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Violence Against Women in South Asian Communities

Issues for Policy and Practice

Edited by Ravi K Thiara and Aisha K Gill

Foreword by Professor Liz Kelly CBE

October 2009 256pp ISBN: 9781843106708 pb £25.00



‘This book is powerful, challenging and inspirational, and is an important contribution to debates on the complex intersections between ethnicity, gender and inequality, as well as on human rights and violence against women. Thiara and Gill and the contributors to this text skillfully unpick the flawed thinking and policy initiatives directed at gender-based violence over the past 30 years and especially in the post 9/11 period community cohesion and anti-terrorism initiatives.’

- Dr Lorraine Radford, Head of Research, NSPCC

While forced marriage and ‘honour-based’ violence attract media attention, little is known about the issues and experiences of South Asian women and children who are affected by gendered violence.

This book explores the key theoretical and empirical issues involved in gendered violence, ethnicity and South Asian communities. The editors draw together leading researchers and practitioners to provide a critical reflection of contemporary debates and consider how these reflections can inform policy, research and practice. The contributors consider the primacy of religion and culture, and how South Asian women face multiple and intersecting forms of violence. Future directions for facilitating improved services for survivors of violence against women from different racial and ethnic backgrounds are also proposed.

Violence Against Women in South Asian Communities will have widespread relevance for professional academics, researchers, students, policy makers, practitioners and anyone concerned with gendered violence within South Asian communities.

Ravi K Thiara is Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for the Study of Safety and Well-being at the University of Warwick, UK.
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