

## Div Lit Week 4 Gender

### Discussion: Thinking through gender and violence

#### 1. Objectives of class:

- Explore how ubiquitous violence is in constructions of gender
- Explore normalisation of gender violence
- Explore violence and fear of violence is used as a form of social control of women

#### 2. Material:

- **Artz, L. (2009) The weather watchers: Gender, violence and social control.** In M. Steyn and M. van Zyl (Eds) *The Prize and the price: Shaping sexualities in South Africa*. Cape Town: HSRC Press (p. 169-191) (In reader)
- **POWA Advertisement.** Accessed at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BW30WslahMc>
- **Images of aggressive male bodies (sports photographs are usually good for this) , docile hyper-sexualised female bodies.** We have used for example **The Dolce & Gabbana “Rape Ad”**. Accessed at :<http://thesocietypages.org/socimages/2011/01/21/re-thinking-the-famous-dolce-and-gabbana-gang-rape-ad/>

#### 3. Method:

- Show the class the video and show them the images.
- Ask them to consider the following points and questions (it is useful to create handouts with the questions on for them):
  1. The author (Artz) argues that violence against women is a way of maintaining social control of women. *How* does this happen, according to her? How do you see this playing out in the video and images?
  2. How does she link constructions of gender and sexuality to violence against women? What constructions of masculinity and femininity can you see in the images that could contribute to violence against women?
  3. What else stood out for you about the article?