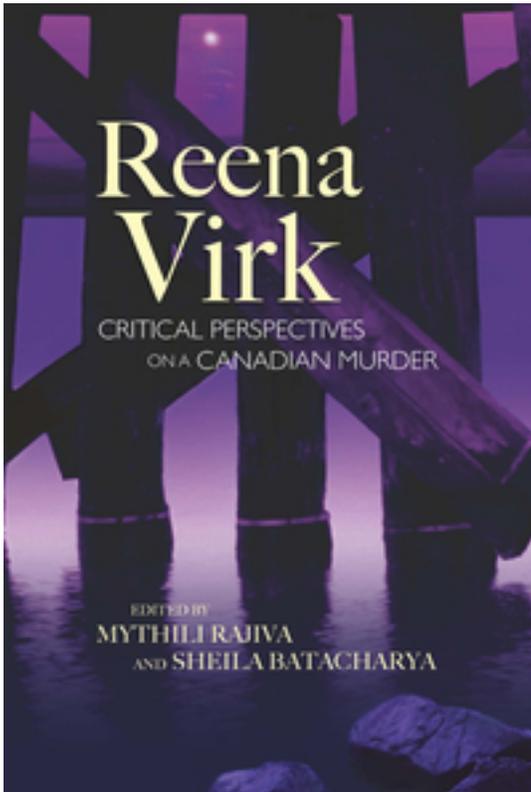


# Reena Virk

## Critical Perspectives on a Canadian Murder



The murder of British Columbia teen Reena Virk shocked Canadians and provoked an outpouring of media commentary, academic explanation, plays, and novels. But while much attention was paid to the problem of violence and "girl bullying," race and related issues hardly figured in mainstream conversation. This collection aims to refocus the conversation about Reena Virk by considering how racism, colonialism, and hierarchies of gender, class, age, and sexuality figure in this crime and our understanding of it. The ten thoughtful chapters by both prominent and emerging scholars force us to grapple with the difficult and at times ugly implications of Reena Virk's murder for Canadian national identity.

### Author Information

**Mythili Rajiva**  
Mythili Rajiva is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Criminology at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**Sheila Batacharya**  
Sheila Batacharya completed her PhD in the Graduate Program of Adult Education and Community Development at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

### Reviews

"This book offers a remarkable contribution to girlhood studies and in particular brings a fascinating interdisciplinary to it - something that in and of itself is critical to the field. Its major strength is the way in which a number of feminist scholars have brought their collective analysis to a single issue that is symbolic of a much larger set of issues around racism and sexism in the Canadian context."

Claudia Mitchell, McGill University; author of *Combating Gender Violence In and Around Schools*  
"This book is a commanding, eye-opening account of not just what happened to Reena Virk, but also what happens when a country is indelible about its racist past. Its significance cannot be overstated. It is a hugely important book, and one that is a most welcome addition to anti-racist, postcolonial, and gender studies. It is a book that should be required reading for all Canadians."

Shauna Pomerantz, Brock University; author of *Girl Power: Girls Reinventing Girlhood*  
"This book is a commanding, eye-opening account of not just what happened to Reena Virk, but also what happens when a country is in denial about its racist past. Its significance cannot be overstated. It is a hugely important book, and one that is a most welcome addition to anti-racist, postcolonial, and gender studies. It is a book that should be required reading for all Canadians."— \_Shauna Pomerantz, Brock University\_

### Subjects

Sociology of Gender and Sexuality  
Sociology of Crime and Justice  
Sociology of Ethnicity, Diversity, and Inequality  
Canadian Studies  
Sociology  
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Criminology and Police Studies

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