Beyond the Case
The Logics and Practices of Comparative Ethnography
Edited by Corey M. Abramson and Neil Gong

"THIS STIMULATIVE BOOK WILL MAKE ITS READERS THINK ANEW ABOUT THE PITFALLS, PROFITS, AND PROMISE OF COMPARISON IN ETHNOGRAPHY."
- LOÏC WACQUANT, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

"AN ESSENTIAL AND USABLE VOLUME FOR RECONNECTING TODAY THE ETHNOGRAPHIC CASE STUDY TO THE HISTORIC AMBITIONS FOR IT IN DESIGNS OF BROAD SCALE COMPARISON." - GEORGE E. MARCUS, AUTHOR OF ETHNOGRAPHY THROUGH THICK AND THIN

The social sciences have seen a substantial increase in comparative and multi-sited ethnographic projects over the last three decades. Yet, at present, researchers seeking to design comparative field studies have few scholarly works detailing how various ethnographic schools approach comparison. In Beyond the Case, Corey M. Abramson and Neil Gong gather expert field researchers working in a variety of ethnographic traditions such as phenomenology, grounded theory, positivism, the extended case method, and interpretivism, to explain both the logic behind and practice of comparison in their works. The contributors connect the long history of comparative (and anti-comparative) ethnographic approaches to their contemporary uses. By honing in on how ethnographers render sites, groups, or cases analytically commensurable and comparable, Beyond the Case offers a new lens for examining the assumptions, payoffs, and potential drawbacks of different forms of comparative ethnography.

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