

About the Editors

Sharon Freedberg received her doctorate in social welfare from the Columbia University School of Social Work. The topic of her dissertation was “Bertha Capen Reynolds: A Women Struggling In Her Times.” Dr. Freedberg has published and lectured widely on the life and work of Bertha Reynolds, an illustrious foremother of the social work profession. In addition, she has published numerous articles, including “Self-Determination: Historical Perspectives and Present Day Implications” and a “Feminist Ethic of Care,” in *Social Work, The National Journal of Social Workers*. She is currently completing her book entitled, *Relational theory from a feminist standpoint: Implications for practice* (Haworth Press, forthcoming). Dr. Freedberg is the Director of the interdisciplinary program in Women’s Studies at Lehman College, City University of New York, where she is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Social Work.

Elhum Haghighat holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Maryland and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Lehman College. She has worked as a senior social scientist, analyst and consultant for the World Bank, the U.S. Department of Labor and the Educational Testing Service. Her research interests are gender and development, social and global change, gender identity, and education and employment. Her recent publications include articles analyzing changes in Iranian society (using poetry written by women) and the effect of culture, neo-patriarchy and economic development on female labor force participation. Her work has appeared in a variety of scholarly journals, including *International Review of Sociology*, *Identities: Journal of Politics, Gender and Culture* and *Industrial Relations*. She is currently completing her book entitled *Women, Work and Islam: A Global Analysis* (University Press of Florida, forthcoming).

Bertrade Ngo-Ngijol-Banoum holds a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Essex, England. She currently teaches African Studies and Women's Studies at Lehman College. Her scholarly interests are in comparative cultural studies, with a focus on integrating Africa's oral heritage and indigenous knowledge base in global academic discourses. Her current research explores gender dynamics in language and society; her work in translation, spanning over a decade, cuts across the circles of academia, activism and international agencies. Her publications include numerous articles in scholarly journals such as *Metamorphoses: Journal of Literary Translation* and *Women's Studies Review*. She is co-editor of the online journal *Irinkerindo: A Journal of African Migration* (IJAM) at www.africamigration.com. Her book manuscript, entitled *The Epic of Bon ba Hiton: A Hilun Tradition of the Basaa of Southern Cameroon*, will soon be published by Indiana University Press.

Contributors

Anwarul Karim Chowdhury is the United Nations Undersecretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. Ambassador Chowdhury was named to this position in March 2002 by the U.N. Secretary-General. Prior to this appointment, he served as the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations in New York (1996-2001); during this time, he was President of the U.N. Security Council, President of the Executive Board of the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Vice President of the Economic and Social Council in 1997 and 1998. He served for more than ten years as Coordinator for the Least Developed Countries and has also been the UNICEF Director for Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Ambassador Chowdhury is the recipient of the U Thant Peace Award and UNESCO's Gandhi Gold Medal for the Culture of Peace. He received an honorary doctorate from Soko University of Tokyo.

Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, received a law degree from the University of Tehran and was one of Iran's first female judges, serving as president of the Tehran city court from 1975 to 1979. After the Iranian revolution in 1979, she was forced to resign her position. She now works as a lawyer and teaches at the University of Tehran. With Islam as her starting point, Mrs. Ebadi campaigns for peaceful solutions to social problems and promotes new thinking on Islamic terms, arguing for a new interpretation of Islamic law that is in harmony with such vital human rights as equality before the law, religious freedom and freedom of speech. Taking an active part in the public debate, she has defended victims in several controversial political cases and, as a consequence, been imprisoned on numerous occasions. Mrs. Ebadi is also an activist for refugee rights and both the founder and leader of the Association for Support of Children's Rights in Iran. Among her books are *The Rights of the Child. A Study of Legal Aspects of Children's Rights in Iran* (Tehran, 1994) and *History and Documentation of Human Rights in Iran* (New York, 2000).

Anthony Garro is the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and a Professor of Biological Sciences at Lehman College. Prior to his appointment at Lehman, from 1991 to 2001, he was Associate Dean and then Vice Dean of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey–New Jersey Medical School. He was also a Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at the Medical School and held other administrative positions, including Acting Associate Dean for Public Health. From 1981 to 1991, Dr. Garro was Professor and Head of Microbiology at the City University of New York's Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education and served on the faculty of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine from 1970-1981. He has received grants from the National Institutes of Health, the American Cancer Society, the March of Dimes and other agencies and organizations. His research has focused on the regulation of gene expression in bacterial viruses and the biochemical and molecular bases for the increased cancer risk and birth defects associated with alcohol abuse. Dr. Garro received his B.S. degree in biology from Manhattan College and his Ph.D. in microbiology and immunochemistry from Columbia University. He was a research fellow from 1968 to 1970 in the Department of Biochemistry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Patricia Fernández-Kelly is a senior lecturer in Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Office of Population Research, Princeton University. Dr. Fernández-Kelly's area of specialty is international development. She has published widely on migration, economic restructuring, women in the labor force, and race and ethnicity, with emphasis on Latin American and Asian societies. Much of her work focuses on export-processing zones in Asia and Latin America, with special attention to Mexico's *maquiladora* program. Her book on that subject, *For We Are Sold, I and My People: Women and Industry in Mexico's Frontier*, was selected by *Contemporary Sociology* as one of twenty-five favorite books of the last twenty-five years. With Lorraine Gray, she co-produced the Emmy award-winning documentary, *The Global Assembly Line*. Her latest project is a study of fifty African American families living in poverty.

