

Spectacular Girls: Media Fascination and Celebrity Culture



Filesize: 2.07 MB

Reviews

It is an awesome book that we have possibly go through. It is actually writter in straightforward words and phrases and not confusing. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

(Tierra Kunde)

SPECTACULAR GIRLS: MEDIA FASCINATION AND CELEBRITY CULTURE



New York University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Spectacular Girls: Media Fascination and Celebrity Culture, Sarah Projansky, As an omnipresent figure of the media landscape, girls are spectacles. They are ubiquitous visual objects on display at which we are incessantly invited to look. Investigating our cultural obsession with both everyday and high-profile celebrity girls, Sarah Projansky uses a queer, anti-racist feminist approach to explore the diversity of girlhoods in contemporary popular culture. The book addresses two key themes: simultaneous adoration and disdain for girls and the pervasiveness of whiteness and heteronormativity. While acknowledging this context, Projansky pushes past the dichotomy of the "can-do" girl who has the world at her feet and the troubled girl who needs protection and regulation to focus on the variety of alternative figures who appear in media culture, including queer girls, girls of color, feminist girls, active girls, and sexual girls, all of whom are present if we choose to look for them. Drawing on examples across film, television, mass-market magazines and newspapers, live sports TV, and the Internet, Projansky combines empirical analysis with careful, creative, feminist analysis intent on centering alternative girls. She undermines the pervasive "moral panic" argument that blames media itself for putting girls at risk by engaging multiple methodologies, including, for example, an ethnographic study of young girls who themselves critique media. Arguing that feminist media studies needs to understand the spectacularization of girlhood more fully, she places active, alternative girlhoods right in the heart of popular media culture. Sarah Projansky is Professor of Film and Media Arts and of Gender Studies at the University of Utah. She is author of *Watching Rape: Film and Television in Postfeminist Culture* (also available from New York University Press) and co-editor of *Enterprise Zones: Critical Positions on Star Trek*.



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