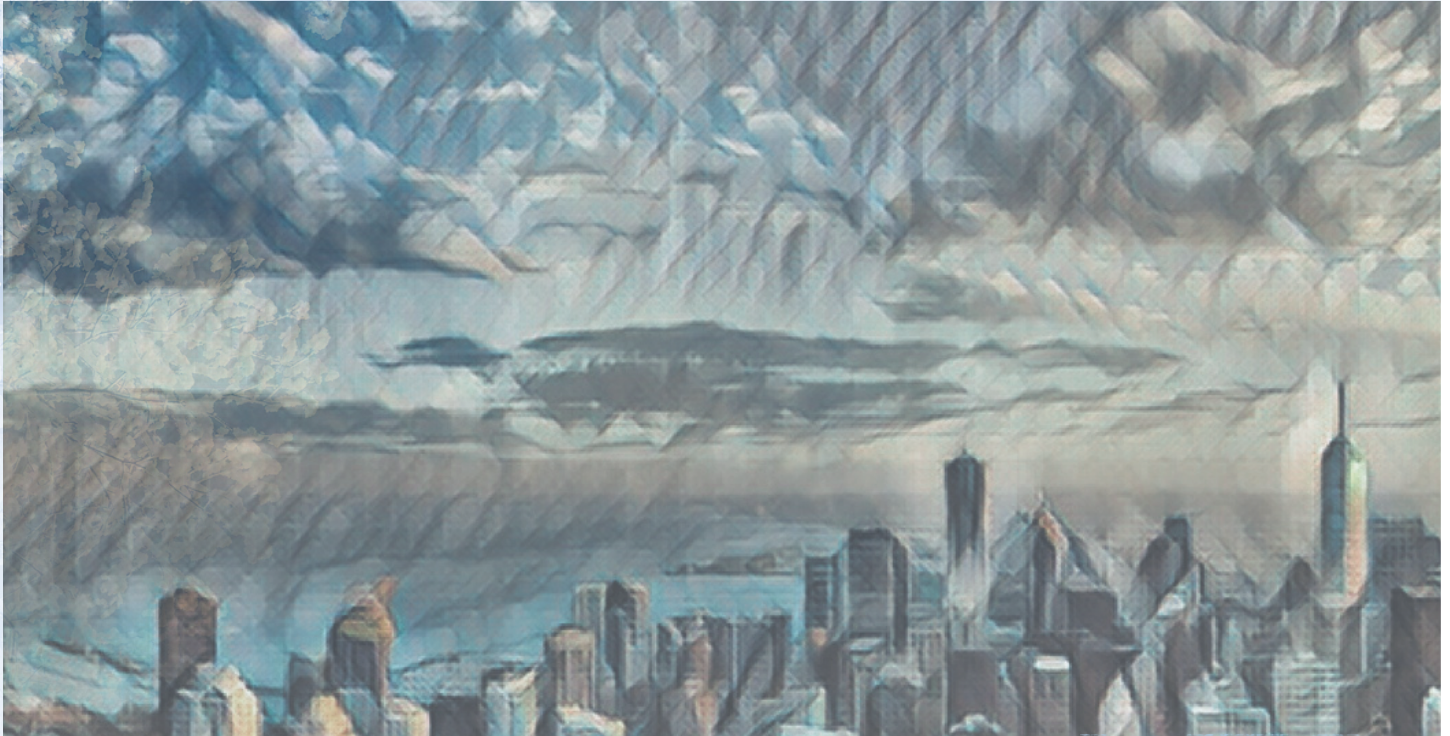


WINTER ISSUE | MARCH 3RD, 2022

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN PSYCHOLOGY

A Feminist Voice Since 1969



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Join Us
for a big dose of Vitamin
F in the Windy City!
(March 3 - 6, 2022)

Feminist
psychology
in the 21st Century

AWP Chicago 2022





AWP Annual Conference 2022

Chicago, IL
Mar 3 - 6, 2022

We are thrilled to begin our conference this Thursday (March 3rd). We will use an online platform called Whova for our agenda. You can [Download the Whova Mobile App or Access It From the Web Platform on Desktop:](#)

View the event agenda and plan your personal schedule

Find who else is attending this event and reach out to people ahead of time

Plan some social activities such as a morning run, coffee hours, or meet-ups with your fellow attendees. You can even post job openings.

