

analysis of and effort to change racist, sexist, classist, imperialist, colonialist, heterosexist, and other structures of oppression that keep women, especially young, poor women of color, from surviving and thriving.

Early feminist work in religion began in the 1960s when the gendered nature of religion was exposed and the sexist assumptions of many religious traditions were challenged. In the intervening decades, feminist work has reshaped the field, as virtually every religious subspecialty has been subject to feminist analysis and reconstruction.

### *Festschriften*

*Festschriften* are books written in honor of a colleague, often on the occasion of her/his sixty-fifth or seventieth birthday, or upon retirement. There are other ways to lift up the importance of a colleague's work—for example, with a conference, a special section of a journal, an art project, or the like. However, the most common academic model is a collaborative book that includes an essay about the person and her/his work, or essays on themes related to or sparked by the colleague's endeavors.

It is a privilege to be invited to contribute to a *Festschrift*. The essay or other contribution need not seem like uncritical homage. Rather, it is an opportunity to acknowledge a person's contribution to the field in a polite and professional way, perhaps best by exhibiting one's own work as it has been influenced by hers/his.

### **Files**

Careful filing is the key to success for many professionals. Just ask someone whose work style you admire (you know, the one who always gets her grades in on time, writes her grocery list in triplicate, that sort of thing) and you will probably hear that she keeps her files in good order. This is such a personal and culturally specific matter—oral cultures have no need for such things. However, it is a good basic habit to cultivate, as life just gets more complicated. It may be a good idea to keep some