Representing Women in Chinese Village Self-Government: a New Perspective on Gender, Representation and Democracy

Recently, there has been much debate among feminists about how to achieve women’s substantive representation (the representation of women’s interests in government). To date, however, this debate has been conducted almost solely in the context of democratic political systems and in relation to national parliaments. This paper brings a new perspective to the debate by focusing on grassroots rural government in China – an authoritarian state, which, however, implements ‘self-government’ at the village level.
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