Receive updates such as last minute session changes from the organizers

After downloading, use your email address registered with AWP and sign up on Whova mobile apps or web portal. Make sure you choose a strong password. You can also sign up using a social media account. Once you have signed up, you should be taken directly to your event!

**DOWNLOAD THE WHOVA APP ON YOUR
PHONE OR COMPUTER.**



**This will allow you to access full
conference features, including the
community board.**

2021 Annual Awardees for Psychological Research on Women and Gender by Students



The 2021 Annual Prize went to Jennifer Chmielewski, Ed.M., for *Pathways to pleasure and protection: Exploring embodiment, desire, and entitlement to pleasure as predictors of Black and White young women's sexual agency*. The manuscript was co-authored with Christin Bowman and Deborah Tolman, and published in *Psychology of Women Quarterly* (2020). The presentation is currently scheduled for Saturday, March 5, at 1:15pm in the Paper Session: New Questions and New Data: Using Feminist Psychology to Further our Understandings.

The 2020 Honorable Mention went to Clarice Hampton, M.A., for *"Today I feel strong": African American women overcoming HIV-related stigma*. The manuscript was co-authored with Tameka Gillum and published in *Psychology & Health* (2020). The presentation is currently scheduled for Saturday, March 5, at 4:10pm in the Paper Session: Obstacles and Overcoming Among African American/Black Women.



Congratulations Jennifer and Clarice!

We are happy to announce that the winner and honorable mention for the 2021 Annual Prize for Psychological Research on Women and Gender by Students are planning to present their work at the conference in March!

Rebekah Smart and Julii Green
Co-Chairs

Want to get the Jewish Women's Caucus active again?

The Caucus, which started in 1991, has been dormant for a number of years. In the past, we have presented workshops and other events. Most notably, the Friday Night Kabbalat Shabbat.

Annually (if we get submissions) present an award for Jewish scholarship.

Given the current state of rising violent anti-Semitic attacks around the world, it seems like a good time to reconstitute ourselves.

If there are one or two women who will take the lead, I will gladly mentor you in getting the Caucus up and going. Please feel free to contact me at: kmweiner@netscape.net

Kayla Weiner (she/her)



BECOME A MEMBER



*An
AW/Per*



[HTTPS://WWW.AWPSYCH.ORG/MEMBERSHIP.PHP](https://www.awpsych.org/membership.php)

COCO'S CORNER

Dear AWP Community,

We are about to gather for the first time in-person for an AWP conference since just before the start of the pandemic in 2020. What an intense and life altering two years this has been. This week, my heart is with the people of Ukraine, and I feel deep sadness for all peace loving people as I hear daily about more movement away from disarmament and towards endless wars in our world. I look forward to gathering with my feminist colleagues to talk more about the ways that we can use our work in service of fighting rising tides of white supremacist, heteropatriarchal, and fascist violence wherever it surfaces. Thinking about how we can contribute to more wellness, wholeness, and flourishing for all people is what keeps me going.

I also want to express my deep gratitude to the 2022 conference collective. Chris Smith and Claudia Pitts, as co-coordinators, have worked unbelievably hard to bring this conference together despite the odds. I am in awe of the incredible work they have put in to bringing this to fruition. Together with the tireless (or maybe really tired, but so good at persevering) collective, they have dedicated countless hours to bring us together and plan an exciting conference.



Tiffany O'Shaughnessy (she/her)
Collective Coordinator

I would also like to express my appreciation to everyone who attended the AWP Business meeting on December 2, 2022. We have so many passionate members in AWP, and some serious challenges to address if we intend to be an inclusive and intersectional feminist organization. The Imps will be releasing the results from the member survey later this week and the responses we received, along with the stories shared at the business meeting indicate that while AWP is a beautiful professional home for many, we have some deep divisions that will take work to resolve. I love this organization and the people who dedicate their time and efforts to keeping it strong and I am hopeful that by centering love in this process, we will be able to find a good path forward.

I was reading *The Purpose of Power* by Alicia Garza earlier this month and really appreciated this line: "For me, intersectionality isn't an intellectual exercise. A movement is not intersectional if I am invited to join it but my concerns, my experiences, and my needs are not a part of what the organization or effort, as a whole, sees as its concerns and needs – or its path to power." The feedback we are getting is that we are not yet a truly intersectional organization, but I do believe we are committed to doing the work needed to get closer to that goal.

