ABSTRACT

TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN: THE BALKAN ROUTH

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Presented at Gender and Power in the New Europe, the 5th European Feminist Research Conference
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The Balkan route is nowadays one of the best organized area of trafficking in human beings. Due to the war, militarism, social transition from communism and globalization processes, forced and other kinds of migration, social disorganization, rise in poverty and unemployment among women, feminization of poverty, cultural factors rooted within patriarchal societies, well-established smuggling channels and a lot of other socio-economic and criminal components - trafficking in women and children in Balkan and other East European countries are created as illustrative model of slavery of women and children.

The definition and the size/amount of the phenomenon will be given. This is the most profitable illegal businesses which is spreading more and more. According to the US State Department data from 1998, between 700,000 - 2,000,000 women and children are trafficked every year and traffickers in human beings earn 7-13 billion dollars a year.

According to the statistics of the International Organization for Migration office in Belgrade and concerned to the trafficking in women in Serbia, among others, one can see the next characteristics of the phenomenon. According to the nationality, 51% of women included in the process of trafficking are coming from Moldova; Italy is intended destination for 51% of them; in 54% cases gender of the recruiter was - female; 85% of victims answered that "work" was the reason for which they left their home country; 55% of the victims were in the age of 18-24.

Finally, the comparison regarding the countries from which victims of the traffic in women mostly originate, transit countries via which they cross and destination countries where they end up - will be done.

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The fall of the communist regimes and the opening of borders between Finland and its eastern neighbours has had far-reaching consequences to the situation of commercial sex in Finland. The revival of sex business since the early 1990s was linked to the “supply” of sex workers from the politically and economically unstable neighbouring countries in the east. In Finland, the climate became more favourable for prostitution with the abolishment of the Vagrancy Act in 1987. A further explanatory factor for the “invasion” of commercial sex has been the changes in the gender culture and sexual liberation during the last couple of decades: values underlining individualism and hedonism have, in the prostitution discourse, resulted in the placement of the client’s pleasure before the abuse of the prostitute.

This paper is based on 24 narratives and 5 interviews of Finnish byers of sex. The focus of analysis is on how these men reproduce masculinity and ethnicity and related power expressions on the prostitute encounter. It is my assumption that in the context of sex business, and further, within the discussion concerning prostitution in present-day Finland, relationships of power between the genders are being produced and reproduced, challenged and renegotiated in social action. In a modern society the boundaries between gender roles have become exceedingly blurred. Therefore, commercial sex may offer some men a social space of “male emancipation”.

Following Sara Ahmed, I aim to examine the subject from the viewpoint of “stranger fetishism” and further, consumption(ing) of sex. Gendered and ethnic hierarchy in the prostitution context is also under consideration. Prostitution in Finland is ethnicized in a sense that most of the prostitutes are either Russian or Baltic women and the clients, correspondingly, Finnish men. “Domesticity” of the prostitutes may serve as an asset, but “exotism” is what seems to sustain the demand and interest of the clients.
Abstract

From Poverty to the Trafficking of Women for Sexual Exploitation: A Study of Causal Factors of Trafficked Women from Moldova

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Through current research and governmental publications we learn staggering statistics concerning the numbers of women trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation around the world. The United Nations estimates that four million people are trafficked each year around the world either because of choice, or coercion due to violence or the threat of violence, abuse of authority, debt bondage or deception (Caldwell et al. 1997; Specter 1998; Wijers and Lap-Chew 1997), and the International Organisation for Migration indicates that 500,000 women are trafficked annually, specifically from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union to Western Europe; they who constitute a new and growing supply source for the international sex industry (McDonald, Moore and Timoshkina, 2000). Furthermore, non-governmental organisations suggest that the numbers may be even higher. Since the early 1990s the wave of women trafficked from Central and Eastern European countries to Western countries has grown to a level where it now constitutes one-fourth of the world trade (O’Neill in La Strada Poland, 2002) further evidenced by such surveys as one in 1998 that found that 87.5 percent of the women trafficked into Germany were from Eastern Europe: seventeen percent were from Poland, 14 percent from Ukraine, 12 percent from Czech Republic and 8 percent from the Russian Federation (Itar-Tass as cited in Hughes, 2000).

This paper is a summary of the results of the writer’s doctorate dissertation. The information gathered is a small study in terms of quantitative analysis of the phenomenon, yet it offers valuable information from Moldovan women who survived being trafficked and most importantly, the reasons or causal factors behind their decisions to leave Moldova and consequently become victims of trafficking. The study’s emphasis was on assessing the relevance and potency of push and pull (or causal) factors of trafficking of women for sexual exploitation. Varied literature on the issue, along with the findings of this study, offer that economics plays an important, if not the most important influencing or causal factor to women who were trafficked for sexual exploitation.
ABSTRACT

THE TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN – A RISK IN WHICH ARE EXPOSE THE WOMEN OF MOLDOVA

Ganea Ana, State University Moldova

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The trafficking in women is an aspect of human trafficking which is the most develop in the society of Moldova. This trafficking is often announced like a sexual trafficking. The Republic of Moldova become on the most important country of victim’s suppliers in sexual trafficking for the South, Central and West Europe countries. In 2001 the official number of victims who returned was 136 women to 30 years old.

