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A 1973 Newsletter, Revitalized.

Feminist work is anti-racist work

Racism has tainted the feminist movement from its start. Exclusionary, middle-to-upper-class white women have historically dominated the movement for women's rights. Mainstream feminist movements have frequently failed to address the needs of poor, working class, immigrant, queer, migrant, trans, and Black women. But with the rise of an understanding of intersectionality, feminists have begun to learn where their movement goes wrong: feminist work isn't work for some women. Feminist work is work for all women. And just as we must say that Black lives matter, we must say this: **feminist work is anti-racist work**. In the midst of a strong resurgence of the movement for Black equality, we as feminists need not only to stand in support of Black lives — we must be actively anti-racist. Through education, intentional inclusion, open-mindedness, protests, advocacy, and voting, each of our actions as feminists must be critically conducted through a loving lens of race. We must keep everyone in mind when we fight for equality. Feminist work is anti-racist work, and we must purposefully treat it as so.

Fall Welcome 2020

Join the Women's & Gender Studies Department next Friday, September 25th at 3:30pm for the annual Fall Welcome! There will be two LMU alumnae guest speakers who work in anti-racist initiatives: Haewon Asfaw and Claire Ramirez. They will be discussing their experiences in the professional world and how their education in women's and gender studies has helped them do anti-racist feminist work. This event is not exclusive to WGST majors and minors, so please bring along your friends who may be interested in learning more about life after LMU as a WGST major/minor, or classmates who may be undecided as to what they want to study.

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Sina Kramer is this month's faculty spotlight. Dr. Kramer has a B.A. from Earlham College and a Ph.D in philosophy from DePaul University. Along with being the chair of the WGST Department, the president of LMU's chapter of the AAUP, and serving on the faculty senate, Dr. Kramer offers a variety of classes at LMU. Currently, Dr. Kramer is teaching Feminist Theories and Honors Philosophical Inquiry. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter uprisings, Dr. Kramer has redesigned both courses to discuss and reflect on current events. Along with teaching at LMU, Dr. Kramer wrote a book called *Excluded Within: The (Un)Intelligibility of Radical Political Actors*, where she argues that "political bodies define themselves through the exclusion of some folks who are not viewed as legitimate political agents; their claims to contest their exclusion are thus rendered unintelligible as political claims." A fun fact about Dr. Kramer is that she used to play fiddle and sing at the Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago!

Quote of the month

"We have to talk about liberating minds as well as liberating society"
-Angela Davis

Past + Upcoming Events

September 25th 3:30-5pm: Fall Welcome
October 28th: Centenary of 19th Amendment event (more info to come)

Email hlaplant@lion.lmu.edu or jboaz@lion.lmu.edu for any suggestions, news, or on campus events related to gender studies, thanks!