

Miller

Inside the Circle

Queer Culture and Activism in Northwest China

Drawing on over a decade of ethnographic fieldwork in northwest China, Casey James Miller offers a novel, compelling, and intimately personal perspective on Chinese queer culture and activism. In *Inside the Circle: Queer Culture and Activism in Northwest China*, Miller tells the stories of two courageous and dedicated groups of queer activists in the city of Xi'an: a grassroots gay men's HIV/AIDS organization called Tong'ai and a lesbian women's group named UNITE. Taking inspiration from "the circle," a term used to imagine local, national, and global queer communities, Miller shows how everyday people in northwest China are taking part in queer culture and activism while also striving to lead traditionally moral lives in a rapidly changing society. The queer stories in this book broaden our understandings of gender and sexuality in contemporary China and show how taking global queer diversity seriously requires us to de-center Western cultural values, historical experiences, and theoretical perspectives.

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