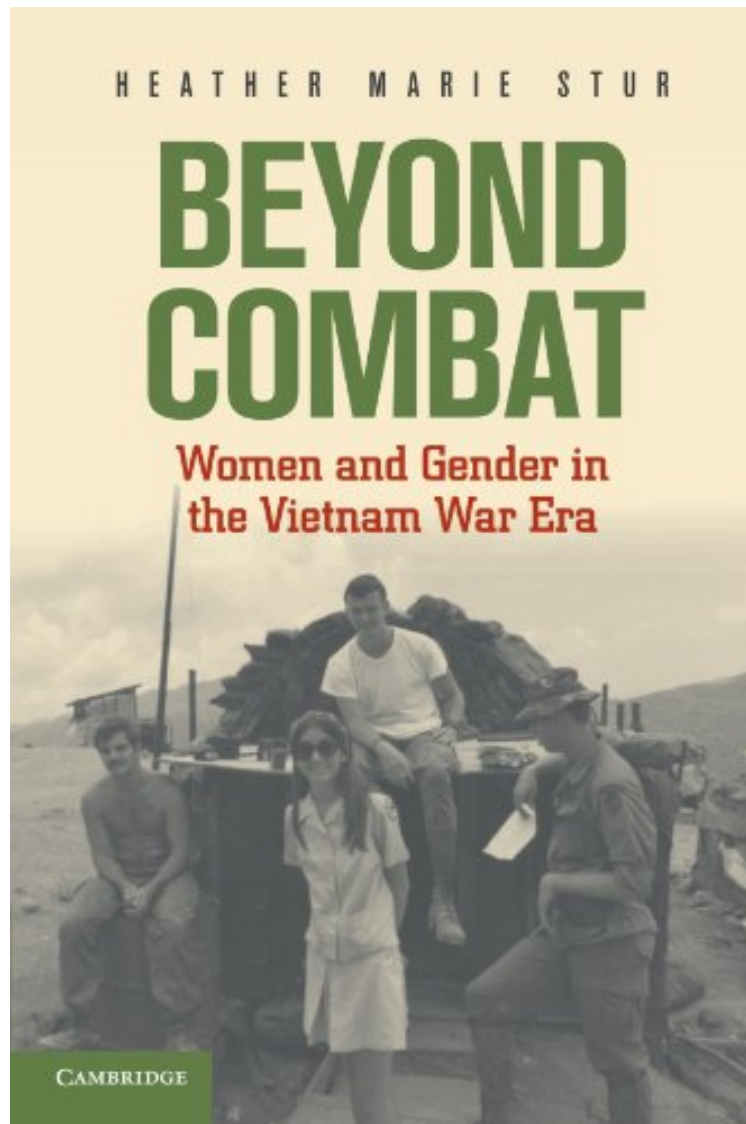


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Beyond Combat: Women and Gender in the Vietnam War Era

Heather Marie Stur

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Heather Marie Stur : Beyond Combat: Women and Gender in the Vietnam War Era before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beyond Combat: Women and Gender in the Vietnam War Era:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. DONUT DOLLIES VS: VIETNAMBy Marie DavidsonAlthough the first few chapters did not hold my interest most of the others did. Especially the chapter titled "she could be the girl next door." I was a Donut Dolly in Korea. Our job was the same, however, our experiences varied quite a bit. I am the

