

Gender Studies Presents

# Fun with Dick and Jane

Fun with Dick and Jane



Gender  
and  
Childhood

**Dec. 4–6, 2014**

Notre Dame Conference Center  
McKenna Hall



UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME

College of Arts and Letters

Gender Studies Presents

# **Fun with Dick and Jane:**

*Gender and Childhood*

**December 4–6, 2014**

McKenna Hall

Notre Dame Conference Center

University of Notre Dame

# Thursday, December 4

**11 a.m.-2 p.m.**      **Registration**      **Atrium**

Refreshments

**12-1:45 p.m.**      **Panel**      **100-104**

## **Gendered Constructions in Literature**

**Chair, Alison Rice**

University of Notre Dame

**Amanda Davis**

University of Chicago

"The Little Lesbian Who Couldn't Be Cured:  
Sexual Orientation in *A Child's Garden*"

**Angeletta KM Gourdine**

Louisiana State University Baton-Rouge

"Nativity, Reproduction and Gendering:  
Maternal Desires and/for *A Perfect Peace*"

**Claire Lenviel**

Ball State University

"Queerifying Gender in *The Member of  
the Wedding*"

**Sharon L. Jones**

Wright State University

"Evoking Childhoods: Interpreting  
Representations of Females in African  
American Women's Poetry"

**2-3:45 p.m.**      **Panel A**      **100-104**

## **Nation, Empire, History**

**Chair, Barbara Brickman**

University of Alabama

**Alison Rice**

University of Notre Dame

"Permissive Parenting: Family Faults and  
Gender Differences Across National and  
Generational Lines"

**Ranu Samantrai**

Indiana University Bloomington

"Decolonization, One Boy at a Time: David  
Mitchell's *Black Swan Green*"

**Bethany Biesinger**

University of Pittsburgh

"Shadow Children: Comparisons of Boyhood  
Identity-Loss in Postcolonial and Colonizing  
Nations"

**Barbara Brickman**

University of Alabama

"A Child Went Forth Every Day: Sideways  
Growth, Gender, and Wartime Childhoods"

**Panel B**      **112-114**

## **Trans Identities and Allegories**

**Chair, Allison McGuffie**

Portland State University

**Nicole Morse**

University of Chicago

"Diverging from Doubt: Identity in *Divergent*  
in the Selfie Era"

**Hannah Dyer**

University of Toronto

"Re-Imagining Psycho-Sexual Development:  
Ethical Encounters with the Child's Question"

**Allison McGuffie**

Portland State University

"Falling Into Pam's World: Fantasy, Pleasure  
and the Figure of the Queer Child in  
*Ma Vie en Rose*"

**Matt Hauske, University of Chicago**

"Savage Innocents: Boyhood and Native  
America in 1950s Westerns"

**4-5:45 p.m.**      **Panel A**      **100-104**

## **The Disney Princess**

**Chair, Jennifer Fleeger**

Ursinus College

**Sarah Nilsen**

University of Vermont

"Animating the Disney Princesses"

**Elizabeth Hoyt**  
Kansas State University  
"The 'Modernity' of Disney: What Do Our Princesses Say About Us?"

**Michael Rennett**  
University of Texas at Austin  
"A Bit of a Fixer Upper: *Frozen's* Alternative Paths to Adulthood"

**Jennifer Fleeger**  
Ursinus College  
"Anthems of Girlhood: Letting Go of the Disney Princess Song"

**Panel B** **112-114**

**Progressive Politics and Children's Literature**

**Chair, Angel Matos**  
University of Notre Dame

**Nancy Vicente**  
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez  
"Children's Banned Books as a Tool to Examine Teachers' Assumptions About Gender Roles"

**Alexandra Coles**  
University of California Santa Barbara  
"You Look Like a Boy: Gendered Representations of Hair Loss in Books for Pediatric Cancer Patients"

