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# GENDER FORUM

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## Special Issue: Early Career Researchers VII

Edited by  
Prof. Dr. Beate Neumeier

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## Editor

Prof. Dr. Beate Neumeier

University of Cologne  
English Department  
Albertus-Magnus-Platz  
D-50923 Köln/Cologne  
Germany

Tel +49-(0)221-470 2284

Fax +49-(0)221-470 6725

email: [gender-forum@uni-koeln.de](mailto:gender-forum@uni-koeln.de)

## Editorial Office

Dr. Sarah Youssef

Tel.: +49-(0)221-470 3030/3035

email: [gender-forum@uni-koeln.de](mailto:gender-forum@uni-koeln.de)

## Editorial Board

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## Editorial Deadlines

Spring Issue:  
abstracts (October 1),  
completed papers (January 1)

Summer Issue:  
abstracts (January 1),  
completed papers (April 1)

Fall Issue:  
abstracts (April 1),  
completed papers (July 1)

Early Career Researchers Special Issue:  
abstracts (May 1),  
completed papers (August 1)

Winter Issue:  
abstracts (July 1),  
completed papers (October 1)

## About

*Gender forum* is an online, peer reviewed academic journal dedicated to the discussion of gender issues. As an electronic journal, *gender forum* offers a free-of-charge platform for the discussion of gender-related topics in the fields of literary and cultural production, media and the arts as well as politics, the natural sciences, medicine, the law, religion and philosophy. Inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Beate Neumeier in 2002, the quarterly issues of the journal have focused on a multitude of questions from different theoretical perspectives of feminist criticism, queer theory, and masculinity studies. *gender forum* also includes reviews and occasionally interviews, fictional pieces and poetry with a gender studies angle.

Opinions expressed in articles published in *gender forum* are those of individual authors and not necessarily endorsed by the editors of *gender forum*.

## Submissions

Target articles should conform to current MLA Style (8th edition) and should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words in length. Please make sure to number your paragraphs and include a bio-blurb and an abstract of roughly 300 words. Files should be sent as email attachments in Word format. Please send your manuscripts to [gender-forum@uni-koeln.de](mailto:gender-forum@uni-koeln.de).

We always welcome reviews on recent releases in Gender Studies! Submitted reviews should conform to current MLA Style (8th edition), have numbered paragraphs, and should be between 750 and 1,000 words in length. Please note that the reviewed releases ought to be no older than 24 months. In most cases, we are able to secure a review copy for contributors.

## Article Publishing

The journal aims to provide rapid publication of research through a continuous publication model. All submissions are subject to peer review. Articles should not be under review by any other journal when submitted to *Gender forum*.

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There are no submission or page charges, and no colour charges.

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## Editorial

1 For the seventh time this special issue of *gender forum* provides a platform for early career researchers in the field. The articles selected for the 2019 ECR issue focus on hegemonic systems of power, sex positivity and queerness, as well as notions of gendered identity.

2 Marvin John Walter's posthumanist reading of Tomi Adeyemi's *Children of Blood and Bone* and N.K. Jemisin's *The Fifth Season* aims at deconstructing the naturalised discourses by which hegemonic systems of power define the human and its others. Drawing on Herbrechter and Callus, Walter foregrounds the discursive strategies employed in the novels, to counter oppressive methods of othering and their limits within a humanist framework. According to Walter's analysis both novels fundamentally stay within this frame, while *The Fifth Season* at least to a certain extent successfully de-centers the human from its allocated exceptional position.

3 Leah E. Wilson's article "Performing Queer Time: Disrupting Heteronormativity with Representations of Working-Class Sexual Minorities in Michelle Tea's *Valencia* (2000)" argues that the novel advocates sex positivity and queer ways of being to resist heteronormative life markers and capital accumulation fuelling a hyper-gentrification, which displaces queer communities and people of color from their neighborhoods. Drawing on Jack Halberstam's notion of 'queer temporality' Wilson demonstrates how Tea constructs queer spaces occupied by sexual minorities who, removed from financial wealth and inheritance, inhabit a temporality that insists on the present moment. In this sense Tea's *Valencia* is read as a text disrupting the idealization of access to heteronormative institutions, arguing for a transformational politics that critiques capitalist power structures.

4 Jana Tubbesing looks into "'Adult Games' – Gender Subversion in Miranda July's *The First Bad Man* (2015)" analysing the deconstruction of stable gendered identities in the novel by performance artist Miranda July. Drawing on Judith Butler's notion of performative acts Tubbesing investigates the adult games, in which the main characters Clee and Cheryl are engaged throughout the novel.

5 Two reviews on current web series complete this Early Career Researchers' issue 2019. Laken Brooks reviews *Brown Girls* (2017), created by Fatimah Asghar and Sam Bally, an Emmy nominated series about the life of two friends in Chicago. Kanak Yadav looks into the documentary style series, *Berliner Farben* (2017-2018), created by Poliana Baumgarten. which addresses LGBTQ+ issues in the context of the German capital.