Women, Language and Politics

*Women, Language and Politics* addresses the problem of the under-representation of women in politics by examining how language use constructs and maintains inequality in political institutions. Drawing on different political genres, from televised debates to parliamentary question times, and fifty interviews with politicians conducted between 1998 and 2018, the book identifies the barriers and obstacles women face by considering how gender stereotypes constrain women’s participation and give women additional burdens. By comparing the UK House of Commons with newer institutions such as the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales and the Northern Ireland Assembly, the book asks: how successful have newer institutions been in encouraging equal participation? What are the interactional procedures that can be thought of as making an institution more egalitarian? *Women, Language and Politics* also explores the workings and effects of sexism, fraternal networks, high visibility in the media and gendered discourses through detailed case studies of Theresa May, Julia Gillard and Hillary Clinton.

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For my family, great and small
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Abbreviations

AL  Alliance Party (Northern Ireland)
AM  Assembly Member (National Assembly for Wales)
BAME  black, Asian and minority ethnic
CA  Conversion Analysis
CDA  Critical Discourse Analysis
CMP  current MP (the MP with the current ‘legal’ speaking turn)
Con  Conservative Party (UK)
CoP  community of practice
DQTs  departmental question times
DUP  Democratic Unionist Party (Northern Ireland)
EU  European Union
FM  first minister
FMQs  first minister’s questions
HoC  House of Commons, Westminster, UK
HoR  House of Representatives (Australian National Parliament)
IMP  intervening MP (the MP intervening on the CMP, either legally or illegally)
LAB  Labour Party (UK)
LibDem  Liberal Democrats Party (UK)
LO  leader of the opposition
MLA  Member of the Legislative Authority (Northern Ireland Assembly)
MP  Member of Parliament (of the UK House of Commons)
MSP  Member of the Scottish Parliament
NAW  National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff, UK (to be renamed ‘Welsh Assembly’)
NIA  Northern Ireland Assembly, Belfast, UK
OR  official report
PC  Plaid Cymru (the national party of Wales)
PM  prime minister
PMQs  Prime Minister’s Questions
## List of Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDLP</td>
<td>Social Democratic and Labour Party (Northern Ireland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF</td>
<td>Sinn Féin (Northern Ireland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNP</td>
<td>Scottish Nationalist Party (the national party of Scotland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP</td>
<td>Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRW</td>
<td>the substantive representation of women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>an illegal utterance that is ‘unattributable’ to an individual speaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UUP</td>
<td>Ulster Unionist Party (Northern Ireland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAW-P</td>
<td>Violence against women in politics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transcription Conventions

[ ] beginning of an overlapping utterance with the line above/below
]
CAPS increased volume, shouting
underline particular emphasis on word or syllable
( ) micropause of under a second
(3) pause in seconds
= latching – one utterance runs straight on from the next without a pause
(laughter) round brackets indicate noises such as cheering or laughter