

Library talk set on new women's activism



Mary Reid Bogue, FAU adjunct professor (francesca bliss/Courtesy)



By **Marci Shatzman**
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

SHARE THIS



FAU adjunct professor to speak at Downtown Library

MARCH 21, 2017

Inspired by the Women's **March** in Washington, D.C., the Boca Raton Public Library is celebrating Women's History Month with "I Am Woman, Hear Me Roar: A History of Women's Activism in the United States."

Mary Reid Bogue, an adjunct instructor with a master's degree in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from **Florida Atlantic University**, will speak at 7 p.m. March 23 at the Downtown Library, 400 NW Second Ave.

What made you choose this topic?

So many of the issues that were important 40 or 50 years ago are still being debated. A lot of my students don't know about figureheads in the feminist movement. There seems to be amnesia about the history.

Is that changing?

I have noticed a shift in the university. When I taught in the English Department from 2013 to 2015...I got a lot of pushback from my students. An essay by Ariel Levy called 'Female Chauvinist Pigs' is on how masculinity standards in the workplace make women feel they have to act like men, but they're punished for that behavior. A lot of my students said 'this isn't an issue anymore.'

What was your conclusion?

I think they just didn't know any better. What I found so surprising is the young women who say they don't need feminism and they don't need feminists. Part of the problem is a lot of these stereotypes for discrimination are still there but disguised, so they're not so overt.

Where you in the Women's March?

I didn't go to D.C. but my teaching assistant went and I talked to others and I'll share their experiences. I'll also be looking at women's history [in the lecture]. This is not the first time women have done these things and it's not the last. Democracy requires active participation and there are many ways to be engaged.

Were you encouraged by the march turnout?

The third wave is in some ways a detriment to the movement. Everyone is so focused on their problems with the rise of the Internet. The third wave of feminism is a lot of rhetoric of choice, meaning so long as women choose it, it's feminism. But the choice of going back to work or staying home [when you have a child]...how free is that if you can't afford day care? My generation was told we could have it all and we're killing ourselves on that altar.

What wave of feminism are you in?

I'm 32 and I call myself a feminist. This is my first semester returning to teaching since I had my son. I was doing work on ending sexual violence. When I came back, there was no way I could stay out of this conversation. It has been really rewarding to have this upsurge of women's activism happening as I'm teaching about it.

Register for the free event at <http://bit.ly/2m1m9ll>.

mshatzman@tronc.com

Copyright © 2017, Sun Sentinel

This article is related to: [Washington, D.C.](#)