



Guide to the Drucilla K. Barker Papers, 1950s-2018

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Summary

Collection Title:

Drucilla K. Barker papers, 1950s-2018

Creator:

Barker, Drucilla K., 1949-2023

Source:

Economists' Papers Archive

Abstract:

Drucilla "Drue" K. Barker (1949-2023) was a white Marxist feminist economist and labor scholar and a founding member of the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE). Collection consists of organizational materials from the International Association for Feminist Economics, Barker's early-career writings and professional materials, materials related to Barker's pedagogy and teaching at Hollins, materials from Barker's undergraduate and graduate work, personal materials, and reading materials. The bulk of this collection dates from the 1980s and 1990s, and it documents Barker's education and career as a feminist economist, including her contributions to the field, her intersectional work, and the breadth of her scholarly interests. Topics represented in the collection include: feminism, feminist economics, Marxian economics, the economic value of caregiving and women's work, and economic aspects of medical malpractice. Acquired as part of the Economists' Papers Archive.

Extent:

5 Linear Feet (3 boxes, 1 oversize folder)

Language:

Materials in English.

Collection ID:

RL.13162

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m18b3b>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Drucilla K. Barker papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection consists of some organizational materials from the International Association for Feminist Economics, Barker's early-career writings and professional materials, materials related to Barker's pedagogy and teaching at Hollins, materials from Barker's undergraduate and graduate work, personal materials, and reading materials. The bulk of this collection dates from the 1980s and 1990s, and it documents Barker's education and career as a feminist economist, including her contributions to the field, her intersectional work, and the breadth of her scholarly interests.

The International Association for Feminist Economics series contains administrative materials, publications, conference papers, and other items that document the establishment, history, and activities of IAFFE, including Barker's active roles in the organization.

The Writings and Professional Activities series represents a partial body of Barker's post-doctoral and early career work outside of teaching. Papers about tort reform and medical malpractice build upon Barker's doctoral research, while book reviews, articles, and a review essay show her scholarly and extracurricular engagement with economics and feminism. To a lesser extent, conference materials and summer seminar applications document Barker's professional development and interdisciplinary approach to scholarship.

The Pedagogy and Teaching series contains a small amount of materials from Barker's teaching at Hollins College. Sample syllabi, a handful of articles, and games for teaching the history of thought provide examples of Barker's approach to teaching and pedagogical influences. Also present are notes for a couple of lectures and a few other materials from Barker's teaching.

The Education series contains some course materials, notes, and transcripts from Barker's undergraduate and graduate education in economics in the 1980s, as well as Barker's dissertation proposal and sets of data used for that research. Also present are course materials and notes from a fiction class Barker enrolled in during the summer of 1999.

There is a very small amount of personal materials that document Barker's interest and participation in folk dancing, particularly Balkan varieties. This material includes folk dance workshop programs, music and lyrics, and dance step instructions. This is the only aspect of Barker's personal life represented in the collection.

The Reading Materials series is the largest series in the collection and consists mostly of copies of scholarly articles and book chapters on a wide variety of

topics that Barker studied or was interested in. Topics range from economics (feminist, Marxian, and other schools of thought) to medical malpractice to arts and culture; together they represent Barker's wide range of studies and her intersectional approach to scholarship.

Biographical/Historical

Drucilla "Drue" K. Barker (1949-2023) was a white Marxist feminist economist and labor scholar and a founding member of the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE). Barker is known for her contributions to the field of feminist economics and for her contributions to understanding women's work and caregiving as labor. She published numerous books, chapters, and articles on economics, feminism, gender, and women's work. In addition to being a founding member of IAFFE, Barker served as a member of its Board of Directors (1998-2000), a member of the Feminist Economics editorial board (1999-2005), as IAFFE's newsletter editor, and as a conference organizer.

