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Ordinary Violence in Africa / Jacky Bouju and Mirjam de Bruijn -- Changing Life Worlds and Contested Space: Seclusion Practices among the Iraqw of Northern Tanzania / Jonathan Baker and Hege Wallevik -- A Chain of Family and Domestic Violence: Extramarital Pregnancy and Social Rupture in Burkina Faso / Fatoumata Ouattara and Katerini Storeng -- Social Violence and Gender Inequality: Mali's Young Bambara Domestic Workers / Jacky Bouju -- The Itinerant Koranic School: Contested Practice in the History of Religion and Society in Central Chad / Mirjam de Bruijn -- Surviving Structural Violence in Zimbabwe: The Case Study of a Family Coping with Violence / Otrude N. Moyo -- The Cyclical Exchange of Violence in Congolese Kinship Relations / Sylvie Ayimpam -- Kill the Witch!: Anti-witchcraft Violence in the Central African Republic / Aleksandra Cimpri -- Ordinary Violence towards Street Children (Sheque) in Lubumbashi (D.R.C.) /

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Ordinary social violence, - id est recurrent mental or physical aggression occurring between closely related people - structures social relationships in Africa, and in the world. Studies of violence in Africa often refer to ethnic wars and explicit conflicts and do not enter the hidden domain of violence that this book reveals through in-depth anthropological studies from different parts and contexts in Africa. Ordinary violence has its distinctive forms embedded in specific histories and cultures. It is gendered, implicates witchcraft accusations, varies in rural and urban contexts, relates to demographic and socioeconomic changes of the past decades and is embedded in the everyday life of many African citizens. The experience of ordinary violence goes beyond the simple notion of victimhood; instead it structures social life and should therefore be a compelling part of the study of social change.