Director’s Notes

Greetings,

Last year we renamed our program Women and Gender in Global Perspectives because we wanted to stress that there are different views of what development or progress is—and we need to listen to each other’s perspectives. The current period presses us to do just that.

A key theme for WGGP activities and research continues to be gender and human security—not just security from violence but also security of health, housing, income, and environment. At UI, we have been participating in campus forums addressing globalization after 9/11; we are cosponsoring a conference next fall with the area centers here on understanding and addressing terrorism, and we just put out the special journal issue of papers from our symposium last year on risks and rights in the 21st century. Let us know for the next newsletter what your main activities and publications are this year so we can share that information. One of the bright spots in the midst of current tensions is that the people working in this field have long valued diversity and equity and have been working to promote these values.

With this issue, WGGP Perspectives switches to a two-copies per year format, but the copies will be longer than previous issues because we plan to continue to include research summaries from our associates and affiliates. We are working to put up-to-date information on our web page between issues as well as developing our seminar series and symposia. We will continue to provide copies of the newsletters for free to those who are already on or who sign up for the mailing list and we will post pdf versions of the issues on the web. This allows us to expand our activities without exceeding our budget or completely overworking our staff here. I want to end this

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Research Notes

Demand and Supply Factors Determining Contraceptive Use in Tanzania

by Flora L. Kessy
2001-2002 Goodman Fellow

Background

The total fertility rate in Tanzania has remained high over the last thirty years at 6.3 children per woman although it dropped to 5.8 in the mid 1990s (TDHS, 1997). The population growth rate stands at 3.0 percent currently (World Bank, 2000). However, the national economy did not grow significantly in the 1980s and early 1990s. For instance, in 1992-95, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at an average of 3.7 percent and per capita income grew at an average of 0.8 percent per year. This puts the increase in GDP marginally ahead of the population growth rate, but real income per head had been growing by less than 1 percentage point (Tanzania Country Profile, 1998). Rapid population growth and poor economic growth have hindered the ability of the government to improve and expand the social services and to strengthen the national economy.

It is against this background that Tanzania adopted the 1992 National Population Policy. With specific reference to family planning, the goals of the policy are to strengthen family planning services, to promote the health and welfare of the family, and eventually to reduce the rate of population growth. In order to implement the policy as far as family planning is concerned, the government became actively involved in providing family planning services following the launching of the integrated Maternal and Child Health (MCH) program in 1994 (TDHS, 1997). Despite efforts at the national level to promote family planning use through different policies, the fertility rate in Tanzania has shown slight signs of

Continued on page 4
**WGPP announces and activities**

WGPP is co-sponsoring a Seminar on Sweatshop Issues with the theme: "What’s Behind the Label? Collegiate Licensing, the Apparel Industry and Sweatshop Issues." The year-long program is organized by the Licensing Advisory Committee (LAC) of the Office of the Chancellor. Speakers from the Fair Labor Association, the Worker Rights Consortium and Verite have held seminars in October. On November 7, a Student Panel discussed "Student perspectives on Collegiate Licensing and Sweatshop issues," co-sponsored by Unit One and Global Crossroads Living and Learning Communities. On November 28, Maureen Murtha (Fair Labor Association), Todd McKean (Nike), and Gregg Nebel (Adidas); spoke on "Corporate Approaches to Supplier Compliance in 2001-2002." For the Spring Semester Program, WGPP has invited Stephanie Barrientos, Political Economist, Institute of Development Studies, UK and Kate Cloud, Director, Gender and Agribusiness Project, to speak on "Codes of Conduct and Corporate Responsibility" on March 26, Noon -1:30 in Room 210, Illini Union. Their talk will be co-sponsored by the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER); the European Union Center (EUC), and the Program in Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security (ACDIS).

**WGPP-noon seminar series**

WGPP's Fall 2001 Noon Seminar Series featured 3 speakers in October: Zorica- Nedovic-Budic, Associate Professor, Urban and Regional Planning, on "Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Tools for Visualizing and Analyzing the Urban Environment." L. Ketz, Goodman Fellow, Agricultural and Consumer Economics, on "The Demand and Supply Factors Determining Contraceptive Use in Tanzania," (see article on page 1) and, Rosa Maragorta, Graduate Student, Human Resource Education, on "Turning Theory into Practice: Challenges in Implementing Government Policies on Gender." In November, Pradeep Dhillon, Assistant Professor, Educational Policy Studies, presented "Can Moral Judgments Be Made Across Cultures?"

**WGPP annual fall reception**

Students, faculty, and community members interact at WGPP's Annual Fall Reception. Pictured, from left to right, are Cristobel Asiedu, Hsing-Chieh Lee, Beatrice Padilla, Jacqueline Kahn, Gale Summerfield, and Flora Kessy.

(Associates' activities continued on page 6)

**WGPP Associates’ activities**

Cherubh Antwi-Nsiah, PhD, Geography, 91, is Senior Advisor, Gender Advisory Services, SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in Accra, Ghana. Monica Ajieko, PhD, Education, '95, has been appointed director for a new institute, "Institute of Gender and Undergraduate Studies" at Maseno University, Kenya. She is also coordinating a Kenya Professional Association of Women in Agriculture and Environments (KEPAWAE) for Nyanza province.

