



# An Introduction to Feminist Philosophy

By Alison Stone

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## **An Introduction to Feminist Philosophy** By Alison Stone

This is the first book to offer a systematic account of feminist philosophy as a distinctive field of philosophy. The book introduces key issues and debates in feminist philosophy including: the nature of sex, gender, and the body; the relation between gender, sexuality, and sexual difference; whether there is anything that all women have in common; and the nature of birth and its centrality to human existence. *An Introduction to Feminist Philosophy* shows how feminist thinking on these and related topics has developed since the 1960s. The book also explains how feminist philosophy relates to the many forms of feminist politics.

The book provides clear, succinct and readable accounts of key feminist thinkers including de Beauvoir, Butler, Gilligan, Irigaray, and MacKinnon. The book also introduces other thinkers who have influenced feminist philosophy including Arendt, Foucault, Freud, and Lacan. Accessible in approach, this book is ideal for students and researchers interested in feminist philosophy, feminist theory, womens studies, and political theory. It will also appeal to the general reader.

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## **An Introduction to Feminist Philosophy** By Alison Stone Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #682104 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Polity
- Published on: 2007-12-17
- Released on: 2007-11-18
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .76" w x 6.00" l, .79 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 248 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"Alison Stone explains with a rare clarity the many theories of feminist philosophies which revolve around some basic concepts (sex, gender, sexual diversity, essentialism, birth, feminism) and reveals the many prejudices that these concepts carry to the detriment of both women and men."

***Epistemologia***

"Moving deftly through an impressive range of literature in psychoanalysis, gender theory, equality-difference debates, and complex questions about gender essentialism, Stone offers a thoughtful, scholarly and practical introduction to a range of interpretive strategies and symbolic structures that sustain gendered oppression and subordination. The book is a fine resource for professional philosophers, and an excellent, accessible teaching text."

**Lorraine Code, York University, Toronto**

"The considerable accomplishment of this comprehensive and reliable guide is the fine balance it achieves. It stands as a model of clarity and of philosophical argument, which on the one hand avoids making unexplained assumptions, and on the other hand manages to avoid being reductive. It constitutes a valuable resource for readers who want to familiarize themselves with the field, and a useful tool for those who seek clarification of central debates."

**Tina Chanter, DePaul University, Chicago**

### **From the Back Cover**

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### **About the Author**

**Alison Stone** is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at Lancaster University.

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