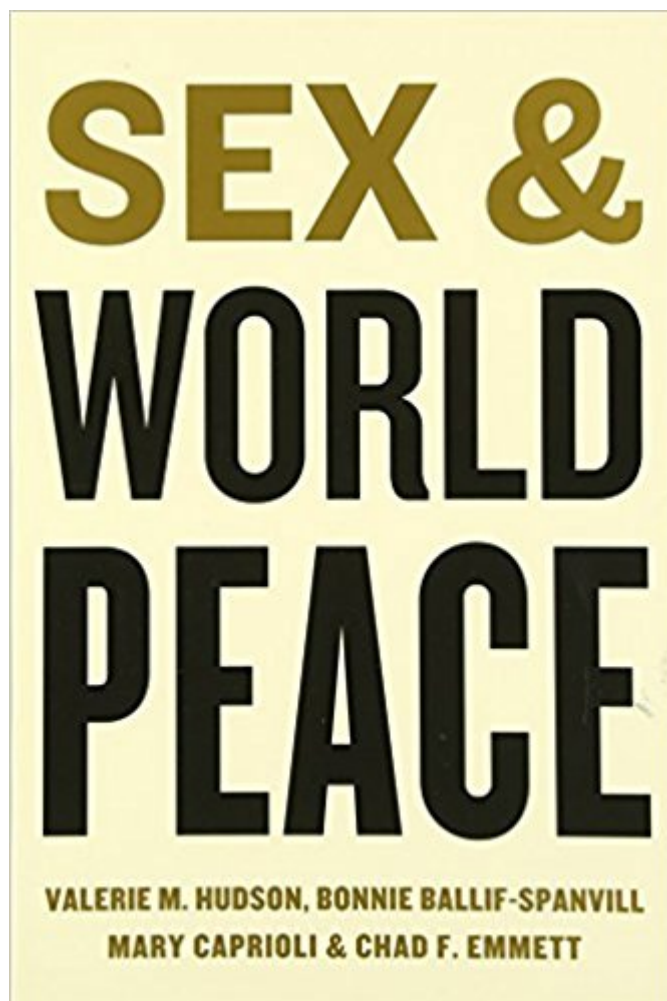


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# Sex And World Peace



## Synopsis

Sex and World Peace unsettles a variety of assumptions in political and security discourse, demonstrating that the security of women is a vital factor in the security of the state and its incidence of conflict and war. The authors compare micro-level gender violence and macro-level state peacefulness in global settings, supporting their findings with detailed analyses and color maps. Harnessing an immense amount of data, they call attention to discrepancies between national laws protecting women and the enforcement of those laws, and they note the adverse effects on state security of abnormal sex ratios favoring males, the practice of polygamy, and inequitable realities in family law, among other gendered aggressions. The authors find that the treatment of women informs human interaction at all levels of society. Their research challenges conventional definitions of security and democracy and shows that the treatment of gender, played out on the world stage, informs the true clash of civilizations. In terms of resolving these injustices, the authors examine top-down and bottom-up approaches to healing wounds of violence against women, as well as ways to rectify inequalities in family law and the lack of parity in decision-making councils. Emphasizing the importance of an R2PW, or state responsibility to protect women, they mount a solid campaign against women's systemic insecurity, which effectively unravels the security of all.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sex and World Peace should be on top of every introductory International Relations reading list. (Sara E. Davies International Affairs)[A] pioneering and readable book.... Highly recommended.

(Choice) This is an important, well written, and informative book that will serve a wide audience of graduate and undergraduate students, academics, and policymakers, as well as the interested public. (Helen M. Kinsella *Ethics and International Affairs*) highly readable and provides a thought-provoking introduction to the reasons why equality between women and men within the family matters for the relations between states and, ultimately, world peace. (Marijke Breuning *Peace and Conflict*) A landmark book. (Gloria Steinem *Ms.*) Since violence against females is the normalizer of all other forms of violence, this book is vital, from family life to foreign policy. (Gloria Steinem *T: The New York Times Style Magazine*)

*Sex and World Peace* argues that the security of women is a vital factor in the overall security of the state and its incidence of conflict and war. The authors compare micro-level gender violence and macro-level state peacefulness in global settings, supporting their findings with detailed analyses and color maps. Their research challenges conventional definitions of security and democracy, and they examine top-down and bottom-up approaches to healing the wounds of violence against women, inequity in family law, and the lack of parity in decision-making councils. Women's systemic insecurity unravels the security of all, and the authors articulate an international policy agenda that reflects this reality.

