls and young women, to acknowledge the contribution they can make, and to recognise that if they continue to ignore them, the development targets of gender equality and quality education for all will never be reached. *(Summary from original source)*

**Walker, Bridget, ed. 1994. *Women and Emergencies*. Oxfam Focus on Gender. Oxford: Oxfam (UK and Ireland).**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

There is a tendency for gender considerations to be marginal, or absent, in the response to disasters and emergencies. The need for swift action in a crisis, and the cost and complexity of relief operations, mean that emergency programmes are often implemented in a top-down manner, with little attempt to involve the affected community. Women, in particular, are seldom consulted about their needs and problems. The papers in this book consider some of the dilemmas of emergency relief operations, and look at the experience of women in situations of crisis, their particular vulnerabilities, and their capacities and strengths. The need to take a developmental approach to emergencies is stressed, and to support women in their role as family managers, and also as producers and providers. Seeing people as a resource, rather than as passive victims, and looking at their skills and strengths, should be an integral part of the approach by relief organisations in order to help the community to recover from the disaster and build for the future. *(Summary from Oxfam UK)*

**World Health Organization (WHO). 2002. *Gender and Health in Disasters*. Geneva: WHO Department of Gender, Women and Health.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

There is a general lack of research on sex and gender differences in vulnerability to and impact of disasters. The limited information available from small scale studies suggests that there is a pattern of gender differentiation at all levels of the disaster process: exposure to risk, risk perception, preparedness, response, physical impact, psychological impact, recovery and reconstruction. *(Summary from World Health Organization)*

**Yonder, Ayse, Sengul Akcar, and Prema Gopalan. 2005. *Women's Participation in Disaster Relief and Recovery*. New York: The Population Council.**

*No abstract available.*

**Summary:**

Too little attention has been given to the gender-differentiated effects of natural disasters, that is, women's losses relative to men's, how women's work time and conditions change (both in terms of care-giving and income-generating work), or how disaster-related aid and entitlement programs include or marginalize affected women. The case studies in this publication suggest that as the numbers of disasters increase, donors would do well to invest in the collective organizing power of affected women. *(Summary from UNICEF)*