

Women in Israel – Achievements and Dilemmas

Brooklyn College, 2014

Dr. Anat Maor

Course Description:

This course will deal with the power and difficulties of women in the contemporary Israeli society. Its goal is to study and explore the status of women in the political structure of Israeli society. Students will encounter the complexity, challenges, and difficulties in the young democracy of Israel. The course of study will be accompanied by readings and discussions of Israeli current women status.

Course Objectives:

- Learn the political issues that the Israeli women faces today.
- Develop a critical approach to the political debates regarding women within Israel society.

Course requirements:

- Weekly Reading and Active participation in class discussions - 10%
- Presentation: Gender Personal Experience/ Outlines of the Final Paper/ An Article - 20%
- Final Paper about one of the topics of the Course (10 pages) - 70%

Required Reading List

Azmon Yael and Izraeli Dafna N. (Eds.), (2009, Second printing). **Women in Israel**, studies of Israeli Society, New Brunswick (U.S.A) and London (U.K.): Transaction Publisher.

Maor, A. (2009). "Women in Israel", *Israel Studies: An Anthology*. Eds. Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias, Jewish Virtual Library.

Course Topics & Syllabus

Class 1: Introduction.

Class 2: Feminism Values, History, interdisciplinary and Pluralism within feminism.

Opening: course orientation, syllabus distribution, and course overview.

Bartlett Katharine T. and Kennedy Rosanne (eds.) (1991). **Feminist Legal Theory: Readings in Law and Gender**, Boulder: Westview Press.

- Butler Judith (1990). **Gender Troubles: Feminist and Subversion of Identity**
- De Beauvoir Simone (1949). **Le Deuxieme Sexe (The Second Sex)**, France: Edition Gallimard.
- Friedman Betty (1963). **The Feminine Mystique**, New York: Dell.
- Gilligan Carol (2002). **The Birth of Pleasure**, Alfred A. Knopf
- Lorber Judith (2009). **Gender Inequality: Feminist Theories and Politics**, Oxford University Press.
- Lorber Judith (1944). **Paradoxes of Gender**, Yale University Press.
- Mackinnon Catharine (1987). "Difference and Dominance: on Sex Discrimination" **in: Feminism Unmodified: Discourse on life and law**, Harvard University Press: Cambridge, p 32.
- Mackinnon Catharine (1989). **Toward a Feminist Theory of the State**, Harvard University Press: Cambridge.
- Mackinnon Catharine (2002). **Sex Equality**, New York: Foundation Press.
- Nicolson Linda (1977). **The Second Wave: A reader in Feminist Theory**, New York: Routledge
- Robun West (1997). **Caring for Justice**, New York: New York University Press.
- Bartlett Katharine T. and Kennedy Rosanne (eds.) (1991). **Feminist Legal Theory: Readings in Law and Gender**, Boulder: Westview Press.
- Butler Judith (1990). **Gender Troubles: Feminist and Subversion of Identity**
- De Beauvoir Simone (1949). **Le Deuxieme Sexe (The Second Sex)**, France: Edition Gallimard.
- Friedman Betty (1963). **The Feminine Mystique**, New York: Dell.
- Gilligan Carol (2002). **The Birth of Pleasure**, Alfred A. Knopf
- Lorber Judith (2009). **Gender Inequality: Feminist Theories and Politics**, Oxford University Press.
- Lorber Judith (1944). **Paradoxes of Gender**, Yale University Press.
- Mackinnon Catharine (1987). "Difference and Dominance: on Sex Discrimination" **in: Feminism Unmodified: Discourse on life and law**, Harvard University Press: Cambridge, p 32.

Mackinnon Catharine (1989). **Toward a Feminist Theory of the State**, Harvard University Press: Cambridge.

Mackinnon Catharine (2002). **Sex Equality**, New York: Foundation Press.

Nicolson Linda (1977). **The Second Wave: A reader in Feminist Theory**, New York: Routledge

Robun West (1997). **Caring for Justice**, New York: New York University Press.

Wolf Naomi (1991). **The Beauty Myth: How Images of Beauty are used Against Women**, New York: William Morrow.

Woolf Virginia (1929). **A room of One's Own**.

Class 3: Induction – The Jewish history and the Establishment of Israel

Class 4: History: Women in Israel during the Pioneer Era, the Establishment of the State, and the Beginning of Feminism in Israel

Bernstein Debora S. (Eds). (1992). **Pioneers and homemakers: Jewish Women in Pre-State Israel**. Albany: SUNY Press.

Berkwitz Michel (1933). **Zionist Culture and West European Jewry before the First World War**, New York: Cambridge University Press.