The aim of trafficking is the sexual exploitation (the forced prostitution) in the condition of slavery or for getting money. The victims are attract by middlemen who promise that the victims will have a job with big salaries in abroad, the salary which they can’t have in their countries.

The sexual exploitation of women by violence and sexual relations with different partners without interruption, totally affect the women physical and psychical health. The trafficking raise a lot of problems both social and victim level.

In those exposed, I formulate the following objectives, namely to explore:

The reasons and conditions in which case appear the trafficking in the Republic of Moldova
The social, moral, physiological, and psychical results of sexual trafficking of victims
The relation between the women’s problems on the labor market, the illegal migration and the trafficking
The programs, governmental and nongovernmental policies for the prevention, the elimination of trafficking, the integration of the victims in the Moldavian society
The sexual trafficking as subject of infringement of women rights

Because Moldova is a origin country of the victims, it tolerate the efforts to recover the victims. The victims are in situation to integrate themselves in a downcast society by numerous problems of socio-economical crisis and in which they are already pay.
ABSTRACT

GENDER VIOLENCE IN THE LEGAL SYSTEMS OF CIVIL LAW.
(I) LATIN AMERICA VS. EUROPA: THE DISCRIMINATIONS OF COMING ANG GOING.

Juana María González Moreno, Universidad de Granada, España

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This paper examines the violence against the woman that produces the Law, in particular the violence contained in the legal systems of the countries that, for historical reasons, they have been low the domain not only political and economic, but also legal, of the European countries. These legal systems, for diverse factors, they have not been able to eliminate the discriminations against the woman, coming from the European inheritance, like it is exemplified through the analysis of the Peruvian legal system. Anyway, this paper emphasizes the effects of the economic, social and also legal inequalities that the countries in development support, on the own Europe, where ancestral forms of violence are taking place against the women, and how the Law of the European countries in the past and in the present it is responsible for their gestation and their reproduction.
Abstract

Physical violence committed by women in Finland: Feminist perspective

Emmi Lattu, University of Tampere

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Violence is generally seen as strongly unfeminine and unacceptable behaviour for women, and violent women are often labelled as hysterical and mad. Women’s violence and violence conducted by teenage girls have recently received growing interest, especially in the Finnish media. However, in Finland women’s studies researchers have rarely studied female offenders. As it can be stated that men’s violence to women is a major social problem in many countries, studying women’s violence from critical and feminist point of view gives a broader picture of violence and its gendered nature.

My doctoral study is based on qualitative approach and main data collection is being carried out through in-depth semi-structured interviews in two different settings. I am going to interview female clients of family counselling centres who have used violence either against their partner or their children, and female prisoners who are convicted of a violent crime. My aims are to study how do Finnish women themselves experience their violent acts and what kind of meanings they give to them, and how does gender mould their understandings of violence.

My framework will be largely based on feminist criminology and gendered violence research. Mainstream criminological research has analysed crimes and violence mainly through men and this has often also been done without gendered analysis on men and masculinities. Feminist criminology aims to analyse women’s different position in relation to crimes, violence and criminal justice.
Abstract

Perspectives on intimate partner murders.

P. Mercader, Université Lyon 2, A. Houel, Université Lyon 2, H. Sobota, Ville de Grenoble

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This paper will be based on a research about 337 so-called « passion crimes » in France over ten years. I will show that, 1) men and women do not kill their intimate partner (and some others...) in the same circumstances or for the same reasons, and 2) men and women who eventually kill an intimate partner share a specific model of relationship.

Feminist sociologists analyse intimate partner murders as an extreme effect of the power dynamics of gender, while psychologists focus on the subjective aspects of object relations. As can be expected, the debate between these approaches is a very conflictual one. But our study points to the complex interplay of social, intrapsychic and intergenerational factors in the development (or in consequence, the prevention and treatment)of violence in the sphere of gender and family relations. Any attempt to reconcile psychological research with equalitarian advocacy, to create links between feminist and clinical approaches, must understand how society encourages the merging and proprietorship model of love... as the relationship between men and women is the only one where the dominant and the dominated are supposed to, and in fact often do, love each other, whatever love means for an individual.

A small part of our results have already been published in several papers, and a book:
ABSTRACT

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ARMENIA

Inessa Mkrtchyan, American University of Armenia

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Background
Culturally in Armenia women were always obedient to men whether it is her father, husband, father-in-law or brother. The status of women has been changed during the Soviet times when men and women shared the same legal rights. Although legal discrimination against women does not seem to exist in Armenia, in practice, women and men do not have the same access to the legal system. In addition, poor economic conditions, especially unemployment, increase family tension and domestic violence against women.

