

Contents

Preface	xi
1 <i>Women and Public Policy</i>	1
Defining Culture	2
A Brief History of Cultural Change and Public Policy	6
Cultural Change and Public Policy Today	9
Notes	14
Suggestions for Further Reading	17
2 <i>Women and Education Policy</i>	19
Education Policy in Cultural and Historical Context	20
The Status of Women in Higher Education	22
Discrimination against Women in Higher Education	25
Women, Education, and the Policy Process	27
Looking Ahead	37
Notes	39
Chronology	42
Suggestions for Further Reading	43
3 <i>Women and Health Care Policy</i>	45
Women, Culture, and Health Policy	46
Women's Access to Health Care and Policy Making	52
Policy Silences	59
Notes	63
Chronology	67
Suggestions for Further Reading	67
4 <i>Women and Reproductive Policy</i>	69
Childbearing	69
Fetal Rights	71
Contraception	72
Abortion	75
Assisted Reproductive Technologies	79
Conclusion	83
Notes	83
Chronology	87
Suggestions for Further Reading	88

5	<i>Women and Employment Policy</i>	90
	Employment Discrimination: Theories of Cause and Change	91
	Patterns of Employment	92
	A History of Employment Policy	94
	Sexual Harassment	105
	Criteria for Proof of Discrimination	108
	Effects of Equal Opportunity Policy on Women's Employment	109
	The Concept of Comparable Worth	111
	The Outlook for Women	113
	Notes	115
	Chronology	120
	Suggestions for Further Reading	121
6	<i>Women and Economic Equity: Housing, Credit, Insurance, and Retirement Income</i>	123
	Housing	123
	Insurance	125
	Credit	127
	Retirement Income	132
	Notes	137
	Suggestions for Further Reading	139
7	<i>Women and Family Law: Marriage and Divorce</i>	141
	Laws and Public Policies Governing Marriage	144
	Laws and Public Policies Governing Divorce	152
	Conclusion	162
	Notes	163
	Chronology	167
	Suggestions for Further Reading	168
8	<i>Women and Child Care</i>	170
	Can the Needs of Women and Children Be Separated?	172
	Child Care in a Cultural Context	173
	The Increasing Importance of Child Care Issues	174
	A History of Child Care and Family Leave	180
	A Need for Public Awareness	189
	Notes	191
	Chronology	193
	Suggestions for Further Reading	194
9	<i>Women and the Criminal Justice System</i>	197
	The Functions of Law in American Society	199
	Women as Decision Makers in the Criminal Justice System	199
	Women as Criminals	204
	Women as Crime Victims	210

Conclusion	218
Notes	218
Chronology	223
Suggestions for Further Reading	224
10 <i>A Revolution in Progress</i>	227
Notes	233
Suggestions for Further Reading	235
<i>Index</i>	237

Preface

As this is the third edition of *Women & Public Policy: A Revolution in Progress*, we have benefited greatly from the comments of reviewers, students, and faculty colleagues who have used previous editions in their courses. Since the publication of the first volume in 1995, cultural change has continued to affect American women and public policy. As such, the book's unifying theme is the impact of cultural change on women's roles in American society and on patterns of public policy as they affect women and their families. Mindful that gender is not the only social characteristic of importance in public policy—class, race, and age, for example, are also influential—we believe that gender warrants specific inquiry. We have, however, also taken great care in this edition to demonstrate how gender interacts with other factors.

We continue to hope that this book will interest a variety of audiences, including students of public policy and of women's studies. Although each chapter discusses court cases, laws, executive orders, and regulations, no prior knowledge of the policy process as it pertains to women's issues is necessary to learn from this book.

Chapter 1 presents working definitions of culture and public policy. The relationship between public policy and cultural change, particularly in regard to the increasing participation of women in the workforce, receives special attention. The discussion centers on the policy-making process and the impact of policy silences on that process. We also consider three models of the policy process that are useful in stimulating systematic and critical analysis of the issues raised in later chapters. The discussion of feminism has been expanded and now includes material on third wave feminism.

Chapter 2 examines the effect of educational policy on women. Discussions of the status of women as students and as educators, the patterns of discrimination against women, and the impact of Title IX and its implementation follow an overview of the cultural and historical context of educational policy. We pay special attention to Title IX thirty years after its implementation, including the so-called gender war over its application to sports and the George W. Bush administration's stance on Title IX enforcement. There is also new material on women and graduate