Perspectives on Las Américas

A Reader in Culture, History, & Representation

edited and introduced by
Matthew C. Gutmann,
Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, Lynn Stephen,
and Patricia Zavella
## Contents

**List of Contributors** viii  
**Editors' Acknowledgments** xi  
**Acknowledgments to Sources** xiii  

**Introduction: Understanding the Américas: Insights from Latina/o and Latin American Studies** 1  
*Lynn Stephen, Patricia Zavella, Matthew C. Gutmann, and Félix V. Matos Rodríguez*

### PART I Colonialism and Resistance

1. **Traddutora, Traditora: A Paradigmatic Figure of Chicana Feminism** 33  
   *Norma Alarcón*

2. **From the Plantation to the Plantation (Excerpt)** 50  
   *Antonio Benitez-Rojo*

3. **New Approaches to the Study of Peasant Rebellion and Consciousness: Implications of the Andean Experience** 66  
   *Steve J. Stern*

4. **The Real “New World Order”: The Globalization of Racial and Ethnic Relations in the Late Twentieth Century** 81  
   *Néstor P. Rodríguez*

5. **The Americans: Latin American and Caribbean Peoples in the United States** 90  
   *Rubén G. Rumbaut*

### PART II Global Political Economy

6. **“¿Quién Trabajará?”: Domestic Workers, Urban Slaves, and the Abolition of Slavery in Puerto Rico** 117  
   *Félix V. Matos Rodríguez*
7 A Central American Genocide: Rubber, Slavery, Nationalism, and the Destruction of the Guatusos-Malekus
Marc Edelman

8 Transnational Labor Process and Gender Relations: Women in Fruit and Vegetable Production in Chile, Brazil and Mexico
Jane I. Collins

9 Inequality Near and Far: International Adoption as Seen from a Brazilian Favela
Claudia Fonseca

PART III  Identities, Practices, Hybridities

10 History, Culture, and Place-Making: ‘Native’ Status and Maya Identity in Belize
Laurie Kroshus Medina

11 The Carnivalization of the World
Richard Parker

12 “Playing with Fire”: The Gendered Construction of Chicana/Mexicana Sexuality
Patricia Zavella

13 Returned Migration, Language, and Identity: Puerto Rican Bilinguals in Dos Worlds/Two Mundos
Ana Celia Zentella

14 A Place Called Home: A Queer Political Economy of Mexican Immigrant Men’s Family Experiences
Lionel Cantú

15 Dominican Blackness and the Modern World
Silvio Torres-Saillant

PART IV  Popular Cultures

16 Jennifer’s Butt
Frances Negrón-Muntaner

17 La Quinceañera: Making Gender and Ethnic Identities
Karen Mary Davalos

18 Two Sides of the Same Coin: Modern Gaúcho Identity in Brazil
Ruben George Oliven

19 The United States, Mexico, and Machismo
Américo Paredes

20 Spectacular Bodies: Folklorization and the Politics of Identity in Ecuadorian Beauty Pageants
Mark Rogers
PART V Regional, National, and Transnational Political Cultures

21 Gender, Politics, and the Triumph of Mestizaje in Early 20th-Century Nicaragua
   Jeffrey Gould
   365

22 The Construction of Indigenous Suspects: Militarization and the Gendered and Ethnic Dynamics of Human Rights Abuses in Southern Mexico
   Lynn Stephen
   383

23 For Whom the Taco Bells Toll: Popular Responses to NAFTA South of the Border
   Matthew C. Gutmann
   404

24 Immigration Reform and Nativism: The Nationalist Response to the Transnationalist Challenge
   Leo R. Chavez
   418

25 The Process of Black Community Organizing in the Southern Pacific Coast Region of Colombia
   Libia Grueso, Carlos Rosero, and Arturo Escobar
   430

Index
   448