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# GENDER FORUM

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## Working out Gender

Edited by  
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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 The five articles assembled in **Working out Gender** explore the nexus between gender and work from a variety of different angles, focusing on areas and issues as diverse as the U.S. strip trade, the legal profession and discrimination against women lawyers in England and Wales, maquiladoras and femicide on the border between Mexico and the United States, contemporary British film, and male childcare workers in Germany.

2 The guiding questions in Curtis Fogel's "Presenting the Naked Self: The Accumulation of Performative Capital in the Female Strip Trade" are how and why female strippers prepare, present, and manage their gender, bodies, and emotions in their everyday work. Taking into consideration that the precarious and unstable working conditions of female strippers seem to be built upon the symbolic transaction of performative into economic capital, the article is framed by a dramaturgical approach. Combining autobiographical accounts of strippers with theories by Erving Goffman, Judith Butler, Pierre Bourdieu and Arlie R. Hochschild, Fogel's discussion points out the complex cultural demands of emotional and physical self management within this working area.

3 In "Discrimination against Women Lawyers in England and Wales: An Overview," Alexandrine Guyard-Nedelec sheds light on various forms of discrimination experienced by British women lawyers. Focusing on the existing pay gap, the glass ceiling, as well as issues relating to maternity leave, Guyard-Nedelec illustrates how women lawyers' career opportunities are hampered by a "culture of discrimination" still prevailing in many law firms.

4 Christina Marín's contribution, "Staging Femicide/Confronting Reality: Negotiating Gender and Representation in *Las Mujeres de Juárez*," takes issue with cases of femicide of the last fifteen years in the towns of Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua City, which both form part of the maquiladora-system, a "Third World 'industrial complex.'" Focusing on Rubén Amavizca's play *Las Mujeres de Juárez* and her own production of it as a theatre director, Marín explores the potential of theatre as a means of drawing attention to and inspiring dialogue about the social injustice arising in the context of the maquiladoras.

5 Presenting an in-depth discussion of *Brassed Off* (1996), *The Full Monty* (1997), and *Billy Elliot* (2000), Mark Schreiber's "Re-negotiating Concepts of Masculinity in Contemporary British Film" examines how these films depict their male protagonists' search for gender identity in the face of the demise of heavy industry in post-war Britain. Schreiber illustrates how these characters succeed at least partly in negotiating new roles for themselves, thereby deviating from traditional concepts of working-class masculinity.

6 Markus Tünte's "A Man's Work in a Female World? Gender Paradoxes of Male Childcare Workers" presents the results of a study on male care-workers in German pre-schools and childcare centres. The author investigates how male care-workers position themselves (and are positioned by others) in this highly gender-segregated occupational field, both in relation to female co-workers and in the overall context of childcare work, and demonstrates the extent to which they — as much as their female co-workers and the parents of the children they care for — continue to adhere to a hegemonic concept of masculinity.

7 **Working out Gender** is completed by reviews of *Where the Boys Are: Cinemas of Masculinity and Youth*, edited by Murray Pomerance and Frances Gateward, *Curiouser: On the Queerness of Children*, edited by Steven Bruhm and Natasha Hurley, as well as Jean Wyatt's *Risking Difference: Identification, Race, and Community*.