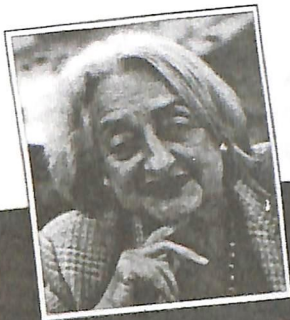




books

Life So Far: A Memoir
By Betty Friedan

LIFE SO FAR



BETTY
FRIEDAN

“Over the years, countless people have asked me “What made you do it?” And I never could answer that question. Because I never set out to start a women’s revolution. I never planned it.” At last Betty Friedan herself speaks about her life and career, telling us what it took and what it cost to change the world.

In 1963, her book *The Feminine Mystique* started the women’s movement, selling more than four million copies. (It was recently named one of the 100 most important books of the century.) In *Life So Far*, she takes us on an intimate journey through her life: as a child, a labour reporter, a suburban housewife and mother, and as a mover and participant in the women’s movement in the 1960s.

Friedan recounts the courage of many women, including nuns who

played a brave part in the early days of the National Organization for Women. Her feminist thinking, a philosophy of evolution, is reflected throughout her book. She tells how she fought to keep the movement practical and free of any extremism including “man-hating.” She is frank about the infighting in the movement and her long-standing rift with fellow leaders Gloria Steinem and Bella Abzug.

With the same candor, she writes about her 22-year marriage (she was a battered wife) and prolonged inability to leave the relationship.

“Now at least, boring or not, I’ve set the record straight.”

Published by Simon & Schuster, Rockefeller Center, 2000, 399p. 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020 USA. ISBN 0-684-80789-0

Unnatural Deaths of Women in Marriage: A Campaign Diary

In this new world where economic miracles happen and where the advances of science and technology transform and make life easier for millions of people, why does marital violence continue to be a harsh reality for women?

Unnatural Deaths of Women in Marriage: A Campaign Diary is a book

that shows how the violence of the dowry, though publicly denounced, is privately condoned and practised. The book explains the roots of the dowry and presents a systematic study and investigation of unnatural deaths in 1997 of women in marriage in Bangalore, India. The research reveals that the increasing violence and women’s deaths went beyond the culpability of the son-in-law or parents-in-law of the woman. The police, the judiciary and other investigation agencies were found to have had a hand in abet-

ting and supporting the dowry. Legal cases are presented to support these findings.

Giving the facts and data a human face are personal accounts of families and friends of the victims.

Published by Vimochana (A Movement to Defend Women’s Right to Live), 1999, 48p. Angala 2124, 16th ‘B’ Main, 1st ‘A’ Cross, H.A.L. 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 008 India, Tel: (91-812) 526-9307.

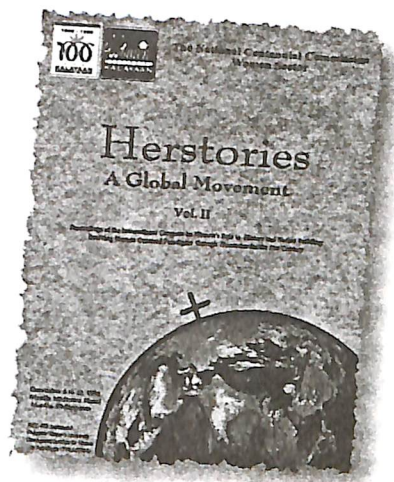
Herstories: A Global Movement (Vol. I and Vol. II)

In celebrating the 100th year of Philippine independence, the National Centennial Commission-Women Sector held a four-day gathering of women leaders dubbed: International Congress on Women's Role in History and Nation-Building. The forum asserted women's roles and participation in shaping the country's history.

The two volumes contain papers, speeches, and reports presented during the four-day conference. Each volume is divided into two major sections. The first section of Volume I—Feminist Perceptions in Writing—contains articles that discuss views on the construction of language and the absence/presence of women in language and history from prehistoric to Spanish era and World War II to modern day Philippines. Several articles present insights on methodologies in documenting history from a feminist perspective.