Drucilla Barker was born on March 12, 1949, in Akron, Ohio. She received her undergraduate degree in 1980 from Sonoma State University, where she majored in philosophy. She then pursued a master's degree in economics at Illinois State University, which she completed in 1982. Barker received her Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1988. While completing her dissertation, Barker accepted a teaching position at Hollins College in Virginia, where she taught economics and women's studies from 1985 to 2006. She then moved to Columbia, South Carolina, where she was a professor of anthropology and women's and gender studies at the University of South Carolina from 2007 until her death in 2023. Barker passed away on January 12, 2023.

Drucilla Barker married Carleton Reed in 1991, and they had one child together: Alexander Barker.

Sources: Wikipedia, Virginia Marriage Records via Ancestry, and Barker's obituary via Newspapers.com (accessed 2025 September 19).

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Arrangement

Arranged into the following series: International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE); Writings and Professional Activities; Pedagogy and Teaching; Education; Personal Materials; Reading Materials.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

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Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the Rubenstein Library's Citations, Permissions, and Copyright guide.

Acquisition Information

The Drucilla K. Barker papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift from Edith Kuiper in 2024.

Processing Information

Processed by Leah Tams, September 2025.

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2024-0124.

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Names and Subjects

- Feminist economics

- Economics -- Philosophy
- Women economists -- United States
- Medical personnel -- Malpractice -- Economic aspects
- Economists -- Societies, etc.
- Feminism
- Women caregivers -- Economic conditions
- Marxian economics
- Economists' Papers Archive
- International Association for Feminist Economics
- Barker, Drucilla K., 1949-2023

Collection Inventory

International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE), 1991-2004

Arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents

Series contains administrative materials, publications, conference papers, and other items that document the establishment, history, and activities of IAFFE, including Barker's active roles in the organization. There is also a small amount of financial material related to IAFFE's scholarly journal, *Feminist Economics*, from the mid-1990s.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Founding members lists, circa 1991 | Box 1 |
| Feminist Economists Network Update newsletters, 1991 August, 1991 December | Box 1 |
| Feminist thought police and AEA, 1991-1992 | Box 1 |
| IAFFE Newsletter, Spring 1992-Winter 1997, 1998 August-2004 June | Box 1 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders | |
| Assorted IAFFE conference papers, 1992-1999 | Box 1 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders | |
| Conference session guidelines, 1993 | Box 1 |
| Forthcoming publication drafts, 1994-1999 | Box 1 |
| ANZAFFE Bulletin, 1995 June | Box 1 |

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| Feminist Economics: Subverting the Mainstream Agenda, 1995 | Box 1 |
| Feminist Economics budget and reports, 1995-1997 | Box 1 |
| Annotated bylaws, circa 1995 | Box 1 |
| Articles about IAFFE, 1995-1998 | Box 1 |
| Board and business meeting materials, 1996 | Box 1 |
| Membership directory, 1997 August | Box 1 |
| Out of the Margin 2 conference participants, 1998 June | Box 1 |

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Writings and Professional Activities, 1988-1999, 2018

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

Series contains a partial body of Barker's early-career work outside of teaching. Papers about tort reform and medical malpractice build upon Barker's doctoral research, particularly her paper entitled "Voluntary Mediation of Tort and Worker's Compensation Claims." Additionally, book reviews, articles, and a review essay show Barker's scholarly and extracurricular engagement with economics and feminism. To a lesser extent, conference materials and summer seminar applications document Barker's professional development and interdisciplinary approach to scholarship. Not represented in this series are mid- and later-career writings or grant-funded projects; however, basic information about these writings and activities is available on Barker's curriculum vitae.

