



## CALL FOR PAPERS

### FEMINIST MOVEMENTS ACROSS THE BOARD: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

SPONSORED BY THE CENTRE FOR GENDER, SEXUALITY AND WRITING (UNIVERSITY OF KENT)

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*Nobody's going to save you. // No one's going to cut you down // cut the thorns  
thick around you. // No one's going to storm // the castle walls nor // kiss awake  
your birth, // climb down your hair, // nor mount you // onto the white steed.  
There is no one who// will feed the yearning. // Face it. You will have // to do, do it yourself.  
Gloria Anzaldúa – Borderlands/ La Frontera*

*But how could it be any more obvious that we still live in a patriarchal world  
when feminism is a bad word?  
Ellen Page*

Feminist movements have had a fundamental impact on social life in many different parts of the world. Reforms in marriage and private property laws, as well as change in spheres as diverse as sexual life, contraception, and the work-place have had profound consequences on the way we conceptualize, act and signify gender relations. Feminist thinkers and activists have also brought attention to the impact that the intersectionality of racism, heterosexism, poverty and religious intolerance (among many other factors) can have in people's lives.

Despite gradual change, gender-based oppression, even in its most extreme forms, is still a reality across the globe (consider - for instance - the Taliban's attempt to assassinate Pakistani women's education activist Malala Yousafzai in 2012). Recent events of popular appeal, such as One Billion Rising in February 2013, and FEMEN's topless jihad in April 2013, have managed to bring mainstream attention back to questions of gender oppression and have found fruitful ways to interpret the female body for feminist protests.

In academic context, feminist theory has contributed greatly to theoretical

development across disciplinary borders, from the technosciences to the arts. The several instances of feminist hacktivism, working at the intersection of technology, arts and social justice also exemplify the vitality of transdisciplinary feminist contributions.

This special issue of *Contention* aims to provide readers with a broad overview of contemporary feminist perspectives. We aim to publish papers about the impact of feminist theories and movements on literary, cultural, political, scientific and social practices from a transdisciplinary and postdisciplinary approach.

We welcome original papers with empirical or theoretical contributions from the social sciences, arts, and humanities.

Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Genealogies of feminisms
- New critical approaches to gender studies in the arts and literature
- The role of social media in creating and portraying global feminist movements
- Questions of female representation in politics and media
- Intersectionalities, hybrid identities, racism, religion and gender (including analyses of privilege, prejudice and discrimination)
- Transnational, anti-racist, third-world feminisms
- Posthumanist and new materialist feminisms
- Feminisms in the technosciences
- The role of literary genres in writing and re-writing gender
- Concepts of gender after performativity
- Critical theory as political weapon: politicization, artistic representation and critical discourses in feminist movements
- Methodological, epistemological and ontological questions in the study of gender
- Objectification, self-objectification and forms of sexism
- Analyses of discrimination in the workplace
- Analyses of men's rights social movements
- Analyses of womanhood and manhood in contemporary and historical societies: the impact of gender-related social movements
- Posthumanism and feminisms

Although we welcome interdisciplinary papers, work conducted within the boundaries of a single discipline is also suitable for *Contention*. Due to the multidisciplinary audience of our journal, authors should however put efforts in explaining key terms and concepts so that these can be understood across disciplines.

Articles (5,000 – 7,000 word) should be formatted following APA style. Manuscripts should include an abstract of maximum 250 words and a cover page with a biographical note about the authors.

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit an abstract of their paper previous to the submission date.

Deadline for abstracts is **30 November 2013**.

Final submissions of full articles should be sent by **31 MARCH 2014**.

Please send abstracts and full articles to Barbara Franchi - [b.franchi@kent.ac.uk](mailto:b.franchi@kent.ac.uk) and Natália S. Perez – [natalia.perez@fu-berlin.de](mailto:natalia.perez@fu-berlin.de).

More information and full article guidelines are available at the following web address, <http://contentionjournal.org/authors>.