

## Cheap Amusements

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what did young independent women do for fun and how did they pay their way into new york city s turn of the century pleasure places cheap amusements is a fascinating discussion of young working women whose meager wages often fell short of bare subsistence and rarely allowed for entertainment expenses kathy peiss follows working women into saloons

dance halls coney island amusement parks social clubs and nickelodeons to explore the culture of these young women between 1880 and 1920 as expressed in leisure activities by examining the rituals and styles they adopted and placing that culture in the larger context of urban working class life she offers us a complex picture of the dynamics shaping a working woman's experience and consciousness at the turn of the century not only does her analysis lead us to new insights into working class culture changing social relations between single men and women and urban courtship but it also gives us a fuller understanding of the cultural transformations that gave rise to the commercialization of leisure the early twentieth century witnessed the emergence of heterosocial companionship as a dominant ideology of gender affirming mixed sex patterns of social interaction in contrast to the nineteenth century's segregated spheres cheap amusements argues that a crucial part of the reorientation of american culture originated from below specifically in the subculture of working women to be found in urban dance halls and amusement resorts

excerpt from popular amusements the subject of which this book treats popular amusements is one of grave interest to the church and to society in general the discipline of the methodist episcopal church has always required its members and probationers as an evidence of religious earnestness to refrain from such diversions as can not be used in the name of the lord jesus and also from singing those songs or reading those books which do not tend to the knowledge or love of god in the following passages of holy scripture worldly amusements or pleasures are denounced by god he that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks.com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

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