Cancian, Francesca (1987). "The History of Love" Ch. 1 in *Love in America: Gender and Self-Development*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Fogiel-Bijaoui Silvia (1992). From Revolution to motherhood, Kibbutz women in the 20th century, a comparison with other utopian communities. Efal: Yad-Tabenkin.

Scott John Wallach (1988). **Gender and the politics of history**. New York: Columbia University Press.

Herzog Hanna (2002). "redefining Political Spaces: A Gender Perspective on the Yishuv Historiography", **The Journal of Israeli History, Studies in Zionism and Statehood** 21 (Special Issue: Women's Time: New Studies from Israel, ed. Hannah Naveh), p. 1.

Lahav Pnina (1974). "The Status of Women in Israel – Myth and Reality", **American Journal of Comparative Law**, 22, 107.

Yuval Davis Nira (1997). **Gender and Nation**, London: Sage Publication.

Class 5-6: The Status of Women in Israel's Labor Force and the Gender Pay Gap

Women in Israel, Part two, 67-96; 97-112; 113-124.

Amuel, Yitzhak & Harpaz, Yitzhak (2004). "Work & Organizations in Israel", Schnizer (ed.), **Studies In Israeli Society**, Vol. 11, Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick, N.J. and London (UK), ch. 7, Women and Work, pp. 315-374

Benjamin Orly and Rona Goclaw. 2005. "Narrating the Power of Non-Standard Employment: The Case of the Israeli Public Sector." *Journal of Management Studies* 42:737-759.

England, Paula (2005). "Emerging Theories of Care Work", **Annual Review of Sociology**, 31: 381-99.

Grimshaw, D. and J. Rubery (2007). Undervaluing women's work, European Work and Employment Center, University of Manchester. Available at: www.eoc.org.uk/research

Izraeli, Dafna N. (1994). "Israel - Outsiders in the Promised Land: Women Managers in Israel" in Adler and Izraeli (eds.), **Comparative Frontiers - Women Managers in a Global Economy**, Cambridge, MA and Oxford: Basil Blackwell, pp. 301-324.

Lavee, Yoav and Ruth Katz (2002), "Division of Labor, Perceived Fairness, and Marital Quality: The Effect of Gender Ideology", *Journal of Marriage and Family*, Vol. 64, No. 1, pp. 27-39

Mano-Negrin, Rita and Ruth Katz, (2003), "[Money Management Patterns of Dual-Earner Families in Israel](#)", *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, Vol. 24 (1): 49.

Class 7-8: The Status of Women in Israeli Politics

Women in Israel, part four, 253-268; 269-286.

Arian, Asher and Shamir, Michal (Eds.) (2004). **The Elections in Israel - 2003**, The Israel Democracy Institute, Jerusalem and Transaction Publishers, New Jersey

Doron, Gideon and Sened, Itai (2001). **Political Bargaining: Theory, Practice and Process**, Sage Publications, London.

Maor, Anat (2009). "Women in Israel", in: Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias (Eds.), **Israel Studies: An Anthology**, Jewish Virtual Library.

Moor, Matthew J. (2010). "Political Theory Today: Results of a National Survey", **Political Science & Politics**, Vol. 43, Num. 2, pp. 265-272.

Sreberny Annabelle and Van Zoonen Liesbet (eds.) (2000). **Gender, Politics and Communication**. Cresskill, N. J.: Hampton Press.

Class 9 10: The Socio Economic debate and its Influence on women's Poverty

Women in Israel, Part 3, 209-224; Part 5, 341-346; 395-422.

Aharoni, Yair (1999). "The Changing Political Economy of Israel", **The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (AAPSS)**, pp. 127-146

Brady David and Kall Denise (2007). "The Feminization of Poverty in Affluent Western Democracies, 1969-2000", **Luxembourg Income Study**, Working Papers 462

Esping-Andersen, Gosta (Ed.),1996, ***Welfare States in Transition: National Adaptations in Global Economies***, London: Sage Publications.

Misra, J, Moller, S. and M. (2007). Budig. Work Family Policies and Poverty for Partnered and Single Women in Europe and North America. ***Gender & Society***, 2007, 21, 6, 804-827.

Shields, Stephanie A (2008), Gender: An Intersectional Perspective, ***Sex Roles***, 59(5): 312-325.

Walby, Sylvia. (2007). Introduction: Theorizing the Gendering of the knowledge Economy: Comparative Approaches in S. Walby, H. Gottfried, K. Gottschall and M. Osawa (Eds.) ***Gendering the Knowledge Economy: Comparative Perspectives***, (pp. 3-50), New York. Palgrave Macmillan.