In addition to the keynotes and caucus gatherings, some additional sessions that will be useful towards the goals of practicing intersectional feminism are:

- **Addressing and Unlearning Cissexism and the Gender Binary Workshop** with Nic Johnson & Elyssa Klann
 - Pre-Conference Workshop: Thursday 3/3 | 8:30am – 12pm
 - Regular Session: Saturday 3/5 | 10:50am – 12:05pm in St. Clair

COCO'S CORNER

- **White Feminists Unlearning Racism Workshop**

- Pre-Conference Workshop with Rachel Dyer & Devin Kelly: Thursday 3/3 | 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Regular Session with Katherine Bogen & Joanna Drinane: Saturday 3/5 | 2:35pm – 3:50pm in State Room II

I look forward to continuing to learn and grow with you all and look forward to connecting with you in Chicago and then in 2023 in Atlanta.

In service,
Tiffany O'Shaughnessy
Collective Coordinator

A W P
would
like
to
hear
from
you!

We would love to hear from members about ideas, thoughts, and feedback on what we do and how we can support and change this organization for better. Please contact us via email (all of our email contacts are on the very last page of this newsletter). Also, if you have any short pieces you would like to share with membership, please contact Alicia Trotman at awp.newsletter@gmail.com



AWP Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/29473119739/>



Our AWP Website
<https://www.awpsych.org/>

What's 45 years old, involves 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists?

**Submitted by Carla Golden
Outgoing Chair of the DPA Committee**

There are many things about AWP that are quite extraordinary, and one of them is the Distinguished Publication Awards that have been given out continuously since 1977! As a lifelong reader and a committed member of AWP, I've served long-term on the DPA Committee which oversees these awards. My first 3-year term was early in my association with AWP (1984-87) and after a yearlong sabbatical I served another 3-year term from 1989-92. In 1993, I became chair of the committee, a position I held until 2001. Ten years later, I stepped in again to chair the committee when no one else was available and served from 2011 through 2021. I retired from Ithaca College in 2020, and in the last year have been pleased to mentor and pass the baton to Ella Ben Hagai. Ella has been a member of the committee for several years and will now chair it moving forward. When the newly formed History and Archives Caucus asked me to write up a history of the DPA committee, I could hardly refuse.

I'm not able to provide a list of members over the years or those who've chaired the committee before I did. However, I can report some basic details of our committee structure and function. DPAs are given "*in recognition of significant and substantial contributions of research and theory that advance our understanding of the psychology of women and gender and promote achievement of the goals of the Association.*" Anyone who is a member of AWP can serve on the committee and/or nominate publications for consideration; self-nominations are welcome. Membership on the committee has ranged from as few as 5 to as many as 15 members. Recipients of the award are typically asked to join the committee the following year, but most members volunteer for service. The chair also recruits new members. Serving on the committee is mostly a labor of love, but a good fit for those who like to read a wide range of feminist psychology books and articles. It involves a fair amount of reading mostly during the summer, and this varies depending on the number of nominations. It has sometimes been difficult to recruit members to the committee due to the amount of work it entails and because such service doesn't typically count for much in terms of career advancement.

A diverse range of published work can be considered for the award if it meets the basic description of the award stated above. Over the years, we have received nominations of books (both university press and trade books), journal articles (from diverse journals both within and beyond psychology, feminist in orientation as well as not), and book chapters from anthologies. In some years, the DPA has been awarded to special issues of journals. One clear stipulation for the award has to do with publication date; a book or article must be published in the calendar year *prior* to the year of the award. For example, the 2022 award will be for works published in 2021. Winners of the award are invited to attend the AWP conference the *following* year, e.g., so winners of the 2022 award will be invited to attend the 2023 AWP conference. Each DPA winner receives a beautiful frame-worthy award certificate from AWP.

What's 45 years old, involves 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists?

The formal deadline for nominations is March 1 but by decision of the chair it has sometimes been extended to May 1st. Before the era of the internet, I had to write to publishers to get them to send me copies of the nominated books so I could then mail them to reviewers. Nominated articles had to be photocopied and mailed. Now journal articles and book chapters can be sent as PDF attachments via email, and publishers will mail books directly to reviewers (though they prefer to send digital copies). When members of the committee prefer to read hard copies, publishers have been willing to mail them.

