Record Nr. UNINA9910455088203321
Titolo Bewitching women, pious me

Bewitching women, pious men [[electronic resource]]: gender and body politics in Southeast Asia / / edited by Aihwa Ong and Michael G.

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley, : University of California Press, c1995

ISBN 1-283-38213-X 9786613382139

0-520-91534-8 0-585-13142-2

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (321 p.)

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Disciplina 305.3/0959

305.30959

Soggetti Sex role - Southeast Asia

Power (Christian theology) - Southeast Asia

Power (Mechanics) - Southeast Asia Power (Philosophy) - Southeast Asia Power (Social sciences) - Southeast Asia

Power resources - Southeast Asia

Electronic books.

Southeast Asia Social life and customs

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Based on a conference held at the University of California, Berkeley, in

the winter of 1992.

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

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Nationalism, Sexuality, and Race in Singapore -- SEVEN. Alternative Filipina Heroines: Con tested Tropes in Leftist Feminisms -- EIGHT. Attack of the Widow Ghosts: Gender, Death, and Modernity in Northeast Thailand -- NINE. Narratives of Masculinity and Transnational Migration: Filipino Workers in the Middle East -- INDEX

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## Sommario/riassunto

This impressive array of essays considers the contingent and shifting meanings of gender and the body in contemporary Southeast Asia. By analyzing femininity and masculinity as fluid processes rather than social or biological givens, the authors provide new ways of understanding how gender intersects with local, national, and transnational forms of knowledge and power. Contributors cut across disciplinary boundaries and draw on fresh fieldwork and textual analysis, including newspaper accounts, radio reports, and feminist writing. Their subjects range widely: the writings of feminist Filipinas: Thai stories of widow ghosts; eye-witness accounts of a beheading: narratives of bewitching genitals, recalcitrant husbands, and market women as femmes fatales. Geographically, the essays cover Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines. The essays bring to this region the theoretical insights of gender theory, political economy. and cultural studies. Gender and other forms of inequality and difference emerge as changing systems of symbols and meanings. Bodies are explored as sites of political, economic, and cultural transformation. The issues raised in these pages make important connections between behavior, bodies, domination, and resistance in this dynamic and vibrant region.