



Social Welfare in East Asia and the Pacific

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In this singular collection, indigenous experts describe the social welfare systems of fifteen East Asian and Pacific Island nations and locales. Vastly understudied, these lands offer key insight into the successes and failures of western and native approaches to social work, suggesting new directions for practice and research in both local and global contexts.

Combining personal and professional knowledge, contributors illuminate the role of history and culture in shaping the social welfare systems of Cambodia, China, Hong Kong (SAR, China), Indonesia, Malaysia, the Micronesia region (including the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam [Unincorporated Territory, U.S.A.], Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana Islands [Commonwealth, U.S.A.], and Palau), Samoa and American Samoa (Unincorporated Territory, U.S.A.), South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. The contributors connect the values and issues that concern citizens most to the development of social work practice, policy, and research. Sharlene B.C.L. Furuto then conducts a comparative analysis of the essays and their data, highlighting the similarities and differences between the evolution of social welfare in these nations and locales. She contrasts their indigenous approaches, the responses of governments and NGOs, and the availability of social work education, as well as API models, paradigms and templates, and the overall status of the social work profession. Furuto also includes a distinct chapter comparing the social welfare systems of Samoa and American Samoa. The only text to focus exclusively on social welfare in East Asia and the Pacific, this volume holds immense value for practitioners and researchers eager for global perspectives.

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