

Co-sponsored by:

**The Department of Gender and Women's Studies,
Saint Mary's College**

**The Women's and Gender Studies Program,
Indiana University South Bend**

**Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts,
University of Notre Dame**

**The Genevieve D. Willis Endowment for Excellence
in Gender Studies, University of Notre Dame**

The Notre Dame Departments:

- **American Studies**
- **Anthropology**
- **Political Science**
- **Psychology**
- **Sociology**

Conference planning committee:

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Ann Marie Short
Jamie Wagman
April Lidinsky**

**The committee is grateful to Lauri Roberts and
Linnie Caye for their administrative assistance.**

New Directions in Gender Studies: 2016

**2nd Biennial Midwest
Undergraduate Conference**

**Hosted by
The University of Notre Dame's
Gender Studies Program**

Friday, February 12

Masculinity and Film – Chair: Prof. Susan Ohmer

Dakota Connell-Ledwon (University of Notre Dame), *The Hammer is (Not Just) My Penis: Masculinity and Physicality in Action/Adventure Movies*
Jack Rooney (University of Notre Dame), *Brave New World? The Newsroom, The Wire and a Contemporary Crisis in Masculinity*
Bailey Scales (University of Notre Dame), “The Bumbling Bachelor” Starring Hugh Grant as Hugh Grant

Transgressing Norms – Chair: Prof. Abby Palko

Alyssa J. Martin (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities), *Woolf and Stein: Androgyny and Biography*
Rachael Schwabe (Loyola University Chicago), *The Fabric of Being: Undressing Gender’s Normativity*
Melissa Monier (University of Michigan-Dearborn), *The Laverne Cox Effect: The Hypersexualization, commodification, and colonization of Transwomen*

Gendered Identity Politics – Chair: Prof. Jamie Wagman

Josie Wenig (Indiana University – Bloomington), *Allo-Gays, Ally Gays: The Future of Radical Asexual Politics*
Eleni Coleman (Denison University), *An Upper-Class White Girl’s Struggle to Maintain Perfection*
Anneliese Steele (Saint Mary’s College), *The Elimination vs. The Preservation of the Gender Binary*

Lunch

Gender and Health Issues – Chair: Prof. Ann Marie Short

Alexis Alvarez (Saint Mary’s College), *The Sex/Gender Ratio in Autism Spectrum Disorders: Identifying Females on the Spectrum*
Stephanie Egyed (Indiana University), *BSDM as a Site of Exposure Therapy: Reimagining Methodologies in Trauma Reduction for Victims of Sexual Assault*
Cristina Hidalgo McCabe (University of Notre Dame), *Intimate Partner Violence in Uganda; Perceptions and Intervention Initiatives*

Gender and the Workplace – Chair: Prof. Mary Celeste Kearney

Megan M. Mull (University of Michigan-Dearborn), *Gender Equity and Women in Law: Lean In or Lean On*
Abbi Hanson (University of Evansville), *Connie Rodd: Smart Sergeant or Pornographic Pinup?*
Pete Freeman (University of Notre Dame), *Training Technopreneurs: Potential Solutions for Improving Female Technopreneurs’ Self-Efficacy in Switzerland*
Hannah Cagle (Wheaton College), *Exclusively Women, Freely Feminine: An Ethnography of Suburban Women Entrepreneurs*

Gender and (Geopolitical) Conflict – Chair: Prof. Sonalini Sapra

Bailey Williams (Northwestern University), *CNN’s Online Depictions of*

Women and ISIS: A Close Analysis in the Wake of the 2015 Paris Attacks
Madeline Corsaro (Saint Mary’s College), *La Malinche: The Silhouette of the Conquest*
Zia Kandler (Oberlin College) and Chelsea Viteri (Clark University), *Women in Resistance: Impacts on Land, Life and Community*
Anna Forringer-Beal (University of Michigan), *Invisible Genders: How Central American Women Migrants Navigate Agency and Vulnerability*

Saturday, February 13

Gender and Politics – Chair: Prof. April Lidinsky

Abigail Bartels (University of Notre Dame), *My Strategy Brings All the Boys to the Yard: an analysis of the gender gap and its impact on the swing vote in American presidential elections*
Taylor Phillips (Ohio Northern University), *Female Lobbyists and Their View on a Gender Gap within the Lobbying Field*
Connor Hayes (University of Notre Dame), *Outing the Party: Irish Political Parties and the Shaping of Activist Behavior in the 2015 Same-Sex Marriage Referendum*

Challenging Masculinity – Chair: Prof. Darlene Hampton

Daniel Bland (University of Notre Dame), *Warrior Culture and Hypermasculinity in Macbeth*
Katherine Will (Loyola University Chicago), *The “Golden Age” of the French Foreign Legion: A Cultural Analysis of the Legion through Film and Memoir Depictions*
Megan McCormack (University of Notre Dame), *Male Fantasy in French Literature from the 18th to 20th Century*

Lunch

Motherhood – Chair: Prof. Stacy Davis

Rebecca Wornhoff (University of Notre Dame), *“There’s No Parent Training”: The Interplay of Medical, North American, and Traditional Parenting Models in Nicaragua*
Lindsay Bean (Purdue University), *Comparing Infant and Maternal Mortality in Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo*
Anne Kuster (University of Notre Dame), *La Mujer Manda: Economic Barriers to Financial Independence amongst Mexican Single Mothers*
Alyssa Santos (Saint Mary’s College), *Pregnancy and the Birth Process in America: Who Really Holds all the Control?*

Women and Empowerment – Chair: Prof. Liz Evans

Elena Barnett (University of Evansville), *“Don’t You ‘Lady’ Me Son. I’m An Avenger”: The Changing Roles of Women in modern Comics*
McKenzie Campbell (University of Michigan), *50 Shades of Agency: The Impact of Fifty Shades of Grey on Sexual Agency in America*
Lesley Stevenson (University of Notre Dame), *“Bad Bitch Mentality”: The Mean Girls of High School Films*