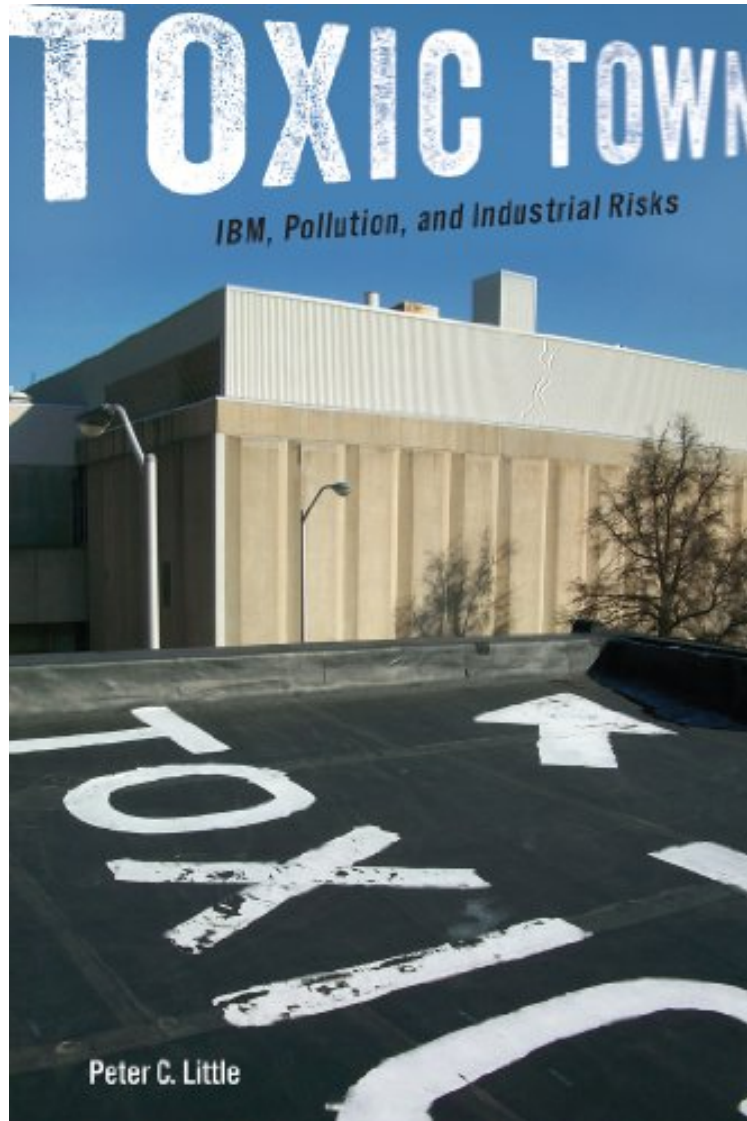


Toxic Town: IBM, Pollution, and Industrial Risks

Peter C. Little

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In 1924, IBM built its first plant in Endicott, New York. Now, Endicott is a contested toxic waste site. With its landscape thoroughly contaminated by carcinogens, Endicott is the subject of one of the nation's largest corporate-state mitigation efforts. Yet despite the efforts of IBM and the U.S. government, Endicott residents remain skeptical that the mitigation systems employed were designed with their best interests at heart. nbsp;

"This carefully crafted ethnographic account affirms the deep and adverse footprint of market-based industrial production on contemporary human lives and communities. nbsp;By exploring the personal experience of exposure to the toxic risk produced by irresponsible corporate actions in a contaminated community, Little tells the occupational and environment story of our times: deindustrialization has left behind doubly damaged communities but helped to spark hope-affirming grassroots activism. nbsp;This book makes clear the contributions of anthropology to the framing of a political ecological theory of human-environmental relations."-Merrill Singer,University of Connecticut at Storrsldquo;[T]his is an important and well-researched study of the lsquo;surfacing narrativesrsquo; of the U.S.nbsp;tech industryrsquo;s erstwhile model village that tragically descended into lsquo;Computer Agenbsp;ruin.rsquo;rdquo;-American Anthropologistldquo;Takes studies of contaminated communities into the 21st centurydash;drawing out the sobering limits of environmental remediation and mitigation, and the way industrial decline both dissolves and calls out community. Little makes Vapor Intrusiondash;and the challenges it creates for science, regulation, and those living within itdash;into a sentinel condition of our times. The book is beautifully analyzed and written, and darkly evocative. Nuanced, but nevertheless maddening.rdquo; -Kim Fortun,Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute" This intense local study offers an important contribution, melding a keen application of key concepts in science and technology studies with ethnographic engagement with local people deeply affected by living with the consequences of the Computer Age.nbsp;nbsp;Toxic Townnbsp;will be of interest not only to anthropologists but to scholars across many disciplines who seek to understand triumphal technocapitalismrsquo;s central role in creating and sustaining the pollution crisis.rdquo;-Medical Anthropology QuarterlyAbout the AuthorPeter C. Little is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the Rhode Island College. He has published in a variety of academic journals, including Medical Anthropology Quarterly, Human Organization, Ethos, and Capitalism Nature Socialism.