

Women, Welfare and Poverty

Comparative Perspectives

WSTU 265.80 (3)/SOC265

Examination of how different, primarily western, welfare systems respond to gender, including gender's interaction with ethnicity and class. The first focus is upon comparative studies of welfare, gender and inequality, reviewed through different policy areas: paid work; pensions; motherhood and childcare. The final section examines international inequalities of wealth, gender and ethnicity including the political economy of sex.

Required Books

Charles, Nickie (2000), *Feminism, the State and Social Policy*, Basingstoke, Macmillan. (available at GM, AU, AL)

Hobson, Barbara; Lewis, Jane & Siim, Birte (2002), *Contested Concepts in Gender and Social Politics*, Cheltenham, Edward Elgar, available Gelman, HQ1190.C6684 2002)

Marchbank, Jennifer (2000), *Women, Power and Politics: comparative studies of childcare*, London, Routledge. (Gelman HQ1236.M346 2000)

O'Connor, Julia; Orloff, Ann, S & Shaver, Sheila, (1999), *States, markets, families: gender, liberalism and social policy in Australia, Canada, Great Britain and the United States*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, (MU, AU, GT)

Pettman, Jan J (1996), *Worlding Women: a feminist international politics*. London, Routledge, (GW)

Sainsbury, Diane (1996), *Gender, Equality and Welfare States*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. (Gelman, HV1444.S35 1996)

Other Reading

You may have to read these for student presentations, or as aids for other assessments.

Bacchi, Carol Lee (1999), *Women, policy and politics: the construction of policy problems*, London, Sage. (GW)

Baden, Sally with Milward, Kirsty (1997), *Gender Inequality and Poverty: Trends, Linkages, Analysis and Policy Implications*, BRIDGE.
www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports_gender_pov.htm

Bjornberg, Ulla, (2002), 'Ideology and choice between work and care', *Critical Social Policy*, 22 (1), pp 32–52

BRIDGE (2001), Briefing paper on the 'feminisation' of poverty', BRIDGE.
www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports_gender_pov.htm

BRIDGE (2003), 'Gender and Budgets' in *InBrief*, issue 12, .
www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/dgb12.html

Caiazza, Amy, Shaw, April U Werschkul, Misha (2004), Status of Women in the United States, IWPR (www.iwpr.org)

Carabine, J (1992), "'Constructing women": women's sexuality and social policy'.
Critical Social Policy, 34

Chan, Kam Wah & Chan, Fung Yi (2003), 'Inclusion or exclusion?', *Critical Social Policy*, 23 (4)

Colwill, J (1994), 'Beveridge, women and the welfare state', *Critical Social Policy*, 41.

Conley, Dalton (1999), *Being black, living in the red*. Berkeley, University of California Press, library ref

Davis, Peter R (2001), 'Rethinking the Welfare Regime Approach: the Case of Bangladesh', *Global Social Policy*, vol 1 (1), pp 79–117 (available at GM or online at www.sagepub.co.uk/journalIssue.aspx?pid=105564&jiid=513418)

Enloe, Cynthia (1989) *Bananas, Beaches and Bases: making feminist sense of international politics* (chapters 2 and 4), Berkeley, University of California Press,

Fraser, Nancy (1997), 'After the Family Wage: A Post Industrial Thought Experiment', in N. Fraser, *Justice Interruptus: Critical Reflections on the 'Postsocialist' Conditions*, London, Routledge

Gordon, Linda (1994), *Pitied but not Entitled: Single Mothers and the History of Welfare, 1890–1935*, New York, Free Press, (Gelman, HU699.G67 1994)

Gough, Orla, (2001), 'The impact of the gender pay gap on post-retirement earnings', *Critical Social Policy*, 21 (3), pp311–334

Hancock, Linda, (2002), 'The care crunch', *Critical Social Policy*, 22 (1), pp 119–140

Henry, Coleen, Werschkul, Misha & Rao, Manita (2003), Child Care Subsidies Promote Mothers' Employment and Childrens' Development, IWPR, (available at www.iwpr.org)

