

Editorial

1 This special issue of *Gender Forum* is the final issue of our yearly ECR issues. Eight years ago, former editorial assistant Dr. Laura-Marie Schnitzler (at this point she was still completing her PhD), was interested in fostering researchers who are at an early stage in their career. More often than not those researchers have hardly the possibility to publish and if at all, they might be able to publish a review. However, we wanted to offer researchers in their early years a platform where we can assist and support them by going the extra mile in peer-reviewing their articles. We also wanted to find a platform for some of the papers that have been written as part of their university education but needed to be adapted to publishable articles.

2 Over the past 9 years we have received some extraordinary papers and we were allowed to assist numerous writers turn papers or mere ideas into articles. We are very happy and grateful that we were able to support so many researchers. I have been part of the editorial team of *Gender Forum* for almost a decade now and have been assistant, editor and editorial manager throughout my years. However, this will also be my final issue and I hope that you will enjoy, as much as I did, this final issue of *Gender Forum*'s early career researchers.

3 Eight articles and two reviews cover a variety of LGBTQI* issues and offer critical readings of theatre plays, novels, popular television shows and much more. This issue, again, proves that gender studies is relevant and that queer readings are important in the current climate. Read, share, support.

Dr. Sarah Youssef
Editorial Manager