South Asian women have frequently been conceptualized in colonial, academic and postcolonial studies, but this is deeply problematic. This book, informed by theory and enriched by in-depth fieldwork, overturns these unhelpful categorizations and alongside broader issues of self and nation assesses how South Asian identities are ‘performed’. What are the blind spots and erasures in existing studies of both race and gender? In what ways do South Asian women struggle with Orientalist constructions? How do South Asian women engage with ‘indo-chic’? What dilemmas face the South Asian female scholar?

With a combination of the most recent feminist perspectives on gender and the South Asian diaspora, questions of knowledge, power, space, body, aesthetics and politics are made central to this book. Building upon a range of experiences and real conditions of the production of knowledge, South Asian Women in the Diaspora represents a challenging consideration of gender, race, culture and power.

**Abstract**

**Item Type:** Book

**ISBN:** 1-85973-696-3, 978-1-85973-696-8

**Keywords:** diaspora; women; South Asian

**Academic Unit/School:** Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) > Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Development, Geography

**Research Group:** OpenSpace Research Centre (OSRC)

**Item ID:** 7119

**Depositing User:** Parvati Raghuram

**Date Deposited:** 13 Mar 2007

**Last Modified:** 02 May 2018 12:43

**URI:** http://oro.open.ac.uk/id/eprint/7119
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