- Hernes, Helga Maria (1987), *Welfare state and woman power: essays in state feminism*, Oxford, Oxford University Press. (GW – HQ1667.H47 1987)
- Hibbett, Angelika and Meager, Nigel (2003), 'Key indicators of women's position in Britain', *Labour Market Trends*, vol 111 (10), pp 503–512, available on www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_labour/Keyindicatorsofwomen_LMTOct.pdf
- Kaul, Hjordis (1991), 'Who Cares? Gender Inequality and Care Leave in the Nordic Countries', *Acta Sociologica*, 34, pp115–125
- Lewis, Jane (1997) (ed), *Lone Mothers in European Welfare Regimes: Shifting Policy Logics*, London, Taylor & Francis
- Morris, Jenny (1993), *Independent Lives? Community Care and Disabled People*, Basingstoke, Macmillan
- Nasir, S (1996), "'Race", gender and social policy', in Hallett, Christine (ed), *Women and Social Policy*, details
- Nyberg, Anita, (2002), 'Gender, (de)commodification, economic (in)dependence and autonomous households', *Critical Social Policy*, 22 (1), pp72–95
- Orloff, Ann S (1993), *The Politics of Pensions: A Comparative Analysis of Canada, Great Britain and the United States*, Wisconsin
- Orloff, Ann S (1993), 'Gender and the social rights of citizenship: state policies and gender relationships in comparative research', *American Sociological Review*, 58 (3), pp303–28
- Orloff, Ann S, (1997), 'On Jane Lewis's Male Breadwinner Regime Typology', *Social Politics*, 4 pp188–202
- Orloff, Ann S, (2002), 'Explaining US Welfare Reform: Power, Gender, Race and the US Policy Legacy', In *Critical Social Policy*, 22, pp97–119
- Rosenfeld, Rachel A & Kalleberg, Anne L, (1991), 'Gender Inequality in the Labor Market: A Cross–National Perspective', *Acta Sociologica*, 34, pp207–225
- Scott, Gill; Campbell, Jim and Brown, Usha (2002), 'Child care, social inclusion and urban regeneration', *Critical Social Policy*, 22 (2), pp 226–246
- Sevenhuijsen, Selma; Bozalek, Vivienne; Gouws, Amanda & Minnaar–McDonald, Marie, (2003), 'South African social welfare policy', *Critical Social Policy*, 23 (3)

Twomey, Breda, (2002), 'Women in the labour market: results from the spring 2001 LFS', in *Labour Market Trends*, available online at www.statistics.gov.uk/articles/labour_market_trends/Women_in_the_labour_market_mar2002.pdf

Wichterich, Christa, (2000), *The Globalized Woman*, London, Zed

Williams, Fiona (1989), *Social Policy: A Critical Introduction, Issues of Race, Gender and Class*, Cambridge, Polity, Gelman, HN390.W48 1989)

Also Useful

Clift, Stephen & Carter, Simon, (2000), (eds) *Tourism and Sex: Culture, Commerce and Coercion*, New York, Continuum International Publishing

Letherby, Gayle & Marchbank, Jen (2003), 'Cyber Chattels: buying brides and buying babies ' in Yvonne Jewkes, *Dot.cons: crime, deviance and identity on the Internet*, Devon, Willan

STEWART, M M (2002) ' Sex on the Beach and other Secrets that Mother Never Told You about Coastal Tourism', *InterCoast*, Winter
http://www.crc.uri.edu/comm/download/IC_41/Stewart.pdf

You should also consult journals, for example:

Acta Sociologica

Annual Review of Sociology

Critical Social Policy, especially issue 1 of volume 22 (2002) on New Divisions of Labour

Feminist Review

Feminist Studies

Global Social Policy

Journal of Social Policy

Social Politics

Women's Studies International Forum

Websites:

IWPR – www.iwpr.org

Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, www.ids.ac.uk/bridge

Labour Force Studies – www.statistics.gov.uk

More to be added during semester, suggestions welcome.

Weekly Schedule (subject to minor changes during the semester)

Each session will begin with an introduction, followed by class discussion on the topic. You are required to read for each session, ideally reading everything listed in each session though something, and alternates, are better than nothing. For the sessions with student reports the final hour will be devoted to reports and discussion led by the student/s concerned.

