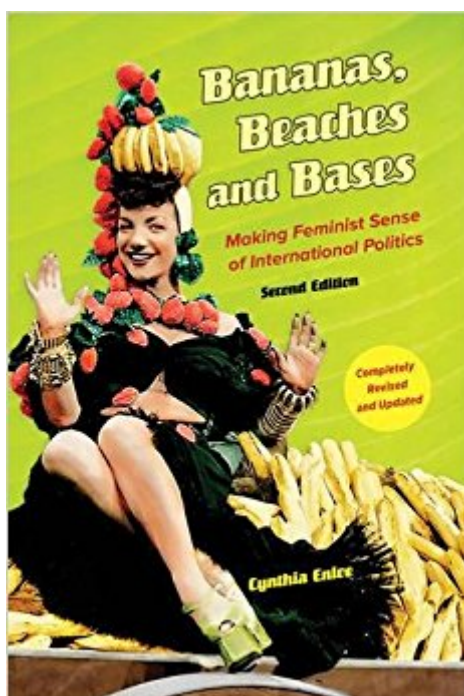


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# Bananas, Beaches And Bases: Making Feminist Sense Of International Politics



## Synopsis

In this brand new radical analysis of globalization, Cynthia Enloe examines recent events—Bangladeshi garment factory deaths, domestic workers in the Persian Gulf, Chinese global tourists, and the UN gender politics of guns—to reveal the crucial role of women in international politics today. With all new and updated chapters, Enloe describes how many women's seemingly personal strategies—in their marriages, in their housework, in their coping with ideals of beauty—are, in reality, the stuff of global politics. Enloe offers a feminist gender analysis of the global politics of both masculinities and femininities, dismantles an apparently overwhelming world system, and reveals that system to be much more fragile and open to change than we think.

## Book Information

Paperback: 496 pages

Publisher: University of California Press; 2 edition (May 16, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0520279999

ISBN-13: 978-0520279995

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #87,305 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #209 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > General #214 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Feminist Theory #220 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Gender Studies

## Customer Reviews

"This is the work of a well-travelled feminist mulling over the inequalities of the postmodern world. In a lively overview of tourism, the food industry, army bases, nationalism, diplomacy, global factories, and domestic work, Enloe persuasively argues that gender is key to the workings of international relations."—Aihwa Ong, University of California, Berkeley "If you thought you understood how our world works, think again. Get ready to look at your jeans, your breakfast, and your morning paper in a whole new light. This book made my brain hurt, in the best way."—Sohaila Abdulali, author of Year of the Tiger "The third edition of Bananas, Beaches and Bases demonstrates beyond all doubt the enduring brilliance of Cynthia Enloe's fastidious documenting of women's lives

as they shape, and are shaped by the power-play of international politics. In sharpening and freshening feminist curiosity in the contemporary period, this edition reminds us of both the stubborn tenacity of gendered inequality as it is etched into everyday life and, in more optimistic terms, the potentially transformative capacity with which women's lives inhere. A gritty yet erudite text illuminating the international topography of the current day, global gender regime of interest to fresh eyes as well as readers looking to get a handle on patriarchy's mutability."

Dr Paul Higate, Reader in Gender & Security at the School for Sociology, Politics and International Studies, the University of Bristol and editor of *Military Masculinities: Identity and the State* (Praeger: Greenwood) "This book is a rare gem. After having read it, international relations will never look the same again. Through bananas, beaches, bases and the many lives women live Cynthia Enloe most persuasively shows that global politics is not where it is supposed to be. A third, updated edition of this classic is very welcome indeed."

Jef Huysmans, Professor of Security Studies, The Open University (UK) "To change the world's inequalities, we need texts that illuminate how power operates and hence how our personal power matters. An exemplary teaching tool, Enloe's text simultaneously informs, entertains, disturbs and even inspires."

V. Spike Peterson, Professor of International Relations, Univ of Arizona, Tucson AZ "As I hold the Turkish translation of the first *Bananas*, I wonder how many readers, in how many languages have been inspired to look at our worlds - and imagine new worlds - through the gender-curious feminist eyes that Cynthia Enloe offers as a gift to us all. Making connecting between an amazing array of contemporary conversations and struggles, this *Bananas* is not a revised gift, it is a whole new gift! It impressively shows that if we miss gender, we simply miss how the world - and certainly international politics - goes round."

Ayşe Gül Altınay, Cultural Anthropologist, Sabanci University and author of *The Myth of the Military-Nation* "As breathtaking as the first edition, *Bananas, Beaches and Bases* breaks new ground once again, compelling the reader to take a fresh feminist look at the gendered international politics of the personal in the age of social media."

Catia Cecilia Confortini, Assistant Professor, Peace & Justice Studies Program, Wellesley College "Cynthia Enloe's unparalleled skill in making the everyday lives of women visible in and relevant to international politics is on full display as she employs her feminist curiosity to challenge the boundaries of the international. Listening carefully and not afraid to admit surprise, Enloe weaves a tapestry of stories that reveal the workings of power from the personal to the political and back. Her sustained and deeply political engagement with women from all walks of life - all over the world - makes us genuinely smarter about global politics. You will not be able to put

this book down." Annick T.R. Wibben, author of *Feminist Security Studies: A Narrative Approach* (Routledge, 2011) "With *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*, Cynthia Enloe sparked an immense paradigm shift and produced multiple wildfires of feminist scholarship, from international relations to political economy to feminist theory. Now another generation of students, activists and scholars can be made smarter with the Third Edition of this essential text." Ethel Brooks, professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Sociology, Rutgers University "Cynthia Enloe is unparalleled in her ability to make feminist sense of international politics. This groundbreaking book illustrates the inadequacies of analytic frames that do not take the workings of gendered power seriously, arguing persuasively that the most complex, and comprehensive understandings of international politics must be fueled by feminist curiosity. A compelling, lucid, and engaging book--a must for all our bookshelves." Chandra Talpade Mohanty, Author of *Feminism Without Borders, Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*, 2003

Cynthia Enloe is Professor of Political Science at Clark University and is the author of many books, including *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives* and *The Curious Feminist: Searching for Women in a New Age of Empire*. Enloe won the Howard Zinn Lifetime Achievement in Peace Studies Award from the Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA).

Such an enlightening book. The format makes it really easy to navigate and to digest.

Awesome book!

I can appreciate the point of view but the book did quite of a bit of reaching to make points. Not the most collegiate work on the subject of feminism.

A classic in the field by one of the preeminent scholars of international relations, and gender and militarization.

I ordered product to be wrapped for christmas and when it arrived the wrapping was poorly done and had to be rewrapped before presenting it as a gift as well as the book seemed to have had some damage during transit because of this poor wrapping job. The receiver loved the book anyway and would recommend it for other people interested in feminist politics.

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