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ABSTRACT
Noting that the proliferation of discourse by and about the women's movement makes focus imperative in a bibliography dealing with feminism, this annotated bibliography concentrates on rhetorical analysis of American feminist rhetoric. The 42 cited items, most of which appeared in communication journals or were presented at communication conventions, are intended for use by teachers and students of communication interested in understanding feminist discourse. (NKA)

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The proliferation of discourse by and about the women's movement makes focusing imperative in such a bibliography. I have chosen to concentrate on rhetorical analyses of American feminist rhetoric. Thus, although writings about the women's movement appear in a wide range of publications, most of the items included here appeared in communication journals or were presented at communication conventions. This focus seems most useful for teachers and students of communication who are interested in understanding feminist discourse.

Categorizes and analyzes audience images of contemporary women politicians according to temperament (the psychological dimension), role (the sociological dimension), and status (the political dimension).

Analyzes Goldman's agitation as an illustration of the problems a female agitator encounters in a patriarchal society.

Describes how the treatment of suffragists arrested for picketing and other protest strategies were denied their first amendment rights.

Campbell, Karlyn Kohrs. "Femininity and Feminism: To Be or Not to Be a Woman." *Communication Quarterly*, 31 (Spring 1983), 101-08.
Argues that the early and contemporary phases of feminism are one rhetorical movement, typified by an ideological conflict between "womanhood" and "personhood."

Describes women's liberation as an oxymoron because of substantive and stylistic features that distinguish it from other social movements.

The "Solitude of Self" should be understood as a philosophical statement of the ideology of nineteenth-century feminism, which accounts in part for its continuing power.

Mary Baker Eddy's rhetoric had ideological roots in the women's movement, which helped account for its appeal and effectiveness.

The essential dramatic conflict of early feminism was between the "Cult of True Womanhood" and the personhood of all women.

The success as a speaker of Ann Eliza Young, ex-wife of Brigham Young, is attributed to the psychological impact of her anti-polygamy message.


Analysis of the Seneca Falls Convention and the resulting Declaration of Woman's Rights.


Presents a methodology for studying the ideologies of social movements and tests it by comparing the rhetoric of the National Organization for Women, Women's Equity Action League, and The Feminists.


The goals and increased radicalization of the emergence phase of contemporary feminism may have contributed to the failure of the Equal Rights Amendment.


Analysis of Friedan's symbolic redefinition of women's roles in two of her speeches: Tokenism and the Pseudo-Radical Cop-Out and "Call to Women's Strike for Equality."


Feminists approach the issue of sexism in language with a strong Whorfian position (language determines thought) which, while beneficial to the movement in several ways, may cost them credibility.


The failure of supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment to understand the rhetoric and world view of opponents contributed to its defeat.


A fantasy-theme analysis of the rhetoric of opponents and proponents of the Equal Rights Amendment shows little common ground between them for argumentation.

Foss, Sonja K. "Feminism Confronts Catholicism: A Study of the Use of Perspective by Incongruity." Women's Studies in Communication 3 (Summer 1973), 7-16.

An examination and evaluation of the use of perspective by incongruity in two pieces of feminist rhetoric against the policies of the Catholic Church—a speech by J. Grace Atkinson and an essay by Mary Daly.


Describes the formation and characteristics of feminist theatres as a suitable response to the needs of the women's movement.


The Grimké's rhetoric served to develop and sustain their sense of selfhood in the face of strong social norms against women speaking in public.
The strategies of rejection and negation are shown to have a cathartic and affirming outcome for members of the women's movement.

Wright's contribution to the egalitarian ideal are examined through her lectures and speechmaking.

While both the black and women's liberation movements share the basic rhetorical task of redefinition of self, significant differences emerge in terms of (1) the issue of sexism; (2) the nature of the audience; and (3) responses to each movement.

Huyink, Cynthia J. "A Dramatistic Analysis of Sexual Politics by Kate Millett." Women's Studies in Communication, 3 (Summer 1979), 1-6.
Examines Millett's motives for writing Sexual Politics and analyzes the rhetorical strategies she uses to accomplish her purposes.

Wright's failure to adhere to societal norms for women may have lowered her ethos and decreased the effectiveness of her discourse.

Kennedy, Patricia Scileppi, and Gloria Hartmann O'Shields. We Shall Be Heard: Women Speakers in America. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall/Hunt, 1983.
An anthology of women's speeches from 1928-1976, including biographical commentary about each of the women.

Contends that the persuasive appeals of anti-ERA arguments were grounded in a mythic order, which ERA supporters failed to counter. The 1980 referendum to add an ERA to Iowa's constitution is used as a case study.

A comparison of lesbian, reformist, and radical feminist rhetoric reveals that women's liberation is not a unified movement with a single ideology.

Examines substantive and stylistic strategies in Daly's Gym/Ecology and points out difficulties in her utopian vision.

Examination of Shaw's speaking style, speeches, and rhetorical effectiveness.

Examination of the grounds of Shaw's arguments for women's suffrage.

Shows how Duniway's suffrage arguments were based in practicality, freedom and morality.

Discussion of the career, background influences, speaking characteristics, and reactions of the contemporary press to Susan B. Anthony.

McPherson, Louise. "Communication Techniques of the Women's Liberation Front." Today's Speech, 21 (Spring 1973), 33-38. Explores internal (change attitudes) and external (change the societal framework) strategies of the women's movement; concludes that external ones are likely to be more effective than internal ones.


Rossenwasser, Marie J. "Rhetoric and the Progress of the Women's Liberation Movement." Today's Speech, 20 (Summer 1972), 45-56. Charts the progress of the women's liberation movement through the stages of "genesis and impetus," "action and reaction," and "conversion and change." Suggests what is necessary for the movement to move beyond the current stage to "revision and solidification" and "success and silence."

Shimanoff, Susan B. "Man-Human: Empirical Support for the Whorfian Hypothesis." Women's Studies in Communication, 1 (Summer 1977), 21-27. Disputes Foss and Schneider's claim that the women's movement makes use of a strong Whorfian hypothesis in dealing with sexism in language (see WSIC, 1 (Spring 1977), 1-7), and argues instead that feminists employ the weaker, more acceptable form of the hypothesis.


Solomon, Martha. "The Rhetoric of STOP ERA: Fatalistic Reaffirmation." Southern Speech Communication Journal, 43 (Fall 1980), 42-59. Examines the ideology and image of STOP ERA and its proponents, arguing that although its ideology is fatalistic and manipulative, its reaffirmation of traditional perspectives makes it rhetorically effective.


Citations followed by ED numbers are educational documents announced in Resources in Education (RIE), the ERIC monthly abstract journal.