

Cultural Diversity in the United States: A Critical Reader


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Cultural Diversity in the United States: A Critical Reader is an unprecedented collection of contemporary writings authored by some of anthropology's most notable scholars-from across the discipline - on the central issues of cultural diversity in the United States. The contributors to this landmark critical reader rethink diversity, identity politics, and multiculturalism, and provide fundamental tools for the analysis and understanding of critical political issues in the United States today.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Susser and Patterson have compiled a work we have long needed: a set of fine-grained historical analyses stretching across the four fields of anthropology, which makes the understanding of diversity its central focus. Containing ample supplementary references and detailed practical suggestions for teaching, this treasure will be indispensable for anyone interested in the politics of difference in contemporary U.S. culture." *Emily Martin, Princeton University*

"This volume greatly enriches the understanding of cultural differences and will doubtless inform future discussion and debate." *Choice*

"*Cultural diversity* is, simply put, the best reader available on the complex connections between race, ethnicity, class, and gender in the United States" *Matthew C. Gutmann, Brown University, Journal of The Royal Anthropological Institute*

From the Back Cover

Cultural Diversity in the United States: A Critical Reader is an unprecedented collection of contemporary writings on the central issues of cultural diversity in the United States by some of anthropology's most notable scholars.

Comprised of over 20 newly commissioned chapters and other pieces, and sponsored by the American Anthropological Association, this volume offers a wide range of perspectives from anthropologists as a means of understanding how the discipline can provide critical contexts for the exploration of cultural diversity in the United States. Moreover, the breadth of anthropological inquiry collected here represents a remarkable opportunity for those studying or teaching this vital issue.

The contributors to this landmark reader rethink diversity, identity politics, and multiculturalism, and provide tools for the analysis of critical political issues in the United States today. Important areas of discussion include: re-examining U.S. social and political history; establishing a framework for the understanding of inequality; and confronting simplistic images of diversity in an effort to enrich and deepen understanding of difference.

About the Author

Ida Susser is Professor of Anthropology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and was the founding President of the Society for the Anthropology of North America. Her books include *AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean* (edited with George Bond, Joan Vincent, and John Kreniske, 1997), *Medical Anthropology and the World System* (co-authored with Merrill Singer and Hans Baer, 1997), and *Norman Street: Poverty and Politics in an Urban Community* (1982).

Thomas C. Patterson is Professor of Anthropology at University of California, Riverside. His books include *Change and Development in the Twentieth Century* (1999), *Inventing Western Civilization* (1997), *Making Alternative Histories* (edited with Peter R. Schmidt, 1995), and *Race, Racism, and the History of U.S. Anthropology* (edited with Lee Baker, 1994).

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