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OBITUARY: DAFNA IZRAELI (1937–2003)

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Dafna Israeli was Professor of Sociology and former Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv. At the time of her death, she was Chair of the Graduate Program in Gender Studies and Head of the Rachel and J.L. Gewurz Center for Research on Gender at Bar Ilan University, which she endowed in the name of her parents. The Bar Ilan Program, which she organized, is the only MA/PhD Gender and Women's Studies program in Israel.

Dafna was born in France on September 9, 1937, and grew up in Montreal, Canada, where she completed her BA in Political Science and Philosophy and her MSW in Social Work, both at McGill University. She continued her graduate studies in Political Science and Hebrew History at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and then in Sociology and Anthropology at Manchester University in England, where she received her PhD degree in 1972. She spent a postdoctoral year at the University of California, Berkeley, and was a visiting professor at New York University, Northeastern University, Harvard University, and U.C. Berkeley.

Dafna published six books (with colleagues)—*Dual-Earner Families: International Perspectives* (Sage, 1992); *Women in Israel* (Transaction, 1993); *Competitive Frontiers: Women Managers in a Global Economy* (Blackwell, 1994); and *Sex Gender Politics: Women in Israel* (Kibbutz Hameuchad, 1999, in Hebrew). She was the author of numerous articles in professional journals and encyclopedias on issues related to gender in unions, work, family, social policy, and the Israeli military. Her paper on Israel's first affirmative action law is published in this issue of *Women's Studies International Forum*, pp. 109–128.

Dafna was a long-time member of the American Sociological Association, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Problems, Academy of Management, and Sociologists for Women in Society. She was on the Executive Board of the Research Committee on

Women in Society of the International Sociological Association and was an International Advisory Editor of *Gender & Society*. She was a co-organizer of the first international interdisciplinary congress on women in Haifa in 1981. The history of *Women's Worlds*, now in its 22nd year, appeared in the Winter 2002 issue of *SWS Network News*.

In Israel, Dafna was on the Executive Committee of the Israel Sociological Association and was founder and chair of the Section for Research and Training of Sex Roles. She was a member of the Israel Industrial Relations Association and on the Academic Council of Emek Yezrael College.

Dafna worked tirelessly for peace, democracy, and women's rights in Israel. She was a founding member of the Israeli Women's Network, an activist organization that has been fighting for women's equality in Israel for the past 20 years. As a Vice-President of the New Israel Fund, a progressive U.S.–Israeli organization working for peace and democracy in Israel, and through many projects and personal contacts, Dafna was personally and professionally involved in bringing Palestinian and Jewish women together and in efforts to bring about a just peace in Israel.

In the last 20 years, she was advisor to many government committees on the status of women in Israel. At the time of her death, she was consultant to the sub-committee on the Advancement of Women and Work and on the Economy in the Knesset Standing Committee on the Status of Women. She was also a founder and board member of Legal Equity Action for Women in the Workplace.

Dafna married Dov Israeli in 1960 and emigrated to Israel. Dov was Professor of Management Studies at Tel Aviv University, where he specialized in conflict resolution. He died of a long-term illness on January 31, 2003. Dafna and Dov leave three children, Liora, Sharona, and Chaim, 18 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren.

They gave their friends and colleagues a legacy of warmth and generosity, political activism, and engaged scholarship.