Women in Propaganda of the Polish People's Republic (PRL)

Images of Women in Reading Primers from the Soviet Bloc



Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:00 - 2:15 pm Piper Hall, First Floor

Lecture by Joanna Wojdon with discussion following. Refreshments will be served.

This presentation will be based on an analysis of reading primers (ABC books) from different countries of the Soviet bloc, which were used by 1st grade students between 1946 and 1989. It will show how the main themes of communist propaganda related to women were reflected in those textbooks. In addition, it will discuss how the power of stereotypes that often influenced the representations of women undermined propagandists' efforts.



Joanna Wojdon, PhD, is an associate professor of history at the University of Wrocław, Poland, and a current Fulbright scholar at Loyola University Chicago. Wojdon is a member of the Reading Primers Special Interest Group of the International Society for the Historical and Systematic Research on Textbooks and Educational Media. Propaganda of the communist regime in primary school textbooks was a topic of her PhD dissertation. Her other research and teaching interests include post-WWII history of Poland, Polish American history, public history, and the methodology of teaching history.



