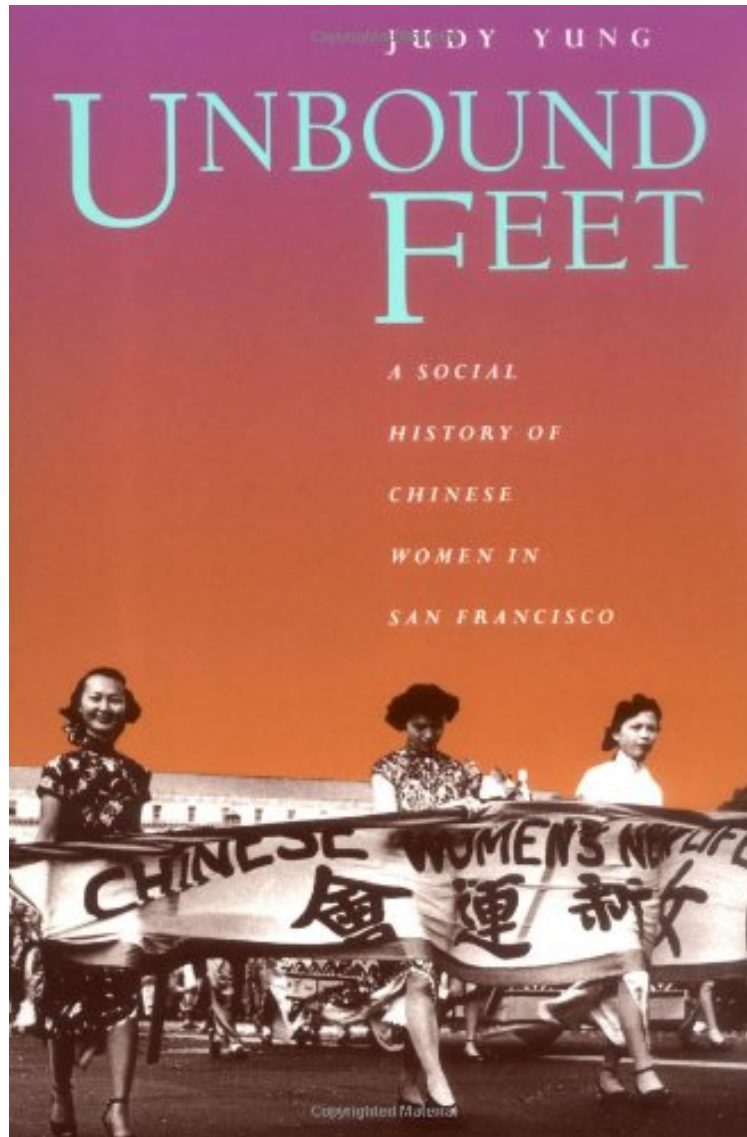


[Download] Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco

Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco

Judy Yung

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#703752 in Books Judy Yung 1995-11-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.03 x 6.00l, 1.40 #File Name: 0520088670395 pages Unbound Feet A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco | File size: 57.Mb

Judy Yung : Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Brilliant Social History By D The text is a first in that it explores-- through the lens of gender--the Chinese American women experience in San Francisco while relating the experiences to larger forces at play, namely anti-Chinese sentiment, racism, and legislation. Yung's work is meticulously researched; her interviews, in-depth and personal; her writing, precise, emotionally revealing, and scholarly. Effortlessly, she weaves first-person accounts into her narrative, the latter of which clearly dedicates chapters to various time periods. Insightful, I come back to this book frequently for leisure and work. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As enjoyable as a novel, with rich details and characterizations By Lyra 2012 I loved this book. I initially bought it for a research paper on Asian American history. I found it hard to start my paper because I just wanted to keep reading even after I'd found all the facts I needed! Judy Yung has a great mastery over language, ensuring that your reading experience is easy and pleasant; I found myself getting lost in the stories of the Chinese American women whose lives Yung documents. There aren't that many history books/textbooks that are page-turners, but this one is! If you are interested in putting real faces and true lives within the context of Chinese American women's history, this is the perfect book for you. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Academic Yet Accessible By flyingleaps I purchased this book for a class at University on women's social history. It is the first of its kind to follow the lives of Chinese-American women from the late 1800s when Congress placed strict regulations on Chinese immigration through the War Years. Compared to most history texts, I found the writing accessible and the stories intriguing. I do not consider myself a feminist, and I get annoyed when textbooks about women's history go preachy about their subject matter, and this book avoids that, maintaining academic distance without being remote in tone. This is a book I will actually probably keep after the course has ended because it sheds light on a minority group not often considered in the context of oppressed minorities, and does so in a way that leaves a lasting impression without putting the reader to sleep.

