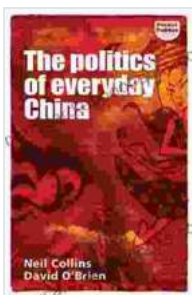


Unveiling the Hidden Power Dynamics in China: A Journey Through "The Politics of Everyday China"

In the tapestry of Chinese society, power weaves intricate threads that extend beyond the halls of government and into the heart of daily life. "The Politics of Everyday China: Pocket Politics," a groundbreaking work by political scientist William Jankowiak, delves into the nuanced dynamics of power in contemporary China, revealing how everyday experiences shape and reflect the political landscape.

The Power of the Market

China's rapid economic growth has profoundly altered the lives of its citizens, empowering the consumer and creating new opportunities for social mobility. The market, once a mere adjunct to state-led development, has now emerged as a force that both complements and challenges the authority of the Communist Party.



The politics of everyday China (Pocket Politics)

by Jahara Matissek

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3018 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 304 pages

Lending : Enabled



Jankowiak explores the ways in which market relations influence political behavior. The quest for material goods and upward mobility can motivate citizens to engage in various forms of political participation, such as joining civic associations, petitioning local officials, or even running for office.

The Power of Networks

Beyond the market, personal and social networks play a crucial role in shaping political outcomes in China. These networks, known as *guanxi*, provide individuals with access to resources and opportunities that would otherwise be unavailable. *Guanxi* can be leveraged to secure jobs, resolve disputes, and influence government decisions.

Jankowiak argues that *guanxi* is not simply a holdover from traditional Chinese culture but a dynamic phenomenon that has adapted to the changing political and economic environment. In the era of "pocket politics," individuals cultivate networks through online platforms, professional organizations, and even shared hobbies.

The Power of the Individual

While the market and networks wield significant influence, Jankowiak emphasizes the enduring importance of individual agency. Chinese citizens, despite the existence of a powerful state, are not mere pawns in a political game. Rather, they actively negotiate and shape their own experiences.

The author highlights the role of individual morality and self-interest in political behavior. Citizens may choose to engage in forms of "everyday resistance" against perceived injustices, such as refusing to pay bribes or organizing protests against environmental pollution.

The Power of the State

Despite the growing influence of market forces and networks, the Chinese state remains a formidable presence in everyday life. Jankowiak acknowledges the authoritarian nature of the regime but argues that its power is not absolute. The state's attempts to control and shape society are constantly contested and negotiated by citizens.

The author explores the strategies employed by the state to maintain its authority, including surveillance, propaganda, and repression. He also examines the ways in which citizens navigate and resist these state controls.

"The Politics of Everyday China: Pocket Politics" is an eye-opening account of the intricate and dynamic relationship between power and society in China. Jankowiak's research reveals that power is not confined to the realm of formal politics but pervades every aspect of daily life.

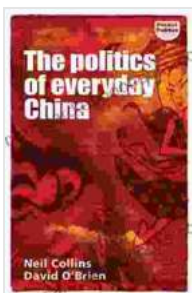
Through the lens of "pocket politics," the author illuminates the ways in which citizens negotiate and shape their political experiences, despite the challenges posed by a powerful state. This book is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand the complexities of contemporary Chinese society.

Call to Action

Embark on an intellectual journey to unravel the hidden power dynamics in China. Free Download your copy of "The Politics of Everyday China: Pocket Politics" today and gain a deeper understanding of the world's most populous nation.

THE POLITICS OF EVERYDAY CHINA

NEIL COLLINS AND DAVID O'BRIEN



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