

Introduction

Emily Hamilton-Honey, Christine Doran, Jennifer Thomas¹

[Article copies available for a fee from *The Transformative Studies Institute*. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2021 by *The Transformative Studies Institute*. All rights reserved.]

In April 2019, the Gender, Sex, and Sexuality conference held its fifth annual conference at SUNY Canton. This issue of *Theory in Action* highlights the variety of voices, themes, and scholarship presented in response to the conference theme of “Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds, Healthy Societies.”

At the time, our intent was to address wellness holistically, and examine how attaining wellness is impacted by being in various marginal positions, including race, gender, sexual orientation, geographical location, income level, and others. This is a particularly urgent question

¹ **Emily Hamilton-Honey**, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of English and Humanities and Co-Chief Diversity Officer at the State University of New York Canton. Her specialties are postbellum and Progressive Era American women’s literature and history, and girlhood studies. She is the author of *Turning the Pages of American Girlhood: The Evolution of Girls’ Series Fiction, 1865–1930*, and co-author, with Susan Ingalls Lewis, of *Girls to the Rescue: Young Heroines in American Series Fiction of World War I*. She is also co-editor, with Jennifer McFarlane-Harris, of *Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers and Theologies of the Afterlife: A Step Closer to Heaven*, forthcoming this summer from Routledge. Address correspondence to: Emily Hamilton-Honey, e-mail: hamiltone@canton.edu.

Christine M. Doran, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of English and Communication and Director of Women’s and Gender Studies at SUNY Potsdam. She teaches 20th and 21st century British literature, Japanese anime, and gender studies.

Jennifer Thomas, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Performance and Chair of the Performance and Communication Arts department at St. Lawrence University where she teaches courses in theatre history, theory, and literature. Working at the intersection of theory and practice, Thomas’s work has explored aging and old age, ethnography and musical theatre, and higher education pedagogy and practices in and out of the theatre. She recently co-authored *Inclusive Character Analysis: Putting Theory into Practice for the 21st Century Theatre Classroom* which was published by Routledge in December 2020. Her creative scholarship has been seen in Washington, Oregon, North Dakota, Connecticut, Wisconsin, and New York.