

Kohl: a Journal for Body and Gender Research



“The Geographies of Bodies and Borders”

Vol. 2, no. 2, Winter 2016

This issue has been produced at the Arab Foundation for Freedoms and Equality (AFE), with the financial assistance of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung - Middle East Office, Beirut. The views expressed herein are those of the author(s) and can therefore not be taken to reflect the opinion of HBS.

Acknowledgments

This publication grows out of the efforts of a community of scholars, artists, and activists to whom we owe many debts. We are grateful for all those who contributed to the advancement of this journal, and have continuously gardened it with care and made it blossom.

We are infinitely grateful to our advisory board Angelika Arutyunova, Arianne Shahvisi, Ebtihal Mahadeen, Elisabeth Armstrong, Fatima Sadiqi, Islah Jad, Khoulood Mahdhaoui, Nadjé Al-Ali, Sahar Mandour, and Samar Habib, who embody qualities we try to promote in our publication. We infinitely appreciate your timely responses and support regarding the prospects of the journal. Thank you Nadjé for your invaluable talk at Kohl's panel on Practicing Solidarity, for the workshop you have facilitated on collecting oral histories, and for the talk on "Gendering the Kurdish-Turkish Conflict and Attempts at Peace." Thank you Arianne for your tireless effort in promoting Kohl and much more.

Our vast gratitude goes to Sawsan Abdulrahim for volunteering your skills as an advisory editor for this issue.

We thank our lead translator, Leen Hashem, for her work that enables Kohl to promote Arabic as a language of knowledge production. We are also grateful to Maya Ammar, Rebecca Saab Saade, and Roua Seghaier for providing additional translations.

We are indebted to the women who have kindly agreed to participate in the focus group behind the conversation on the challenges Migrant Domestic Workers face in Lebanon published in our "Openings" section. So an immense thank you to Gemma, Rosa, Mala, Meriam, and Julia. We value the time, the effort, and – most importantly – the trust you have given us.

Working with the amazing writers/scholars who are published in this issue has been an immense pleasure. So thank you Abeera Khan, Chant, Deema Nasser, Heather Jaber, Sara Abed, Shereen Abuelnaga, Shahd Abusalama, Tania El Koury, Mathew Gagné, and Y.S.K.Prerana. Thank you Gemma, Rose, and Mala for the testimonies.

We thank our wonderful peer reviewers without whom this issue would not have been possible. Your feedback was essential in molding the final product. We are grateful to Alaa Hijazi, Angie Abdelmonem, Charlotte Karem Albrecht, Cynthia El Khoury, Deema Kaedbey, Dina Georgis, Isis Nusair, Katharine Halls, Kenza Yousfi, Lara Deeb, Leen Hashem, May Habib, Nadjé Al-Ali, Nicole Khoury, Rachel Kaplan, Salma Shash, Nisreen el Chaer, Siwar Masannat, Susana Galán, and Zeina Zaatari. We look forward to future cooperation.

An immense gratitude goes to our talented web designer and social media advisor Chantal Partamian, whose expertise is instrumental in our online presence.

We greatly appreciate the generous contributions of artist Rawand Issa, whose artwork is featured on the cover and homepage of this issue.

We also thank Maria Frederika Malmström for the talk titled “Vibrant Soundscapes Matter: Egyptian Political Bodies.”

We thank Ditaphone Group for the research-based video performance screened at this issue’s launch event. We thank Station that has provided us with the space for the event.

We would like to thank Heinrich Böll Stiftung and their Middle East Office in Beirut for their continuous financial support since Kohl’s beginnings. In particular, we wish to thank Noor Baalbaki who has been our referential point in communication with HBS. We are grateful for the support of the International Women’s Health Coalition (IWHC), as well as MamaCash’s.

It is difficult to list all the Kohl community that showed its endless support by attending our events, sharing our social media content, brainstorming with us, and more. Thank you for your priceless support.

The Kohl Team,
Ghiwa Sayegh and Roua Seghaier