Guide to the CENWOR (Center for Research on Women) Library and Publications

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American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies

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The American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies commissioned Jeanne Marecek to produce this guide to the CENWOR library and publications. It is based on a survey carried out in 2013. The aim of the guide is to draw attention to CENWOR’s holdings, and to give researchers a sense of what is available. We wish to thank the CENWOR librarian, Mrs. Savithri Hirimuthugoda, for her assistance.

CENWOR, formally known as the Center for Women’s Research, was begun in 1984 by a group of activist women scholars and educators. Its mission has been to work toward gender equality and the empowerment of women through research, education, and advocacy. Throughout its history, CENWOR has carried out numerous programs and projects aimed at achieving its mission. These programs have included in-house research projects, as well as conferences, workshops, and annotated bibliographies of research on women carried out in Sri Lanka. CENWOR is located at 225/4 Kirula Road, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka. It can be reached by telephone at +94 11 2502153/269530/2368965. More information about CENWOR is also available on its website: http://www.cenwor.lk/

CENWOR’s library is of special interest to academic researchers, particularly social scientists, who are interested in women’s issues and gender discrimination. The library is open on weekdays (except holidays) from 9 am to 4 pm. As it generally true in Sri Lanka, it is wise to call ahead to make sure that the library is open on the day you wish to visit. It is also essential to make an appointment with the librarian, Mrs. Savithri Hirimuthugoda, because locating items in the library will not be possible without her help.

There is no charge for using the library. It is a reading library, not a lending library, but many materials produced by CENWOR itself are available for purchase (see Appendix A). Print materials in the library may be photocopied for a nominal fee. It is possible to bring a laptop into the library, however there is no Wi-Fi facility.

The library is the only specialized collection on gender and women's issues in Sri Lanka and it is a rich source of such material. The collection emphasizes material on women and girls, as well as material on gender equity. Some recent acquisitions pertain to men's issues and masculinity, as well as to same-sex relationships among women. The collection includes many works concerned with women in Sri Lanka that have not been published and thus are difficult to obtain elsewhere. These include reports of in-house research projects. The collection also includes many items that are not readily available elsewhere, such as various UN, UNDP, and UNAIDS documents, CEDAW (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women) reports, census statistics, and Sri Lankan government documents. The
The library also contains copies of the proceedings of the CENWOR Conferences on Women's Studies, which were held bi-annually for several years, as well as annotated bibliographies of relevant research for the years 1986—2005.

The library contains a collection of books on gender and women, including books published locally as well as books published abroad. Given the prohibitive price of books published in western high-income countries, the collection is selective. The library also subscribes to a number of local journals, and holds a file of research articles, many of them contributed by scholars who have used the library.

**Newspaper Database.** A special feature of the library is a database of newspaper clippings about women or pertaining to gender issues. This database is assembled by the librarian, who scans one or more of the daily English language newspapers for all items pertaining to women. The headline, date, and a link to the article are entered into an electronic database. Items are filed by categories, and the database can be searched electronically. Hard copies of the clippings are also retained, so that if the links have expired, the original items can still be retrieved.

**Video Collection.** Appendix B lists a collection of videos/DVDs that have been produced by CENWOR to illustrate its work and to depict social problems concerning women and girls. These may be purchased or taken out on loan.
## Appendix A

### RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Price (Rs.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. UN Decade for Women: Progress and Achievements of Women in Sir Lanka. 1985</td>
<td>150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. UN Decade for Women: Progress and Achievements of Women in Sri Lanka. 1985 (Sinhala)</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. UN Decade for Women: Progress and Achievements of Women in Sri Lanka. 1985 (Tamil)</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. The Hidden Face of Development. 1989</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Gender and Education in Sri Lanka. 1991</td>
<td>175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Women Poverty and Family Survival. 1991</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Gender and Society. Some Contemporary Issues. 1992</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Facing Odds (Women in the Labour Market) 1995</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Changing Gender Roles &amp; Relations - 1997</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Political Violence in Sri Lanka: Dynamics, Consequences &amp; Issues of Democratization. 1998</td>
<td>175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Confronting Complexities - Gender Perspectives &amp; values. 1998</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Gender Ideology and Development in Sri Lanka. 2000</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. &quot;Vathman Gatalu ha Lankeeya Kanthava&quot;. 2000</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. South Asian Women: Global Prospective and National Trends in the 1990’s. 2000</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Unraveling Herstories; A three generational Study. 2001</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Graduate Employment in Sri Lanka in the 1990’s. 2002</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. &quot;Varthamana Lankave Kantha Prathiroopaya&quot;. 2002</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
24. Gender, Ideology and Empowerment. 2002 100.00
25. “Nawa Vimarshana” 2004 100.00
26. Gender Society and Change. 2005 250.00
28. Gender and Information and Communication Technology in Sri Lanka; Inclusion or Exclusion? 2006 300.00
29. Gender, Education and Socialisation. 2007 300.00
30. Proposals on Reform to state land and housing Legislation and policy. 2008 125.00
31. Gender Ideologies in the School Curriculum; A Textual Analysis of Secondary School Textbooks. 2008 150.00
31. Beyond the Glass Ceiling: Participation in Decision Making in the Public Domain 2008 300.00
32. Resources for combating violence against women -2009
(with 2 Interactive CDs- ACT NOW & Harmony) English, Sinhala & Tamil 300.00
33. Charting Pathways to Gender Equality: Reflections and Challenges. 2010 1000.00
34. Microfinance and Women’s Empowerment: The Impact of loan ownership on women’s empowerment in Microfinance Households in Sri Lanka. 2010 400.00
35. CEDAW Commitments: A Progress Review, Sri Lanka. 2011 300.00
36. Domestic Violence: Myth, Truth and Response. 2011 400.00

II. STUDY SERIES
1. Economic Activities of Women in Low Income Urban families.1989 (Study Series No.1) 100.00
2. Women in Export Production Villages. 1991 (Study Series No.2) 100.00
3. Women Graduates in Agriculture. 1992 (Study Series No.3) 100.00
4. Technologies in use by women in household & Economic Activities. 1993
   (Study Series No.4) 100.00
5. Women in the Rubber Sector. 1993 (Study Series No.5) 100.00
6. Vedda Women: Impact of Translocation from Forest Environment to
   Agricultural Settlements. 1994 (Study Series No.6) 100.00
7. Occupational Health Hazards of Women Workers. 1993 (Study Series No.7) 125.00
8. Women, Political Empowerment and Decision Making. 1995 (Study Series No.8) 125.00
9. Addressing Poverty Reduction & Women in Development through Human Resource
   Development. 1995 (Study Series No.9) 125.00
10. Maternal & Child Care Roles of Women Workers. 1995 (Study Series No.10) 125.00
11. Ageing in Sri Lanka with Special Reference to Women 1996
   (Study Series No 11) 125.00
   (Study Series No 12) 125.00
13. Women’s Rights in the Informal Sector – Mahaweli settlements, Coir Industry. 1998 (Study Series No.14) 100.00
   (Study Series No.15) 150.00
15. Women surviving in situations of armed conflict 2000 (Study Series No.16) 150.00
   (Study series No.17) 100.00
17. Environmental Assessment Studies: A Gender Perspective 2000
   (Study series No.18) 100.00
18. Sexual Harassment in Sri Lanka; Women’s Experiences &
   Policy Implications. 2000 (Study series No.19) 200.00
   Industries. 2001 (Study series No.20) 150.00
20. Women in Garment and Textile Industries in Sri Lanka: Gender Roles &
Relations. 2001 (Study series No.21) 200.00
21.Gender, Vocational Training & Employment. 2001 (Study series No. 22) 125.00
22.Migrant Women Domestic Workers Cyprus, Greece & Italy.2001 (Study series No.23) 200.00
23.International Labour Standards and Women in Sri Lanka.2002. (Study Series No. 24) 150.00
25.Returnee Migrant Women in two Locations in Sri Lanka. 2002 (Study Series No. 26) 125.00
26.Sri Lankan Migrant Garment Factory Workers: Mauritius & Sultanate of Oman. 2002. (Study Series No. 27) 125.00
27.State and Community Responses to Domestic Violence in Sri Lanka. 2002. (Study Series No. 28) 125.00
28.Ravaged Innocence: A Study of Incest in Central Sri Lanka. 2002 (Study Series No.29) 200.00
29.All Her Worldly Goods: Women’s Property and Inheritance Rights. 2002 (Study Series No.30) 200.00
30.Impact of Macro Economic Reforms in Sri Lanka. 2003 (Study Series No.31) 200.00
31.Utilisation of Special Loan Schemes for Self-employment by Returnee Migrant Women Workers. 2004 (Study Series No.32) 100.00
32.Gender and Poverty in Selected Locations in Sri Lanka (Study Series No.33) 200.00
33.The Impact of the Tsunami on Households and Vulnerable Groups in Two Districts in Sri Lanka. (Study Series No.34) 175.00
34.Women and Land Rights in Irrigation Settlement Schemes in Sri Lanka. 2006. (Study Series No.35). 200.00
35.Vulnerability Assessment within Trade Unions: Comparative Study in Sri Lanka.2008 (Study Series No.36). 200.00
36.Gender and Pre-school Education: Changing Perceptions. 2008 (Study Series No.37). 250.00
37. Gender Roles and Support Networks of the Spouses of Migrant Workers. 2011 (Study Series No. 38). 250.00

