

'This book provides an important contribution to literature that considers young people's involvement in civil disorder. It is based upon extensive field research that explores the political meaning of disruptive interventions and, by doing so, provides a voice to the powerless who are marginalised by the operations of conventional political activity.'

— **Peter Joyce**, *Principal Lecturer in Criminology, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK*

'How would you recognise a new political subject? By the fact that it already spoke the language of politics? But then it would hardly be new. Femke Kaulingfreks lets us hear the voices of marginalised young men from 'problem' neighbourhoods, and suggests that their riotous intrusions into the public sphere might be understood as creating just such a new form of political subjectivity. Her committed, incisive arguments demand to be heard.'

— **Martin Crowley**, *Reader in Modern French Thought and Culture, Queens' College, University of Cambridge, UK*

'In this brilliant cross-national, empirical-theoretical study, Kaulingfreks meticulously explains how young people resist, defy, and transform punitive state apparatuses. The superb blending of on the ground research with marginalized populations and theorization of larger political and structural forces exposes how the youth of the lumpen proletariat are centrally concerned with finding solutions to the worldwide punitive crackdown on the poor. In the end, those most affected by the era of global militarized carceral discipline, control, and containment might teach us a lesson or two about dismantling this system and creating a more egalitarian society.'

— **Victor Rios**, *Professor of Sociology, University of California Santa Barbara, USA*

This book explores the notion of unruly politics — a political agency that does not abide by the formal, moral and legal rules of the dominant game of politics — and the possibility that civil engagement can be subversive and political agency can take unruly forms. People who feel left out of the system of political representation can voice their demand for recognition, justice, and equal opportunities through riots and other forms of 'uncivil' engagement. This thought provoking study considers collective and public expressions of dissent by young people with a migrant background as events in which unruly politics can emerge. The author discusses the philosophical theories of thinkers such as Jacques Rancière and Jean-Luc Nancy on the difference between institutional and informal politics, and explores the narratives of male 'young urban troublemakers' from two deprived neighborhoods in Western Europe, one in the Netherlands and one in France.

Femke Kaulingfreks completed her PhD in political philosophy and urban anthropology at the University for Humanistic Studies in Utrecht, the Netherlands. She is currently a visiting scholar at the Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, University of California, Berkeley, USA. Femke is also involved in activism related to housing, youth empowerment and social justice.