

Women, feminism, and confucianism in Vietnam in the Early 20th Century

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Abstrak

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The early years of the twentieth century introduced Vietnam, then a French colony, to feminism, which helped expose the problem of suicide among women, prostitution, and the trafficking. This article surveyed writings in three influential newspapers published for and by women, namely, Phu Nu Tan Van (PNTV) (Womans Newspaper) 1929 until 1934, Phu nu Thoi Dam (PNTD) (Womens Discussions on Topical Questions) 1930 until 1934, and Dan Ba (DB) (Women) 1939 until 1945. The writings were analyzed to illustrate how feminism was perpetrated in this period, and how the writers were able to reconcile it with prevalent Confucianism, which this paper also argued as having put in place, gender inequality.