



UNRISD CLASSICS  
V O L . I I



## Gendered Dimensions of Development

Compiled and introduced by **Silke Staab** and **Shahra Razavi**



**UNRISD**  
United Nations Research Institute for Social Development



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## About the Cover Art

*The Silent One* by Dubai-based artist Sana Jamlaney (India, 1984) is part of a series of four paintings. “I paint portraits of the society I live in,” she says, “it is impossible not to be affected by and respond to it. The topics highlighted by UNRISD resonated with me. They evoked many themes and issues I grapple with on a regular basis, in both my daily life and my artwork.”

With each painting in this series the artist has aimed to portray a segment of society in contemporary India, a multifaceted perspective of women with a strong voice, but one which may be silenced by social structures. Says Jamlaney: “This series doesn’t just discuss the circumstances that befall these women, but also articulates the fact that these women’s plight often falls on deaf ears; in their own homes, in the government, and in institutions constructed by their own society.” UNRISD has selected this vibrant, energetic, powerful work to convey the importance of giving expression to the unheard, ignored, excluded voices.

The UNRISD *Visions of Change* call encouraged creative thinkers from all over the world to submit artwork illustrating key social development values and themes of equity, sustainability, inclusion, and progressive social change.

## About UNRISD

The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the United Nations system that undertakes multidisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. Through our work, we aim to ensure that social equity, inclusion and justice are central to development thinking, policy and practice.

UNRISD depends entirely on voluntary contributions from national governments, multilateral donors, foundations and other sources. The Institute receives no financial support from the regular budget of the United Nations. In supporting UNRISD, our donors contribute to the crucial but often neglected goal of assuring a diversity of views and voices on development issues at the highest level in the global system.

UNRISD gratefully acknowledges support from its institutional and project donors. For details, see [www.unrisd.org/funders](http://www.unrisd.org/funders).

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# Contents

<i>Acronyms/Abbreviations</i>	v
<i>Foreword: No Shortcuts to Realizing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>	
Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka	xi
<i>Note from UNRISD Director: UNRISD Classics: Celebrating 50 Years of UNRISD Research for Social Change</i>	
Sarah Cook	xiii
<i>Introduction: Gendering Development, Engendering Change: Past Research and Present Challenges</i>	
Silke Staab and Shahra Razavi	1
<b>PART I: GENDERING DEVELOPMENT: INSTITUTIONS, POLICIES, PROCESSES</b>	<b>11</b>
<i>Chapter 1: Is There a Crisis in the Family?</i>	
Henrietta Moore (1994)	13
<i>Chapter 2: Gender Justice, Human Rights and Neoliberal Economic Policies</i>	
Diane Elson (2002)	37
<i>Chapter 3: Policy Discourses on Women's Land Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Implications of the (Re)turn to the Customary</i>	
Ann Whitehead and Dzodzi Tsikata (2003)	65
<i>Chapter 4: Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment and Social Policy: Gendered Connections</i>	
Shahra Razavi and Ruth Pearson (2004)	103
<i>Chapter 5: Secondary Education in the Indian State of Uttar Pradesh: Gender Dimensions of State Policy and Practice</i>	
Jyotsna Jha and Ramya Subrahmanian (2006)	125
<i>Chapter 6: Mothers at the Service of the New Poverty Agenda: The PROGRESA/Oportunidades Programme in Mexico</i>	
Maxine Molyneux (2006)	143
<i>Chapter 7: Governing Women or Enabling Women to Govern: Gender and the Good Governance Agenda</i>	
Anne Marie Goetz (2008)	167
<i>Chapter 8: South Africa: A Legacy of Family Disruption</i>	
Debbie Budlender and Francie Lund (2012)	183
<i>Chapter 9: Why Care Matters for Social Development</i>	
UNRISD (2010)	201
<b>PART II: ENGENDERING CHANGE: AGENCY, STRATEGY, EMPOWERMENT</b>	<b>209</b>
<i>Chapter 10: Women in Popular Movements: India and Thailand during the Decade for Women</i>	
Gail Omvedt (1986)	211
<i>Chapter 11: Citizenship and Identity: Final Reflections</i>	
Elizabeth Jelin (1990)	249
<i>Chapter 12: From WID to GAD: Conceptual Shifts in the Women and Development Discourse</i>	271
Shahra Razavi and Carol Miller (1995)	271
<i>Chapter 13: Missionaries and Mandarins: Feminist Engagement with Development Institutions—An Introduction</i>	311
Carol Miller and Shahra Razavi (1998)	311
<i>Chapter 14: Reproductive and Sexual Rights: Charting the Course of Transnational Women's NGOs</i>	
Rosalind P. Petchesky (2000)	331
<i>Chapter 15: The Conditions and Consequences of Choice: Reflections on the Measurement of Women's Empowerment</i>	379
Naila Kabeer (1999)	379
<i>Chapter 16: The Quest for Gender Equality</i>	430
Gita Sen (2006)	430

