



Body Work: Beauty and Self-Image in American Culture (Paperback)

By Debra Gimlin

University of California Press, United States, 2002. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Today women are lifting weights to build muscle, wrapping their bodies in seaweed to reduce unwanted water retention, attending weigh-ins at diet centers, and devoting themselves to many other types of body work . Filled with the voices of real women, this book unravels the complicated emotional and intellectual motivations that drive them as they confront American culture s unreachable beauty ideals. This powerful feminist study lucidly and compellingly argues against the idea that the popularity of body work means that women are enslaved to a male-fashioned beauty myth . Essential reading for understanding current debates on beauty, Body Work demonstrates that women actually use body work to escape that beauty myth. Debra Gimlin focuses on four sites where she conducted in-depth research - a beauty salon, aerobics classes, a plastic surgery clinic, and a social and political organization for overweight women. The honest and provocative interviews included in this book uncover these women s feelings about their bodies, their reasons for attempting to change or come to terms with them, and the reactions of others in their lives. These interviews show that women...



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