Interpreting Women's Experiences, the second section, deals with development and the global economy. It contains articles that tackle issues like environment, community development, science and technology, enterprise, agriculture, labour migration and overseas contract workers. In all these topics, the focus of interrogation is women: their roles, their specific situations and problems.

The second volume has Women, Health and Family Life in the 21st Cen-



ture for its first section. It deals with myriad issues: women as care givers in public health care, rural communities, family and role in education.

Human Rights and Violence against Women and Children make up the second section of the second volume. Human rights are discussed from the framework of women's rights. Topics range from prostituted women and children, sexual violence, women as survivors in armed conflicts to women in the struggle for freedom.

The second volume contains several subsections that discuss women in media, culture and the arts and the concept of spirituality. Another subsection deals with women in politics and governance.

Published by National Centennial Commission-Women Sector/Secretariat: Development, Institute for Women in Asia-Pacific at Philippine Women's University, Manila, 1999. 456p. and 678p. 1743 Taft Avenue, Manila 1104, Philippines. ISBN: 971-91276-7-8.

Rethinking Violence Against Women

Edited by R. Emerson Dobash and Russell P. Dobash

Rethinking Violence Against Women advances theories, methodologies and policy analyses relating to various forms of violence against women. It comprehensively examines the nature, importance and variety of cultural contexts where violence occurs and it may be changed, and discusses as well the nature and variety of sexualised violence.

Essays were contributed by anthropologists, psychologists, philosophers, sociologists and historians. Thus, the book pushes the boundaries of current knowledge and thinking about the issue of violence against women. It presents different methods that can be used in seeking to expand empirical knowledge and theoretical insights on the issue. Included here, for instance, are a national survey that gives empirical evidence on the prevalence and correlation of violence against women in a Western society; a series of interviews of couples from a small religious sect that introduce a theory about the construction of gender; and extensive data on homicide against women.

Published by SAGE Publications Inc., 1998, 276p. 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, California 91320 USA, E-mail: <order@sagepub.com>. ISBN: 0-7619-1187-1.

Biopiracy: The Plunder of Nature and Knowledge

By Vandana Shiva

A dynamic and provocative thinker on the environment, women and international affairs, Vandana Shiva's latest book traces the continuing European colonisation of "native" peoples down to the present appropriation of the latter's natural resources.

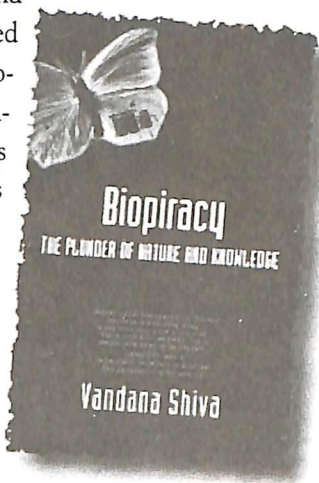
Five hundred years after Columbus, a more secular version of colonisation continues through patents and intellectual property rights. The Papal Bull has been replaced by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) treaty. The principle of effective occupation by Christian

princes has been replaced by effective occupation by the transnational corporations supported by modern-day rulers. The vacancy of targeted lands has been replaced by the vacancy of targeted life forms and species manipulated by new biotechnologies. The duty to incorporate savages into Christianity has been replaced by the duty to incorporate local and national economies into the global marketplace, and to incorporate non-Western systems of knowledge into the

reductionism of commercialised Western science and technology.

The book discusses how, through patents and genetic engineering, new colonies are being carved out: the interior spaces of women's bodies, plants and animals. Shiva argues persuasively for biodiversity, which will bring about peace with nature and between diverse peoples.

Published by South End Press, 1997, 148p. 7 Brookline Street #1, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA. ISBN: 0-89608-555-4.



Falling Leaves: The True Story of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter

By Adeline Yen Mah

Falling Leaves is a potent psychological drama pitting a stubborn little girl against the most merciless of adversaries and rivals: her own family.