**Julie Fette**  
Rice University  
"Feminist Children's Literature in France"

**Robert Bittner**  
Simon Fraser University  
"Bio-boys and Picturebooks: Examining the Proliferation of MTF Characters in Children's Picturebooks with Gender-Variant Themes"

**6 p.m.**

**Dinner Reception**

**Atrium**

**7 p.m.**

**Plenary Session**

**McKenna Auditorium**

**Futures of Childhood Studies**

**Chair, Pamela Robertson Wojcik**

**Daniel Cook**  
Rutgers University-Camden

**Marah Gubar**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Karen Lury**  
University of Glasgow

**Friday, December 5**

**8:30-9 a.m.**

**Continental Breakfast**

**Atrium**

**9-10:45 a.m.**

**Panel A**

**100-104**

**Panel A: Spaces of Childhood**

**Chair, Rebecca Houze**  
Northern Illinois University

**Poonam Sharma**  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences  
"Space of School and Girlhood"

**Eleanor Rivera**  
University of Chicago  
"Constructing Gender: Schoolhouses and Primary Education in 19th Century France"

**Allison Lindner**  
SUNY Stony Brook University  
"Resisting the Properly Gendered Child: Subversive Possibilities of Summer Camps for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Children"

**Rebecca Houze**  
Northern Illinois University  
"Erector Set or Dreamhouse? Gendered Toys and the Built Environment in the 20th Century"

**Panel B** **112-114**

**Franchises**

**Chair, Sarah Projansky**  
University of Utah

**Margaret Rossman**  
Indiana University-Bloomington  
"All Hail the Tween: Youth Reception and Failed Hollywood Franchises"

**Sarah Projansky**  
University of Utah  
"Finding Girls and Gender in Media Franchising"

**Karen Orr Vered**  
Flinders University

**Christèle Maizonniaux**  
Flinders University  
"Barbie in the Story of Direct-to-DVD Movies for Girls"

**12:30 p.m.**

**1:30-3 p.m.**

**Panel B** **112-114**

**Investigating Fairy Tales**

**Chair, Susan Ohmer**  
University of Notre Dame

**Nicholas Bennett**  
Loyola University  
"A Gendered Curiosity"

**Lillian Thiemens**  
California State University  
"Princess Powerful: Subverting Gender Roles"

**Lunch**

**Lower level dining room**

**Panel A** **100-104**

**Performing Boyhood**

**Chair, Barbara Green**  
University of Notre Dame

**Susan Alexander**  
Saint Mary's College

**Kelsey Collins**  
Saint Mary's College  
"From Patriotic Troops to Branded Athletes: Hegemonic Masculinity as Depicted in *Boy's Life Magazine*"

**Freden Ouer**  
Tufts University  
"Boyhood Acts: Securing Privilege for Young Men"

**Nathaniel Myers**  
University of Notre Dame,  
"Let's See What You Don't Pee With: Boyhood and the Posthuman in Steven Spielberg's *A.I. Artificial Intelligence*"

**11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Panel A** **100-104**

**Cinematic Engagements**

**Chair, Mary Celeste Kearney**  
University of Notre Dame

**Meredith Bak**  
Rutgers University-Camden  
"Toying with Vision: The Gendered Dimensions of Victorian Visual Amusements"

**Donald Crafton**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Paratexts of the Talkies in Serial Novels"

**Mary Celeste Kearney**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Behind or Before the Camera: Gendered Design in Children's Video Gear"

**Panel B** **112-114**

**Children's Voices**

**Chair, Abigail Palko**  
University of Notre Dame

**Terri Russ**  
Saint Mary's College

**Marne Austin**  
Saint Mary's College  
"Indiana Girls Speak Out: Oral Histories of Hoosier Youth"

**Jessica Hoffman**  
University at Buffalo SUNY

**Mary Nell Trautner**  
University at Buffalo SUNY  
"What Do Children and Adolescents Think About Gender? Stereotypes and Ideologies Among Middle School, High School and College Students"