Diane Duerrhofer, MA, Library Science, '92, is a Reference/Instruction Librarian Coordinator is the Academic Library at St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas. This summer she went to South Africa for a month with the Inform the World, World Library Partnership program that supports and promotes the purchase and sustenance of African books and publishing.

Donna K. Fisher, PhD, Agricultural Economics, '00, is Assistant Professor, Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development at Georgia Southern University. She's doing applied research in economic development in southeast Georgia.

Mirta P. Leon, GRID student in Social Work, is doing her field work this year with A Woman's Fund in Urbania and has also been hired as Outreach Counselor for Rape Crisis Services in Champaign, Illinois.

Rosintan Panajitan, PhD, Agricultural Communications, '97, is a Consultant for Australian Agency for International Development and is working on a project on strengthening the Agricultural Extension System in Cambodia.

**WGPP associates activities (Cont'd)**

Carmen Vergara, PhD, Human and Community Development, '94, is working with the Programa de Accion Tropical Forestal on a book about the use of timber in rural Mexico, an important issue for many women there.

Vancha Venugopal is a second year masters student in Urban and Regional Planning. Her specialization is in International Planning with a GRID concentration. She is presently working with WGPP as a Graduate Assistant, and last summer she worked with the World Food Programme in Rome (see article on page 6).

Suzanne Wilson, MS, is a Research Assistant with WGPP and a PhD candidate in Human and Community Development with a GRID concentration. She was named winner of the Louis V. Logemans Graduate Student Teaching Award. Her research interests include adolescent development, women, and "the family" in international context. Recent publications include Adolescents' Preparation for the Interpersonal Lives of the Future, [in press]. R. Larson & J. Mortimer (Eds.). Adolescence in the 21st century. New York: Blackwell.

Director's notes (cont'd from page 1)

From Women's EDGE:

Like you, we have watched the television in horror and disbelief that humans can inflict such great harm on one another. We want to express our deepest sorrow and warmest condolences to the families and friends of those who were affected by the terrorist acts. ...

There is no doubt that last week's events will change U.S. development and humanitarian assistance abroad and as well as the work of this organization. It is of course still unclear what shape these changes will take. As an organization, Women's EDGE will work with the Congress and U.S. international agencies to help craft long-term solutions to international terrorism and the hatred that fuels it. And we will keep you informed as the United States' responses beyond military action develop. ...

The annual conference on October 24, 2001 addressed these issues: The U.S. Reacts to Terrorism: International Development's Changing Role [for more information, see http://www.womendge.org].

From AWID (the Association for Women's Rights in Development):

On behalf of all of us here at AWID I send sincerest condolences to all of you who may have lost loved ones and friends in the New York and Washington tragedies. Indeed, the world does not feel the same, nor will it soon again. We've received so many words from AWID members around the world concerned about the chain reaction of violence and the potential escalation to war. Of course, these fears are in addition to the real and immediate increase in racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against innocent women and men in the U.S. and beyond, borne out of anger to the perpetrators of Tuesday's heinous acts.

Our work for international peace, women's rights, economic justice, and development feels ever more important and urgent. The levels of poverty oppression, and marginalization related to power imbalances need to be acknowledged and redressed. International solidarity, understanding and action are essential. [For more information and a statement endorsed by many organizations, see http://www.awid.org].

From the Feminist Majority:

While law enforcement continues to collect evidence about Osama bin Laden's involvement in the horrific acts of terrorism on September 11, the relationship between the Taliban, Osama bin Laden, and the suffering of Afghan women is very clear. We know that the Taliban militia has been harboring bin Laden and that, together, they have been leading campaigns of terror against women, women's continued on page 4
Contraceptive Use in Tanzania (cont'd from page 1)
decline, and modern contraceptive prevalence remains very low. The contraceptive prevalence rate in Tanzania is 16 percent, whereas the percent of married women currently with an unmet demand for family planning is 24 percent (TDHS 1997). With such high-unmet demand, unwanted and mistimed pregnancies are rampant. The main concern of researchers who are interested in studying family planning use in Tanzania is why a large fraction of Tanzanian women express a desire to avoid pregnancy but do not practice family planning. This question about the causes of unmet need for contraception presumes existence of one or more obstacles to contraceptive use. One important policy question is whether good quality of contraceptives can increase their use and thereby accelerate the process of fertility decline. Bruce (1990) defined quality of care of family planning services as six specific elements of the process of service delivery. These are as follows: choice of methods, information given to clients, technical competence, interpersonal relations, follow up and mechanisms to encourage continuity, and appropriate constellation of services. The Bruce (1990) framework has become the defining conceptualization in the discussion of quality of care of family planning services.

There is a considerable body of literature on the demand side factors (individual women's characteristics) determining contraceptive use (Omari, 1989; Frank, 1990; Bertrand et al., 1993 among others) and just a little on the effect of supply side factors (facility characteristics). Thus, the researchers should shift their attention to the role of facility characteristics such as quality of care in the demand for contraceptives. This study advances the literature by determining the effect of a variety of exogenous indicators of quality of care of family planning services on contraceptive use in Tanzania. The Bruce (1990) framework was used to establish six quality of care indices. These indices were used in the regression analysis to test the impact of quality of care relative to socio-economic characteristics of women on modern contraceptive use.

