

Warm greetings to all GDN colleagues!

This is indeed a late issue of our supposedly weekly resources. As much as we would want to release one every week, time as well as the (un)availability of materials for inclusion in the newsletter have constrained us from doing so. Thus, we will still be having our e-resources albeit on a somewhat irregular basis. I hope members will still find this useful.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Ana Cristina-Thorlund, ISDR for the Spanish translation of the last two issues of our e-resources including this one.

Previous issues of our e-resources/newsletters will be accessible online under 'Miscellaneous' in the Resources section of the GDN website:  
[http://www.gdnonline.org/wot\\_misc.php](http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_misc.php)

Comments and suggestions are very much appreciated.

With warm regards,

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### **GDN e-Resources No. 11**

New resources for GDN members (26 April - 3 June) Details of the following are available at <http://www.gdnonline.org/>

- 1) A warm welcome to our new members from Australia, Burundi, Kenya, Pakistan, Egypt, USA, New Zealand, India, Barbados, Malawi, Italy, and Switzerland!
- 2) **Children, Youths and Environment Journal**. Volume 18, Number 1. 2008. This special issue examines the vulnerability and resilience of children and youth before, during and after disasters. It contains a unique collection of 20 papers from around the world, an annotated compilation of resources, four book reviews, and a media review. Access to the Journal varies for high-, middle-, low-income countries. Please visit the website at:  
[http://www.colorado.edu/journals/cye/paymentrequest\\_current.htm](http://www.colorado.edu/journals/cye/paymentrequest_current.htm)
- 3) **Assisting Pregnant Women to Prepare for Disaster**. Disasters are natural or (hu)man-made life-altering events that require preplanning to save lives. Pregnant women are a particularly vulnerable population in such events, because they have special physical and psychosocial needs. Preparations made for labor and birth might have to be drastically altered in the event of an emergency, especially if a woman is separated from her familiar healthcare providers and facilities. The issue of breastfeeding also must be considered in disaster planning for pregnant women, along with occurrences such as food shortages and outbreak of illnesses caused by overcrowding of displaced persons. Recent events such as hurricane Katrina have demonstrated that maternal/child nurses need to become more aware of disaster planning and help to empower pregnant women with knowledge of how to handle their special needs in times of crisis. American

Journal of Maternal Child Nursing. 33(2):98-103, March/April 2008. Ewing, Bonnie PhD, RN; Buchholtz, Susan EdD, ACNP; Rotanz, Richard MS. <http://www.mcnjournal.com/> (Subscription required)

4) **Weapons of Mass Destruction: Gender Implications.** At first glance, the relationship between gender and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) may not be obvious. After all, the eruption of a nuclear bomb is likely to annihilate women men, children, animals and plants alike. [2] However once the symbolic value of WMD is examined, the gender dimension becomes apparent. Weapons in general tend to be associated with masculinity, which is socially constructed. Most of the buyers, owners and users of weapons are men. Armament and disarmament policies and practices are influenced by ideas about masculinity. [3] Weapons are considered to be symbols of masculinity and sexual potency. In 1998, when India detonated five nuclear devices, Hindu nationalist leader Balasaheb Thackeray is reported to have said 'we had to prove that we are not eunuchs.' [4]. By Kathambi Kinoti from Resource Net, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID). 2 May 2008.

[http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/AWID\\_Kinoti\\_WMD\\_Gender\\_Implications.doc](http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/AWID_Kinoti_WMD_Gender_Implications.doc)

5) **UNHCR's Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls.** This document replaces the UNHCR's 1991 Guidelines on the Protection of Refugee Women and was launched during the celebration of International Women's Day last March. The handbook was designed to "promote gender equality by using a rights- and community-based approach, by mainstreaming age, gender and diversity, and through targeted actions to empower women and girls in the civil, political and economic sectors." January 2008. To view the document online, visit: <http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/47cfae612.html>

download the PDF (4.7MB):

<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/47cfa9fe2.pdf>

6) **Rape in Burma: A Weapon of War.** An article written by Cheery Zahau which highlights the situation of women and children in a country ruled by the military junta. The stories remain undocumented for a long time, however, organisations such as the Women's League of Chinland have started to interview and tell the stories of the rape survivors in Burma. Read the full article from The Women's International Perspective website:

[http://thewip.net/contributors/2008/06/rape\\_in\\_burma\\_a\\_weapon\\_of\\_war.html](http://thewip.net/contributors/2008/06/rape_in_burma_a_weapon_of_war.html)

7) **Spotlight on Sexual Violence in Conflict Situations.** Kathambi Kinoti from the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) reviews some of the issues highlighted in two recently released reports on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations: 'No One to Turn To' carried out by Save the Children, UK in Cote d'Ivoire, Haiti and Southern Sudan and 'Forced Marriage within the Lord's Resistance Army, Uganda' published by the Feinstein International Center. From Resource Net, an online publication of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID). 30 May 2008.

[http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/AWID\\_Kinoti\\_Sexual\\_Violence\\_Conflict\\_Situations.doc](http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/AWID_Kinoti_Sexual_Violence_Conflict_Situations.doc)

8) **Paying Homage to Women's Roles in Peace and Disarmament.** A major source of devastation, human suffering and poverty, war affects all aspects of economic, social and political life. And over time, the nature of warfare itself has changed - it is no longer soldiers who suffer the largest number of casualties, but civilians. In World War I, just 14 percent of deaths were civilian; today, that number has risen to over 75 percent. The nature of the battlefield has changed as well - no longer fought in remote battlefields between armies, wars now rage in

our homes, schools, our communities and increasingly on women's bodies. May 24th is celebrated globally as International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament. This article was written in honour of the many women who have campaigned tirelessly for global peace. Binalakshmi Nepram Mentschel, 24 May 2007 re-published 24 May 2008 in The Women's International Perspective website:

[http://thewip.net/contributors/2008/05/paying\\_homage\\_to\\_womens\\_roles.html](http://thewip.net/contributors/2008/05/paying_homage_to_womens_roles.html)

\*The GDN eResources is a compilation of materials, events, announcements, images available for viewing or download from the GDN website. The articles which appear in this online publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion or view of GDN or its members. For comments and/or to submit materials for posting, please send an email to [gdn@gdnonline.org](mailto:gdn@gdnonline.org). To join the network, register at <http://www.gdnonline.org/register.php>