**Abigail Palko**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Look Who's NOT Talking: The Child as Silenced Subject of the Mommyblog"

**3:15-5 p.m.**

**Panel A** **100-104**

**Gender Variant Parenting**

**Chair, Jessica Collett**  
University of Notre Dame

**Madisson Whitman**  
Purdue University  
"Gender Variant Children and Their Parents"

**Simon Joyce**  
"Gender Identity, Sexuality and Proto-Gay Kids: Reading the Literature on Parenting Gender Variant Children"

**Lauren Jervis**  
York University  
"Parenting the Question Child: A Psychoanalytic Consideration of Gender Education"

**5-6:30 p.m.**

**6:30 p.m.**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Panel B** **112-114**

**Queer Temporalities**

**Chair, Corey Creekmur**  
University of Iowa

**Lauren Riccelli**  
University of Miami  
"Mississippi Blooms at Night: Queer Spaces, Queer Childhoods in Truman Capote's *Other Voices, Other Rooms*"

**Melissa McCoul**  
University of Notre Dame  
"What Dreams May Come: Childhood Temporality and the Dream of Backward Evolution in *Peter Ibbetson*"

**Angel Matos**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Queer Séances: Youth and Temporality in David Levithan's *Two Boys Kissing*"

**Corey Creekmur**  
University of Iowa  
"Girls Now Allowed: Gender and Childhood in the Comics of Jaime Hernandez"

**Creative Salon** **100-104**

**Anne García-Romero**  
University of Notre Dame  
reading excerpts from her play *Girlus Equinus*

**Sarah Edmands Martin**  
University of Notre Dame  
reading from artist's book *The Song of the Sea Demon*

**Dinner** **Lower level dining room**

**Keynote** **McKenna Auditorium**

**Claudia Nelson**  
Texas A&M University  
"The Lady or the Tiger? The Shifting Gender of the Girl Citizen"

# Saturday, December 6

**8:30-9 a.m.**      **Continental Breakfast**      **Atrium**

**9-10:30 a.m.**      **Panel A**      **100-104**

## **Student Presentations**

**Chair, April Lidinsky**  
Indiana University South Bend

**Jennifer Bains**  
Simon Fraser University  
"A King or Queen or Anything In-between"

**Marcilena Shaeffer**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Young Women as Political Creatures:  
Reflections from Young Adult Dystopian  
Literature"

**Rae Moors**  
University of Notre Dame  
"The Default Gendering of Illustrations in  
Children's Books"

**Lesley Stevenson**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Caricatures of Femininity and Flawed  
Feminism in *Mean Girls*"

**Panel B**      **112-114**

## **Cartoons and Illustrations**

**Chair, Angela Sorby**  
Marquette University

**Susan Ohmer**  
University of Notre Dame  
"*Peter Pan* and Children's Book Illustrations"

**Angela Sorby**  
Marquette University  
"Goops on the Cusp of Cuteness"

**Christine Mugnolo**  
University of California Irvine  
"The Nerd in American Adolescence"

**10:45 a.m.-  
12:15 p.m.**

**Panel A**      **100-104**

## **Student Presentations**

**Chair, Abigail Palko**  
University of Notre Dame

**Colton Williamson**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Burgeoning Sexuality in *The 400 Blows*"

**Austin Hagwood**  
University of Notre Dame  
"India's Children: Salman Rushdie, Bapsi  
Sidhwa, and Gendering a Nation's Future"

**Mikala Carpenter**  
University of Michigan  
"Breaking In: Female Intelligence and  
Agency in Fantasy Children's Literature"

**Claire Arnold**  
University of Chicago  
"The Delights of a Plunge Into the Unknown:  
Reimagining Children's Adventure Literature  
in the 19th Century"

**Panel B**      **112-114**

## **Toys and Material Culture**

**Chair, Susan Chang**  
Ministry of Education in Peru

**Elizabeth Sweet**  
University of California, Davis  
"From Little Homemakers to Pink Princesses:  
Gender and Children's Toys in the Late  
20th Century"

