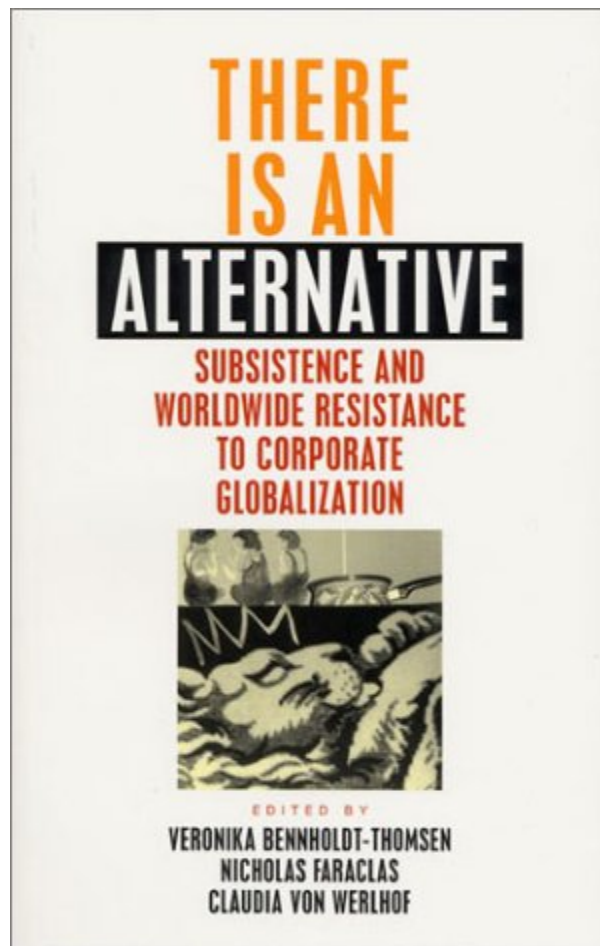


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Review

'A book that combines cutting analysis with alternatives and hope... and excellent and inspiring read' -- Briarpatch

About the Author

Veronika Bennholdt-Thomsen is Director of the Institute of Theory and Practice of Subsistence (ITPS) at the University of Bielefeld, Germany. She is a visiting professor at the University for Soil Culture in Vienna, Austria. She has undertaken research in Mexico and Germany, specifically on Sustainable Regional Economics in East Westphalia. Her publications include work on Women's Studies, Peasant Studies, Social Anthropology and the matriarchal community of Juchitan (Mexico).

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In this book a group of distinguished authors explodes the defeatist myth that 'there is no alternative' to corporate sponsored globalization. Theoreticians and activists from feminist, environmental, anti-imperialist and anti-racist struggles across five continents report on existing community-based initiatives, and demonstrate how we can all defy the creed of corporate globalization.

Inspired by the groundbreaking work of Maria Mies and her colleagues, which culminates in the elaboration of the 'subsistence perspective', the book is in three parts, dealing first with the theory of subsistence, then considering globalization as colonization and finally reporting on concrete cases of resistance to globalization in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas, Australia and the Pacific. The subsistence perspective emerges as a fertile matrix for creative thinking and action to reclaim our labour, our communities, our environment, our bodies and our lives.

Anyone who refuses to believe that corporate globalization is our inevitable destiny will find this book a solid basis for formulating ideas and implementing strategies for the creation of a future in the image and the interest of the world's peoples.

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excellent analysis of globalisation and the alternatives

By David Reid

"There is an alternative" gives an excellent analysis of globalisation from an ecofeminist/anti-colonial perspective. Most of the contributors have been influenced or inspired by the work of Maria Mies and the subsistence perspective that she and her colleagues have articulated. While there are so many analyses of globalisation these days, the ecofeminist perspective yields numerous new insights. For example, see Claudia von Werlhof's essay "Losing Faith in Progress: Capitalist Patriarchy as an 'Alchemical System'".

More importantly this book clearly demonstrates alternatives to globalisation that exist and avoid merely theorising. This is not surprising given that many of the contributors are leading activist-intellectuals such as Maria Mies, Vandana Shiva and Helena Norberg-Hodge. This book is essential reading to both understand the process of globalisation and to learn more about some of the alternatives that are already in practice.

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This book shows a completely different perspective of the world and points to corporations as the cause of most of the world's problems. This book shows how people all over the world are defying the present corporate economic system in order to give control of the land back to the people and take the power away from corporations.

well, I was unfamiliar with most of the ideas presented in this book, reading it was a life changing experience.

I would highly recommend the book to anyone unfamiliar with the subsistence world perspective.

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