Feminist development researchers have questioned the efficacy of gender-specific development policies for decades. New to this debate is that some researchers (in this study, Andrea Cornwall for instance) are asking whether some feminist self-reflection is in order.

This study approaches gender sensitive development projects from an unorthodox perspective in the sense that, it assesses the gender sensitive development projects just as any other development project, and relies on analysis outside feminist theory.

The case in this study is the operational history of Zambian women’s NGO, EPWDA Eastern Province Women’s Development Association, EPWDA. The research material was gathered for this study during a six month field period in the Eastern Province of Zambia using ethnographic research methods. In addition to field material the study includes extensive archival material from the archives of Helsinki University Students Union.

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