Quality in Gender+ Equality Policies

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State of the Art and Mapping of Competences Report: Croatia

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This State of the Art report is part of the comparative research project QUING that is financed by the European Commission. QUING will answer two important questions: What are actually gender equality policies in the practice of national and European policy making? And also: What is the quality of these current policies, especially in terms of their transformative potential, their attention for other inequalities and their openness for voices of the movements that lay at its origin? QUING studies all 27 EU-countries plus Croatia and Turkey. QUING will present results from January 2009 on, and will be finished in 2011.

For its analysis, QUING has chosen three gender equality relevant issues: non-employment, intimate citizenship and gender based violence. The comparative study will enable a better understanding of differences and similarities, and of the quality of gender+ equality policies. This comparative analysis is the heart of QUING that will generate new theory, that will be relevant to the whole of Europe. These parts of QUING are named LARG and WHY. In a related part, named STRIQ, the project will further develop theories on intersectionality, on the relationship between gender inequalities and inequalities originating in ethnicity, class, religion or sexuality, and describe and analyze to what extent and how intersectionality is incorporated in gender equality policies with across Europe. Additionally, QUING will also be preparing the ground for comparative research on the history of feminist ideas in Europe. In this part, named FRAGEN, QUING will start with the construction of a database that will ‘open’ selected core feminist texts to researchers by storing original second wave feminist texts in the database together with an analytic description of these texts in English. QUING will open this database to the research community in its last year. In its last two years, QUING will also be very active with its fifth part, named OPERA, actively translating its knowledge in gender training for all actors in policy making, and it will develop high quality standards for such training, that will be tested in practice. For a more extensive presentation of the QUING project please consult the website at www.quing.eu.

This State of the Art report has the goal of assuring that the QUING researchers start their research using the knowledge that is already available on gender equality policies in a country. In this sense, the State of the Art is a classic literature review, relevant to the different parts of the QUING project (LARG, WHY and STRIQ). Added to this, some information is asked for that facilitates the preparation of the activities in FRAGEN.

This report is structured as follows. In the first part a short assessment is made of the annotated bibliography that can be found in the second part of this report. In the second part of the report one will find the actual annotated bibliography. This part maps the most important relevant academic studies and other policy related literature (reports by IO, INGOs, experts etc.) about each country. The annotated bibliography has been divided into four separate sections. One section covers studies relating to gender equality policies, the following one is on non-employment related articles, the next one is on intimate citizenship related articles and the final one is on gendered violence related articles. In all sections, the accent is on studies that focus on the gender equality aspects of policies relating to these issues. The four sections itself have been divided into country language studies and English language studies. Comparative studies can be found under a separate heading within these language groups. Next to the bibliography, this part also contains a section relating to the OPERA part of the QUING project in which the most relevant gender training literature that has been produced in the country (e.g. gender equality manuals, gender mainstreaming manuals, gender impact assessment guides) is listed. There is a section related to the FRAGEN part in the QUING project listing the archives or documentation centres specialized in gender equality policies on national level.
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Introduction

The beginnings of the research on women’s issues and gender equality in Croatia can be traced back to the eighties, i.e. to the times of the rise of the first women’s and feminist groups in former Yugoslavia. However, the amplitude of feminist studies – focused mainly on work with women victims of sexual violence during the wars in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and closely related to anti-war activism – arose after the Croatian independence in the beginning of the nineties. At that time, the most active in this field were the women’s organizations and groups, such as Women’s Group Trešnjevka, Center for Women Victims of War, Kareta etc. The establishment of a multidisciplinary Centre for Women’s Studies in Zagreb in 1995 marks a landmark in the development of women’s / gender studies in Croatia as it created a space where academic discourse, and activist and artistic practices could merge.

Since 1995, two main focuses of the academic and NGOs’ studies in the field of gender equality policies can be identified: first, the issue of gender-based violence, particularly of sexual violence against women and domestic violence, and second, the issue of socio-economic situation of women in the transition period, which has been distinctively framed by the EU gender equality policy in the recent period. As a consequence of the adoption of a specific gender equality legislation in 2003 (i.e. Gender Equality Act, Protection from Domestic Violence Act, and Same-Sex Unions Act), more attention was given to gender equality legal issues, and, importantly, it brought a qualitative shift in the consideration of same-sex partnerships and sexual minorities.


Non-employment:
The issue of non-employment is the most degendered among QUING’s three research topics, as it tends to be dealt within more general issues, such as discrimination in employment or unemployment and economic reconstruction in the transition period. Within this research category, policy studies and research addressing the socio-economic situation of women in the transition period (Simmel 2003, Valdevit 2003, Belić 2000, Leinert Novosel 1998), gender discrimination in the labour market (Petrović 2000), harmonization of Croatian labour law with the EU equality legislation (Barković and Vinković 2006, Herman and Vinković 2003), and reconciliation of work and family life are dominating (Leutar and Leutar 2005, Leinert Novosel 2003a). There are only a few researchers – mainly in the field of social sciences and law – covering the non-employment related issues from the gender perspective. Except for policy studies calling for the integration of young persons into the labour market, and specifically emphasizing the obstacles and discrimination,
which younger women face when entering the labour market, there are virtually no intersectionality studies addressing the non-employment.

**Intimate citizenship:**
In the beginning of the nineties, the issue of intimate citizenship was framed almost exclusively as a response to the processes of nationalist homogenization and religious revival in Croatia (and in other former Yugoslav countries). These processes were accompanied by neopatriarchal misogynist tendencies and Catholic propaganda calling for national demographic renewal, primarily by stripping women of their reproductive rights and the glorification of a family and motherhood (see Kašić 2005, Pavlović 1999).

A shift from reproductive rights’ discourse to the issues of sexual minorities’ rights and same-sex partnership occurred after 2000, mainly as a result of a public debate related to the adoption of the Same-Sex Unions Act. The articles on this issue almost exclusively address the legal implications of the Act (see Korać 2004 and 2005, Jakovac-Lozić 2004, Milas 2003), and, to a smaller extent, from the perspective of Christian morality (Pozaić 2003). The issues of same-sex partnerships, gender and sexuality are covered by the academia (Kašić 2005, Štulhofer and Sandfort 2005) and LGBT activists (Jugovic, Pikovic and Bokan 2006, Sagasta 2001), whereas the reproductive rights and sexuality are mainly a concern of women’s NGOs, such as “Women’s Room” and the Center for Education, Counseling and Research.

What is notable concerning the category of intimate citizenship is a lack of studies dealing with the “traditional” heterosexual family and/or partnership from the gender perspective, and exploring intersectionalities between gender and other identitarian categories in relation to the issues such as ethnically/religiously “mixed marriages”, reproductive rights of gays and lesbians, disabled women and men etc. Namely, apart from few surveys exploring the issue of unpaid family work (Topolčić 2003) or of marital satisfaction in women (Obradović and Čudina Obradović 2000), the texts addressing marriage and family are almost exclusively of Christian/Catholic provenance. This topic, largely emphasizing the importance of Christian family values, could be included as an intersection with the religion, however, as the gender – the central category of QUING’s focus – is left out in these texts, I decided not to include them in the bibliography.

**Gender-based violence:**
The issue of gender-based violence is dominating among the three QUING’s topics, which is quantitatively reflected also in the present bibliography. As well, the bulk of academic studies and NGOs’ research in Croatia deals with the gender-based violence, and particularly with sexual violence against women and domestic violence. This can be attributed to the relatively long tradition of NGOs working with women victims of domestic and sexual violence (the establishment of an SOS hotline for women and children victims of violence by the Women’s Group Trešnjevka in 1988 was the first of this kind in East Europe), and to the tragic experience of war, first in Croatia in 1990-1991, and later in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo. Therefore, numerous feminist academic works deal with the issues of sexual violence and the role of women during military conflict (for example, Kašić 1997, Jambrešić Kirin 2000, Kovačević and Mežnarić 2000, Senjković 2002 etc.), however, due to huge media attention, the use of mass rapes and sexual violence against women as a method of
“ethnic cleansing” captured also a considerable attention among feminist scholars internationally. Taking into consideration that studies on gender-based collective violence are almost exclusively focused on sexual violence against women, the scarce works on sexual torture of men (for example, Oosterhof 2004) are of great relevance for the research how the victims' and perpetrators' identities are being gendered.

Although extensively covered by women’s NGOs in reports on empirical research on violence against women, education manuals, and guides for trainers and victims of violence, the issues of violence against women and domestic/family violence are also a topic of numerous analyses (see Ajduković and Pavleković 2004, Ljubin 2004, Cajner Mraović 2002) from different academic fields; i.e. law, psychology, criminology, social work etc. In the recent period, sexual harassment has become a new focus of policy studies and empirical research in the field of gender equality (Vasiljević 2003b, Roemer Janeković et al 2002, Leinert Novosel and Štingl 2001). In Croatia, the trafficking of human beings, and particularly of women, has been framed within the discourse on gender-based violence and sexual exploitation (Štulhofer et al 2002).
Annotated bibliography

1 General gender equality policy

1.1 In Croatian


Keywords: Croatia; sexual and gender minorities; report

The report on sexual and gender minorities was prepared by the joint team of associations “Kontra” and “Iskorak”. In the report it depicts the most relevant legislative changes in this field, such as introduction of the definition of a “hate crime” (which explicitly includes also sexual orientation) into the Penal Code, and presents the figures on cases of violence and discrimination on the grounds of gender and/or sexual discrimination. Special attention is given to the severest cases of violations of sexual and gender minorities’ human rights, such as the use of hate speech by some Sabor’s representatives during the discussion on the proposal of the Bill on Registered Partnership.


