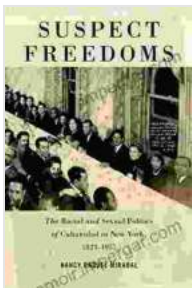


The Racial and Sexual Politics of Cubanidad in New York, 1823-1957: Culture, Labor, and the Struggle for Identity

The vibrant tapestry of New York City has long been intertwined with the rich cultural heritage of Cuban immigrants. From the 19th century to the mid-20th century, waves of Cubans arrived in the metropolis, bringing with them their traditions, customs, and aspirations. Yet, beneath the surface of this vibrant Cubanidad lay complex racial and sexual politics that shaped the experiences of these newcomers.



Suspect Freedoms: The Racial and Sexual Politics of Cubanidad in New York, 1823-1957 (Culture, Labor, History Book 3) by John Eldredge

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2626 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 325 pages
X-Ray for textbooks	: Enabled

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In her groundbreaking work, "The Racial and Sexual Politics of Cubanidad in New York, 1823-1957: Culture, Labor, and the Struggle for Identity," Dr. Evelyn Alsultany delves into this multifaceted history, offering a nuanced

exploration of the ways in which race, gender, and sexuality intersected with Cuban immigrant life in New York City.

Chapter 1: The Arrival of Cubanidad in New York City

Dr. Alsultany begins with a historical overview of Cuban immigration to New York City, tracing its origins to the early 19th century. She examines the diverse reasons that Cubans sought to leave their homeland, including political unrest, economic hardship, and the desire for greater opportunities.

The author highlights the heterogeneity of Cuban immigrants, who came from various backgrounds and regions of Cuba. This diversity laid the foundation for the complex social and cultural landscape that would evolve within New York's Cuban community.

Chapter 2: Labor and the Struggle for Economic Stability

The pursuit of economic stability was a central aspect of Cuban immigrant life in New York City. Dr. Alsultany explores the various occupations that Cubans engaged in, from factory work and cigar making to service industry jobs and small businesses.

She analyzes the racial and gender hierarchies that existed within the New York City labor market, which often relegated Cuban immigrants to low-paying and precarious jobs. The author also sheds light on the ways in which Cuban workers organized and mobilized to improve their working conditions and fight for their rights.

Chapter 3: The Formation of Cuban Communities

As Cuban immigrants settled in New York City, they established vibrant communities that became centers of cultural and social life. Dr. Alsultany examines the formation of these communities, particularly in neighborhoods such as Spanish Harlem, Brooklyn, and Queens.

The author explores the role of organizations, such as mutual aid societies and fraternal groups, in fostering a sense of belonging and providing support to Cuban immigrants. She also discusses the emergence of Cuban cultural institutions, such as theaters, dance halls, and music venues, which played a vital role in preserving and celebrating Cuban traditions.

Chapter 4: Race and Identity in the Cuban Community

Race was a significant factor in shaping the experiences of Cuban immigrants in New York City. Dr. Alsultany investigates the complex racial hierarchy that existed within the Cuban community, which was influenced by both Cuban and American notions of race.

The author examines the ways in which Afro-Cubans and Chinese-Cubans navigated this racial landscape, often facing discrimination and prejudice both within the Cuban community and in the wider society. She also analyzes the emergence of racial consciousness and the development of Afro-Cuban and Chinese-Cuban identities among Cuban immigrants.

Chapter 5: Gender and Sexuality in Cubanidad

Gender and sexuality were also integral to the formation of Cubanidad in New York City. Dr. Alsultany explores the expectations and norms surrounding gender roles and sexual behavior within the Cuban community.

The author examines the ways in which Cuban women navigated the constraints of traditional gender roles, while also seeking greater independence and opportunities. She also discusses the experiences of LGBTQ Cubans, whose lives were often marked by marginalization and discrimination.

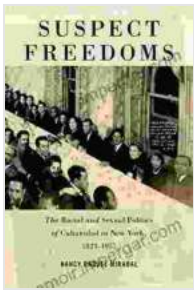
Chapter 6: The Politics of Cubanidad

The Cuban community in New York City played an active role in the political life of both Cuba and the United States. Dr. Alsultany examines the ways in which Cuban immigrants engaged in political organizing, activism, and advocacy.

The author analyzes the influence of Cubanidad on the political views and allegiances of Cuban immigrants, particularly in relation to issues of Cuban independence, socialism, and race relations. She also discusses the ways in which Cuban immigrants contributed to the development of New York City's political landscape.

"The Racial and Sexual Politics of Cubanidad in New York, 1823-1957: Culture, Labor, and the Struggle for Identity" is a seminal work that sheds new light on the complex history of Cuban immigrants in New York City. Dr. Alsultany's meticulous research and insightful analysis reveal the ways in which race, gender, and sexuality intersected with Cubanidad, shaping the experiences and identities of Cuban newcomers.

This book is essential reading for scholars of Cuban history, immigration, labor studies, race and gender studies, and anyone interested in the vibrant cultural heritage of New York City.



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