Mobilizing Gay Singapore: Rights and Resistance in an Authoritarian State

Lynette J. Chua

Temple University Press, Publisher

From private meetings in living rooms in the 1990s to the emergence of annual rallies and decriminalization campaigns in the past six years, Singapore's gay rights activists have sought equality and justice in a state that does not recognise their rights to seek protection of their civil and political liberties. In her ground-breaking book, Mobilizing Gay Singapore, Lynette Chua tells the history of the gay rights movement in Singapore and asks what a social movement looks like under these circumstances. She examines the movement's emergence, development, strategies, and tactics, as well as the roles of law and rights in social processes.

Chua uses in-depth interviews with gay activists, observations of the movement's activities, movement documents, government statements, and media reports. She shows how activists deploy "pragmatic resistance" to gain visibility and support, and tackle political norms that suppress dissent, while avoiding direct confrontations with the state.

The highly acclaimed book received the 2015 Distinguished Book Award by the Sociology of Law Section of the American Sociological Association and the 2015 International Convention of Asian Scholars' Accolade for Ground-Breaking Matter. It was also selected as a finalist for the 2015 Hart Socio-legal Book Prize for Early Career Academics, Socio-legal Studies Association (U.K.), and shortlisted for the EuroSEAS Social Science Book Prize 2015.

The full book can be accessed via:

http://www.temple.edu/tempresstitles/2274_reg.html