

Cosmopolitan Sexuality

Cosmopolitan Sexuality articulates the ethnographic and anthropological studies of varied embodied projects in Indian metropolises. With particular reference to the city of Bombay, the book draws evidences of gendered representations – their desires, appeal and aspirations to be and to express their sense of self. The book attempts to establish arguments to a deconstructive notion of any fixation of identity categories and build a robust and complex understanding of sexual experiences, love, emotions and interpersonal relationships – an unusual way of local as well as global patterns that are culturally scathed in the contemporary new India.

The book is relevant to contemporary embodiment studies – the invasive means of desiring corporeal reconstruction on one hand, and dress, ornamentation and makeup on the other. Transgressive politics are discursively and materially constructed to their everydayness and their unique ways of re-representation. Adding to ethnographies on civil society, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and participatory research, ‘health’ is viewed in new dynamics of shared knowledges and communicative practices. This has enabled the building of fresh arguments around community and public health, with new visions of the anthropologies of empowerment.

Ahonaa Roy is Associate Professor of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, India, and Research Associate at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. She is also a Tata Fellow at the Centre of South Asian Studies, University of Cambridge (2022). She has published widely on sexuality and sexual health, social medicine, sexuality studies, masculinity studies, embodiment and body studies, and gender and subaltern studies. She edited the volume *Gender, Sexuality Decolonization: South Asia in the World Perspective* (2020).

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Biopolitics in India

Ahonaa Roy



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To my parents, Pronab Roy and Dipa Neogy-Roy

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Abbreviations

ART	antiretroviral therapy
BAS	Bombay Alternative Sexualities
CBO	community-based organization
GID	gender identity disorder
GRS	gender reassignment surgery
HIV/AIDS	human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
HRT	hormone replacement therapy
INGO	international non-governmental organization
LFW	Lakmé Fashion Week
LGBT	lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender
MCGM	Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai
MDACS	Mumbai Districts AIDS Control Society
NGO	non-governmental organization
PFLAG	Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
STI	sexually transmitted infection

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