

Gender in the Public Sphere



Lila Abu-Lughod is the Joseph L. Battenwieser Professor of Anthropology and Gender Studies at Columbia University in New York. Her scholarship, strongly ethnographic and mostly based on research in Egypt, has focused on three broad issues: the relationship between cultural forms and power; the politics of knowledge and representation; and the dynamics of gender and the question of women's rights in the Middle East. She is the author or editor of the following books: *Veiled Sentiments: Honor and Poetry in a Bedouin Society*; *Language and the Politics of Emotion*; *Writing Women's Worlds*; *Remaking Women: Feminism and Modernity in the Middle East*; *Media Worlds*; and *Dramas of Nationhood: The Politics of Television in Egypt*; and *Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the*

Claims of Memory. She is currently completing a book that explores the ethical and political dilemmas posed by the international circulation of discourses on human rights in general, and on Muslim women's rights in particular.



Janet Halley is the Royall Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. Before teaching here, she was Professor of Law at Stanford Law School (1991-2000) and Assistant Professor of English at Hamilton College (1980-85). She has a Ph.D. in English from UCLA (1980) and a J.D. from Yale Law School (1988).

Her books include *Split Decisions: How and Why to Take a Break from Feminism*, forthcoming from Princeton University Press in 2006; *Left Legalism/Left Critique*, co-edited with Wendy Brown (Duke University Press, 2002); *Don't: A Reader's Guide to the Military's Anti-Gay Policy* (Duke Univ. Press, 1999); and *Seeking the Woman in Late Medieval and Renaissance Literature: Essays in Feminist*

Contextual Criticism, co-edited with Sheila Fisher (University of Tennessee Press, 1989). Her current projects include a handbook, *What's Not to Like about Sexual Harassment Law*; a paper comparing family law systems entitled "Travelling Marriage;" and a critique of the rules about sexual violence in war established by the ad hoc courts convened to adjudicate war crimes in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. She teaches family law, discrimination, and legal theory.



Nivedita Menon, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, is the author of an edited volume *Gender and Politics in India* (1999) and of *Recovering Subversion: Feminist Politics Beyond the Law* (2004). Her more recent books are an edited volume *Sexualities* (2007) and *Power and Contestation: India after 1989* (2007, co-written with Aditya Nigam). In addition she has published extensively in journals, both Indian and international.

She is an active commentator on contemporary issues in newspapers and on the blog kafila.org. She has translated fiction and non-fiction from Hindi and Malayalam into English, and received the AK Ramanujan Award for translation instituted by Katha. Her translation of Geetanjali Shree's Hindi novel *Khali Jagah* is forthcoming from Harper Collins. She has been active with non-funded, non-party citizens' forums in Delhi on issues of secularism, workers' and women's rights, sexuality, and in opposition to the nuclear bomb.



Oyeronke Oyewumi, currently teaching at Stony Brook University in New York, was born in Nigeria and educated at the University of Ibadan, and the University of California at Berkeley. A sociologist by training, Oyewumi's research interests span the sociology of gender, knowledge and social inequalities—local and global. Her work addresses concerns central in Africa and Post-Colonial Studies.

She is the author of *The Invention of Women: Making an African Sense of Western Gender Discourses* (University of Minnesota Press, 1997), and the editor of three anthologies: *Gender Epistemologies in Africa: Gendering Traditions, Spaces, Social Institutions and Identities* (Palgrave, 2011); *African Gender Studies: A Reader* (Palgrave, 2005); and *African Women and Feminism: Reflecting on the Politics of Sisterhood* (Africa World Press, 2003).