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|---|-------|
| Contextual Economics outlines and reference material, 1990s | Box 1 |
| Curriculum vitae, 2018 January | Box 1 |
| "Dualism, Discourse, and Development" review essay, 1998 | Box 1 |

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| "Economists, Social Reformers, and Prophets: A Feminist Critique of Economic Efficiency", 1995 | Box 1 |
| Editorial guidelines for journals, circa 1980s-1990s | Box 1 |
| "The Effects of Tort Reform on Medical Malpractice Insurance Markets", circa 1988 | Box 1 |
| Engendering Rationalities conference, 1997 | Box 1 |
| "Fiscal Discipline", 1991 | Box 1 |
| Inclusive and Interdisciplinary conference participant list, 1997 September | Box 1 |
| NEH Summer Seminar participant application, 1989 | Box 1 |
| NEH Summer Seminar participant application, 1996 | Box 1 |
| NEH Summer Seminar summary: "Camp Epistemology", circa 1996-1997 | Box 1 |
| Notes on liberalism (email), 1995 | Box 1 |
| "Perpetuating Myths about Women" commentary response, 1994 | Box 1 |
| Review of "Nation and Narration in Development Economics", 1999 | Box 1 |
| Review of "Natural Images in Economic Thought", 1995 December | Box 1 |
| Review of "Readings in Accident Prevention", circa 1991 | Box 1 |
| Review request from Feminist Economics, 1997 | Box 1 |
| "Voluntary Mediation of Tort and Workers' Compensation Claims" draft with comments, circa 1991 | Box 1 |

"Voluntary Mediation of Tort and Workers' Compensation Claims" reviewer comments, 1989-1991

Box 1

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Pedagogy and Teaching, 1980s-1990s

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

Series contains a small amount of materials from Barker's teaching at Hollins College. Sample syllabi, a handful of articles, and games for teaching the history of thought provide examples of Barker's approach to teaching and pedagogical influences. Also present are notes for a couple of lectures, two master's papers advised by Barker, an article about a women's studies celebration (co-organized by Barker), and information about a short-term class in Russia. A more substantive body of Barker's syllabi and lecture notes is not present in this series or the collection; Barker's teaching at the University of South Carolina is likewise not represented.

"Feminist Pedagogy" by Jean Shackelford, 1992

Box 1

Games for teaching history of thought, circa 1990s

Box 1

"Gender and the Study of Economics" by Marianne Ferber, 1997

Box 1

Hollins Master of Arts in Liberal Studies papers, 1987, 1993

Box 1

Judy Klein's syllabus and article, 1994-1995

Box 1

Motion picture oligopoly lecture, circa 1980s-1990s

Box 1

Sample syllabi by others, 1995, 1997

Box 1

Short term in Russia, 1993-1994

Box 1

Tort law talk, circa 1980s-1990s

Box 1

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| Women and Political Economy in Britain course description and provisional schedule, circa 1980s-1990s | Box 1 |
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| "Women's Studies Students 'Celebrate Goddess'" by Cecily Farrar, 1999 | Box 1 |
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Education, 1982-2001

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

Series contains some course materials, notes, and transcripts from Barker's undergraduate and graduate education in economics in the 1980s, as well as Barker's dissertation proposal and sets of data used for that research. Also present are course materials and notes, including essay drafts with editorial notes, from a fiction class Barker enrolled in during the summer of 1999.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Course materials and notes, Econ 471 (Econometrics), Fall 1982 | Box 1 |
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| Course materials and notes, Fiction class, Summer 1999 | Box 1 |
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| Course materials and notes, Real Analysis, 1988-1989 | Box 1 |
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| Dissertation data, 1984-1986 | Box 1 |
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| Dissertation proposal, circa 1984 | Box 1 |
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| Notes, Assorted, circa 1980s | Box 1 |
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| Notes, Capital theory, circa 1984 | Box 1 |
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| Notes, Economic theory of liability, circa 1980s | Box 1 |
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| Notes, Feminist philosophy of science, circa 1980s | Box 1 |
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| Notes, Insurer's risk, circa 1980s | Box 1 |
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| Notes, "Recent evidence on the liability crisis", 1988 | Box 1 |
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| Notes, Regression diagnostics, circa 1980s | Box 1 |
| Notes, Shavell article, circa 1980s | Box 1 |
| Transcript, Sonoma State, 2001 | Box 1 |
| Transcript, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1998 | Box 1 |

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Personal Materials, 1980s-1990s

