

STUDY ABROAD – INTERPLAYS OF IDEALS AND REALITIES

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Ruth Orkin, *American Girl In Italy*, 1951, © Ruth Orkin, 1952, 1980.

2013...

- “In Italy, men definitely took an interest in American women. Just walking down the street, they would whistle and call out. It was very demeaning.”
- “As a student in Italy, I did not find that gender played a huge role (other than the relatively frequent cat-calls in the streets later at night).”
- “Women in Italy are always in the kitchen cooking and rarely have jobs outside of the home, thankfully not the case in America.”

01 Julho 2013 População aprova vagão exclusivo para mulheres

Isabel Freitas, da Agência Brasília



“O carro exclusivo para mulheres e pessoas com deficiência funcionará nos horários de pico”



"freedom and justice for women and men"
during a demonstration against sexual
harassment in Cairo, Egypt, on July 6, 2012.

Egypt's women refuse to be intimidated

A new report says they are treated the worst in the Arab world, but many are hopeful their campaign for a voice will prevail

Zainab Salbi, The Guardian, November 15 2013

Put Yourself in Her Shoes:

Dec 9, 2013

UN Women's Egypt country office has produced a new public service announcement through its "Safe Cities: Free from Violence against Women and Girls" project to highlight threats and unwanted advances impact Egyptian women and girls. Aimed at raising awareness among both women and men, the PSA is filmed as a direct invitation to men and boys to put themselves in women's place and to stop blaming them for sexual harassment under that very slogan: "Put yourself in her shoes, instead of finding ways to blame her!"

Visual representations of the study abroad experience



Looking back, a year later

- “I'd get stares for talking loud, for eating fast... I felt pressured into being cutesy. I like cute things, sure. But there's so much more to women, and I think a lot of the girls studying with me forgot that.”
- I was hit on quite a bit at my internship in Germany, and it wasn't uncommon for an older man to comment on my physical appearance. I can't compare US and German offices, because I haven't worked in an office in the U.S. It seemed culturally acceptable to comment on one's co-workers' looks, but I was uncomfortable and peeved.”
- “The immediate conversation starter or assumptions or curiosities were not about me but rather whether or not I 'had a man.' Questions about husbands, marriage, and family were on the introductory level for women and not men. Every time.”

Ideals and realities...



- “One of my professors is taking the next two weeks off for paternity leave. I've never heard of a father doing that back home.”
- “Gender is much more delineated in China. Most of the time, girls spend time with girls and boys spend time with boys. “
- “In Morocco, women and men usually are not friends, although sometimes they can be. In America, women often have male friends.”
- “In a class in Japan we did an entire unit on "should women be housewives or have careers?" That's not even a question here- women know they can do anything they want. “

Preparing the 65% (and the 35%)

