



# Deconstructing South Park: Critical Examinations of Animated Transgression (Critical Studies in Television)

*By Brian Cogan*

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## **Deconstructing South Park: Critical Examinations of Animated Transgression (Critical Studies in Television) By Brian Cogan**

Deconstructing South Park: Critical Examinations of Animated Transgression is an edited collection by Brian Cogan that looks at the long and controversial run of one of the most subversive programs on television. South Park, while denounced by many as simply scatological, is actually one of the most nuanced and thoughtful programs on television. The contributors to South Park reveal that, through the lens of four foul-mouthed nine year olds, Trey Parker and Matt Stone have created one of the most astute forms of social and political commentary in television history. Deconstructing South Park, itself the most ambitious deconstruction of popular culture to date, analyzes how South Park is not only entertainment, but a commentary on American culture that tackles controversial issues far beyond the depth of most television. Specifically, the medium of animated sitcom allows the show's creators to contribute to cultural conversations regarding disability studies, religion, sexuality, celebrity, and more. If South Park deconstructs American culture, then Cogan and his contributors deconstruct the deconstructionists and reveal South Park in all its hilarious and often contradictory complexity.

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## **Deconstructing South Park: Critical Examinations of Animated Transgression (Critical Studies in Television) By Brian Cogan Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #4629574 in Books
- Published on: 2011-12-09
- Released on: 2011-12-09
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.21" h x .57" w x 6.11" l, .85 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 254 pages

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About the Author

**Brian Cogan** is associate professor in the Department of Communication Arts at Molloy College.

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