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Correspondence Committee. 1990-1999. Women and Publication Patterns in Criminal Justice Journals.

American Society of Criminology. Division on Women and Crime

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Memorandum

April 21, 1993

To: ASC Executive Committee

From: Meda Chesney-Lind

Re: More on Patterns of Women's Publishing in **Criminology**

I have attached a recent article that appeared in **Women and Criminal Justice** to follow-up on the discussion at our Board meeting, as well as to amplify on the patterns Charles reveals in his memo regarding submissions to **Criminology**.

Specifically, the article (as well as a longer piece by the same authors which appeared in **Journal of Criminal Justice Education**, Vol. 3, No. 2 (Fall, 1992), pp. 293-314) notes that women (as either sole or first author) comprised 17.3% of those who published in **Criminology**. This was better than the patterns found in **The Journal of Police Science and Education** (14.8%), and **The Journal of Criminal Justice** (11.2%), but worse than **Crime and Delinquency** (21.1%) and **Federal Probation** (19.9%) for the years surveyed.

The other comparison they offer, which is interesting, is that women comprise 26.6% of ASC's membership but only 16.5% of authors (in all the journals surveyed). They also note in their JCJE piece that women present about 28.4% of the papers at professional meetings; this figure is likely higher at ASC than at ACJS, the other meeting they track, since ASC has a much higher female membership.

A final note is that we need to look more closely at the data Charles has presented. In particular, we need to look at the number of women as first authors in co-authored pieces, and we need to merge these in with women as sole authors. The current analysis counts only women as sole authors or all women. This would be appropriate if the pattern of co-authorship was gender-neutral. Eigenberg and Baro found, however, that women are more likely than men to co-author and that when they do, they often work with another woman. This would inflate the number of women authors overall in the analysis Charles sent you.

MEMO

To: Members of the ASC Executive Board

From: C. Tittle, Editor of Criminology

Dear Colleagues:

At the recent meeting in San Diego a question arose about the distribution of submissions and decisions of manuscripts during my editorship. At the time I could not provide exact information for addressing those questions. Pertinent figures are presented below. I could not devise a reliable method for classifying the content of submissions according to "feminist" content. However, the figures are broken down in two different ways to get at the issue of the sex of authors. One breakdown uses authors as the unit of analysis and focuses on the total number of male and female authors regardless of the number and sex composition of authors for specific papers. A second breakdown focuses on papers as the unit of analysis and divides them into three categories: those with only male authors, those with only female authors, and those with both male and female authors.

Table 1. Criminology Traffic, April 1, 1991 Through April 8, 1993.

	Total	Male Authors	Female Authors	Papers with Male Authors Only	Papers with Female Authors Only	Papers with Male and Female Authors	Int'l	"Critical" Papers
Submissions	100% (279)	78% (383)	22% (108)	66% (183)	14% (39)	20% (57)	8% (22)	2% (5)
Status:								
Decline	61% (169)	56% (213)	53% (57)	65% (119)	62% (24)	46% (26)	59% (13)	60% (3)
R & R	18% (49)	21% (82)	22% (24)	16% (29)	15% (6)	25% (14)	27% (6)	20% (1)
Pub	17% (47)	18% (68)	18% (20)	15% (28)	18% (7)	21% (12)	9% (2)	0% (0)
Pend	5% (14)	5% (20)	6% (7)	4% (7)	5% (2)	9% (5)	4% (1)	20% (1)

Men are more likely to be single authors, and when they co-author, they have both men and women as co-authors. By contrast, women who are primary authors rarely have men as junior authors. The researchers conclude that "this [pattern] may indicate that women with established reputations in the field still have less power or influence than their male colleagues, and therefore men are less willing to pursue working relationships with them."

Whatever the source of the bias, these data suggest that we need to ask Charles to take a look at male and female authorship with a methodology comparable to that used by Eigenberg and Baro and re-run the analysis on article attrition.

Over-all, though, the data that Charles presented indicates that women are under-represented among those submitting to **Criminology** compared to their presentations at our meetings and in our membership. It will also be most interesting to review the experience of these female authors once the data have been rerun to include the inclusion of information on primary authorship.