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978-1-107-01651-4 - Youth Culture in China: From Red Guards to Netizens

Paul Clark

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## YOUTH CULTURE IN CHINA

The lives and aspirations of young Chinese (those between fourteen and twenty-five years old) have been transformed in the past five decades. By examining youth cultures around three historical points – 1968, 1988, and 2008 – this book argues that present-day youth culture in China has both international and local roots. Paul Clark describes how the Red Guards and sent-down youth of the Cultural Revolution era carved out a space for themselves, asserting their distinctive identities despite tight political controls. By the late 1980s, Chinese-style rock music, sports, and other recreations began to influence the identities of Chinese youth. In the twenty-first century, the Internet offered a new, broader space for expressing youthful fandom and frustrations. From the 1960s to the present, global youth culture has been reworked to serve the needs of young Chinese.

Paul Clark is a professor of Chinese at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He is the author of *The Chinese Cultural Revolution: A History* (Cambridge 2008), *Reinventing China: A Generation and Its Films* (2005), and *Chinese Cinema: Culture and Politics since 1949* (Cambridge 1987).

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University of Auckland, New Zealand



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