Data and Variables
The study used two different data sets. These are the 1996 Tanzania Service Accessibility Survey (TAS) data and the 1996 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey data set (TDHS). In this study, the TAS and TDHS were linked to form a data file of individual women. The linking was necessary because we wanted to weight the data by

Contraceptive Use in Tanzania (cont'd from page 4)

population. By merging the TAS with TDHS we can tell how many women obtain family planning services from a particular facility and we can tell the average level of quality available to Tanzanian women resident in TDHS clusters. The quality of care variables were obtained from the TDHS data file where individual women characteristics variables were obtained from the TDHS data file. In the regression analysis, the dependent variable was the current use of modern family planning services whereas the explanatory variables included characteristics of women and characteristics of facilities.

Results
The regression analysis results show that women's total years of schooling, availability of piped water, and total number of children have a positive impact on contraceptive use for urban women. Literacy, husband's total years of schooling, total number of children, possession of a house with good floor, exposure to mass media, dummy variables on total number of sons and daughters, and dummy variables representing religious affiliation have a positive significant impact on contraceptive use for rural women.

Of the quality of care variables, mechanisms to encourage continuity and constellation of services have a positive significant impact on contraceptive use for urban women. Information given to clients and technical competence in terms of privacy showed a positive and significant impact on contraceptive use for rural women whereas distance to the nearest facility with family planning services showed a negative and significant impact on contraceptive use. These empirical findings indicate that interventions on some of demand side and supply side factors would result in increased modern contraceptive use. However, different policy interventions are required for rural and urban women. For rural women, well-translated information about family planning use and about different contraceptive methods should be displayed at the rural facilities so that women can get enough information about each method before they decide to use any method. The displayed information should also be discussed at the education sessions so as to benefit women who can't read. Services in the rural areas should also be located at a reasonable distance and privacy should be guaranteed. For family planning services in particular, a mobile clinic could serve the purpose. The aim of many family planning programs is not only to increase the contraceptive prevalence rate but also to sustain the current contraceptive prevalence rate.

Proper designed follow-ups and mechanisms to encourage continuity will be instrumental in sustaining the observed contraceptive prevalence rate for urban women.

References


WGGP ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES (Cont’d)

Gale Summerfield, PhD, participated as a speaker on two UIUC panels:

Responding to the Attack on New York and Washington: Security, Retaliation, and Diplomacy was a Campus Forum, held on September 9. Sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor, International Programs and Studies, and the Institute for Government and Public Affairs and organized by the Program in Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security, the forum provided the community with an opportunity to hear discussions on the political, military, ethical, and emotional issues that need to be addressed as we determine appropriate responses to the attack of September 11.

Forum on Critical Issues: What is Globalization? sponsored by The Center for Advanced Study, held on October 16, considered globalization as a major underlying theme to the events of September 11.


Suzanne Wilson, MS, participated in the conference “Justice and Poverty: Examining Sen’s Capability Approach” in Cambridge, England. Conference papers (including such topics as gender and capabilities, and operationalizing the capabilities approach) can be found at www.st-emunds.cam.ac.uk/~vh/hsen/program1.html

Summer Internship
by Varsha Venugopal
venugopal@uiuc.edu

This summer, I had the opportunity to work with the World Food Programme (WFP) Rome. WFP is the food arm of the United Nations System. Established in 1961, primarily as an idea of George McGovern, Director of the US Food for Peace Program, its food reached 83 million people in 83 countries in 2000. As an associate with the organization, working in the headquarters and the field for a total of 3 and a half months, I got a clear insight into the actual working of such a large organization.

I was at Rome for a month where I was trained with colleagues from different parts of the world. I spent the next couple of months in the southern part of Africa (Madagascar and Zambia) where I had to study the educational structure of the country, school-feeding programs in operation, etc. I had never been to Africa before and the whole experience was an eye-opener.

In Madagascar, one of the main issues is malnutrition in spite of the overall production being above the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) standards of 2100 calories per capita per day. The paradox of high malnutrition persisting in a situation of more than adequate food availability is explained partly by the inefficient use of available foods. But the primary explanation seems to come from the analysis of distribution issues, i.e., entitlement framework. Large discrepancy exists between male and female-headed households.

Children at Victoria Falls, Zambia

One of the predominant issues in Zambia was AIDS-afflicted orphans. Zambia has one of the largest population of orphans in the world. WFP, School feeding and the recently identified ‘AIDSand orphans’ as a research area to promote studies on identifying ways to incorporate these issues in their programs.

Back in Rome, I worked with the gender unit for a month. I studied the best/worst practices and insights gained/lessons learnt from the operationalization of WFP’s Commitments to women. My case studies were Bosnia-Herzegovina and Azerbaijan where I analyzed the U.N. projects for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Three and a half months of diverse experiences is a long time period to be described in half a page. So instead of even endeavoring it, I would say it was a wonderful and enlightening experience and though it raised more questions than answers, it incited me to think.

But I believe that the act of thinking and bringing controversial issues in an arena of discussion by themselves can go on a long way in bringing about change in society.

