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Stripped: More Stories From Exotic Dancers, Completely Revised And Updated Edition



Synopsis

What kind of woman dances naked for money? Bernadette Barton takes us inside countless strip bars and clubs, from upscale to back road as well as those that specialize in lap dancing, table dancing, topless only, and peep shows, to reveal the startling lives of exotic dancers. Originally published in 2006, the product of years of first-hand research in strip clubs around the country, *Stripped* is a classic portrait of what it's like for those who choose to strip as a profession. Barton explores why women begin stripping, the initial excitement and financial rewards of the work, the dangers of the life—namely, drugs and prostitution—and, inevitably, the difficulties in staying in the business over time, especially for their relationships, sexuality and self-esteem. In this completely revised and updated edition, Barton returns to the strip clubs she originally studied to observe the major changes in the industry that have occurred over the last decade. She examines how “raunch culture” affects exotic dancers' treatment by their clientele, who are now accustomed to seeing nudity and sexualized performance in accessible, R and X-rated media from a variety of outlets, particularly the Internet. Barton explores how new media has transformed exotic dancing, allowing dancers to build an online brand, but also introducing possibilities for customers to take unauthorized nude photos and videos of the entertainers.. And finally, Barton speaks to new dancers as well as dancers she interviewed in the previous edition, examining how the toll of stripping still impacts the lives of exotic dancers in a changing industry. Incorporating new scholarship, new observations, and increased awareness of emerging media technology, Barton brings a fresh and important perspective on the challenges that women face working in the still-thriving world of exotic dancing.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The world of exotic dancing is not what we think. And it's far different than a decade ago when Barton wrote the first edition of Stripped. This important update shows how the spread of casual sex and internet pornography have changed the work of stripping and the place of strip clubs in American society."-Kathleen M. Blee, author of *Inside Organized Racism: Women in the Hate Movement*

"In this new edition of Stripped, Bernadette Barton brings a nuanced and thorough analysis of stripping in the context of contemporary American culture. Situating the meaning and experience of stripping squarely in relationship to the emergence of raunch culture, the rise of internet pornography, and the economic context of the Great Recession, Barton convincingly shows how the lives of women who strip have fundamentally changed in the last two decades, and not for the better. In the end, Barton succeeds in encouraging all of us to think deeply about and continue to debate sexual objectification as a serious feminist issue."

-Mimi Schippers, author of *Beyond Monogamy: Polyamory and the Future of Polyqueer Sexualities*

Bernadette Barton is Professor Sociology and Gender Studies at Morehead State University in Kentucky. She is the author of *Pray the Gay Away: The Extraordinary Lives of Bible Belt Gays*.

Stripped is a balanced read on exotic dancers, careful not to over-emphasize on the stigmas that being a dancer already has- although, as the book goes on, we will see that the negative parts will overpower the positive aspects. Stripped is both sympathetic and analytical. We will see sad stories on how the dancers are unable to escape the seen and unseen "rules" of their trade and how popular media has also endanger their livelihood. What is most memorable for me from the book is the highly bipolar nature of the trade. I was engrossed from start to finish. I highly recommend this book.*Got a free copy in exchange for an honest review on NetGalley

Stripped: More Stories from Exotic Dancers (Completely Revised and Updated Edition) by Bernadette C. Barton is a free NetGalley ebook that I read in late November. Barton's book counts as a sequel (Stripped II), while still remaining true and relevant to the original, as to not overwhelm

or put off new readers (i.e. a Babysitter's Club book). The data and demographics are presented in a no-frills, straight-forward way and speaks of the confluence of being rewarded for beauty/aesthetics, sexuality, and companionship versus degradation and feeling ignored.

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