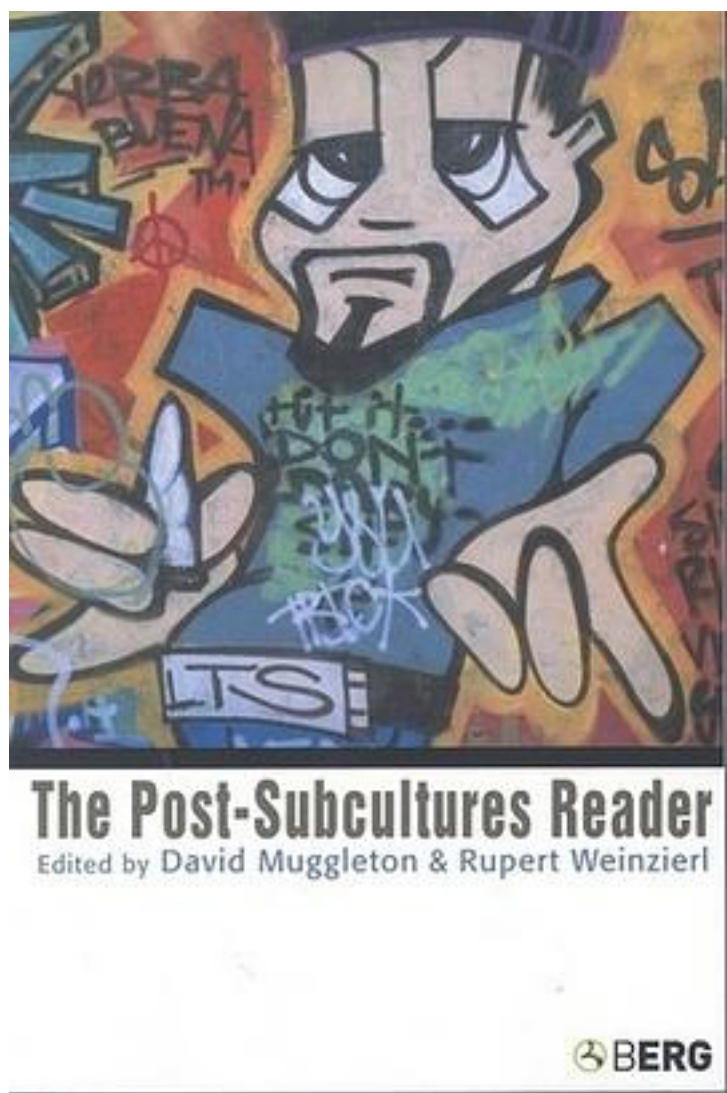


The Post Subculture Reader



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THE POST-SUBCULTURES READER

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Review

'The Post-Subcultures Reader is a solid textbook for those who want a guide through subcultural theory after the Birmingham Centre's beatification.' Youth Studies Australia, vol. 24, no. 3, 2005

Description

Once it was just Mods and Rockers or Hippies and Skinheads. Now we have Riot Grrls and Rappers; Modern Primitives and Metalheads; Goths, Clubcultures and Fetishists; Urban Tribes, New Age Travellers and Internet fan groups. In a global society with a rapid proliferation of images, fashions and lifestyles, it is -unsurprisingly - becoming increasingly difficult to pinpoint what 'subculture' actually means. Enthusiastically adopted by the media and academia, 'subculture' may be a convenient way to describe more unconventional aspects of youth culture, but it does little to help us comprehend the diverse range of youth groups in today's so-called 'postmodern' world. How can we begin to rethink, reformulate and replace outdated notions of 'subcultures' to make them applicable to the experiences of youth in the twenty-first century? And to what extent does this involve the challenging of past orthodoxies about spectacular subcultural styles?

From Seattle anarchist punks to UK Asian underground music, Canadian female X-Files fans to Australian dance cultures, this groundbreaking book draws on a wide variety of international case studies to investigate the new relationships among youth subcultural music, politics and taste. Is it possible to work within the existing limitations of 'subculture', or has the concept exhausted its usefulness? Can attempts at re-conceptualization, such as neo-tribes, sub-streams and micro-networks, adequately capture the experience of fragmentation, flux and fluidity that is central to contemporary youth culture?

This timely book is the first to challenge and reconsider the use of 'subculture'. In doing so, it questions the possibility and relevance of what might be termed 'post-subcultural studies' and helps to chart the emergence of a new paradigm for the study of youth subculture.

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Table of contents

Part I Introduction: What is 'Post-subcultural Studies' Anyway? * Part II Post-subcultural Theory: Tastefully Renovating Subcultural Theory: Making Space for a New Model--Geoff Stahl * Image, Body and Performativity: The Constitution of Subcultural Practice in the Globalized World of Pop--Gabriele Klein * 'Oh Bondage, Up Yours!' Or Here's Three Chords, Now Form a Band: Punk, Masochism, Skin, Anaclisis, Defacement--David Bloustien * Post-Rave Technotribalism and the Carnival of Protest--Graham St John * Bridging the Micro-Macro Gap: Is There Such a Thing as a Post-subcultural Politics?--Oliver Marchart * Part III Urban Tribes: Unlearning to Rave: Techno-Party as the Contact Zone in Trans-Local Formations--Toshiya Ueno * Constructing 'Neo-Tribal' Identities through Dress: Modern Primitives and Body Modifications--Theresa M. Winge * Between Criminal and Political Deviance: A Sociological Analysis of the New York Chapter of the Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation--Louis Konsos * Part IV 'Race', Ethnicity and Hybridity: Radical Hybridity: Latinas/os as the Paradigmatic Transnational Post-subculture--Angharad N. Valdivia * 'Race' and Class in the 'Post-subcultural' Economy--Martina Bose * Diaspora Experience, Music and Hybrid Cultures of Young Migrants in Vienna--Roman Horak * Part V Music and Post-subcultural Politics: Global Youth Cultures in Localized Spaces: The Case of the UK New Asian Dance Music and French Rap--Rupa Huq * Heavy Metal and Subcultural Theory: A Paradigmatic Case of Neglect?--Andy R. Brown * The Death and Life of Punk, the Last Subculture--Dylan Clark * Part VI Gender and Post-subcultural Production: 'Lady' Punks in Bands: A Subculturette?--Helen Reddington * Resisting Subjects: DIY Feminism and Politics of Style in Subcultural Production--Doreen Piano * Part VII New Technologies: 'The X-Files', Online Fan Culture, and the David Duchovny Estrogen Brigades--Rhiannon Bury * 'Net.Goth': Internet Communication and (Sub)Cultural Boundaries--Paul Hodgkinson * Internet Subcultures and Oppositional Politics--Richard Kahn and Douglas Kellner

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