Keywords: feminist critique; multicultural citizenship; Roma women; “false multiculturalism”; Croatia

The author analyzes the feminist critique of multicultural citizenship on the case of Roma women in Croatia. The work starts with a court case of a Romani woman from Rijeka, and then announces the theoretical frames that could contribute towards understanding of the case. The author examines Kymlicka’s concept of multicultural citizenship and elaborates three main arguments of feminist critique of that concept: the argument that all cultures are patriarchal, the essentialist argument and the argument based on private-public society’s distinction. The article also examines the applicability of feminist critique on the case of Roma women in Croatia, introduces the new term of “false multiculturalism” and – on the basis of three empirical cases - draws attention to the danger, which such “false multiculturalism” poses for Roma women in Croatia.

3) Dijanić, Dijana, Mirka Merunka-Golubić and Iva Niemčić, eds. 2004. Ženski biografski leksikon: sjećanje žena na život u socijalizmu (Women’s biographic
The edition *Women’s biographic lexicon: the memories of women on life in socialism* is a compilation of papers of several female authors (Dijana Dijanić, Mirka Merunka-Golubić, Iva Niemčič, Dijana Stanić, Susan Jakopeč and Anđelka Rudić). It covers the period 1945-1990 primarily in Croatia, but tackles also the developments in other republics of former Yugoslavia. The book deals with the women’s history and their identities in that period, whereby a feminist research methodology (a method of oral history) is used. The first part contains ten interviews with women with different educational, occupational, socio-economic and family background. The second part constitutes a terminology of women’s biographies in socialism, which aims to emphasize interviews’ parts significant for understanding of the life of women in socialism (free time, intimacy question, fashion, lexicon manuals etc.). The last chapter contains texts on reproductive rights, political, economic and educational participation of women in socialist society.


The article is a result of author’s three-year working experience in the Center for Social Care in Čakovec. Based on her observations the author notes that the situation of Roma women in the Romani settlements – enclaves is worse than that of Roma men. She makes this conclusion on the grounds of the facts gathered from the dossiers on the receivers of support assistance, data on persons under family protection measures, dossiers on minor and younger perpetrators of criminal offenses and from other measures and interventions carried out by the center of social care, such as: there are disproportionally more adult women than men among the illiterate; minor Roma girls more frequently enter extra-marital unions (usually at the age of 12 or 13); only women bear the burden of offenses for begging; women are in large numbers and in different modalities victims of violence, however, they register it only rarely at the competent authorities.


The book *Equality between a man and a woman – law and politics in the EU and Croatia* constitutes a compendium of papers of several younger authors
(Tamara Perišin, Jo Shaw, Siniša Rodin, Siniša Zrinščak, Goran Selanec, Snježana Vasiljević) in the field of gender equality. All contributions deal with political background and normative regulation of gender equality in the European Union and the Republic of Croatia as a candidate for EU accession.


Keywords: EU; Croatia; candidate countries; gender equality; sexual orientation; equal opportunities; equal treatment; sexual harassment; Copenhagen criteria; Treaty of EU; law

The author analyzes gender equality standards within the EU and the obstacles and challenges for the candidate countries. Croatia does not guarantee gender equality sufficiently, which is the reason for negative responses on behalf of women’s and human rights NGOs. The author is particularly concerned about different forms of sexual harassment in the workplace, schools, universities and public places.


Keywords: Croatia; women; modernization; Croatian society; sociology

This study compares the political and cultural aspects of social position of women in Croatia with the position of women in post-industrial societies. According to the authors, the issue of equal opportunities and women’s social position has been relatively neglected until this study, as it is the first research of this kind and scope. The survey was carried out on a sample of 3,200 women in four Croatian counties (city of Zagreb, Split-Dalmatian county, Osijek-Baranja county, Istrian county). The study’s conclusions indicate that patriarchal attitudes towards women are prevalent in the Croatian society. Women in Croatia constitute specific social group, which is socially marginalized in relation to men, although women carry the triple burden (work, home, and grey economy). The authors conclude that women’s behaviour in Croatia was under strong influence of traditional socio-economic patterns in the nineties.


Keywords: gender socialization; identity; micro/macro feminist theories; philosophy
The text deals with sociological approaches which observe the relation between women and men from the perspective of socio-structural, economic and cultural development. Simultaneously, these approaches analyze this relation with a view of antagonism between an individual agency and a societal structure. Feminist macro-sociology explores the relation between women and men exclusively as dependant on economic structures and institutions. Feminist micro-sociology explores everyday conditions and situations of relations between genders.


Keywords: Croatia; social construction of gender; tolerance; ethnometodology; feminist theory

The article observes the methodological theoretical approach on the construction of gender in the context of tolerance on micro and macro societal level. The basic postulate is that gender is a social construction, which is socially “produced” and individually “supplemented”. There is a tacit obligation to be a woman or a man, and the tolerance for something else is extremely low, so even inter-gendered persons feel pressured to demonstrate their gender on a daily basis. The author claims that the patriarchy in Croatia, which is inherited from formally egalitarian, but virtually patriarchal socialist period, has been additionally “strengthened” by pre-modern warrior paradigm soon after the establishment of a democratic order. Thus, political and moral rigidity becomes an obstacle not only to more tolerant attitude towards multiple engendering, but also to the processes of postindustrial modernization of the Croatian society.

1.2 In English


Keywords: Croatia; gender equality legislation; law

The basic legal documents for the protection of women’s rights in Croatia are the Constitution, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) with its Optional Protocol, and the recently adopted Law on Gender Equality. Other relevant legal documents, which deal with a particular sphere of life, are: Family Law, Labour Law, Pension Insurance Law, Health Protection Law, Health Insurance Law, Penal Code, Social Security Law, Code of Criminal Procedure, Code of Misdemeanours, Law on the Protection from Domestic Violence, Law on Same-Sex Unions, etc. Also important are 5 UN human rights conventions (ICCPR and its Protocol, ICESCR, CERD, CRC, CAT and its Protocol), the European Convention on Human Rights and conventions in
the area of labor rights of the International Labor Organization, which all prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sex/gender, and to all of which Croatia is a state party.


Keywords: conference papers; gender identity; transgression; gender theory; discourse

This collection represents the majority of papers and workshops presented at the conference Transgressing Gender: Two is not Enough for Gender (E)quality which was held in Zagreb in October, 2005. The conference was organized by the Women’s Room and CESI from Zagreb, and partnering organizations DEVE from Belgrade and the Organization Q from Sarajevo. As the first of its type in Central and South-Eastern Europe, the main goal of the conference was to enable and support strategic alliances and cooperation between different social groups actively engaged in the issues of gender freedom, gender equality and promotion and protection of gender rights by way of overlapping feminist, gender and transgender theoretical and political orientations.


Keywords: EUmap report; exclusion; Roma; women; policy analysis

This paper argues there is a conflict between the interest of minority issues and that of gender equality in Central and South–East European countries. It address some crucial gender problems that are engendered by the minority protection procedures and policies of the Croatian government, by analysing draft and final versions of its *National programme for the Roma*. The Programme endorses multiculturalism, but in so doing ends up multiplying gender prejudices and inequalities.


Keywords: Croatia; CEDAW; NGOs; women’s rights; shadow report
The network of Croatian NGOs prepared a shadow report on Croatia’s implementation of specific provisions of the Convention on the elimination of discrimination against women.


Keywords: Croatia; CEDAW; women’s rights; Roma women; ERRC; shadow report

European Roma Rights Center prepared a shadow report on Croatia’s implementation of specific provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women with a special emphasis on the situation of Romani women in Croatia.


Keywords: Croatia; nationalism; sexism; homophobia; masculinity; femininity; motherhood; newspaper articles; film; popular songs

Through the analysis of contemporary newspaper articles, popular songs and films, the author vividly pictures the climate in post-independence and post-war Croatia marked by national homogenization, religious revival and the fear of difference and Otherness. In addition to the ethnic Other, the main targets of nationalist chauvinism are feminists and homosexuals. Catholic/militarist propaganda for family and motherhood is hostile towards feminists, however, homosexuals transformed into Serbian aggressors are considered to be even more threatening Other.