Aim
Aim of research is to collect information from different studies, conducted by international organizations, to have an idea about violence against women in Armenia.

Methods
Different sources of information have been collected for this report: literature, representative surveys (demographic and health surveys, women status report).

Results
The research highlighted that several types of violence are present in Armenia:
1. Forced marriage: the most repeated type of violation.
2. Rape: numerous rapes are not disclosed at all since the victims do not report them.
3. Beating: Armenian women can be exposed to beating for burning the food, arguing with the husband, going out without telling him, neglecting the children, and refusing sexual relation. Sometimes the victims do not realize that their freedom has been constrained and their rights violated, since the violations were committed by their close ones. Women are afraid to take action against violence because of public opinion, financial dependence, and absence of knowledge on their rights.

Conclusion
Due to the characteristics of the Armenian national mentality, it is rather difficult to measure the real situation. Very few Armenian women will talk about their family problems with a person whom they do not know well. Knowing that the data are underestimated we conclude that the problem exists and needs to be resolved.
ABSTRACT

IMMIGRANT LATINO FAMILIES: A MEDIATIONAL MODEL OF THE EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY VIOLENCE UPON LATINO MOTHERS AND YOUNG ADOLESCENTS

EUGENE AISENBERG, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, USA

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BACKGROUND

Latina women often experience violence and oppression derived from the prevalence of male dominance and machismo in their country of origin. As immigrants to the United States, Latina mothers are disproportionately at higher risk for exposure to community violence, as they tend to reside in low-income, high crime communities.

Few studies have examined the prevalence of exposure to community among Latino immigrant families (Aisenberg, 2001; Kataoka, et al., 2003). As a result, the traumatic effects of violence exposure among these families and the relationship between Latina mothers’ distress symptomatology, including PTSD and depression, and their children’s behavioral problems are largely unknown.

OBJECTIVES

Based on an conceptual model that contextualizes the interdependent processes of mother and child coping with community violence this presentation aims to:

1) identify and measure the types of lifetime exposure to community violence of immigrant Latino mothers and their young adolescent children;
2) measure the psychological and behavioral effects of such exposure; and
3) investigate how maternal distress relates to child behavior problems.

METHODS

Using multiple informants, this study gathered data on 47 pairs of Latino children and their mothers who immigrated to the United States from Mexico and Central America. Multiple regression analyses were conducted.

RESULTS

Community violence exposure predicts over 21% of child and mother depression and 16% of their respective PTSD symptomatology. Analysis reveals that maternal distress is a mediator of child behavior problems, reducing the direct effect of community violence on child behavior problems over 50%.

CONCLUSION

Maternal distress may be more important than community violence exposure in contributing to young adolescents’ behavior problems. This finding advocates for a fundamental shift in the delivery of mental health services from primarily focusing on the individual child to empowering immigrant Latina mothers and promoting their resiliency by addressing their social and behavioral health needs.
ABSTRACT

TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN, MIGRATION, EMPOWERMENT

Françoise Guillemaut, Université Toulouse Le Mirail, Laboratoire Simone SAGESSE, chargée de recherche à Cabiria, Lyon, FRANCE.

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Trafficking in women is becoming a serious concern. Often in EU States policies address criminal groups or security rather than women’s protection and empowerment. Our contribution will focus on women’s empowerment to fight against violence and escape coercion. Our research is based on a 4 years experience in the field, with women from Eastern Europe and the Balkans (in France (Lyon), and women from sub-saharian Africa (since 1 year). We explore the processes in which women engaged from the very beginning of their migration decision. Some of them have been forced, others choose to leave their home country, often without being aware of the traps in which they would be caught. We share with them their everyday lives in France, where they are compelled to do sex work, and experience fear, clandestinity and isolation. Our main purpose is: how can we support them in changing their situation with regard to the traffickers threat on the one hand and restrictive French policies on migration and on victim protection on the other? (we combine research and field actions) We try to identify women’s strategies an agency to cope with the violence they face. This research shows the cross cutting links with violence against women in general and gender relation. It raises the issues of heterosexuality as a whole, as well as mobility of women and women at work. Indeed, as social and economic opportunities for women (work, mobility, information, …) are drastically non-existent all over the world, sex work under men’s control (as well as domestic work) reminds the only available activity for some of them. As feminist researchers, we cannot leave them aside from our studies.

