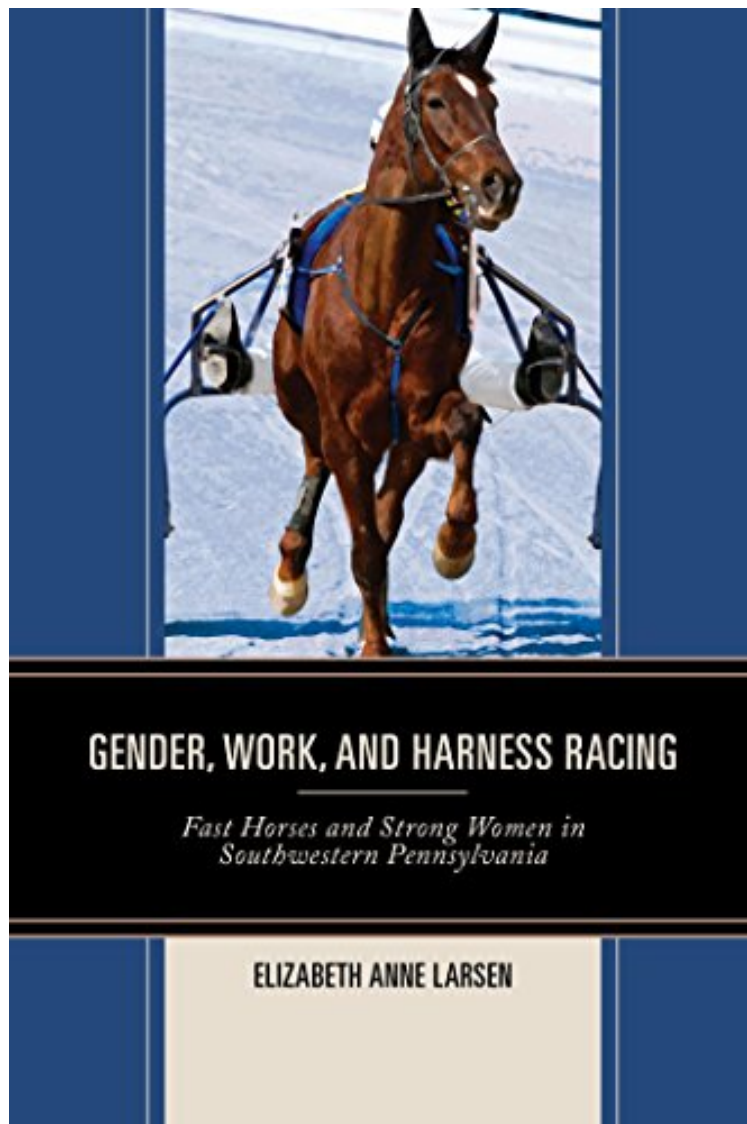


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Gender, Work, and Harness Racing: Fast Horses and Strong Women in Southwestern Pennsylvania

Elizabeth Anne Larsen

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Elizabeth Anne Larsen : Gender, Work, and Harness Racing: Fast Horses and Strong Women in Southwestern Pennsylvania before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gender, Work, and Harness Racing: Fast Horses and Strong Women in Southwestern Pennsylvania:

While gender equality has progressed in many sports since the second wave of the feminist movement in terms of women's inclusion, participation, and success, harness horse racing has been recalcitrant to change. *Gender, Work, and Harness Racing: Fast Horses and Strong Women in Southwestern Pennsylvania* investigates the stories of women involved in harness racing to expose how they use the uniqueness of their situation to work for positive change. With stirring accounts of the strong women who are surviving, and sometimes succeeding, in harness horse racing, Elizabeth Anne Larsen's analysis provides insight for studies of gender and work, occupational sex segregation, and women's studies.

Elizabeth Anne Larsen takes us inside the fascinating—and often brutal—gendered world of harness racing. This engrossing study shows how women carve out a place in a male-dominated business of sports. (Kathleen M. Blee, University of Pittsburgh; author of *Inside Organized Racism: Women in the Hate Movement*) Women's gains in professional sports in the post-Title IX era are notably absent in the world of harness racing. Elizabeth Anne Larsen explains how patriarchal relations in the family businesses of owners and trainers sustain and reinforce the marginalization of women in the sport, and shows readers how a growing connection between the sport and the casino/gaming industry is changing the underlying business model, potentially providing an opening for reorganizing gender relations in a way that builds on concepts and strategies from third wave feminism. This book will appeal to anyone interested in gender inequality in sport and in culture industries more broadly. (William T. Bielby, University of Illinois at Chicago) This very provocative book explores issues that are normally ignored in harness racing. While far more women hold prominent positions in harness racing today, success for women in the sulky has remained out of reach. It is ironic and unfortunate that in the years of harness racing's greatest popularity, women were still confined to mostly domestic responsibilities. (Dean A. Hoffman, University of Arizona) About the Author Elizabeth Anne Larsen is professor of sociology at California University of Pennsylvania.