The crippling custom of footbinding is the thematic touchstone for Judy Yung's engrossing study of Chinese American women during the first half of the twentieth century. Using this symbol of subjugation to examine social change in the lives of these women, she shows the stages of "unbinding" that occurred in the decades between the turn of the century and the end of World War II. The setting for this captivating history is San Francisco, which had the largest Chinese population in the United States. Yung, a second-generation Chinese American born and raised in San Francisco, uses an impressive range of sources to tell her story. Oral history interviews, previously unknown autobiographies, both English- and Chinese-language newspapers, government census records, and exceptional photographs from public archives and private collections combine to make this a richly human document as well as an illuminating treatise on race, gender, and class dynamics. While presenting larger social trends Yung highlights the many individual experiences of Chinese American women, and her skill as an oral history interviewer gives this work an immediacy that is poignant and effective. Her analysis of intraethnic class rifts a major gap in ethnic history sheds important light on the difficulties that Chinese American women faced in their own communities. Yung provides a more accurate view of their lives than has existed before, revealing the many ways that these women rather than being passive victims of oppression were active agents in the making of their own history.

From Library Journal Yung (Chinese Women of America: A Pictorial History, Univ. of Washington Pr., 1986) has written a thorough and engrossing social history of Chinese women in San Francisco, from the turn of the century through the end of World War II. Using oral history interviews, unpublished autobiographies, government census reports, and English- and Chinese-language newspapers, Yung illuminates the larger canvas of social change with the stories of specific women from the first and second generations and their quests to improve their lives. The book is particularly valuable for its analysis of class differences within the Chinese community (merchant, peasant, bound servant, etc.), which created even more obstacles for Chinese women to overcome. This work offers engrossing reading; highly recommended for academic and public libraries. ?Katharine L. Kan, Aiea P.L., Hawaii Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Inside Flap "A stunning and sweeping piece of historical scholarship. It represents a major contribution to research in U.S. women's history." Vicki L. Ruiz, author of Cannery Women, Cannery Lives: Mexican Women, Unionization, and the California Food Processing Industry, 1930-1950 "Judy Yung's latest and most impressive work demonstrates how an engaged, community-based scholar can reclaim an experience otherwise silenced." John Kuo Wei Tchen, author of Genthe's Photographs of San Francisco's Old Chinatown "Judy Yung possesses a humane and deep feeling for her subjects. A good listener, she allows these women to emerge in her pages as interesting and complex. Sweeping in chronology and comprehensive in scope, her study invites us to reach toward an intricate understanding of the making of our multicultural society." Ronald Takaki, author of Strangers from a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans "Yung's book combines the richness of a community study, including engaging cameo biographies, with a broad survey of Chinese American women's history." Mari Jo Buhle, author of Women and American Socialism, 1870-1920 "This is passionate and illuminating scholarship that adds a needed dimension to the discourse of women of color in general, and Chinese American women in particular." Paula Giddings, author of When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America "Students and teachers

of U.S. women's history will be grateful for Yung's compelling overview of the history of Chinese American women and for the ways her focus on San Francisco brings women's community, family, and personal conflicts to life. A memorable and important book." Kathryn Kish Sklar, author of *Florence Kelley and Nation's Work: The Rise of Women's Political Culture, 1830-1900*