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Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics, and the Limits of Law

By Dean Spade

Duke University Press. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics, and the Limits of Law, Dean Spade, Revised and Expanded Edition "Wait what's wrong with rights"? It is usually assumed that trans and gender nonconforming people should follow the civil rights and "equality" strategies of lesbian and gay rights organizations by agitating for legal reforms that would ostensibly guarantee nondiscrimination and equal protection under the law. This approach assumes that the best way to address the poverty and criminalization that plague trans populations is to gain legal recognition and inclusion in the state's institutions. But is this strategy effective? In "Normal Life" Dean Spade presents revelatory critiques of the legal equality framework for social change, and points to examples of transformative grassroots trans activism that is raising demands that go beyond traditional civil rights reforms. Spade explodes assumptions about what legal rights can do for marginalized populations, and describes transformative resistance processes and formations that address the root causes of harm and violence. In the new afterword to this revised and expanded edition, Spade notes the rapid mainstreaming of trans politics and finds that his predictions that gaining legal recognition will fail...



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