

Summaries of articles

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Ils changent, disent-ils

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SUMMARIES OF ARTICLES

A Comparison between two Profiles of a Group of Fifteen-year-old Boys in Quebec

Pierrette Bouchard and Jean-Claude St-Amant

Following a research where 2 200 Quebec boys and girls aged 15 answered a questionnaire, the article first presents a profile of what is considered «masculinity» amongst boys. In order to qualify the boys' answers, they are compared to the girls' on each and every question. A second profile of «masculinity» is then sought, this time using the positions taken by a majority of boys, notwithstanding what position the girls held. Finally, since the two profiles represent the same group of boys but result from different methods of analysis, they are compared to one another. The synthesis shows that the girls are mostly open to social change, for themselves as well as for their schoolmates. The boys reveal themselves close to a traditional image of «masculinity» and the few changes observed in their representations can be linked to actions of the women's movement.

About Men's Role in Women's Studies : A Profound Ambivalence

Margrit Eichler

This paper examines the attitudes of female women's studies professors towards male women's studies professors, and compares them with the attitudes of the men themselves. The overriding stance is a profound ambivalence. On the one hand, men are seen as sometimes necessary and sometimes in principle desirable colleagues in women's studies, on the other hand, they are seen as being in a paradoxical situation, in which their very presence in an authority position contradicts the message and intent of the course. The argument is presented that ambivalence is preferable to either unproblematic acceptance or complete rejection of men as instructors in women's studies courses.

Working Together Men and Women : the Emergence of the Questions and Methodology

Daniel Welzer-Lang

Through historical elements from the field of men studies, and on the basis of the researches the author has been carrying out for ten years, the article examines the problematics and methodological framework that enable us to carry out studies in mixed teams of women and men, while investigating the androcentrism of sociology and sociologists themselves.

In the first part, the often intricate processes through which profeminist research work has emerged in France are analysed. Then, looking at the frequent asymmetry of the subjects treated by profeminist men and feminist (women) sociologists, and considering the current issues in the field under construction of social relations between men and women, the article proposes a discussion on methodology. More accurately, through the example of a recent study on partner-swapping, the author, who claims antisexist principles, explains the concrete difficulties he had in fieldwork to break with androcentrism, and to accept, validate and eventually integrate the experiences and critical analyses of his feminist women colleagues.

In conclusion, the article examines the methodological tools and principles that would enable us to set up debates taking into account the problematics of social relations between women and men in research teams.

«Pas d'histoire les femmes !» Feminism in a Popular Magazine : *L'actualité* 1960-1996

Micheline Dumont and Stéphanie Lanthier

The place of feminism, in a Quebec popular magazine, *L'actualité*, has been examined for the 1960-1996 period. The analysis of a corpus formed from 118 articles and columns, has shown that the discourse about feminism has scarcely changed during more than three decades and that it expresses many characteristics related to the patriarchal conception of social order. Two observations have been made. First, the political meaning of feminism has been occulted, as if women could not be subject of history. On the other hand, a mechanism of resistance has been at work in the magazine, revealed by the juxtaposition of feminist and sexist comments. One seems to minimize feminism and its influence within the Quebec society. While presenting the so-called journalistic objectivity, medias rather propose the version of masculine subjectivity.

Masculinism and Sexist Criminality

Martin Dufresne

The Internet network allows one to observe and to oppose an active enhancement and reproduction of male supremacy by the man's movement, whose discourse on the male condition and organisation practice of men as men, speaking as fathers or as child spokespersons, proves to have identifiable impacts on sexist criminality, from child support theft to harassment and murder.

Psychological Violence : its Definition and its Representation according to Sex

Jocelyn Lindsay and Michèle Clément

This article presents the main results of a qualitative study, aiming at the representations of psychological violence according to the gender. This subtle form of conjugal violence has been the object of a few studies in the past, mostly quantitative. Many researchers have actually tried to measure the concept and to disclose its incidence. Here, the authors go back to a former level of conceptualization and try to define, in a more global manner, the process and the components of this form of violence. First, a review of the definitions of psychological violence, taken from previous researches, is presented. The authors introduce the main methodological aspects. The analysis of interviews allow to study how men and women envision psychological violence and to account for the three main components of a social representation, then, a new definition of psychological violence, based on a discourse analysis, is put forward. Finally, the authors make a critical analysis of the convergences and divergences between literature and the newly acquired empirical data.

Gendered Social Movements*Xavier Dunezat*

This article examines the unemployed movement that arose in France during the winter of 1998 as a «gendered social movement». After having reviewed the notion of the transversality of social relations – and more specifically, gender relations – in the sociology of social movements, the author describes his participation in and observation of the unemployed movement in Morlaix (Brittany). He analyses the under-representation of women in the movement and the gendered nature of behaviours during general assemblies. He raises the link between gender relations and the structure, demands and actions of the movement. He then evaluates the notion of «gender hatred» in the context of this social movement. Must not the weight of male domination and patriarchal behaviour be considered as central to the explanation of the progressive disengagement of the men and women who participate in a social movement?