The feminist process of our committee deliberations is really something to behold and experience. But before I describe it, let me first offer a bit of history about how our meetings have evolved. Prior to the internet, the committee met in person at the annual APA meetings to deliberate on the awards. The decision was then announced at the AWP/Division 35 Suite Party at APA. In the first two decades of the award, most members of the DPA committee attended APA meetings and those who could not, sent in written evaluations of the books and articles under consideration. As the years passed and fewer DPA committee members attended APA meetings, we had to find other ways to meet. In my second stint as chair of the DPA, we started using a free conference call system called Zoom. Back then it was extremely new to us and there were certain glitches. Now, of course, I could set up a zoom meeting in my sleep.

By May 1st all committee members are in possession of the books and articles nominated for the award. Members read the materials and a Zoom meeting is typically scheduled for the end of July or very early August, prior to the APA meetings (it is still the case that the DPAs are first announced at APA). Every nomination is evaluated according to five criteria: 1) relevance to the objectives of AWP; 2) importance to the understanding of the psychology of women and gender; 3) creativity, originality, and novelty of approach; 4) methodological soundness of theory or research; and 5) clarity of presentation.

The committee deliberations are one of the best parts of serving on the committee, as they are an exemplary model of an advanced feminist seminar. Reviewers have read the texts critically and come willing to offer their honest assessments. Sometimes members agree from the beginning about which texts are deserving of the awards, but just as often there is no initial consensus as members hold differing assessments of the various nominations. What's been amazing to witness is the way people are open to the stances of their peers and are willing to shift their positions during meetings as part of the feminist consensus process. I've rarely seen the process work as well as it does within the DPA committee, and I think it fair to say that by the end of our roughly 90-minute meetings, everyone feels heard and comfortable with the group's final decisions, even if the publications they came in championing are not the ones that by consensus end up getting the award.

The DPA comes with an honorarium intended to make it easier for award recipients to attend the conference. I'm not sure if there was an honorarium from the very beginning but by the time I served my first stint as chair, it was \$250 and had to be split among award recipients when there was more than one.


What's 45 years old, involves 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists?

As years passed and travel costs increased, this seemed a paltry amount, so we appealed to the IMPS who raised the honorarium to \$500. Again, this amount is to be split among award recipients, though in recent years, two generous committee members have privately subsidized the award to make it possible for winners to attend the conference. To my knowledge, it has never been the case that a DPA winner has declined an invitation to present at our annual conference.

Now to the best part – the awards themselves! As the DPA committee has been granting awards since 1977, we've honored 112 publications overall, including 60 books, 45 journal articles and book chapters, and 8 journal special issues. In 1982 a DPA went to Jeanne Block for her contributions to a film about gender socialization (*The pinks and the blues*) but otherwise, it is only print publications that have won DPAs. Initially, there was a folded pamphlet that listed all the awards by year, but as the years progressed and the awards proliferated it was hard to confine them to a single sheet of paper. Since the advent of the internet, the awards have been listed on the AWP webpage and are continually updated by the chair of the DPA committee. There is only one year since the DPA was established where no award was listed; that was 1983. It's not clear whether this was a failure of reporting or there really was no award made that year. Whatever the reason, I find it rather impressive that the DPA has consistently functioned at such a high level throughout the lifetime of the AWP.

The complete award listing from 1977 through 2021 can be found here:

https://www.awpsych.org/distinguished_publication.php



A perusal of the award listings across 45 years will show that there are typically multiple awards in any given year. There were 8 years in which a single award was given but it has been far more typical that 2 or 3 awards are granted in any given year. In some outlier years, there have been 4 or 5 awards given at once. It's worth noting that in the first year the DPA committee made awards (1977), there were 7 of them! Three were for specific publications and three awards went to early pioneering feminist psychologists (Sandy Bem, Mary Brown Parlee, and Judith Long Laws) for their cumulative research and theoretical publications. The fourth general DPA that year went to JoAnn Evansgardner for her contributions in editing and publishing. It's possible that these four awards for a body of work were the precursor to the Distinguished Career Award, also under the purview of the DPA Committee (but better left to a separate newsletter article).