1.2.1 Comparative studies


Keywords: Croatia; USA; Slovenia; gender-role attitudes; survey; students; statistics; sociology

Determinants of gender-role attitudes were examined in samples of university students from Pittsburgh in the United States, Ljubljana in Slovenia, and Osijek in Croatia. Surveys including items from the Attitudes toward women scale and the
neosexism scale were administered to a total of 1,544 U.S. students, 912 Slovene students, and 996 Croatian students between the years of 1991 and 2000. As predicted, men held less egalitarian or more sexist attitudes about the appropriate roles for women and men, and those with more frequent attendance at religious services held more sexist attitudes. No changes in attitudes were found for women over time, but Slovene males were found to become more traditional over time.


Keywords: IHFHR; Central and South-Eastern Europe; Newly Independent States; report; women’s human rights

In its special report on women’s rights in Central and South-Eastern Europe and Newly Independent States, the International Helsinki for Human Rights presents also the situation of women in Croatia, and key legal and institutional framework on women’s rights and equal opportunities in Croatia.


Keywords: gender; welfare regimes; welfare states; Central and Eastern Europe; former Soviet Union; social policy analysis

The article addresses a number of questions concerning the gender and social policy: How are the distinctive gender regimes in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union changing? What is the impact of the transition - and especially of the loss of state expenditure and state legitimacy - on women as paid workers, partners/wives, mothers, carers and citizens? Have women become more familialized as a result of transition processes? The Monee statistical database of 27 countries, and policy questionnaires of 12, show growing social, economic and cultural diversity. But the soviet legacy and the transition processes give these countries common ground too. Equal rights at work and women’s need for paid employment remain from the soviet era. But the gap between rights and practice widens. Legal equality in marriage remains, but domestic violence and the domestic division of labour give evidence of unequal relationships. While the soviet state socialized many costs of motherhood and care work, in some countries families are now bearing much heavier costs. Women as citizens now have more freedoms to organize, but action is more focused on coping and survival than on wider politics: women are - broadly - more familialized, more dependent on family relationships if perhaps less dependent in them.
2 Non-employment

2.1 In Croatian


Keywords: Croatian legislation; EU legislation; discrimination; employment relations; law

The Ph.D thesis is composed of four parts: first part is introductory, which is focused on the issue of the harmonization of domestic law with the EU antidiscrimination legislation. In the second part, the thesis analyzes international, regional and national legal sources containing the provisions on the prohibition of discrimination, and in the special third part, three grounds of discrimination are being analyzed (gender, sexual orientation and disability), whereby the issues of women's special protection in the employment, reconciliation of professional and family life, gender segregation in the labour market and the employment quotas for the disabled are discussed. In the conclusions, the thesis points at the problem of inadequate implementation of antidiscrimination labour legislation and emphasizes the significance of the principle of mainstreaming in this field.


Keywords: Croatia; motherhood; maternal leave; parental leave; equal distribution of family roles; law

The author analyzes the institutes of motherhood protection in the Croatian labour law with a view of sex/gender equality and the need of equal distribution of family and professional obligations between a woman and a man. The author establishes that some provisions of Croatian labour law are not in conformity with relevant guidelines and case-law of the European Court of Justice as they reflect discriminatory effects and, therefore, need to be adequately modified.


Keywords: Croatia; EU; gender equality; equal treatment; gender segregation; discrimination; positive discrimination; sexual harassment; law

The article compares the EU and Croatian labour law in the field of gender equality. The authors discuss the crucial questions of achieving gender equality
by analyzing the relevant legal sources of the EC and the case-law of the European Court of Justice. When referring to the national legal solutions authors bring to the attention the deficiencies of the existing provisions, and the need for legislative agency in order to integrate the principles of the acquis communitaire into the Croatian legislation.

4) Leinert Novosel, Smiljana. 2003a. *Stavovi poslodavaca prema profesionalnoj i obiteljskoj angažiranosti žena (Employers’ attitudes on professional and family engagement of women)*. Zagreb: Državni zavod za zaštitu obitelji, materinstva i mladeži. CRO

**Keywords:** Croatia; EU legislation; politics; women; education; employment; employers; political science

The author addresses the employers’ attitudes on the employment of women, and the politics of equal opportunities on the education and employment of women in Croatia and the EU. These reflect more modern positions on working women (integration in a work-place rather than taking care of a family), selective acceptance of the measures for promotion of employment and during the professional career for women, and the perception of women as optimally employed in “female occupations”. Employers’ gender difference is the only criteria for differing attitudes, which points to the conclusion that the problems faced by women are not considered as common societal issues, but primarily as women’s problems.


**Keywords:** Croatia; women; employment policy; market economy; social position of women; political science

The author notices that the systems established after the fall of socialism are grounded on the postulate that liberal-democratic political system and market economy constitute sufficient guarantee for personal prosperity and proclaimed political equality of all individuals. However, in practice this has not been the case with women, and only interventions through various support mechanisms enable the creation of equal opportunities for women and men.


**Keywords:** Croatia; employment; women; social status; economics

The article addresses economic activity of female population in Croatia in the last fifty years. This activity is compared with the situation in some European countries, particularly in the »transition countries«. The author used the data
from six censuses in Croatia in the period 1953-2001. She notes the processes of aging and increase in the education level in both general and female population. The changes in economic structures have drawn the female labour force into working activities, which brought a shift in the relationship between men and women, mostly to the benefit of the latter. The most evident change is constant reduction of the number of active women in agriculture and their increase in tertiary sector, primarily in commerce, education and health care. More and more active women demand the accommodation of working conditions to their needs, and reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, which would make them more successful at work. The author recommends flexible modes of work and employment as an alternative for meeting those demands.

7) Belić, Martina, ed. 2000. Žene i rad: žene na tržištu rada u Hrvatskoj i utjecaj globalizacijskih procesa na žene (Women and work: women on the labour market in Croatia and impact of globalization processes on women). Zagreb: BaBe. CRO

Keywords: Croatia; women; labour market; globalization; recommendations of legislative changes

The publication deals with the economic situation of women in Croatia in transition period. It is divided into three parts: the first part presents the results of the poll on awareness concerning needs and situation of women in employment and work, and depicts the situation of women in the labour market in Croatia. The second part deals with impacts of globalization on women, particularly on women in Croatia and other transition countries. And the third part brings attention to necessary changes of the Labour Act, Act on Employment, and Act of Social Care with a view of improvement of economic situation of women.


Keywords: work-family interface; job satisfaction; life satisfaction; sociology

The article develops the concepts and issues of the relationship between work and family; i.e. of mutual influence of family and work responsibilities. Furthermore, it provides an overview of development and results of this research issue, and explores specific antagonisms work-family, such as implications of woman’s employment on a woman herself, a husband, motherhood and parenthood. On the grounds of research results, the authors recommend such social policies, which would diminish the intensity of antagonism work-family, and mitigate eventual psychological and social consequences of economic changes accompanying the processes of globalization, transition and reconstruction of economies.

Keywords: Croatia; trade unions; women; discrimination; social position; labour market; sociology

The edition titled *Discrimination against women in Croatia* compiles the works of several female authors, which are the results of a research in the project *Promotion of special policy of equality within the trade unions in Central and Eastern Europe*. The paper of Marina Kokanović and Jagoda Milidrag Šmid is particularly relevant for the issue of non-employment as it analyzes the situation of women in Croatian labour market with a view on negative economic trends caused by the war, transitional crisis, errors in the privatization process and the concentration of capital on the grounds of political allegiance. The authors bring attention to four major forms of discrimination against women: pay gap between women and men, discrimination in employment, discrimination in the access to certain occupations and discrimination in vocational education and promotion. The authors note that women represent 51.8 percent of Croatian population, and 48.3 percent of the employed and 52.9 percent of the unemployed respectively. The employers consider women as less desirable work-force even though they are more prepared to carry out the work below their educational level and dominate in the “grey economy” sector. Activities in which women constitute a majority labour force have up to 42.3 percent lower income in comparison with the country’s average. Pensions also reveal a hidden discrimination during the working period; namely, age pensions for women are 22 percent lower than men’s.


Keywords: Croatia; women; transition; social position; traditionalism; modernity; political science

The author addresses social change in the position of women in the transition period as a consequence of new economic and political changes in Central and Eastern Europe. The “modernists” perceive that women’s social position have worsened in the recent period, whereby women are more critical than men, particularly highly educated and employed women. On the other hand, the minority of “traditionalists” claim that women’s position is better than in the previous regime, that women’s place is at home, that the Church should decisively affect the situation of women (including the issue of abortion) and that they should not play an important role in the politics.

2.2 In English

Keywords: Croatia; maternal employment; gender roles, economic and political transition; sociology

The paper analyzes the attitudes toward gender roles and women’s employment in Croatia. It tests several hypotheses linking respondents’ attitudes with their socio-economic characteristics as well as their upbringing. The analyses have implications for the gender policy in transitional economies burdened by consistently high unemployment rates, particularly among women, and frequent, politically motivated, attempts at re-traditionalization.


Keywords: Croatia; gender inequality; labour market; gender roles; law; economics

The article discusses women’s position in Croatian labour market within transitional context, especially from legal, economic and political point of view. The authors’ purpose is to promote women position in the labour market as equal part of labour force.


