

**Call for Papers:  
Crises and the (Re)Organizing of Gender and Work**

**Guest Editors:**

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In 2020, the UN Secretary-General declared patriarchy a stain on the 21st century, as slavery and colonialism were in the past. While the legal institutions of slavery and colonialism may be in the past, the systems of inequality which they were based are also alive and interconnected with patriarchy. Times of crisis, including the COVID-19 global pandemic, exacerbate the social inequalities and intersectional injustices upon which patriarchal institutions thrive. Despite calls to put gender equality on the backburner in the face of other concerns, times of crisis offer critical opportunities to rethink, reorganize and subvert gender and work configurations that are not emancipatory (c.f., Horton, 2012).

Women and girls consistently suffer greater loss of life in crises, not only in poor low-income countries but also in high-income countries (Newmayer and Plümper, 2007). They also face what have been described as 'double disasters' due to increased gender-based violence, loss of livelihoods, impaired reproductive and sexual health, and increases in forced marriages and trafficking. Women and girls struggle to be heard and rarely are in the leadership positions to make decisions that could save themselves, their families and communities (UN Women, 2015). In the context of COVID-19, early research shows women at increased risk of infection and gender-based violence, as well as loss of land, livelihoods and homes. They also make up the majority of front-line workers and continue to shoulder most of the carework (World Bank, 2020). While humanitarian aid organizations are increasingly focused on gender in times of crises, the academic literature has not kept pace. The recent *Feminist Frontiers* special section on 'Feminism in pandemic times' has begun to address this issue in an individualized and reflective way for the present crisis. Our intent is to advance this visionary work; thus, with this special issue, we seek to understand and explore how feminist organizations and activists around the world mobilize in the face of crisis events to resist the structural marginalization of gender and work issues.

Critical scholars across a variety of disciplines and geographies challenge us to engage in intellectual projects that shift dominant epistemic and methodologies that privilege northern perspectives (Ampofo and Signe, 2006; Connell, 2019). Decolonizing research and Southern theory offer critical frameworks for addressing ways of knowing, the politics of knowledge production and dissemination, and the representation and inclusion of marginalized and indigenous knowledge and populations (Lugones, 2010; Mohanty, 2013). We are particularly interested in contributions situated in postcolonial, decolonial, postsocialist, transnational, indigenous, queer, trans, or Southern perspectives. We invite contributions that transcend norms for doing and undoing binarisms, and the theory-policy-practice and race-class-gender triumvirates (Rodriguez, et al, 2016), to illuminate how work, workers and those not seen as working, (re)organize during times of crisis, and what this suggests for a world in which moments of crisis persist (Haraway, 2016). Contributions may be methodological, theoretical and/or empirical.

**Avenues for exploration may include:**

**Feminisms:** How is crisis used as leverage to collectively reorganize, shift power, decolonize knowledge and promote social transformation for a post-crisis world? What role do feminist

organizations and activists play in light of the convergence of the hetero-masculinist populism, authoritarianism, militarism, corporativism, and neoliberal hegemony amplified during crisis?

**Technologies:** How does technology implicitly (or explicitly) shape gendered identities, gendered work and feminist mobilizations? How is technology used to unbound and decolonize marginalized voices and perspectives, or to resist further capital accumulation or resource capture by elites?

**Violence:** How does violence manifest in new forms and spaces during times of crisis? How does violence, surveillance and policing shape women's experiences of and reconfigure their relationship to the state, economy, family, organizations/organizing, and each other?

**Work:** What is the differential impact of crises on historically marginalized groups and their ability to access or keep employment, work with dignity, or choose not to work? What work are feminist scholars doing to undo the North/South, work/nonwork, public/private, and other binarisms, or the theory-policy-practice and the race-class-gender triumvirates, in feminist theory and praxis?

**Policy and Praxis:** How are feminist activists organizing around crisis to advocate, implement or evaluate existing gender and work policies and practices? How does crisis serve as a catalyst for new forms of feminist organizing and action around policies and practice with the potential to transform work and gender through the persistence of crisis?

### **Submission of Proposed Papers**

We invite interested authors to send an extended abstract (750-1000 words) and a short bio for each author (150 words) before **28 September 2020**. The abstract must clearly state the title, question(s) for discussion within the framework of the special issue, theoretical or/and empirical ground. Extended abstracts should be sent to corresponding co-editors Jamie Callahan ([jamie.callahan@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:jamie.callahan@northumbria.ac.uk)) and Kristy Kelly ([kek72@drexel.edu](mailto:kek72@drexel.edu)).

**Deadline for extended abstracts: 28 September 2020**

### **Invitations for Full Submissions**

Invitations for full submission will be sent mid-September.

### **Submission Instructions of Full Papers**

Submissions should be made electronically through the Scholar One submission system: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/gwo>. Please refer to the Author Guidelines at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/14680432/homepage/forauthors.html> prior to submission.

Please select the 'Special Issue' article type on submission and select the relevant Special Issue title from the dropdown list where prompted.

For questions about the submission system please contact the Editorial Office at [gwooffice@wiley.com](mailto:gwooffice@wiley.com)

For enquiries and information about the scope of the Special Issue and article suitability, please contact Jamie Callahan ([jamie.callahan@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:jamie.callahan@northumbria.ac.uk)) and Kristy Kelly ([kek72@drexel.edu](mailto:kek72@drexel.edu)) directly.

**Deadline for full submissions: 1 March 2021**

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