Walby, S. ***Patriarchy at Work: Patriarchal and Capitalist Relations in Employment***. Minneapolis. University of Minnesota Press, 1986.

Addition: The Status of Women in Israeli Science and Higher Educational Policy

Women in Israel, Part 2, 125-134; 167-179. Stereotype in Education, 379-394.

Ayalon, H. and Yogev, A. (2000). "Stratification versus Diversity: The Expansion of Higher Education in Israel", paper presented to the conference of the **ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility**, Calgary, August 18-20, 2000.

Domb, Risa (ed.) (2008). **Contemporary Israeli Women's Writing**, London and Portland: Vallentine Mitchell.

Iram, Y. (1992). "Centralization Trends in Higher Education: Israel's Planning and Grants Committee", **Higher Education**, 23, pp. 33-45.

Toren Nina (2000). **Hurdles in the Halls of Science: The Israeli Case**, Lexington Books.

Class 11 -12: Legislation for the Advancement of Women in Israel

Women in Israel, Part four, 237-252.

Akirav O., Cox W. G., and McCubbins D.M. (2010). "Agenda Control in the Israeli Knesset during Ariel Sharon's Second Government", **UK Journal of Legislative Studies**, Vol.16 No.2.

Halperin-Kaddari Ruth and Atara Kenigsberg (eds.) (2002)(2011). **Women's Legislation in Israel: A Legislative Compilation**, Ramat Gan: Bar Ilan University. (Hebrew)

Maor, Anat (2011). "How NGOs Help to Break Down Political Borders in Private Legislation in Parliaments", in Antonio Medina-Rivera and Lee Wilberschied (Eds), **In, Out, and Beyond: Studies on Border Confrontations, Resolutions, and Encounters**, Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Maor, Anat (2008). "The Dramatic Growth of Private Legislation in Israel 1992-2003", **Israel Study Forum**, 23, pp. 84-103.

Rubenstein, Amnon (2009). "Israel's Partial Constitution: The Basic Laws", in: Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias (Eds.), **Israel Studies: An Anthology**, Jewish Virtual Library.

Rom Michal and Benjamin Orly (2011). **Feminism, Family and Identity: Women's Marital Names**, Palgrave Macmillan.

Class 13: Women in Judaism and the Religious Coercion in Israel

Women in Israel, Part 3, 225-234; Part 4, 269-286; 287-308.

Don-Yehiya, Eliezer (1984). "Religious Leaders in the Political Arena: The Case of Israel", **Middle Eastern Studies**, Vol. 20, No. 2, pp. 154-171.

Dworkin, Andrea (2000). **Scapegoat: The Jews, Israel, and Women's Liberation**, The Free Press - USA; Virago - Great Britain.

Ravitzky, Aviezer (2001). **Religion and State in Jewish Philosophy: Models of Unity, Division, Collision and Subordination**, The Israel Democracy Institute, Jerusalem.

Shakdiel Leah (2002). "Women of the Wall: Radical Feminism as an Opportunity for a New Discourse in Israel", **The Journal of Israeli History, Studies in Zionism and Statehood** 21 (Special Issue: Women's Time: New Studies from Israel, ed. Hannah Naveh), p. 126.

Class 14: The Status of Arab Women in Israel

Women in Israel, Part 2, 51-64; Part five, 423-441.

Jamal Amal (2009). **Arab Public Sphere in Israel: Media Space and Control Resistance**. Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.

Kanaaneh Rhoda (2002). **Birthing the Nation: Strategies of Palestinian Women in Israel**. Berkley: California University Press.

Sa'ar Amalia (2007). "Contradictory Location: Assessing the Position of Palestinian Women citizens in Israel", **Journal of Middle East Women's studies**, Vol. 3, No. 3: 45-74.

Class 15 - 16: Women Serving in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and In the Peace Movements.

Women in Israel, Part two, 35-50; Part four, 309-322.

Biale David (1992). **Eros and the Jews**, New york: Basic books.

Chaitin Julia (2011). **Peace-Building in Israel and Palestine**, Palgrave Macmillan.

Gilman Sander (1991). **The Jew's body**, New York: Routledge.

Forum Series, **Women in the Israel Defense Forces** (2003). The Israel Democracy Institute, Jerusalem

Israeli Dafna (1997). "Gendering Military Service in the Israel Defense Force, 12, **Social Science Research**, 129.

