

## **Patricia Santos Hansen**

‘Books for children and maternal authority: women intellectuals and the creation of Portuguese children’s literature at the end of the 19th century’

Children’s literature books flourished in Western societies from the late 18th century to the early 20th century. Historical circumstances that influenced its origins and characteristics during that period shaped this phenomenon. Intertwined factors such as technological progress, the establishment of modern nation-states that emphasised education, and the cultivation of a distinct “sentiment” of childhood (as described by Ariès), facilitated the proliferation of children’s literature. The circulation of printed materials for children, imported, translated, and adapted, played a fundamental role in disseminating and legitimising ideas and values in various countries, contributing to the progressive establishment of a link between women, motherhood, and the education of future citizens. Focussing on the children’s literature scene in Portugal at the end of the 19th century, I intend to examine how particular associations of ideas, such as the one mentioned above, operated in this context in such a way as to confer, in Rebecca Davies’ words, a “written maternal authority” to Portuguese women writers, and publishers, in specific literary domains. This discussion aims to highlight the strategic efforts of these women to take advantage of this professional authority, recognised by readers and peers, to guarantee their livelihoods, and as a platform for political, cultural, and social intervention.

## **Helena de Barros**

‘Chromolithography and colour printing techniques in the first Brazilian children’s illustrated books and primers’

Captivating visuals play a crucial role in attracting viewers and stimulating Children’s and teenagers’ interest in reading and entertainment. It wasn’t until the late 19th and early 20th centuries that Brazil adopted chromolithography – the first industrialized method of colour printing – in illustrated books and school primers. This talk is built upon thorough research and direct analysis of primary sources, including a microscopic examination of Brazil’s earliest primers and children’s books featuring colour illustrations. The aim is to highlight the primary techniques used during the country’s initial phase of colour printing, contextualize the shift from manual engraving to photomechanical methods, and describe the iconography of children’s book illustrations that were in circulation then. While some rare copies are original Brazilian works that pay tribute to native customs, the majority of the materials examined appear to be translations or adaptations of foreign publications, according to the research. This study sets a standard for the advancement of colour printing graphic techniques, highlighting the arrival of foreign printing products that are both of exceptional quality and widely distributed within the Brazilian landscape. It is crucial to acknowledge the progressive efforts of publishers who translated intricately