

Prof. Eckstein
S0420/S0820, IR425/IR825
Spring 2015
seckstei@bu.edu

Office: 100 Cummington St, Rm 279
Sociology 353 2591
Office Hours:

Tuesday 2:00-3:30; Thursday 10:45-12:15
other times by appointment

This course counts towards majors and minors in International Relations, Sociology, Latin American Studies and Women's Studies.

WOMEN AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

COURSE DESCRIPTION: What has the traditional role of women been in the developing world? Do women benefit as much as men from industrialization? What effects does modernization have on women's role within the family, the work force, and politics? Have women been a conservative political force, or have they been influential in promoting social change? Does female social, cultural, economic, and political participation vary by social class, and how does it differ in the developed and less developed world? Do women's opportunities differ in socialist and capitalist countries? The course will address such questions. Each week different readings will be discussed that address these issues.

BOOKS (available at Barnes and Nobles, BU) (also, on reserve at Mugar Library)

I... Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala

Bumiller, *May You Be the Mother of a Hundred Sons*

Paternostro, *In the Land of God and Man* [or material on-line]

Chang, *Wild Swans*

Kristof & WuDunn, *Half the Sky*

Mahdavi, *Iran's Sexual Revolution*

Coulter, *Bush Wives & Girl Soldiers*

OPTIONAL (strongly recommended for S0820/IR825):

Mohanty, Chandra Talpade, *Feminism without borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*

Kelly, et al (ed.), *Gender, Globalization, & Democratization*

Aulette, Wittner, Blakely, *Gendered Worlds*

Jaquette and Summerfield (eds.), *Women and Gender Equity in Development Theory and Practice*

Segura and Zavella (eds.), *Women and Migration in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands*

Moghadam, *Modernizing Women*

Scott, *Gender and Development*

Waylen, *Gender in Third World Politics*

Roy, et al, *Economic Development and Women and the World Economy*

Kempadoo & Doezema (eds.), *Global Sex Workers*

Brettell and Sargent (eds.), *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*

Abassi and Lutjens (eds.), *Rereading Women in Latin America and the Caribbean*

Cornwall (ed.), Andrea, *Gender in Africa*

ARTICLES are on reserve at Mugar Library and on the web, at Blackboard

I. OVERVIEW OF CLASS (Jan. 20)

II. WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT: HISTORY VIEWED THROUGH PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Diverse Gender/Class/Ethnic Perspectives : Latin America, Past and Present

1. . I...Rigoberta Menchu [Jan 27]

2. A. Paternostro, *In the Land of God and Man* (Feb 3) [out of print, read online or

on reserve in library

also read:

b. [Salvador Vidal-Ortiz](#), "Revisiting Activos and Pasivos: Towards New Cartographies of Latino/Latin American Male Same-Sex Desire." (with Tomás Almaguer, Héctor Carrillo, and Carlos U. Decena) Pp. 253-273 in [Latina/o Sexualities: Probing Powers, Passions, Practices, and Policies](#). Marysol Asencio (ed). Rutgers University Press, 2010.

III. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT: VARIOUS THEORETICAL ISSUES AND DEBATES (Feb. 10)

1ST TAKE-HOME EXAM HANDED OUT—DUE ON FEB. 24

Mohanty, Chandra Talpade, *Feminism without borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*, especially Chapters 1 and 2.

Aulette, Wittner, Blakely, *Gendered Worlds*, pp 7-9, 26-29, 163-66

Boserup, *Women's Role in Economic Development* (excerpts on reserve for S0420)

Fall, "Gender and Social Implications of Globalization: An African Perspective," in Kelly, et al (eds.), *Gender, Globalization, & Democratization*, pp 49-74

Kandiyoti, "Bargaining with Patriarchy," *Gender and Society* 2 no. 3 (Sept. 1988): 274-90.

Ryan, "Encountering the State: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Women's Political Experience," in Brettell and Sargent (eds.), *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*, 317-29

Vandana Shiva's work "monocultures of the mind,"

So820: READ entire Boserup, *Women's Role in Economic Development* (entire book) and summarize for class.

