

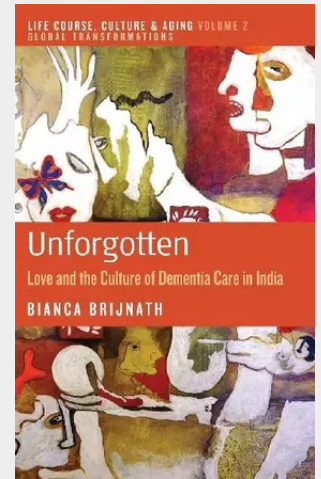
Brijnath

Unforgotten

Love and the Culture of Dementia Care in India

As life expectancy increases in India, the number of people living with dementia will also rise. Yet little is known about how people in India cope with dementia, how relationships and identities change through illness and loss. In addressing this question, this book offers a rich ethnographic account of how middle-class families in urban India care for their relatives with dementia. From the husband who wakes up at 3 am to feed his wife ice-cream to the daughters who gave up employment for seven years to care for their mother with dementia, this book illuminates the local idioms on dementia and aging, the personal experience of care-giving, the functioning of stigma in daily life, and the social and cultural barriers in accessing support.

Offers a rich ethnographic account of how middle-class families in urban India care for their relatives with dementia. It is unique in its insights into the intimate experiences of dementia and dementia care from insiders' perspectives, particularly from within the intimate spaces of the home. Love and transformation are central themes in this book, subjects that to date have not been sufficiently dealt with in the anthropological literature. Conceptual and methodological concerns are interwoven with the analysis and the book could be productively used in an undergraduate or graduate course on ethnographic research methodologies. The manuscript has been written in a highly accessible format with the intent of appealing to as broad an audience as possible.



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