

**GWST 3509 Women Organising (Fall-Winter 2018-19)**  
**The School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, York University**  
**Course Director: Professor Meg Luxton**

This assignment using the [riseupfeministarchive.ca](http://riseupfeministarchive.ca) was part of a third year undergraduate course in the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies.

This course looks at different ways that women have organised collectively, as women, to improve their lives. At different times and in different places, women have organised in and against revolutionary, nationalist, anti-colonialist and transnational movements; trade unions, autonomous women's movements, queer movements and mainstream political institutions; states, schools, workplaces, communities, and religious institutions; public and private spaces. The course asks how their issues and strategies reflect diverse concerns based on gender, racialisation, class, ability and sexuality, as well as different political orientations.

The course also looks at organising for economic justice and human rights; engagements with the state and government around representation and public policy; organisational strategies, such as separate structures, democratization and cyber/digital feminism; women's involvement in international and transnational movements; and anti-feminist organising. It asks what is meant by activism and advocacy, alliances and solidarity. It analyses and assesses different political strategies and invites students to explore effective ways of organising in the current period.

**Feminist Media Assignment**      worth: 10%      due: 4 December 2018 (about 5 pages)

Pick one of the following feminist publications from the 1970s and 1980s: Broadside, Cayenne, International Women's Day Committee, Our Lives, Rebel Girls' Rag, The Other Women. Review the first five issues available of the publication you have selected. What do the writers consider the main problems or concerns for women? How do they analyse the concerns they identify? What kinds of changes do they say must occur to improve things? What are the goals they identify? What kinds of tactics and strategies do they advocate? What relevance, if any, do those concerns and tactics and strategies have for the current period?

These publications are available on line at Rise Up a digital feminist archive:

<http://riseupfeministarchive.ca/>