Sasson-Levy Orna (2007). "Contradictory Consequences of Mandatory Conscription: The Case of Women Secretaries in the Israeli Military, **Gender, & Society**, 21(4), 481-507

Class 17: women and the Israel's budgetary

Aharoni, Yair (1999). "The Changing Political Economy of Israel", **The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science** (AAPSS), pp. 127-146

Amuel, Yitzhak & Harpaz, Yitzhak (2004). "Work & Organizations in Israel", Schnizer (ed.), **Studies In Israeli Society**, Vol. 11, Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick, N.J. and London (UK), ch. 3, pp 87-138, ch. 6, pp. 233-314.

Doron, Avraham (1998). "The Welfare State in Israel in the 1990s: The Evolution of Social Policy in a Changing Society", in F. M. Loewenberg (ed.), **Meeting the Challenges of a Changing Society: Fifty years of Social Work in Israel**, Jerusalem Magnes Press, pp. 11-28.

Soen Dan, Shechory Mally Ben David Sarah (Eds.) (2012). **Minority Groups: Coercion, Discrimination, Exclusion, Deviance and the Quest for Equality**, Nova Publisher

Yishai, Yael (1997). "Legislators and Interest Groups: Some Observations on the Israeli Scene", **The Journal of Legislative Studies**, 3(2), pp.89-111.

Class 18 - 19: The Struggle against Violence toward Women; Sexual Harassment, and the Trafficking of Women

Chernin Kim (1982). **The Obsession: Reflections on the Tyranny of Slenderness**, New York: Harper Colophons.

Kamir Orit (2000). **Every Breath you take: Stalking Narratives and the Law**, Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press.

Mackinnon Catharine (1979). **The Sexual Harassment of Working Women**, New Haven: Yale University Press.

Mackinnon Catharine (1994). **Only Wards**, Harvard University Press: Cambridge

Weisberg Kelly D. (1996). **Sex, Violence, Work and Reproduction: Applications from Feminist Legal Theory to Women's Lives**. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Class 20: The Double Carrier Dilemma: Work and Family

Women in Israel, Part one, 25-34; Part 5, 323-340; 347-362

Arlie Hochschild, (1997), **The time bind: When work become home and home becomes work**, ch. 14 & 15 p. 197-238. Metropolitan Books.

Bailey, Lucy (2000). "Bridging Home and Work in the Transition to Motherhood: a Discursive study, *The European Journal of Women's Studies*, 7: 53-70.

Friedman, Stewart D. and Greenhaus, Jeffrey H. (2000). **Work and Family: Allies or Enemies?** Oxford University Press, pp. 121- 142.

Hill-Collins, Patricia (2005). *Black Sexual Politics: African-Americans, Gender and the New Racism*, New York: Routledge.

Kanter, Rosabeth M. (1977). **Work and Family in the United States: A Critical Review and Agenda for Research and Policy**, Russell Sage Foundation.

Izraeli, Dafna (1993). "Work, Family Conflict among Women and Men Managers in Dual Career Couples in Israel", **Journal of Social Behavior and Personality**, 8, pp 371-388.

Marsiglio, William and Ramon Hinojosa (2006). "Stepfathers and the Family Dance", Pp. 178-196 in: J.F. Gubrium and J.A. Holstein (Eds.), *Couples, Kids and Family Life*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Williams, Joan (2000). **Unbending Gender: Why Family and Work Conflict and What to Do about it**, Oxford University Press, ch. 1: pp. 13-39; Conclusion, pp 271-276

Class 21: The Institutional Situation: The Bodies Responsible for Advancing Women and the task of women organizations in Israel

Women in Israel, Introduction, 1-21

Azmon Yael and Izraeli Dafna N. (1993). **Women in Israel: studies of Israeli Society**, New Brunswick: Transaction Publisher.

Mats Alvesson and Yvonne Due Billig, 1997, **Understanding Gender and Organizations**, ch. 3, A brief history of work., pp. 54-60. Sage.

Yishai, Yael (1997). "Legislators and Interest Groups: Some Observations on the Israeli Scene", **The Journal of Legislative Studies**, 3(2), pp.89-111.

Class 22. Women in the Bible – The Hidden Heroes

Diamant Anita (1997). **The Red Tent**, Wyatt Books for St. Martin's Press.

Pardes ilana (1996). Countertraditions in the bible: A feminist Approach, Tel Aviv: Hakibbutz Hamehuchad

Class 23. The New Masculinities – Men’s Liberation

Classes 24- 25: Students Presentations:

Gender Personal Experience/ Outlines of the Final Paper/ An Article

Classes 26- 27: Conclusion and Outlook:

Achievements and Failures in the Advancement of Women in Israel, 2013

Class 28: Closing meeting

Extra Subjects: Women in the Kibbutz movement: Women in Economic, management and High Education; Education and struggling to gender Equality