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Women of the Mexican Countryside, 1850-1990: Creating Spaces, Shaping Transitions

By Heather Fowler Salamini, Mary Kay Vaughan

University of Arizona Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Women of the Mexican Countryside, 1850-1990: Creating Spaces, Shaping Transitions, Heather Fowler Salamini, Mary Kay Vaughan, Too often in the history of Mexico, women have been portrayed as marginal figures rather than legitimate participants in social processes. As the twentieth century draws to a close, Mexican women of the countryside can be seen as true historical actors: mothers and heads of households, factory and field workers, community activists, artisans, and merchants. In this new book, thirteen contributions by historians, anthropologists, and sociologists from Mexico as well as the United States elucidate the roles of women and changing gender relations in Mexico as rural families negotiated the transition from an agrarian to an industrial society. Drawing on Mexican community studies, gender studies, and rural studies, these essays overturn the stereotypes of Mexican peasant women by exploring the complexity of their lives and roles and examining how these have changed over time. The book emphasizes the active roles of women in the periods of civil war, 1854-76, and the commercialization of agriculture, 1880-1910. It highlights their vigorous responses to the violence of revolution, their increased mobility, and their interaction with state reforms in the...


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