III. BIBLIOGRAPHIES

1. Women of Sri Lanka: An Annotated Bibliography 125.00
3. Bibliography (Sinhala). 1994 100.00
4. Bibliography (Tamil). 1995 100.00

IV. WORKING PAPER SERIES

1. Women in the Estate Sector - No.1 (1991) 50.00
2. Women in the Informal Sector _ No.2 (1991) 50.00
3. Women and Technology _ No.3 (1991) 50.00
4. The UN Convention on Women and the Sri Lankan Legal System - No.4 (1991) 50.00
5. Women and Credit in Sri Lanka - No.5 (1993) 50.00
6. *Women in Local Groups - No.6 (1993) 50.00
7. Women Education & Training - No.7 (1993) 50.00
8. Women in Peasant Agriculture - No.8 (1995) 50.00
13. Women in Focus. (English) No.13 (2000) 150.00
14. Women in Focus. (Sinhala) No.13 (2000) 150.00
15. Women in Focus. (Tamil) No.13 (2000) 150.00
16. Staying the course: Linking the MDG’s, BEIJING and CEDAW.No.14 (2006) 75.00
17. Access to Finance and Financial Inclusion for Women No.16 (2008) 50.00

V. TRAINING / WORKSHOP MODULES

3. Functional Literacy – 2, Follow up workshop report on Instruction course on Functional Literacy for women in Sri Lanka. 1994
4. Functional Literacy, Training Instruction on Functional literacy for Women in Sri Lanka (Sinhala) 1994
5. Functional Literacy - 2 (Sinhala & Tamil) Training Manual 1993
6. Incorporating Gender in Reproductive Health-Workshop Manual (English/ Sinhala/ Tamil)
7. Gender Resource Book for Teachers. (English/ Sinhala/ Tamil) 2002
12. Engendering Pre School Education – Module on gender to be incorporated in pre-school teacher training programmes (English, Sinhala & Tamil). 2010

