

## ***Editorial***

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Welcome to the final edition of the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Gender Studies*. Because of lack of institutional support JIGS has been struggling for the last three years to meet publication deadlines. Last year the School of Humanities and Social Sciences made the decision to cease publication. This edition is brought to you by volunteers who made time around their other duties to put it together, and I would like to thank the contributors for their patience and Lyn Hunter for helping with the layout.

In this edition you will find three papers on masculinity and three on women's issues. The first two papers examine the reactions of men to illness – physical and mental – and their retreat into interiority. In “Him a’got too much skin” Alexandra Winter looks at the ailing male body and the accompanying loss of personal and social control as explored by Dennis Potter in the television miniseries, *The Singing Detective*. In “Flowers and Manliness” Ann Elias discusses cultural negotiations of manliness and the impact of melancholy on the paintings of three well know Australian artists, Hans Heysen, George Lambert and Arthur Streeton. The third article, “Boys Engaging Masculinities”, also discusses the negotiation of manliness. In this article Wes Imms takes us into the fraught world of teenaged boys as he explores how boys define masculinity and their multi-layered understanding of what it means to be male.

The last three articles cover a variety of women's issues from different periods in Australian history. “Feminism and the Generational Divide” looks at the in-house argument that erupted between feminists following the publication of Helen Garner's book, *The First Stone*. In this article Penelope Robinson uses the social theories of Karl Mannheim to analyse the cross-generational concerns of second and third wave feminists. “Missing Voices About a Foreign Place” examines changes in Queensland's adoption practices between 1960-1990 and their impact on the care of single mothers and their babies. Through in-depth interviews with eighteen midwives Susan Gair and Felicity Croker explore the interrelationship between care giving, changing social attitudes and midwifery practices. In the final article Louie Traikovski surveys an early example of a long running debate, “The Married Woman Worker Debate in the 1920s Australian Press”.

All of these papers reflect the versatile nature of gender studies and the insights interdisciplinary studies can provide.