

## **ASIEN 80 (Juli 2001)**

Abstract

### **NGO, Frauen und China**

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NGOs as a term itself is problematic in China, because we are talking about a centralized System of State socialism, where private initiatives carry the meaning of anti-state resentments. In the case of women NGOs I would like to show how in the last years it was possible to establish a room in between state and opposition which is legitimized by its social welfare function. These initiatives are very important for the overall development of equality in a society where social inequalities grow rapidly with the implementation of market economy. They are also important for gender lobbying, self help, emancipation, consciousness raising and practical help in all areas of life. The critical position of the national women's federation (Fulian) will be exemplified by different examples in which the Fulian can function as help but also as hindrance for women's activities. They show also that an integration of NGOs into the state body not necessarily means restriction of their authority or independence. The process of institutionalization of women's initiatives could mean a tremendous change for women.