

The Mobility of Workers Under Advanced Capitalism: Dominican Migration to the United States

Ramona Hernandez

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UNDER ADVANCED CAPITALISM**
DOMINICAN MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES



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Ramona Hernandez : The Mobility of Workers Under Advanced Capitalism: Dominican Migration to the United States before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Mobility of Workers Under Advanced Capitalism: Dominican Migration to the United States:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fabulous TextBy sleepyscoutThis is an absolutely fabulous text for understanding Dominicans in the United States. Hernandez uses a historical-structuralist approach for understanding Dominican immigration, which I found an important corrective in a generally celebratory literature that ignores real

social problems confronting immigrants of color. Hernandez takes race seriously and does an excellent job with her data. The book is well worth the investment if only for the data, although I'm comfortable asserting that Hernandez is exemplary in her race-class-gender analysis among immigrants of color (Dominicans) in NYC. An absolute REQUIREMENT for any serious engagement of Dominicans in the United States.

What explains the international mobility of workers from developing to advanced societies? Why do workers move from one region to another? Theoretically, the supply of workers in a given region and the demand for them in another account for the international mobility of laborers. Job seekers from less developed regions migrate to more advanced countries where technological and productive transformations have produced a shortage of laborers. Using the Dominican labor force in New York as a case study, Ramona Hernandez challenges this presumption of a straightforward relationship between supply and demand in the job markets of the receiving society. She contends that the traditional correlation between migration and economic progress does not always hold true. Once transplanted in New York City, Hernandez shows, Dominicans have faced economic hardship as the result of high levels of unemployment and underemployment and the reality of a changing labor market that increasingly requires workers with skills and training they do not have. Rather than responding to a demand in the labor market, emigration from the Dominican Republic was the result of a de facto government policy encouraging poor and jobless people to leave; a policy in which the United States was an accomplice because the policy suited its economic and political interests in the region.

A superb economic history... useful... excellent... highly recommended. (Choice) Hernandez succeeds in bringing to the reader's attention some of the very troubling dimensions of Dominican settlement and incorporation in New York City. This work provides a strong foundation for future research on Dominican immigration. (Greta Gilbertson American Journal of Sociology) Hernandez analyzes the data that document the reality that inspired *Nueva York*, arguing that many Dominicans know the harsh facts but come [to New York] anyway. Her book convincingly describes a troubling new scenario and gives a much-needed reality check. (Michele Wucker Journal of American Ethnic History) With the utmost civility, this volume takes to task truisms concerning immigration theory and Dominicans' purported middle-class status, entrepreneurial bent, and prosperity. (Glenn Jacobs Latino Studies) Hernandez's book is very well documented and returns to a range of structural factors that affect international migration but are commonly ignored in recent studies... This book is an important contribution to the literature on migration. (Estela Rivero-Fuentes Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies) The Strength of Hernandez' book lies in her showing, on the one hand, the structural character of migration and, on the other, the fact that migration is not necessarily functional to the needs of the global economy. (Jose Itzigsohn Centro Journal) Hernandez provides a succinct and interesting overview of how the geopolitics of the Dominican Republic encouraged emigration. (Gareth A. Jones Latin American Research) About the Author Ramona Hernandez is the director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute. She is the author of *The Dominican Americans*.