

GENDER, MINING AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

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Media Representations of Gender and the Resource Boom

Robyn Mayes and Barbara Pini

Abstract

The 'resource boom' that is currently underway in Australia has elicited significant media attention. This paper takes a gender lens to the ways in which the 'boom' has been portrayed in national current affairs programs. Included in the analysis are considerations of the way in which gender underpins the notion of 'boom', the ways in which women and men are positioned as being advantaged/disadvantaged by the 'boom' and the ways in which representations of the boom either subvert or reproduce dominant constructs of gender. Informing the discussion is a broader gender critique of discourses such as 'sustainable community', 'economic growth' and 'opportunity'.

Contact authors:

Dr Robyn Mayes
John Curtin Institute of Public Policy
Curtin University
GPO Box U1987
Perth WA 6845
Australia
Phone: + 61 8 0417951492
Fax: +61 8 9266 3658
Email: R.Mayes@curtin.edu.au

Professor Barbara Pini
John Curtin Institute of Public Policy
Curtin University
GPO Box U1987
Perth WA 6845
Australia
Phone: +61 8 9266 1111
Fax: +61 8 9266 3658
Email: B. Pini@curtin.edu.au