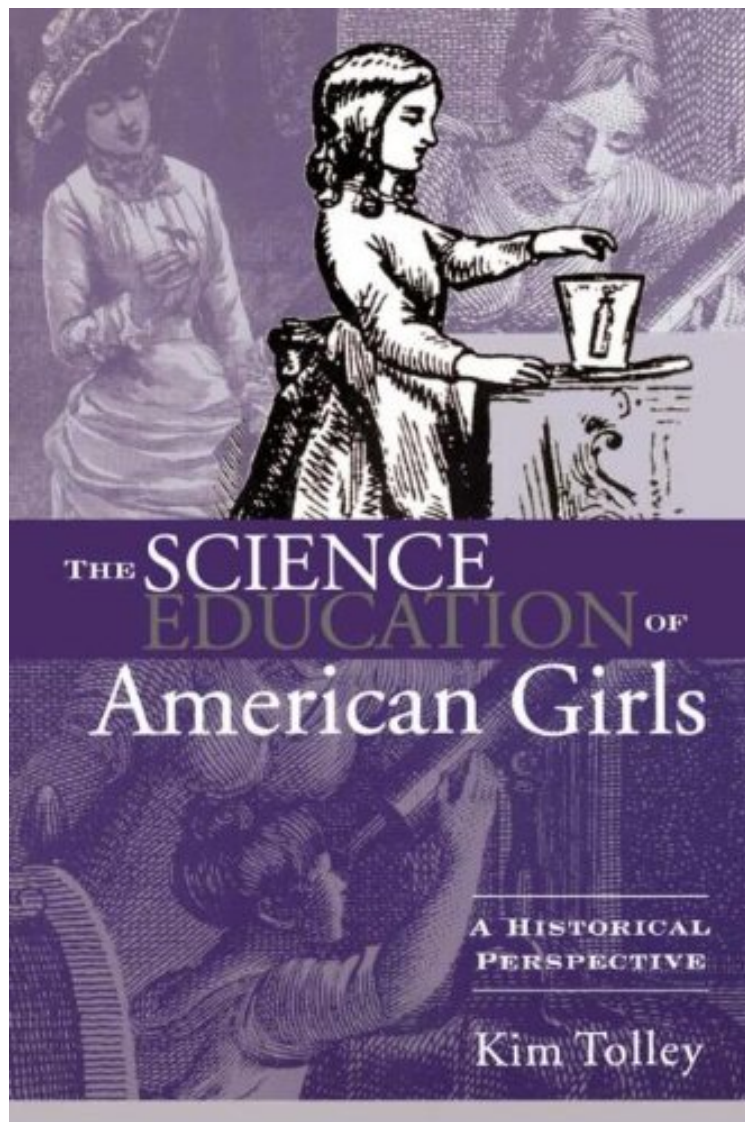


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The Science Education of American Girls: A Historical Perspective (Studies in the History of Education)

Kim Tolley

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Kim Tolley : The Science Education of American Girls: A Historical Perspective (Studies in the History of Education) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Science Education of American Girls: A Historical Perspective (Studies in the History of Education):

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Must-Read BookBy A CustomerThis well-written book offers

primary source material that has radically altered this reviewer's thinking regarding women and science. Tolley demonstrates that science was indeed a "girls' subject," dispelling the common notion that it has always been exclusively within the male domain. The unexpected finding that proportionally more girls than boys studied science in early American academies is well substantiated. Thoroughly researched, this engaging volume concludes that, although the decline of science as a girls' subject in school was, in part, a result of discrimination, the decline of women's interest in science was also an unanticipated result of purposeful efforts to elevate the status of female education in the 19th century. Making use of vignettes, quantitative data, and illustrations, this richly written book traces the complex series of events that led to the domination of males in school science by the 20th century. A must-read for every scholar with interests in gender, issues of equity, history of education, and science education. Practitioners in science will also find this treatment of women and science education insightful. Summing up: Highly recommended. All university libraries; upper-division undergraduates and above. Copyright 2003 American Library Association

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A must-read for anyone interested in science ed or women's history

By Viking gal

This book is an excellent study of the education of girls and women in science (and mathematics) in the USA. Very well-written, especially for an academic text. My undergraduate students found it almost as interesting as I did, which is strong praise. I think it should be required for any graduate course in science education, or education and gender.

Anne-Marie Scholer, Endicott College

The Science Education of American Girls provides a comparative analysis of the science education of adolescent boys and girls, and analyzes the evolution of girls' scientific interests from the antebellum era through the twentieth century. Kim Tolley expands the understanding of the structural and cultural obstacles that emerged to transform what, in the early nineteenth century, was regarded as a "girl's subject." As the form and content of pre-college science education developed, Tolley argues, direct competition between the sexes increased. Subsequently, the cultural construction of science as a male subject limited access and opportunity for girls.

"Historian Kim Tolley has written an important book....Tolley is the first to bring together the diverse elements of the story in a comprehensive way. In fact, no one has really studied the history of science education of American girls (elementary through secondary) as thoroughly as she has....Tolley retains a firm hand and does not take sides."- American Journal of Education

"Making use of vignettes, quantitative data, and illustrations, this richly written book traces the complex series of events that led to the domination of males in school science by the 20th century. A must-read for every scholar with interest in gender, issues of equity, history of education, and science education. Practitioners in science will also find this treatment of women and science education insightful."-Choice

"Wide ranging in its coverage and sometimes provocative in its analysis....This pioneering book will surely encourage further study of issues of gender and science education."-Isis, March 2004

"The Science Education of American Girls is an important contribution to the literature that analyzes the relationship between girls and science and math..." in a highly readable and very well-researched volume, she documents some of the social, cultural, and economic factors involved in the shift from science being a female-dominated field of study to its becoming a male-dominated field.."-Science Education, 2004

"Kim Tolley's "The Science Education of American Girls" will stand as a model of scholarship in the history of education.."Vol.45, No.1-History of Education Quarterly, Spring 2005

About the Author

Kim Tolley is an independent writer and scholar, formerly an Assistant Professor in the Department of Education at the College of Notre Dame, Belmont, California.