

Leah Cowan

Writer - non-fiction

Leah Cowan is a writer and editor on race, gender, migration, state violence and their intersections. She is the former Politics Editor at *gal-dem*, an online magazine and media platform run by women and non-binary people of colour. Leah also works at Project 17, an advice centre for migrant families who have No Recourse to Public Funds and are facing homelessness and destitution.



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Publications

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
BORDER NATION 2021 Pluto Press	<p>Borders are not just meaningless geographical lines. They have an impact on all of our lives, whether it's the fallout from Brexit or the inhumanity of a detention center. In <i>Border Nation</i>, Leah Cowan shows how borders are violent, oppressive, and must be resisted.</p> <p>Looking back, we learn of the elitist, colonial and patriarchal origins of borders, explore the vital history of anti-racist, anti-border organizing and hear stories from people who have crossed partitions. Debunking myths around migration, Leah Cowan unpacks the 'hostile environment' and reveals how healthcare crises, terrorism, unemployment and housing shortages are often manipulated by politicians and the media to vilify migrants.</p> <p>As borders grow, migrants are policed and immigration controls are tightened, this book transforms our understanding of borders, migration and our fight for belonging.</p>

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WHY WOULD FEMINISTS TRUST THE POLICE? 2024 Verso Books	<p>A tangled history of feminism's complicity and resistance</p> <p>Every week it seems there is a fresh scandal involving abhorrent, racist, misogynist behaviour by police officers. Yet these are the very people women are supposed to approach for help when faced with violence. And many feminists, hoping to use the criminal justice system to protect women, fight for stronger laws and longer sentences for those who harm them.</p> <p>Why Would Feminists Trust the Police? traces the history of British feminism's alliances and struggles with the law and its enforcers. Drawing on the legacy of Black British feminism, Leah Cowan reminds us of the vibrant and creative alternatives envisioned by those who have long known the truth: the police aren't feminist, and the law does not keep women safe.</p>