This special issue of Girlhood Studies is dedicated to rethinking girlhood in relation to how bodies, community, nation, systemic violence, and solidarities are deployed for and by girls in settler states—those predicated upon the ongoing, active colonial occupation of Indigenous territories. In settler states, the settler never leaves, and colonial domination is reasserted every day of active occupation. We are particularly interested in explorations of girlhood under white, western settler states (such as, for example, the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the British Commonwealth, select Caribbean and African countries, and so on). White settler colonialism functions through the adaptive and continued control of land, resources, and racialized bodies amalgamated via a historical commitment to slavery and the extermination of Indigenous nationhood.

We also welcome analyses of ongoing settler presence in post-colonial and occupied territories (such as Tibet, Palestine, and so on), as well as new, mobile, and adaptive forms of neocolonial settler exploitation (such as through national and supranational corporate and environmental violence).

Contributions to this special issue will address the need to theorize girlhood across the adaptive changing conditions of settler regimes. Importantly, the issue will examine how racialized and Indigenous girls negotiate gendered and/or racialized, and/or sexualized violence as it is shaped by underlying questions of Indigenous self-determination, genocide, and slavery, racially stratified settlement and migration policies, and white settler hegemony. We are particularly interested in interdisciplinary analyses among girl studies, feminisms of color, Indigenous studies, transnational and intersectional feminisms, analyses of colonialism and decolonization, and gender, two spirit, queer, and trans studies.

Authors are invited to examine embodied, political, and conceptual decolonizing transgressions put forth for and by girls and youth of all genders living in settler states. The following questions, among others, may be addressed.

- What kinds of adaptive regimes, practices and policies do settler states deploy and how do these have an impact on girls and shape girls’ relationships with issues of sovereignty, subject formation, nationhood, violence, justice, and solidarity?
- How do colonial politics of deservedness, bio- and necro-politics function to position racialized and Indigenous girls and gender-fluid bodies as targets for settler state violence?
- How are abject bodies intimately linked to and shaped by their geopolitical locations in white settler nation-states?
- How can we problematize the very category of girl as a deeply colonial, heteropatriarchal construct? What does disrupting the white, able, heteronormative categories of settler girlhood mean for analyses of girlhood and for two spirit, queer, trans, and gender-fluid lives?
• How do white hegemony and white girlhood formations function to normalize the settler state, and how might these be disrupted?
• How do settler state logics shape girls’ experiences in settler systems (for example, in education, child welfare, immigration, and justice systems) as well as in relation to migration, borders, Indigeneity, and land?
• What other worldviews and solidarities are possible and not possible across the various communities living in settler states and, most importantly, what creative, grassroots, decolonizing, resurgent strategies are taken up by young people living in active settler states?
• This special issue welcomes applied, methodological, and theoretical approaches that work to transgress settler state logics and that support justice, resurgence, and decolonization. Authors are invited to engage with discussions about girls and young people's various engagements with justice, allyship, solidarity, collectivity, resistance, love, land, and decolonial resurgence. These can take the form of academic papers as well as creative pieces including multi-media, poetry, stories, artwork, and so on. We welcome contributions authored by young people.

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Article Submission

Please direct inquiries to Patricia Krueger-Henney (patricia.krueger@umb.edu). Abstracts are due by mid-October 2018. Full manuscripts are due by 15 March 2019. Authors should provide a cover page giving brief biographical details (up to 100 words), institutional affiliation(s) and full contact information, including an email address.

Articles may be no longer than 6,500 words including the abstract (up to 150 words), keywords (6 to 8 in alphabetical order), notes, captions and tables, acknowledgements (if any), biographical details (taken from the cover page), and references. Images in a text count for 200 words each. Girlhood Studies, following Berghahn's preferred house style, uses a modified Chicago Style.

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