

Call for contributions: *Feminist Africa* 14 and 15

The theme for *Feminist Africa* 14 and 15 proposes a focus on issues of sexual and reproductive rights, with special interests in three main areas. The first has to do with the ways in which the term “sexual and reproductive rights” has developed within African contexts, and how vital areas of work (such as the on-going battles on violence against women or questions of the right to termination of pregnancy) have been both strengthened and – in some cases – threatened by new formulations of violence and social justice. The tensions between different constituencies (‘rape survivors’, ‘men’, ‘LGBTI groups’, ‘MSM’, ‘teenage mothers’, ‘sex workers’) deserve complex theorisation, within African contexts, and we hope to explore this as one area of concern for *Feminist Africa* 14 and 15.

The second area of interest involves notions of pleasure, agency, innovation and exploration within the terrain of sexuality. This area arises from the need to address an overwhelming sense that African contexts involve only ‘victims’ within the sexual and reproductive zone, and that work around ‘sexual and reproductive rights’ is a matter only of addressing discriminations and prohibition. This second area of interest will lead *Feminist Africa* to include considerations of film, media, music, ICTS and text (fiction, poetry and drama) as well as to explore the complex meanings of ‘pleasure’ and their implications for a feminist theory of sexualities.

The third area of interest involves the need to explore African-based engagements with sexual and reproductive rights with those from the global South. *Feminist Africa* 14 and 15 will include at least one feature article written by Latin American writers, seeking to build linkages between work done through feminist lenses in African contexts and that done within Argentina, Chile and Mexico. There are powerful similarities between some Latin American and some African countries, and alliances between feminist writers within the South can strengthen our perspectives in interesting ways.

Feminist Africa 14 and 15 will also include a focus on NGO (and other) work where strategies for advocacy and activism around sexual and

reproductive rights drive projects and programmes. Here, we will be especially interested in writing that illuminates recent achievements and innovative strategies.

Pieces for consideration (articles, profiles, book reviews, proposals for 'In Conversations') should be sent to agi-feministafrica@uct.ac.za by the end of March 2010.

All pieces sent will be acknowledged.