

March 8, 2009: Celebrating International Women's Day.

Subhash R Joshi and Kiran Prasad (eds.), *Feminist Development Communication: Empowering Women in the Information Era*. The Women Press, New Delhi 2009. ISBN 81-89110-20-8; Pp xx + 398; Rs. 995.

A lot is already written on development communication, but this book addresses feminist perspectives on development communication. The scope of the book extends to a variety of perspectives and sharing personal experiences as well as contemporary issues on theory, practice and processes of women's empowerment. The book is divided into three well organized sections which theorizes, contextualizes and reassesses the field feminist development communication. The chapters in this volume will provide a critical evaluation of the field of feminist development communications and investigate the contributions of feminism to development communication and the interrelationship between media, gender and development studies.

The six chapters in Part One, Theorizing Feminist Development Communication, address the complex intersection in development of women of forces - historical, cultural, political, social and economic with the rise of new media, the Internet and various forms of networking. Part Two, Reassessing Feminist Development Communication, contains six chapters that explore the images, representations, self-identities, myths of women's modern identity in the mass media which act as barriers to and present opportunities for women's empowerment. The four chapters in Part Three, Contextualizing Information and Communication for Women's Health, examine the role and performance of communication in women's health empowerment.

Communication forms an integral part of all strategies focusing on development of women; this volume will serve as a reference book for feminist theoreticians, policy makers, social activists, academicians, researchers and students in several disciplines who are passionate about women's development and empowerment. The volume will advance the general understanding of feminist development communication and many of the processes, practices and institutions involved in empowering women worldwide.

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Subhash R Joshi works as a freelance Consultant for Social and Communication Research. His areas of specialization include Communication Research, Media Studies, Media Software Planning and Documentation. Earlier (1977-2004) he was with the Development and Educational Communication Unit (DECU), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Ahmedabad, India and held important positions in several satellite based communication projects including Kheda

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