

Sheila Tobias was trained in history and literature at Harvard-Radcliffe and Columbia Universities and pioneered women's studies in the late 1960s. In 1974, she turned her attention to girls' and women's avoidance of college-level mathematics and the physical sciences and from 1988 – 1992 was a member of the Commission on the Status of Women in the American Physical Society (CSWP). She has created a number of projects, 10 books, and between 1997 and 2006 contributed to the launching of a new professional science master's degree (www.sciencemasters.com) that is especially appealing to women. Her books (authored and co-authored) include: *Overcoming Math Anxiety* (1978, 1994), *Succeed with Math* (1987), *They're not dumb, they're different: Stalking the second tier* (1990), *Breaking the Science Barrier* (1992), *Revitalizing Undergraduate Science: Why Some Things Work and Most Don't* (1992), *Rethinking Science as a Career* (1995), and *The Hidden Curriculum: Faculty Made Tests in Science* (1997). Also *The People's Guide to National Defense* (1982), *Women, Militarism, and War* (1990), and *Faces of Feminism: An Activist's Reflections on the Women's Movement* (1997). Her most recent contributions are: to *A Hand UP* (2006) published by Association of Women in Science (US), as Senior Editor of the Special Issue on "Innovation" in *The Journal of Industry & Higher Education*, U.K. (August 2006), and as a contributing writer to the Chapter on "Gender Equity in Science, Engineering and Technology" in the forthcoming *Handbook for Achieving Gender Equity through Education* (Spring 2007).

Sheila Tobias hopes to apply her knowledge of the many facets of discrimination and the history of women in the physical sciences in the U.S. to the evolving issues involving women in mathematics, and to take away a greater understanding of how "climate" and the accommodation of family issues vary in Canada and what activists can do in collaboration to improve both..