

GENDER IN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Gender in American Literature and Culture introduces readers to key developments in gender studies and American literary criticism. It offers nuanced readings of literary conventions and genres from early American writings to the present and moves beyond inflexible categories of masculinity and femininity that have reinforced misleading assumptions about public and private spaces, domesticity, individualism, and community. The book also demonstrates how rigid inscriptions of gender have perpetuated a legacy of violence and exclusion in the United States. Responding to a sense of twenty-first-century cultural and political crisis, it illuminates the literary histories and cultural imaginaries that have set the stage for urgent contemporary debates.

JEAN M. LUTES is the editor of *Around the World in Seventy-Two Days and Other Writings by Nellie Bly* (2014) and the author of *Front-Page Girls: Women Journalists in American Literature and Culture, 1880–1930* (2006). She is Professor of English at Villanova University.

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GENDER IN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

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