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MA in History from the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, MBA in Cultural Heritage Management from the Université Internationale francophone Léopold Sédar Senghor, PhD in Contemporary History from the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, PhD in Social History from the University of Amsterdam

PROJECT

Women of 1968: Africans in the Global Context

The research project “Women of 1968: Africans in the Global Context” draws on the microhistory of African women to explore the global context of women’s struggles, reconsidering African women’s untold itineraries from the global social movement of May 1968. It focuses on the legacy of the 1960s and the efficiency of the May 1968 revolution for African women who accommodated and/or raised the paradigms of the Global South to meet global standards.

First, the project revisits the less known role of “the invisible women” in the global youth revolt of 1968 and seeks to elucidate how Africans were confronted with their specific feminine issues while connected to their colleagues in other parts of the world. Second, it seeks to show how, in the African version of the revolt, women reconciled local conservative traditions in their countries with their openness to modernity and revolutionary injunctions, and how they equally accommodated male veteran discourses in their own struggles. Third, it examines how, in the wake of the ideals of 1968, the itinerary of African women accounts for women’s struggles against centuries-old societal burdens and how they reacted to the challenges of globalization.

In sum, the research project will significantly enhance women’s studies in general, and more specifically the study of women in social movements, the 1968 event, and African political activism.

Recommended Reading

Gueye, Omar. *Sénégal: Histoire du mouvement syndical. La marche vers le Code du Travail*. Paris: Editions L'Harmattan, 2011.

–. *Mai 1968 au Sénégal, Senghor face aux étudiants et au mouvement syndical*. Paris: Karthala, 2017.

–. “African History and Global History: Revisiting Paradigms.” In *Global History, Globally: Research and Practice around the World*, edited by Sven Beckert and Dominic Sachsenmaier, 83–107. London: Bloomsbury, 2018.