III. Economy and Society: Gender and Varieties of Labor Market Experiences (Feb 24]

Ward and Pyle, "Gender, Industrialization, Transnational Corporations and Development: An Overview of Trends," in Bose and Acosta-Belen (eds.), *Women in the Latin American Development Process*, pp 37-64

Miraftab, "Space, Gender, and Work: Home-Based Workers in Mexico," in Segura and Zavella (eds.), *Women and Migration*, pp 269-85.

Brennan, "Selling Sex for Visas: Sex Tourism as a Stepping Stone to International Migration." In *Global Woman*, edited by Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp154-68.

Kara, Siddharth, *Sex Trafficking*, pp 1-44

Yunus, "The Grameen Bank," *Global Issues*, 187-91

New York Times article: "Microcredit is Imperiled in India by Defaults"

George, *When Women Come First: Gender and Class in Transnational Migration*, Chapter 2 "Work", pp 39-76

Parrenas, *Children of Global Migration*, Chapter 4 "The Gender Paradox: Recreating 'the Family' in Women's Migration," pp 92-119

FILM: B.A.T.A.M.

OPTIONAL READING: Annette Fuentes & Barbara Ehrenreich, *Women in the Global Factory*

IV. CULTURE AND GENDER: INDIA CASE STUDY (MARCH 3)

Bumiller, May You Be the Mother of 100 Sons

Ganguly-Scrase, "Diversity and the Status of Women: The Indian Experience," in *Women in Asia*, Louise Edwards & Mina Roces (eds.). Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2000. [this article is an important supplement to the book by Bumiller]

A video on child marriage in India: [OPTIONAL]

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/specials/nat-geo-live-specials/sinclairgorney-lecture-nglive/>

An interesting movie [OPTIONAL]:

<http://www.itsgirlmovie.com/> The film is available on Netflix!

V. GENDER & CULTURE: CROSS-CULTURAL THEMES [March 17]

Scheper-Hughes, "(M)other Love...: Culture, Scarcity and Material Thinking," in Zinn et al, Gender through the Prism of Difference, in Zinn, 261-67

Pietila, Gossip, Markets, and Gender: How Dialogue Constructs Moral Value in Post-Socialist Kilimanjaro, "Introduction" and "Conclusion," pp 3-14, 191-202

Bachrach Ehlers, "Debunking Marianismo...", in Zinn et al, Gender through the Prism of Difference, 49-59

An article on mujerismo that should be on Blackboard

Ong, Spirits of Resistance and Capitalist Discipline, xiii-xv, pp 195-213

Cairolì, "Factory as Home and Family," Brettell and Sargent (eds.), Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective, pp 551-63

The Nawal El Saadawi Reader, pp. 73-99

Boyle, "The Evolution of Debates over Female Genital Cutting," in Lechner & Boli, *The Globalization Reader* (2012), pp 300-05

V. CULTURE AND GENDER: ISLAMIC CASE STUDY, IRAN (MARCH 24)

Tohidi, "Gender and Islamic Fundamentalism: Feminist Politics in Iran," in Mohanty et al, *Third World Women*, 251-70 [read this article before reading the book]

Mahdavi, *Iran's Sexual Revolution*

New York Times articles on women in the Middle East—available on Blackboard

OPTIONAL:

Film: *Persepolis, A Separation or Women without Men probably*

OTHER BOOKS [RECOMMENDED, NOT REQUIRED]

[**The Favored Daughter: One Woman's Fight to Lead Afghanistan into the Future**](#)
by Fawzia Koofi and Nadene Ghouri

[**Letters To My Daughters: Amazon.ca: Fawzia Koofi:**](#)

