

# Wages for Housework: The History of an International Feminist Movement (1972-1977)

Louise Toupin

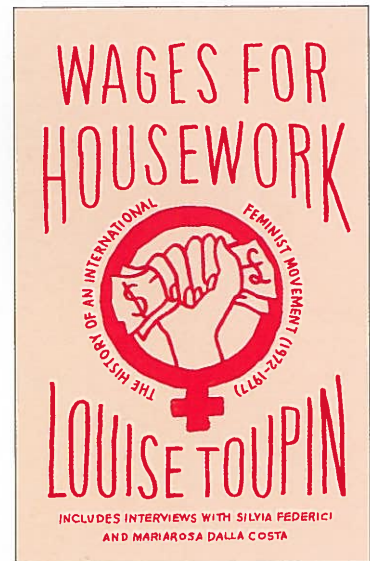
A history of the feminist movement that changed  
how we see women's work forever

Revolutionary feminism is resurging across the world. But what were its origins? In the early 1970s, the International Feminist Collective began to organise around the call for recognition of the different forms of labour performed by women. They paved the way for the influential and controversial feminist campaign 'Wages for Housework' which made great strides towards driving debates in social reproduction and the gendered aspects of labour.

Drawing on extensive archival research, Louise Toupin looks at the history of this movement between 1972 and 1977, featuring unpublished conversations with some of its founders including Silvia Federici and Mariarosa Dalla Costa, as well as activists from Italy, Germany, Switzerland, the United States and Canada. Encompassing rich theoretical traditions, including autonomism, anti-colonialism and feminism, whilst challenging both classical Marxism and the mainstream women's movement, the book highlights the power and originality of the campaign.

Among their many innovations, these pathbreaking activists approached gender, sexuality, race and class together in a way that anticipated intersectionality and paved the way to a radical new understanding of sex work.

**LOUISE TOUPIN** taught Political Science at University of Quebec in Montreal. She was a member of the Quebec Women's Liberation Front (1969-1971), and co-authored numerous anthologies of activist and feminist writings.



History

Academic

September 2018

Pb: £19.99 / ISBN: 9780745338675

Hb: £75 / ISBN: 9780745338682

230 x 150mm

272pp

English, German and Italian languages

World excluding North America

Includes interviews with legendary feminists, Silvia Federici and Mariarosa Della Costa

The history of the tradition that inspired the Women's Strike movement today

Shows how mainstream 'lean-in' feminism is not enough to fight gender inequality

RELATED TITLE:  
SOCIAL REPRODUCTION THEORY

Edited by Tithi Bhattacharya

Pb: £18.99

ISBN: 9780745399881