



The Elite Center Cannot Hold

Critical Perspectives on Resurgent Philippine Liberalism By Tom Sykes and Maria Diosa Labiste

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Explores the rise of resurgent Philippine liberalism, its ties to neoliberalism and U.S. influence, and its role in exacerbating inequality and geopolitical tensions, rooted in both contemporary and historical contexts

A resurgent liberalism has become hegemonic in Philippine media and academic discourses, which were previously characterized by progressive and nationalist perspectives. While resurgent Philippine liberalism (RPL) has been precipitated by recent and current crises.

Key selling points

RPL is a relatively new phenomenon and this is the first book to give it sustained academic analysis. It offers an explicit alternative to the studies that toe the RPL line including The Duterte Reader (ed: Curato, 2017), The Rise of Duterte (Richard Javad Heydarian, 2018), and Duterte Harry (Jonathan Miller, 2017).

This book will be significant to academics, journalists, lawmakers, and activists in both the Philippines and the West. Its cross-disciplinary approach would be of interest to researchers in history, politics, sociology, media studies, memory studies, area studies, and ethnic studies. While the book's lucid style makes it comprehensible to undergraduates, the depth and breadth of its focus would also be of use to postgraduate scholars. At the Universities of Portsmouth and the Philippines, the editors teach undergraduate units for which this book will be required reading.

Think tanks, government agencies, and the armed forces within the Philippines will hopefully find the book's critical evaluations of Philippine–Western relations useful for making viable policy going forward.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Tom Sykes is Associate Professor in Creative Writing and Global Journalism at the University of Portsmouth, UK.

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