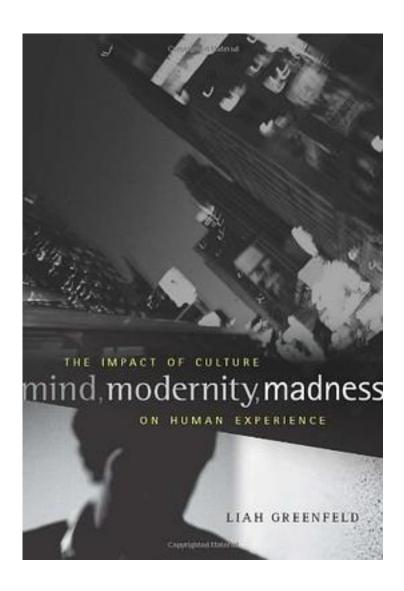
Mind, Modernity, Madness



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著者:Liah Greenfeld

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It's the American dream--unfettered freedom to follow our ambitions, to forge our identities, to become self-made. But what if our culture of limitless self-fulfil[ment is actually making millions desperately ill? One of our leading interpreters of modernity and nationalism, Liah Greenfeld argues that we have overlooked the connection between egalitarian society and mental illness. Intellectually fearless, encompassing philosophy, psychology, and history, Mind, Modernity, Madness challenges the most cherished assumptions about the blessings of living in a land of the free. Modern nationalism, says Greenfeld, rests on bedrock principles of popular sovereignty, equality, and secularism. Citizens of the twenty-first century enjoy unprecedented freedom to become the authors of their personal destinies. Empowering as this is, it also places them under enormous psychic strain. They must constantly appraise their identities, manage their desires, and calibrate their place within society. For vulnerable individuals, this pressure is too much. Training her analytic eye on extensive case histories in manic depression and schizophrenia, Greenfeld contends that these illnesses are dysfunctions of selfhood caused by society's overburdening demands for self-realization. In her rigorous diagnosis, madness is a culturally constituted malady. The culminating volume of Greenfeld's nationalism trilogy, Mind, Modernity, Madness is a tour de force in the classic tradition of Emile Durkheim--and a bold foray into uncharted territory. Often counter-intuitive, always illuminating, Mind, Modernity, Madness presents a many-sided view of humanity, one that enriches our deepest understanding of who we are and what we aspire to be.

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标签

社会学

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评论
作者关于nationalism三部曲的最后一部,印象最深的一点是作者推断马克思在写"1844经济学哲学手稿"之际,人在巴黎,受到当地讨论madness潮流的影响。换句话说,用madness的思路理解马克思所讨论的异化(alienation)会发现惊人的相似点。很精彩的一本书!没有提及任何亚洲国家,但是作者有近期的文章谈论这个话题。
sociology of culture. 当你理解到culture is symbolic reality时 好多事就豁然开朗
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书评
现代性给我们带来很多东西——物质世界的富裕,精神世界的蠢蠢欲动,但与此同时,也给我们带来了Madness(癫狂)。1961年,学术界有两本对于精神疾病深具影响力的书:福柯的癫狂与文明;托马斯Szasz的精神疾病的迷思(the myth of mental illness)。虽然一个诞生于法国,一个在美

心理学

阅读这两个章节(精神分裂症和躁郁症)是一段奇妙的旅程。读书和相关主题电影很不同的一点在于:读书的速度是生活的减速,你可以合上书本,细细琢磨,或者向前挪移几步看看之前到底发生了什么;而电影的速度是生活的加速,或者是回忆的速度,在你还来不及细细琢磨之前发生了什...

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