Rhetoric, Women, and the Question of Authority



The House of My Sojourn: Rhetoric, Women, and the Question of Authority (Rhetoric Culture and Social Critique) by Jane S. Sutton





In her book, *Rhetoric, Women, and the Question of Authority*, author Carole Spitzack examines the ways in which women have been denied authority in the field of rhetoric. She explores the historical and cultural factors that have contributed to this exclusion, and she offers a new perspective on the role of women in the rhetorical tradition.

Spitzack begins by arguing that the exclusion of women from the field of rhetoric is not simply a matter of historical accident. Rather, it is the result of a deliberate and systematic effort to silence women's voices. This effort has been carried out through a variety of means, including the denial of women's access to education, the devaluation of women's speech, and the exclusion of women from positions of power.

Spitzack traces the history of women's exclusion from the field of rhetoric from the ancient Greeks to the present day. She shows how women have been consistently denied the opportunity to participate in rhetorical discourse, and how their voices have been marginalized and silenced. This exclusion has had a profound impact on the development of rhetorical theory and practice, and it has served to perpetuate the myth that women are not capable of being effective rhetoricians.

In the final part of her book, Spitzack offers a new perspective on the role of women in the rhetorical tradition. She argues that women have always been active participants in rhetorical discourse, even though their voices have often been silenced. She points to the work of women rhetoricians throughout history, and she shows how women have used rhetoric to challenge the status quo and to fight for social change.

Spitzack's book is a groundbreaking work that challenges the traditional view of women's role in the rhetorical tradition. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of rhetoric, the role of women in society, or the power of language.

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Reviews

"Spitzack's book is a groundbreaking work that challenges the traditional view of women's role in the rhetorical tradition. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of rhetoric, the role of women in society, or the power of language." - *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*

"Spitzack's book is a powerful indictment of the sexism that has plagued the field of rhetoric for centuries. It is a call to action for all of us who believe that women's voices deserve to be heard." - *Women's Studies Quarterly*

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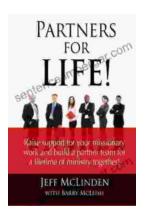


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