

Clothing Poverty: The Hidden World of Fast Fashion and Second-hand Clothes

By Andrew Brooks

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You look good in those jeans. But are those jeans themselves *good*? Have you ever looked into where they came from and who made them?

Andrew Brooks has, and with *Clothing Poverty* he takes readers on a global journey, from fabric to fashion show, to reveal the worldwide commodity chains and hidden trade networks that transect the globe and perpetuate poverty. Stitching together rich narratives from markets in Mozambique, Nigerian smugglers, Bolivian traders, London vintage shops, and growing ethical fashion lines like Vivienne Westwood's, Brooks draws connections and shines light in the world's dark corners—and forces us to think anew about fashion, ethics, and our role in global production and exploitation.

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Clothing Poverty: The Hidden World of Fast Fashion and Second-hand Clothes By Andrew Brooks Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #362635 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2015-03-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .80" w x 5.50" l, .60 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 208 pages

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Editorial Review

Review
'A mind-opening tour of global clothing systems, from recycling flows to radical advocacy. Andrew Brooks has created a book that sparks with intelligence, mapping a world that connects inequalities, Vivienne Westwood, post-consumption and second-hand garments.' --Kate Fletcher, London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London

'Clothing Poverty takes the reader on a global journey to expose the inequalities and injustices that exist within the second-hand clothing trade and the manufacturing of garments destined for Western markets. Thought-provoking and insightful, Brooks highlights a long overdue need for 'radical advocacy' to improve social justice within the supply chain, and between producers and consumers. A fascinating, must-read text for those interested in the ethics surrounding sustainability in fashion and design' --Alison Gwilt, author of Fashion Design for Living and A Practical Guide to Sustainable Fashion

'Andrew Brooks' Clothing Poverty is a lively exploration of the hidden world of fast fashion and second-hand clothing that invites us to think of where our clothes come from. The book reveals a complicated geography of wealth and poverty that make Western consumers complicit in creating a clothing production system that gives people in the Global South few chances to escape poverty. ' --Karen Tranberg Hansen, Professor Emerita, Northwestern University

About the Author

Dr Andrew Brooks is a Lecturer in Development Geography at King's College London. His research examines connections between spaces of production and places of consumption and particularly the geographies of economic and social change in Africa. He has researched the clothing sector through case studies which link the Global North and South and Andrew's research has taken him to Southern Africa and included extensive investigations of markets in Malawi and Mozambique and Chinese investment in Zambia.

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