This research takes place in the European Daphne project.
ABSTRACT

ENGENDERING SOCIAL INCLUSION IN THE CONTEXT OF ‘ROUTES OUT OF PROSTITUTION’

Jane Scoular, University of Strathclyde, Scotland

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The issue of prostitution is a contentious and complex one. Van Brunschot, Sydie and Krull comment the subject and activity of prostitution is the site of struggle for a variety of discourses 'which seek to establish the "truth" of prostitution and the appropriate means of control and regulation. Any inquiry into the subject makes it clear that the ‘oldest profession’ cliché only serves to naturalise an activity, which like any other, is very much linked to the socio-economic conditions that prevail at any particular point. It also glosses over the different social constructions and sexual dynamics involved in the distinct, yet related, contexts of prostitution and ignores the way in which different policies and regulatory powers influence our understandings of the issue.

Routes Out of Prostitution is a Social Inclusion Partnership between key public agencies based in Glasgow, Scotland. It adopts an innovative approach to the issue by locating it within the discourses of social exclusion and violence against women. When viewed in this context prostitution is no longer understood as a single or simple issue of women’s choice but rather the ‘conditions of choice’ are contextualised and informed by an understanding of the multi-dimensional aspects of social exclusion. Such a shifting of focus, takes place within a dominant official discourse of ‘moral’ condemnation, which attaches to the public elements but leaves the private act of prostitution unregulated. This concern for moral health has historically also been accompanied by a issues re the spread of disease, which recently re-emerged with the advent of HIV and AIDS and has facilitated a continued regulation and medicalising of women's bodies.

I have been carrying out empirical work which considers the intersection and experiences of social inclusion and violence against women discourses which Routes Out have adopted. I intend to give an overview of this work and then present some ideas, which I am currently working on to take the work forward to different locations with different ‘regulatory’ discourses in Europe including Sweden. A further aim is to link these discourses with the narratives that emerge as women ‘make sense’ of their involvement in prostitution.

1 I will be a Visiting Scholar in the Centre for Women’s Studies at Stockholm University (from August-October 2003) where I will be researching the impact of the Swedish law, which criminalises the buying of sexual services.
ABSTRACT

Militarism, Violence, Peace and War

Natalia Donos, Moldova State University, Moldova, Chisinau

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Introduction to the Paper Violence against Women

Millions of women throughout the world live in conditions of abject deprivation of, and attacks against, their fundamental human rights for no other reason than that they are women. Abuses against women are relentless, systematic, and widely tolerated, if not explicitly condoned. Violence and discrimination against women are global social epidemics, notwithstanding the very real progress of the international women's human rights movement in identifying, raising awareness about, and challenging impunity for women's human rights violations.

We live in a world in which women do not have basic control over what happens to their bodies. Women and girls are forced to marry and have sex with men they do not desire. They are unable to depend on the government to protect them from physical violence in the home, with sometimes-fatal consequences, including increased risk of HIV/AIDS infection.

It is well known that the problem of violence is a very actual one. More than 80% of violence victims are women. They suffer from all forms of violence, but the most spreading forms is domestic violence and trafficking in women. It is too difficult to take measures against domestic violence, because of the private life and police intervene only in very grave and serious cases considering other cases as simple family conflicts.

 Trafficking of women into the comercial sex industry is a serious problem and in increasing in the undeveloped states (Moldova, Ukraine, Romania, etc). Weekly women from such states are trafficked through formal and informal channels all over the world including The Balkans, Central Europe and Middle East. Trafficking in women is a complicated phenomenon with many forces impactig women’s decision to work abroad. We know that the strongest and primary factor is the desperate economic situation. In some cases women that after beeing the victims of trafficking, voluntary return to the countries to which their were orriginally trafficked. This is happened, because they are unable to find work in their home countries. In other cases, the women find reintegrating back into their former life too difficult.

When we say about violence against women we have to mention its causes: weak social-economic situation; imperfect legislation on combat of violence; moral degradation of society; the indifference of the people towards the violence in general; and education system, that does not work on prevention of violence, especially against women. To combat all this causes we need very motivate objectives like:

1) To change attitudes and behavior towards violence
2) To motivate Government to develop and change policy, legislation, and practices to prevent violence against women.
3) To involve the new youth non-violent generation through information, education, and communication.
Violence is the phenomena caused by a lot of factors. And it can be control only by consolidation of the civil society powers. One could mention some structure that can combat this phenomenon: NGO's structures, that organise activities on prevention of violence against women; mass media that plays a very important role on combating violence against women; and financial structures that finance different projects, and offers grants to different organizations.

The realisation of women's rights is a global struggle based on universal human rights and the rule of law. It requires all of us to unite in solidarity to end traditions, practices, and laws that harm women. It is a fight for freedom to be fully and completely human and equal without apology or permission. Ultimately, the struggle for women's human rights must be about making women's lives matter everywhere all the time. In practice, this means taking action to stop discrimination and violence against women.

Unremedied domestic violence essentially denies women equality before the law and reinforces their subordinate social status. Men use domestic violence to diminish women’s autonomy and sense of self-worth. States that fail to prevent and prosecute domestic violence treat women as second-class citizens and send a clear message that the violence against them is of no concern to the broader society.

