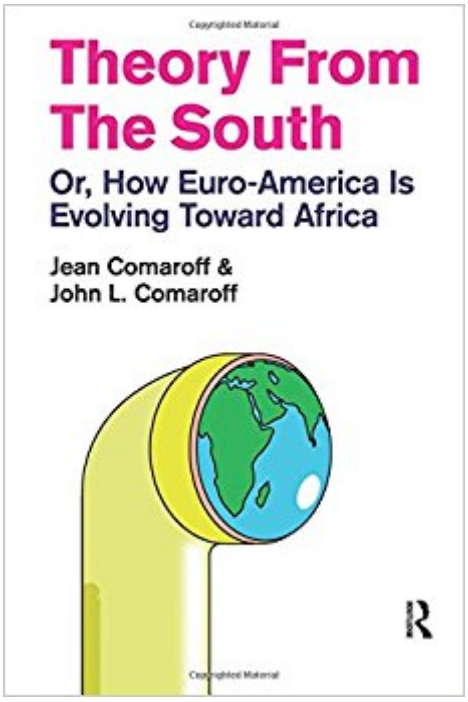
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Theory From The South: Or, How Euro-America Is Evolving Toward Africa (The Radical Imagination)



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Synopsis

As nation-states in the Northern Hemisphere experience economic crisis, political corruption and racial tension, it seems as though they might be 'evolving' into the kind of societies normally associated with the 'Global South'. Anthropologists Jean and John Comaroff draw on their long experience of living in Africa to address a range of familiar themes - democracy, national borders, labour and capital and multiculturalism. They consider how we might understand these issues by using theory developed in the Global South. Challenging our ideas about 'developed' and 'developing' nations, Theory from the South provides new insights into key problems of our time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“In this major transdisciplinary work, the Comaroffs (both anthropologists, Univ. of Chicago) have produced a well-crafted, nuanced, and sophisticated intervention in the meanings, limits, and Eurocentric underpinnings of modernityÃ¢â ¬Â¦The book is a welcome addition in debunking the Eurocentric binary between the Ã¢â ¬Ëœrational Ã¢â ¬â„¢ West and not so rational Ã¢â ¬Ëœnon-West Ã¢â ¬â„¢ and provides a refreshing insight into what the Ã¢â ¬ËœSouth Ã¢â ¬â„¢ has to offer in framing the future of the global human community. Theory from the South is not only Ã¢â ¬Ëœfrom the South Ã¢â ¬â„¢ but also Ã¢â ¬Ëœof Ã¢â ¬â„¢ and Ã¢â ¬Ëœabout the South.Ã¢â ¬â„¢ The book further enhances the reputation of the Comaroffs as formidable critical intellectuals of the first order. Beautifully done. Essential.Ã¢â ¬Â•
-Ã¢â ¬â œCHOICE December 2011 Vol. 49 No. 04 "Jean and John Comaroff put forward their

case in the strongest possible terms, and they do so with flair, eloquence, and brilliance: that Africa in particular and the Global South more broadly are in the vanguard of world history, generative of global futures and theory to match. This is a book that will be read and debated with vigor and profit." --Charles Piot, Duke University

Jean Comaroff is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, Fellow of the Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory, and Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town. She is co-editor most recently of Law and Disorder in the Postcolony (University of Chicago Press 2006), and is currently working on a new book, Ethnicity, Inc. John L. Comaroff is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, Fellow of the Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory, and Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town. He is co-editor most recently of Law and Disorder in the Postcolony (University of Chicago Press 2006), and is currently working on a new book, Ethnicity, Inc.

If you ever had second thoughts with regard to the confidence of the industrialized North that it has found and set the paradigm of human development - political, economic, social - and that the world will eventually converge on this path to a happy and prosperous future, you should read this book! It does not only address the question if globalization may make work, wages, and work conditions in the North more precarious and South-like, but also compares individualism in the North and in Africa and points to the trend to truth commissions (example of South Africa) and the monetization of past injustice that is more similar to the tradition of blood money than to the Western tradition until the second World War to take the past as a given that should not be revisited with hindsight and turned into a tribunal. Beyond these aspects that I found particularly interesting, this book is thought provoking and well worth reading, if sometimes a bit dense and academic.

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