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

Series contains a small amount of materials, most of which reflect Barker's interest and participation in Balkan folk dancing. These items include folk dance workshop programs, music and lyrics, explanations of dance steps, and other related materials. This is the only aspect of Barker's personal life represented in the collection.

| | |
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| Bat Mitzvah program, 1989 November | Box 1 |
| Country Dance and Song Society group directory, 1990 | Box 1 |
| Folk dance clippings, 1980s-1990s | Oversize-folder 1 |
| Folk dance workshop materials, 1980s | Box 1 |
| Folk dance workshop programs, 1980s | Box 1 |
| Music catalog, 1990 | Box 1 |
| War poems, circa 1990s | Box 1 |

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Reading Materials, 1950s-2000s

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

Series consists mostly of copies of scholarly articles and book chapters on a wide variety of topics that Barker studied or was interested in. Topics range from economics (feminist, Marxian, and other schools of thought) to medical malpractice to arts and culture; together they represent Barker's wide range of studies and her intersectional approach to scholarship. Some items are highlighted or annotated by Barker, while others are not marked. Occasionally items are accompanied by a letter from the author, but most are not. A small amount of the reading materials are other items such as reports, clippings, newsletters, or conference proposals—these have been filed where topically appropriate.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Anthropology and development, 1991-1999 | Box 2 |
| Anthropology and development: Feminist Anthropology chapters, 1991 | Box 2 |
| Arts and culture, 1970-1990 Physical Description: 2 folders | Box 2 |
| Book reviews and review essays, 1991-1996 | Box 2 |
| Economics, 1960-1999 Physical Description: 3 folders | Box 2 |
| Economics: Capital theory, 1953-1989 | Box 2 |
| Economics: David Andrews articles, 1996-1998 | Box 2 |
| Economics: Margaret Jane Radin articles, 1987-1993 | Box 2 |
| Economics: Microeconomic Laws (Alexander Rosenberg), 1976 | Box 2 |
| Economics: Steve Keen articles on Marxist theory, 1990s | Box 2 |
| Economics: Work and Waste parts 1-3 (M. Norton Wise and Crosbie Smith), 1989-1990 | Box 2 |
| Environment, 1985, 1992 | Box 2 |
| Environment: John Cairns articles and reports, 1983-1991 Physical Description: 2 folders | Box 2 |

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| Feminism, 1978-1999 | Box 2 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders | |
| Feminism: Feminist Utopias, 1980-1999 | Box 2 |
| Feminism: Voices of the New Feminism, 1970 | Box 2 |
| Feminist economics, 1981-2000 | Box 2 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders | |
| Historic works, 1891, 1938-1939 | Box 2 |
| Historic works: A Theory of Consumption by Hazel Kyrk, 1923 | Box 2 |
| Law and economics, 1976-1997 | Box 3 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders | |
| Law and economics: Jurisprudence and Gender, 1988 | Box 3 |
| Law and economics: Markets for babies and organs, 1978-1995 | Box 3 |
| Medical malpractice, 1973-1991 | Box 3 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders | |
| Other topics, 1990s-2000s | Box 3 |
| Scope and Contents | |
| Other topics include "survivor knowledges," writings by Vaclav Havel, the practice of foodmaking, John Dewey's theory of inquiry, and evolution and ethics. | |
| Other topics: Fukuyama and the "end of history", 1989-1990 | Box 3 |
| Tort, liability, risk, and insurance, 1950s | Box 3 |
| Tort, liability, risk, and insurance, 1970s | Box 3 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders | |
| Tort, liability, risk, and insurance, 1980s | Box 3 |
| Physical Description: 4 folders | |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Tort, liability, risk, and insurance, 1990s | Box 3 |
| Women, work, and welfare, 1980s-1990s | Box 3 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders | |
| Women, work, and welfare: Affirmative action, 1990s | Box 3 |
| Women, work, and welfare: Institute for Women's Policy Research, 1991-1995 | Box 3 |

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