

Contents

Acknowledgments ix

1. Introduction	1
Contradictions in a Feminist View of Evangelical Women	2
More Contradictions: Colombian Evangelicalism and the Anthropology of Religion	3
Research Questions: The Domestication of Men?	5
Data Collection	6
The Different Levels of Meaning in the Conversion Experience	8
Gender Analysis in Conversion Studies	9
Plan of the Study	10
2. The Evangelical Movement in Colombia	12
Early Missions	12
The Contemporary Picture: The Size of the Movement	14
The Meaning of “Evangelical” in Colombia	14
Conclusion	29
3. Religion and Politics	31
Introduction	31
The Power of the Roman Catholic Church in Colombia: The Concordat	32
Constitutional Reform and the Concordat	34
Liberals and Conservatives and the Separation of Church and State	35
La Violencia	37
The Effect of La Violencia on Evangelicals in El Cocuy	40
Conclusion	46

4. El Cocuy: Colombian Evangelicalism on the Community Level	48
Rural Life in Urban Colombia	48
Choice of El Cocuy as the Rural Field Site	49
Description of the Town	50
Early History of El Cocuy	56
Religion in El Cocuy	58
The Impact of Foreign Missionaries in El Cocuy:	
The Lutheran Church of Our Savior	64
5. Domestic Abdication, Individualism, and Machismo	77
Introduction	77
Defining Machismo: Contradictions and Consistencies	77
Domestic Abdication	82
Psychological Approaches: Machismo and Male Dominance	83
Change over Time	87
Machismo, Proletarianization, and Individualism	89
6. Colombian Sex and Gender Roles and the Family	92
Introduction	92
Sex Roles and Familial Roles	93
The Consequences of Machismo for Women's Household Roles	100
Conjugal Roles and Status Consciousness	102
Case History: Rosalinda	107
7. Colombian Evangelicalism from the Household Out	114
Gender Roles and Marital Roles in the Conversion Process	114
The Economic Effects of Gender Role Transformation	123
The Feminine Ethos of Evangelical Religion	129
8. Conclusion	135
Colombian Evangelicalism as a "Strategic" Form of Female Collective Action	135
Progress, Modernization, and Culture Change	141
Women, the Prosperity Ethic, and the Household Writ Large	144
Appendix: Fieldwork with Colombian Evangelicals	147
Notes	167
Bibliography	181
Index	195