

Majority Cultures and the Everyday Politics of Ethnic Difference



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For centuries minority groups have been singled out for scrutiny by the majority. They are portrayed as deviant, exotic, or else warrant special attention, and the exotic always seem to be located elsewhere, or at any rate not among 'us', the members of the majority. This book examines the ways in which 'majority' cultures govern and represent minorities and recent immigrants. The volume asks what is the impact of globalization, governance and immigration controls on the construction of the majority 'self' and minority 'other'? How do people perceive minorities and the arrival of immigrants of different nationalities to local societies? How are issues of ethnic difference represented and managed in sites of entrenched ethnic violence and ongoing conflict? In addressing these questions this book offers a rich collection of essays that scrutinize the processes through which Western cultures represent and exclude those people that are considered to be ethnically 'other'.

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