Gender and the Politics of Possibilities

Rethinking Globalization

Manisha Desai
Gender and the Politics of Possibilities stresses the agency of actors within a globalized world, and hence emphasizes the capacities—or in Manisha Desai's words, 'possibilities' and 'creativity'—of African informal cross-border traders, transnational feminists, and cultural producers.

—VALENTINE M. MOGHADAM, professor of sociology and women's studies, Purdue University

Manisha Desai provides an important contribution to the literature on globalization by showing why 'grassroots' women's activities in these areas need to be reassessed, arguing effectively that they are neglected, undervalued, or underappreciated.

—ROBERT K. SCHAEFFER, professor of global sociology, Kansas State University

Gender and the Politics of Possibilities explores the lesser-known side of globalization beyond the effects of national governments and multinational cooperations by taking a look at grassroots movements by women that have shaped and continue to shape globalization today. Manisha Desai highlights the significant role that women play in cross-border trade in Africa, in transborder activism on issues that affect women, and in cultural change and social justice.

MANISHA DESAI is associate professor of sociology and women and gender in global perspectives at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.