Born in 1937 in Shanghai, Adeline Yen Mah was the youngest child of an affluent Chinese family who enjoyed rare privileges during a time of political and cultural upheaval. Abused by her Eurasian stepmother and left by her brothers and sisters to fend for herself, Adeline struggled for independence as she moved from Hong Kong to England and then to the United

States to become a physician and writer.

This is a triumphant story of a girl's journey into adulthood. Her story is a testament to the most basic of human needs: acceptance, love and understanding.

Published by Broadway Books, Special Markets Division, Random House, Inc. 1997, 278p. 1540 Broadway, New York, NY 10036, USA. ISBN: 0-7679-0418-4



Body and Soul: A Multimedia Discussion on Women, Religion and Reproductive Health

Edited by Olivia Tripon

One of the crucial issues faced by women today is the impact of religion on their reproductive health and rights. Difficult choices have to be made on issues such as artificial contraceptives, safe abortion, divorce and the like. Thus the Women's Feature Service Philippines embarked on a project called Body and Soul—a multimedia forum series to increase public awareness and generate debate on is-

ssues revolving around religion and reproductive rights and health.

This publication documents the launching forum of Body and Soul. Topics discussed were the *babaylan* (traditional shaman) concept of the body and the soul and the issues concerning reproductive health as viewed by a Roman Catholic, a Muslim and a pastor of the Philippine Independent Church. Included also are speeches, interviews and excerpts from the open forum.

Published by Women's Feature Service Philippines, Inc., 2000, 54p.



313-E Katipunan Ave., Quezon City, Philippines, Tel: (63-2) 434-9310, E-mail: <wfs@pacific.net.ph>.

For-Giving: A Feminist Criticism of Exchange

By Genevieve Vaughn



A fundamental and scholarly critique of exchange from a linguistic perspective, this benchmark study

belongs on the shelf of books on "what's wrong with economics." *For-Giving* is a stimulating and provocative look at language and economics. It identifies gift-giving, arising from women's nurturing, as the basis for language and culture. Gift-giving is not a truncated form of exchange but an inherently different system generating different social values.

Genevieve Vaughn wrote this book at a time when she had already realised that women's free labour in the home "was the great unseen element that could be the basis of a new philosophy." Through her gift-giving years as a mother and as a wife, she began to see that her values as well as those of most women differed from the values and priorities of most of the men she had met, whether academics or bureaucrats, workers or activists. Thus,

it occurred to her that women's free labour could be understood as the economic base for an alternative superstructure, "a system of ideas and values different from prevailing patriarchal ideas and values." In this book, she argues for practising gift-giving values in contexts outside the home.

Vaughn will not only make you think, but will coax you toward hope, offering a reminder of the human capacity for transformation. Whether you agree or disagree with her thesis, you will never look at language or money in quite the same way again.

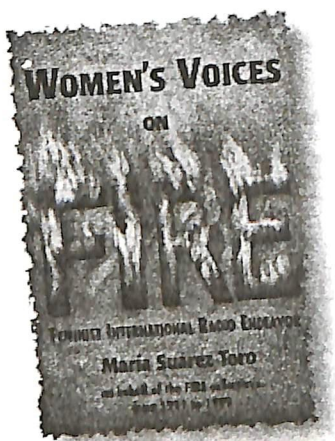
Published by Plain View Press, 1997, 432p. PO 33311, Austin, TX 78764 USA, Tel: (1-512) 441-2452, E-mail: <sbvpv@eden.com>, Website: <http://www.eden.com/~sbvp>. ISBN: 0-911051-94-5.

**Women's Voices on FIRE:
Feminist International
Radio Endeavour**

By María Suárez Toro

Women's Voice on FIRE tells the story of FIRE through the voices of the many women and men who helped it start, grow and continue to blaze since its first broadcast on short-wave radio on 1 May 1991 to its first Internet radio broadcast on 25 August 1998.