Sixty books have received DPAs, including first of their kind groundbreakers such as Lenore Walker's *The battered woman* (1979) and Florence Rush's *The best kept secret: Sexual abuse of children* (1981). These were followed by texts that went on to become feminist classics such as Sandra Bem's *The lenses of Gender* (1994), and the anthologies *Lesbian psychologies: Explorations and challenges* (1988); *Women with disabilities: Essays in psychology* (1989); and *The Fat studies reader* (2010) among others.

What's 45 years old, involves 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists?

Over the years, the DPA has recognized important interdisciplinary texts such as Carol Vance's (Ed.) *Pleasure and danger* (1985); Patricia Hill Collins' *Black feminist thought* (1991); and Anne Fausto Sterling's *Sexing the body* (2001).

Eight of the DPA book awards have gone to textbooks. Six were psychology of women and/or gender texts (award years 1978, 1982, 1985, 1993, 1997, and 2020), one was on feminist research methods (1993), and one an introduction to qualitative research (2014).

I also attempted to categorize the books by topic and offer here a rough sketch of what I found. As a side note, I suggest this would be a terrific research topic for an undergraduate or graduate student who is seeking a topic to pursue in greater depth. I was able to identify seven broad topics and a miscellaneous category. While many of the books could be characterized as belonging to more than one topic, I counted each book only once. For each category I include a few examples, citing titles (or portions thereof) and identifying the year the book received the DPA.

- In the category BODIES, there were 14 books, including *Embodiment at the intersection of body and culture* (2018); *Essays on menstruation and resistance* (2017); *Adolescence, pregnancy and abortion* (2011); and an early classic *Body politics: Power, sex, and nonverbal communication* (1977).
- The SEXUALITY category also had 14 books, including the following *Teenage girls talk about sexuality* (2002); *Bisexuality: The invisible minority* (1997); *Straight sex: The politics of pleasure* (1993); and *The social construction of lesbianism* (1989).
- In the RACE/ETHNICITY and RACISM category there were 9 books including *The life, love, and legacy of Audre Lorde* (2017); *Race, ethnicity, and sexuality* (2004); *Racism in the lives of women* (1996); *Women of color integrating ethnic and gender identities* (1995); and *Jewish women speak out* (1995).
- Six books dealt with THEORY AND RESEARCH in FEMINIST SCIENCE and PSYCHOLOGY including *Brainstorm: The flaws in the science of sex differences* (2011); *Reconstructing psychology: Notes on a liminal science* (1995), *Feminist visions of gender similarities and differences* (1996); and the early classic *Reflections on gender and science* (1986).
- Six books on CLINICAL ISSUES included *Psychotherapy with African American women* (2001); *Clinical practice meets postmodern gender theory* (1999); *Subversive dialogues: Theory in feminist practice* (1995); and *Women and mental health policy* (1986).
- Five books focused on VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, among them *The cultural scaffolding of rape* (2006); *Betrayal trauma* (1997); and *The battered woman* (1979).
- Three books focused on GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES, including *Reproductive justice* (2013); *International feminisms* (2012); and, *The revolutionary association of the women of Afghanistan* (2004).
- In a MISCELLANEOUS category, there was one book each focused on the topics of economic injustice (2008); women as leaders (2008); effects of media (2000); and women with disabilities (1989). There were also two books focused on feminist pedagogy (2002, 1989).

What's 45 years old, involves 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists?

As with the books, I've sorted the 45 DPA articles into categories, but first want to note the wide range of journals in which they appeared. Many are from feminist psychology journals for which our very own AWP members have served as editors and reviewers, including *Sex, Roles, Psychology of Women Quarterly*, *Feminism & Psychology*, and *Women in Therapy*. Others are from psychology journals not known for their feminist orientation such as *American Psychologist*, *Psychological Bulletin*, *Annual Review of Sex Research*, and *Archives of Sexual Behavior* to name a few. Some winning articles were from non-psychology journals such as *Law and Human Behavior* and the *Harvard Educational Review*. Finally, highlighting our interdisciplinarity, DPA articles have also been published in feminist and women's studies journals such as *Signs*, *NWSA Journal*, and *Women's Studies International Forum*.