How can we solve the problem of violence? The answer is not a simple one. Living in a society dominated mostly by the patriarchal stereotypes, that very often discriminates women and generates violence against them. Stopping the violence is not an easy process. It will take a lot of time until we will see a changed mentality, a changed behavior towards- woman.
Feminist organisations are often associated with collective organisation. One of the major themes of US research on the women’s anti-violence movement has been the relationship between the changing organisational form of women’s anti-violence organisations and the dilution of the movement’s radical aims. In general centres have moved from an ‘ideal form’ in terms of collective, non-hierarchical working to more formalised client-professional relationships and hierarchical structures. The changes that US centres have undergone have led to questions being raised as to whether comprehensive services for survivors of violence have been accompanied by the abandonment of social change goals and the original aim of a violence-free society. In this respect, the survival or modification of the ‘original form’ of organisation is seen to be a crucial indicator of the degree to which the movement has retained its radical ideology and autonomy.

This paper uses data from a new comparative case study of women’s refuges and crisis centres in Sweden and the UK. The research shows that the relationship between organisational form and feminist ideology is not theoretically powerful, nor is it observable in reality. Women’s anti-violence organisations range along a continuum with organisational structure and ideology not necessarily being consistent. Another key finding is that the terms ‘collective’ and ‘hierarchical’ are ambiguous; organisations clustered under the same heading will not necessarily have the same working practices and procedures. Nor is there necessarily a strong contrast between bureaucratic and collective organisations and their respective service provision, ethos and goals.

The paper shows that there is no inevitable movement trajectory. Formal structure may not equate well with formal practices and organisational ethos, therefore caution should be exercised when drawing conclusions on the radical or reformist nature of the women’s movement in a particular country from the internal structures of its organisations.
ABSTRACT

THE CONCEPT OF CONFESSION –
A WAY TO UNDERSTAND THE PRODUCTION OF SEX AND SEXUALITY IN RAPE COURT CASES?

Anne-Lie Steen, Department of Sociology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

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The aim of this paper is to discuss two different ways of theorizing the production and reproduction of sex and sexuality during modernity. The concern is in what way they can be used as analytic tools in understanding how certain “narratives” are produced in legal proceedings in rape court cases. The law and the court, as public institution and authority produce and reproduce knowledge about sex, gender, body and sexuality, especially in judicial proceedings of rape cases. The paper also discuss in what way the production of knowledge about sexuality can be understood to be liberating or not on an individual level.

The first concept is Gidden’s “plastic sexuality” which he views as a result of both scientific and public attention to erotic pleasure. The development of plastic sexuality can be understood as, in the long run, making interpersonal relations more democratic.

To confront the concept of plastic sexuality I use Foucault’s concept of “confession”. The concept of confession is understood as a principle used to produce and reproduce knowledge about sexuality in modern society. That is, a knowledge that cannot be understood as liberating but instead works to restrict and discipline the individual body.

The concept of “plastic sexuality” can analytically be used to understand different reflections about sexuality on an individual level. The principle of confession though, implies a power relation and can be used in different types of “confession situations” where the “narrative” presupposes a listener. Both the sacral and the profane confession make clear social norms, standards, rules, values and criterions as well as valuations of the appropriateness and truthfulness of the “talk” being produced.
ABSTRACT

THE NATURE OF APPEAL CASES RELATING TO RAPE AND EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION.

Nicole Westmarland, University of York.

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The research from which this paper is based comes from my PhD in Social Policy at the University of York (England) where I am investigating what effect the European Convention of Human Rights and the Human Rights Act (1998) have had on rape cases in England and Wales. This paper provides a brief background to the research, outlines the methodology and discusses some of my emerging findings relating to the nature of the cases. The cases fall into a number of categories: protection from rape, the prosecution process, the sentencing and imprisonment of men found guilty of rape and managing risk in the community. Examples are given of cases that fall into each of these categories. The paper concludes by arguing that European Human Rights legislation has, as yet, seldom been used to advance the human rights of women in relation to rape with most of the cases relating to men as defendants.
ABSTRACT

GENDER, CLASS AND ETHNICITY IN FRENCH PUBLIC POLICY DEBATES

Gill Allwood, Nottingham Trent University

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This paper looks at the construction of gender, class and ethnicity in recent public policy debates in France including violence, prostitution, trafficking and modern slavery. It discusses, for example, the construction of ‘little African girls’ in the debates around the criminalisation of the clients of underage prostitutes; the construction of migrant women working as prostitutes in France; and the construction of sexual abusers of children as unknown paedophiles or foreign traffickers. It argues that the construction of gender, class and ethnicity within these debates has implications for the lives of women living in France or attempting to enter and for social relations more broadly.

