

Unveiling the Nexus: The International Olympic Committee, Transnational Human Rights, and The



The International Olympic Committee, Transnational Human Rights and the Conundrum of Political

Neutrality by Katie Cotugno

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International
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Committee

The International Olympic Committee (IOC), the governing body of the Olympic Games, has emerged as a key player in the transnational human rights arena. Through its influence on global sports and its commitment to promoting peace and understanding, the IOC has played a significant role in advancing human rights principles worldwide. This article explores the complex and evolving relationship between the IOC, transnational human rights, and the pursuit of social justice.

The IOC and Human Rights

The IOC's involvement in human rights issues dates back to its inception in 1894. The Olympic Charter, the governing document of the IOC, explicitly

states that the Games are to be held "in a spirit of friendship, understanding, and fair play." This commitment to human values has guided the IOC's approach to human rights throughout its history.

In 1976, the IOC adopted the Olympic Charter on Human Rights, which further outlined the IOC's commitment to promoting human rights and preventing discrimination. The Charter states that "no discrimination against any person, country, or group of people on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or political affiliation shall be permitted during the Olympic Games."

The IOC's Role in Transnational Advocacy

The IOC's global reach and influence have enabled it to play a significant role in transnational human rights advocacy. The IOC has used its platform to raise awareness of human rights issues, promote dialogue, and support human rights initiatives around the world.

For example, the IOC has partnered with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to promote human rights education and awareness among athletes and sports organizations. The IOC has also worked with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to promote fair labor practices in the sports industry.

The Olympic Games as a Catalyst for Change

The Olympic Games have served as a catalyst for social and political change throughout history. The 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City, for example, saw the Black Power salute by African American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos, which raised awareness of the civil rights movement in the United States.

The 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, helped to promote reconciliation between North and South Korea and paved the way for future diplomatic exchanges. The 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, sparked global discussions about human rights and environmental issues in China.

Challenges and Criticism

Despite its commitment to human rights, the IOC has faced criticism for its handling of human rights issues related to the Olympic Games. Critics have accused the IOC of prioritizing commercial interests over human rights, especially in countries with poor human rights records.

For example, the IOC has been criticized for awarding the 2014 Winter Olympics to Sochi, Russia, despite concerns about the country's anti-LGBTQ laws. The IOC has also been criticized for its response to human rights violations in China in the lead-up to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing.

The Future of the IOC and Human Rights

The relationship between the IOC, transnational human rights, and social justice is continually evolving. As the world faces new and complex human rights challenges, the IOC will need to continue to adapt its approach to human rights promotion.

The IOC has the potential to play an even more significant role in transnational human rights advocacy in the future. By using its global platform and influence, the IOC can continue to raise awareness of human rights issues, promote dialogue, and support initiatives that promote social justice worldwide.

The International Olympic Committee, Transnational Human Rights, and The provides a comprehensive examination of the IOC's role in promoting human rights and social justice worldwide. The book explores the IOC's commitment to human rights, its involvement in transnational advocacy, and the impact of the Olympic Games on social and political change. With its detailed analysis and case studies, this book is an essential resource for scholars, practitioners, and anyone interested in the intersection of sports, human rights, and global governance.



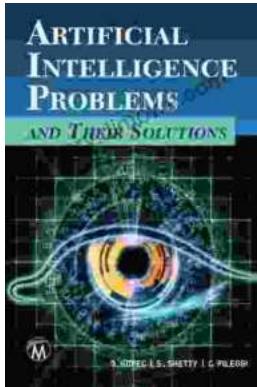
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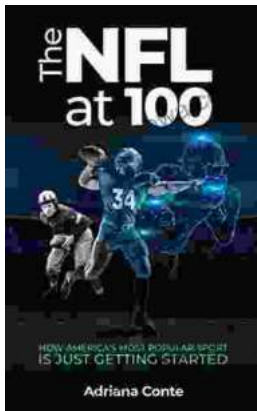
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