

ECONOMIC CITIZENSHIP

NEOLIBERAL PARADOXES OF EMPOWERMENT

AMALIA SA'AR

This is a unique piece: sophisticated, brilliantly argued, and, most importantly, based on the voices and experiences of real people.

CHARLES LINDHOLM, Boston University

This is an outstanding example of feminist scholarship that combines wide-ranging knowledge of various bodies of literature, nuanced critical perspectives on policies and projects ostensibly geared toward women's empowerment, and an empathic approach to the "subjects" of those projects as well as to some of the service providers.

VALENTINE M. MOGHADAM, Northeastern University

This book wonderfully explores the issues that affect a variety of women in Israel and not just those that social/cultural anthropologists have tended to focus on.

VIRGINIA R. DOMINGUEZ, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

With the spread of neoliberal projects, responsibility for the welfare of minority and poor citizens has shifted from states to local communities. Businesses, municipalities, grassroots activists, and state functionaries share in projects meant to help vulnerable populations become self-supportive. Ironically, such projects produce odd discursive blends of justice, solidarity, and wellbeing, and place the languages of feminist and minority rights side by side with the language of apolitical consumerism. Using theoretical concepts of economic citizenship and emotional capitalism, *Economic Citizenship* exposes the paradoxes that are deep within neoliberal interpretations of citizenship and analyzes the unexpected consequences of applying globally circulating notions to concrete local contexts.

AMALIA SA'AR is a cultural anthropologist at the University of Haifa. She has done research on gender politics among the Palestinian citizens of Israel, on the implications of the gender-contract cultural scheme for women's work strategies and work prospects, on women's perceptions of peace, war, and security, and on generational relations in Israeli feminism.

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