

## **Notions abordées : Mythes et héros, Lieux et formes de pouvoir, L'idée de progrès & Espaces et échanges**

An interview with Wanda Porter by Shelly De Vito

American Voices

# **The US amendment Title IX anniversary**

**Shelly:** We're talking to an American educator about Title IX, an amendment stating that no person should be excluded based on gender from an activity receiving federal funding in the U.S. This has encouraged girls to participate in sports in schools. Wanda Porter has worked in public and private schools with over 25 years' teaching experience as the Head of Departments, in Hawaii and other states. What things have changed over the years?

**Wanda:** Well, I remember very well when Title IX was passed, and you know it was a very exciting time and interesting in my own experience. I was not as a student a very physically active person, and now I'm the grandparent of a young woman who has just graduated from high school, and she has been active in softball, volleyball and basketball. You know, I just think if she had gone to school when I did, and before Title IX, she would not have had the same opportunities that she's had, and I'm just really delighted. I mean, look at this year's Olympics, look at what women did in the Olympics this year! And also, there's evidence that girls' grades have improved, they do better in school, if and when there is involvement in sports. And of course the whole Title IX, it's not just about sports, as you say, it's about the whole equality.