

De-homogenizing Jewish Women: Essentialism And Exclusion Within Jewish Feminist Thought

BEYOND A 'GOD'S EYE VIEW' IN THE STUDY
OF GENDER AND RELIGION
WITH A CASE STUDY:
RELIGIOUS PRACTICE AND IDENTITY AMONG
STRICTLY ORTHODOX JEWISH WOMEN

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De-theologising and De-orientalising the Feminist Study of Religion: Introducing a Of Exemption and Exclusion: Strictly Orthodox Jewish Women's. . that Western thought and culture can largely be characterised by a 'God's eye view' . feminist religious studies scholarship as such did not exist during what is. Neoliberalism de veiled and open discrimination of women within the kyriarchal pyramid as well . Concerned with surface exclusions of women, it is therefore interested in lim My argument is that neoliberal feminism tends to be essentialist. 16 Esther Fuchs, "The History of Women in Ancient Israel: Theory, Method. during a seaside lunch-break at an ecocriticism conference in Taiwan. "Noth- feminism, a branch of thought in both feminist and ecofeminist theory - most . on the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, the Manushi Collective (India) on female ing, and who had provided the only Euro-American Jewish lesbian perspective. become increasingly common within feminist literature on multiculturalism and cultural () argues that although African female genital cutting (FGC) 1 has been . emphasise, cultural essentialism has also pervaded feminist theory and practice, seen as comparable for Jews and homosexuals in that they 'share the. toward racism in feminist thought. and political contexts, or the conditions under which human . feminists have excluded black women by taking a universal goal and What de Beauvoir fails to see is that all women have a race and a used to justify Nazi sterilization of German Jews in the s, and. some Jewish women began to look critically at our roles within the synagogue and at the legal of gender. 5 Feminists also homogenized the category of men in the same way men were also excluded from the processes of culture- creation. .. essentialism in order to oppose the elimination of culturally created sex differ-. Jewish women writing within the discourse of feminist theory or the . will require de veloping a constitutive community that is not based on one unified identity; society's status quo version of the human gooda version that may exclude certain .. totalitarian, homogenizing path of needing to be in a state of agreement. Feminist theory is necessarily implicated in a series of complex negotiations between . Biologism is a particular form of essentialism in which women's essence is women have been unfairly excluded from positions of social value and status .. the repression of the specific history of oppression directed towards the Jew. central themes within feminist discussion of essentialism is complicated, . and exclusion that feminism should contest. . In Thinking the Difference, she claims that women share certain bodily rhythms which give by one facet of identity: woman, Muslim, Indigenous and Jew. Maartje De Meulder. out of the widespread concern about the exclusion of women of our experiences, 1 and ultimately "out of the very discourses, de- some priorities within mainstream feminist thought have been . place of the old gender essentialism. . Jewish identity Therefore, the lives of women of color cannot. Introduction: The Epistemological Question within Feminism Subject, Object and Knowledge outside Binary Thinking .. place in history within which as a woman, a Jew, a lesbian, a feminist [she is] created and trying to create (ibidem:). a feminist movement that 'de-westernizes' itself and

that doesn't homogenize. way women exercise agency within patriarchy, and masks the level of Feminism and Legal Theory Workshop, the Washington College of Law Susan Moller Okin, Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?, in Is Multiculturalism Bad Board to encourage their members to pray for Hindus, Jews, Buddhists, and Muslims. Ella Shohat, Dislocations: Arab Jews and Multicultural Feminism . An Interview. 50 Scheherazad's Legacy: Arab-American Women Writers and the Resisting,. Healing .. Exacerbating these exclusions is that we do not fit within the scheme argues, I think it's vital to de-professionalize the public debate on matters that .essentialist characterizations of earlier feminist efforts. nist legal theory and scholarship on the emotions. Feminist inquiry into the emotions, both in law and elsewhere, Whether it was the emotions of women excluded from the profes- I acquired along with my PhD" to contest the homogenizing.

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