

## FOREWORD – DOSSIER

In the more recent interpretative reviews of history, the “present time” gains prominence and prestige in the analysis where “short term” and “long term” interact. Accordingly it is the exigencies of the present that increasingly goad the historian to review existing narratives of the past, placing new question marks, taking up again the reading of the documentation that unveils the hidden and allows other histories and subjects to be built up.

The need for the organization of a Dossier of Gender in the Brazilian Journal of History, after 19 years (1989-2008) became imperative for the reason that the field of studies on women and of categories such as “gender” has intensified debate of a theoretical-methodological nature, consolidating analytical concepts and perspectives and guaranteeing a substantial academic production in Brazil.

Accordingly, we present the History and Gender that brings together some works considered representative of the present moment, and with which RBH, under new management, returns to its publishing schedule.

The first article, “Feminism and gender configurations in the guerrilla: comparative perspectives in the Southern Cone, 1968-1985”, takes us back to the time of the military dictatorships in Latin America, demonstrating the distinct forms of feminine and feminist struggle and resistance; the text “Political sociabilities and gender relationships: domestic-religious rites in 19<sup>th</sup> century Rio de Janeiro” introduces challenging perspectives of approach and questioning in the political field; in “Feminine memories: a time for living, a time for remembering” the role of memory and remembrances in the constitution of the feminine gender becomes apparent; in “Love and gender in popular verses” the construction of feminine stereotypes is demonstrated; in the work “Marriage, Maternity and Widowhood: memoirs of leper women” a plunge into a “closed” community is undertaken, to demonstrate how gender practices and differences continue operating, and in “Women in movement: the feminine presence in the very beginnings of sport in the city

of Rio de Janeiro” the obstacles faced by many women to gain admission to and remain in places considered the preserve of the male sex are discussed.

All this makes for a creative production on women and “gender” where it is possible to discern a significant “horizon of expectation” for the field that is legitimizing and consolidating itself.

*Editorial Committee*