The paper also discusses feminist attempts to place gender issues on the public political agenda and their struggles to retain the power to define the issues once there. It shows, for example, how feminist debates around whether prostitutes are victims of male violence or sex workers were overtaken in 2002 by the new right-wing government’s framing of prostitution as a law and order issue and proposals in the Domestic Security Bill to criminalise prostitutes through the introduction of a new serious offence of passive soliciting.

Finally it considers the extent to which parliamentary and public debates on gender issues have taken into account the interaction between gender, class and ethnicity.
The construction of male sexuality is here seen as key factors for understanding sexual trafficking and the prostitution of sex. Two ways of looking at these phenomena are here discussed: ‘the prostitution of sex – a violation of intimacy’ and ‘individual consent – voluntary ‘sex work’’. Actors on seven levels in this process are presented. Actors facilitating the sexual trafficking are discussed; and the concept ‘organized crime’ is questioned. The methodology for researching these phenomena is discussed and compared to studying undocumented and illegal immigrants. The extent of sexual trafficking and prostitution could not be measured by valid and reliable data, due to the clandestine and criminal nature of the activities.

Moldova, Estonia and Sweden are chosen for empirical studies based on the assumption that they differ in the societal context, norms and attitudes on sexuality and gender relations. At the same time they are similar in that sexual trafficking and prostitution do occur. The social cost of transition, economy and labour market, corruption and crime, gender relations and sexual trafficking are illustrated. New survey data from Moldova is compared to survey data from Estonia. Moldovans tend to view unemployment as a reason for going abroad, and if in trafficking these women are deceived by a suggestion of a job. They are might also be offered marriage to a foreigner. Estonians tend to se expectation of quick money as a reason for going abroad. The women are believed to get offers for domestic work, but also jobs at bars and model agencies. If they are trafficked this could be voluntarily, or by deception. Moldovans where asked about why there is prostitution in their country. Their answers indicates a view that it is because men seem to need it and not for the survival of their families.
ABSTRACT

NUCLEAR ISSUES: GENDERED PROTEST AND RESISTANCE

Jalna Hanmer, University of Sunderland, Joan Saltzen,

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This paper describes and analyses gendered aspects of protest and resistance to both nuclear military and nuclear commercial industries since World War II. The aim is to explore the questions, does gender matter? and if so, how? The multiple gendered expressions of dissenting voices in the West are illustrated by specific examples from whistle blowers to health effects studies to legal and compensation cases to demonstrations of various types. Examples are presented of the organisation of dissent through local community actions and collective or united fronts along with the range of gendered perspectives adopted - from environmental to anti-corporate or anti-globalisation, to anti-war, anti-nuclear and peace activism to women's and feminist health and anti-violence activism to indigenous peoples movements. The ways gender affects perspectives and knowledge are presented both through specific examples of fundamentally different and shared gendered experiences. Included are the critical roles played in the development of protest and resistance of unintended releases of classified information and by nuclear accidents.

The paper begins with the Western anti-bomb movements in the 1950s. In the following decades protest and resistance have become progressively more diverse, while nuclear military and nuclear commercial interests have expanded and become progressively more closely integrated both nationally and internationally. The ways gender affects perspectives and knowledge are presented both through specific examples of fundamentally different and shared gendered experiences. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications for effective protest and resistance of centralised, opaque relations between the military, business, democratic governments, and government-to-government nuclear business.
ABSTRACT

WOMEN, MEN, CITIZENSHIP AND THE NEW SECURITY THINKING IN SWEDEN

Erika Svedberg, Örebro University, Sweden, Annica Kronsell, Lund University, Sweden

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The paper discusses the recent changes in Sweden’s defense and security policy and its ramifications for women, men and the notion of citizenship. We describe the measures taken by the Swedish government since 1996 to seriously cut military spending. The paper argues that giving up neutrality has meant that Sweden is in the midst of carving out a new national identity. This includes that previous notions of citizenship for women and men will also be re-thought and reformulated, as a consequence of changes in security thinking.

The paper also discusses the debate on conscription in Sweden. With only one third of the men going through military training one can hardly speak of male conscription in practice anymore. When conscription is no longer felt to be obligatory, the interest among young men in doing military service is dwindling. The military response to its recruitment problems has been to look elsewhere, i.e. among young women. However, military service is so far voluntary for women in Sweden. Since 1980, the proportion of women in the military has constantly been very small, around 1-3 percent.

