

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | ix |
| Introduction | 1 |
| PART ONE: Political Movements and Political Theories | 9 |
| 1 Political Change: Two Perspectives on Power | 15 |
| Power, Change, and Social Science, 15 | |
| Other Approaches to Political Change, 18 | |
| The Personal and the Political, 18 | |
| Organization and Leadership, 20 | |
| Patriarchy, Capitalism, and White Supremacy, 22 | |
| Ideas and History, 25 | |
| Conclusions, 28 | |
| Notes, 29 | |
| 2 Fundamental Feminism: Process and Perspective | 32 |
| Patriarchal Socialism and Socialist Feminism, 33 | |
| Feminism as a Mode of Analysis, 35 | |
| Integrating Personal and Political Change, 36 | |
| Recognizing Process and Interaction, 37 | |
| Appropriation, Necessity, and Revolution, 38 | |
| Feminist Theory and Practice, 38 | |
| New Directions, 39 | |
| Organizations and Strategies, 40 | |
| Conclusion, 41 | |
| Notes, 42 | |
| 3 Staying Alive | 44 |
| Estranged Labor, 45 | |
| Work: The Central Human Activity, 47 | |
| Alternatives to Estranged Labor, 48 | |
| Power and Political Change, 49 | |
| Mental and Manual Labor, 51 | |
| The Development of a Feminist Workplace, 51 | |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Collectives and Cooperatives Work, 52 | |
| Conclusions: The Fragility of Alternatives, 54 | |
| Notes, 54 | |
| 4 Difference and Domination in the Women's Movement: The Dialectic of Theory and Practice | 56 |
| The Denial of Difference, 58 | |
| Difference as Domination in Feminist Practice, 59 | |
| Transforming Difference into Specificity, 62 | |
| Empowerment and Difference, 63 | |
| Difference and Domination: Breaking the Links, 64 | |
| Difference and Creativity: Toward a New Understanding of Power, 67 | |
| Conclusion, 70 | |
| Notes, 70 | |
| PART TWO: Reoccupying Marxism as Feminism | 73 |
| 5 Objectivity and Revolution: The Unity of Observation and Outrage in Marxist Theory | 85 |
| Human Activity as Ontology, 87 | |
| The Unity of Outrage and Observation in Marxist Analysis, 91 | |
| Objectivity, 94 | |
| Knowledge as Appropriation, 98 | |
| Objectivity and Revolution, 100 | |
| Notes, 101 | |
| 6 The Feminist Standpoint: Developing the Ground for a Specifically Feminist Historical Materialism | 105 |
| The Nature of a Standpoint, 107 | |
| The Sexual Division of Labor, 113 | |
| Abstract Masculinity and the Feminist Standpoint, 117 | |
| Conclusion, 125 | |
| Notes, 127 | |
| 7 Louis Althusser's Structuralist Marxism: Political Clarity and Theoretical Distortions | 133 |
| Althusser's Marxism, 136 | |
| The Last Instance, 137 | |
| Theoretical Antihumanism, 148 | |
| The Production of Knowledge: Theoretical Practice and Political Practice, 152 | |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Althusserian Politics, 159 | |
| Notes, 162 | |
| References, 164 | |
| PART THREE: Structuralism, Poststructuralism, and Politics | 167 |
| 8 The Kinship Abstraction in Feminist Theory | 171 |
| Language, Symbols, and Values, 173 | |
| The Exchange of Women as Social Contract, 178 | |
| Lévi-Strauss's Marxism, 184 | |
| Notes, 186 | |
| 9 Gayle Rubin: The Abstract Determinism of the Kinship System | 192 |
| Rubin's Reading of Lévi-Strauss, 194 | |
| Capitalist Production from the Perspective of the Exchange Abstraction, 196 | |
| The Kinship System and the Production of Gender, 198 | |
| Conclusion, 201 | |
| Notes, 202 | |
| 10 Postmodernism and Political Change | 205 |
| The Enlightenment Tradition, 206 | |
| The Construction of the Colonized Other, 207 | |
| Richard Rorty's Conversational Alternative, 211 | |
| Foucault's Resistance and Refusal, 215 | |
| Foucault's Perspective, 217 | |
| The Evanescence of Power, 219 | |
| Toward Liberatory Theories, 221 | |
| Notes, 223 | |
| 11 The Feminist Standpoint Revisited | 227 |
| My Project, 228 | |
| Some Responses, 230 | |
| Reformulations, 239 | |
| Notes, 245 | |
| Afterword | 249 |
| Notes, 252 | |