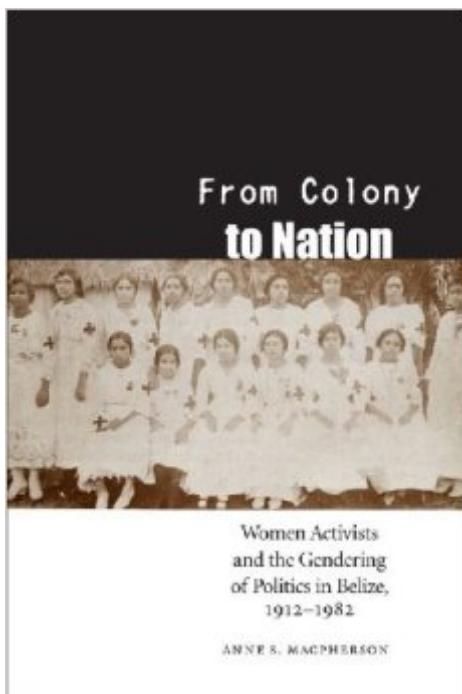


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From Colony To Nation: Women Activists And The Gendering Of Politics In Belize, 1912-1982 (Engendering Latin America)



Synopsis

The first book on womenâ™s political history in Belize, *From Colony to Nation* demonstrates that women were creators of and activists within the two principal political currents of twentieth-century Belize: colonial-middle class reform and popular labor-nationalism. As such, their alliances and struggles with colonial administrators, male reformers, and nationalists and with one another were central to the emergence of this improbable nation-state.Â From *Colony to Nation* draws on extensive research and previously unmined sources such as almost one hundred interviews, colonial government records, the files of Belizeâ™s first feminist organization, and court records. Anne S. Macpherson examines the tensions of the 1910s that led to the 1919 anticolonial riot; the reform project of the 1920s, in which Garveyite women were key state allies; the militant anticolonial labor movement of the 1930s; the more ambitious reform project of the 1940s; the successful but nonrevolutionary nationalist movement of the 1950s; and the gender dynamics of party politics and both Black Power and feminist challenges to the party system in the 1960s and 1970s.Â From *Colony to Nation* connects to historiographies of racialized and gendered reform in colonial and other multiracial societies and of tensions between female activism and masculine authority within nationalist movements and postcolonial societies.

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