



**REFLECTING ON THE PAST,
ENVISIONING THE FUTURE
MARCH 3RD, 2023
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA KEARNEY**

UNK WOMEN'S, GENDER
& ETHNIC STUDIES

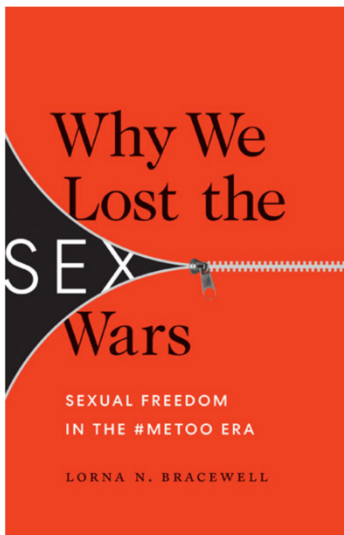
Featuring Dr. Lorna Bracewell

Lorna Bracewell is a political theorist and associate professor of political science at Flagler College. Her scholarship focuses on feminist theory and the history of political thought and has been published in academic journals like *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* and popular forums like *The Washington Post*. Her book, *Why We Lost the Sex Wars: Sexual Freedom in the #MeToo Era* (University of Minnesota Press, March 2021), offers a revisionist history of the feminist sexuality debates of the 1970s, 80s, and 90s foregrounding the influence of liberal concepts such as freedom of expression, the public/private divide, and the harm principle.



Why We Lost the Sex Wars: Sexual Freedom in the #MeToo Era (2021) **University of Minnesota Press**

From the mid-1970s through the early 1990s, feminists in the United States were embroiled in a series of debates over matters pertaining to sex and sexuality that have come to be known as “the sex wars.” During the sex wars, feminists staked out a variety of positions on a number of issues, including pornography, prostitution, sadomasochism, heterosexuality, lesbianism, intergenerational sex, butch-fem identifies and practices, the nature and limits of law, the First Amendment’s free speech guarantee, the wisdom and sufficiency of state-centered politics, the boundaries of the category of woman, and the meaning of sexual freedom. Unfortunately, these complex and heterogeneous debates tend to be remembered as a rather straightforward conflict between “antipornography” feminists concerned primarily with sexual “danger” on one side and “sex radical” feminists concerned primarily with sexual “pleasure” on the other.



In *Why We Lost the Sex Wars: Sexual Freedom in the #MeToo Era*, I challenge this simplistic view. Rather than focusing exclusively on the differences dividing antipornography and sex radical feminists during this period, I highlight significant points of contact and overlap between them, particularly the challenges they posed to the narrow and ambivalent sexual politics of post-war liberalism. I also highlight other conflicts and relationships that, I argue, were central to the sex wars, including a series of improbable alliances that emerged between antipornography feminists, sex radical feminists, and liberals of various stripes in the mid-1980s. Whether it was liberal jurists like Cass Sunstein drawing on antipornography feminist theory to formulate liberal rationales for the regulation of pornography or civil libertarian activists like Nadine Strossen drawing on sex radical feminist theory to bolster the liberal case against state censorship, antipornography feminism, sex radical feminism, and liberalism continued to interact throughout the 1980s and 1990s in ways that have had lasting consequences for feminist sexual politics.

Beyond a work of history and political theory, *Why We Lost the Sex Wars* is, ultimately, a plea. It urges contemporary feminists who are passionate about sexual freedom to return to the sex wars to (re)consider antipornography feminism and sex radical feminism prior to their attenuation by liberalism. Conventional wisdom aside, the sex wars were not an act of soricide or a petty and intellectually bankrupt internecine feminist squabble. They were, rather, a spectacularly fecund moment for feminist political thought when both antipornography and sex radical feminists formulated visions of sexual freedom that burst existing liberal strictures asunder and opened up new sexual political vistas and possibilities. That these visions seem scandalous and utopian even today is evidence that they might once again fire feminist imaginations and revivify something of the radical impulses that started the sex wars, but, unfortunately, did not survive them.

No Limits | Reflecting on the Past, Envisioning the Future
University of Nebraska Kearney, NSU, Ponderosa Room
Friday, March 3rd, 2023

Session Summaries

TIME	SESSION/ PANELS	LOCATION
8:00 AM - 8:40 AM	Registration	Outside Ponderosa Room
8:40 AM – 9:00AM	Welcome Address	E
9:05 AM – 9:55 AM	Session #1 Panels 1-3	B, C, D
10:10 AM – 11:00 AM	Session #2 Panels 4-6	B, C, D
11:15 AM – 12:05 PM	Roundtable Keynote Speaker: Dr. Lorna Bracewell	A E
12:20 PM – 1:10 PM	Lunch	A
1:25 PM – 2:15 PM	Session #3 Panels 7-9	B, C, D
2:30 PM – 3:20 PM	Session #4 Panels 10-12	B, C, D
3:35 PM – 4:25 PM	Session #5 Panels 13-15	B, C, D
4:40 PM – 5:00 PM	Closing Address	E

Thank You for Joining Us!

