

**A Study of Chauvinistic Nationalism and Violence from a Gender Perspective: Working Towards Conflict Prevention, Amelioration and Resolution**

Group Activities 2008-2009  
Muta Kazue and Beverley Yamamoto  
18th April, 2009

**Activities in 2007 and 2008 in brief (1)**

Participation in international conference

- 5th July, 2008 10th INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONGRESS OF WOMENS (WOMEN'S WORLDS 2008) at Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain.
- YAMAMOTO Beverley Anne, **Studying War Memorials and Museums from Gender Perspective**
- MUTA Kazue, **Gender and the De-politicization of War Memories in Japan**
- HIMEOKA Toshiko, **Comfort Women Resolutions and the Reaction of Historical Revisionists**
- OKANO Yayo, **Post-colonialism and Gender in Japan**

**Activities in 2007 and 2008 in brief (2)**

- International
- YAMAMOTO Beverley Anne, 2008.10.07 Met **Anna Song**, campaign coordinator for **Friends of the 'Comfort Women' in Australia (FCWA)** at University of Melbourne. Discussed the FCWA's activities and recent developments within Japan.
- YAMAMOTO Beverley Anne, 2008,10,10 Met for a second time with **Professor Raewyn Connell, University of Sydney** to discuss the GCOE project and the **socialization of military masculinities**.

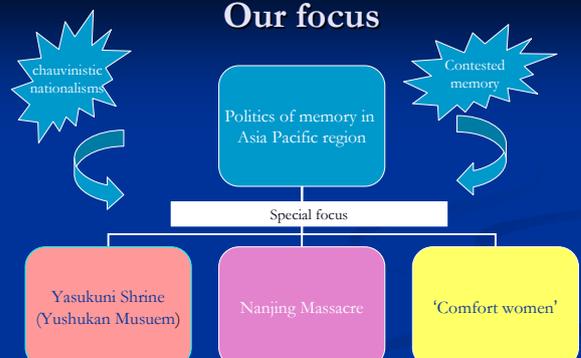
**Activities in 2007 and 2008 in brief (3)**

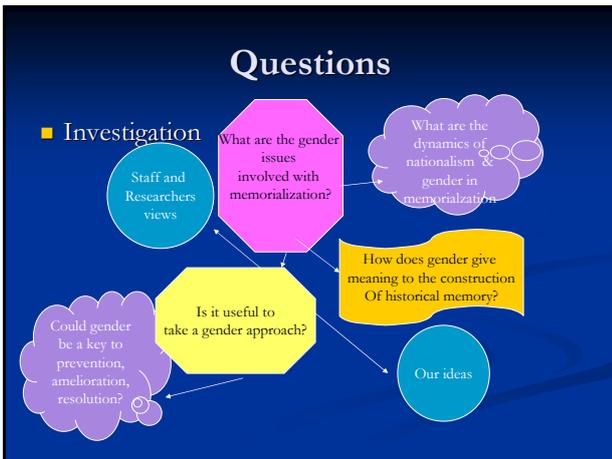
- Japan-based
- YAMAMOTO Beverley Anne, 2009.02.21 Remembering a **Gendered Nation at War: A Study of War Memorials and Museums in Japan, China and Australia**. at **British Association of Japanese Studies (BAJS)** Work-in-progress Seminar 1. at Waseda University Tokyo.

**Project-related publications in 2008-2009**

- 友枝敏雄 2009,「保守化の趨勢と社会観・政治的態度」友枝敏雄編『現代の高校生は何を考えているか』116-136,世界思想社
- 藤目ゆき,2008,「基地の街岩国の女性史」『アジア現代女性史』42-56.
- 藤目ゆき,2008,「解説『憤れる白い鳩——20世紀台湾を生きて』」『アジア現代女性史』70-73.
- 藤目ゆき,2008,「第二次世界大戦後日本の『女性解放』について——繊維労働者と朝鮮戦争」『東アジアにおける戦争の記憶と平和共同体(韓国)』115-132.
- 藤目ゆき,2009,「女性史の封印を解く仕事」『森崎和江コレクション——精神史の旅 月報5』5-7.
- 藤目ゆき,2009,「女性史・ジェンダー史」『新編日本のフェミニズム10』284-303.
- 木村涼子 2008,「日本の教育システムとジェンダー: 国家の教育政策と人々の教育ニーズ、そして教育達成の実態」日仏交流150周年記念シンポジウム「変容する社会と教育システムの挑戦——フランスと日本」報告

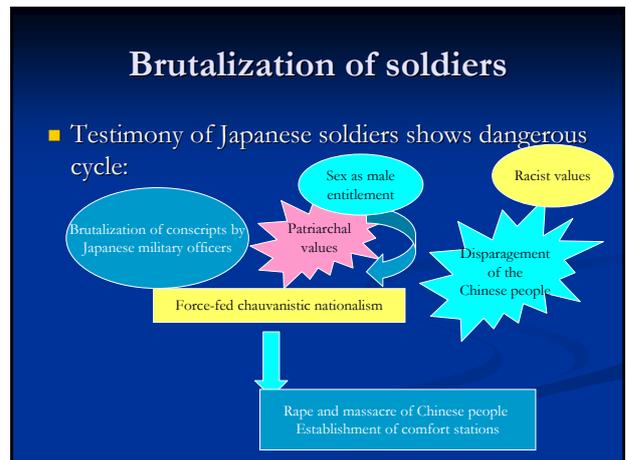
**Our focus**





- ### Applying a concept of gender
- Memorial staff and local researchers understandings:
    - 1) Representation of **women**
    - 2) Giving a voice to **women**
    - 3) Placing value on the memories of **women**
    - 4) Psychological healing for **women** through process of remembering
    - 5) Costs of remembering for **women**
- What about masculinity, war & war memory?

- ### The representation of men
- While 'our boys' are represented as brave and noble, in the Nanjing Museum and AWM the male (Japanese) enemy was depicted as brutal and inhumane.
  - The damage caused by the militarization of 'our boys' on the 'enemy' and still less 'our country women' is not touched upon.



- ### Conclusion (1)
- Work on women in history of immense importance:
- Giving a voice back to women
  - Passing along the message 'women were there too!' (from invisibility to visibility)
  - Empowering women to tell their own histories
  - Challenging hegemonic paradigms, BUT we have to go still further...

## Conclusion (2)

- We must also pay attention to the **representation of men**
- **Without an understanding of the reciprocal dynamics of gender** be able to see clearly the relationship between gender and public memory
- The tendency to reduce 'gender' to 'women' reduces **the power of the gender perspective.**

## Conclusion (3)

We need to:

- to pay attention to and understand **embedded structures of violence**
- study the **socialization of violent masculinities**
- Understand the gender dynamics of **chauvinistic forms of nationalism**