Comparative Studies in Society and History

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Opportunity and Constraint in a Savanna Society

The Gbaya of Meiganga, Cameroon Philip Burnham

December 1980/January 1981, xx + 324pp., £16.00 (UK only)/\$38.50, 0.12.146060.6

Here Phitip Burnham examines the historical and social factors which have contributed to the slow pace of development among the Gbaya people. The author provides a detailed picture of pre-colonial Gbaya society in the late nineteenth century and its subsequent adjustment to European colonial rule. The relative conservatism and continuities in the pattern of Gbaya social change offer an interesting counter example to the currently fashionable 'dependency' theory of economic development and demonstrate that a careful analysis of local conditions is necessary for an understanding of the various responses of African peoples to modern social change.

European Monographs in Social Psychology No. 20

Soweto's Children

The Development of Attitudes
Beryl A. Geber and Stanton P. Newman

September 1980, x + 206pp., £13.60 (UK only) / \$41.50, 0.12.278750.1

The book details the historical and political background which has shaped the experience of the Soweto students, and discusses the economic and political changes in the region which transformed the attitudes of the 60s into the active opposition of the 70s.tt offers a major social psychological study, written for both a general and professional audience, of the beliefs, values and aspirations of a large group of Soweto students; the results are linked to the social context of the black adolescent and young adult by relating the responses of the individual to the wider receipts.

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