Keywords: Croatia; process of harmonisation; labour law

The article discusses the process of harmonisation of the Croatian legal system to the standards and principles of the aquis communautaire, which has attracted a great deal of attention to the field of equal opportunities or gender equality. Achieving de facto gender equality at all levels of social and political life, as well as acting de iure in the direction of refining and creating new solutions within the existing legislation, represents a high challenge for legal experts. The harmonisation process raises a dilemma as to whether the modifications which have been made are sufficient and of good nomotechnical quality, and whether the whole process in this area can be regarded completed at this stage.

Keywords: Croatia; work-life balance; work-home interference; overtime; well-being; psychology

This study explores whether work-life imbalance due to long working hours exists among employees in Croatia, and examines some of its antecedents and consequences. In studying the consequences, joint effects of the time spent at work and in home roles are considered in a broader conceptual framework which incorporates the concept of work-life interference. A questionnaire assessing individual and contextual variables, time spent at work and in home activities, intensity of work-home conflicts, and subjective well-being was applied via an on-line survey of Internet users, and via personal interviews. The results show that 75 percent of the respondents work more than 40 hours a week and 30 percent in excess of 48 hours per week. Hours spent at work and in home activities were not significantly related to subjective well-being (defined as low levels of stress symptoms and high levels of life satisfaction), thus questioning the common assumption that more hours mean worse well-being. Work-home interference variables, in particular the work-to-home conflict, account for a major part of the well-being variance.

2.2.1 Comparative studies


Keywords: comparison Croatia, Austria, Poland; employment of women; family; family roles; childcare; decision-making power

In this work the role of a woman between the worlds of work and family has been analysed. The aim of research has been to learn similarities and differences of Croatia, Austria and Poland in relation with the position of woman in the worlds of family and labour. The subjects of our opinion poll were young people and their parents from three aforementioned countries. This article analyses attitudes and opinions of the subjects in relation to employment of women in society: level of education of employed women, rate of women’s employment, the subjects’ attitudes towards the role of employed woman as mother and traditional distribution of the roles: woman-housewife and father/man-breadwinner. After observation of woman’s role in the world of work, we transfer to the issue of role distribution within family itself. Opinions/attitudes about distribution of domestic chores, decision-making power and quantity of time spent with family are being analysed. On the ground of aforementioned analyses of the results, it seems to be justified to make a conclusion that women today have a double role: they are integrated into the world of labour in all of three countries, but they still have a dominant
role in their households. Attitudes related to the traditional roles of father-breadwinner and mother-housewife/one who takes care of children are present in all three countries. Such attitude is today less expressed among young people and in economically less developed countries, what points to a transformational process of family.


Keywords: women; informal economy; countries in transition; poverty; economics

The article addresses the employment of women in informal sector in the transition countries (TC). Since the beginning of the transition, on one hand the trends of flexible and informal employment have strengthened and on the second hand the households are impoverished. Poverty and unemployment have become a distinctive feature of the TC, which caused the employment of more and more people, including highly educated persons, in informal employment sector. The article analyzes the informal employment of the impoverished, and also provides an analytical framework for the research of different modes of survival of the poor in the TC. According to the author, the correlation between the poverty and the informal employment is very strong in the TC, which disproportionately affects women.

3 Intimate citizenship

3.1 In Croatian


Keywords: Croatia; patriarchy; mothers; abortion; gender; reproduction; stigma; women; sociology

The burden of reproductive tasks – including the risks for their health and life - falls mainly on women, while the gender power is frequently centered on the control over the reproduction. The patriarchal system, which subordinates women through “public” and “private” patriarchy, and the use of reproductive technologies shaped by the gendered relations increase the risk of reproductive women’s status. The prerequisite for the improvement of that status is gender equality. In Croatia, the sexist discourse demonstrates itself through the forms of traditional and contemporary sexism, whereby the expectations on the
women’s roles in the society are being reduced to their reproductive function. Structural social restrictions, which are imposed on women concerning their decisions on the reproduction, and circumstances under which they live, work and raise children, are conditioning their social stigmatization on several levels, which entails significant effects on their decisions concerning the reproduction.


Keywords: Croatia; report on women’s sexual rights; women’s studies

This publication presents the results of a survey carried out by the NGO Ženska soba (Women’s Room), which included 1,491 women aged 18-93 years from all over Croatia. The survey deals with the issues of sex education, reproductive health, sexual relations, sexual orientation, marital status and family background, sexual violence etc.


Keywords: Croatia; human rights; same-sex orientation; same-sex unions; discrimination; law

Article deals with legal regulation of same-sex unions within the human rights system, particularly the civil and political rights, according to the European standards, which regulate the rights of homosexual persons on international level. Particularly, the standards under the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Union Charter on Fundamental Rights are presented. The analysis has shown that states’ margin of appreciation is relatively wide and that the international standards obliging the states to recognize the legal consequences of same-sex unions are non-existent. The second part depicts the legal regulations of same-sex unions in Croatia, criticizes the existing legal solutions, and advises the legislator on the need to shape the family policy with a view on the values it seeks to protect, particularly concerning the family and children.


Keywords: Croatia; same-sex unions; Croatian legislation; EU; law

The author primarily discusses the necessity of the regulation of same-sex partnerships in the Croatian social and legal reality, and then also the manner in
which specific issues concerning the same-sex unions in Croatia are being settled, such as the definition of same-sex union, the preconditions for its establishment, the support, the acquisition and sharing of common property, the possibilities of entering into agreements on the regulation of property relations between the partners etc. The author also analyzes the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights on the protection and realization of human rights of homosexual persons. The article is a significant contribution in the field of comparative law as it brings the attention to the changes in the recent years, which have radically changed the legal approach towards the homosexuality and the needs of same-sex partners.


Keywords: Croatia; same-sex unions; Croatian legislation; law

The article deals with a new legal institution in Croatia – same-sex unions. In 2003, Croatia adopted the Same-sex unions Act; the effects of same-sex union arise if the partners had lived together at least for three years and if there are no barriers similar as those in the case of married couples. Such unions entail only limited effects: mutual support obligation and ownership regime, whereas in other legal fields, such as inheritance, tax, pension and health insurance, nationality etc.) partners are not entitled to any rights arising from their status. The author explains the political circumstances under which the Act was adopted and criticizes the adopted solutions; according to the author many defects were caused by mere take over of the Family Act provisions.


Keywords: Croatia; Same-Sex Unions Act; same-sex partnerships; rights; law

The article depicts the provisions of the Same-sex communities Act, which entered into force in July 2003.


Keywords: Croatia; homosexuality; marriage; Christian morality; theology

The article deals with the phenomenon of homosexuality from the perspective of Christian theology as presented in the document Considerationes, which points to the Christian values and the obligations of religious politicians. In his
argumentation the author relies on common reason and natural law with a view on Biblico-theological positions concerning the same-sex relationships, such as that same-sex unions are against the nature, are not in the function of common good, and that the legalization of these relationships put under question the foundations of legal order.


Keywords: gender equality; domestic division of labour; work/family roles; unpaid work; empirical study; sociology

The dissertation considers gender equality as a global phenomenon, and the process of women’s integration into economic sphere as an evolutionary process on the global level. The consequence of women’s participation in the labour market is a phenomenon of “woman’s double burden”, which has not been satisfactorily theoretically elaborated. As an overview of foreign and domestic sources demonstrates and an empirical study carried out on 504 couples, the traditionally inherited pattern of spouses’ roles is remarkably resistant. The study’s results show that the children’s presence, their number and age significantly affect on the scope of unpaid family work. The author establishes that bigger demands are put on the spouses, more critical becomes the issue of fair division of unpaid family work.


Keywords: marriage; canon marriage; cessation of marriage; canon law; Croatian legislation; law

The article depicts the situation of the legislation in Croatia with regard to the cessation of marriage under the Family Act from July 1999 and the Agreement with the Holy See from 1997.


Keywords: marriage; homosexual cohabitation; law

The article is based on the analytical approach to the marriage as a family foundation, and observes that new ideas and efforts of some homosexual persons tend to “redefine or broaden the conceptual definition of marriage”, whereby the author considers the sexual difference between the partners as irrelevant for the establishment of marriage. The author also emphasizes that
marriage and family are not only human and social structure, but also a divine institution, which is the reason for choosing the traditional model of marriage. In the article, the author analyzes various legal regimes on the idea of prospective legalization of homosexual marriage.

3.2 In English


Keywords: Croatia; homosexuality; stigma; survey; victimization; psychology; sociology

Research projects on stigma and homosexuality in Croatia have dealt with the attitudes of the majority towards homosexuals. Scholars have not investigated the effects of stigma, faced by homosexuals and bisexuals, from the insider’s perspective. This research, adopting that perspective and focusing on the dynamics and mechanisms of stigma and related processes, is based on the experiences of homosexuals and bisexuals. It offers an inside view of the stigmatised position and stigma management of the LGBT population in Croatia. It is the first victimisation research on lesbians, gays and bisexuals in Croatia.