editor/author of the book "Life In A Fishbowl: A Call To Serve" and I helped train the women who went from Korea (first to get programming experience) and then went on to Vietnam. Her writing and interviews with former dollies was very accurate - I know many of the people she interviewed. Good book!
Lucie Davidson (Marie)
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Exceeded my expectations.
By Pamela Ottesen
The book went into lots of detail about the women's history of that time period. I like how it started out with a historical background about Vietnam, and how Vietnam's women and children were impacted by the war. It was a real eye opener! It included details about the good, bad and ugly treatment of their women, as well as, how American women, were treated.
Today's generation of women need to read this type of women's history, and what we went through, so that they can have endless options, career and otherwise, now. Young women of today take it for granted because they don't know what their sisters went through.
Thank you, Ms. Stur, for showing us what the Donut Dollies, as well as, the military nurses and women, endured during the Vietnam war and beyond.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Freedom has a flavor the protected will never know!
By Drcolchaplain
As a Vietnam vet I enjoyed reading this...well, enjoy might not be the best word because there were a lot of hard memories coming up. But it was so good to see all the stories from the women who served there. Recommend this for all the vets, but especially for those who never served because it gives you such an insight into the heart of those who have.

Beyond Combat investigates how the Vietnam War both reinforced and challenged the gender roles that were key components of American Cold War ideology. While popular memory of the Vietnam War centers on the "combat moment," refocusing attention onto women and gender paints a more complex and accurate picture of the war's far-reaching impact beyond the battlefields. Encounters between Americans and Vietnamese were shaped by a cluster of intertwined images used to make sense of and justify American intervention and use of force in Vietnam. These images included the girl next door, a wholesome reminder of why the United States was committed to defeating Communism; the treacherous and mysterious "dragon lady," who served as a metaphor for Vietnamese women and South Vietnam; the John Wayne figure, entrusted with the duty of protecting civilization from savagery; and the gentle warrior, whose humanitarian efforts were intended to win the favor of the South Vietnamese. Heather Stur also examines the ways in which ideas about masculinity shaped the American GI experience in Vietnam and, ultimately, how some American men and women returned from Vietnam to challenge homefront gender norms.

"Heather Stur provides us with a rangy and insightful exploration of how the Vietnam War reconstituted the political culture of gender in ways that were transformational and retrograde, life-affirming and violent, liberating and dehumanizing." - Christian G. Appy, author of *Patriots: The Vietnam War Remembered from All Sides*
"In an insightful examination of everything from the miniskirt to army rifle manuals, *Beyond Combat* reveals the ways gender and sexuality framed Americans' perceptions and experiences of the Vietnam War. This important work challenges what we think not only of the Vietnam War, but also of war-making and foreign policy more broadly." - Kara Dixon Vuic, author of *Officer, Nurse, Woman: The Army Nurse Corps in the Vietnam War*
"The Vietnam War era remains a fascinating moment in our history. Historians and veterans continue to explore gaps in experiences and policies. The book contains an excellent reference list and a comprehensive list of important archives. I hope that the interviews Stur conducted will be available to future writers and interested listeners." -Elizabeth Norman, *H-War*
"An excellent contribution to understanding the Vietnam War. Highly recommended." -Choice
"...contains an excellent reference list and a comprehensive list of important archives. I hope that the interviews Stur conducted will be available to future writers and interested listeners." -Margaret Sankey, *H-War*
About the Author
Heather Marie Stur is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Southern Mississippi, a fellow in USM's Center for the Study of War and Society, and director of USM's Vietnam Studies program. She received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 2008. Dr Stur is the author of several articles, including: 'In Service and in Protest: Black Women and the Impact of the Vietnam War on American Society' in *Soul Soldiers: African Americans and the Vietnam Era*; 'Perfume and Lipstick in the Boonies: Red Cross SRAO and the Vietnam War' in *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics, and Culture*; 'Borderless Troubadour: Bob Dylan and the Music of the Cold War World' in *Highway 61 Revisited: Bob Dylan from Minnesota to the World*; 'The Women's Army Corps Goes to Vietnam' in *America and the Vietnam War: Re-examining the Culture and History of a Generation*; and 'Finding Meaning in Manhood After the War: Gender and the Warrior Myth in Springsteen's Vietnam War Songs' in *Dancing in the Dark: Bruce Springsteen, Cultural Studies, and the Runaway American Dream*. Dr Stur's research interests include gender and conflict, the US in a global context, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, the impacts of militarization on societies, and oral history.