

## Reply to Beverley Earles

by *Brian Hendley*

IT IS DISCONCERTING to be lambasted for what was intended to be a positive review of the works of Dora Russell. It is true that I did not find her notion of "the patriarchal dimension of industrial attitudes" a particularly innovative one: indeed, one is reminded of Rousseau in more than one place in her book, *The Religion of the Machine Age*. More importantly, I did not find her view convincing. The fact that a similar view is now being espoused by the "new wave of the women's movement" is, of course, irrelevant to the charge that such an interpretation is *wrong*. I grant that in the context of a brief review I did not expand upon this charge. Perhaps I erred on the side of feeling in my desire to make it less of a negative review.

As for my point about Dora not being just "Mrs. Bertrand Russell", I fail to see what is so dehumanizing in this suggestion, especially since Ms. Earles herself proceeds to refer to Dora simply as "Russell" throughout the rest of her response. I submit that Dora Black Russell was her own person throughout a long and active life and I praised her for that in my review. Methinks Ms. Earles doth protest too much!

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