

Women in War – Dr. Dalit Baum



Feminist Studies #140, UC Santa Cruz

Summer Session I

The course examines gender in wartime and in militarized societies, and women's organizing in different "war zones" as mothers, warriors and traitors. It discusses dilemmas of feminist peace politics, the challenges to coalitions in conflict and the experience of transnational organizing.

Examples from various militarized conflicts and local activists' groups from around the world will be introduced through guests, films and original publications.

Course Assignments:

1. "War on Words"- creating an alternative dictionary entry (mid-semester)
2. "Organizing for Peace" – group project, researching and critiquing a peace group which uses gendered, feminist or queer ideologies or tactics.

Course Reading:

The main text book is: *The Women and War Reader*, Lorentzen & Turpin, NYU Press 1998. An additional book that will be useful for the project "War on Words" in week three is: *Shock and Awe*, Eekelen, Gonzalez, Stotzer & Tsing, New Pacific Press, 2004. In addition, a class reader will serve mainly as a collection of international examples and documents. See below last year's reader table of contents.

Women and War



Course topics:

1. Introductions; Women in wartime- the example of WWI
2. Feminist peace politics – in theory and in activism
3. Gender and national conflict
4. Bringing war home: Militarism and the culture of war
5. Motherhood – in peace and in war
6. Military bases and prostitution: Reframing security
7. Women Warriors – liberation movements, the military
8. What is feminist about women's peace movements?
9. Ecofeminism, solidarity, and transnational movements
10. Students' Presentations and Conclusions.



Baum is a feminist scholar and activist who lives and works in Israel/ Palestine.

In recent years she has been active with the nonviolent joint Palestinian- Israeli campaign against the Apartheid Wall in Palestine.

She studies Feminist peace politics, the body in protest and resistance and queer coalitions for social justice.

Reader Table of Contents (will serve mainly as additional sources)

1. Jane Barry, "How do women activists respond to conflict?"
2. Soha Bechara, excerpts from *Resistance - My Life for Lebanon*
3. Dalit Baum, "Women in Black and Men in Pink"
4. Carol Cohn, "Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals"
5. Souad Dajani, "Between National and Social Liberation: The Palestinian women's movement"
6. Aya De Leon, "Grito De Vieques"
7. Barbara Ehrenreich and Rosa Ehrenreich Brooks, "A twisted Sense of Duty and Love"
8. Cynthia Enloe, "The Prostitute, the Colonel and the Nationalist"
9. Amira Gelblum, "Ideological Crossroads: Feminism, Pacifism and Socialism"
10. bell hooks, "Feminism and Militarism: a comment"
11. Kyle Kajihiro, "An Overview of the US Military in Hawaii" March 9, 2006
12. Gwyn Kirk, "Exploring Militarized Hawaii", *Maluhia Me Ka Pono*, May 2002
13. East Asia- US- Puerto Rico Women's Network against Militarism, "Final Statement", 2002.
14. "Diosa" Statement, Philippine Working Group against Militarism, November 2002.
15. Karen Kampwirth, "New Roles for Sandino's Daughters"
16. Nadera Shalhoub-Kvorkian, "Growing from Within"
17. Ronit Lentin, "Feminist Snapshots from the Edge"
18. Nurit Peled-Elhanan, "A Mother's Plea"
19. Sara Ruddick, "From Maternal Thinking to Peace Politics"
20. Orna Sasson-Levy, "Masculinities and Citizenship in the Israeli Army"
21. Su Schachter, "Lesbians in the Peace Movement"
23. Simona Sharoni, "Gender, Military Occupation and Violence against Women"
24. Ann Snitow, "On Being Joyously Political in Dangerous Times"
25. Statements from women and women's organizations after Sept. 11
26. Alice Walker, Medea Benjamin, Jodie Evans, Arundhati Roy, "To Be Led By Happiness"
27. Women in Black, Belgrade, selection from *We Are Still in the Streets*, Belgrade 2001.
28. Young, "The Logic of Masculinist Protection: Reflections on the Current Security State"
29. Sta_a Zajovi_, "Childbearing and War (or: how Nationalism, Militarism and Sexism Always Go Hand in Hand)"