2022-2023 Women's, Gender, & Ethnic Studies Council

Sandra Loughrin, Director

Tiffani Luethke * Laurinda Weisse * Jake Whitney * Janet Graham * Jan Moore * Annarose Steinke
 Brandon Marshall * Will Stoutamire * Po Hu * Diego Sevilla * Ahna Packard

Annually co-sponsored on a rotating basis by NU Women's and Gender Studies Programs at UNK,
 UNL, and UNO. Supported by a Faculty Senate Artists & Lecturers Grant.

Program

TIME	SESSION	TITLE/ PRESENTERS	LOCATION
8:00 AM – 8:40 AM	Registration		Ponderosa Room
8:40 AM – 9:00A M	Welcome Address		E
9:05 AM – 9:55 AM	Session #1		
	Panel 1.	Sickle Cell Disease Inequity and Inequality <i>Nicole Doris, Denver University</i>	B
	Health and the Modern World: Intersectionality and Inequality	Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Maternal care: The Black Woman's Experience <i>Keryee Morton, University of Central Oklahoma</i>	
	Moderator: Annarose Steinke	Causes and Effects of Poor Hygiene in Girls <i>Makaria Baptiste, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i>	
	Panel 2.	History of Substance Abuse in the LGBTQ+ Community, 1980s – present <i>Hannah Ash, University of Central Oklahoma</i>	C
	Reflecting on the Past: Being LGBTQ+ in the 70's and 80's	Exhume Their Stories: A Rhetorical Reclamation Autoethnography Case Study between AIDS and Monkeypox <i>Brendan Kachnowski, Hastings College</i>	
	Moderator: Jake Whitney	Out in the Ozarks: A Sneak Peek of the Documentary Featuring Arkansas' Lesbian Community of the 70's and 80's <i>Alexis McKernan, University of Central Oklahoma</i> <i>Emma Stewart University of Central Oklahoma</i> <i>Mikele Smith, University of Central Oklahoma</i>	
	Panel 3.	Sex is Assigned, Gender is Limitless: Third Gender Identities Across Cultures <i>AnaMarie Lopez, University of Central Oklahoma</i>	D
	Out of the Third Wave: A Lens on Transnational Feminism	Sacred River in Crisis: An Analysis of Gender, Cultural Practices and Pollution along the Ganges <i>Jacob Reavis, University of Central Oklahoma</i>	
	Moderator: Janet Graham	"Be Grateful You're Not Like Them:" The Treatment of Middle Eastern and Muslim Women in 21st Century America <i>Mikayla Maiahy, University of Central Oklahoma</i>	

10:10AM –
11:00AM

Session #2

<p>Panel 4.</p> <p>“I Am”: Personal Narratives of Belonging</p> <p>Moderator: Jan Moore</p>	<p>My Trans Manifesto <i>Jessica MacDonald, University of Nebraska—Lincoln</i></p> <p>A Journey Less Traveled <i>Beck Uhl, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>Rolling a Nat 20 on Identity: Dungeon and Dragons as a Queer tool <i>Persephone Greymoore, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p>	<p>B</p>
<p>Panel 5.</p> <p>Out of the Second Wave(?): The Here and Now of Reproductive Rights</p> <p>Moderator: Jessica Hample</p>	<p>Race and Reproductive Rights <i>Malvika Vijju, University of Nebraska—Lincoln</i></p> <p>Perceptions of the Ban: Implications of Abortion Ban Laws in Oklahoma <i>Lucian Nelson, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p>	<p>C</p>
<p>Panel 6.</p> <p>Gender Socialization Through Media: A Reflection on Change</p> <p>Moderator: Ahna Packard</p>	<p>Gender Tropes in Film <i>Ella Ferguson, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>Fantastic Mr. Fox and Taming the Man: An Analysis of Resistance to Domestication <i>Monica Hernandez, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p> <p>“You Put Everybody Down to Make Yourself Look Good”: The Real Housewives of New York City and Audience Imitation of the Dynamic Neoliberal Hierarchy <i>Morgan Harms-Abasolo, University of Nebraska—Omaha</i></p>	<p>D</p>
<p>Roundtable, “Sex-Ed Story Time”</p> <p>Moderator: Sandra Loughrin</p>	<p>“Oh, Goose,” <i>Beck Uhl, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>A Guardian’s Guide to Sex and Sexuality <i>Journey Noyes, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>“Oops! Wrong Gender”: A Guide to Transgender Terminology <i>Riley Rodgers, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p>	<p>A</p>

