## Kohl: a Journal for Body and Gender Research



"Sex, Desire, and Intimacy"

Vol. 3, no. 2, Winter 2017

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

This issue, published on a very short time frame, would not have been possible without the tenacity and political commitment of our community, authors, and reviewers. As we challenge the boundaries of what is acceptable and "respectable," this issue is a tribute to them.

We would like to thank our advisory board, Arianne Shahvisi, Ebtihal Mahadeen, Elisabeth Armstrong, Fatima Sadiqi, Khouloud Mahdhaoui, Nadje Al-Ali, and Sawsan Abuldrahim, who are still around, their belief in the work that we do unwavering.

The Arabic version of Kohl would not have been possible without the tireless work of our team of translators, Hiba Abbani, Hiba Sleiman, Leen Hashem, Maya Ammar, Safa Hamzeh, and Sarah Kaddoura, who generously accommodated our tight deadlines.

Once again, our writers and contributors have humbled us with their fierce determination and will to bring feminist knowledge to life. Thank you Bel South, Jaya Sharma, Leila N., Naazneen Diwan, Patrick Haddad, Priscilla Khabazi, Saly El Wazze, Sara Shaker, Sonia Patrinou, Sophie Chamas, Tiffany Kagure Mugo, and X for trusting us with your writings. We are also incredibly grateful to the Tunisian activists Aslan, Dorra, Feryal, Layla, and Masha, who have made their voices heard in our Openings section, and to Rita Liavali Coquet for the daring interview she agreed to give to Lady Gya. We are honored to publish you in Kohl.

Our immense gratitude goes to the peer reviewers of this issue's editorial review board, Akanksha Mehta, Arianne Shahvisi, Deema Kaedbey, Jillian Grisel, Katharine Halls, Leen Hashem, Lisa Armstrong, Nadje Al-Ali, Rebecca Saab Saade, Sabiha Allouche, Sara Mourad, and Shereen Abuelnaga, who have generously provided us and the authors with detailed and thoughtful feedback. We look forward to future cooperation.

We deeply appreciate the support of Amy Chiniara who tailored her mind-blowing artwork to this issue's theme, of Youmna Makhlouf who flawlessly guided us through legal processes and systems, and of Yves Nasrallah for his tech support and skills.

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 for her patience and support. We are grateful for the support of Mama Cash, particularly Chantelle de Nobrega and Mandisa Sibanda, as well as the support of Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice, particularly Mariam Gagoshashvili.

The Kohl Team, Ghiwa Sayegh and Roula Seghaier