

Panel Title

Power, Print, and Photography: Forging a women's history of the Philippines

Panel Convener

Ma. Rita Lourdes Alfaro

Brief description of the Panel Format

This panel consists of four researches undertaken by academics, faculty members and Ph.D. candidates, from the University of the Philippines Manila, University of the Philippines Diliman and the Ateneo de Manila University.

The panel presentation is proposed to be carried out in the following manner:

- (a) Each presenter will pre-circulate a concise version of his/her research for the advance read-through of the conference participants and thus enjoin a more dynamic discussion.
- (b) Presentations (50 minutes): Each presenter will make his/her presentation using a pre-recorded presentation with a running time of 10-12 minutes.
- (c) Interaction (30 to 40 minutes): After all presentations have been made, each presenter will “interact” with one or several presentations by responding to ideas, arguments, conjectures, as presented. After the interaction among the presenters in this panel has concluded, interaction with the participants will be in the manner of an open forum.

Panel Description

This panel arose out of a common aim of forging a women's history of the Philippines. Women's history has long languished in obscurity and these researches seek to address the lamentable paucity in women's history not just in the Philippines but in Asia and the world. These researches shall examine the portrayal of Filipino women as depicted by the printed material -colonial photography, educational materials, writings, within a larger analysis of the dynamics of imaging, gender and power.

In “**Representations of Indigenous Women in Colonial Photography**” the author proposes that photography was actively utilized by the Americans as a means to promote their imperial interests and propagate American gender ideology. The author further proposes that images are social commentaries on the roles and status of indigenous women and ought to be viewed as mere representations and not actual reflections of women's reality.

In “**American Education and the Images of Women: Depictions of Women in Select Educational Materials in the Philippines (1901-1935)**” textbooks and select educational materials, used in Philippine public schools during the American colonial period, were perused and examined by the author, with the aim of bringing forward women's descriptions and depictions fostered by the colonial education system.

In “**How to Raise your Child: Ideas about the Value and Treatment of Children as reflected in select articles from *Liwayway* and *Philippine Education* magazines in the 1920s**” the author studies select articles and writings which features the topics of motherhood, parenting and child-rearing found in the *Philippine Education Magazine*, an American-backed magazine publication in the Philippines and *Liwayway*, the first Filipino magazine. The author proposes looking at new discourses on child rearing values prescribed by the Americans to Filipino parents in the 1920s.

Finally, in **“Mothering and Motherhood in Print: An Examination of Changing Discourses on Mothering and Motherhood in Women's Periodicals in Early 20th Century Manila, 1911-1941”** the author examines discourses on motherhood and mothering through a perusal of women's periodicals with the aim of understanding how Filipino women addressed and negotiated within these discourses under the larger context of the restructuring of Manila and evolving role of women in the formation of state policies and programs in the early 20th century.

Panel Format

This panel presentation will be completed in a single session, allotting 50 minutes to paper presentations, and 30 minutes to interaction including open forum, as abovestated.

This panel may be expanded to cover topics/researches beyond the Philippines to possibly include Southeast Asian, Asian and global contexts.