

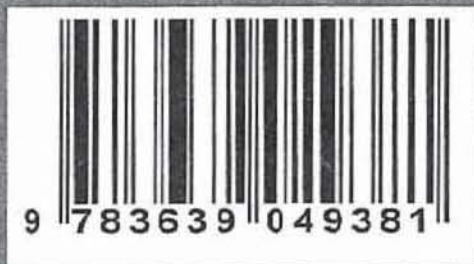
State economic and social policy in the last two decades of the twentieth century has been represented as woman-friendly, or, at the very least, gender-neutral. Using a trans-disciplinary approach embracing welfare systems, employment practices, education structures and the health industry, this book views state-decision making through an analytical feminist lens. What it reveals is that under the guise of economic restructuring the relative euphoria experienced by women during the second wave of feminism has been dampened by state decision-making that undermines women's continued economic and social advancement. Exposing the myth and tracing the trends has implications which do not auger well for women in the new millennium. This re-appraisal of state legislation and economic strategies to address the welfare of women in the evolving state provides a critical base for students, professionals and policy makers concerned with the direction of state intervention.

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Carole Ford, feminist and educator, gained a PhD in Women's Studies after two decades as an early childhood teacher. Currently she combines research in education with community activism, political analysis and occasional lecturing.

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978-3-639-04938-1