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Edited by Tamanna M. Shah, Sonali Jha

# The Gendered Self

LGBTQ+ Narratives in Global Media, Volume I

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These volumes by Tamanna Shah and Sonali Jha bring together scholars from across the world. By including academic research on LGBTQ+ identities from a diverse range of contexts, societies, and cultures, these volumes not only help develop a global perspective on this area of research but also recognize a global community of scholars with important and meaningful academic voices.

#### **Jatin Srivastava**

Professor and Associate Director of Graduate Studies
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### Summaru

'The Gendered Self: LGBTQ+ Narratives in Global Media, Volume I' explores how media serves as a powerful arena for visibility, identity formation, and social change. Across global contexts, the chapters uncover how LGBTQ+ lives are framed, celebrated, silenced, or contested in television, film, news, advertising, and digital platforms. Contributors examine themes such as queer infrastructures in cinema, televised celebrations that disrupt tradition, the erasure and recovery of queer histories, and the lived experiences of Indigenous Two-Spirit and Māhū identities. Other chapters address the role of international law in shaping sexual rights, the tensions of representation in Muslim-majority societies, and the ways advertising and talk shows negotiate inclusivity. The volume concludes with a critique of how sitcoms both challenge and reassert patriarchal masculinity. The collection highlights that representation is never neutral. Media can validate identities, expand imaginaries, and amplify marginalized voices, yet it can also perpetuate stereotypes, erase histories, and reinforce exclusion. This volume brings these tensions into focus, revealing how the gendered self emerges at the intersection of culture, politics, and storytelling, and why media remains central to the global struggle for equality.



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## About the editors

Tamanna M. Shah is an Assistant Professor of Instruction in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Ohio University, USA. She is a Curriculum Writing Fellow at Harvard University. She serves as an Experiential Learning Community-of-Practice Fellow and a Global Learning Fellow with the Provost's Office at Ohio University. She is the Book Reviews Editor for Sociological Research Online. She earned her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Utah and holds a Master's degree in Sociology from Kansas State University and a Bachelor's degree in Economics. She has conducted field research in Kashmir, India, and East Timor. Her interests include comparative political sociology, gender and race, social change, and inequality. She is the author of 'Children and Youth as "Sites of Resistance" in Armed Conflict' Volumes I and II, which are part of the ASA section on Children and Youth. She has authored several other publications, including "Adjustment to Divorce (Spouses)" for the 'Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies' and "Chaos and Fear: Creativity and Hope in an Uncertain World" in 'International Sociology.' She has collaborated with the Asian Development Bank on water and sanitation policy papers. (ORCID: 0000-0001-9609-0191)

Sonali Jha is a Ph.D. Candidate at Ohio University in the School of Media Arts and Studies. She holds a Bachelor's (Banaras Hindu University) and a master's degree (Central University of Jharkhand) in English Literature from India. Her work as a content writer in the marketing industry has equipped her with practical insights into media dynamics. However, her passion for community engagement truly sets her apart. Sonali's research focuses on critically analyzing media and social media usage inequalities. She has published research papers on trafficking and migration and is currently working on her dissertation, which focuses on the role of media and intervention programs in combating human trafficking. Her research interests include, but are not limited to, understanding the significance of comedy in raising social awareness, health communication, framing, agnotology, human trafficking, and community-based and action research. Her research aims to create knowledge in service that effectively initiates social change for justice and equity.

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