Keywords: cohabitants; legal status; Croatian law

The author analyses the legal status of cohabitants, pursuant to the Croatian family law.


Keywords: gender identity; sexuality; media; war in former Yugoslavia; feminist theory

The author seeks to explain the key concerns regarding the sexuality in the new (postsocialist) political framework, i.e. first, how to shift the focus of the historically constructed concept of sexuality, and second, how to affirm the silenced female subject as one who speaks of her own sexuality. The author
also pays special attention to the problem of increasing conservative and misogynist tendencies within former Yugoslav transitional societies, war, violence and rapes, and is critical of national-paternalistic ideologies of new states (supported by dominant religious circles) promoting the national reproductive policies.


Keywords: Croatia; survey; gender attitudes; sexual behaviour; adolescents; report

The report presents the results of two-year long research on adolescent sexuality. Research has been conducted on the sample of 995 young men and women, 16 and 17 years of age in the four cities in the Republic of Croatia. This research intends to explore gender perceptions and attitudes of young people, and the ways in which they influence sexual risk behaviours. The research findings stress the need for incorporating gender perspective in educational and prevention programmes aimed at reducing sexual risks and improving sexual health with the objective of realisation successful and equal interpersonal relationships. Publication is aimed at research and educational institutions and nongovernmental organizations.


Keywords: Croatia; lesbians; homophobia; nationalism; neopatriarchy; political activism; war; gender studies

The article gives an overview of the situation on the Croatian lesbian scene - from the period prior to the war in Croatia (up to 1991) until the year 2001. The ‘coming out’ process of Croatian lesbians during the 1980s and 1990s has been determined by social and cultural homophobic indoctrination, which sends out clear messages about how deviant and unacceptable homosexuality is. Heterosexuality has traditionally been the imperative of social normality within Croatian society. Not being compatible with the social norm, lesbians are condemned by society to failure and isolation. Nevertheless, after the 10-year rule of a strongly nationalistic, rightist and patriarchal regime, the political changes in 2000 have brought Croatia to the threshold of a new transitional period. Even though the new Social Democratic and Liberal coalition government is sending mixed signals on many issues to do with gender equality, the homosexual population of Croatia can finally hope for better times to come.

Seven hundred and seventy marriage couples in the city of Zagreb were included in the study of potential predictors of marriage satisfaction. Marriage satisfaction was defined as a global feeling of satisfaction in marriage (measured by 1 item five-point scale), and only wife's marital satisfaction was measured. Seventy-seven potential predictors grouped in 5 blocks were entered in two hierarchical regressions. The blocks were: premarital partners' characteristics, both partners' perception of marital processes, objective and subjective economic status of the family, objective marital characteristics and out-of-marriage influences. Five blocks of predicts explained 47% of dependent variable, with the block marriage processes contributing the most. The most important predictors of wife's global marital satisfaction proved to be wife's perception of sexual intimacy in marriage, love for husband, feeling of being loved by husband, but also, husband's perception of sexual intimacy in marriage, and his smaller participation in raising children and involvement in strategic decision making.

3.2.1 Comparative studies


The edition provides invaluable insights into the political, economic, and social processes that have taken place since the fall of communism, and is the first body of work to place sexuality research in the perspective of transition. Sexuality and gender is a unique tool for understanding the complex transformations and the cultural traditions influencing sexual behavior; the impact of ethnic wars that have challenged the definition of national identity and have reshaped social relations; and even the generational transmission of traditional values in a time of intense Western influence and global culture of commercialism, sex images, and social liberation. The book is significant to the external viewer precisely because it puts gender-related research in context: politico-geographical, historic, cultural, economic, and social. The book is valuable as one of the few sources of research on sexuality during the postcommunist period, particularly with its in-depth analysis of social activism, empirical studies, popular culture, and media images.


Keywords: Croatia; Slovenia; Czech Republic, United States; gender roles; religion; the right to abortion; statistics; sociology
Since socialism’s decline, abortion has become a divisive political issue in East Central Europe, just as it is in the United States. Questionnaires administered to college students in Croatia, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and the United States between 1991 and 1994 assessed the importance of religious identification, degree of religious feelings and participation, desired number of children, and gender role attitudes as predictors of approval of abortion for reasons of personal choice. Multiple regression indicated that these variables best predicted level of approval of abortion in Slovenia. The strong link between gender role attitude and abortion approval that emerged in the Slovene 1993 data is discussed in relation to the changing social and political contexts.
4 Gender-based violence

4.1 In Croatian


Keywords: Croatia; elderly; violence; abuse; family; relationships; social work; intersectionality gender-age; education science; psychology

Article presents the results of the first research on elderly abuse in Croatia. With the increase of older population the elderly abuse has become a gross social problem. As in Croatia there is no systematic research on the issue of elderly abuse, a multidisciplinary team (social workers, nurses, police etc.) tried to estimate on the prevalence of this phenomenon, forms of elderly abuse, intensity, etiology, factors of risk and personal features of victims and perpetrators.

2) Kodrnja, Jasna. 2005. Što za zlostavljanju ženu znači zavičaj? (What does it mean to have a home for an abused woman?). In Pavo Barišić, ed. Demokracija i etika (Democracy and ethics). Zagreb: Hrvatsko filozofsko društvo. CRO

Keywords: abused woman; subject of democracy; sociology

Inspired by the definition of home as a secure space, the author considers other connotations of home; a space of worries, violence, persecution, utopia and myth. The author also explores the possibilities of existence of subject of democracy for various deprivileged groups: abused women, the persecuted, the refugees and others.


Keywords: Croatia; domestic violence; Protection from Domestic Violence Act; protective measures; law

The Protection from Domestic Violence Act constitutes an important step towards more effective punishment of domestic violence in Croatia, because the Act provides clearer answers as to which behavior constitutes violence and who is considered to be a family member. The Act’s main purpose is to protect the victims of violence and to abolish the circumstances leading to the domestic violence. Article emphasizes the Act’s qualitative solutions, but also its drawbacks, and makes a comparison with other states’ solutions, particularly with the Cyprus Act on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and on the Protection of Victims of Violence.
Article is focused on the work with the perpetrators of violence; it is demonstrated with a view on recent changes in the Croatian legislation, which created the preconditions for different approach toward the perpetrators of domestic violence. The article also deals with the concepts of psychosocial intervention and psychosocial treatment of perpetrators, and the recommendations for better implementation of psychosocial interventions with the perpetrators of domestic violence in the Croatian justice system.

The book is composed of three parts: the first part provides a model of understanding of domestic violence and violence against women with an emphasis on intergenerational transfer of domestic violence. Violence in partner relationships is understood through the prism of most common myths, attributes of victims and perpetrators, and the dynamics of violent partner relationships. The second part contains the depiction of interventions in cases of violence against women and of efforts to guarantee the security of women. The third part is dedicated to the modes of coordinated acting of experts in the field of health care, social work, the police and non-governmental organizations concerning the prevention and treatment of women with an experience of domestic violence.

The article examines if gender plays some effect on trust to the victim of rape and placing upon the victim the guilt for the rape made by a man known to her. Based upon researches from abroad, which did find such gender effect, hypotheses were made that the male respondents will be less inclined to trust a female victim, and that they will display more tendency to place the guilt upon her that the female respondents. The research was made on 87 regular students of the High Police School (32 female and 55 male respondents), with average age of 21. Data analysis has shown that the male students have placed the guilt upon the victim more often with statistically significant difference, while there was no statistically significant difference between the genders in trusting
the victim. Both female and male respondents placed the guilt in some small degree upon the victim, and they did not trust her totally. The results were discussed with regards to the sample, characteristics of the offence, and the desirable treatment of the victims of rape.


Keywords: rape myths; attitudes toward rape; students; gender differences; survey; psychology

The aim of the survey is to examine the prevalence of rape myths and attitudes accepting rape. The survey was carried out on a sample of 466 students from different fields of study and both genders. The results indicate that men more often support all myths than women, whereas all examinees tend to support more the myths that a victim bears at least a partial guilt for rape than the myths pronouncing patriarchal attitude and hostility towards women. The results demonstrate the need for education on negative consequences of beliefs in the rape myths.


Keywords: Croatia; domestic violence; human rights; prevention and treatment of domestic violence; law

In this work author presents a contemporary view on domestic violence, i.e. as a violation of fundamental human rights and a traumatic experience. The article depicts the forms and prevalence of domestic violence in Croatia, violence against children, violence against women and elderly abuse. The author critically presents the existing legislation in cases of domestic violence, and advises the legislator to pass a national strategy for the prevention and effective treatment of domestic violence.


Keywords: Croatia; Act on Protection from Domestic Violence; domestic violence; sanctions; law

The article depicts the provisions of the Act on Protection from Domestic Violence, which entered into force in July 2003.
The author addresses the issue of sexual harassment, which has become a topic of numerous debates on women’s rights in the recent period. The author notes that although sexual harassment is considered a discriminatory treatment and is legally prohibited, it constitutes an unsolved problem as it is punishable insofar it occurs in the workplace. Sexual harassment takes place in various places, takes many forms and its victims as individuals irrespectively of their gender or sexual orientation. The article analyzes the existing legal protection from sexual harassment in the EU and the situation in the candidate countries. The author notes that equal treatment and freedom from gender discrimination are insufficiently guaranteed.

