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The Women's Movement: History and Theory. J.G.M. de Bruijn,
L.D. Derksen and C.M.J. Hoberichts.

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inadequate. Despite the extension of Medicaid coverage to pregnant women and infants, health care budgetary increases have been largely consumed by older adults. As discussions on welfare reform attract increased public attention, the findings of this important study should be heeded.

J.G.M. de Bruijn, L.D. Derksen and C.M.J. Hoberichts. *The Women's Movement: History and Theory*, Aldershot, England: Avebury, 1993. \$58.95, (Distributed in the United States by Ashgate Publishing Co, Old Post Road, Brookfield, VT 05036)

Most of the editors and contributors to this volume are faculty members at the Free University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands involved in the University's Inter-faculty Women's Study Group. Noting that the ideas and writings of Dutch feminists seldom reach a wider audience, the editors have compiled this collection in English in an attempt to draw attention to their work, and engage more actively in debates with colleagues in other countries.

The book covers three major topics. Firstly, it presents a history of the women's movement in the Netherlands. Secondly, it discusses employment and work related issues for women and the way government policies are affecting these issues. Thirdly, the book discusses the role of anthropology in women's studies drawing particular attention to the role of cultural anthropologists in feminist studies relating to Third World development.

There is much in this volume that will be of interest to feminist scholars and to social scientists generally. The opening chapter by Mossink, which traces the history of the women's movement in the Netherlands, shows how the consolidation of the movement was influenced by male pacifists and their astonishing view that women's alleged frivolity and susceptibility to seduction contributed to war. Organized efforts to refute this view facilitated the growth of organized feminism in the country. There are several important chapters dealing with work place issues and the involvement of women in development. Of particular interest is Keuper's account of the role of women in the country's development programs. The book also contains several intriguing chapters on theoretical issues. Hopkin's

discussion of the images of women in traditional. Christian theology, and den Uyl's analysis of Malinowski's explanation of the sexuality of Trobriand islanders make engaging reading.

Molly Ladd-Taylor, *Mother-Work: Women, Child Welfare and the State, 1890–1930*, Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1994. \$39.95 hardcover.

A substantial body of scholarly research into the sociological, political and economic factors responsible for the development of 'welfare states' in the Western industrial countries has now been published. Many distinguished social scientists have contributed to this research, attributing the emergence of the welfare state to factors ranging from the 'logic of industrialization' to the conspiratorial motives of capitalists who seek to use social policies to subdue a potentially turbulent labor force. Despite its significance, this research has neglected gender. The fact that the welfare state was designed primarily for males in industrial wage-employment has only recently been emphasized, and it was with the publication of Theda Skocpol's book *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers* (Harvard University Press, 1992) that the role of women and women's organizations in promoting social policies has been given adequate attention.

Molly Ladd-Taylor's book makes an important contribution to the growing body of literature dealing with the role of women in the creation of the welfare state. Ladd-Taylor takes Skocpol's research further by analyzing in meticulous detail the many women's organizations that campaigned for the extension of public social services. Conventional explanations of the origins of the welfare state as a product of impersonal societal *forces* impinging on male dominated governments to facilitate the emergence of a variety of social programs, will have to be recast to incorporate the feminist explanation articulated in Ladd-Taylor's work. As Ladd-Taylor reveals, a variety of women's groups inspired by maternalist ideology made a crucial contribution to the development of social policy. Her book deserves to be widely read and widely cited in future theoretical work on the origins of the modern welfare state.