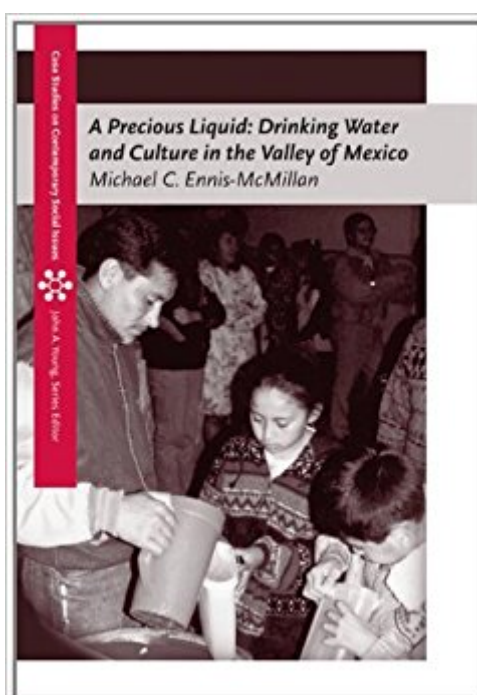


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A Precious Liquid: Drinking Water And Culture In The Valley Of Mexico (Case Studies On Contemporary Social Issues)



Synopsis

The text provides an ethnographic analysis of the social and cultural aspects of installing and managing a piped drinking water system in La Purificacion Tepetitla, a community located in the densely populated and semiarid region of the Valley of Mexico. The account shows how politics and culture shape community initiatives to develop adequate and equitable drinking water supplies in the Valley of Mexico's changing ecology. The research is based on 22 months of ethnographic fieldwork, carried out from 1993 to 2000. The book applies the culture concept to drinking water issues and furthers students' understanding of human diversity in terms of economics, ecological adaptation, politics, kinship, gender, ethnicity, health beliefs and practices, and religion and ritual.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

1. Introduction: A Precious Liquid. 2. On the Edge of a Water Crisis. 3. "The Soul of a Pueblo": Local Water History. 4. Leveling the Water: The Power of Civil and Religious Cargo. 5. "It's Our Custom": Water Rights and Obligations. 6. "Everything Is the Responsibility of the Women": Gender and Water Management. 7. "We are Suffering from Water": Health and Resource Scarcity. 8. Searching for Equity: Critical Reflections on Emerging Global Water Issues. Glossary. References. Index.

Michael C. Ennis-McMillan is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Skidmore College in New York. He is also a participating faculty member of the College's programs in Environmental Studies,

International Affairs, and Latin American Studies. He received his doctorate in anthropology from Michigan State University in 1998. From September 2001 through June 2002, Ennis-McMillan was a Researcher-in-Residence at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at the University of California, San Diego. The fellowship was to support a major writing project as well as his preliminary work on *A Precious Liquid*.

If you care about social issues that are happening across the border, then this book is a great insight to the challenges that people face trying to obtain necessary items such as water.

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