As domestic violence has become recognized as social, not as a private problem, the policies for systematic suppression of this phenomenon have been adopted. Therefore, the police throughout the world passed the instructions on compulsory treatment of their officials in cases of domestic violence. However, the police is frequently criticized, particularly by some feminist authors, for its ineffectiveness in combating or even openly supporting domestic violence. The survey of police officers’ positions partly corroborate these claims, however, the research of not only of officers’ positions, but also of their acting reveal a quite different picture: police officials, despite their negative attitudes, invest many efforts when faced with the cases of domestic violence.
researchers undertook a survey on the prevalence of this phenomenon among the employed at the Faculty. The results show that over 40 percent of female employees felt humiliated due to gender discrimination and/or sexual harassment and abuse in the working place. 18 percent of female respondents were victims of undesired physical contact, 12 percent witnessed open sexual offers to some of their female colleagues and 5 percent were conditioned to keep their workplace or get the promotion through offering of sexual services. According to the authors, the main problem the victims face is the absence of protective mechanisms, including the punishment of the abuser.


Keywords: Croatia; sexual harassment; Zagreb University; survey; political science

The text is an outcome of a research on sexual harassment among the students Zagreb University carried out in 2000. The sample includes more than 600 students from more faculties, and the results show that 6 percent of female students have experienced severe (for example, blackmailing for higher grades) and 35 percent smaller forms of sexual harassment, such as inappropriate jokes, looks, remarks and allusions.


Keywords: Croatia; violence against women; social myths; survey; professionals’ beliefs; law; sociology

Article emphasizes the importance that the experts dealing with domestic violence anchor their work in facts, not on myths about violence. This is illustrated with the results of a survey carried out on one hundred experts working with women who are potential victims of violence; it turned out that the experts adopt different strategies (distancing, identification, relegation of a problem) when confronted with an abused woman, which impede their effective treatment.


Keywords: Croatia; survey on violence against women; sociology; psychology
Center for Women Victims of War and Autonomous Women’s House from Zagreb carried out a survey on violence against women in the framework of the campaign “Stop Violence Against Women”. The survey includes 500 respondents from the city of Zagreb and its results show that the most widespread forms of violence against women are sexual violence and domestic violence. Violence usually takes place in victim’s and/or perpetrator’s home, and women are often subject to multiple forms of violence. The victims are almost exclusively women irrespectively of their age, whereas the perpetrators are predominantly men in the age between 25 to 44 years.

1998)). *Dijete i društvo* 2, no. 2: 163-173. CRO

Keywords: Croatia; survey; child sexual abuse; police data; social work

Article presents the analysis of police figures on cases of sexual abuse of children in Croatia in the period 1990-1998. Data is analyzed on the level of a) committed criminal acts, b) the perpetrators’ characteristics, and c) victims’ characteristics. Victims’ average age is 9.7 years and 84 per cent of them are girls, whereas perpetrators’ average age is 37 years and nearly 97 per cent are men.


Keywords: Croatia; Penal Code; criminal offenses; sexual violence; crime; law

Authors analyze the statistical figures showing the prevalence of criminal offenses against sexual freedom and morality among the criminal offenses in Croatia in general.

4.2 In English


Keywords: Croatia; violence against lesbians, gays and bisexuals; report
The report presents the results of a research on violence against lesbians, gays and bisexuals (LGB) carried out by the lesbian NGO “Kontra”. Aim of this research was to examine which forms of violence LGB persons experience because of their sexual orientation, who are the most common perpetrators of violence against LGB persons, how is the experience of violence related to psychological well-being of LGB persons, and to what extent does the fear of violence or discrimination prevents the LGB persons from revealing their sexual orientation. The results show that every second LGB person has experienced violence in the last four years, mainly in the form of insults (40 percent), unwanted sexual suggestions (28 percent), threats of physical violence (20 percent), and 14 percent of LGB persons experienced physical violence. The report gives also recommendations to the legislator, state statistics, the police, psychologists, medical staff, the media, LGB NGOs etc. how to approach to this problem with a view of reducing adverse effects of violence on LGB persons.


Keywords: Croatia; survey; gender attitudes; gender ideology; nationalism; war; inter-ethnic conflict; sociology

Article examines the sources of traditional gender attitudes during a period of social conflict and change. Using survey data from Croatia authors explore the relationships between war-related experiences, in-group and out-group polarization, and two dimensions of gender attitudes: policy attitudes (e.g., attitudes toward divorce and abortion) and gendered family roles (e.g., attitudes toward the division of household labor). The authors argue that ethnic conflict promotes in-group polarization (i.e., attachment to the Croatian nation) and out-group polarization (i.e. distrust of “others”), which lead to a resurgence of traditional values, including traditional gender attitudes. They also examine the effects of childhood socialization, individual resources, and interpersonal familial ties on gender attitudes. Results support the conflict-group polarization model and indicate that out-group polarization has the most powerful effect on both gendered family role attitudes and policy attitudes for men and women. In-group polarization does not affect gender attitudes, however.


Keywords: Croatia; sexual torture; men; gender; war; sexual health; human rights law

Public awareness of the widespread use of sexual torture as a weapon of war greatly increased after the war in the former Yugoslavia in the early 1990s. Sexual torture, which constitutes any act of sexual violence qualified as torture, has serious mental, physical and sexual health consequences. Attention to date
has focused more on the sexual torture of women than of men, partly due to gender stereotypes. The article describes the circumstances in which sexual torture occurs, its causes and consequences, and the development of international law addressing it. It presents data from a study in 2000 in Croatia, where the number of men who were sexually tortured appears to have been substantial. Based on in-depth interviews with 16 health professionals and data from the medical records of three centres providing care to refugees and victims of torture, the study found evidence of rape and other forced sexual acts, full or partial castration, genital beatings and electroshock. Few men admit being sexually tortured or seek help, and professionals may fail to recognise cases. Few perpetrators have been prosecuted, mainly due to lack of political will. The silence that envelopes sexual torture of men in the aftermath of the war in Croatia stands in strange contrast to the public nature of the crimes themselves.


Keywords: Croatia; survey; violence against women; content analysis; newspaper articles

The publication brings the results of a survey on violence against women, in which a content analysis of five Croatian daily newspapers was carried out in 2003. The main criteria for the case selection were victim’s female gender and violent act. Newspaper articles were, then, analyzed according to a pattern for content analysis. The survey’s main purpose was to determine how the media cover the issue of violence against women, how much of its media space they dedicate to this issue, which form of violence is most frequently covered, what is the geographic prevalence of violence, who are the victims and the perpetrators and in what relationship are they. The long-term objective was to stimulate public debate on this underestimated social problem, increase the general level of awareness and reduce the tolerance towards some specific forms of violence.


Keywords: Croatia; police treatment; sexual assault; women; law

Article discusses the problem of women who frequently hesitate to register their victimization to the police due to their fear that the justice system would be against them and that the police would not support them. The second problem is that women victims of violence have high expectations concerning the police. Article deals also with contemporary police strategies, such as the community police, which require better accommodation of the police to the citizens’ needs. Until recently Croatian criminologists investigating sexual violence against women had been focused primarily on the perpetrators and victims’ relationships. Croatian national policy for gender equality requires the
identification of women’s positions and experience concerning the violence against women.


Keywords: Croatia; trafficking in women and children; sex-trafficking; illegal migration; psychology; sociology

This study aimed to provide insights on the magnitude of the sex trafficking (ST) phenomenon in Croatia, transit details, living and working conditions of trafficked women, traffickers and the mechanisms of their trade, the public perception of ST, official recognition of the problem and characteristics of policing. According to the data collected, ST in Croatia has changed significantly during the last decade. The public opinion survey on ST in Croatia has shown that Croatian citizens are generally well informed about possible cases of ST. The respondents who are informed about organized prostitution of foreign citizens also stated that there were such cases in their own local community where foreign women and children were involved.


Keywords: Croatia; war; manhood; anthropology

The article addresses the images of a Croat warrior as portrayed during the “Homeland War” (*Domovinski rat*) by the Croatian media. The author establishes that much more complex image of a Croat warrior had been presented by Croatian autobiographic war prose than by the media.


Keywords: war in former Yugoslavia (1991-1999); men; victims of violence; sexual abuse; ethnic identity; Croatian media

In the landmark edition on gender roles in armed conflicts and political violence, Dubravka Žarkov wrote an article, in which she examines newspaper articles covering the wars in former Yugoslavia, with the intention of showing how gender, sexuality and ethnicity constitute each other in the media representations of sexual violence. Unlike the most of feminist authors writing
about the mass rapes and sexual violence committed against women in former Yugoslavia, the author deals with men as victims of sexual violence, not as its perpetrators. The author notes that men are usually seen as rapists and not as raped, however, perceiving men only as offenders and never as victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence is a specific gendered narrative of war. In that narrative, dominant notions of masculinity merge with norms of heterosexuality and definitions of ethnicity, and ultimately designate who can or cannot be named a victim of sexual violence in the national press.