Here we learn how FIRE addressed issues that affected women in the South and also how it helped women from both "developed" and "developing" nations exchange perspectives and experiences. Toro details



the beginnings of FIRE, its philosophies, goals and values and role in international women's media. There are chapters on its participation in global conferences and meetings. One chapter discusses how FIRE made itself a venue

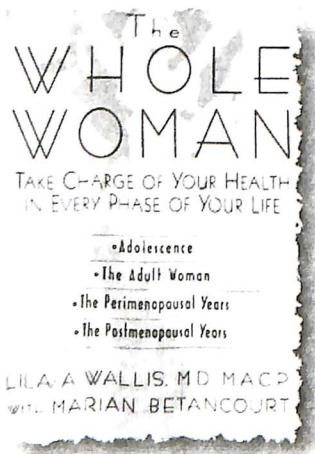
for the traditionally invisible or voiceless groups of women.

This book also hopes to contribute some insights on women in media. It encourages other women's groups to set up radio networks and use the Internet in giving a voice and visibility to women's perspectives about peace, social justice, environment, women's rights, people's rights to self determination and social and economic rights. Finally, the book asks readers for their inputs to further develop FIRE in its service to feminism.

Published by Anomaly Press, 2000, 510p. PO Box 3138, Austin, Texas 78764 USA. ISBN: 0-9672912-0-8.

**The Whole Woman: Take
Charge of Your Health in
Every Phase of Your Life**

By Lila A. Wallis with Marian Betancourt



The *Whole Woman* is a health guide for women of all ages—adolescence, adult, perimenopausal and postmenopausal years—by Dr. Lila A. Wallis, a pioneer in the field of women's health.

Women's health is very different from men's health. While men go through life in a linear pattern like a rocket, women experience life through cycles like a boat on a choppy sea. Women go through four major life phases, each phase being very different from the others with its own set of risks that require special understanding and care.

The book deals with each phase chronologically. Each section covers a different life phase that outlines the

differences between a man and a woman and explains conditions that are particularly common in women. *The Whole Woman* points out how to recognise health challenges that are special in each life phase, discusses the risk factors for common illnesses, tells how to avoid specific behaviours that put a woman's health at risk and how to anticipate health hazards that come at each stage.

This book also helps a woman be an active partner with her doctor in managing her health.

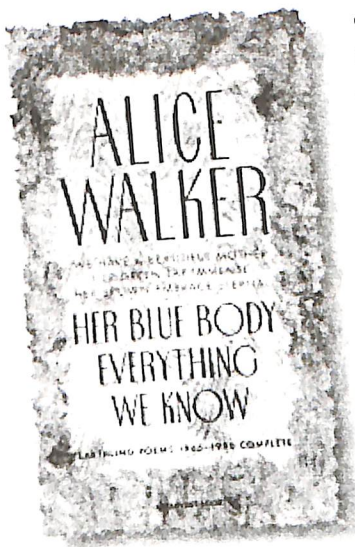
Published by Avon Books, Inc., 1999, 527p. 1350 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019 USA. Website: <<http://www.avonbooks.com/wholecare>>. ISBN: 0-380-78081-X.

Her Blue Body Everything We Know

By Alice Walker

This is a complete collection of Alice Walker's poems from 1965-1990 to include new and uncollected poems, her early poems from *Once; Good Night, Willie Lee, I'll See You in the Morning, Revolutionary Petunias & Other Poems*; and *Horses Make a Landscape Look More Beautiful*.

Each group of poems has an introduction giving a specific context to the poems. Walker writes in one of her introductions: "Poetry, I have discovered, is always unexpected and always as faithful and honest as dreams."



Published by Harcourt Brace & Company, 1992, 463p. 8th Floor Orlando, Florida 32887 USA. ISBN: 0-15-640093-6.