Perspectives

Director’s notes (cont’d from page 4)

We urge that these human impulses of community, connection, tolerance, and respect for life, along with principles of social justice, guide us as our country crafts a response to this dreadful attack. As the National Council for Research on Women embarks on a three-year project to examine the intersecions of globalization, human security, and gender, we recognize that this attack raises important questions about what can constitute human security in a changing world. How can people feel safe, how can human rights be structured when terror and the hatred that led to such acts of destruction and destruction surround us, and to what institutions can people look for protection?

The attack also underscores the perplexing nature of global forces. The attack’s origin is not located in a particular nation state, which makes it elusive and frighteningly ambiguous. Identifying points of responsibility and accountability in this new global configuration and understanding the complexities of global forces will require careful examination, analysis, and a willingness to go beyond our assumptions and political stereotypes.

Deep inequalities of resources and power, injustice, violence, and strife — the result of historical practices and ideologies anchored in racism, bigotry and greed — exist throughout the world today and haunt us. To create a safe world free from terror and hatred, we must create a just world in which all peoples feel safe and protected by basic human rights. We need to be mindful of the dangers of eroding civil, political and economic liberties or of targeting whole populations as the enemy. Out of the sense of injustice, deep sorrow, empathy, and connection emerging from this evil attack, we must strive to create a global community and institutions that will work collectively to forge such a world.

As a network of women’s research, policy, and advocacy organizations, we recognize palpably that in situations of strife women and children are often at the most vulnerable. We also know from our experiences at the world conferences on women held over the past three decades, and especially those in Nairobi and Beijing, that women from opposing political camps increasingly have expressed similar concerns about peace and ending conflicts and instability, and have strategized together about how to achieve these goals. As we struggle as a nation to find the appropriate response to the attacks of the past week and to world terrorism, let us work together to see that women’s experiences, perspectives, reason, aspirations for peace, and voices are equally represented in the discussions and negotiations. Women’s leadership, along with men’s, is crucial at all levels — local, national, and global — as we work collectively to recover from the frightening incidents of the past week and to shape a more just and humane world. [For more information, see http://www nvcrw.org].

THE GLOBAL SOCIETY MODEL: A FRAMEWORK FOR WOMEN AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

by I. Dale Silver

Introduction

The fall of communist regimes and the increased pace of globalization in the 1990’s have reinforced the neo-classical economic model as the basis of development policy. Although feminist economists have criticized this approach for decades, its shortcomings were especially apparent during the Asian economic crisis of 1998-99 when the “cures” dictated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had a disproportionately negative effect on women’s employment, labor, health, and safety roles and the gender division of labor, and treat the whole of human civilization as a single entity on a finite

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Global Society (cont'd from page 7)

“Spaceship Earth.” Society is viewed as a collection of economic, political, and social institutions made up of individual men and women seeking their fullest potential through various institutions.

The Economic Model

The dominant economic paradigm of current development policy is based on the concept of society as an unstructured marketplace, comprised of autonomous rational decision-makers operating in a social vacuum; community life is irrelevant or increasingly non-existent. People are self-interested individuals who seek to maximize their own welfare. The central figure of this paradigm, “Economic Man,” is an independent, self-reliant, self-governing individual who makes rational decisions to maximize profits. While the Economic Man model masquerades as a symbol for the generic individual, it is gendered and represents the traditional male known in pre-feminist terminology as "breadwinner" or "head of household."

In theory, the market is a self-regulating entity but in practice, it requires massive state interventions, especially as it grows in size, affluence, and complexity. The question of who shall be served by these interventions becomes a political one. Also problematic are the inherent assumptions about human nature. Individuals are seen as functioning in singularly economic terms, which ignores the complex reality of human nature as a combination of psychological, social, emotional, irrational, and rational motivations. In particular, this one-dimensional stereotype excludes a great deal of necessary human activity carried out by women. Women, characterized in the developing world, contribute significantly through their participation in the domestic and reproductive roles of the family and the community, often through communal work arrangements and shared resources. Especially in the developing world, women bear the primary responsibility for the welfare of others—a reality intensified by the economic, structural adjustment policies of international financial institutions during the 1980’s and 1990’s, which disproportionately burdened them, and relied upon, women’s unpaid labor. In fact, it is understood that the IMF-led structural adjustment programs of the 1990’s were designed to take advantage of women’s unpaid "surplus" labor in family sustenance and social welfare. This kind of exchange—women’s unpaid labor for protection by a "head”—is fundamentally an unequal one, based on domination and subordination, and cannot be handled in the same way that male-dominated production is handled. Similarly, exchanging women’s unpaid labor for improved macroeconomic performance has been central to the economic model from the start.

In this way, the economic model as practiced today no:

only ignores women’s economic, political, and social behavior, but also excludes them as equal players by its definition of the “individual” as Economic Man. The result is that much of women’s work continues to be unrecognized, unpaid, and voluntary, as it is also in paid employment. It is in fact more difficult for women to achieve equal status as individual indifference or the central agent of an economic model, which is embedded in and a product of patriarchal cultures.

