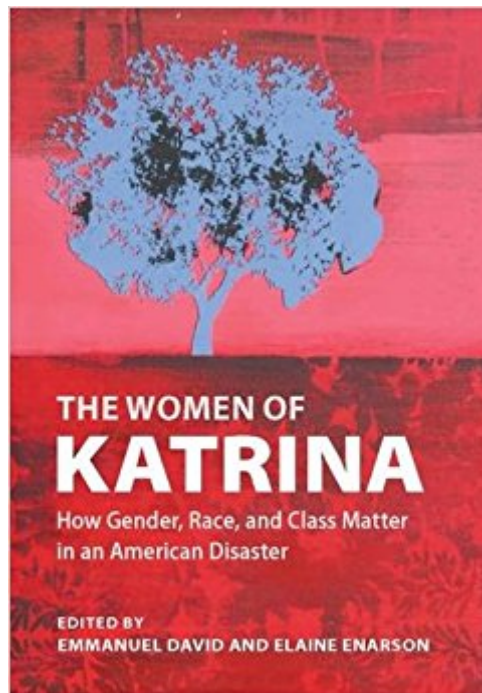




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The Women Of Katrina: How Gender, Race, And Class Matter In An American Disaster



Synopsis

The transformative event known as "Katrina" exposed long-standing social inequalities. While debates rage about race and class relations in New Orleans and the Katrina diaspora, gender remains curiously absent from public discourse and scholarly analysis. This volume draws on original research and firsthand narratives from women in diverse economic, political, ethnic, and geographic contexts to portray pre-Katrina vulnerabilities, gender concerns in post-disaster housing and assistance, and women's collective struggles to recover from this catastrophe.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This book aims to educate people about the challenges facing women in a disaster and the strengths which women can contribute to survive disaster and facilitate recovery. It also points out the ways the government failed to provide adequate assistance to women, and in particular women with children, women of color and women with disabilities, after Katrina. In doing so, the editors of this book hope individuals, communities and governments will be better prepared to protect women the next time around." - New Orleans Living Magazine "The book's strength lies with the voices it allows to be heard, voices often silent or silenced post-disaster. Many of the authors are not academics but instead are some of those women impacted most [...] and many of the academics who have contributed write as women caught up in the events, reflecting on them from their personal and professional viewpoints. [...] Overall then, an excellent addition to any and all bookshelves - a highly recommend read!" - Gender & Development "The book has the most

amazing collection of "eyewitness" accounts. It illustrates a need to understand underlying issues - those that will still be there long after the aid agencies have moved on - and highlights the dangers of making quick-fire assumptions that all too often turn out to be quite wrong. Anyone who thinks they know how to plan for a disaster should read this - at least once a year!" - Association for Human Resources Management in International Organizations

"For those who experienced Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath only on screen and in print, *Women of Katrina* amplifies the field on which the recovery played out." - Women's Review of Books

"[A]t the same time David and Enarson urge us to understand women as particularly vulnerable to disaster; they ask us not to see women as in need of protection but as agents whose decisions are enabled and constrained by structural inequalities related to race, class, and gender. And by bringing to light the voices of women [...] we will better understand the complexity and diversity of women's experiences with disaster." - Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society

"Overall then, an excellent addition to any and all bookshelves -- a highly recommended read!"--Gender & Development

"This collection of personal accounts and scholarly research articles on Hurricane Katrina's impact on the women who lived through it is unusual and valuable. [...] Highly recommended."--Choice

"A remarkable and important collection of reports, essays, and analyses on an understudied and overlooked issue. David and Enarson have brought together pieces that are informative, eye-opening, rich, and diverse. This compelling anthology is a must read. I will keep *The Women of Katrina* at the front of my bookshelf." --Alice Fothergill, author of *Heads Above Water: Gender, Class, and Family in the Grand Forks Flood*

"The power and diversity of the urban and rural women's experiences in the Katrina/Rita catastrophe begged for this book to be done. These scholars and activists who write here have committed their lives and careers to creating a lens to view the remarkable strengths that women have shown in normal times as well as crises. They have used that lens very well in *The Women of Katrina*." --Shirley Laska, Professor Emerita of Sociology and Founding Director Emerita, Center for Hazards Assessment, Response and Technology, University of New Orleans

"The meat has been put on the bones! Never before has a text been assembled that better illustrates how and why disaster consequences are as much, perhaps more, the result of differences between the people affected as they are the forces of nature. This book will forever alter how disasters are viewed." --Dennis S. Mileti, Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado at Boulder

A powerful blend of firsthand accounts and original research

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