Taken together, the DPA articles reveal a similar range of categories as for the books, though the overlap between categories was so great that some articles are identified in two categories. Again, for each category I include examples by citing salient descriptors and identifying the year the article received the DPA. Only four book chapters have ever won DPAs, and they are counted here among the award winning articles.

- In the category RACE and DIVERSITY, there were 9 award winners, including one book chapter (Cultural diversity, contextualism and feminist psychology, 1996) and 8 articles, all of which are also counted in one of the categories listed below. These articles specifically considered Muslim women (2021); gender and sexual minorities (2020); African American women (2020); Yazidi women (2019); deaf girls and women (2007); prostitutes (2007); Cambodian refugee women (1990); and poor women (1986).
- In the DISCRIMINATION category there were 8 articles, among them ones related to decolonizing psychology for Muslims (2021); gender harassment (2012); the maternal wall against mothers (2005); affirmative action (2004); sexist discrimination as distancing behavior (1987); and women as overworked and underpaid (1985).
- Articles related to VIOLENCE numbered 8 including ones on sexual assault in US contexts (2021, 2019); genocidal sexual assault of Yazidi women (2019); hidden rape victims (1986); and women's recovery from the trauma of war (1987).
- In the CLINICAL category there were 8 articles, including ones looking at conflicts of interest within the DSM (2014); twelve-step programs (1991); psychological effects of war and trauma (1990); inequality and mental health (1986); and feminist approaches to family therapy (1979).
- There were 8 REVIEW ARTICLES including ones on women's health (1991); gender and relationships (1991); and reviews of gender differences in personal entitlement (1985); aggression (1978); and influenceability (1978).
- In the realm of THEORY/SCIENCE, there were 7 articles, including on challenges to the gender binary (2020); sexual configurations theory (2016); objectification theory (2008); and epistemological debates on science, social values and the study of women (1993).
- Articles on SEXUALITY numbered 6 including a critique of the construct of sexual orientation (2016); exit strategies of prostitutes (2007); love, sex and power (1996); and a critique of the human sexual response cycle (1992).

What's 45 years old, involves 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists?

- In the BODIES category, there were at least 6 articles on such topics as abortion access (2019); eating disorders (2006); corpses, lepers, and menstruating women (1987); and the sexual politics of PMS (1984).

Finally, it is worth noting that over the years, eight Special Issue Journals, on topics of central importance to the psychology of women and gender, have been recognized with DPAs to the editors of the special issue. These journal issues warrant a category of their own and were not counted in either the book or article compilations summarized above. Instead, they are separately listed below and dated by year of the award.

- Ending sizeism in psychotherapy and training, *Women and therapy: A Feminist quarterly*, 2020 (Joan Chrisler and Maureen McHugh)
- The past, present, and future of masculinity/femininity, and gender: Honoring feminist scholar Sandra Bem (1944-2014), *Sex Roles: A journal of research*, 2018 (Emily Keener and Clare Mehta)
- Feminist liberation psychology, *Feminism & Psychology*, 2010 (M. Brinton Lykes and Geraldine Moane)
- Intersectionality of social identities: A gender perspective, *Sex Roles: A journal of research*, 2009 (Stephanie Shields)
- Women's sexualities: New perspectives on sexual orientation and gender, *Journal of Social Issues*, 2001 (Letitia Peplau and Linda Garnets)
- Innovations in feminist research, *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 2000 (Mary Crawford and Ellen Kimmel)
- Measuring beliefs about appropriate roles for women and men, *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 1998 (Irene Frieze and Maureen McHugh)
- Eminent women in psychology: Models of achievement, *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 1981 (Agnes O'Connell and Nancy Russo)



In writing this article and thinking about the awards, I became almost dizzy with their number and range as well as their critical importance to feminist psychology. So many of the issues raised in these award-winning publications were revelatory but also still politically relevant. It's been a whirlwind tour encompassing 45 years, 112 publications, and countless feminist psychologists. Taken together, these publications constitute an impressive list. One of the highlights of serving on the committee has been witnessing what it means to people to receive a Distinguished Publication Award. Many recipients have been active AWP members and it's evident they feel especially honored to have their work recognized by their peers. The award sessions at AWP are generally well attended, and more than one person has remarked that they think the DPA is one of the most important things that AWP does. It is my humble observation that the committees and caucuses of the AWP are its beating heart, the best of what this all-volunteer grassroots feminist organization has to offer. May we honor our AWP history and continue to thrive!

