

Women's Rights in Authoritarian Egypt: Negotiating Between Islam and Politics (Library of Modern Middle East Studies)

Hiam El-Gousi

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During the uprisings of late 2010 and 2011 which took place across the Middle East and North Africa, women made up an important part of the crowds protesting. Women's rights were central to the demands made. However, despite this, in the ensuing social and political struggles, these rights have not progressed much beyond the situation under previous governments. Hiam El-Gousi's book offers an examination of the status of women under Egypt's various authoritarian regimes. In exploring the role played by religious scholars in helping to define women's status in society, she focuses on personal status laws and health rights. In examining the issue of women's rights El-Gousi begins with an account of feminism in Egypt: the centre of feminist thought in the Middle East at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century. Based on extensive research in the country, especially at grassroots level, El-Gousi goes on to analyse the constitutional and legislative rulings which have affected the lives and rights of Egyptian women. This book will become a vital primary resource for those studying feminism in the wider Middle East and North Africa.



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