

Programme for Breaking the Frame Women's Gathering

Feminist Library meeting room, 5 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7XW

Saturday 28th March

Food available from 6pm

7-9pm *Rahila Gupta*, 'Pro-choice: all the way to the sex-selection gallows' - on sex selection and abortion, followed by a discussion on the key issues of reproductive technologies in the wider context of gender politics

Followed by informal discussion on gender politics of technology, and how we as women are affected by patriarchal technology – with wine/beer/fruit juice!

Sunday 29th March

11-11.30 *Gail Chester* on Breaking the Frame and the gender and the politics of technology initiative

11.30-12.30 *Jalna Hanmer* and *Stevienna de Saille* on the origins of FINRRAGE, its history and international development, and a radical feminist analysis of reproductive technologies.

12.30-1.45 Lunch break/BTF women's caucus meeting on ways forward, including input into the BTF Summer Gathering in July

1.45-3.15 *Donna Dickenson* and *Kathleen Sloan* (via Skype) on the international surrogacy trade and the commodification of both women and babies.

3.15 Tea break

3.30-5 *Miriam Zoll* (via Skype) on the impact of IVF on women, followed by Q&A and closing discussion

About our speakers

Professor **Donna Dickenson** is the author of *Body Shopping* and *Property in the Body: Feminist Perspectives*. She is the only woman to have won the International Spinoza Lens award for contribution to public debate on controversial ethical issues. Her recent book *Bioethics: All That Matters*, contains a chapter on surrogacy.

Gail Chester is a feminist activist and researcher in the politics of communication. She is on the Breaking the Frame working group, and within the organisation she focuses on the impact of domestic digital technology. She is a member of the Feminist Library management group

Jalna Hanmer is a retired Professor of Women's Studies and has an ongoing involvement in the Feminist Archive North in Leeds.

Miriam Zoll is an award-winning journalist and the author of *Cracked Open: Liberty, Fertility and the Pursuit of High-Tech Babies*, a memoir-expose which addresses the hidden side of the global reproductive technology industry.

Rahila Gupta is a journalist, writer and activist, a longstanding member of the management committee of Southall Black Sisters, and chair of the Nihal Armstrong Trust. With Kiranjit Ahluwalia she wrote *Provoked*, about a battered woman who killed her violent husband, which was released as a film in 2007. Her book, *Enslaved*, on immigration controls, was published in 2007. Her play, *Don't Wake Me: The Ballad of Nihal Armstrong*, has just completed a tour of India.

Stevienna de Saille has been involved with campaigns against the nuclear industry, and for the rights of women and indigenous people (sometimes even all three at once!) She recently completed a PhD on FINRRAGE as an international women's movement, and continues to be interested in the use of women's bodies as raw material for economic growth.