

this matter, it will be a valuable piece of work indeed.

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The Longest War: Sex Differences in Perspective (2nd edition), Carol Tavris and Carol Wade. *New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1984, pp. 416.*

Beyond Sex Roles (2nd edition), Alice G. Sargent. *St. Paul: West Publishing Company, pp. 563.*

Both of these texts have certain broad similarities. They have both been constructed with an interdisciplinary focus; both are written in a style that appeals to students; both are directed to the American student; both are second editions.

The Longest War is more like the traditional text. I have used this book for a couple of years in a large 200 level course on the *Psychology of Sex Differences*. Overall, the students' response to the text is favourable. At first, they have difficulty with its breezy, sometimes less than reverent style but come to like the humour of the authors and their honesty. They find it informative, interesting and readable. The students' biggest criticism focuses on its deficiencies when compared to the more traditional psychology text. They miss headings, bold-face type, subtitles, glossaries, chapter summaries and pictures. Before I sound too critical of students' wanting ease of studying, I must admit that as a teacher I, too, missed the "perks" of the traditional textbook: the teacher's manual and test bank. These lacks are outweighed by the book itself. Its layout is clear and well organized and it is easily supplemented and its reference list is extensive.

In the preface the authors state that they have "tried to follow a fine line between the bland neutrality that feigns fairness and the polemical

commitment that obscures divergent points of view, (ix)". The introductory chapter is historical — and limited in its scope. Part I sets the stage: the authors discuss which differences between the sexes are real as far as the research shows and which are based on stereotypes. Part II describes and evaluates explanations used to explain sex differences and examines them from differing perspectives; the biological perspective (chapter 4); the psychoanalytic (chapter 5); the learning perspective (chapter 6); the sociological perspective (chapter 7); and the anthropological perspective (chapter 8). Though aiming to be an interdisciplinary approach to sex difference, the text is primarily psychological in its orientation.

Beyond Sex Roles is a different kind of text and it "lends itself to use in week-long workshops, weekend workshops, one-day workshops, or in academic terms The book is both didactic and experiential, it is designed to help the reader experience both cognitive and emotional growth (xxv)."

The text is designed to be used in small groups and demands participation. It is an awareness-raising tool. The author invites the student "to relate differently to the exercises and readings from the way you would customarily use a book and, you, the reader, are encouraged to be spontaneous and analytical — to express yourself at the moment (xx)."

The text is divided into six sections: Exercises; Awareness; the Female Experience; the Male Experience; Personal Change; and Changing the Systems: Family and Work. Though Sargent is listed as author, most of the book is written by contributors: psychologists, sociologists, linguists, lawyers, policy makers and journalists, and this has resulted in redundancy. I found particularly interesting Part 3 — the Male Experience. Nine different articles examine such topics as the development of male sex-role identity, different perspectives on the absence of male friendships in the lives of adult men, etc.

Beyond Sex Roles demands a great deal from both the student and the professor. From the student it demands openness to change; from the professor it demands skill in working with small groups and assumes one has the resources of time, personnel and creativity to make it work. I have not used this text (classes are too large) but I certainly would welcome the adventure.

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This Way Day Break Comes: Women's Values and the Future Annie Cheatham and Mary Clare Powell *Philadelphia: New Society Publishers, 1986. Pp. 258.*

When I settled down to read *This Way Day Break Comes*, I had just finished reviewing Marilyn French's *Beyond Power*. I had found French's book formidable in its scope and documentation of patriarchal history, and chilling in its awesome recital. But I found French's concluding section about feminist values was strangely thin and unsatisfying, devoted feminist though I am. Reading French resonated an experience I often have of telling men that women would perceive or do it differently, and they say, "Oh yes, what evidence do you have?"; and I cite Gilligan and Chodorow and Jean Baker Miller and my own networks of women I know; and they say, "So? — What about the wider world of all the other women?"

Until *This Way Day Break Comes*, I didn't have but smatterings of women's experience beyond my own network and the rapidly expanding number of books in which women are finding their voice. But now we have, at last, that evidence, these glad tidings from "out there", because Cheatham and Powell got into their van and spent two years traveling 30,000 miles back and forth across North America to document the lives and visions of 1,000 North American women. Their book, culled from hundreds of hours of

taped interviews and pieces of art by women, is a powerfully organized and sensitively presented montage of women's voices, insights, lives, hopes, and action for the present and the future. The big section heads read: "Women Relating", "Women Creating", "Women Healing". What emerges is the rich texture of women's lives, women's voices, women's unique wisdom, women's energy, women's determination to save the planet and save the future. The voices and words recorded here are further enriched by 50 black-and-white photographs of women's art which the authors found during their journey.

The book itself is a collective work of women. Twenty-one women helped Cheatham and Powell clarify the purpose of the "Future is Female" project out of which the book came. Twenty-nine women artists contributed their work to the art exhibit which traveled in their van. Forty-one women arranged group meetings for them as they traveled. More than 83 women gave them places to stay, and more than 60 others provided other assistance. "Women are *inclusive* social beings" (p. 21), the authors observe, and this is an inclusive social book; the process of the book itself matches the subject matter. Even its method is its message.

As you read you begin to appreciate how carefully crafted the book is. As in a beautiful mosaic, each piece fits in its place for a reason. Each woman's life, words, and story are placed to move forward the thread of logic gracefully and purposefully through the book. The commonalities of the women in each chapter is brought out even as their unique action/story is told.

Their chapter about "Rewriting the Social Contract" is particularly powerful, well-balanced and far-ranging. Even while considering work in the world (Re-forming Institutions, Confronting Policies, and Building Alliances, among others), they have interspliced inner issues (such as Overcoming Self-Hatred and Celebrating Otherness). In only 23 pages they have done a