

Gender and Social sex relations : theories, methods and concepts

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Teaching plan

The aim of the lectures is to introduce the main input and the originality of French and Western feminist sociology. It will address:

1) The breaking off with naturalism

- a) From class relations to social sex relations
- b) Two milestones (among others) : Engels and de Beauvoir
- c) Feminism in the seventies : opposing *difference* to *inequality*

2) The feminist theories from 1970 to 1985:

- a) *Patriarchy* and *domestic mode of production* approaches
- b) Efforts to reflect on *housework*
- c) The *production/reproduction* dialectic

3. The emergence of the *gender* concept

- a) Definitions
- b) International spreading
- c) Difficulties and ambiguities around the concept

4. Analyses in terms of *Social sex relations*

- a) First stage : focusing on *sexual division of work*
- b) Central features of Social sex relations
- c) Work as a lever for domination... and liberation

Conclusion : Articulating social relations