

Kohl: a Journal for Body and Gender Research
and
the DisAbled Women's Network of Canada (DAWN)



“Resisting Ableism, Queering Desirability”

Vol. 6, No. 2, Fall 2020.

This issue has been produced 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

“Resisting Ableism, Queering Desirability” is a joint special issue from Kohl Journal and the DisAbleD Women’s Network of Canada (DAWN). It stems from a collaboration that started with Kohl and DAWN co-facilitating a workshop titled “Ableism in Queer Communities: (Re)Queering Desirable Bodies and Minds” at the first LBQ Women’s Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, in July 2019. This issue is shaped by the contributions and collective thinking of our workshop participants and our communities, to whom we feel deeply connected in power and gratitude.

We would like to thank Kohl’s advisory board, Arianne Shahvisi, Elisabeth Armstrong, Lola Silva, Maie Panaga, Nadjé Al-Ali, Rola Yasmine, Sabiha Allouche, and Sawsan Abuldrahim, for their strengthening of our vision, their commitment to feminist knowledge and to Kohl.

We are indebted to the tireless work of our team of translators Amal Shaheen, Dima Hamadeh, Joseph Salloum, and Maya Zebdawi, who made the Arabic version of Kohl possible and generously accommodated our tight deadlines.

Our immense gratitude goes to our writers, who humble us with their generosity and commitment to feminist causes. Thank you, Grace Khawam, Neja, Mohira Suyarkulova, Nelly Bassily, Nouha Maaninou, Scherazade Siobhan, Valerie Moyer, Yalda Hamidi, and Yasmine Kherfi for trusting us with your writings, and to Aude Nasr for her artwork illustrating this issue.

Our immense gratitude goes to the peer reviewers of this issue’s editorial review board, Arianne Shahvisi, Ghaida Moussa, Jihan Abbas, Maha Khochen, Nadjé Al-Ali, Sawsan Abdulrahim, and Sophie Chamas, who have generously provided us and the authors with detailed and thoughtful feedback. We look forward to future cooperation.

We cannot thank Layal Khatib, our web developer enough. Her work has been crucial to our digital autonomy.

We would like to thank Heinrich Böll Stiftung and their Middle East Office in Beirut for their continuous financial support since Kohl’s beginnings. We are grateful for the support of Mama Cash, Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice, and Global Fund for Women.

The Kohl & DAWN Teams,

Ghiwa Sayegh, Hiba Abbani, Sabah Ayoub, Safa Hamzeh, Nelly Bassily, and Karine Myrgianie Jean-François.