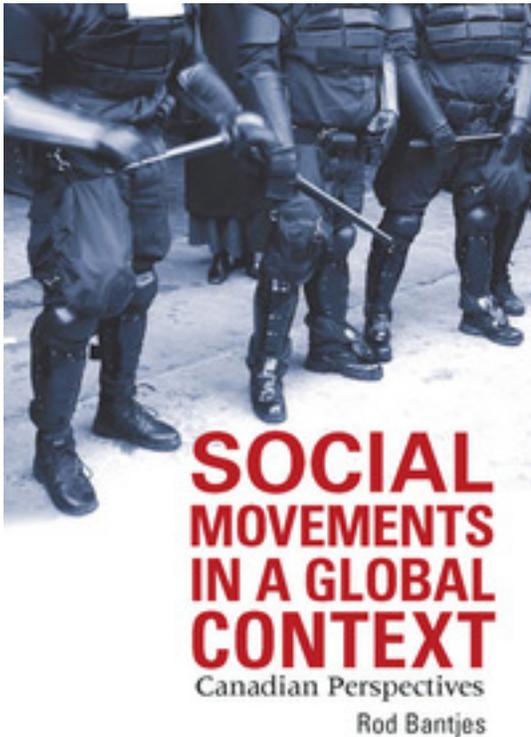


Social Movements in a Global Context

Canadian Perspectives



Social Movements in a Global Context focuses on interpreting the resurgence in popular protest for a growing audience of university students. Most of this new activity is either in response to or makes use of emerging global regimes — hence, the book's emphasis on the global context as well as on strategies for trans-local mobilization. Equally important is the fact that the book adopts a Canadian perspective and highlights, where possible, Canadian case studies.

The chapters are organized around an explanatory framework, such as class analysis, or a core analytical question. Some of the chapters deal with historical content, but all make links to the immediate present and attempt to engage students in ongoing debates and struggles. The author makes connections between movements and the state, focusing on the dynamic of co-optation/coercion. The author also pays attention to the spacial dimensions of movement formation and tactics, which are particularly relevant in the present era of globalization.

Author Information

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Rod Bantjes is Associate Professor in the Sociology and Anthropology Department at St. Francis Xavier University. His areas of expertise are environmental social movements and social geography.

Reviews

"This is a splendid book, one that provides a unique resource for students and instructors. I know of a no other volume dealing with today's world-wide protests and mobilizations that so skilfully demonstrates the connections between the global and the local, the historical and the contemporary.... It deals with resistance and protest, with diverse forms of contentious behaviour, and also the reactions - co-optation, repression and terror - that they have met. In making the links across time and space, it leads students to an appreciation of their global citizenship, and gives them tools for the critical understanding of their place in the twenty-first century."

Brian Elliott, University of British Columbia

"This book has many strengths. Its Canadian content and sense of place are outstanding, yet it is quite worldly - taking up issues like Islamism, globalization and Internet activism. I like the way the author draws on historical examples, but juxtaposes them with contemporary cases - e.g., the FLQ and Al-Qaeda. The coverage of the gamut of social movements is impressive, yet there is also a good sense of coherent flow and overarching unity. The in-depth analysis of cases is really superb. The case studies are the real 'meat' of the book, and this is a refreshing change from many sociology texts.... The book is organized 'outside the box' of potted social movement theory. Its innovativeness is a strength."

William K. Carroll, University of Victoria

"A serious contribution that will have a long life... The arguments are coherent and sustained [and teh book] links movements to the working classes in vital ways.... A solid book that is comprehensive, engaged and engaging, and, especially, relevant to the wave of new activists and intellectuals who are working on new and improved collective forms of class-rooted self-emancipation."

James Sacouman, Acadia University

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