VII. WOMEN AND POLITICS (MARCH 31)

- Aulette, Wittner, Blakely, *Gendered Worlds*, “Elected Officials”, pp 305-12
Htun, “Sex and the State in Latin America,” in Krook & Childs (eds.), *Women, Gender, and Politics*
Yoon, “Democracy and Gender Politics in South Korea,” in Kelly et al, *Gender, Globalization & Democratization*, pp 171-94
Krook, *Quotas for Women in Politics*, 19-35, 57-106
Gupta, “ Transforming Governance Agendas: insights from Grass-roots Initiatives in Local Governance in Two Districts of India,” in Kelly et al (eds.), *Gender, Globalization & Democratization*, pp 195-204
Tripp, “Women in Movement: Transformations in African Political Landscapes,” in Cornwall (ed.), *Gender in Africa*, pp 234-43
Aulette, Wittner, Blakely, “Gendered Violence in Conflict Zones,” in Aulette, Wittner, and Blakely, *Gendered Worlds*, pp 243-48
Navarro, “The Personal is Political,” in Eckstein (ed.), *Power and Popular Protest*, pp 241-58
Baldez, “Women’s Movements and Democratic Transition in Chile, Brazil, East Germany, and Poland,” in Krook & Childs (eds.), *Women, Gender, and Politics*
Viterna, *Women in War: The Micro-Processes of Mobilization in El Salvador*, Conclusions, pp 2-3-220

Film: PBS, *on women in Chile*

Recommended: *Temma Kaplan*, *Taking Back the Streets*

VIII. WOMEN AND POLITICS: AFRICAN EXPERIENCES [APRIL 7]

- Coulter, *Bush Wives and Girl Soldiers* [you can skim Chapter 1]
Alcinda Honwana, *The Time of Youth: Work, Social Change, and Politics in Africa* [excerpt]
Youth and Revolution in Tunisia, “Women’s Rights,” pp 167-91.

Optional but recommended:

“Nigeria Uses Harsh Law to ‘Sanitize’ Itself of Gays,” *New York Times* February 9, 2014, pp 1,

Documentary film you might want to watch: narrated by Leymah Gbowee. *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*. It is available through pbs.org and was created by Abigail Disney, Pamela Hogan, and Gini Reticker. The URL for the documentary is: <http://video.pbs.org/video/2155873888>

IX. WOMEN, REVOLUTION, AND SOCIALISM

CHINA: Chang, *Wild Swans* (APRIL 14)

CUBA, NICARAGUA, EASTERN EUROPE, IRAN (APRIL 21)

Cole, "Women in Cuba," in Goldstone (ed.), *Revolutions*, pp 307-18

Krull and Kobayashi, "Shared Memories, Common Visions :Generations, Sociopolitical Consciousness and Resistance Among Cuban Women", Sociological Inquiry, May 2009, pp. 163-167, 171-185

Molyneux, "Mobilization without Emancipation? Women's Interests, the State and Revolution. In Nicaragua," *Feminist Studies II* (1985): 226-54

Fodor, "Gender and the Experience of Poverty in Eastern Europe & Russia After 1989," *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 35 (2002): 369-82.

Fodor, et al, "Family Policies and Gender in Hungary, Poland, and Romania." *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 35 (2002): 475-90.

Tohidi, "Gender and Islamic Fundamentalism: Feminist Politics in Iran," in Mohany, et al, *Third World Women*, 251-70 (reread)

SO820 class presentation

Rueschemeyer (ed), *Women in the Politics of Postcommunist Eastern Europe*

Nechemias, "Women and Politics in Post-Soviet Russia," 8-23

Reuschmeyer, "Women in the Politics of Eastern Germany," 89-115

Molyneux, "Mobilization without Emancipation? Women's Interests, the State and

Revolution. In Nicaragua," *Feminist Studies II* (1985): 226-54. *Women's Migration*,"

2ND TAKE-HOME EXAM HANDED OUT APRIL 22. IT MUST BE HANDED ON APRIL 28. BUDGET YOUR TIME SO THAT YOU CAN HAND IN YOUR EXAM ON APRIL 28. IF

YOU HAVE KEPT UP WITH YOUR READINGS, YOU SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM MEETING THE DEADLINE.

XI. SOCIAL ISSUES AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1. **Kristof & WuDunn, *Half the Sky*** [please list your 5 favorite chapters/topics & explain

why—in addition to submitting 3 questions] **April 28.**

you might want to read this critique of Kristof's work:

<http://thenewinquiry.com/post/13875223956/be-aware-nick-kristofs-anti-politics>

FILM based on the book, early October: Here's the link to the trailer:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MRfDzznfEOU>

reread articles on migration, eg. by George and Parrenas

Hvistendahl, *Unnatural Selection* (excerpts)

Aulette, Wittner, Blakely, "Gender and Global AIDS Pandemic," *Gendered Worlds* pp 288-97

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. weekly questions submitted in writing
2. class participation—this is ESSENTIAL, on a weekly basis
3. midterm and final (take-home)—please note, in that this is a reading course you will be held responsible for ALL readings for the exams
4. regular attendance

Your grade will be determined primarily on the basis of the two exams (each of equivalent worth), and on your weekly contributions to the course, both in writing AND class discussion

In electing to take Women in Developing Countries you are expected to attend classes regularly. Attendance may be a factor in your final grade. Class participation is an essential part of the class. Please notify me in writing when you expect to miss a class.

