

From the editor

Gender Studies and Policy Review reflects the ongoing research activities of the Korean Women's Development Institute and the overall gender policy orientation of the South Korean government. In the years 2009 and 2010, gender mainstreaming continued to be a principle research topic across all areas of gender research. Green growth emerged as an overarching interdisciplinary issue. Traditional women's issues such as balancing work and family and discrimination and violence against women remained in the forefront.

Gender mainstreaming has encompassed elements of both practice and discourse since its introduction 15 years ago in Beijing at the 4th World Conference on Women. These practical and theoretical facets are intended to support one another, although this is not invariably the case. The three papers in this issue addressing gender mainstreaming were initially presented at the "International Symposium on the Theory and Practice of Gender Mainstreaming" held at the KWDI on September 17 2009. They cover the historical background, theoretical bases and obstacles faced by gender mainstreaming from the perspective of witnesses to its development along with their personal sentiments of accomplishment and frustration. Alison Woodward situates gender mainstreaming *within* the 50-year history of gender equality policies in the European Union by relating how the introduction of gender mainstreaming was able to surpass the limits of gender equality policies. Marion Böker spotlights the gap between the legislative status of gender mainstreaming and its execution. She maintains that it is necessary to mobilize all concerned actors and harmonize their efforts in order for gender mainstreaming to be effective. Carol Bacchi warns us of a discursive slippage in gender mainstreaming through which it comes to displace diversity and dissipate the implications of gender mainstreaming for gender politics.

"Analysis of the effectiveness of the parental leave system using a tax and benefit model" by Tae-hong Kim, "Estimation of number of jobs created for women by the Green New Deal," by Young-ok Kim, "Protection of sexually abused children in the criminal investigation process and its improvement" by Deuk Kyeong Yoon, and "The cost of domestic violence against women in South Korea" by Youkyoung Moon are summaries of research undertaken in 2009 by the KWDI. These papers address staples of women's policies such as work and family balance, the development of women's human resources potential, and the protection of children from sexual abuse.

Tae-hong Kim analyzes the effectiveness of parental leave benefits, which have been promoted as a tool for encouraging increased use of the parental leave system. He finds that raises

in parental leave benefits are most beneficial to their recipients when offered as a flat rate increase with upper and lower limits. Young-ok Kim investigates the extent to which the Green New Deal project has contributed to an increase in women's employment. Deuk Kyeong Yoon concerns herself with the legal process of prosecuting the sexual abuse of children, revealing that insensitivity to the psychological status of the victims may result not only in increased ineffectiveness of prosecution but also, in some cases, traumatization and a second victimization of child victims. Youkyoung Moon similarly attempts to warn of the harmful effect of violence against women, in this case by projecting the economic cost of domestic violence.

Drawn from a field outside of gender study, Gun Park's paper, "Study on the effect of stratum consciousness and sex on discrimination sensitivity in South Korea," is a somewhat heterogeneous addition to this issue. Gun Park examines the effect of socio-demographic factors including gender and stratification consciousness on disposition toward discrimination. This study does not specifically focus on gender discrimination per se, but rather explores discrimination as a phenomenon that can be influenced by gender.

Finally, two reports are presented; one by Sumi Park on contemporary South Korean policy directions in women's and family issues and another by Jungim Whang outlining the KWDI's research outcomes in 2009 and a plan for the year 2010.

Every year, researchers at the KWDI strive to expand the horizons of gender policy research as well as respond to and provide timely measures for the urgent issues and challenges faced by women and by gender relationships. The third issue of GSPR is one aspect of these efforts and we hope that it is a fruitful one.

Sooyeon Lee, Editor in Chief