Part One – Perspectives on Social Welfare

1. Sept 7th Introduction, Class Organisation,
Social Policy Perspectives
Poverty
2. Sept 14th Feminist Perspectives – Unpicking Gendered Assumptions
Read: Charles, chp 1; Sainsbury, chp 1; Marchbank, chp 2 (esp. from p 26)
3. Sept 21st Feminist Perspectives – Developing Comparative Approaches
Read: Sainsbury, chps2 & 3

Part Two – Policy Areas

4. Oct 28th Poverty
Read: Charles, chp 6
5. Oct 5th Paid Work – Inequality During and After
Read: US – Caiazza et al, IWPR
UK – Hibbett & Meager; Twomey
Also useful, Sainsbury, chp 5
6. Oct 12th Pensions and Benefits
Read: Sainsbury, chp 7 for historical background
7. Oct 19th Mothers and Caring
Read: : Leira & Saraceno in Hobson et al; Knijn & Ostner in Hobson et al.
Also you may wish to look at Sainsbury chp 4 for historical background
8. Oct 26th Childcare
Read: Marchbank, chp 4 (also, optional, chp 3 for historical situation); Charles,
pp193–199

Organisation of Student Consortium – attendance is vital

Part Three – International Aspects of Poverty

9. Nov 2nd International Poverty
Read: Baden with Milward, Gender Inequality – whole document, available online

10. Nov 9th International Poverty– Political Economy of Sex Migration – Maids and Mail Order Brides
Tourism and Trafficking
Read: Pettman, chps 6 & 7

Part Four – Student Consortium

11. Nov 16th Panel 1 – to be announced (determined by class)

12. Nov 23rd Panel 2 – to be announced (determined by class)

13. Nov 30th Panel 3 – to be announced (determined by class)

14. Dec 7th Tutorial Support available

15. Dec 14th **Final Paper Due**

Student Presentations – Weekly

Week 3 Sept 21st Reports on Ethnicity, Disability, Sexuality and Social Policy, Williams, chps 1 & 2 and others (3 reports)

Week 4 Sept 28th Reports on Gender and Welfare approaches – Sainsbury, Hobson et al, Fraser (2/3 reports)

Week 5 Oct 5th Reports on Gender Pay Gap (US, UK, or determined by negotiation)

Week 6 Oct 12th Reports on Gender Pension Gap (US, UK, or determined by negotiation)

Week 7 Oct 19th Reports a) gender, care, ethnicity; b) gender, care, disability

Week 9 Nov 2nd Reports on a) Davis on welfare regimes; b) BRIDGE on 'feminisation' of poverty and c) BRIDGE on gender & budgets

Week 10 Nov 9th Reports on a) sex tourism and b) mail order brides

Assessment

The grade for this class is made up of 4 parts. If necessary it is possible to redeem 'failing' grades by better performance in other parts of the assessment.

Class Participation	15%
Student Report (ie short presentation), due as determined in class	15%
Consortium Presentation, due as scheduled	30%
Policy Paper, due Dec 14 th	40%

Class Participation – grade awarded at end of course for overall contribution to the course, including participation in consortium when not a presenting member.

Student Report – each student will give a 10 minute oral presentation on their assigned topic, present issues to be considered and be prepared to answer questions/lead discussion on their presentation. It is not necessary, but you may wish to submit presentation notes, a bibliography, copy of your presentation (eg a powerpoint file). If using handouts please ensure an adequate number for all in the class.

Student Consortium

A consortium is a roundtable discussion, for which everyone has prepared by completing the required reading. Each consortium will consist of 3 to 5 papers which are linked by a similar theme but which address separate topics; for example three papers on the status of elder women in three different countries; a theme of welfare state typologies, each focussing on the work of a specific writer; the differing (social policy) experiences of mothering etc. Students are required to suggest the themes for each consortium and to work together to ensure separate, yet complimentary papers, are delivered. I will chair these sessions, unless the presenting student group wish to chair themselves or to have another class member chair. Papers are to be 5–10 minutes long and are to be submitted for grading after each consortium.

Policy Paper– 2500 to 3000 words plus bibliography

You may research and write on one of the topics covered in the class or negotiate an appropriate topic with the tutor, the topic may be related to previous assessments eg your Report or Consortium contribution. You may select either:

- a) a policy options paper, written for policy makers (you determine the audience), on an appropriate topic (agreed in advance with the tutor). Guidance on Policy Options papers will be provided.
- b) Research brief – write a research brief on an agreed topic for a non-academic policy audience. Guidance will be provided.

Jen Marchbank, Aug 2004

Contact Details

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