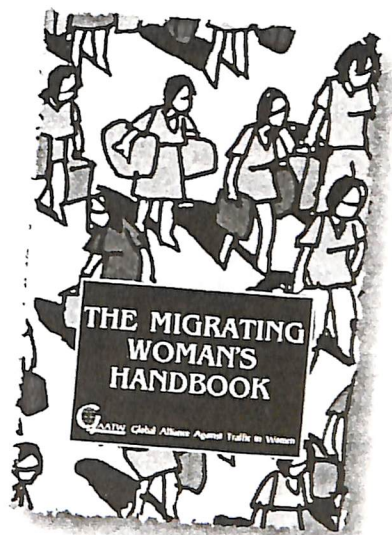
The book also offers a historical perspective on the political and spiritual issues of the last three decades. It also gives a special insight into one of the most provocative literary voices of the time.

The Migrating Woman's Handbook

Migration has become a commonplace phenomenon throughout the world. Millions of workers choose to face the difficulties of working abroad in the hope of improving their own and their family's lives. Unfortunately, many countries do not protect their rights.

This manual provides useful information for those women who have decided to take jobs or get married abroad. Based on the experiences of Asian women, it gives practical tips about arranging travel documents as well as information about rights and wages and how to protect these.

Published by the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, 1999, 134p.



191 Sivalai Condominium, Itsaraphap Road, Soi 33, Bangkokyai, Bangkok 10600 Thailand, Tel: (66-2) 864-1427/8, Fax: (66-2) 864-1637, E-mail: <gaatw@m Mozart.inet.co.th>, Website: <http://www.inet.co.th/org/gaatw>. ISBN: 974-87084-0-3.

Cycle of Suffering

By Aung Myo Min

In recent years, Thailand has been besieged by problems of migrating Burmese who leave their country for economic or political reasons. Many of them end up working in "3-D" (dirty, difficult and dangerous) establishments in Thailand.

Many of these migrant workers are women who know little about Thailand, its language and laws. Put in a very vulnerable situation, these women often end up as victims of labour exploitation or of sexual assault.

This report highlights the pull-and-push factors of migrant women from Burma into Thailand and their situation in the workplace, and in detention and deportation. The product of a year-long research project, this book calls on the governments of Thailand and Burma to address the roots of the problem.

Published by the Human Rights Documentation Unit, 2000, 97p. PO Box 14, Ngam Wong Wan Post Office, Nonthaburi, 1101 Thailand.

Women Speak Out on the Impact of Globalization



The Conference of Asian Rural and Indigenous Women held in Chiangmai, Thailand in May 1998 took a close and critical look on the effects of liberalisation, deregulation and privatisation, the onslaught of the

global market and foreign monopoly capital through the experiences of rural and indigenous women in Asia.

The book publishes the two keynote papers of Victoria Tauli-Corpuz and Fatima Burnad, the former focusing on indigenous women and the latter on rural women. Their papers give the context and framework of the conference.

The larger portion of the book is devoted to the presentations of participants from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Malaysia, Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Kyrgyzstan, Korea, Japan and Thailand. Their stories tell of the role of the nation-states and culture in the process of globalisation and the link between globalisation and militarisation.

The articles also suggest a number of strategies to resist caste oppression, environmental degradation, and the oppression and exploitation of indigenous peoples and women. These strategies include mobilisation and concerted actions to oppose and challenge globalisation, an increased demand for control over resources and knowledge, and adequate participation in decision making.

Published by Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, 1998, 177p. Santitham YMCA Building 3rd Floor, Rooms 305-307, 11 Sermsuk Roda, Soi Mengrairasm, Chiangmai 50300 Thailand, Tel: (66-53) 404-613/4, Fax: (66-53) 404-615, E-mail: <apwld@loxinfo.co.th>.

Mothers and their Children: A Feminist Sociology of Childrearing

By Jane Ribbens

Mothers and their Children presents a fresh approach to the analysis of childrearing, a topic that bursts with opinions and advice but offers little sociological research and analysis.

Jane Ribbens focuses on mothers' own understandings of bringing up children and reveals how differences in childrearing are rooted in fundamental ideas about the nature of so-

cial life and the place of the individual and the family within it. Several chapters discuss cultural themes of individuality, family and childhood and explores mothers' concerns with their children as social beings via their acceptability and involvement within informal and localised social contexts. Four mothers discuss how they have brought up their children, providing readers with case-study "portraits."