In choosing to take the class you are expected to abide by all Boston University policies regarding plagiarism.

Academic Misconduct: All class members are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty and integrity. You are expected to provide citations in papers for all quotations, paraphrases, and ideas taken from any source other than your own original thoughts. Boston University has very strict standards for intellectual integrity, and punishment for plagiarism is severe, and can include permanent expulsion from the university. For more on the definition of plagiarism and the standards to which you will be held, see the CAS Academic Conduct Code, available at <http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/> or the GRS Academic Conduct Code: <http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/graduate/forms-policies-procedures/academic-discipline-procedures/>

ARTICLES FROM THE MEDIA—sign up for oral and written presentation

WRITTEN & ORAL ASSIGNMENT: you are responsible for finding a NEWS article, summarizing the key points of the article, and addressing ways issues covered in the article Be prepared to discuss your article and analysis in class.

II Gender Perspectives: Latin America Feb 3)

1. [Op-Ed: How Latin Culture Got More Gay](#) [New York Times May 17, 2013 op-ed by Hector Carrillo]
2. <http://www.coha.org/progress-and-challenges-to-lgbt-rights-in-latin-america-in-light-of-the-recent-sixth-resolution-on-human-rights-sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity/>
3. <http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2013/09/how-male-power-spreads-hiv/279617/>
4. *Wall Street Journal* , October 2, 2013, “Uruguay Challenges Latin American Taboos”
- 5.

5. Illegal Abortions in Brazil and Teen Pregnancies in Peru

men underwent illegal abortions in Brazil in 2013, and pressure is building for a real debate. Peru where the largest number of teenagers leaves school due

[use of Brasilia](#) Renata Mariz, Julia Chaib, and Ana Pompey wrote of the case of two residents of Rio de Janeiro who died after leaving clandestine abortion clinics. This case exposes the national tragedy of preventing a crime in Brazil, 205,000 women were hospitalized last year from complications due to endometriosis. The University of Rio de Janeiro (Uerj) estimates the approximate total of up to 865,000 illegal abortions in Brazil in 2013. The

The tragedies leveraged the chorus of pro-decriminalization of abortion. On the Latin American Day of Legalization of Abortion there were protests in at least four state capitals. Jandira Magdalena dos Santos Cruz, 27, and Elizângela Barbosa, 32, who recently joined the statistics, were to be remembered in the events in São Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre and Rio de Janeiro. Like them, many women seek clandestine and illegal clinics to terminate an unwanted pregnancy.

The debate about the decriminalization of the practice is surging. "There are daily deaths, which show the urgency of the debate. Criminalization puts the woman at risk," said Maria Rosado, coordinator of Catholics for a Free Choice. On the other hand, the judge of the Court of Justice of the Federal District, Roberval Belinati, supports maintaining abortion in the Criminal Code, arguing that the state needs to fulfill other duties. "The government has an obligation to provide conditions for pregnant women to have healthy children and for the child to develop with dignity."

Belinati highlights the conflict between the rights of the fetus and the woman. "I do not agree with the legalization of abortion," he said, and insists that he is "defending the lives of innocent and defenseless people," meaning the fetus. For a specialist in fetal medicine, gynecologist Thomaz Gollop, the debate is ruled by a false issue. "Nobody is in favor of abortion. What we need to think about is if the women who practice it should be penalized." About this, he has no doubt: "the penalty is ineffective."

La República of Lima reported that in South America Peru is the country with the highest dropout rate due to teen pregnancy, where 88.6% of teenage mothers do not attend school. The Center for the Promotion and Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights, (PROMSEX), is aware of this unfortunate reality, based on recent research from the Inter-American Development Bank. Rossina Guerrero, advocacy director of PROMSEX, explained that "in 2013, eight out of ten pregnant adolescents never attended school (85.2%), according to the document 'State of the Peruvian Population INEI' of 2014."

