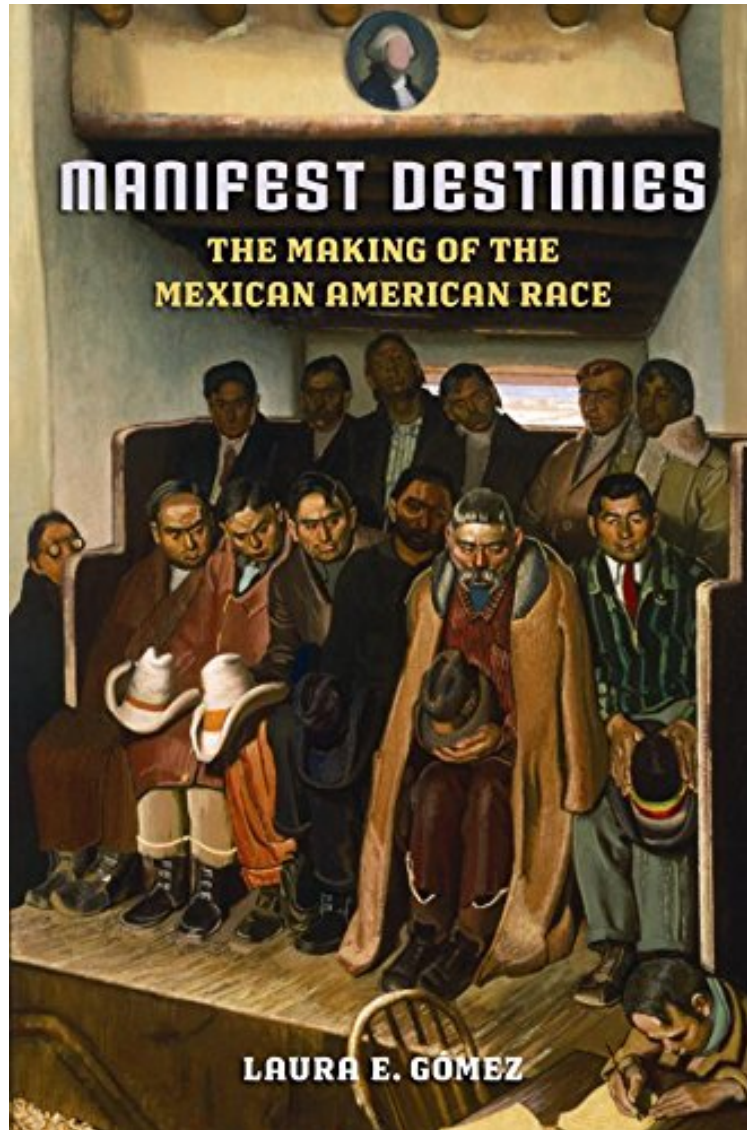


[Free and download] Manifest Destinies: The Making of the Mexican American Race

## Manifest Destinies: The Making of the Mexican American Race

Laura E. Gomez

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**Laura E. Gomez : Manifest Destinies: The Making of the Mexican American Race** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Manifest Destinies: The Making of the Mexican American Race:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A revelation to a native New Mexican of Hispanic background By Anthony B. Jeffries Well researched, based on statistics and facts rather than opinion or racial assumptions. This is an analysis and reporting that reminds us that race and prejudice are alive today, and that the victims of racial prejudice

are often contributing to the problem. We of Hispanic backgrounds are aware of racial sectioning, and yet think of our difference as cultural or ethnic. Yet we make racial distinctions without meaning to, even among Hispanics. The United States is rife with racial perspective, and "finding our place on the American scene" can mean finding where we fit in the racial spectrum. This is buying into the scourge of racism. I realize now that my own assumptions and language put me in "the belly of the beast," by contributing to a racial perspective on what it means to be Hispanic or Latino (or whatever the magic word is today). 5 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Convoluted mexicans By Jesse Apodaca I couldn't put this book down. If you're of Mexican origin or especially if you're from New Mexico of Mexican origin you're going to love the book. At times a bit tedious and disconcerting but always revealing. I just could never have imagined that race was so contentious and so defining an issue in this country for so many years. When I first saw my birth certificate and read that it said white I thought it couldn't be right because I knew I wasn't the same as the "white" kids I played with at home and in school. What an eye opener this book was and with family in New Mexico it makes it makes the book so personally relevant. I highly recommend it for no other reason than to compare how far we've come from then to now and how much furthermore we still have to go. There's so much that's left out of being taught in school specially as pertaining to race, history, etc. Read this book and especially now with race again being a big issue. We now have a black president but no doubt some people want him to fail if for no other reason that he's black. Then there's immigration and the hoopla that goes with that so the book is relevant and interesting. Thoroughly enjoyed and it's especially educational. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good C: By Muzique The shipment was really fast and my product wasn't damaged

Watch the Author Interview on KNME In both the historic record and the popular imagination, the story of nineteenth-century westward expansion in America has been characterized by notions of annexation rather than colonialism, of opening rather than conquering, and of settling unpopulated lands rather than displacing existing populations. Using the territory that is now New Mexico as a case study, *Manifest Destinies* traces the origins of Mexican Americans as a racial group in the United States, paying particular attention to shifting meanings of race and law in the nineteenth century. Laura E. Gomez explores the central paradox of Mexican American racial status as entailing the law's designation of Mexican Americans as #white and their simultaneous social position as non-white in American society. She tells a neglected story of conflict, conquest, cooperation, and competition among Mexicans, Indians, and Euro-Americans, the regions three main populations who were the key architects and victims of the laws that dictated what one's race was and how people would be treated by the law according to one's race. Gomez's path breaking work spanning the disciplines of law, history, and sociology reveals how the construction of Mexicans as an American racial group proved central to the larger process of restructuring the American racial order from the Mexican War (1846-48) to the early twentieth century. The emphasis on white-over-black relations during this period has obscured the significant role played by the doctrine of Manifest Destiny and the colonization of northern Mexico in the racial subordination of black Americans.

Gomez has made a fine and distinctive contribution to our understanding of how conquest and law shaped the ambiguous racial position still occupied by Mexican Americans. -*American Historical* In her discussion of the role of law in the creation of Mexican Americans as a racial group Gomez tells a convincing story of conquerors manipulating the conquered. -*The Santa Fe New Mexican* Shows the impacts (then, as now) of the dominant white racist frame coming in from outside what was once northern Mexico. -*Racism* In this provocative analysis, the sociologist and legal scholar Laura E. Gomez offers a compelling argument for the unique racial status of Mexican Americans, significant (and increasing) proportions of whom identify as nonwhite her steady focus and original approach make *Manifest Destinies* essential reading for scholars of race in America. -*Journal of American History* Laura E. Gomez's *Manifest Destinies* offers a new interpretation of the ideology of Manifest Destiny and how that ideology worked to create a Mexican American race in New Mexico. -*Hispanic American Historical* About the Author Laura E. Gomez is Professor of Law, Sociology and Chicana/o Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is the author of *Misconceiving Mothers: Legislators, Prosecutors and the Politics of Prenatal Drug Exposure* and the editor of *Mapping Race: Critical Approaches to Health Disparities Research* (with Nancy Lopez).