



The Politics of Population in Brazil: Elite Ambivalence and Public Demand (Paperback)

By Peter McDonough, Amaury DeSouza

University of Texas Press, United States, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The population of Brazil increased tenfold, from 10 to over 100 million, between 1880 and 1980, nearly half of this increase occurring since the end of World War II. The Politics of Population in Brazil examines the attitudes toward population planning of Brazilian government officials and other elites-bishops, politicians, labor leaders, and business owners-in comparison with mass public opinion. The authors findings that elites seriously underestimate the desire for family planning services, while the public views birth control as a basic issue, represent an important contribution on a timely issue. A major reason for this disparity is that the elites tend to define the issue as a matter of national power and collective growth, and the public sees it as a bread-and-butter question affecting the daily lives of families. McDonough and DeSouza document not only the real gulf between elite and mass opinion but also the propensity of the elites to exaggerate this gap through their stereotyping of public opinion as conservative and disinterested in family planning. Despite these differences, the authors demonstrate that population planning is less conflict...



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