

Genders and Sexualities in History

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Ivan Simic

Soviet Influences on
Postwar Yugoslav
Gender Policies

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SERIES EDITORS' PREFACE

Soviet Influences on Post War Yugoslav Gender Policies is a groundbreaking and controversial study of the influence of Stalinism and the Soviet Union in gender policies formed in the Communist Yugoslav state after the Second World War. Far from the rupture in 1948 between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia creating a radical departure in Yugoslav policies and outlook, Ivan Simić's compelling book argues that Yugoslav gender policies and notions of sexual abstinence for youths continued to emulate Stalinist ideals. After 1948, representations of the idealised female Soviet 'shock-worker' disappeared in Yugoslavia. But the Soviet Union and Stalinist gendered ideal of the highly productive 'shock-worker', male or female, persisted well into the 1950s in Yugoslav gender policies. Simić questions the extent to which Yugoslav detachment from the Soviet Union was genuine after 1948, through examination of gender policies and their origins. The book provides a new understanding of the complexities of gender policies in early Communist Yugoslavia—and reveals the extent to which Stalinist ideals persisted. In common with all volumes in the *Genders and Sexualities in History* series, *Soviet Influences on Post War Yugoslav Gender Policies* presents a multifaceted and meticulously researched scholarly study, and is a sophisticated contribution to our understanding of the past.

John Arnold
Joanna Bourke
Sean Brady

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ABBREVIATIONS

Yugoslav communists were no different to other communists in Eastern Europe and used abbreviations extensively. These abbreviations referred to the Party or state institutions. Although I have translated the names of all these institutions, I have used their Yugoslav abbreviation forms. For example, I will talk about the Antifascist Front of Women, but I will use the abbreviation AFŽ, which follows from the Yugoslav original *Antifašistički front žena*, allowing for easier referencing.

Used abbreviations in the text or the sources:

AFŽ	Antifašistički front žena—The Antifascist Women’s Front
AVNOJ	Antifašističko Veće Narodnog Oslobođenja Jugoslavije—The Anti-Fascist Council for the National Liberation of Yugoslavia
IVZ	Islamska verska zajednica—Islamic Religious Community of Yugoslavia
NF	Narodni front—People’s Front
NO	Narodna omladina—People’s Youth (I will use more generic term <i>Youth Organisation</i> to avoid confusion as the organisation changed names)
SKJ	Savez komunista Jugoslavije—The League of Communists of Yugoslavia (I will use the term <i>Communist Party</i> in the text)
SKOJ	Savez komunističke omladine Jugoslavije—The League of the Communist Youth of Yugoslavia
SSRNJ	Savez socijalističkog radnog naroda—The Alliance of the Socialist Working People

- SŽDJ Savez ženskih društava Jugoslavije—The Alliance of Women Societies of Yugoslavia
- USAOJ Ujedinjeni savez antifašističke omladine Jugoslavije—The United Alliance of the Antifascist Youth of Yugoslavia (In the main text I will use *Youth Organisation*)