

ARTICLE ABSTRACTS IN ENGLISH

"We aren't merely objects of desire" — Feminist Debates in and about the Pop Music Industry

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From the summer of 2013 onwards, various pop songs and videos prompted international pop artists to express opinions on the personal and creative freedom of women, their objectification and exploitation, as well as the issue of identifying as a feminist. The press has also paid close attention to this discussion, while it has also spread to the audience with the help of social media. In the following article, we take a closer look at the discussion and the debates emerging from it in order to show that the arguments and perspectives resemble those within the debate of the second and third waves of feminism. We will argue that these perspectives may be complementary, with regard to both the pop music industry and the broader society. Besides the plurality of life situations and the reinforcement of, and respect for, individual choice, which the third wave represents not only on a personal, but also social level; academic and activist feminism may also strongly benefit from the critique of social inequalities articulated by representatives of the second wave.

"But I am not like that!" — Language and Gender Courses from a Teacher's Point of View

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The article presents my lived experiences as a lecturer in gender linguistics. Based on various graduate and post-graduate courses, I critically reflect on student contributions to the various topics. I explore some seventy students' responses and dispositions to gender studies and theories of feminism. My ultimate aim is to seek strategic ways to deal with the problem of profound

dis-identification that emerged during the discussions. My major objective is to suggest viable strategies that should make up for the lack of knowledge in social sciences and counter the prevailing gender bias and see if they might work. I propose to use misconceptions of gender by strategically selecting the relevant literature.

Woman, Gender, and Spirituality

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Female identity, religion, gender, and spirituality – these concepts overlap in multiple ways. Still, the scientific community have exhibited a certain kind of “double blindness”, which originates in the prevailing “gender-blindness” of Religious Studies and “religion-blindness” of Gender Studies in Hungary. Taking this statement by Ursula King, Professor of Theology and Religion Studies, as my starting point, I intend to give an overview of the established research paradigms in the United States and Western Europe, which have not appeared in research or education in Central Europe. Finally, I would like to offer a possible argument in favor of the intersection of the two fields through the analysis of 19th and 20th century Hungarian prayer books written for women.

Failure of Unrealized Dreams? Feminism in Communicative Memory in Ildikó Lovas’s Novel *Cenzúra alatti — készülődés szabómagdaságra*

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The paper asks whether the period after 1989 in Hungary can be seen as failure or success, especially with regard to feminism. Lovas Ildikó’s 2014 novel, *Under Censorship: Preparing for Becoming Magda Szabó*, is taken as a representative example. The novel focuses on failure and success on multiple levels, explicitly addressing feminism and exploring Hungarian identity — in terms of nationality, religion, and literature - and what it takes to be a contemporary

Hungarian woman. A subsidiary question of the novel is whether feminism can help in finding answers. Memories of three generations of women are balanced by actual quotations from a brochure on feminism that probes - in a Jan Assmannesque communicative memory exercise - to what extent a woman may structure her life and identity or how much she is controlled by memory or politics.

Resurrection of the Alien and Gynecology: From Post-feminism to Ecofeminism in the *Alien* Saga

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The “problem” of woman has been proven to be a fundamental question in the genre of horror in general and in the *Alien* franchise in particular. Barbara Creed in her essential study characterized the figure of the Alien as the typical manifestation of “monstrous femininity”, while the female protagonist Ripley was shown to be the example of heteronormative female behavior. Subsequent studies treated Ripley as a rather empowered and liberated figure as opposed to other characters in the saga. In this paper, I argue that the film *Alien Resurrection* (1996) is a significant moment in the representation of female empowerment, contributing to feminist scholarship with its ecofeminist perspective. In view of the allusions to the status of Earth in the film, the situation of the protagonist and her companions in the spaceship full of lethal monsters is similar to the situation of the “Earth-spaceship” (as it is often called in ecological literature). The attack of the alien monsters who have been reared and held captive with the prospective of military and economical profit may be interpreted as an allegory of the ecological crisis that threatens to destroy the actual world of the viewer. This change is shown to be closely related to the treatment of the cloned Ripley, which might be seen as the metaphor of female “destiny”. With her bodily existence reduced to procreation and — quasi-gynecological — scientific experiments, her fight for life and freedom simultaneously functions as a fight for further emancipation and against ecological destruction. It is this stance that allows me to look at the Ripley-figure as the articulation of an ecofeminist stance.

Beauvoir's First Novel and Existential Ethics

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Beauvoir's first novel remained for forty years — until 1979 — unpublished; although it is an excellent work. It represents the lived experiences of five young women struggling for freedom in the grips of Catholic institutions and the family. The five heroines struggle with great tensions between unconscious desires and intellectual demands, marriage, and career in their plight for autonomy. In their lives, we are faced with the questions of freedom, choice, and bad faith - figuring later in existential ethics that we will find articulated in *The Second Sex* and her essays on moral philosophy written in 1940s. For Beauvoir, philosophy meant living thought in different generic forms, including novels, essays, or memoirs.

