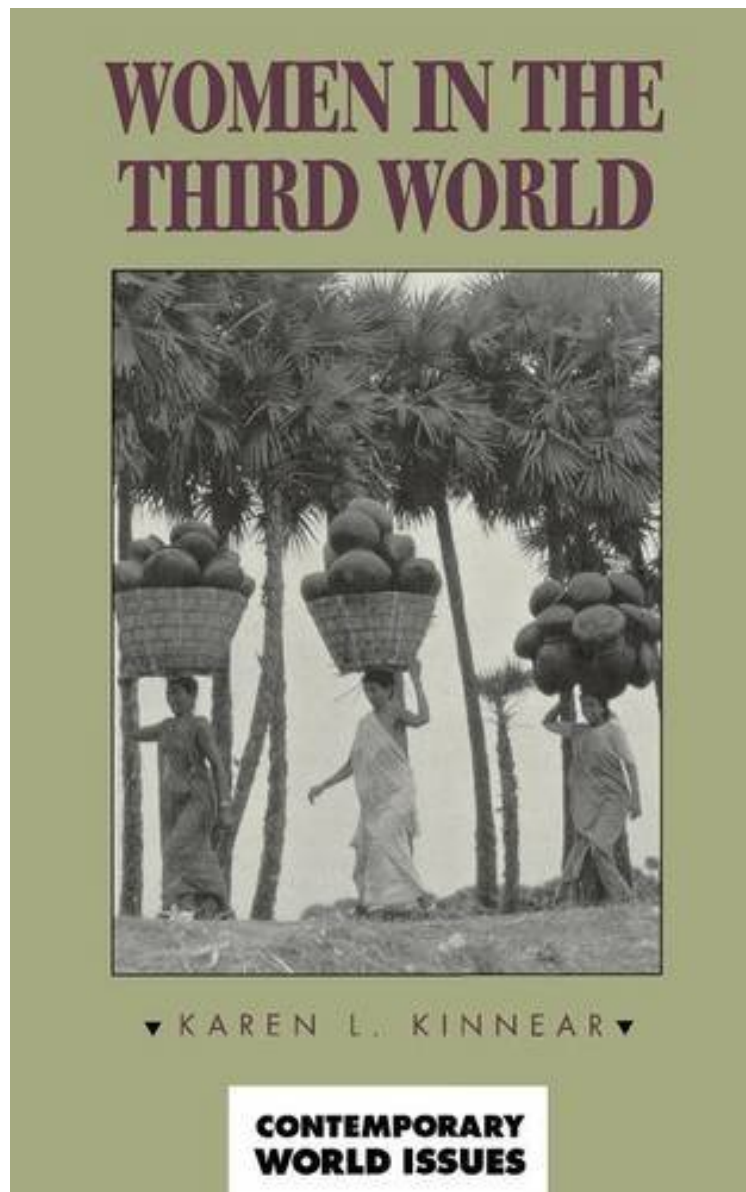


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Women in the Third World: A Reference Handbook (Contemporary World Issues)

Karen L. Kinnear

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Karen L. Kinnear : Women in the Third World: A Reference Handbook (Contemporary World Issues) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women in the Third World: A

Reference Handbook (Contemporary World Issues):

Provides a balanced survey of existing literature on women throughout the third world. Provides biographical sketches of noted women leaders Includes statistical information, data on programs, and summaries of print and nonprint resources

From School Library Journal Gr 9 Up--This useful compilation of contemporary information on women in the Third World includes a directory of organizations and selected print and nonprint resources for further research. Twelve topics that range from patriarchy to health care, "Women and Work" to "Women's Rights as Human Rights," are cogently discussed in the first chapter. Further chapters give chronology, biographical sketches, facts and statistics, and international agreements. Offering a clear and well-documented overview of the 20-year explosion of information since the first world conference of governments focusing on women held in Mexico City in 1975 to the United Nations Fourth World Conference of Women held in 1995 in Beijing, this handbook is a solid addition to gender study or women's history collections. Mary H. Cole, Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day School, NY Copyright 1998 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Kinnear (Child Sexual Abuse: A Reference Handbook, LJ 1/96) has attempted to cover the massive topic of women in the Third World in the same short format as the rest of the "Contemporary World Issues" series. The introduction provides about a page of information on such broad topics as violence against women, female circumcision, and prostitution. A selective chronology of events concerning the rights and status of women in the Third World covering primarily 1975 to the present does not include the election of Corazon Aquino or the Nobel Peace prize awarded to Aung San Suu Kyi, even though they are among the 48 brief biographical sketches of 20th-century Third World women. The "Facts and Statistics" section provides interesting but very limited statistics, e.g., if you are looking for women's life expectancy figures across Third World countries, you won't find them here. The handbook does, however, include the text of relevant portions of various international agreements. A directory of women's organizations is provided, and the book closes with a lengthy annotated bibliography of print and nonprint resources. Kinnear states in her preface, "The purpose of this book is to provide a survey of the available literature and other resources" for the study of women in the Third World. If this was her intention, the work should have been called an annotated bibliography rather than a reference handbook because the topical coverage is so cursory. Recommended only for the bibliography. Debra Moore, Loyola Marymount Univ. Lib., Los Angeles Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Offering a clear and well-documented overview of the 20 year explosion of information since the first world conference of governments focusing on women held in Mexico City in 1975 to the United Nations Fourth World Conference of Women held in 1995 in Beijing, this handbook is a solid addition to gender study or women's history collections." - School Library Journal