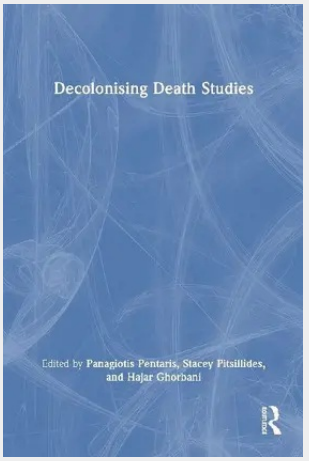
Pentaris / Pitsillides / Ghorbani

Decolonising Death Studies



Social and cultural factors can strongly influence how we approach death and dying, including attitudes towards death, rituals and practices surrounding death, and end-of-life care. Current knowledge in death studies tends to be influenced by Western views, which can limit its application to policy and practice. The increasing diversity and plurality of populations around the world requires further attention to be paid to diversifying evidence and knowledge to ensure that it effectively serves its beneficiaries. This book provides cutting-edge discourses and debates on death studies as a global and international field of research and practice. By hosting the space for interdisciplinary, international contributions, especially from under-represented groups, it advances our exploration of both knowledge outside of the colonised and the degree of the current knowledge's applicability in the field. Offering a truly innovative contribution to the field through its clear emphasis on decolonising methodologies and perspectives, it highlights decolonisation as a central framework, and pushes boundaries and challenges established norms, paving the way for new and transformative conversations within death studies. Through its collaborative and interdisciplinary approach, the proposal breaks new ground by bringing together a diverse range of perspectives and voices, fostering rich dialogue and promoting inclusivity. This innovative approach promises to catalyse meaningful change and advance critical scholarship in death studies. It will be of interest to all undergraduate and postgraduate courses on death studies across both humanities and social sciences.

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