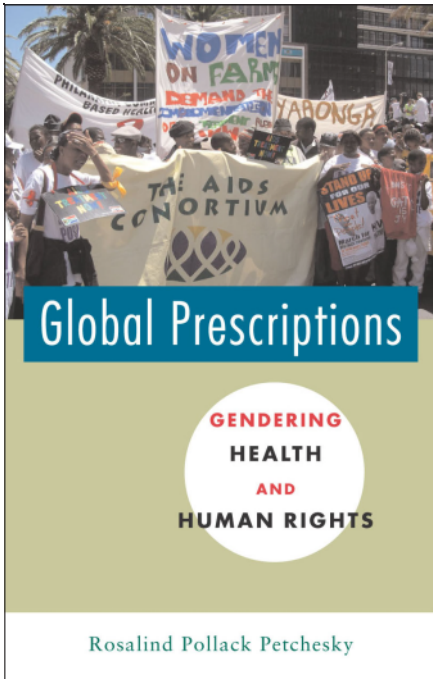


GLOBAL PRESCRIPTIONS

Gendering Health and Human Rights

Rosalind Pollack Petchesky



GLOBAL PRESCRIPTIONS is a critical yet optimistic analysis of the role of transnational women's groups in setting the agendas for women's health in international and national settings. The book reviews a decade of women's participation in UN conferences, transnational networks, national advocacy efforts and sexual and reproductive health provision, assessing both their strengths and weaknesses. It critiques the Cairo, Beijing and Copenhagen conference documents and World Bank, WHO and health sector reform policies. It also offers case studies of national-level reform and advocacy efforts and appraises the controversy concerning TRIPS, trade, and essential AIDS drugs. That controversy, Petchesky argues, starkly illuminates the 'collision course' of transnational corporate and global trade agendas with the struggle for gender, racial and regional equity and the human right to health. The author takes into account the formidable political and ideological forces confronting global justice movements and also offers a sobering reassessment of transnational women's NGOs themselves and such problems as 'NGOization', fragmentation and donor-dependency. Petchesky argues that the power of women's transnational coalitions is only as great as their organic connection with grassroots social movements.

'Global Prescriptions is a major contribution to contemporary debates on gender, health, and human rights. Through her analysis of the role of the transnational women's movement in a range of social justice arenas, Petchesky offers important new insights into the complex political forces shaping struggles for reproductive and sexual rights within the context of rapid social and economic globalization. [This] is critical social analysis at its very best' - Richard Parker, Professor, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

'Scrupulously researched, Petchesky offers an insightful overview of recent struggles to promote health and human rights. She traces linkages from the local, to the national to the international. At a time when the global corporate sector appears overpoweringly strong relative to governments, the United Nations and civil society, Petchesky provides an invaluable orientation and realistic multi-pronged agenda for challenging the current global acceptance of profit over people' - Barbara Klugman, Women's Health Project, South Africa

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