Michael S. Kimmel is a Professor of Sociology, State University of New York, Stony Brook. Dr. Kimmel has received international recognition for his work on men and masculinity. His books include *Changing Men: New Directions in Research on Men and Masculinity* and *Men Confront Pornography, Against the Tide: Pro-Feminist Men in the United States, 1776-1990, Manhood in America: A Cultural History*. His articles have appeared in dozens of magazines, newspapers and scholarly journals, including *Psychology Today*, where he was a Contributing Editor and columnist on male-female relationships. He is the current editor of the international, interdisciplinary journal *Men and Masculinities*. Dr. Kimmel is National Spokesperson for the National Organization for Men Against Sexism, has lectured at over 200 colleges and universities, and has run numerous workshops on preventing sexual harassment and implementing gender equity. On the basis of his expertise, he was an expert witness for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Virginia Military Institute and Citadel cases.

Vijaya Melnick is the First Vice President, International Health Awareness Network (IHAN), and Director, Office of Sponsored Research and Programs, the University of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C. In addition to these positions, Dr. Melnick is Associate Director of the International Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Immunology at Georgetown University Medical Center and Senior Science Advisor to the Lemelson Center for Inventions and Innovations at the National Museum of American History–The Smithsonian Institute. A member of the Health Care Ethics faculty at Howard University Medical College, she has served as Science Advisor and member of the faculty of the Einstein Institute for Science, Health and the Courts, as well as Principal Investigator on a number of research projects, and has authored numerous articles and books. She is a current member of the boards and executive committees of many national and international organizations involved with health and education. Dr. Melnick received her Ph.D. and postdoctoral training from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Olara Otunnu served until 2005 as Undersecretary General and Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan appointed Ambassador Otunnu as his Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict in 1997. He had previously served as an advocate for the rights of children in the context of conflict, promoting measures for their protection in times of war and for their healing and social reintegration in the aftermath of conflict. Ambassador Otunnu was born in northern Uganda and received his higher education from Makerere University in Kampala, Oxford University (as selected overseas scholar) and Harvard Law School (as a Fulbright Scholar). He practiced law in New York, prior to becoming Assistant Professor of Law at Albany Law School.

Sorosh Roshan is the founder of IHAN (International Health Awareness Network), a Board-Certified Obstetrician and Gynecologist, and a member of the American Medical Women Association. She is also a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American College of Surgeons. Until 2003, Dr. Roshan was an attending physician at Overlook Hospital in Summit, New Jersey, where she maintained an OB/GYN practice for twenty-four years. She received her medical degree from Tehran University and completed her residencies at London University and Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY. In 1998, she received her master's degree in Public Health from New York University, where she has taught "Women's International Health Issues" as an Adjunct Associate Professor. As a Non-Governmental Organization's delegate to the United Nations since 1987, Dr. Roshan has worked at the forefront of issues affecting women throughout the world. In addition to serving as the President of IHAN, she is vice president and member of the board of the International Council of Women, a member of Medical Women International and immediate past president of the National Council of Women/U.S.A. She received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Lehman College in 2003 and serves on the Board of the Lehman College Foundation.

Editors' Notes

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In addition, we gratefully acknowledge Maria Castro's contributions toward the organization and production of this document. A 2003 graduate of Lehman College, Ms. Castro is pursuing her master's degree in Journalism at Columbia University. In addition to working in the Provost's Office at Lehman, she has been the IHAN webmaster and newsletter editor for the past two years. Some of her writing has appeared in *The Bronx Journal*, *The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Magazine*, *The Voice* and *The International Health Awareness Network's* newsletters.

Members of the Organizing Committee for the Symposium

Dr. Anthony Garro (co-chair), Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Lehman College; Dr. Sorosh Roshan (co-chair), President, International Health Awareness Network (IHAN); Dante Albertie, Lehman Stages; Dr. Bertrade Ngo-Ngijol-Banoum, Women's Studies Program and Department of Black Studies; Jerold Barnard, Information Technology Center; Maria Castro, Office of the Provost; Mabel Chee, Office of Grants and Contracts; Dr. Annette Digby, Dean of Education; Dr. Sharon Freedberg, Department of Sociology and Social Work and Director, Women's Studies Program; Jack Globenfelt, Executive Director, Lehman Performing Arts Center; Dr. Marlene Gottlieb, Dean of Arts and Humanities; Dr. Elhum Haghghat, Women's Studies Program and Department of Sociology and Social Work; Dr. Anne Johnson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement; Marge Rice, Office of Media Relations and Publications; and Dr. William Tramontano, Dean of Natural and Social Sciences. Other Collaborators: Michael Max Knobbe, Bronxnet; Jerry Matthews, Office of Public Safety; and Josephine Pirrone, Office of Institutional Advancement.

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Since its founding, Lehman College has worked to expand educational opportunity as the key to a prosperous and equitable society. A senior college of The City University of New York, Lehman enrolls over 10,000 students in more than 90 undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts and sciences, as well as business and the professions. Students come to Lehman from throughout the metropolitan area and from more than 80 nations. The international flavor of the campus is in keeping with both its history, as the first meeting place on American soil of the United Nations Security Council, and the legacy of its namesake, Herbert H. Lehman, who was the first Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Lehman faculty have also built a distinguished record of research and scholarship, which continues to attract international recognition.

The International Health Awareness Network

The International Health Awareness Network (IHAN) is a nonprofit organization, in consultative status with the United Nations, dedicated to improving the health and welfare of women and children, particularly in developing countries. IHAN was conceived at the “End of the Decade Women’s Conference” during the United Nations’ Third World Conference on Women in 1987. It has advisory council members in Jordan, Kenya, India, Switzerland, Turkey, Pakistan, the United States, Australia, Bangladesh, South Africa, China, Egypt, Niger, England, Iran and Japan. IHAN is affiliated with the International Council of Women and the National Council of Women in the United States and is also associated with the U.N. Department of Public Information and the U.N. Economic and Social Council.