The Global Society Model

The concept of the good in the economic model is private goods. It accepts that the basic competitive model of utility-maximizing individuals and profit-maximizing behavior of companies will automatically, through the price of an impersonal system of trade, distribute goods in a just way. In contrast, the Global Society Model recognizes that the nature of the individual is self-interested and self-maximizing to maximize individual welfare and the social interest to exist in social and political realms as well as economic. Individuals are capable of, and have a need for, loyalty and emotional attachments in relationships. They live in and through institutions and reach their fullest potential through participation in institutions. It is in their individual self-interest to participate, as an individual, as a member of a community, as a citizen of the marketplace, a citizen of a polis, a tending independent decision-making as well as membership in political groups, and a social member of various communities. The participant is all of these and more as a member of the larger, or global, human society.

The Global Society Model also recognizes that there is a community in its largest, most encompassing perspective—a global village or society. The various spheres of human activity—the market, the polis, and the community—all exist in a spirit of cooperation for the common good. This is indeed possible because these spheres are recognized as socially constructed or, as traditionally phrased, "man-made." Competition may exist at the lower levels of activity but the overarching theme is cooperation. This integrated system operates through coordination. All component parts must be in harmony with the overall goal of the common good, or it is self-defeating.

Public policy is not an "intervention" but an ever-present process of the global society. It is essential to organize and structure the various spheres so that they serve the common good as a condition of survival and objective of democracy. It would be unthinkable that the economic sphere, for example, might ever be considered an independent, automatic entity separate from the overall goals of the larger society.

How does the Global Society Model operate in practice? It

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Perspectives

November 2001

Global Society (cont’d from page 8)

uses various methods of philosophy, reasoning (deduction, induction, and analog) communication, contemplation, critical thinking, public discourse and debate in the active generation of justified truth for the broader community. Critical policy analysis makes this framework function by seeking a rational normative consensus. This critical policy analysis process requires policies that are widespread and effective participation in policy debate. Individuals are able to participate through organizations and institutions. The role of the analyst is to improve the level of debate and to make sure that it is inclusive.

In the case of Indonesia’s experience during the Asian economic crisis, for example, the development policy imposed by the international economic community emphasized reducing the government’s involvement in price supports, job generation, and support services. This was done without consultation with or input from those directly affected, namely poor women, thereby aggravating further their life circumstances. The Global Society approach would have been with the collective needs of the most disadvantaged—poor women, and would have identified means to mitigate distress rather than rescuing powerful economic interests that had engendered the collapse.

The Global Society Model offers a broader holistic perspective by recognizing that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, and this view is central and meaningful to policy design. It considers participation to be productive and valued individuals, citizens, and members of a common human society. The Global Society model is morally binding, with a sense of individual and community responsibility and accountability. Yet, it is not idealistic but realistic, reflecting the needs of the multi-dimensional aspects of life. It is sensitive to distribution issues, and to gender issues. It normatively recognizes society should be unity of communities rather than divided by differences, and bound by the actions and outcomes of the interests of individuals, groups, and communities. This approach might be criticized as too morally demanding and for not giving enough attention to individual (male) self-interest. In fact, it recognizes many forms of self-interest, one of which is the individual’s interest in participation in the family and community.

Unlike the Economic Model, the Global Society Model more accurately reflects the experiences of the global economy and the realities of the global village and human life therein. It is needed to deal with the prospects and consequences of human life here on earth in the immediate future. The Global Society Model is a viable, integrative framework that serves as a critical tool in the debilitating outcomes of the dominant economic interventionist model. More than that, this perspective may be essential to ensure the dignified survival of life on Spaceship Earth.

Bibliography


IFPRI Director General Wins 2001 World Food Prize

Per Pinstrup-Andersen, Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC, has been selected to receive the 2001 World Food Prize on October 18, 2001. The prize was conceived by Nobel prize winner Norman Borlaug as the equivalent of a Nobel prize for food. This award recognizes a lifetime of achievement in food policy research to help poor and malnourished people in developing countries. For nearly a decade, Per Pinstrup-Andersen has led IFPRI. Under his leadership, the Institute has become the world’s leading think-tank on hunger issues, contributing groundbreaking research on a number of food policy fronts.
Gender and Development in the Peace Corps
by Ben Hafle

During my last year as an undergraduate here at the University of Illinois, I worked as a research assistant for the WGGP Program. After graduation I served as a Peace Corps Volunteer, spending two academic years in Guinea, West Africa, where I taught mathematics to junior secondary students and helped my community to construct a six-classroom elementary school. I was fortunate to have this experience after reading so much about development as an undergraduate. Of course, there’s nothing like experience.

The Peace Corps has a large Gender and Development (GAD) program. One of the most effective parts of the GAD program in Guinea is the annual Girls’ Conference, where Volunteers bring girls from the junior secondary and secondary levels to meet one of the four regional capitals. There they meet with other girls from the region as well as professional women and most of the Peace Corps Volunteers in the region. Each day there are programmed activities which develop the themes of girls’ health, education, stereotypes, and sex-education.

