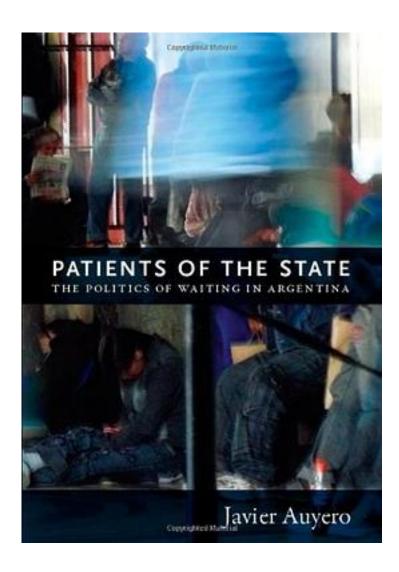
Patients of the State



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Patients of the State is a sociological account of the extended waiting that poor people

seeking state social and administrative services must endure. It is based on ethnographic research in the waiting area of the main welfare office in Buenos Aires, in the line leading into the Argentine registration office where legal aliens apply for identification cards, and among people who live in a polluted shantytown on the capital's outskirts, while waiting to be allocated better housing. Scrutinizing the mundane interactions between the poor and the state, as well as underprivileged people's confusion and uncertainty about the administrative processes that affect them, Javier Auyero argues that while waiting, the poor learn the opposite of citizenship. They learn to be patients of the state. They absorb the message that they should be patient and keep waiting, because there is nothing else that they can do. Drawing attention to a significant everyday dynamic that has received little scholarly attention until now, Auyero considers not only how the poor experience these lengthy waits but also how making poor people wait works as a strategy of state control.

作者介绍:

Javier Auyero is the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Professor in Latin American Sociology at the University of Texas, Austin. He is the author of Routine Politics and Violence in Argentina: The Gray Zone of State Power and a co-author of Flammable: Environmental Suffering in an Argentine Shantytown. His books Contentious Lives: Two Argentine Women, Two Protests, and the Quest for Recognition and Poor People's Politics: Peronist Survival Networks and the Legacy of Evita are both also published by Duke University Press.

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