



The Sexual Life of English: Languages of Caste and Desire in Colonial India

By Chandra, Shefali.

Duke. 1 Paperback(s), 2012. soft. Book Condition: New.

Examining the process through which English became an Indian language, Shefali Chandra rejects the idea that English was fully formed prior to its life in India, or that it was imposed from without. Rather, Chandra argues, the language was shaped by the sexual experiences of Indians and by native attempts to discipline the normative sexual subject. Focusing on the years between 1850 and 1930, she scrutinizes the English-education project as Indians gained the power to direct it themselves. "This monograph offers a rich account of the entanglement of English studies with caste, patriarchy, and heteronormativity, and historians of colonial India will find much of value here. The book poses startling and important questions for historians of gender, sexuality, and language, and transforms how we understand the production of English as an Indian language." *American Historical Review* 275.



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