**Anthony Amettis**  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
"Disney's Plastic Princesses: Dolls, Costume,  
and Gendered Advertising Rhetoric"

**Mary Hatfield**  
Trinity College Dublin  
"Fashioning Gender: the Material  
Cultures of Boyhood and Girlhood  
in 19th-Century Ireland"

**12:15 p.m.**

**Lunch**

**Lower level  
dining room**

**12:35 p.m.**

**Student video essays**  
screening

**100-104**

**1:15-3 p.m.**

**Panel A**

**100-104**

**Sexuality and Precocity**

**Chair, Pamela Robertson Wojcik**  
University of Notre Dame

**Lauren DeLaCruz**  
Northwestern University  
"Growing Up Girl: Childhood Innocence,  
Girl Power, and Puberty in American  
Girl's Self-Help Books"

**Morgan Blue**  
University of Texas at Austin  
"Girls' Media and the Performance  
of New Femininities"

**Kristen Hatch**  
University of California, Irvine  
"The Kid Everyone Wants to Spank:  
Childhood Precocity and Gender  
Inversion in 1930s Hollywood"

**Pamela Robertson Wojcik**  
University of Notre Dame  
"You Owe Me \$200 Bucks:  
Monetizing Girls' Charm"

## **Panel B: Digital Cultures**

**112-114**

**Chair, Denise Ayo**  
University of Notre Dame

**Denise Ayo**  
University of Notre Dame  
"Controlling Gender with a PlayStation  
Controller: Jill Valentine, Video Games, and  
the Politics of Female Playable Characters"

**Michael Newman**  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
"Boy Culture and Early Video Games"

**Alanna Goldstein**  
York University  
"Towards a Pedagogy of Pornography"

**Leanna Lucero**  
"An Exploration of Social Media Use Among  
Multiply Minoritized LGBTQ Youth"

**3:15-5 p.m.**

**Panel A**

**100-104**

**Who's That Girl?" Girlhood and Popular  
Music in the Age of New Media**  
**Round-table discussion**

**Chair, Diane Pecknold**  
University of Louisville

**Norma Coates**  
University of Western Ontario

**Sarah Dougher**  
Portland State University

**Kyra Gaunt**  
Baruch College

**Mary Celeste Kearney**  
University of Notre Dame

**Jaqueline Warwick**  
Dalhousie University

**Ruth Nicole Brown**  
University of Illinois at  
Urbana-Champaign



**Panel B**

**112-114**

**Queer(ing) Parenting**

**Chair, Melissa McCoul**

University of Notre Dame

**Sarah Stein**

Indiana University South Bend

**Taylor Kohut**

University of Western Ontario

“Sexual Attitudes of Parents Related to Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities Compared to Typically Developing Peers and Siblings”

**Kate Averett**

University of Texas at Austin

“Raising Them to Be Who They Truly Are: LGBTQ Parents Resisting Heteronormative Gender”

**Robinson Murphy**

University of Notre Dame

“Anthropocene’s Children ”

## Sponsors

Department of American Studies

Department of Anthropology

Department of English

Department of Film, Television, and Theatre

Gallivan Journalism Program

Gender Studies Program

Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts,  
Henkels Lecture Fund

Department of Sociology

### **Conference Organizer**

Pamela Robertson Wojcik

### **Conference Coordinator**

Melissa McCoul

### **Conference Liaison**

Lauri Roberts

### **Gender Studies Coordinator**

Linnie Caye

### **Program Committee**

Jessica Collette

Angel Matos

Melissa McCoul

Nathaniel Myers

Robinson Murphy

Abigail Palko

Pamela Robertson Wojcik

## Gender Studies Program

325 O'Shaughnessy Hall

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

574.631.4266

[genderstudies.nd.edu](http://genderstudies.nd.edu)



UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME

College of Arts and Letters