

Notes on Contributors

Josephine Ahikire is a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Women and Gender Studies, Makerere University, Kampala, and affiliated to the Centre for Basic Research (Kampala) as a senior Research Fellow. Ahikire has worked on feminist political theory and has conducted research and widely published in the area of gendered constructions of public politics, labour and popular culture. She has recently published *Localised or Localising Democracy: Gender and the Politics of Decentralisation in Contemporary Uganda* (Kampala: Fountain Publishers 2006).

Kate Bedford is a Research Fellow at the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Research Centre for Law, Gender and Sexuality at the University of Kent. She was previously a Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow at Barnard College, Columbia University, where she taught an advanced seminar on feminist political economy. She has worked on international development projects in Asia, Europe, and Latin America, and has taught numeracy and literacy skills in England. Her current research focuses on the interactions between sexuality studies, international development, and gender policy.

Sarah Bradshaw is a Principal Lecturer in Development Studies at Middlesex University, UK. She spent a number of years living in Nicaragua working with various NGOs and now returns every year to work with the Nicaraguan feminist organisation, Puntos de Encuentro. Her work in Nicaragua over the last ten years has been supported by the British NGO, Progressio. Her recent publications have focused on women's movements and their responses to international policy initiatives, such as the World Bank-sponsored Poverty Reduction Strategy process, and their responses to international development discourse, including ideas around rights and rights-based development.

Uma Chakravarti is a feminist historian who taught at Miranda House, University College for Women, Delhi University from 1966 to 1998. She has been

associated with the women's movement and the movement for democratic rights since the 1970s. In this capacity she has participated in many fact-finding teams to document violations of people's rights. She writes on gender, caste and labour.

Andrea Cornwall is a Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, where she directs the DFID-funded Research Programme Consortium, Pathways of Women's Empowerment. She has worked on issues of gender in development for many years. Recent publications include *Feminisms and Development: Contradictions, Contestations and Challenges* (with Elizabeth Harrison and Ann Whitehead, Zed Books 2007) and *The Politics of Rights: Dilemmas for Feminist Praxis* (with Maxine Molyneux, Routledge 2008).

Jasmine Gideon is a Social Scientist and a Lecturer in Development Studies at Birkbeck College, University of London. Her recent research is on gender and social protection in Chile and her work on informal workers' access to healthcare has been published in *Global Social Policy*. Other research interests include gender and social and economic rights and looking at health sector reform from a gender perspective. Recent publications include 'Integrating Gender Issues into Health Policy' (*Development and Change* 37.2, 2006) and 'Accessing Economic and Social Rights under Neoliberalism: Gender and Rights in Chile' (*Third World Quarterly* 27.7, 2006). She is currently co-editor of the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*.

Islah Jad is the Director of the Women's Studies Institute and Assistant Professor of Gender and Development at Birzeit University. She is one of the founders of the Women's Studies Institute at Birzeit University and of the WATC (Women's Affairs Technical Committee), a national coalition for women. She has published many works on Palestinian and Arab women's political participation. She co-authored the *Arab Human Development Report* of 2005.

Charmaine Pereira is a scholar-activist who has worked extensively on the themes of civil society and the state; feminist thought and practice; sexuality; and gender and university education. Based in Abuja, she coordinates the Initiative for Women's Studies in Nigeria (IWSN), which strengthens capacity for teaching and research in gender and women's studies. As IWSN National Coordinator, she oversees programmes on the politics of sexual harassment and sexual violence in universities; gender justice and women's citizenship; and women's empowerment. She is the author of *Gender in the Making of the Nigerian University System* (James Currey in association with the Partnership for Higher Education in Africa 2007).

Cecilia M.B. Sardenberg is a Brazilian feminist who holds a PhD in Anthropology from Boston University and has been a member of the Faculty of Philosophy and Human Sciences of the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, since 1982. She was also one of the 'founding mothers' of UFBA's Women's Studies Research Center (NEIM/UFBA), acting at present as its Director. She has worked extensively in gender and development in Brazil, and has published widely on feminist and gender studies. She is an active member of the Women's Forum of Salvador, Bahia, has served on Bahia State Council on the Rights of Women, and participated in producing the Brazilian 'shadow

report' to the CEDAW committee. She is Convenor of the Pathways of Women's Empowerment Latin America Hub.

Penny Vera-Sanso is an anthropologist. Since 1989 she has undertaken research into the determinants of household and intergenerational relations in urban and rural South India. She teaches development studies at Birkbeck College (University of London) and is working with the Centre of Law, Policy and Human Rights, Chennai and others on research into ageing, poverty and globalisation.

Kalpana Wilson has researched and published work on agrarian transformation, neoliberalism and rural labour movements in Bihar, India. Her current research interests include the relationships between 'race', imperialism and discourses of development, and questions of gender and agency. She teaches development studies at Birkbeck College (University of London) focusing on gender, 'race', war and conflict, and is currently a Research Associate in Development Studies at SOAS. Her recent publications include 'Agency' in *The Impact of Feminism on Political Concepts and Debates* (Blakeley and Bryson, Manchester University Press 2007) and 'Who are the "Community"?' The World Bank and Agrarian Power in Bihar' (*Economic and Political Weekly*, 2006). She is a founder member of the South Asia Solidarity Group and Asian Women Unite.