



CALL FOR PAPERS

Demeter Press

is seeking submissions for an edited collection

Chasing Rainbows: Exploring Gender Fluid Parenting Practices

Co-Editors: Fiona Green and May Friedman

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Feminist parenting creates unique challenges. Mothers may struggle with shifts in their own subjectivity and the peculiar conjoinment of parenthood. As women experience the unique powerlessness of motherhood, they also hold the uncomfortable power of acting as agents of socialization and social control over their children. Fathers may feel the desire for feminist parenting while experiencing a backlash and a lack of support, while some parents may attempt to resist the binaries of mothering and fathering in their feminist parenting journey.

Feminist parents may attempt to resist gender binaries; they may submit to them while attempting to foster critical dialogue; they may struggle with the display of their own femininity and masculinity or, for some, its perceived lack. For some parents a dialogue about gender normativity may be inspired by gender-diverse behavior on the part of their own children, while others may parent children who happily submit to the mainstream and query the need for gender questioning. *Chasing Rainbows: Exploring Gender Fluid Parenting Practices* attempts to cast a lens on the messy and convoluted ways that feminist parents approach parenting their children in gender aware and gender fluid ways. The collection aims to draw together scholars, activists and community members to open a conversation about the challenges of exploring and maintaining an awareness of gender while parenting in a highly gender normative world.

Because gender is expressed and performed differently in various places and spaces, and across different ages, this collection welcomes submissions from feminist parents and from the widest range of experiences.

Possible approaches may include (but are not limited to):

- Cross-cultural, historical, transnational, comparative and interdisciplinary modes of inquiry and analysis
- Gender fluid parenting within and beyond cisgendered mother and father parenting roles
- The challenges and gifts of affective/psychic/embodied transformations of gender fluid parenting
- Media representations and spectacles of gender fluid/diverse/variant families
- Alternative visual and artistic depictions of gender variant socialization in/of family life
- Racialization of gender variant parenting/family discourses
- Gender diverse self-help parenting texts
- Community based gender variant/diverse/fluid family activism and organizing
- Commodification of gender fluid and gender variant families
- Practical and theoretical ways of complicating and shaping fluid gender expression
- Broad social and historical forces that impact what can be done and said in the name of gender diverse families

Submission Guidelines

Abstracts should be 250 words. Please also include a brief biography (50 words) with citizenship. Please send to: may.friedman@ryerson.ca, Ryerson University, 350 Victoria St., Toronto, ON M5B 2K3 and f.green@uwinnipeg.ca, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3T 1M5.

Deadline for Abstracts is March 15, 2012 & Deadline for Acceptances is May 15, 2012.

Accepted papers not exceeding 15 pages (3750 words) will be due February 15, 2013 and should be formatted according to MLA guidelines. The book is to have 50 percent Canadian content, so Canadian contributors are especially encouraged to submit.

Demeter Press

140 Holland St. West, PO 13022

Bradford, ON L3Z 2Y5 Tel: (905) 775-9089

www.demeterpress.org / info@demeterpress.org