



**DOING GENDER IN HEAVY METAL**  
Perceptions on Women in a Hypermasculine  
Subculture

Anna S. Rogers and Mathieu Deflem



### Doing Gender in Heavy Metal

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By Anna S. Rogers and Mathieu Deflem

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*“Doing Gender in Heavy Metal offers a fascinating exploration of gender in the male-dominated world of heavy metal. The interviews with fans demonstrate that gender shapes aspects of this subculture in both expected and unexpected ways.”* — Dawn K. Cecil, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg campus

This book provides a sociological examination of gender issues concerning the status of women in the subculture of heavy metal. The study specifically analyzes how women are perceived to ‘do gender’ in the heavy metal community, which is known for its hypermasculine qualities. Relying on interviews with fans of heavy metal, the respondents describe their own music (sub)culture as having been dominated by men, but they also note distinct signs of the progress women have made in the heavy metal culture on terms aspiring to equality with men. Despite these changes, gendered conditions driven by masculinity continue to exist for women in heavy metal. Even as women are slowly finding their way to develop what might one day become, but as of now not yet is, a realized identity and culture of heavy metal feminism, patterns of masculinity continue to hamper gender equity in this area of popular culture.

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