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‘GENDER AND GENRE’ BIBLIOGRAPHY

by

The Gender and Language Research Group

1999
Introduction

The (loosely titled) *Gender and Genre Bibliography* is intended both for students working on some area of gender and language in essays, dissertations or research projects, and for those teachers and dissertation supervisors who get asked questions such as ‘I want to look at gender and language in X – do you have any references?’ Teachers and supervisors who find the *Bibliography* useful may well be working in Applied Linguistics, but will also hopefully include those working in the fields of Women’s Studies, Language and the Media, and Culture and Communication.

This *Bibliography* is the fruit of the labours of many different people. It began life as a project undertaken by the ‘Gender and Language Research Group’ (GaL), Department of Linguistics and Modern English Language, Lancaster University. Susan Sing, Isidora Kypridaki, Vasiliki Adampa, Michelle Lazar, Lydia Tseng, Ren-Feng Duann, Emanuela Guarella and Jane Sunderland brainstormed the categories, divided them up among the group members, and then searched edited collections, back copies of journals, and databases such as ERIC and BIDS for relevant references. We sent our entries to a ‘shared file’, set up for us by Damien Cashman. Ren-Feng Duann took on the task (which she claims she found fascinating) of more broadly checking edited collections and journals, and of tidying up the entries in terms of sequencing and making them stylistically more consistent.

Next, we added selected references from the Bibliography of the ‘Language and Gender’ course taught at Lancaster University, which was created over the years by Norman Fairclough, Sarah Kiaer, Marilyn Martin-Jones, Jane Sunderland and Mary Talbot. We then sent the Bibliography to people working in different areas of gender and language, seeking still further suggestions. Many thanks to Tess Cosslett, Rosemary Deem, Vic Forrester, Janet Holmes, George Jacobs, Sally Johnson, Maureen McNeil and Jariah Mohd. Jan for providing these, and thanks in particular to Rosa Maria Jimenez Catalan for sending several references to work written in Spanish, which both help to make the Bibliography a little less Anglocentric, and allow access to works which may otherwise not have been discovered by many readers. Apologies to the many people whose advice we did not seek, but who could also and would liked to have contributed references – we had to stop somewhere!

We are aware that a project such as this is problematic and raises theoretical and analytical problems, as well as those of selection. Starting with selection, Conference papers are not included, since the Bibliography is already long, and since Conference papers are not usually readily accessible. Neither have we included many references to gender and literary works (though poetry and plays do make an appearance). The categories are inevitably overlapping, and some references will be found under more than one category. Some categories may well be further divisible, and others should perhaps be added – but that is a task for the compilers of the next edition (see below).

As regards ‘genre’, we began by seeing this as ‘written text type’ – advertisements, songs, and so forth. This was with the idea that the focus would be on gender representation in text, and, implicitly, the linguistic shaping of gender by this. However, as we found more and more entries, the spoken/written division began to break down. We thus went beyond the notion of ‘genre’ to that of ‘domain’ – and the Bibliography now includes references to *talk*, in private as well as a range of public
contexts. The danger here is that the focus of much of the older work listed is on the outdated, conservative and unproductive search for ‘gender differences’ – which is still, perhaps understandably, seen as an attractive topic by many undergraduate students. This poses an ongoing challenge for teachers and dissertation supervisors.

The Bibliography has also extended into some areas which are difficult to describe either as ‘genre’ or ‘domain’. CMC, for example, can accommodate a range of genres, and is perhaps better described as a ‘channel’ of communication. ‘Gay and Lesbian Talk’ is hardly a genre either, or, even less so, domain – rather, perhaps, a ‘social grouping’? However, we retained this category on the simple grounds of usefulness.

What distinguishes this Bibliography from a more general ‘Gender and Language’ Bibliography is thus that each entry refers to a study of gender and language in relation to a particular, though often broadly conceptualised, genre/domain/social grouping. Because of space limitations, it does not extend to references which might be categorised as ‘Gender and Topic Y’ (e.g. ‘Biology’, for example gender and language relating to pregnancy, or to menstruation, though there is the ‘genre category’ of ‘Medical Texts’). Neither does it include entries of a purely theoretical nature, important though these are.

No Bibliography of work in a complex field can ever be comprehensive. Neither can it ever be said to be ‘finished’, given the exponentially increasing flow of journal articles and chapters on gender and language in journals and books in our libraries and bookshops. Given the size of this Bibliography, there are also likely to be inaccuracies. In terms of consistency, several of the entries which were added after Ren-Feng Duann completed her editing task are likely to be stylistically inconsistent with the rest in minor ways. We would like to know about such inaccuracies or inconsistencies. We would also like to know about acknowledgements we should have made but have omitted.

