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Sommario/riassunto

Canada has become a nation in which ethnic pluralism must be balanced with national unity. Focusing on information derived from case studies - documents, interviews, and participant observation - the ten essays in this collection introduce the reader to specific problems that arise in an ethnically diverse society. The various essays address a wide range of issues. Original research into visible minority police, Haitian teachers in Quebec schools, and the matching of worker and patient/client ethnicities within health and social services sheds light on the complex situations faced in an increasingly pluralistic society. The intersection (or absence) of ethnic politics and ethnic political representation is also examined. An essay presenting the heterogeneous nature of the Canadian Hip-Hop scene counters reductive stereotypes, while studies of female genital operations and wife abuse in Muslim culture suggest ways of understanding traditions that radically break with the social norms of a liberal-democratic society in order to create and implement policy. This richly textured volume offers a comprehensive illustration of the problems and prospects of pluralism, effectively mirroring the diversity of the issues that arise when theories and goals of cultural sensitivity confront current Canadian realities.

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