I was struck by the disparity in education between males and females in my town in Guinea. I lived and worked in Sanguinea, an under-prefecture capital in the middle of Upper Guinea, which is generally the least developed of the four regions. Over the past twenty years, the proportion of girls and boys entering into the first grade has slowly equalized, and yet by the time girls reach tenth grade, they make up at most 15 or 20 percent of the class. The high dropout rate among girls has much to do with the culture of the area. Girls are allowed to go to school, and even encouraged to go to school by the government, they are still viewed among the vast majority of the local population as essentially inferior to men. If a girl is allowed to go to school, she is still responsible for all their household duties, including cooking meals, cleaning, chopping firewood, and taking care of their family’s children. The boys endure a less rigorous schedule, except during planting season, which occurs over a four month break in school.

In addition to supporting a far more demanding workload outside the classroom, girls are usually convinced that they are mentally inferior by the time that they reach first grade. Girls are much more reserved than boys and often sit in the back of the class, avoiding questions if possible. When asked to respond to questions, many of them will simply look at the floor until the teacher calls on another student. In many cases, the girls have been passed along simply for the sake of encouragement. Because of this, many of them are not proficient enough in French to communicate effectively. Only rarely does a girl from Sanguinea pass the national entrance exams into the 11th grade.

Part of the problem is that the girls’ education is often interrupted because of insufficient classroom space. This is why building the school was an exciting project for me.

WGGP Executive Committee Members, 2001-02

Congratulations to newly elected Committee Members:
Mary Arvizo-Kennings: Agricultural and Consumer Economics; Pradeep Dhillon, Educational Policy Studies; Marianne Ferber, Economics/Women’s Studies; Jacquitta Hill, Educational Psychology/Anthropology; Parnak Mirafrah, Urban and Regional Planning; Judith Pinter, Sociology; Isabel Wong, Institutional and Faculty International Collaboration; Mary Hebbrock, Curriculum and Instruction; Zakia Salim, Sociology; and Maria Isabel Silva, Communications Research.

Continuing Members: Winifred Poster, Sociology; Cynthia Radding, History; Angharad Valdivia, Communications Research.

Ex-Officio Members: Jacqueline Kahn, Women’s Studies; and Sue Searing, Women and Gender Resources Library.

WGGP Office Members: Gale Summerfield and Kathy Martin.

WGGP Research Assistants: Aida Orgocca, Human and Community Development; Varsha Venugopaul, Urban and Regional Planning; and Suzanne Wilson, Human and Community Development.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

The Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID) presents
The 9th International Forum on Women’s Rights and Development: Reinventing Globalization
October 3-6, 2002
Guadalajara, Mexico

The 9th International AWID Forum, October 3-6, 2002 in Guadalajara, Mexico will take an innovative approach to this central question. We’ll go beyond the all too familiar critique of globalization to examine what we really see as alternatives and how we translate these alternative visions into realities.

The AWID Forum is more than just a conference. It is a unique opportunity for the global women’s movement to assess their successes and failures and forge new strategies. At the Forum we will ask ourselves how we can work more effectively, what new strategies are needed and are really good practices. This is why the Forum is unique and necessary for the ongoing struggle for women’s rights, empowerment and social justice.

Mark your calendar for 3-6 October, 2002, be sure to register early and start making arrangements to attend.

The Call for Participation is an invitation to development practitioners, researchers, human rights specialists, activists, policy makers, representatives from multilateral and bilateral agencies, students and business people to submit their proposals for the AWID Forum. The AWID International Planning Committee comprised of renowned feminists is soliciting proposals from around the world that can effectively tackle some of the toughest questions emerging from this new global order.

Participation options include workshops, creative sessions, debates, poster sessions and skills-building sessions.

AWID invites submissions in the following five cross-cutting sub-thematic areas:
- Women’s Rights and Economic Change
- Feminist Organizational Development
- Young Women and Leadership
- Gender Equality and New Technologies
- Women’s Rights and the New Global Order

For a full version of the Call for Participation, including submission guidelines, please see our website at http://www.awid.org or send us an e-mail at forum@awid.org. Remember that the deadline to submit presentation proposals is December 31st, 2001.

8th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women
Kampala, Uganda, July 21-26, 2002

The 8th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women will be held at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, on July 21-26, 2002. Its central theme will be an assessment of progress for women and women’s studies over the past few decades: “Gendered Worlds, Gains and Challenges.” The goal of the meeting is to promote cross-cultural discussion. With academic in many fields and professionals working in organizations concerned with women and gender issues, the Congress has met every three years since 1981, most recently in Norway, but this is the first time it has convened in an African country. Uganda is known for the progress it has made in women’s emancipation and gender mainstreaming and for its strong women’s movements. The Congress is being hosted by the Department of Women and Gender Studies at Makerere University, the first such department in Africa. Participants may stay in hotels downtown or dormitories on the campus, located on an attractive hillside on the edge of Kampala. Kampala is served by non-stop flights to nearby Entebbe airport from London, Brussels, and Cairo. English is Uganda’s official language and the main language for the Congress. For more information, check their website: www.makerere.ac.ug/womenstudies or write to: The Coordinator, Women’s Worlds 2002 Department of Women and Gender Studies Makerere University P.O. Box 7062 Kampala Uganda
GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Rita And Arnold Goodman Fellowship

The Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellowship supports graduate students at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign who are preparing to work in the field of women, gender, and international development on such issues as literacy, reproductive rights, political participation, economic security, child welfare, and environmental protection.

