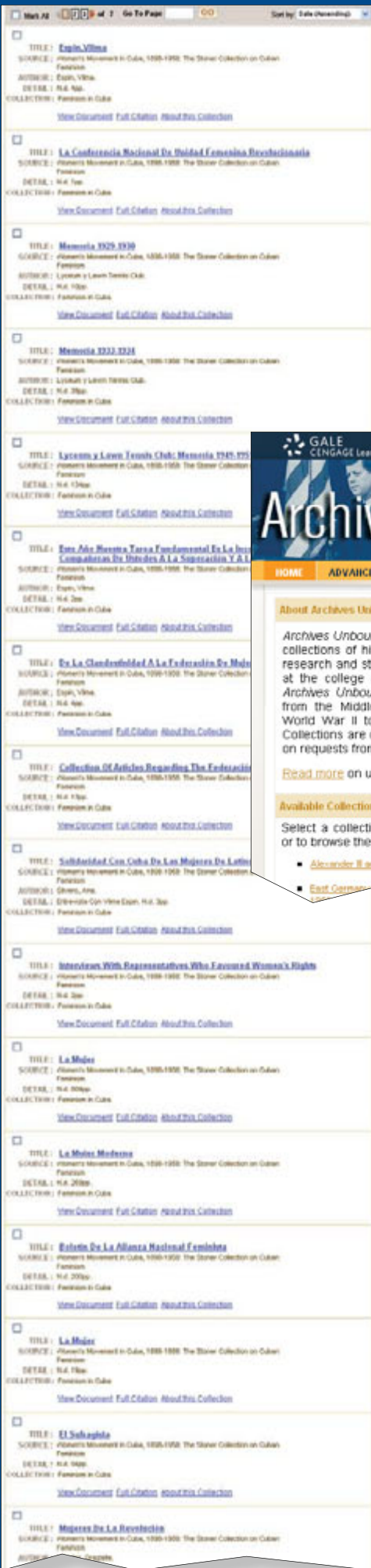


Feminism in Cuba: Nineteenth through Twentieth Century Archival Documents

This Spanish-language collection, compiled from Cuban sources, spans the period from the country's independence to the end of the Batista regime

- Date Range: 1898-1958
- Content: 14,315 pages
- Source Library: Personal collection Dr. K. Lynn Stoner



In the decades following its independence from Spain in 1898, Cuba adopted the most progressive legislation for women in the western hemisphere.

Feminism in Cuba: Nineteenth through Twentieth Century Archival Documents provides a documentary explanation of how a small group of women and men helped shape broad legal reforms. Researchers can find descriptions of campaigns, study the version of feminism Cubans adopted with all its contradictions, and compare that version to the model of American feminism.

Unique voices

This collection draws on rich primary-source texts – including personal letters, journal essays, radio broadcasts and memoirs from women's congresses – through which women spoke in their own voices. About 95% of the material is in the original Spanish.

In reconstructing the *mentalité* of Cuban feminists, who came primarily from a privileged social status, *Feminism in Cuba: Nineteenth through Twentieth Century Archival Documents* highlights how the movement drew from traditional notions of femininity and a rejection of gender equality to advance a cause that assumed women's expanded roles were necessary for social progress.

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Feminism in Cuba: Nineteenth through Twentieth Century Archival Documents

The documents in this collection – 95% which are in the original Spanish – fall into three categories:

- **Works by feminists about feminists and their causes.** Researchers will find memoirs of feminist congresses, collections of essays by feminists, journals published by feminist organizations, and published speeches and radio broadcasts. Publications include Aspiraciones (1918), an early feminist journal published by the Partido Feminista Aspiraciones; La Mujer Moderna (1926), the journal for the Club Femenino de Cuba, the oldest Cuban feminist organization; and La Mujer (1929-1931), the journal of the Partido Demócrata Sufragista, focusing on the entire Cuban feminist movement.
- **Works by men on the status of women.** These materials include rare and archival assessments by politicians, jurists, and legislators about the condition of women in the cities and countryside. They provide an in-depth view of the ruling elite's perception on the reform of laws to improve the status of women.
- **Literary works by feminist writers that illustrate or discuss the condition of women.** This category is highlighted by excerpts from novels, essays and poetry written by women about women. Also included are literary anthologies of Cuban women writers in general as well as literary analysis of these women's works.

Taken together, these one-of-a-kind materials lend themselves to in-depth study of Cuban women in politics, feminism, women's literature and the legal status of all women during the first half of the 20th century.

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