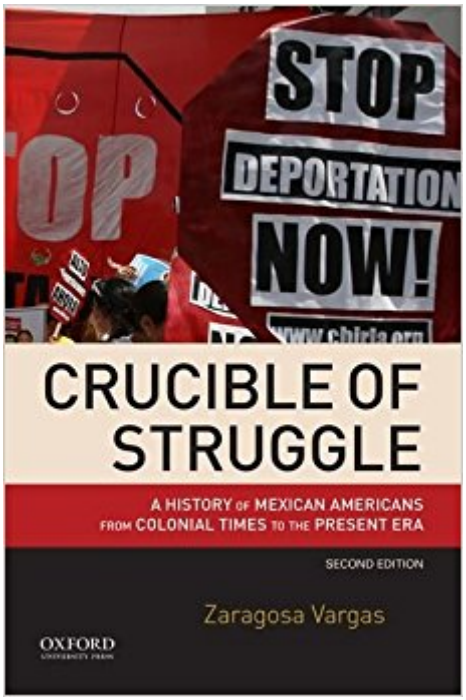
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Crucible Of Struggle: A History Of Mexican Americans From Colonial Times To The Present Era



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Synopsis

Latinos in the U.S. are a major political, economic, and cultural force that is fast changing the national identity of this country. Mexican Americans, specifically, account for nearly two thirds of this population. Mexicans are the oldest settlers of the United States and the nation’s largest group of recent immigrant arrivals. Their population is increasing faster than that of all other Latino groups combined. The growing importance of this minority group--which will be felt strongly in twenty-first-century America--calls for a fresh assessment of Mexican-American history.The second edition of Crucible of Struggle: A History of Mexican Americans from the Colonial Period tothe Present Era includes a new final chapter that examines such issues as increased anti-immigrantactivity after 2006, the crucial role of Latinos in the election of Barack Obama, increased borderenforcement and deportation in the wake of the U.S. Senate’s failure to pass amnesty legislation,Latinos and private detention centers, the role of individual states in immigration reform, the surgeof unaccompanied children from Central America, and more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Crucible of Struggle remains a landmark book for readers interested in Mexican American, labor, and civil rights histories in the United States. Vargas’s detailed and powerful account reveals how working people have long fought for dignity and rights, and his final chapter now traces the legacies of those past struggles for our own time. This groundbreaking work of analysis charts an important path for scholars, policymakers, and students."--Stephen Pitti, Yale University

Zaragosa Vargas is Kenan Eminent Professor of History at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Crucible converged two schools of thought that Arthur Corwin called ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“establishment schoolsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“experimental colleges.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• The former was associated to Mexican American history while the latter was linked to Chicano studies. Following ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“La Raza appraisal,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• Vargas briefly covered colonial regional then combined this approach with the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“establishment appraisalÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• to outlined Mexican American Southwestern history in the first half of the book. The second half of the book discussed the continued struggle of Mexican Americans with Anglo Americans in the United States in the twentieth century and the many underlying themes that brought them into contact such as class, ethnic, economic, and political differences. Vargas was able to address many of the concerns Corwin discussed in his article and expanded on the historiography that Gutierrez discussed as Crucible made the Mexican American struggle significant to general American history. Though I would have liked to see more works used referencing SanchezÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Forgotten People, Cynthia RaddingsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Wandering Peoples, or Vicki RuizÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Cannery Women, Cannery Lives, the work was an excellent survey of Mexican Americans in the Southwest and the political development of their political, cultural, and economic identity.

Good

Well done and researched.

prepare to change your mind about everything you have learned. this book is not for down time reading. it is for taking stock of self and realizing the potential for humans to be utterly inhumane to each other. after reading several other books, just mercy, slavery by another name, zealot, and, in the hands of the great spirit, the 20,000 year history of American Indians, I had to stop reading this one. my mind is too full of heartbreak at what we do and have done to each other.if it is your first foray into the reality of how people treat people you may find you wish you were a bumble bee instead of a human. I do suggest starting with zealot as so much of the human abuse is in the name of religion, greed and avarice. I started this reading quest with the idea that I could figure out the

hatred and intolerance of todays society. I am more lost than ever. I still have to read the rest of empire of the summer moon. got 6 pages in and was in tears.

my professor required two books for my chican@ latin@ class. this one and another one. this book was my favorite one.

Great book!

A must to read if you want to know about history

Thank you Great Read!

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