Keywords: Croatia; narration and war; violence; women; anthropology

This article discusses how Croatian women's ethnographic and literary portrayals of war experiences incorporate lived encounters with violence, loss, pain, and disillusion in the forms of autobiographical and testimonial mode.


Keywords: Croatia; violence; war; research; criminal law

The research report is a result of the analysis of the press and of case-law on the issue of violence against women in Croatia in the period 1990-2000. The research hypothesis is that the postwar violence against women is caused by the increase of violence in wider Croatian society in the postwar period.

4.2.1 Comparative studies


Keywords: member states of Council of Europe; legislation; violence against women; law

The Council of Europe report presents the legislation and sanctions relating to violence against women in all member states, including Croatia (pp. 67-75)

This is a report on the content analysis of 43 daily newspapers in nine East European countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia + Kosovo + Vojvodina, Slovakia and Ukraine) on their reporting on violence against women. The report notes that relatively small number of articles in the majority of countries (varying from 13 articles in Kosovo to 123 articles in Croatia) is itself illustrative as it demonstrates that violence against women is not an attractive topic for the media. Further analysis confirms this assumption, and points to the need for the reporting on this topic that is more systemic and of different content in all the countries of Eastern and Central Europe included in this research.

Article deals with the power of mainstream media to change minds and hearts about women's human rights. In particular, it is focused on ending violence against women as depicted in the media. Violence against women is here understood in two ways — not only as violence against women in society, but as violence committed in the media, which means all misrepresentations, distorted reflections, sexism and silencing of women's voices, which violate women's right to equal access to public discourse. In a workshop at the AWID Forum, three leading feminist media analysts — from Croatia, India, and Uruguay — presented short video clips from their work, and discussed the successes and failures of women's human rights activists who use mainstream media as a vehicle for change. Their presentations were followed by a discussion about the successes and failures of women's human rights activists to engage with mainstream media as a vehicle for change.

This article addresses why rape in ethnic conflict and war is common. Emphasis is placed on the context of abuse, which some argue remains undeveloped in general explanations of violence against women. The author focuses on the role that ethnic nationalism plays in repatriarchalizing society and gender relations.
With the rise of nationalism and militarization, there are institutionalized attempts to revive patriarchal social forms and relations that place women at an increased risk of violence. The article focuses on the former Yugoslavia to show that with nationalism and militarization, the nexus of gender and ethnicity becomes significant and deadly.


Keywords: Croatia; European countries; USA; domestic violence; violence in intimate relationships; murder; risk factors; preventive measures; criminological studies

The goal of this article is to provide a review of the basic characteristics of violence and murder among the marital partners, as well as the relation of this type of violent offences with the criminality in general. The basic statement about the increase of number of the violent offences and more and more severe phenomenology is being discussed. The article also presents some basic theoretical approaches that offer explanations of the causes of violence. The paper compares the results of various researches made in Croatia as well as other European countries and USA. The authors stress the fact that violence in intimate relationships often emerges even before the marriage, in heterosexual as well as homosexual relationships, in which case the protection of the victim is even bigger problem. The violence in love relationships culminates in murder of the intimate partner, and victimological data show that between 30-50% of female murder victims were murdered by their husbands. The authors list some of the risk factors that could influence the occurrence of this type of crime, and as the conclusion they review the basic preventive measures with the purpose of reducing this phenomenon in the society.


Keywords: IHFHR; trafficking of women; slavery; OSCE member states; report

The IHF report on the trafficking of women in selected OSCE member states, including Croatia, is based on information gathered by regional coordinators and local rapporteurs. According to the IHF, Croatia is considered to be a transit country for the trafficking of women, and the cases of trafficking are rather registered as cases of illegal border crossings, not as trafficking in human beings.


Keywords: Croatia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; violence; statistics; human rights; violence against women; sociology
The article addresses the issue of non-reliability of official statistics concerning the levels and intensity of war crimes and human rights abuse in the case of violent conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Therefore, concerned researchers and activists tried to grasp the picture by applying then available instruments of data collecting procedures to refugees (in Croatia). It became clear that those instruments were of rather limited use for the specific events of human rights abuse on territory and population concerned (Bosnia, Croatia). Shortcomings were both of substantive and procedural (specific programs) nature. When war activities ended, NGOs — working with women war victims — decided to start follow up study on militarization of the society and post-war violence against women. The focus was on incidences of beating, harassment, sexual abuse, and homicide of female population in the last decade as being informed about in newspapers. The goal of the study was to present statistics on violence against women to judiciary and parliament in order to get Criminal law reformed. Applied were the instruments available for the human rights abuse documentation: again, it became obvious that these instruments were of limited use for statistically informed legislature. Therefore NGOs decided to apply statistical packages available to refine data and make them readable to other NGOs and government. The paper argues that basic concepts of official statistics and instruments available for statistical elaboration of human rights abuse should be refined in order to get data more powerful in arguing the need for legislator’s action.


Keywords: Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; Serbia; Slovenia; wars in former Yugoslavia; sexual violence; rape; women’s NGOs; research on sexual violence; feminist theory

The author examines the women’s experience in the wars in former Yugoslavia both as victims of sexual violence and as actors – mostly through the women’s NGOs – who provided support to the victims of sexual violence, collected data and generated systematic knowledge concerning women’s experience in war. The author calls for the use of this experience in a constructive way, primarily through the research which would develop a framework of understanding and conceptualization of this particular form of violence. This is needed in order to bring more attention to the problem of wartime sexual violence and to stop the tradition of impunity or even to deter potential perpetrators in the future.


Keywords: Croatia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; FR Yugoslavia; Albania; domestic violence; women’s NGOs; research; methodology
In 1998, the author carried out a research project on domestic violence studying Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and Albania. The author discusses the project method and findings, and urges international aid agencies to focus their attention on domestic violence, particularly by working with women’s organisations.


Keywords: women; peace; war; resistance

This work is compilation of texts presented at the International Women’s Forum, organized by the Center for Women’s Studies in Zagreb in 1996. At this forum, feminist writers and activists attempted to articulate the politics of peace from different historical and women’s perspectives.


Keywords: Croatia; Slovenia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Serbia; ethnicity; gender; sexuality; inter-ethnic violence; political science

This article constitutes an attempt to put forward some suggestions towards constructing a framework of understanding the processes of social construction of sexuality and gender identity within the context of the ethnic conflict, and of nationalist/ populist politics in former Yugoslavia. In particular, it focuses on the ways in which masculinist discourse is articulated to the politics of ethnicity in former Yugoslavia, by examining the definition and treatment of women as ‘biological reproducers of the nation’ through the discourses and policy proposals of moral majority nationalist and pro-life movements in Croatia and Slovenia, and of the nationalist movement and regime in Serbia, and the use of rape and sexual assault against women as ‘weapons’ in the ethnic conflict in Bosnia and other republics of former Yugoslavia.


Keywords: Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; rape; genocide; women’s studies

Although primarily focused on an analysis of Greaterserbian policy - of what the author terms “genocidal rape” – during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1992-95, the book Rape Warfare also explores the issue of political rape and sexual victimization of women which occurred during the Croatian war. The
author provides a useful elaboration of how to grasp the terms of “gender identity”, “sexuality”, and “sex” when researching collective sexual violence in the context of a conflict in former Yugoslavia. The author is the most convincing in her advocacy for the criminal prosecution of political rapists, and finally concludes with an attempt to link the genocidal rape with biological warfare.
5 OPERA – Gender training books and manuals

5.1 In Croatian language


Keywords: gender-based violence; adolescent relationships; education brochure

Educational brochure is intended for adolescents and deals with the problem of violence in adolescent relationships. In order to be more interesting and adolescent's friendly it is written in the form of the story of high school students, young woman and man named Tanja and Mario. Their love relationship with time transforms into abusive one, with various forms of violence present. The brochure’s intention is to point at the problem of violence in adolescent relationships, to inform young people and advise them what to do in such situations.


Keywords: gender-based violence; adolescent relationships; education manual

Manual is aimed at educators who want to work with adolescents on the theme of gender based violence using interactive approach. Violence in adolescent relationships is serious problem but "invisible" in the society and non–existent in the formal educational system. The manual contains theoretical introduction on gender-based violence and programme of prevention and education on violence in adolescent relationships for high-school students. Eleven school–hours long programme has five modules: Love and Relationships; Sex and Gender; Power and Violence in Relationships; Skills Needed for Quality Relationships; Human Rights – a Right to Live without Violence. Besides that, manual offers concrete propositions how to work with young men and women and parents on this issue and also what to do after implementation of the programme.

As a part of Croatian National Policy for the Promotion of Gender Equality, the Office for Gender Equality published the new strategy of the EU for the promotion of gender equality 2006-2010.