Give to Vitamin F!

Kat Quina Match Statement

I am **Kat Quina**, a long time AWP member, conference coordinator and cheerleader of feminist psychology. Inspired by the Legacy Circle and generous donations, including Laura Brown's 50th anniversary match, several members of the Older Women's Caucus proposed a plan for a strategic investment in AWP's future. Dubbed the Vitamin F fund, we are hoping to build greater financial security for generations to come. Mary Hayden opened the fund and created a '21 matching challenge to members, starting the fund off on a strong footing. See more at https://www.awpsych.org/the_vitamin_f_fund.php

I've been nourished by AWP for over 40 years, and I continue to be inspired by you amazing people, especially my mentors and friends, young and "vintage." Following Mary's lead, I have created a "22 in '22" challenge. I'm donating \$2200 to the Vitamin F fund, in gratitude for all the love and support AWP folks have given me all these years. In addition, between now and AWP 2022, I will match all donations of \$22 or more, up to another \$2200, and I'd really like to get at least 22 donations!

There are two easy ways to donate:

1. On the AWP home page (awpsych.org) find the "Donate" button and pay with paypal or a credit card, or send a check per instructions provided. Please include "Vitamin F" on the instructions / memo lines.
2. When you register for the AWP 2022 Conference, you can include a donation to the Vitamin F fund (<https://www.awpsych.org/registration.php>)

Thank you for your support of AWP and the Vitamin F Fund!

Kat Quina

Association for Women in Psychology

JEWISH WOMEN'S CAUCUS (JWC)

2022 AWARD FOR SCHOLARSHIP

\$250 Prize from the Pax Fund Held by AWP Treasurer

Deadline Correction: December 31, 2022

Purpose

Intended to recognize, further the development of, and honor distinguished scholarship in the field of the psychology of Jewish Women. The JWC Award was established by the family of Kayla Weiner, to honor her work in the areas of Judaism, Feminism and Psychology. JWC funds are held in a socially conscious no-load mutual fund.

Eligibility

Theoretical papers, creative projects and research papers will be considered. Papers that have been submitted for publication or presented at professional meetings are eligible, as well as papers that have been previously published or accepted for publication.

Submission

Entries should be written in APA style. Email to <docsiegel@earthlink.net> or send four (4) hard copies of the paper, book or project and a self-addressed stamped postcard to the address below. A cover sheet should accompany each submission and include the author's name, address, telephone number and email address. The submissions will be reviewed using a standard blind review procedure, therefore [where possible] the author's identifying information should not appear on the submission itself.

Criteria

Nominations will be judged on the basis of theoretical creativity, quality of the project, clarity, style presentation, and importance and relevance of the topic to the psychology of Jewish women.

Award

A \$250 prize will be awarded. The award will be announced at the American Psychological Association Conference. The winner is asked to be an active member of AWP, and to present her work as an 'invited address' at the next year's Association for Women in Psychology Conference.

To Contribute to the Award

Please make tax-deductible donation checks payable to AWP, earmarked "JWC Award."

Send Donations, Submissions, Hard Copies and/or Nominations with

Subject line: "JWC Award Nomination" to:

kmweiner@netscape.net

Report from the OWC

By Mary Hayden

This fall and winter the Older Women's Caucus has continued to thrive in spite of COVID, with a core group of 15-18 participants in bi-weekly Zoom meetings supplemented by occasional pop-up book discussions. In October, after Jan Yoder's inspiring and disturbing summary of the global status of women, we held a brainstorming meeting where Susan Basow guided us in generating a list of topics for future meetings.

In November Leonore Tiefer led two discussions of the AWP member survey (the first since 2011) and its suggestion that we consider a new name for our organization and possibly create a Gender Inclusivity Imp. Members had many questions about these ideas, with some concern that if a new position is considered financially advisable, there could also be consideration of an Imp to represent Activism interests or Disability and Accessibility concerns. It was noted that the caucus structure has always offered a "safe space" for those who feel under-recognized in AWP, and we hoped that the newly dubbed "Queercus" could help with the perceived lack of inclusivity that was mentioned in the member survey. Younger members may not be aware that since the mid-1980's AWP has worked to deconstruct gender stereotypes and to undermine the gender binary. Since about the year 2000 programming has addressed de-pathologizing transgender identities and highlighting the experiences of gender nonconforming individuals.

