

Public Power in the Age of Empire: A Must-Read for Understanding Global Inequality

In an era marked by rising inequality and the erosion of democratic institutions, Robbie Shilliam's groundbreaking work, "Public Power in the Age of Empire," offers a timely and thought-provoking analysis of the global power dynamics that shape our lives. This meticulously researched and engagingly written book provides a comprehensive overview of the ways in which public power has been undermined by the forces of neoliberalism and the rise of transnational corporations.

Shilliam argues that the last four decades have witnessed a concerted attack on public power by global elites and their ideological allies. This assault has taken various forms, including:

- **Privatization:** The transfer of public services, such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure, to private corporations.
- **Deregulation:** The removal of regulations that protect consumers, workers, and the environment.
- **Austerity:** Budget cuts that disproportionately harm the poor and vulnerable.

These neoliberal policies have weakened the capacity of governments to respond to the needs of their citizens and have exacerbated social and economic inequality.

Public Power in the Age of Empire (Open Media Series)

by Arundhati Roy



★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ 4.5 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 150 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 64 pages



Another key factor in the decline of public power is the rise of transnational corporations (TNCs). These giant corporations have become increasingly powerful, with revenues often exceeding those of many nation-states. They wield considerable influence over governments and often use their power to undermine public regulation and secure favorable policies for themselves.

Shilliam demonstrates how TNCs have played a central role in promoting neoliberalism and eroding public power. They have lobbied for deregulation, privatization, and austerity, and have used their economic power to undermine labor unions and suppress dissent.

"Public Power in the Age of Empire" also examines the impact of neoliberalism and TNCs on the Global South. Shilliam argues that these forces have exacerbated existing inequalities and have created new forms of exploitation. He highlights the ways in which TNCs have often colluded with corrupt governments to extract resources, exploit workers, and suppress dissent in developing countries.

Despite the challenges facing public power, Shilliam believes that it is not too late to rebuild a more just and equitable world. He outlines a series of concrete steps that can be taken to reclaim public power from the forces of neoliberalism and imperialism. These steps include:

- **Investing in public services:** Ensuring that everyone has access to quality healthcare, education, and infrastructure.
- **Regulating TNCs:** Establishing strong regulations to protect consumers, workers, and the environment from corporate abuses.
- **Promoting democratic ownership:** Giving ordinary people a greater say in how their communities are run and how economic resources are allocated.

"Public Power in the Age of Empire" is an essential read for anyone who wants to understand the global power dynamics that shape our lives. Robbie Shilliam provides a rigorous and thought-provoking analysis of the neoliberal assault on public power and the rise of transnational corporations. He also offers a roadmap for rebuilding a more just and equitable world.

This book is a must-have for academics, policymakers, activists, and anyone concerned about the future of democracy and social justice. It is a powerful indictment of the forces that have undermined public power and a clarion call for a new era of public empowerment.

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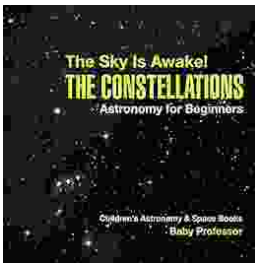
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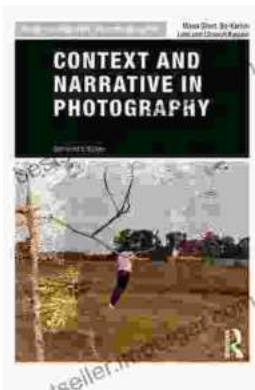


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