Lolita, Our Little Sister!? — About the Limits to the Representation of Girls' Body from a Female Perspective

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Starting out from a recent Hungarian petition for pedophilia-free press launched on the Hungarian feminist blog *Lolita, our little sister!?* (lolitaakishugunk.blog.hu), I address dilemmas related to the visual representation of girls' bodies focusing on pictorial politics, the performative dimensions of images, as well as artists' and interpreters' responsibilities. In my paper, I wish to argue that our social concerns about the safety of children should not automatically result in the complete elimination of children's bodies from the realm of visibility. My aim is to confront and integrate aesthetic and ethical-political considerations of feminist iconology. I challenge sexual objectification by the violent male gaze and argue for the possibility of a gently caring, vulnerably empowering, feminist visual politics. After a brief overview of some controversial examples of Anglo-American artistic photographic representations of girls' bodies, which strive to encourage a maternal/sisterly mode of seeing – among them Sally Mann's immediate family portraits, Lewis Carroll's Victorian child nudes and their postmodern revisions by Polixeni Papapetrou – I trace the characteristics of

the photographic gaze looking at the undressed girl in two contemporary Hungarian woman photo artists, Zsuzsa Kemenesi and Krisztina Erdei.

Girls to Engineering!

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The study's aim is to contribute to the gender topic of women in the engineering movement and how technical professions open to women increase their chances in the labor market. The increase of demand for a skilled labor force and the increasing difficulties to meet the worldwide demand has resulted in the proposal that we should have women in technical trainings. The lack of technical professionals is the result of the fact that the number of women with a college degree is the lowest in the field of engineering. Our analysis is a case study of tendencies at Széchenyi István University in the context of different researches on the global level. It is also a comparison of the local and international results of "Girls to Engineering" days.

The Role of Stereotypes about Feminists in Maintaining the Gender Status Quo

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According to social psychological research, gender stereotypes are ambivalent: women accepting traditional roles are characterized by low competence but high warmth, while feminists are perceived higher in competence but lower in warmth. Feminists are often depicted as man-haters, extremists, and unattractive psychologically and physically. Our aim is to analyse the role of ambivalent stereotypes on the gender status quo, focusing on "benevolent" stereotypes targeted at women in traditional roles and on negative stereotypes about feminists.

The Road to Success for Hungarian Women in the Serbian Higher Education System

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The main goal of this paper is to analyze the position of women members of the Hungarian ethnic minority in the higher education system of Serbia, based on available statistical data, the legal framework, and interviews conducted in multi-ethnic Vojvodina, i.e. the northern province of Serbia. The paper starts with the discussion of the most recent research in the field. The analysis focused on women students who study in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields in Novi Sad. As a possible solution for clearing the obstacles faced by Hungarian women in the Serbian higher education system, the author proposes different measures and raises awareness about the importance of steering women towards the STEM fields of study.

Men's Fashion in the Hungarian Print Media (1914-1918)

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In my article, I study the dress code for middle- and upper-class gentlemen in the capital of Hungary as represented in the contemporary print media (fashion magazines, tailoring bulletins, satire magazines) during the First World War. The main questions that I explore are: What new cultural, social, and political meanings are associated with the code? How much does the war propaganda inform the descriptions and advice on men's dress code? How do the actual events of the war shape men's fashion altogether - the materials, colors, cuts, and accessories (ties, hats, etc.)? I wish to contribute to the scholarship that sees fashion and consumption as part of 19th century modern masculinity, contesting previous approaches that links it both exclusively with frivolity and femininity (Breward 1999, Shannon 2006, Ugolini 2007).

Women Managers and the Use of ICT

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Women in leading positions are under continuous pressure to juggle between career and private obligations. They intensively face the problem of how to reach and keep a balanced life. The paper will give a fresh overview about how women managers make use of ICT in general and mobile phones in particular during their everyday activities. A large amount of articles have been published on the different theoretical approaches, such as conflict theory, border theory, or spill-over of the different tasks. The number of articles dealing with women managers' work-life balance has also increased considerably. However, the use of ICT devices in this particular group remained almost unexplored. Based on the results of a survey among the working-age population, to be carried out in May 2014, I will carry out semi-structured interviews in June 2014. I will approach 20 highly positioned female managers to explore this issue in detail. The questions will focus mainly on time constraints; however, both stress and strain will be taken into consideration. The results can contribute to the debate on whether ICT devices support or hinder the opportunities for fulfilling a balanced life in Hungary, where the gender order can be characterized by traditional expectations of women.

“I am not a feminist, but...”: Undertaking the “f-word”

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The paper defines the stages of “feminist awareness” in the context of the social psychological notion of social identity and places them along their relation to traditional and progressive gender roles. It presents those processes that (may) lead an individual from being an anti-feminism through positions of “I am not a feminist” to the self-definition of “I am a feminist”. Showing different approaches, the paper designs a possible development model in which feminism appears not simply as a set of specific attitudes or a bare object, but as an identity position. Beyond being a significant matter of principle, the paper points out the practical consideration that undertaking the “f- word” as an identity can be crucial for reaching social change.