## Tables

Table 1.1: Expenditure levels for different categories of female- and male-headed households in Ghana	21
Table 1.2: Consumption and remittance levels for different categories of female- and male-headed households	22
Table 1.3: Marriage rates for males, 1960s and 1980s, United States	27
Table 5.1: Gross enrolment ratios at secondary level (grades IX to XII)	128
Table 5.2: Crude drop-out rates and proportion of repeaters	128
Table 5.3: Crude transition rates for different levels of school education (1998/1999 to 1999/2000)	128
Table 5.4: Gender-wise pass percentages for grades X and XII	129
Table 5.5: Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) at different stages of school education	129
Table 5.6: Expenditure on school education by levels (million rupees)	130
Table 5.7: Percentage distribution between plan and non-plan expenditures on elementary and secondary education	132
Table 5.8: Expenditure <sup>a</sup> per student at elementary and secondary education levels	132
Table 5.9: Percentage distribution of secondary schools by management	134
Table 5.10: Number of examinees and pass percentages in different types of schools (grade X and grade XII examinations, 2002)	134
Table 5.11: Growth of schools	136
Table 5.12: Annual growth rate for the number of institutions at different school levels	136
Table 8.1: South African household composition, 2005	185
Table 8.2: Living arrangements of children aged 0–17 years, 2002–2008	187
Table 8.3: HIV/AIDS prevalence rates among women and men in South Africa, 2000 and 2007	189
Table 14.1: A feminist report card on the Cairo Programme of Action	347
Table 15.1: Comparison of female mobility in public domain in two Nepalese villages	398
Table 15.2: Statistically significant determinants of achievement variables	402

## Figures

Figure 9.1: The care diamond	203
Figure 9.2: Mean time spent per day on SNA work and extended SNA work	204

## Boxes

Box 1.1: Female headship and poverty	21
Box 1.2: Internal differentiation of female-headed households	22
Box 9.1: UNRISD research on political and social economy of care (2007–2009)	202
Box 9.2 The public-private mix in Argentina and the Republic of Korea	206
Box 14.1 The story of Futhi	341
Box 14.2: Health sector reform (HSR)	358

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When they first see UNRISD Classics, many readers will be taken by the striking cover art. The covers are the winning entries from UNRISD’s 2013 *Visions of Change* competition, coordinated by Jordi Vaqué. We thank everyone who submitted their work, and especially the artists whose work was selected: Ima Montoya (Spain), *De paso* (“Passing”) for Volume I; Sana Jamlaney (India), *The Silent One* for Volume II; and Kuros Zahedi (Iran), *Human Nature* for Volume III. Sergio Sandoval Fonseca produced the covers for the online versions based on an original concept by Jordi Vaqué.

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## Editors' Note

Some changes have been made to standardize the presentation of chapters in this volume. The original texts have been reset to fit the present format. Boxes, figures and tables have been renumbered. There has been some light copyediting, mainly to standardize usage throughout the volumes and in some cases, for clarity.

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