

CAROLE PATEMAN

CITATION FOR AN HONORARY DEGREE

Mr Chancellor, it is my privilege to present for a degree of the University, Professor Carole Pateman.

Carole Pateman is one of the most distinguished political theorists writing in the world today. She is internationally known and respected for her contribution to democratic political theory. Her work has examined a number of different problems, including obligation and consent, participation, and a range of problems in the tradition of contract theory. There are few political scientists working in the world today who have been as influential in the discipline, and who have made the same contribution to the profession of political science.

Carole Pateman was born in Sussex, England and attended the local girls' grammar school but left at the age of 16. She began her academic career when she won a place at the adult education Ruskin College in 1963 and she was the only woman to sit for her Diploma. She obtained her Doctor of Philosophy degree at Lady Margaret Hall, being awarded the degree by the University of Oxford in 1971. She came to Australia in 1972 to a position at the University of Sydney. Since 1990 she has been Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has had a long association with The Australian National University, having been an adjunct Professor in the Research School of Social Sciences since 1993.

Over the past quarter of a century, Carole Pateman has produced some of the most innovative and influential work in political theory worldwide. She is most famous for her critical contributions to liberal political thought, in the form of her two books which have examined the problems of political obligation and democratic participation, respectively. These books, each in its own very different way, have made a major impact upon the practice of political theory and political science. Their continuing impact is evident in what remain astonishingly high citations levels year in and year out.

But while it is for her work on democratic theory that Carole Pateman is most famous, it sits alongside distinguished work in feminist political theory, with her prize-winning book *The Sexual Contract*, which was published in 1988. This work has been crucial in bringing feminism into the mainstream of political theory, as well as helping gender studies come to terms with the key theoretical issues raised by liberalism. For more than two decades, her work in democratic theory has been widely debated among political scientists.

If there is a theme in Carole Pateman's work, it is freedom. In her early work, she addressed liberal arguments designed to guarantee freedom. According to liberal theory, individuals must consent to have their freedom protected by the state. But this opens up the problem that individuals may not have granted their consent. In her later work, she argues that the original contract to establish freedom through the political state excluded women, so that any equality that may have been present at the start is forgotten. She argues that the politics of liberty, equality and fraternity which emerged with the Enlightenment was the result of men's consent, and gave rise **TO THE POLITICAL OF SUBORDINATION** for those who were not part of the original contract.

Her contribution to political science has been recognised by awards too numerous to list here in full. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and she has been honoured by Fellowships at some of the most distinguished research institutes worldwide, including Stanford, Princeton and Uppsala and she has held a Guggenheim Fellowship. She has been President of the Australasian Political Studies Association, and she was the first woman President of the International Political Science Association.

Mr Chancellor, it is with much pleasure that I present Carole Pateman, that you may confer on her the degree of Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, on the ground of her distinguished creative achievement as a scholar in political science.

Professor Ian McAllister
Director
Research School of Social Sciences
The Australian National University
2 October 1998