Going out for coffee?: Contesting the grounds of gendered pleasures in everyday sociability

Cowan, Jane K., 1954-. Going out for coffee?: contesting the grounds of gendered pleasures in everyday sociability

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This essay explores the ways in which gender is socially and culturally constructed in the town of Sohos in central Macedonia. In this community leisure pursuits, such as the everyday activity of coffee drinking, are both gender segregated and encoded with notions about gender differences. This study examines the various ways in which ideas about female sexuality, moral virtue, and autonomy are embedded in practices of sociability. Cowan then discusses how the appearance of a new sort of leisure establishment in the community, the KAFETERIA or coffee-bar, generates a new discursive space in which dominant definitions of female personhood are made explicit and sometimes contested (pp. 181-182).