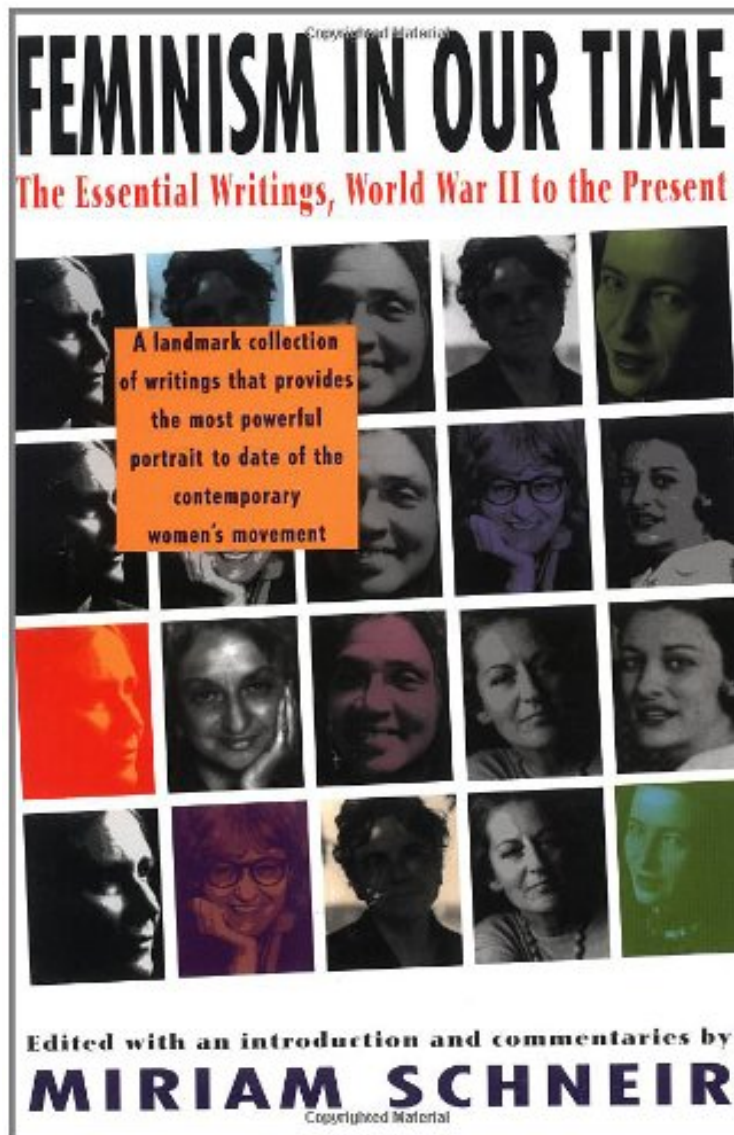


Feminism in Our Time: The Essential Writings, World War II to the Present

Miriam Schneir

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Miriam Schneir : Feminism in Our Time: The Essential Writings, World War II to the Present before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Feminism in Our Time: The Essential Writings, World War II to the Present*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. My first Fem Book that I read-By Donna MicoI am reading another one-but have gotten more into this one... it is connecting the dots to things I have known but not full scale. It was a relief to see things in words- written- the guts to write what I have thought- not in anger but in truth and enlightenment. Women need to know the truth of what we have gone through so we can continue to teach the youth so they do not take it for granted our rights and freedoms.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Sara APerfect thanks0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy howard hollandexcellent

A landmark collection of writings that define the intellectual and political underpinnings of contemporary feminism, from Simone de Beauvoir to Ruth Bader Ginsburg. In this important volume, the respected feminist historian Miriam Schneir completes the work she began in her bestselling *Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings*, presenting contemporary writings that define the women's movement today and revealing how radically transformative a force it is throughout the world. Here are the words of Doris Lessing, Betty Friedan, Germaine Greer, Anita Hill, and many other important feminist figures. Ranging from intensely personal statements to ringing manifestos, from diagnosis to outright rebellion, and incorporating both public records and works addressing such specific issues as religion, rape, women's health, pornography, and the concerns of lesbians and women of color, *Feminism in Our Time* is a thorough record of women's ongoing struggle to control their own destinies and provide alternative visions of a just society and true human equality.

From Publishers Weekly A sampler of feminist writings that focuses on the 1960s and '70s, this volume begins with a selection from Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* (1949) and then jumps rather abruptly to 1962 and Doris Lessing's *The Golden Notebook*. Incorporating a diverse range of contributors, from poets (Anne Sexton) to polemicists (Shulamith Firestone), Schneir's selection is lively, inspiring and inclusive--there are excerpts from legal documents, such as the ERA and Justice Blackmun's majority opinion in *Roe v. Wade*, and from political statements from activist groups. Schneir's introductions, providing historical context and relevant biographical data, take pains to be diplomatic but also acknowledge disputes. Of antipornography crusader and censorship advocate Andrea Dworkin she writes, "Her blunt, hard-hitting prose is anything but temperate or judicious." There is no sex-positive voice like Susie Bright or Betty Dodson to counterbalance Dworkin, but in anthologizing a heterogeneous movement, omissions are perhaps inevitable. Schneir has assembled not just a political sampler but an anthology of some of this country's best essayists. Her sequel to *Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings* will undoubtedly find a home on women's studies syllabuses, but it deserves a much broader readership. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This anthology, which updates Schneir's previous collection, *Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings* (Random House, 1972), begins with an excerpt from Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* and ends with a section on "Themes of the Eighties and Nineties." Including essays, excerpts from classic works (e.g., *The Feminist Mystique*, *Sexual Politics*), statements from organizations, poems, and fiction, Schneir's selections cover a wide variety of topics such as organization of the feminist movement, feminist theory, health, and discrimination against women. All major feminist authors are included, with African Americans and the lesbian perspective well represented, and Schneir provides introductory notes for each. Although many of these selections appear in numerous publications, the convenience of having them in one volume makes this a useful text for women's studies courses and a valuable purchase for nearly all libraries. Kathryn Moore Crowe, Jackson Lib., Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Schneir collects 50 pieces, including excerpts from Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and *Roe v. Wade*, and manifestos and statements of purpose from NOW, SDS, Redstockings, Radicalesbians, the National Black Feminist Organization, the Combahee River Collective, the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, and African American Women in Defense of Ourselves, as well as work from highly visible feminists (from de Beauvoir and Friedan to Greer, Steinem, and Faludi), women often viewed in a political context (Bella Abzug, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Anita Hill), and key contributors to feminism's continuing controversies (e.g., Weisenstein, Millett, Daly, Firestone, Morgan, Brownmiller, Dinnerstein, Dworkin, Gilligan, and Eisler). Schneir supplies useful context for and commentary about each selection. Readers who haven't kept up with the twists and turns of feminist thinking over the past several decades will find Schneir's sampler a helpful introduction to longer works that are well worth exploring. Mary Carroll