

Entry type: Cultural Artefact

Entry ID: AWE0641

The Dawn: a journal for Australian women (1888-1905)

(1888 - 1905)

Born 1 January, 1888

Died 31 December, 1905

Summary

In 1888 Louisa Lawson, who had previously edited the *Republican* with son Henry, launched *The Dawn; a journal for women*. The publication's purpose was to be a "phonograph to wind out audibly the whispers, pleadings and demands of the sisterhood". It advised on women's issues, including divorce, the age of consent, and women's right to vote. As well as operating as an important vehicle for the communication of feminist politics the paper also contained short stories, fashion notes, sewing patterns and reports on women's activities around the country and overseas. By October 1889, the *Dawn* office employed ten women as typesetters, printers, binders, and unskilled workers. They were harassed by male workers, and by their male union, The New South Wales Typographical Association. In 1905, after seventeen years, the publication ceased production.

Published resources

Journal

The Dawn : a journal for Australian women, Lawson, Louisa, 1888-1905

Edited Book

The first voice of Australian feminism : excerpts from Louisa Lawson's The Dawn 1888-1895, Lawson, Olive, 1990

Journal Article

An Incident at the Dawn, Hagan, J, 1965

Newspaper Article

A woman's political work is never done, Roxon, Nicola, 2003

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Created 12 December 2003

Last modified 16 September 2013