

give the incentives of ownership to male household heads undercut the traditional controlling interest and usufruct rights of women to the land which they work. Labour saving mechanization introduced to male farmers reduces their work load, but simultaneously increases the labour input required from women. Expansion of cash cropping raises the incomes of men, but decreases women's access to subsistence food crops. Migration of men into paid jobs imposes the full burden of men's work in agriculture onto women, yet brings them no increase in control over the crops or the cash obtained from their sale. Worked to the point of exhaustion in a desperate effort to meet subsistence needs, the labour of women goes unrecorded in "manpower" statistics, and development planners still busy themselves promoting handicrafts and domestic make-work projects for idle housewives.

In the terminology of dependency theory, women are being systematically underdeveloped, in many regions their situation progressively deteriorating from independent control over subsistence production and marketing, to unpaid labourers begging money for food from men who control the expanding cash cropping economy.

This book is an invaluable text for any course on development which seriously considers the position of women.

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**Sex Roles: Origins, Influences and Implications for Women.** Edited by Cannie Stark-Adamec. *Montreal: Eden Press Women's Publications, 1980. Pp. 238.*

The title of this book, *Sex Roles: Origins, Influences and Implications for Women* suggests a systematic treatment of sex roles as they affect women's status, suitable perhaps for a text in a course on this topic or as a basic reference to the research literature. This is unfortunate and misleading because, in fact, it is the proceedings of a conference edited and introduced by the conference organizer, Cannie Stark-Adamec, a clinical psychologist and according to the publisher's blurb "a selectively pugilistic feminist". There is no particular evidence of selective pugilism in the book under review although the phrase is somewhat characteristic of Dr. Stark-Adamec's writing style.

The book contains 15 papers and an invited address presented at the Inaugural Institute on Women, held in Ottawa, June, 1978, immediately before the Canadian Psychological Association meeting. The Institute was held under the auspices of the CPA Interest Group on Women founded in 1976. This group is composed primarily of psychologists concerned, academically or professionally, with the problems of women, their nature and origins, and with political action on behalf of women.

The 1978 meeting was the first major event of the Interest Group. Other Institutes, paper sessions and symposia within the context of CPA, a newsletter and specific activities on behalf of women have followed. As a step towards producing an effective force within psychology, and Canadian society as a whole, to support and lobby for the interests of women, the Institute was successful.

The quality of the proceedings as represented in this book reflect, perhaps, the fact that this was the first such meeting and that widespread participation was a goal which took priority over thematic coherence. Like the proceedings of any conference, but, perhaps more so because of this fact, the contents are very uneven and reveal no underlying unity even when they are organized according to more general topics.

The book begins with a paper by Sandra Pike delivered as an invited address. Specific papers follow, divided into four major sections which are called, with varying degrees of aptness, sex role influences, counselling for women, sex differences in competencies and female hormone research. I will briefly indicate the nature of the articles contained in these four sections and then review, in more detail, those contributions which seemed to this reviewer, to be particularly well done, or intriguing.

The section on sex-role influences includes a study by Tudiver on the relationship between parental attitudes and characteristics and sex-typed behavior in preschool children; a study by Naidoo comparing South Asian and English Canadian women in two Ontario towns; a study by Butt, on the sports motivation in women; and a paper by Kalin, Stoppard, and Burt reporting two experimental studies of sex stereotyping in judgements of occupational suitability.

Susan Butt's paper seemed particularly interesting for the novelty of its classification of the variety of motivations involved in sports participation. The studies by Kalin *et al* are notable for their methodological rigor and clarity. The results showing clear evidence of a sex bias in judgements of occupational suitability, shared by judges of both sexes, is directly relevant to the subtle forms of

discrimination, sometimes self-imposed, to which women in our society are subject.

The section on counselling for women contains four papers. In all four the theme, in one way or another, is the prevalence in women of inhibitions and fears with regard to assertiveness and goal attainment generally and assorted suggestions for dealing with these inhibitions. This section seemed, to this reviewer, to contain the least novel or well documented material.

The third section contains three articles by the same three authors (Wine, Moses and Smye). They review the literature on sex differences in social behaviour and report some empirical data on assertiveness in male and female adolescents. In general the authors found that their female subjects were more assertive than males in situations where assertiveness was appropriate. However, the female subjects tended to deny their impact on others, whereas male subjects denied others' impact on themselves. These results seem intriguing, but exist in isolation, and at least in superficial contradiction to the previous section. This is one point at which the inclusion of some integrative discussion among the participants might have provided fruitful insights and guides to further research. The editor does add comments of her own directed towards this end.

The final section, on hormones and behavior, contains four papers, one of which is an introduction. As a group, these papers are perhaps the most satisfying in the book. The studies are carefully done. They present the results and review previous research in a way that vividly bring home the complexity of relationships between hormone levels and cycles of women and subjective status and overt behaviors. The point could perhaps be made even more strongly that we should

proceed with caution, either in the assertion, or in the denial of hormonal influences. This still seems, to the reviewer, to be the area in which research is most likely to yield a greater understanding of the nature and plasticity of specifically female psychology, if any such thing exists.

Finally, Sandra Pike's invited address is well worth reading for its wide ranging review of the notion of androgyny. The idea that masculine and feminine tendencies reside within the same individual is ubiquitous in myth, fairy tales and other non-psychological literature. This fact is sometimes used to argue that androgyny is a primordial notion, a Jungian archetype. Pike reviews and criticizes the theoretical and empirical contributions of Jung, Bakan, Block, and Bem, all of whom have suggested that androgyny is a developmental goal. On balance, Pike considers that the androgyny model does offer a refreshing alternative to traditional sex roles but that it is really just another prescriptive sex role in which the masculine/feminine duality continues to be maintained. In fact, according to Pike, as long as there continues to be a link between gender and expectations concerning personal qualities, sex role stereotypes will prevail.

Pike presents her own model in which androgyny is seen as the penultimate stage in the evolution of sex roles from an absence of differentiation to transcendence. When sex roles are transcended, gender will no longer be a basis for the assignment of roles. In this stage, the emphasis will be on the individual as a unique collection of personal qualities and skills and, at that time, sex roles will be abolished.

To this reviewer, it seems desirable to recognize, as Pike does, the prescriptive nature

of any definition of sex roles, traditional, androgynous or sex indifferent. The way to resolve conflict between competing prescriptions is debate, persuasion and political action. The role of theory is to clarify the alternatives, the role of research, to delineate the consequences of those alternatives. The decision rests on the relative desirability of those consequences and the political strength of women in advancing their view.

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