	<p>Non-Traditional Family Structures <i>Michelle Morales Garcia, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>“Can I Navigate This?” <i>Dylan Bond, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p>		
11:15 AM – 12:05 PM	Keynote Speaker:	Dr. Lorna Bracewell	E
12:20 PM – 1:10 PM	Lunch		A
1:25 PM – 2:15 PM	<p>Session #3</p> <p>Panel 7.</p> <p>Identities and Religion</p> <p>Moderator: Suzanne Maughan Spencer</p> <p>Queerly Beloved and Phantom Mechanics: A Duality of Queer Resistance <i>Merck Sloane, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p> <p>Thicker Than Water: Gendered Theologies of Blood and Menstruation <i>Deanna Sobczyk, University of Nebraska—Omaha</i></p> <p>Learning the Roots of the Spiral Goddess: Looking Back at the Feminist Goddess Movement of the 80's and the Resurgence Today <i>Alexis McKernan, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p> <p>Panel 8.</p> <p>Sexualities in Context</p> <p>Moderator: Diego Sevilla</p> <p>Is the Future Polyamorous? <i>Samantha Royka, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p> <p>Foundations and Applications of Relationship Anarchy: How Neurodivergence, Queerness and Kink Create the Post-Normal World <i>Eden Bass, University of Central Oklahoma</i> <i>Grace Payne, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p> <p>"You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)": The Effect of HIV/AIDS on Continuity and Creation of Gay Male Sexual Subcultures <i>Jake Whitney, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>Panel 9.</p> <p>Exploring Gender in the Literary World</p> <p>Committed to the Masculine Box <i>Trinity Angle, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>Fading into Obscurity: Carmen Maria Machado's "Real Women Have Bodies" <i>Elizabeth Malousek, University of Nebraska--Lincoln</i></p>		
			B
			C
			D

	<p>Moderator: Annarose Steinke</p> <p>But What Is Emblematic of the Vampire, Herself?: A Pedagogical Look at Gender and Gothic Monstrosity in Mary Wilkins Freeman's "Luella Miller" <i>Andrew Del Mastro, University of Nebraska--Lincoln</i></p>	
2:30 PM – 3:20 PM	<p>Session #4</p> <p>Panel 10.</p> <p>Invisible Women: Inequality, Violence, and Erasure of Indigenous Women and Women of Color</p> <p>Moderator: Tiffani Luethke</p> <p>Panel 11.</p> <p>Methodological Insights in Feminist Studies</p> <p>Moderator: Janet Eckerson</p> <p>Panel 12.</p> <p>Examining History for Social Change</p> <p>Moderator: Will Stoutamire</p>	<p>Inequity and Violence: Indigenous Women and Sex Trafficking Policies <i>Becca Archer, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>Returning the Red Dress: The Effect of Euro-centric Ideas Surrounding Historical Indigenous Women and How Those Ideas Impact Indigenous Women Today <i>Andrea Huebner, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p> <p>The Missing White Woman Syndrome and the Implications of Erasure in the Media <i>Tynan Anderson, University of Central Oklahoma</i></p> <p>Strengthening the Nexus Between Social Science Research and Policy <i>Emma Armbruster, Creighton</i> <i>Laura Finken, Creighton</i></p> <p>The Missing Women of Nebraska: Rhetorical Invisibility in the Leschinsky Archives <i>Keisha Mcclantoc, University of Nebraska—Lincoln</i></p> <p>Gendered Biases in Sex-Conformation Testing in Athletics <i>Emma Armbruster, Creighton</i> <i>Maya Khanna, Creighton</i></p> <p>“A Time for Burning”: How the Killing of Vivian Strong Turned the World’s Eyes Toward Omaha <i>Kailyn Gray, University of Nebraska—Lincoln</i></p> <p>The UNL Write In: A Local Success from Student Organizing <i>Zoe McDonald, University of Nebraska—Lincoln</i></p> <p>Intersectional Analysis of Voting Rights for Women <i>Michelle Morales Garcia, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i></p>

3:35 PM – 4:25 PM	Session #5			
	Panel 13. Violence and Marginalization	The Fallacy of Inclusion: Narratives of LGBT Folks on Intimate Partner Violence Resource Websites Breanna Burton, <i>University of Nebraska—Lincoln</i>	B	
		Moderator: Nathan Tye		The Feminization of Poverty and the Affects <i>Michelle Morales Garcia, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i>
				Everyone Deserves to Know the FACTS Maggie Wells, <i>University of Nebraska—Kearney</i>
	Panel 14. A Historical Reflection on Work and Identity	The Patriarchal Society in 1950s America <i>Sydney Weiler, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i>	C	
		Moderator: Laurinda Weisse		The Sexual Division of Labor and Its Ramifications <i>Charlotte Alcon, Flagler College</i>
				The Willingness to See: An Analysis of Grace and Edith Abbott's Efforts in Social Work <i>Miranda Niemeyer, University of Nebraska—Kearney</i>
	Panel 15. Influence of Media in Contemporary Society	Media Sexualization - Maty Noyes <i>Nicole Doris, Denver University</i>	D	
		Moderator: Brandon Marshall		Singing Lavender Love Songs: An Analysis of the Women's Music Movement in Oklahoma Emma Stewart, University of Central Oklahoma
				The Danger That Social Media Has Over People With Uteruses <i>Paige Jones, University of Central Oklahoma</i>
4:40 PM – 5:00 PM	Closing Address		E	