Feminists today are torn on the issue of conscription for women. There is an older generation feminists with close ties to the peace movement who are against female conscription. Feminist and Social Democratic politician Inger Segelström argues that women should be exempt from the military duty since women are already doing their duty when giving birth and caring for small children. Younger politicians from the whole political spectrum, left to right, oppose this thinking as archaic: It is time to stop the differentiated citizenship and let men and women have equal rights and responsibilities, they argue.
The world faces a new global battlefield, upon which terrorist deeds are met with a war against terrorism, unregulated violence with regulated violence. It is said that the world will never be the same after September 11. But what has changed – and for whom? How could September 11 be interpreted in a feminist perspective? My paper will discuss connections between armed conflicts and terrorism on the one hand and the sexualized violence of individual men towards women on the other. I will use Fadime Sahindel, a young Swedish/Kurdish woman who was murdered by her father in January 2002, as an illustrative case. The core concept of the paper is threatened masculinity, which will be analyzed both in terms of global conflict and at the level of individual men killing "their" women.
ABSTRACT

MURDER-SUICIDE AND MORAL ORDER IN THE NEWS

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Is has been argued that in crime news, the newsworthiness is not created because readers want to get information on crime but because they want to problematize over the morals of everyday life. For instance, think about competences of different people.

Why some topics get much attention and other are seen as routine? Why murder-suicide articles that involve husband as a perpetrator and his wife as a victim get so little attention compared with other types?

There are some features of violence, which are not much reflected upon in the crime news. For instance, the alcohol abuse is constructed as a problem in Finnish society, but it is so established that there is no need to think about it and homicides 'caused' by alcohol are not interesting. Also the cases of spousal argument are not interesting though problems in relationships, and speculation on the competencies of men and women, are a staple source of interest.

There is also evidence on the endurance of category ‘couple’. Common law couples who have moved to live separately are still categorised as couples. There are some counter discourses – that present events differently: but they demand re-establishment of those involved. Not couple, but a woman who has sought help and former cohabitant who have been violent.

The Finnish equality that is based on gender neutrality, it leaves the gendered morals untouched in many (official) contexts. When asked, man and women have the same rights and responsibilities in home and society, but when the topic is other than equality, rights and responsibilities are notably gendered.\(^1\) The gendered order can be even stronger when not discussed explicitly. Changing these moral constructions demands efforts on behalf of the journalists. The demands of good journalism, the objectivity and ethical rules considering suicides and rules that are made to protect victim’s relatives, seem to silence the violence in heterosexual relationships. Even though, otherwise people

\(^1\) In Aamulehti: A new communicator has been developed, it makes it easier for women to call their children and husband to meals. (18.2.2003).
are quite interested in speculating over rights, responsibilities and competences of women and men in intimate relationships.

The presupposition that crime news is a venue of everyday moral considerations seems to be not quite accurate. People in crime news are not seen purely as representatives of their everyday categories but the violent contexts make a difference. Discussions about men and women and heterosexual relationships are not based on crime news.
ABSTRACT

GENDER AND POWER IN THE MEDIA COVERAGE OF PROSTITUTION AND TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN

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Issues like prostitution/trafficking in women are easily subjected to sensationalist and unethical reporting considering the sensitive character of the issues as well as the high profile which crime stories as well as stories involving sexuality and women enjoy in (commercial) media. At the same time sensational reporting often fails to provide in-depth analyses of these issues and do no address underlying causes. As this particular issue involves transnational criminal networks combined with a gender dimension and tragic personal stories of the victims, the challenges are even greater when it comes to good media coverage. In prostitution and trafficking in women the issue of gender discrimination, female subordination and male domination, unequal gender and power relations is very essential, but at the same time so difficult to detect in journalistic reporting on these issues. This unequal gender and power relationship as basis for prostitution has a long and uninterrupted tradition in the (western) culture and is so obvious and common that it is no longer visible or questioned. In the media discourse on prostitution/trafficking the women are either “the silent victim” or “the happy hooker”. On the other side the “customer”, usually a man buying sex from a woman, is often the invisible person in the mediatext. The pimp or the trafficker is often not personalized but an abstract network or organization which also is invisible. According to Norman Fairclough journalists carry the dominant cultural images and myths in the every day language with them into their media constructions of these social relations, upholding and reinforcing the myths and prejudices, in this case about women in prostitution and the sex-buyer. The power of the media, by Fairclough called signifying power, to represent things in particular ways is a matter of how language is used as a form of social practise. Based on Fairclough’s discourse analysis of media language I will discuss the representations of gender and power in some news texts about prostitution and trafficking. I will draw on Nordic research in this field as well as findings in other European media studies and identify dominant media discourses on prostitution and trafficking.
PROSTITUTION AS A SITE OF RESISTANCE
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The prostitute as a culturally ambiguous figure poses a number of challenging questions to western society and the feminist community. In a desperate attempt to free the prostituting woman, the latter has largely been deeming her a victim, whereby the former insisted on maintaining the prostitute’s image of deviance, because it is situated at the root of regulating all women.

However, I would argue that it is the ambiguity of the prostitute subject that renders the act of prostitution a site for resistance as it destabilises categories such as ‘woman’, ‘victim’ and ‘sexuality’.

Monique Wittig in ‘The Straight Mind’ argues that the lesbian is not a woman as she does not participate in (reproductive) heterosexuality. ‘Woman’, defined in relation to and through her relation to ‘man’, produces a fixed and essential concept of women that is exceeded by the lesbian as well as the prostitute.