VI. WORKSHOP REPORTS - DOCUMENT SERIES

1. Research Priorities in Women’s Studies. No.1. 1984
2. UN Decade for Women’s Progress and Achievements in Sri Lanka. No.2.1985
4. Women’s work and Family Strategies. No.4. 1986
5. Child Abuse. No.5. 1986
6. Gender Equality through the Curriculum. No.6. 1986
11. Donor Coordinator in Women and Development. No.11. 1988
15. Reaching the Poor. No.15. 1989
18. Women and Credit. No.18. 1990
27. Formulating a Village Development Plan (Sinhala and English) No.28.1991
30. A Functional Literacy Programme for Women: Development of Curriculum
31. Materials - (English) No.29. 1991
33. Group Dynamics - (English & Sinhala) No. 31. 1991
34. Third National Convention - On Women's Studies. No.32. 1992
35. Participatory Rural Appraisal - An Introduction - (English & Sinhala) No.33. 1992
36. Women Entrepreneurs - (English) No.34. 1992
37. Women Entrepreneurs - (Sinhala) No.34. 1992
38. Women in the Fisheries Sector - (English & Sinhala) No. 35. 1992
40. Participatory Rural Appraisal - Part II - (English & Sinhala) No.37. 1992
41. Women Entrepreneurs Development of Entrepreneurship skills - (Part III) - (English & Sinhala) No.38. 1992
42. Gender Sensitization for Provincial Administrators. No.39. 1992
43. Vocational: Guidance for Women. No.40. 1993
44. The Role of Divisional Secretariat. No.41. 1993
45. Leadership & Group Dynamics. No.42. 1993
46. Awareness Raising Programmes for Women. No.43. 1993
47. Women Scientists and the Community. No.44. 1993
48. Role of the Divisional Secretariat on Women
## Appendix B: Video/DVD Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **SAY NO NEXT TIME**                     | 25 Minutes | A video on domestic violence & the use of the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act  
Directed by Anoma Rajakaruna |
| **MEETING CHALLENGES**                   | 20 Minutes | Directed by Shani Jayawardana |
| **THE PARADOX**                          | 16 Minutes | Directed by Sharmini Boyle |
| **COMMUNITY DRAMA WORKSHOP**             | 25 Minutes | Directed by Sharmini Boyle |
Directed by Sharmini Boyle |
| **IF NOT FOR THE WOMEN**                 | 10 Minutes | Documentary on women and health  
Directed by Sharmini Boyle |
| **THE PARTNERSHIP**                      | 10 Minutes | Documentary on women and the environment  
Directed by Sharmini Boyel |
| **GENDER AGENDAS**                       | 25 Minutes | Documentary on women's issues as presented by political parties  
Directed by Sharmini Boyel |
| **A TIME FOR STRENGTH**                  |           | Drama on a women's collective  
Directed by Sharmini Boyle |
| **BEYOND THE BARRIERS**                  | 20 Minutes | |
Documentary on women and vocational training
Directed by Sharmini Boyel

**INVISIBLE CONTRIBUTION**
20 Minutes
Documentary on the contribution of women to agricultural production
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**IMPEDEMENTS**
25 Minutes
Documentary on social issues that impede women
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**VIOLATED**
20 Minutes
Documentary on the violation of women’s human rights
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**SCIENCE FOR EVERYDAY LIFE**
10 Minutes
Coverage of a low-cost household technology exhibition
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**IMAGES OF WOMEN**
15 Minutes
Compilation video on portrayal of women in media
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**HAZARD PROFILE**
25 Minutes
Documentary on occupational health hazards
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**A WOMEN'S DAY**
25 Minutes
Documentary on dual burden of women
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**WAITING FOR JUSTICE**
25 Minutes
Documentary on child adoption
Directed by Vasantha Obeysekere

**POSSESSED**
25 Minutes
Drama on domestic violence
Directed by Sharmini Boyle

**NIMBLE FINGERS**

25 Minutes
Documentary on women employed in industry
Directed by Dharmasiri Pathiraja

*All video are available in Sinhala, Tamil and English and on VCDs & DVDs*