

General guidelines for book reviews for *Women's Studies Journal*

The *Women's Studies Journal* is an academic journal established by the Women's Studies Association (NZ). It is published by a committee of WSA(NZ) members. This biannual journal welcomes contributions from a range of feminist positions and disciplinary backgrounds. It has a primary, but not exclusive focus on women's studies in Aotearoa New Zealand and encourages papers that address women's experience, explore gender as a category of analysis, and further feminist theory and debate.

Thank you for offering to contribute to the *Women's Studies Journal*. In preparing your book review we would ask that you follow the guidelines below. Reviews should be submitted electronically in rich text format to the Book Review Editor, Liz Rawlings, via email (ejr444@gmail.com), or posted to Liz Rawlings, 2/10 Lansdowne Street, Bayswater, Auckland 0622, New Zealand.

1 Content

- A good book review provides a critical evaluation of the work. It should not be an abstract simply summarising the contents of the book. Through a discussion of the purpose of the book, the author's approach to the subject matter, and an evaluation of the author's success in fulfilling the stated purpose, the reviewer communicates something about the scope and nature of the contents. Beyond this, however, a good review will itself become a piece of theoretical work by developing the author's theoretical ideas and engaging the author in dialogue.
- It is important to address the broadest possible range of readers as the readership of the *Women's Studies Journal* varies considerably in terms of disciplinary and/or scholarly background.
- Good criticism is aimed at the book's contents and not the author(s). In addition, both strengths and weaknesses of the work should be identified.
- It is also useful to situate the work in the current context of feminist thought and compare (if appropriate) to similar publications.

2 Form and Style

- Reviews should be limited to approximately 1200-1500 words, although more extensive review articles covering two or more publications will be considered.
- Begin the review with a citation of the book in the following format:
Author/Editor, *Title*, city of publication: publisher, year. Number of pages. ISBN, e.g. Christine Dann, *Up From Under: Women and Liberation in New Zealand 1970-1985*. Wellington: Allen & Unwin, 1985. 152 pp. ISBN 0 86861 5706.
- Use double quotation marks around shorter quotes of 40 words or less. Set larger quotations off from the text in a freestanding block with no quotation marks. Provide a page number for every quotation. Acknowledge any change to the original quotation by putting brackets around any inserted text and indicating where italics are added by the reviewer.
- Keep references to a minimum and present them in APA style at the bottom of the review.
- Double-space throughout, including citations.
- Do not include footnotes or tables.
- Include your name and affiliation (if any) at the end of the review.