In selecting recipients, preference will be given to students whose work promises to make a significant practical contribution to the improvement of women’s lives and gender equity in the developing world. Award: One award of up to $6,000 plus tuition and fee waiver will be made for the 2002-03 academic year. In addition, Goodman Fellows are honored as featured presenters at a WGGP Seminar in April of the year of the award, and an abbreviated version of their presentation is published in the WGGP Perspectives Newsletter.

The Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellowships are awarded for a one-year term, but recipients may apply for renewal for a second year of support. Eligibility: 1. Be currently or newly accepted graduate students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 2. Be preparing for a career in the areas targeted by the Fellowship. 3. Be enrolled in the Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) concentration offered by the WGGP program at the masters and doctoral levels. 4. Have demonstrated academic excellence. Applications should include: 1. An application form, available by contacting the WGGP program or online at http://www.ipr.uic.edu/wggp/2. A personal statement (five double-spaced pages or about 1,500 words) explaining the applicant’s research plans, qualifications, and career goals; 3. A current curriculum vitae; 4. Transcripts. 5. Three letters of reference. Submit materials to WGGP, 320 International Studies Building, 910 S. Fifth St., Champaign, IL 61820. Deadline: February 15, 2002.

Kathleen Cloud International Research Fund

Competition for dissertation grants is open to graduate students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Graduate students selecting the Gender Relations in International Development Concentration (GRID) offered by the Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program (WGGP) are eligible to apply for grants of up to $1,500 for dissertation related research expenses outside the United States. The dissertation should address issues of women, gender, and international development. To apply submit an application form (available from WGGP Office), a proposal of the research project, one letter of reference, and a budget including other funding applied for or received. Submit materials to WGGP, 320 International Studies Building, 910 S. Fifth St., Champaign, IL 61820 Deadline: February 15, 2002.

Grants (continued from page 12)

Grant Opportunity: Global Fund for Women

The Global Fund for Women works to strengthen women’s organizations outside the United States by providing small, flexible, and timely grants in general support ranging from $500 to $15,000.

The fund supports organizations that demonstrate a commitment to women’s equality and female human rights; show concern about the way women are viewed and view themselves in society; are governed and directed by women; consist of a group of women working together (the fund does not accept requests from individuals); and are based outside of the United States.

The fund accepts grant requests in any language, and applications may be handwritten or typed and sent by mail, fax, or email.

The Global Fund for Women also supports the Preston Education Fund for Girls, which supports schools, teacher training, curricula programs, locally based community organizations, non-governmental organizations, local women’s associations, and women’s rights organizations, and coalitions focused on the issue of girls education.

See the GPW web site at http://www.globalfundforwomen.org/ for complete application guidelines.

Deadline: Open.

Contact:
Global Fund for Women
1375 Sutter Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, California 94109
Tel: (415) 202-7640
Fax: (415) 202-8604
Email: grants@globalfundforwomen.org

Funding for Research and Training on Issues of Global Security and Cooperation

The Global Security and Cooperation Program of the Social Science Research Council is pleased to announce two new funding opportunities for research and training on the underlying causes and conditions of conflict and insecurity. There are no citizenship or nationality requirements.

Grants for Research Collaboration in Conflict Zones: Applications are invited from teams of researchers working or living in a zone of widespread or intractable violent conflict for short research projects of 4-6 months in length. Each team must have a designated team leader with at least 3 years of professional experience. Maximum award: $12,000. Deadline: February 1, 2002.

Research Fellowships for Professionals Working in International Affairs: Applications are invited from practitioners (NGO professionals, activists, journalists, lawyers, etc.) to conduct a research and writing project for 8-18 months under the supervision of an academic mentor in a university or research institute. A significant piece of writing is expected as a result. Applicants should have 5-15 years of experience working in issues related to international security and cooperation. Maximum award: $38,000 per year. Deadline: December 3, 2001.

Postdoctoral Fellowships on Global Security and Cooperation:

Applications are invited from students working towards the Ph.D. or equivalent for a two-year fellowship. The first year must be spent working at a non-governmental, international or multilateral organization involved in peace and security issues outside the applicant’s country of residence. The second year must be spent conducting a research project related to that experience. Maximum award: $19,000 per year. Deadline: December 3, 2001.

For more information and application forms please contact GSC at: The Social Science Research Council, Global Security & Cooperation Program, 810 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10019, Email: gsc@ssrc.org; Web: www.ssrc.org.

Tel: 212-377-2700; Fax: 212-377-2727.

NCRW Fellowship:


JOBS OPENINGS

Oxfam, Great Britain
Regional Policy Officer (Equity, Gender and Diversity)

Description: Oxfam works with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering. It is now seeking a Regional Policy Officer (Equity, Gender and Diversity) for the Eastern Europe, Former Soviet Union, Russia, Middle East Region. As a member of the Eastern Europe, Former Soviet Union, Russia and Middle East regional team, this new post will play a role in the development of programme direction, quality and impact working closely with regional programme staff, and concentrating on the role programme within the region. Base is flexible but within the region. Salary dependent on base, if Oxford: 20,100 to 25,950 per annum and taxable. Contract: 2 years.

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Responsibilities include: advice and development on planning, programme development and impact assessment; research for policy advocacy, media and communications; identification of learning and development opportunities.