Prof. Hudson is a phenom. Discouraged by her male colleagues at BYU from pursuing this kind of research, she has left them behind and is probably making half again as much as any of them does just by publishing information that could do more to improve the lot of human beings than could any other set of possible remedies. What will the the government of China do with its tens of millions of men who cannot find wives, institute polyandry, endorse a great deal of prostitution, what?

Excellent book on gender and world politics. The authors make a fine case for the connection between a nation's culture, laws, and attitudes toward gender and its disposition toward peace. Better attitudes and treatment of women could help the progress of peace in our world. The book contains considerable useful data about cultural feelings about women, education of women, laws regarding women, familial status, crimes against women, etc., for various countries, and it suggests various ways, top down and bottom up, for coping with and improving these matters. Everyone should read it to understand today's world views on women!

This book contains some startling statistics about domestic abuse worldwide. I believe that the goal

of the book is to highlight the many problems that countries have when they don't provide gender equality. Specifically, when women are seen as chattel and are given no freedoms. The countries who don't recognize women's worth are the countries that are having some of the worst crime rates and less peace throughout the world. While the book delivers some startling ideas about how women are (and have been) abused throughout the ages, it contains way too much statistical data for the average reader. I do, however, recommend reading it. The first two chapters will inform the reader in an easy to understand manner. However, I got bogged down in tables and statistics until I decided to scan those chapters. It was probably written as a textbook for grad students. Let's hope we can all become better informed about this kind of gender inequality as we move further into the future.

This is a massively important book that is at times painful but always enlightening. I have been a feminist for many years, but this opened my mind to the pervasiveness of misogyny around the world as well as in my own cultures. As a result of reading this, I've made changes in my personal life and am attempting to influence greater equality for women locally.

Sex and World Peace is unprecedented. While there have been books on gender and international relations and books exploring the causes of war with statistical analyses of archival data, to my knowledge no other book does both. This is therefore a germinal contribution to the emerging field of gender and international relations. It will also add to the ongoing American debate between realism and idealism in foreign policy. Of course this book will appeal to researchers and advanced graduate students, yet the accessible writing leading the reader into the central argument by vivid 'case studies' will also make it useful to advanced undergraduates. Finally, practitioners and activists in diplomacy, international aid NGOs, enlightened multinational corporations, and women's and men's organizations aimed at transforming gender relations will find much here that is instructive and useful. Sex and World Peace explains the situation of women around the world in an accessible way. You don't need a PhD to understand the research and conclusions. It is a brilliant collection of stories and analysis and paints a picture of how the world really is. This book is different from all other socio-political views of the world because it actually recognizes the important role women play in societies. Not only does this book point out the issues women face, it also provides pragmatic solutions for every level's involvement. It is not another depressing book that overwhelms the reader with the horrors of being a woman. It states the realities and gives ways that we can realistically change things for the better.

Reading this book helped me to know how I can fight for the equality of men and women around the world.

The causes for war and peace might be more complex than the treatment of women but this is a worthwhile read. There a lot of interesting data regarding the status of women around the world.

Sex and World Peace explains the possible reasons for gender inequality; why it is bad for everyone's security - including the state's; show a very robust and significant correlation between women's physical security and state security - using the WomenStats data base, and proposes concrete measures to address these inequalities and thus improve the security both of the states and all their citizens. A must-read!

This book is posing a simple thesis: the treatment of women and girls is a reliable indicator of levels of peace and prosperity, nationally and globally. In fact, the basic premise is so straight forward and rationale, it is a wonder that there are not many texts proving the same hypothesis. The authors use a broad set of variables to analyze the treatment of women and girls in every region of the world, effectively comparing and contrasting different nations successes and challenges. This book has become a cornerstone text in my own teaching and research. I hope to see more of these scholars research in the future. The text is very readable and approachable, and the evidence is broad, logically presented, and analyzed well. This book is a must read.

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