



Uncivil Youth: Race, Activism, and Affirmative Governmentality

By Soo Ah Kwon

Duke University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Uncivil Youth: Race, Activism, and Affirmative Governmentality, Soo Ah Kwon, In Uncivil Youth, Soo Ah Kwon explores youth-of-colour activism as linked to the making of democratic citizen-subjects. Focusing attention on the relations of power that inform the social and political practices of youth of colour, Kwon examines how after-school and community-based programs are often mobilized to prevent potentially "at-risk" youth from turning to "juvenile delinquency" and crime. These sorts of strategic interventions seek to mould young people to become self-empowered and responsible citizens. Theorizing this mode of youth governance as "affirmative governmentality," Kwon investigates the political conditions that both enable and limit youth of colour from achieving meaningful change given the entrenchment of nonprofits in the logic of a neoliberal state. She draws on several years of ethnographic research with an Oakland-based, pan-ethnic youth organization that promotes grassroots activism among its second-generation Asian and Pacific Islander members (ages 14 to 18). While analysing the contradictions of the youth organizing movement, Kwon documents the genuine contributions to social change made by the young people with whom she worked in an era of increased youth criminalization and anti-immigrant legislation.



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