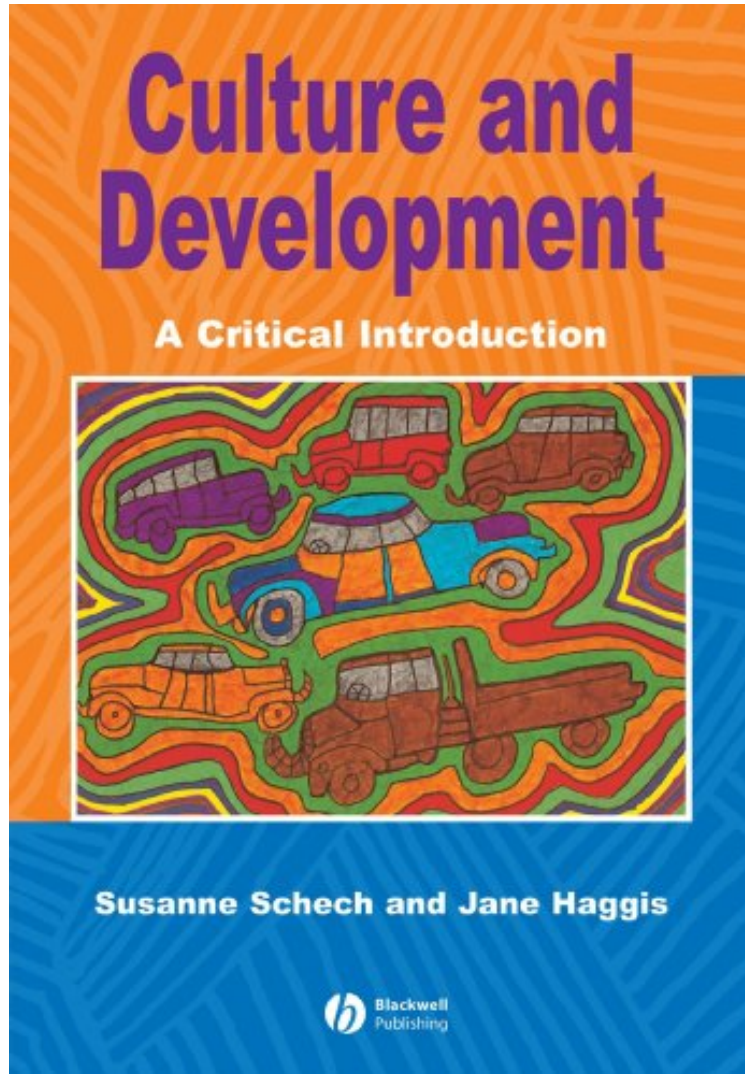


# Culture and Development: A Critical Introduction

*Susanne Schech, Jane Haggis*

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This book introduces students to new ways of thinking about development. It integrates the recent scholarship of cultural studies within the existing frameworks of development studies, which have primarily focused on issues of political economy and structural transformation.

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**From the Back Cover**This book introduces students to new ways of thinking about culture and development. The book integrates the recent scholarship in the area of cultural studies within the existing frameworks of development studies, which have primarily focused on issues of political economy and structural transformation. Rather than viewing culture as simply an attribute of the societies undergoing development, this text critically examines how "development" itself operates as a cultural process. The authors draw on theories of modernity, poststructuralism and post-colonial studies to show how development institutions, processes and practices are inevitably caught up in a web of cultural presuppositions, values and meanings. The authors use the themes of gender, tradition and identity, human rights and new communication technologies to explore the challenges that processes of cultural change pose to conventional understandings of development. The book concludes by considering the move beyond "development" to a "post-development" paradigm. The book is made up of thematic chapters which include outlines and overviews of the specific topics, as well as case studies to illustrate the issues. The authors have designed the book specifically for students and teachers and the material included has been class-tested during their own teaching.

**About the Author**Susanne Schech is Senior Lecturer in the School of Geography, Population and Environmental Management at Flinders University of South Australia. She is also Director of the Centre for Development Studies at Flinders University. She has published articles on gender and development, the social construction of whiteness and information technology in development NGOs. Jane Haggis is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at Flinders University of South Australia. She is also Associate Director of the Centre for Development Studies at Flinders University and has published a number of articles on gender and imperialism, social construction of whiteness and feminist research methodologies.