



Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism)

By Elizabeth C. Dunn

Download now

Read Online ➔

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn

The transition from socialism in Eastern Europe is not an isolated event, but part of a larger shift in world capitalism: the transition from Fordism to flexible (or neoliberal) capitalism. Using a blend of ethnography and economic geography, Elizabeth C. Dunn shows how management technologies like niche marketing, accounting, audit, and standardization make up flexible capitalism's unique form of labor discipline. This new form of management constitutes some workers as self-auditing, self-regulating actors who are disembedded from a social context while defining others as too entwined in social relations and unable to self-manage.

Privatizing Poland examines the effects privatization has on workers' self-concepts; how changes in "personhood" relate to economic and political transitions; and how globalization and foreign capital investment affect Eastern Europe's integration into the world economy. Dunn investigates these topics through a study of workers and changing management techniques at the Alima-Gerber factory in Rzeszów, Poland, formerly a state-owned enterprise, which was privatized by the Gerber Products Company of Fremont, Michigan.

Alima-Gerber instituted rigid quality control, job evaluation, and training methods, and developed sophisticated distribution techniques. The core principle underlying these goals and strategies, the author finds, is the belief that in order to produce goods for a capitalist market, workers for a capitalist enterprise must also be produced. Working side-by-side with Alima-Gerber employees, Dunn saw firsthand how the new techniques attempted to change not only the organization of production, but also the workers' identities. Her seamless, engaging narrative shows how the employees resisted, redefined, and negotiated work processes for themselves.

 [**Download** Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and t...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and ...pdf](#)

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism)

By Elizabeth C. Dunn

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn

The transition from socialism in Eastern Europe is not an isolated event, but part of a larger shift in world capitalism: the transition from Fordism to flexible (or neoliberal) capitalism. Using a blend of ethnography and economic geography, Elizabeth C. Dunn shows how management technologies like niche marketing, accounting, audit, and standardization make up flexible capitalism's unique form of labor discipline. This new form of management constitutes some workers as self-auditing, self-regulating actors who are disembedded from a social context while defining others as too entwined in social relations and unable to self-manage.

Privatizing Poland examines the effects privatization has on workers' self-concepts; how changes in "personhood" relate to economic and political transitions; and how globalization and foreign capital investment affect Eastern Europe's integration into the world economy. Dunn investigates these topics through a study of workers and changing management techniques at the Alima-Gerber factory in Rzeszów, Poland, formerly a state-owned enterprise, which was privatized by the Gerber Products Company of Fremont, Michigan.

Alima-Gerber instituted rigid quality control, job evaluation, and training methods, and developed sophisticated distribution techniques. The core principle underlying these goals and strategies, the author finds, is the belief that in order to produce goods for a capitalist market, workers for a capitalist enterprise must also be produced. Working side-by-side with Alima-Gerber employees, Dunn saw firsthand how the new techniques attempted to change not only the organization of production, but also the workers' identities. Her seamless, engaging narrative shows how the employees resisted, redefined, and negotiated work processes for themselves.

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1171647 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Cornell University Press
- Published on: 2004-05-13
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.02" h x .53" w x 5.96" l, .73 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

 [**Download** Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and t ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online **Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism)** By Elizabeth C. Dunn

Editorial Review

Review

"*Privatizing Poland* is a study based on participant-observation of the takeover of Alima, a baby-food factory in the medium-sized Polish city of Rzeszów, by the Michigan-based Gerber Corporation. . . . Dunn succeeds admirably in presenting the clash between the frameworks of flexible accumulation and actually existing socialism. . . . It stands out as one of the best case studies of the process of privatization in Eastern Europe."?American Ethnologist

"This is a pathbreaking book. Elizabeth C. Dunn is the first to allow us to feel what postcommunist transformation is all about. Her detailed account of the concrete ways in which people's lives have changed makes dry social science concepts like 'transition,' 'class formation,' and 'privatization' come alive. How are people working differently? How are they made to think differently? How has 'democratization' been used to create a new, subordinate type of worker, as well as new types of managers? Postcommunism has never been captured like this before."?David Ost, author of *The Defeat of Solidarity*

"In this stimulating book, Elizabeth C. Dunn renews an anthropology of capitalism, and will stir debates about postsocialist transition. In the land of Solidarity, management techniques seek to remake labor discipline as well as Polish worker identities in accordance with neoliberal ideals of privatized responsibility. Workers, however, struggle to reclaim values that sustain a moral vision of solidarity. The author's vivid ethnography and engaging style make this book a pleasure to read."?Aihwa Ong, coeditor of *Privatizing China: Socialism from Afar*

"Well organized and well crafted, *Privatizing Poland* is an excellent addition to the literature on the postsocialist transition in Eastern Europe. Both participant and observer, Elizabeth C. Dunn worked side-by-side on the shop floor and behind the sales desk with those in the midst of the transition."?Martha Lampland, coeditor of *Standards and Their Stories*

About the Author

Elizabeth C. Dunn is Associate Professor of Geography at Indiana University Bloomington.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anita Jones:

This Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is usually information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This specific Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) without we recognize teach the one who reading through it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't always be worry Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) can bring if you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cell phone. This Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) having great arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

James Alvarez:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone at everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even an issue. What people must be consider whenever those information which is inside former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you get the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information there will be huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen with you if you take Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) as the daily resource information.

Joe Garner:

With this era which is the greater individual or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of the books in the top list in your reading list is definitely Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism). This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Slopes can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking up and review this book you can get many advantages.

Richard Kowalski:

Some individuals said that they feel bored when they reading a e-book. They are directly felt it when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose the book Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) to make your personal reading is interesting. Your personal skill of reading expertise is developing when you just like reading. Try to choose very simple book to make you enjoy you just read it and mingle the opinion about book and reading especially. It is to be very first opinion for you to like to open a book and learn it. Beside that the publication Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) can to be your new friend when you're experience alone and confuse with what must you're doing of that time.

Download and Read Online Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn #MZP580UETHW

Read Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn for online ebook

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn books to read online.

Online Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn ebook PDF download

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn Doc

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn Mobipocket

Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn EPub

MZP580UETHW: Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor (Culture and Society after Socialism) By Elizabeth C. Dunn