In late November, in preparation for the December 2 AWP business meeting, Carla Golden and Mary Hayden led a session in which we attempted to clarify the group's thoughts and feelings about the proposed changes. It was surprising and alarming to many of us that the inclusion of the word "women" in our name has become a source of great discomfort for some. We were disappointed that the business meeting did not result in a meeting of minds, but it did point to the great need for us to work on understanding contrasting perspectives on this important issue of our organizational identity. To that end, we in the OWC are preparing a new draft version of the AWP mission statement that we hope can focus future discussions on what AWP should stand for in the 2020's.

In December Irene Frieze, Hilary Lips, and Jan Yoder guided us in a review of the status of women globally according to womanstats.org. This resource is "the largest cross-national compilation of data, statistics, and maps on the status of women worldwide." A visit to the site reveals immediately that over half the women in the world either completely lack or have low levels of physical security. This graphic reality shows how far we have to go to create a world that is safe for women.

Most recently Mary Brabeck led a session on our endangered reproductive rights, noting that if *Roe v. Wade* falls in the anticipated June Supreme Court decision, the US will join a handful of authoritarian nations that restrict this basic human right.

Report from the OWC

By Mary Hayden

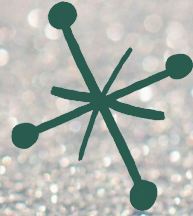
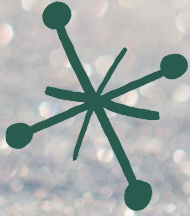
With over half the states preparing to criminalize or severely limit abortion, a health and mental health crisis for poor families is imminent. Mary provided us with an action toolkit created by the National Council on Jewish Women, the National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda (In Our Own Voice), the National Institute for Reproductive Health, and ALL* Above All. This kit gives detailed instructions on how to work with local officials and grassroots groups to mobilize political will to protect the right to choose. You can access the toolkit by googling **In Our Own Voice**.

Carla Golden and Leonore Tiefer moderated periodic pop-up book discussions throughout the fall and winter. Leonore led discussions on trans issues, including Kathleen Stock's *Material Girls: Why Reality Matters for Feminism*, while Carla hosted sessions on Amia Srinivasan's *The Right to Sex: Feminism in the Twenty-First Century* and our own Bonnie Strickland's memoir *Leaving the Confederate Closet: A Southern Lesbian's Journey*.



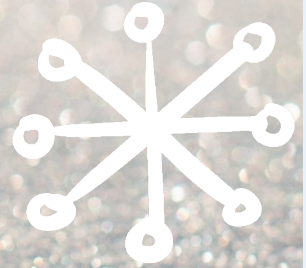
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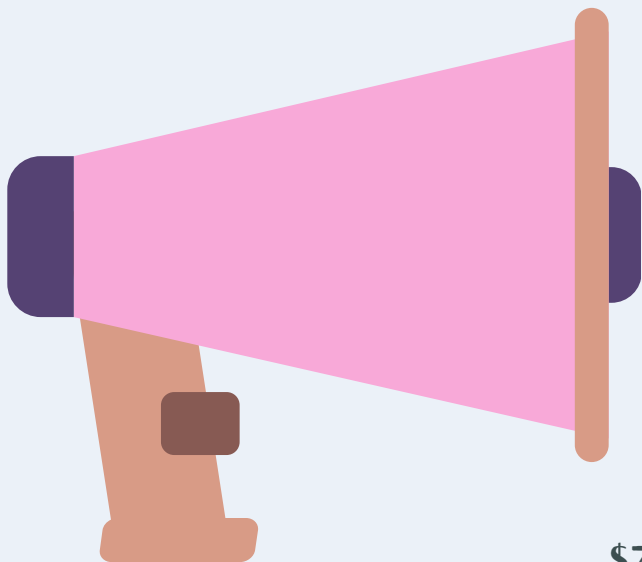
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We challenge unexamined privilege and dominant discourses that marginalize and oppress within psychology and the wider society. AWP accomplishes this by promoting feminist scholarship, teaching, practice, and networking, and through mentoring, activism, and influencing public policy.