PROMSEX says that "there is an urgent need to include comprehensive sex education in schools, not only as a course and then tutoring, but as a general approach to be incorporated into all courses to help combat stereotypes and disrupt patterns of violence, and generally prepare adolescents to make the best decisions for their lives."

**GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT: VARIOUS THEORETICAL ISSUES AND DEBATES
(Feb. 10)**

6. <http://trumpeter.athabasca.ca/index.php/trumpet/article/viewArticle/358/562>

[you might also want to read her Stolen Harvest.

7. NPR on the struggle of the hijras in Pakistan for legal recognition of a third gender - it made it to the Supreme Court and won.

<http://www.npr.org/2012/09/03/160496712/pakistans-transgenders-in-a-category-of-their-own>

IV. CULTURE AND GENDER: INDIA

8. **Meghalaya: Where women call the shots.**

Many Indian women cry out for equality, but a matrilineal culture thrives with little parallel in the northeast. *ALJAZEERA*

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/2013/2013/10/meghalaya-where-women-call-shots-2013103152936824511.html>

9. "India's New Focus on Rape Shows Only the Surface of Women's Perils," New York Times July 21, 2013 http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/13/world/asia/in-rapes-aftermath-india-debates-violence-against-women.html?hp&_r=1&

10. **Indian Women March: 'That Girl Could Have Been Any One of Us'** [New York Times Dec 30, 2012] By HEATHER TIMMONS and SRUTHI GOTTIPATI

11. **Focus on Rape Only Scratches Surface**
By GARDINER HARRIS

12. "On Indian TV, 'I Do' Means to Honor and Obey the Mother-in-Law" , New York Times December 26, 2012, p. 1

13. A video on child marriage in India:
<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/specials/nat-geo-live-specials/sinclairgorney-lecture-nglive/>

An interesting movie [OPTIONAL]:
<http://www.itsagirlmovie.com/> The film is available on Netflix!

V. GENDER & CULTURE: CROSS-CULTURAL THEMES [March 17]

14. CELIA W. DUGGER, [Gradual Fall Found in Female Genital Cutting in Africa](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/23/health/report-finds-gradual-fall-in-female-genital-cutting-in-africa.html?hp&_r=0) *New York Times* July 22, 2013 and/or

www.nytimes.com/2013/07/23/health/report-finds-gradual-fall-in-female-genital-cutting-in-africa.html?hp&_r=0

15. <http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/07/27/cameroon.breast.ironing/>

<http://www.trust.org/item/20131205132047-15osx/>

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/07/27/cameroon.breast.ironing/>

<http://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/surviving-breast-ironing-in-cameroon/>

V. CULTURE AND GENDER: ISLAMIC CASE STUDY, IRAN (MARCH 24)

16. <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/05/18/the-facebook-page-where-iran-s-women-are-unveiling-online.html> [on an anti-headscarf movement in Iran!]

Film: *Persepolis, A Separation or Women without Men probably [OPTIONAL]*

A Link from the Boston Globe. Keep the pictures in mind when we discuss women in Islamic countries [we will discuss the RANGE of experiences]. Pictured experiences are not the norm.
http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2011/07/worlds_most_dangerous_countrie.html

VIII. WOMEN AND POLITICS: AFRICAN EXPERIENCES [APRIL 7]

17. "Nigeria Uses Harsh Law to 'Sanitize' Itself of Gays," *New York Times* February 9, 2014, pp 1, 14

Documentary film you might want to watch: narrated by Leymah Gbowee. *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*. It is available through pbs.org and was created by Abigail Disney, Pamela Hogan, and Gini Reticker. The URL for the documentary is: <http://video.pbs.org/video/2155873888>

IX. WOMEN, REVOLUTION, AND SOCIALISM

18. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/interactives/map-world-womenpolitics>

Communist and Post-Communist Studies 34 (2001) 203–220

www.elsevier.com/locate/postcomstud

One step forward, two steps back: women in the post-communist states

Suzanne LaFont, City University of New York, Kingsborough Community College, 2001