Qualifications: You will have proven experience in related research; a good understanding of the relationship and issues around strategies for achieving basic rights, and their links between basic services, gender, social and environmental issues; good advocacy techniques; excellent conceptual and analytical skills, effective communication skills and a sound understanding of the development and relief context. To Apply: For further details and an application form contact Regional HR Administrator, Regional Management Centre for Eastern Europe, Former Soviet Union, Russia, Middle East, Oxfam GB, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX27DZ, or email lorie.sumer@oxfam.org.uk quoting the job title. Website: http://www.oxfam.org.uk.

Closing date: November 30, 2001

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist
GroupBasics
Washington, DC, USA

Description: GroupBasics, a majority woman-owned, Internet-based Application Service Provider (ASP) designed to integrate information technology into managing large-scale international projects, seeks a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. Responsibilities: Consult clients and project stakeholders to enhance project effectiveness and integrate IT based management systems into the project management and evaluation structure. Requirements: Five years experience in project management, design, monitoring and evaluation; experience in developing countries; proven data analysis and report writing skill; proven ability to work effectively with funding agencies and with administrative and technical personnel internationally, and Master’s degree in International Studies or related discipline. To Apply: Send resume or curriculum vitae and a cover letter, including specific qualifications for the position and salary history to: GroupBasics, 2900 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Apt. 239, Washington, DC 20008; or email: groupbasics2@hotmail.com. (cross-posted from "Expat's List" of itopica.com)

Operations Manager, Strategies for Advancing Girls Education (SAGE)
Academy for Educational Development
Washington, DC, USA

The Organization: SAGE is an activity of USAID’s Global Women in Development (G/WID) office that provides technical and training assistance in girls’ primary education to USAID Missions worldwide. SAGE has field offices in Mali, Guinea, Ghana, Congo and El Salvador. SAGE seeks to move from dialogue on girls’ education to the implementation of locally-derived solutions that engage the support of all sectors of society. Responsibilities: supervision of administrative and operational support; management backstopping; and contractual oversight; collaboration on new program development and design as well as participating in operational monitoring of the Center for Gender Equity are additional expectations of the position. Salary range: $40,000-$55,000. Qualifications: Masters in Education, Gender Studies or related field; minimum five years’ experience as a manager of large-scale educational projects in developing countries; especially projects supporting girls’ education; experience in USAID commodity procurement and contracting; demonstrated knowledge of contract, program, and implementation issues associated with USAID project designs, including budgeting, communication and personnel; fluency in written and spoken English and a second language, preferably French. To Apply: Interested candidates send resume with cover letter (referring to position #KV1219) to: AED/RPR, 1325 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009. FAX: 202-844-8413. We thank all applicants for their interest in AED; however, only individuals selected for interviews will be contacted. Website: sage.aed.org. Deadline: Until filled.

Source: AWD ResourceNet

LITERATURE AND RESOURCES

WGCP 20th Anniversary Symposium Papers on Risk and Rights in 21st Century
Published

Selected papers from the Risks and Rights in the 21st Century Symposium (October 2000) sponsored by the Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program at the University of Illinois are presented in a special issue of the International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society, Fall 2001.

"The collection begins with an analysis of financial crises as systemic risks generated by a global economy, the gender aspects of crises and their management; and a discussion of policies that protect women’s capabilities during crises (Aslanbegi and Summerfield). A set of four papers then addresses growing employment risks from changing work patterns and the informalization of jobs (Beneria); the effects of globalization on the migration of women for paid work, linking women’s work as maids, sex workers, and export processing plant workers (Pyh); worker rights in different divisions of transnational corporations (Poster); and historical perceptions of the relation between employment risks and changing technologies (Radding). The next set of papers examines policies for protecting human security by supporting gender-equity in access to education (Arendts-Kuenning and Aim) and housing (Misharab) as well as the translation of organizational skills developed in civil war into the struggle for rights through NGOs in post-conflict politics (Blumberg). The last set of papers explores the promises and realities of democratization. Montecino examines the gains and disappointments of women’s groups in Latin America and suggests a new approach for engaging with the technocratic elites who dominate the new democratic governments. Razavi contrasts changes in Brazil and Chile with developments in Uganda and South Africa, juxtaposing state feminism with alternative routes to political power that are used effectively by women in a variety of countries. The challenge of the current period, which exhibits divergent trajectories for different parts of the world, is to design policies that minimize exclusionary and gender biases, at the same time providing basic rights and offsetting inherent systemic risks. The papers that follow respond to this challenge by examining gender aspects of the changes produced by globalization. The authors examine an array of current policies that address these changes and suggest alternatives designed to improve gender equity and expand capabilities."

-IJPCS, Introduction, p. 6. [journal is available in WGCP Research Room]

NEW JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

WGCP has subscribed to two journals: Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism is an interdisciplinary journal whose goal is to provide a forum for scholarship and creative work by and about women of color in the U.S. and international contexts. The journal is a collaborative venture of Smith College and Wesleyan University and is published twice a year by Wesleyan University Press. International Migration Review is a quarterly periodical presenting sociological, demographic, economic, historical, and legislative aspects of human migration and refugees. Both journals are available in the WGCP Research Room, 323 International Studies Building.

November 2001