Women, Sex, and Madness: Notes from the Edge; Breanne Fahs

Covering a wide variety of subjects and points of inquiry on women's sexuality, from genital anxieties about pubic hair to constructions of the body in the therapy room, this book offers a ground-breaking examination of women, sex, and madness, drawing from psychology, gender and sexuality studies, and cultural studies.

Emergent Identities: New Sexualities, Genders and Relationships in a Digital Era; Robb Cover

Examining the emergence of new sexual and gender identities in the context of an ever-changing digital landscape, Emergent Identities considers how traditional, binary understandings of sexuality and gender are being challenged and overridden by a taxonomy of non-binary, fluid classifications and descriptors.

A Critical Approach to Surrogacy: Reproductive Desires and Demands; Damien Riggs & Clemence Due

This comprehensive text makes an important contribution to the study of surrogacy, developing a novel theoretical framework through which to understand the broader social contexts as well as individual decisions at play within surrogacy arrangements.

Queer Ink: A Blotted History Towards Liberation; Katherine Hubbard

This historical interdisciplinary book contextualises the Rorschach ink blot test and embeds it within feminist action and queer liberation. Pushing at the borders between Psychology, Sociology, and activism, the book utilises the Rorschach to show how influential the social world is on scientific practice. This is fascinating reading for anyone interested in the history of sexuality and Psychology.

To review any of these exciting new titles, please email the Book Reviews Editor, Dr Tracy Morison, at T.Morison@massey.ac.nz. Feel free to request that your recently published book be reviewed or to suggest a title for review.
Intersections of Ageing, Gender and Sexualities: Multidisciplinary International Perspectives; Andrew King, Kathryn Almack, & Rebecca L Jones (Eds.) | This edited collection examines ageing, gender, and sexualities from multidisciplinary and geographically diverse perspectives and looks at how these factors combine with other social divisions to affect experiences of ageing. It draws on theory and empirical data to provide both conceptual knowledge and clear ‘real-world’ illustrations.

Gender based violence in university communities: Policy, prevention and educational initiatives; Sundari Anitha, Ruth Lewis (Eds.) | In this book, academics and practitioners provide the first in-depth overview of research and practice in GBV in universities. They set out the international context of ideologies, politics and institutional structures that underlie responses to GBV in elsewhere in Europe, in the US, and in Australia, and consider the implications of implementing related policy and practice. Presenting examples of innovative British approaches to engagement with the issue, the book also considers UK, EU and UN legislation to give an international perspective, making it of direct use to discussions of ‘what works’ in preventing GBV.

Reimagining Global Abortion Politics: A Social Justice Perspective by Fiona Bloomer, Claire Pierson, Sylvia Estrada Claudio | This book provides a transnational and interdisciplinary analysis of trends in abortion politics, using global case studies. The book concludes by considering the future of abortion politics through the more holistic lens of reproductive justice. Utilizing a unique interdisciplinary approach, this book is a major contribution to the knowledge base on abortion politics globally. It provides an accessible, informative, and engaging text for academics, policy makers, and readers interested in abortion politics.

On the Politics of Ugliness; Sara Rodrigues & Ela Przybylo (Eds.) | Ugliness or unsightliness is much more than a quality or property of an individual’s appearance—it has long functioned as a social category that demarcates access to social, cultural, and political spaces and capital. The editors of and authors in this collection harness intersectional and interdisciplinary approaches in order to examine ugliness as a political category that is deployed to uphold established notions of worth and entitlement. On the Politics of Ugliness identifies and challenges the harmful effects that labels and feelings of ugliness have on individuals and the socio-political order. It explores ugliness in relation to the intersectional processes of racialization, colonization and settler colonialism, gender-making, ableism, heteronormativity, and fatphobia. On the Politics of Ugliness asks that we fight against visual injustice and imagine new ways of seeing.
Famished: Eating Disorders and Failed Care in America; Rebecca J. Lester | Famished, the culmination of over two decades of anthropological and clinical work, as well as a lifetime of lived experience, presents a profound rethinking of eating disorders and how to treat them. Through a mix of rich cultural analysis, detailed therapeutic accounts, and raw autobiographical reflections, Famished helps make sense of why people develop eating disorders, what the process of recovery is like, and why treatments so often fail. It’s also an unspiring condemnation of the tension between profit and care in American healthcare.

LGBTQ Mental Health: International Perspectives and Experiences; Nadine Nakamura & Carmen H. Logie (Eds.) | This book expands our understanding of mental health by considering the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ communities in the Majority World. Increased globalization and migration has highlighted the need for mental health clinicians to better understand these communities' experiences and needs. This book provides an overview of LGBTQ mental health in non-Western countries or regions that have heretofore received little attention in the psychology literature.

Home Is Where the Hurt Is: Media Depictions of Wives and Mothers; Sara Hosey | This book examines emergent trends in popular media, which increasingly takes on the realities of domestic violence, toxic home lives and the impossibility of "having it all." While many narratives still fall back on outmoded and limiting narratives about gender--the pursuit of romance, children, and a life dedicated to the domestic--this book makes the case that some texts introduce complexity and a challenge to the status quo, pointing us toward a feminist future in which women’s voices and concerns are amplified and respected.

Intersections of Mothering: Feminist Accounts; Carole Zufferey & Fiona Buchanan (Eds.) | Showcasing the breadth and depth of feminist research on mothering, this book gives attention to the diversity of ways in which mothering is constructed and responded to as well as how mothering is experienced. Drawing on intersectional feminist thought, the book challenges normative visions of ‘good mothering’ and interrogates constructs of ‘bad mothering’. It brings together insights from multidisciplinary scholars who use feminist approaches in their research on mothering, to inform policy development and practice when working with women as mothers in diverse circumstances. Intersections of Mothering highlights the complexities of mothering in a contemporary world, show the benefits of considering mothering through an intersectional feminist lens, make visible lived experiences of mothers and provides challenges to dominant imaginings of and service responses to women as mothers.