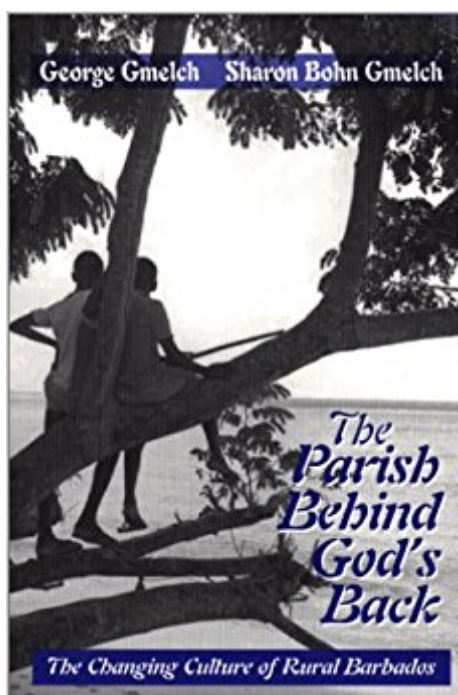


The book was found

The Parish Behind God's Back: The Changing Of Rural Barbados



Synopsis

In the eastern Caribbean the expression "behind God's back" refers to a place that is remote or far away. In this book, the authors look at the changing face of village life in St. Lucy, Barbados' northern and most rural parish. What they find are people whose lives are fully connected to the outside world. One of the first things any visitor to the island notices are youths in baseball caps and T-shirts sporting the names and logos of American teams. Switching on the television, it is easier to find an American sitcom than a Caribbean program. In conversation, it soon becomes apparent that nearly every villager has a relative living overseas and that many have themselves traveled to New York, Toronto, and London. And all Barbadians are aware that the health of their economy depends on decisions made beyond their shores. The Parish Behind God's Back is informed by the authors' research and experiences directing an anthropology field school in Barbados since 1983. The book begins with an introduction to the island and parish, followed by history and macrolevel description of the island economy, before turning to the local scene--patterns of work, gender relations, lifecycle, community, and religion. The perspective then widens to look at the global forces that most directly affect local people's lives--television, tourism, and travel. An appendix describes how North American college students were changed by living in St. Lucy.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Waveland Press Inc. (September 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1577662091

ISBN-13: 978-1577662099

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.8 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,295,237 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in [Books > Travel > Caribbean > Barbados & Trinidad and Tobago](#) #5381 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Anthropology](#) #10121 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies](#)

Customer Reviews

The Parish behind God's Back is a live tableau of a complete island society, throbbing often with its frustrated hopes and always with a total awareness of its position in time and space. -- John Wickham, former Barbadian senator and columnist for The Nation --This text refers to an out of print

or unavailable edition of this title.

"Beautifully written, this book deals with all the big issues of our time--slavery, colonialism, migration, tourism, and globalization." -- Robin Isserles (City University of New York) "A sensitively written account of modern rural Barbados . . . that places the local community within historical as well as national and international contexts." -- Jerome S. Handler (Virginia Foundation for the Humanities) "Besides being lively and well-rounded, *The Parish* makes strategic use of comparisons to U.S. culture so that students are also learning about themselves. . . . It presents an excellent frame of reference for considering the costs as well as the benefits of modernization, U.S. style." -- Katherine Browne (Colorado State University) "Provocative. A path-breaking study of a rural parish in which the authors have expertly distilled the essence of Barbadian life." -- Trevor Marshall (University of the West Indies) ". . . a live tableau of a complete island society, throbbing often with its frustrated hopes and always with a total awareness of its position in time and space." -- John Wickham, former Barbadian senator and columnist for *The Nation*

This book is terribly boring, and many of the characters have similar names, making it hard to keep track of people. I get that it's not actually a story, and is based on real life events and blahblahblah, but that doesn't make it any more interesting.

The purpose of this book is to provide a comprehensive ethnographic account of one rural community in the small island nation of Barbados. The intended audience is undergraduate students studying anthropology, therefore it is primarily descriptive, atheoretical, and written in a simple, straight-forward manner. The author begins with a historical overview, one theme being change over time. The second chapter, for example, discusses the demise of the sugar industry, the *raison d'être* of the colony, and its recent replacement by tourism. The book very effectively personalizes life in the community by including portraits of individuals, particularly in chapter four. The next chapter is quite appropriately devoted to gender and the life cycle, the relationship between men and women being a key interest of scholars in the Caribbean in recent years. The remainder of the book (almost half) is devoted to a discussion of changes in the community, including the introduction of piped water and its effects, indoor plumbing, kerosene and later propane stoves, ovens, electricity, television, telephones, tourism, and emigration. The book is also effective in placing Barbados within the content of 'the world system'. I found it to be a very easy, pleasant and informative read, suitable for most any reader with an interest in anthropology, social

change, globalization, ethnography, or, of course, Barbados and the English-speaking Caribbean. I assigned it for a class on the Caribbean and would use it again, although some students found it dull.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Parish behind God's Back: The Changing Culture of Rural Barbados The Parish Behind God's Back: The Changing of Rural Barbados Back Stretching: Back Strengthening And Stretching Exercises For Everyone (lower back pain, healing back pain, stretching exercises, back pain treatment, ... pain relief, stretching, back pain Book 1) First Person Rural Second Person Rural Third Person Rural Adventure Guide Barbados (Adventure Guide to Barbados) (Adventure Guide to Barbados) Grade 5: Parish Edition: Our Response to God's Gifts (Finding God 2005, 2007) God Talks to Me about Thankfulness - Children's Book about Thank You - Thank You God - Catholic Children's Books - God's Word for Children, Happy ... Lord - Padded Hard Back (God Talks with Me) Go Rural, A Trilogy: An Exploration of Rural Life in 3 Stories Exploring Rural Ireland (The Exploring rural series) George Fox in Barbados: With the Complete Text of the Letter to the Governor of Barbados Pan-Africanism in Barbados: An Analysis of the Activities of the Major 20th-Century Pan-African Formations in Barbados BARBADOS Country Studies: A brief, comprehensive study of Barbados Cover Down Yuh Bucket: The Story of Sticklicking In Barbados (CHRONICLES OF 20TH CENTURY BARBADOS) (Volume 3) AAA Essential Barbados (AAA Essential Guides: Barbados) Rum, Fun and Sun in Barbados: Adventures in Caribbean Paradise (France, Spain, and Barbados Travel Trilogy by Eugenie C Smith Book 3) Miss Passport City Guides Presents: A 3 day Unforgettable mini Vacation Itinerary to Barbados: Barbados Travel Guide (Miss Passport Travel Guides Book 129) Fotos Y Hechos Asombrosos Sobre Barbados: El Libro de Hechos MÃ¡s Sorprendentes de Barbados Para NiÃ±os (Kid's U) (Spanish Edition) God Talks to Me about Overcoming Fears - Fear - Overcoming Fear - Children's Book about Friends - Catholic Children's Books - God's Word for Children ... Afraid - Padded Hard Back (God Talks with Me) Rural Health Care: Innovation in a Changing Environment Parish-Hadley: Sixty Years of American Design

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)