The prostituting women is participating in heterosexuality, but by nature of her profession she performs hyper-femininity and ‘hyper-pleasure’ only so she can earn a living and thereby co-modify heterosexuality with the result that sexuality and desire as ‘natural’ are exposed as being constructs. With the transgression of the boundary between the public and the private, prostitution becomes the site of conflicting discourses about the ‘natural’, sexuality, woman and oppression.

The prostitute is victim and victor at the same time, but what does she lose, what does she gain and how can this be theorised as to develop an understanding of prostitution as a site for resistance?
ABSTRACT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: WHAT DO THOSE FUTURE PROFESSIONALS WHO WILL HAVE TO COPE WITH IT KNOW AND THINK ABOUT THIS TOPIC? A RESEARCH PROJECT.

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Nowadays, domestic violence against women is considered an important social problem and is analysed from a multi-causal perspective. Nevertheless, an important quantity of myths still persists concerning this question. Among them the myths about the causes of domestic violence and the women reasons for remaining in this type of relationship stand out for its importance. These myths are very much extended and have relevant repercussions in the attempts undertaken to cope with the problem. Recent researches in the European Union and in Spain allow us to know the beliefs and attitudes towards domestic violence, both in adult population and in teenagers. The aim of this research is to analyse these beliefs and attitudes in a specific segment of population: university students. This sample is of interest because this is precisely the group of future professionals that (shortly or in the medium term) will have to face domestic violence, directly or indirectly. Therefore, analysing their knowledge, beliefs and attitudes on the topic will help us to detect their training level and sensibility, and to understand their strengths and weaknesses to coping with it and, eventually, to proceed to design actions and recommendations in order to improve their possibilities of performance.
ABSTRACT

FEMINIST METHODOLOGIES AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PRACTICES:
THE CONSTRUCTION OF THERAPEUTIC LINKS

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The application of feminist methodologies on psychological practices has known important developments in the last decades, especially as a result of critical positions constructed by feminist academics and activists. The reflexive posture that feminist movements assumed contributed, in a large extent, to disseminate new scientific and therapeutic approaches, particularly in the Second Wave of Feminism. Psychology was also influenced by this innovative form of considering and doing scientific research and therapeutic work: Feminist Psychology emerged in consequence of these consciousness-raising activities and alternative therapeutic practices were edificated.

The positivist model and the objectivity claimed by traditional therapeutic discourses neglected central questions related to gender in Psychology. The androcentric bias that was present in tradicional psychological practices was crucial to the perpetration of women’s devaluation and feminine depreciation, therefore the aim of Feminist Psychology was to deconstruct the errors produced by this non-democratic system of achieving scientific knowledge.

Feminist Psychology and the use of feminist methodologies in Psychology, in fact, lead to more egalitarian therapeutic alliances between therapists and clients and generate more social justice and parity inside psychological practices.

In Portugal, even though the feminist movements had been a recognized reality in the 70’s and 80’s, mostly noted in politic terms, the fact is that we have a long journey to go through inside the science in general, inside the Psychology and, in particular, inside our psychological interventions as counsellors, therapists and researchers. Our work reflects this concern with the improvement of Feminist practices on Psychology, putting the emphasis on therapeutic intervention with women’s victims of intimate violence by theirs male partners.
ABSTRACT

DOING GENDER, AGE AND KINSHIP – SIMULTANEOUSLY

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Drawing upon a thesis on family law and the handling of violence from fathers (due to finish in 2003) the paper discusses how a group of Swedish Family Law Secretaries (word for word translation) ‘do’ gender, age and kinship when talking about children, parenthood, parenting and fathers who are violent to mothers. The practices of this specific group of professionals are crucial for the post-separation safety and well-being of both children and mothers. In legal cases concerning child custody, contact or residence Family Law Secretaries conduct the investigations which form a part of the basis for the court decision. Furthermore, they also lead so-called co-operation talks for separated parents who want to settle conflicts regarding children.

The point of departure is that gender, age and kinship are constituted in relation to each other and through the professionals’ social practices. Here, the social practices in question are talk about the professional everyday life, and the presentation of (a professional) self in an interview setting. The construction of children as ‘developing’ and ‘dependant’ dominates the interview accounts and ‘adult-ness’ is closely associated with a responsibility for children’s needs. This has gendered and gendering implications. Since mothers are constructed as (ultimately) responsible for children’s needs and well-being, while fathers tend to be constructed as less responsible, mothers stand out as more ‘adult’ than fathers. Furthermore, parenting by fathers is constructed as dependant upon mothers. This gendering and ageing of the kinship-position ‘parent’ constructs family relations, including the place of children, in a specific way. The paper concludes with a discussion of what the ‘doing’ of gendered, aged
kinship might mean for children with violent fathers, as well as for gendered, aged, generational kinship-relations more broadly.