The guide brings a chronological overview of different starting points of gender equality in the Croatian context. It also presents the guidelines for the promotion of gender equality from the EU member states.


The publication contains the data on the prevalence of sexual violence obtained by the Center for Prevention, Research and Suppression of Sexual Violence and the NGO Ženska soba (Woman's Room). The manual addresses primarily the professionals who encounter the victims of sexual violence in their work.


The manual contains issues important for work on gender equality and explanations of basic concepts. It covers the following themes: position of women in the society – social visibility of women; gender mainstreaming – basic concepts; legal and institutional frame of gender equality in the Republic of Croatia; analysis of the current situation and needs assessment; gender budgeting; co-operation between NGO's and gender equality committees and foreign experiences of gender mainstreaming. It is aimed at institutions, NGO's, state bodies and all others working on gender equality.

**Keywords:** equal opportunity policy; guidelines

"The Implementation of the Equal Opportunity Policy" is a part of the project which aims to create conditions for realisation of gender equality through implementation of laws and instruments for effective gender policies. The brochure is concerned with the overview of current level of protection of women's human rights at international and national level, and it provides recommendations for changes with special focus on improved participation of women in decision making bodies.


**Keywords:** domestic violence; women’s stories; groups for self-help

This booklet presents ten true stories of women with an experience of family violence, legal commentaries of their cases, and a list of groups for self-help in case of domestic violence.


**Keywords:** gender discrimination; stereotypes; prejudices; analytical tool; manual

In this manual authors try to map, define and provide some models for combating discrimination in four areas, in which discrimination, stereotypes and prejudices are being reproduced (i.e. language, education system, media and violence against women). The manual contains also a comprehensive thesaurus, which defines the terms and social processes mentioned in the texts, and it constitutes a useful analytical tool for the research of discrimination, stereotypes and prejudices.

10) Dubljević, Maja, Sanja Galeković and Gordana Obradović Dragišić, eds. 2004. *Žene i vođenje (Women and leadership)*. Zagreb: CESI. CRO

**Keywords:** women; leadership; education; manual

The goal of CESI's manual "Women's Leadership" is to present the audience a wider picture of social processes that influence women’s position in the society and possible ways of improvement of women’s position. The manual presents the theoretical basis of women's leadership, analysis of social, economic and
political context and methodology of training offering a model for women's leadership training. Participants of the project "Women's Leadership", trainers and associates participated in the creation of manual.


**Keywords:** Croatia; CEDAW; guide

The guide contains three parts: the first is a guide through the Convention and the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. The second deals with the Convention's implementation by Croatia, which is presented by representatives of the most important institutions and NGOs for the promotion and protection of women's rights. The third part contains international and national documents relevant for protection of women's rights.


**Keywords:** gender and sexual education; experimental program; high school

The booklet was published following CESI's implementation and evaluation of a pilot project on gender and sexuality education. The programme was implemented in 18 high-schools throughout the Republic of Croatia, and was conducted by high-school teachers trained by CESI. The programme aimed to promote gender equity and values of non-violence, tolerance and solidarity. The booklet consists of short excerpts from the 10-hour long experimental program, results from the qualitative and quantitative evaluation, and conclusions and recommendations. The evaluation demonstrated that the experimental programme had the greatest impact on students' knowledge of gender issues, while attitudes and behaviours showed a tendency toward change.


**Keywords:** identity; sexuality; youth; manual

The second enlarged edition of "Sex and Gender under the Magnifying Glass", a manual on identities, sexuality and the process of socialisation, is aimed at
various experts who work or want to work with adolescents, using an interactive approach, on themes such as: sexuality, growing-up, gender equality, stereotypes and prejudices, and gender based violence. The second edition of the manual is supplemented with a chapter on training methodology as well as with new activities and exercises relating to the following themes: family and the process of socialisation, adolescents’ sexuality, and gender equality. Each theme is accompanied by a set of exercises which are introduced by theoretical texts, as in the first edition. Values such as self-esteem, non-violence, tolerance and gender equality make up the conceptual framework for this manual.

14) Cesar, Sanja, Nataša Bijelić and Amir Hodžić. 2002. *Imaš pravo znati – seksualnost i reproduktivno zdravlje od A do Ž (You have the right to know – sexuality and reproductive health from A to Z).* Zagreb: CESI.

Keywords: sexuality; reproductive health; adolescents; education brochure

Educational brochure is intended for adolescents and its purpose was to create interesting and adolescent's friendly brochure and because of that it is written in the form of the story of high school pupils, boy and a girl, named Boris and Hana, who fell in love with each other and begin a relationship which transforms into sexual one. The uniqueness of this brochure is in it's covering various aspects of sexuality. Besides the information on contraception and reproductive health, young people can find out more about needs, emotions, masturbation, sexual pleasure, sexual orientation, and gender based violence.


Keywords: women; internet; manual

This manual was originally published by AMARC European Women's Network. The manual is aimed at women and modified according to the needs of women NGOs activists. It offers insight into basic knowledge and skills in using of programmes such as Internet Explorer, Outlook Express, Eudora, but also all the other services that Internet offers and that we use in creating women's activism in the virtual space. Besides described usage of programmes, the configurations of software and hardware are described in order to help them connect to Internet. Additionally, one can also find there Internet providers, web pages of women's groups and many other instructions how to obtain more information and become a part of women's activism on-line.

Keywords: Croatia; sexual violence; awareness-raising; information

The publication deals with various topics concerning sexual violence. Its purpose is multiple: to raise awareness in the public on the specificities on this form of violence, to provide necessary information to women with the experience of sexual violence and to everyone else working in the chain of providing support and help to these women.

17) Maretić, Andreja. 2001. Seksualno uznemiravanje i zlostavljanje “od vica do silovanja” (Sexual harassment and abuse “from joking to rape”). Zagreb: Centar za ženske studije. CRO

Keywords: sexual harassment; abuse; Croatia’s legal mechanisms

The publication speaks about the forms of sexual harassment at universities, types of undesired behaviour and relevant legal mechanisms in the Republic of Croatia.


Keywords: violence against women; awareness-raising manual; media campaign

The manual's aim is awareness-raising and informing of the public on the forms of violence. The manual is a part of a media campaign 'The Right to Life Without Violence' that aims at awareness-raising on the problem of violence among women and girls. The manual can be used as education material in seminars and in schools.


Keywords: manual; self-help; refugee women; social work

The manual is a result of the project 'A Training of Psychosocial Help to Albanian and Kosovar Women for the Work with Refugee Women', which was carried out by the Center's activists in Albania in 1999. The manual presents the basic skills necessary for the establishment and management of groups for self-help.

5.2 In English language

Keywords: regional directory; women's groups

The regional directory gives an overview of basic information on 570 women's groups from twelve countries in the region: Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Croatia, Kosovo, Hungary, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro and Slovakia.


Keywords: Roma women; transition countries; conference; goals and conclusions

CESI and Roma Women Association of Croatia "Better Future", in co-operation with the Open Society Institute Croatia have organized International conference in Zagreb on 16-19 June 2000 entitled "Rights and Status of Roma Women in Countries in Transition". About twenty women from several Eastern European countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Romania, Hungary and Croatia, have attended the seminar. In the publication are announced goals, speeches of participants and conclusions of the conference.


Keywords: directory; women's groups; Croatia; guide

This guide is the first of this kind in Croatia since the beginning of women's movement. It contains information on 39 women's organisations, initiatives, formal and informal groups from all over Croatia and provides short depiction on their activities.


Keywords: thesaurus; women's terminology

The Thesaurus of Women's Terminology is a bilingual manul for processing the content of materials in women's information centers. It contains various thematic fields and, as such, it is extremely important for marking the subject of women's issues. As a specific type of dictionary it is organized according to hierarchical links and associational relations within the specific thematic field.
6 FRAGEN

There is one documentation center in Croatia that is specialized in gender equality policies, i.e. Ženska infoteka. The Ženska infoteka's database contains around 16,000 units – books, newspapers, newspaper articles, documents, photographs, movies and a directory of women's groups. The database is divided into two main units:

1) Ženska infoteka's archive: contains around 8,000 press-clipping units (selected newspaper articles on women's issues), around 4,700 different documents (government's publications, brochures, texts, Ph.D dissertations, bibliographies, guides, manual, papers, statistics, biographies etc.), 400 unit in the photo archive, 50 posters, 30 films and 1,140 addresses in the directory of women's groups.

2) Ženska inoteka's library: contains 2,650 books and 750 newspapers. Its database is accessible also online.

Ženska infoteka is also a member of REWIND NET (www.rewindnet.org), The Regional Network of Info-Docu Centers of women's information-documentation centers from 15 countries in Central and East Europe (Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine).

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http://www.zinfo.hr

There is also a library at the Center for Women's Studies in Zagreb, which provides support to the Center's students and associates, however, it is also open to the general public. The library avails with more than 2,700 books and newspapers in the field of women's studies in English, German, French and Croatian, and contains the archive of documents relevant for the history of feminism in Croatia.

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