Ribbens then relates childrearing to existing psychological, sociological and feminist debates. She points out that a feminist sociological study of childrearing can reveal and respect the diversity of women's own

childrearing views, a diversity which is rooted, not in contrasts between 'good' and 'bad' mothering but in much wider issues of social and political philosophy.

The book will be interesting for students of sociology, family studies, women's studies and developmental psychology and to professionals involved in issues of childrearing and family life.

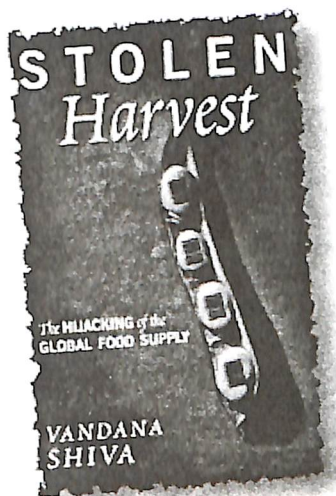
Published by SAGE Publications Ltd., 1994, 236p. 6 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PU England. ISBN: 0-8039-8835-4.

Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply

By Vandana Shiva

World-renowned environmental thinker and activist Vandana Shiva comes up with a collection of essays devoted to food, one of our essential needs and the very stuff of life. She writes about genetically engineered seeds, patents on life, mad cows and sacred cows, debates on shrimp farming—the destruction of food and agricultural systems by global corporations for the sake of “growth.”

As impassioned as her essays are against genetic engineering and commercial agriculture, Shiva encourages



all—farmers, students, professionals and scientists—to take democratic control over the food system. This movement involves replacing the “free trade” order of corporations with an ecological and just system of food production and distribution. Food democracy will ensure the protection of the

Feminists Doing Development: A Practical Critique
 Edited by Marilyn Porter and Ellen Judd

Has feminism transformed development studies? What happens to feminist theory and practice within the development industry?

This collection of articles written by activists and academics from the North and the South addresses the above questions. Each one describes her project and its rationale and analyses it against the backdrop of the following challenges: the problem of making a feminist agenda work within development agencies; the ethical and methodological issues raised by feminism; and the challenge of looking for new ways to work together for global change without imposing ‘Western feminism’ on Southern women.

Divided into four sections, the first section looks at some of the structural limitations of trying to work within recognised and official frameworks. In the second section, feminists narrate how they are trying to change the structures and practices of their work environment. The third section describes the experiences of working between local and global levels, balancing messages and demands that come from different sources. And the fourth section presents global analyses and actions.

Providing insights on feminist theory and practice, this book is a good read for activists, policy-makers, academics and students who are interested in gender and development and on women’s studies.

Published by Zed Books Ltd., 1999, 246p. 7 Cynthia Street, London N1 9JF, UK. ISBN: 1-85649-694-5.

earth, farmers and consumers. It is our ecological and social duty to ensure that the food that nourishes us is not a stolen harvest.

Published by South End Press, 2000, 146p. 7 Brookline Street #1, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA. ISBN: 089608-607-0.

Dangerous Relationships: Pornography, Misogyny, and Rape

By Diana E. H. Russel

Pornography is not about sex but about hatred of women, and rape is about power, humiliation and control. Diana E. H. Russel argues persuasively her causal theory that pornography is a cause of violence against women and of rape. *Dangerous Relationships* distinguishes pornography from erotica and moves on to give detailed descriptions of pornographic pictures found in readily available magazines and newspapers, cartoons, movies and the Internet.

Backed up by data and surveys, the book is a valuable resource material to the study of rape, pornography and misogyny as well as to anyone who wishes to understand the victimisation of women.

Media practitioners, professionals involved in information, sociologists, educators and students of mass communication will find this book instructive.

Published by SAGE Publications, 1998, 206p. 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, California 91320 USA, E-mail: <order@sagepub.com>. ISBN: 0761905251