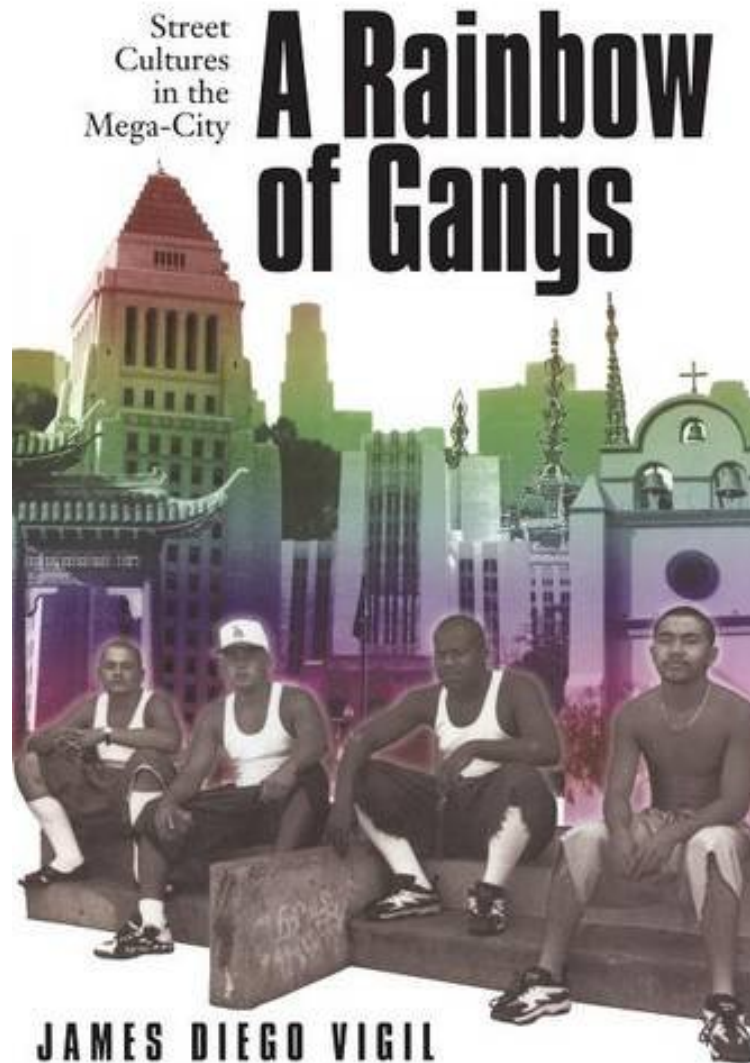


[Free pdf] A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City

A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City

James Diego Vigil

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James Diego Vigil : A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good reading
By Branson Mom Good reading 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Too Much Sociology
By Hans G. Wenzel A little too much Sociology for my taste. Was expecting more "nitty-gritty" of gang life, and less theory. In other words, seemed a little too much like a textbook on sociology and not enough real-life street life.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good resource
By L. Purviance The comparisons contained in the book provide a peek into the world of street gang members. The

perspective developed by comparison is compelling, and helps underscore the social issues. Read along with the studies driven by reporting data it fleshes out some of the dynamics of street socialization. It appears street gangs derive from a sense of isolation and powerlessness, fueled by the sense of futility, the social conditions are delineated in this work.

Winner, Best Book on Ethnic and Racial Politics in a Local or Urban Setting , Organized Section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics of the American Political Science Association, 2002 With nearly 1,000 gangs and 200,000 gang members, Los Angeles holds the dubious distinction of being the youth gang capital of the United States. The process of street socialization that leads to gang membership now cuts across all ethnic groups, as evidenced by the growing numbers of gangs among recent immigrants from Asia and Latin America. This cross-cultural study of Los Angeles gangs identifies the social and economic factors that lead to gang membership and underscores their commonality across four ethnic groups Chicano, African American, Vietnamese, and Salvadorian. James Diego Vigil begins at the community level, examining how destabilizing forces and marginalizing changes have disrupted the normal structures of parenting, schooling, and policing, thereby compelling many youths to grow up on the streets. He then turns to gang members' life stories to show how societal forces play out in individual lives. His findings provide a wealth of comparative data for scholars, policymakers, and law enforcement personnel seeking to respond to the complex problems associated with gangs.

"This is an ambitious and significant project to map the ethnic diversity and gang subcultures of a major metropolis.... The book will almost certainly find a large audience. It makes the gang experience accessible to college students [and others] who might easily dismiss these people as only objects of fear and beneath notice as struggling human beings. The life histories are vivid." (Joan W. Moore, Distinguished Professor Emerita of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) "This is an ambitious and significant project-to map the ethnic diversity and gang subcultures of a major metropolis.... The book will almost certainly find a large audience. It makes the gang experience accessible to college students [and others] who might easily dismiss these people as only objects of fear and beneath notice as struggling human beings. The life histories are vivid." (Joan W. Moore, Distinguished Professor Emerita of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) About the Author James Diego Vigil is Professor of Social Ecology at the University of California, Irvine.