The ‘Gender and Language Research Group’ aims to go on updating the Bibliography and improving it, and to produce the next edition in 2001. To this end we welcome further suggestions, both for new entries within existing categories, and for new categories (with at least one entry). We look forward to hearing from you.

Jane Sunderland and Ren-Feng Duann

March 2000
‘Gender and Genre’ Bibliography
Gender and Language Research Group, 1999

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General Works and Collections


Specific Genres

(1) Advertisements

(a) General Ads


(b) Personal Ads

(b-1) Lonely Hearts Columns


(b-2) Valentine-type Message


(2) Autobiography


(3) Cartoons


Haley, Elizabeth A. (1997) “‘But it doesn’t mean anything, it’s just a cartoon”: cartoons as primes for stereotypes of women in the workplace.’ M.A. dissertation, Rice University, USA.


(4) Chatshows


(5) Children’s Literature


Stones, R. (1983) *Pour out the cocoa, Janet*: sexism in children’s books. York:
Longman Resources Unit (Schools Council Programme, 3: developing the curriculum for a changing world).

Swann, J. (1992) *Girls, Boys and Language*. Blackwell. (Ch. 5)


(6) Comics


(7) Computer-Mediated Communication


(8) Conferences


(9) Diaries


(10) Dictionaries


(11) Erotic Texts


(12) Essays


(13) Fiction


(14) Graffiti


(15) Grammar Books


(16) Harassment and Assault


(17) Horoscopes


(18) Jokes/Joke-telling/Comedy/Humour


(19) Legal Documents


(20) Magazines


Proceedings of the Fifth Berkeley Women and Language Conference.
University of California: Berkeley Women and Language Group.


(21) Manuals/Self-help Books/Leaflets/Brochures


(22) Mass Media


(23) Medical Texts


(24) Narratives (written)


(25) News Reports


(26) Play Scripts/Drama


(27) Poetry


(28) Political Language


(29) Posters


(30) Problem Pages/Agony Aunts


(31) Proverbs/Idioms


(32) Songs


(33) Talk Genres (public, institutional)

(a) General


(b) Classroom Talk


(c) Conferences


(d) Courtroom Talk


(e) Doctor-Patient Talk


(f) Interviews


(g) Meetings


Wodak, R. (1997) “‘I know, we won’t revolutionize the world with it, but...’”: styles of female leadership in institutions’, in Kotthoff, H. and Wodak, R. (eds).

(h) Workplace Talk


Wodak, R. (1997) “‘I know, we won’t revolutionize the world with it, but..’”: styles of female leadership in institutions’, in Kotthoff, H. and Wodak, R. (eds).


(34) Talk: Private/Conversations

(a) Complaining


(b) Gossip


Pilkington, J. (1998) “‘Don’t try and make out that I’m nice!’ The different strategies women and men use when gossiping”, in Coates, J. (ed).


(c) Lesbian/Gay talk


(d) Narratives (oral)/Storytelling


Kalcik, S. (1975) ‘“...like Ann’s gynaecologist or the time I was almost raped”: personal narratives in women’s rape groups’, in Journal of American Folklore 88: 3-11.


(e) Parent-child talk


(f) Single-sex talk: women and girls


Kalcik, S. (1975) “‘...like Ann’s gynaecologist or the time I was almost raped”: personal narratives in women’s rape groups’, in *Journal of American Folklore*, 88: 3-11.


(g) Single-sex talk: men and boys


(h) Mixed-sex talk


Channell, Joanna (1997) ‘“I just called to say I love you”: love and desire on the telephone’, in Harvey, K. and Shalom, C. (eds).


(Extract can be found in Cameron, D. (ed) (1990) The Feminist Critique of Language.)


Milroy, Lesley (1980) Language and Social Networks. Basil Blackwell: Oxford. (See also Ch. 5 of Coates, J. (1993)).


Zimmerman, D. and West, C. (1975) ‘Sex roles, interruptions and silences in

(35) Telephone-Mediated Communication

(a) Telephone Conversations

Channell, Joanna (1997) ‘“I just called to say I love you”: love and desire on the telephone’, in Harvey, K. and Shalom, C. (eds).

(b) Telephone Sex


(36) Tests


(37) Texts (in general)


(38) Textbooks


Hellinger, Marlis (1980) ‘For men must work, and women must weep: sexism in English language textbooks used in German schools’, in Women’s Studies
International Quarterly, 3: 267-75.


Molina Plaza, Silvia (1997) Lenguaje y Discriminación Génerica en los Libros de ELT. Cuenca: Servicio de Publicaciones de la UCLM.


(39) Theses


(40) Travel Guides/Accounts


(41) Visual Arts


(42) Wildlife TV Programmes