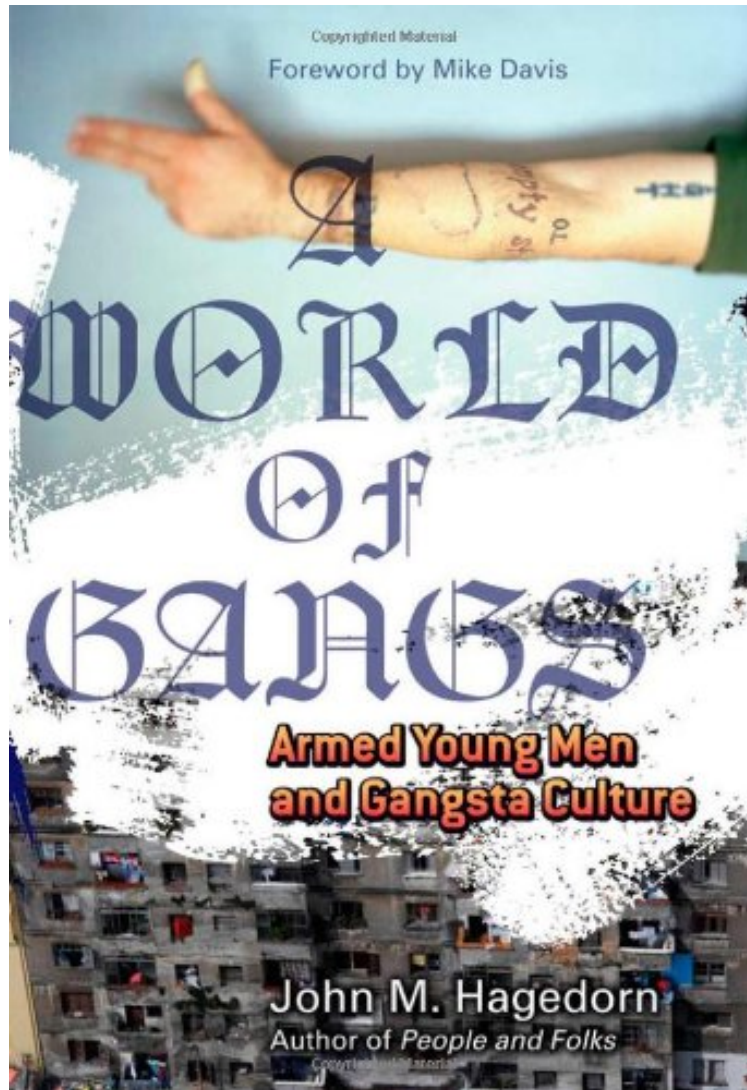


(Read free) A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture (Globalization and Community)

## A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture (Globalization and Community)

John M. M. Hagedorn  
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**John M. M. Hagedorn : A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture (Globalization and Community)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture (Globalization and Community):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. "The Essence of Gangs, Significance Origins"By Russell A. Rohde MD"A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture", by John M. Hagedorn, Univ. Minnesota Press, MN 2008. ISBN 978-0-8166-5066-8, (HC) 198/143 pgs. 9 Chapters, Foreword(Mike Davis) 7 pgs., Intro. 12 pgs., Notes

36 pgs., Index 18 pgs. 9 1/4" x 6 1/4". Inveiglements are limited to "A Rose in the Cracks of Concrete" (a short one stanza poem), Chicago district map, 2 BW ghetto photos. Author is Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Univ. Ill. is previously published on the subject of gangs. This is a scholarly article, well researched, indexed and abundantly referenced on the broad subject of gangs, internationally, but with especial reference to those in Chicago, Rio de Janeiro and Capetown. The author explores the origin of gangs - how they evolved, becoming institutionalized gangs, Community-based, then de-industrialized with Globalization and depression providing a worsening of economy wherein there is an ever-increasing loss of jobs and economic opportunities not helped by the current "Information Age". The author documents his observations with descriptions of the earliest Irish gangs in America (Chicago, New York, etc.) that formed strong political alliances with City mayors, Police Departments, etc. and eventually controlled cities and politics. Throughout this work the author's theme is that gang's very existence arises largely on a racial basis (hence permanent) and only secondarily to other issues such as poverty. The author claims gangs are a reaction that includes anger and outrage to a cultural class struggle for personal edification or recognition, a home or turf, and economic survivability via jobs and wages - a reaction to social exclusionism or alienation. Specific details are provided on the Black Panther Party, AIG, BGD, the ALKQN, CLV, LSD, and SACs (HAA). Also, the author clarifies the essence of hip-hop and of gangsta rap and the need to understand certain cultures via their music to garner their outrage, directionless rage and urgency. Unfortunately, the author seemingly advocates the alleviation of gang problems via socialistic means and appears to be excessively lenient with the Mara Salvatrucha/MS-13 - stating they are an American creation having fled to the US and are now trapped in barrios and merely doing what poor kids everywhere do and after getting into trouble are deported by U.S. immigration Service which the author feels is a violation of their basic human right to have a life free of terror and resist deportation. Nonetheless, the book, taking pot shots at various elected officials for their strict on crime policies and attitudes, has a lot to offer - and Hagedorn argues for the need to provide recreation, education, jobs, and cultural programs more than prisons. The author embeds a dour note stating "the future of the world will be determined on the streets of our cities", that to me is a veiled threat to get our attention; and he concludes that he can only say 'De mortuis nil nisi bonum,' something echoing from the Ivory Tower. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For a school paper. By CBI It was for a school paper and got me an "A" :) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well written By Robert Linowell written

Street gangs mirror the inhuman ambitions and greed of societys trendsetters and deities even as they fight to the death over scraps from the table of the international drug trade. But John Hagedorn, characteristically, also finds hope in the contradictory values of outlaw youthselflessness, solidarity, and love amid cupidity and directionless rage and he maintains the hope that a culture of resistance will ultimately prevail over the forces of self-destruction. Whether one shares his optimism or not, he makes a compelling case that the future of the world will be determined on the streets of our cities. Mike Davis, from the Foreword A World of Gangs is an illuminating journey around the cultures, lives, tragedies, and dreams of millions of rebellious youth around the planet. It is an indispensable work to understand the world we live in and essential reading for students of cities and communities. Manuel Castells For the more than a billion people who now live in urban slums, gangs are ubiquitous features of daily life. Though still most closely associated with American cities, gangs are an entrenched, worldwide phenomenon that play a significant role in a wide range of activities, from drug dealing to extortion to religious and political violence. In A World of Gangs, John Hagedorn explores this international proliferation of the urban gang as a consequence of the ravages of globalization. Looking closely at gang formation in three world cities-Chicago, Rio de Janeiro, and Capetown-he discovers that some gangs have institutionalized as a strategy to confront a hopeless cycle of poverty, racism, and oppression. In particular, Hagedorn reveals, the nihilistic appeal of gangsta rap and its street ethic of survival by any means necessary provides vital insights into the ideology and persistence of gangs around the world. This groundbreaking work concludes on a hopeful note. Proposing ways in which gangs might be encouraged to overcome their violent tendencies, Hagedorn appeals to community leaders to use the urgency, outrage, and resistance common to both gang life and hip-hop in order to bring gangs into broader movements for social justice. John M. Hagedorn is associate professor of criminal justice at the University of Illinois, Chicago. He is editor of Gangs in the Global City and author of the highly influential People and Folks: Gangs, Crime, and the Underclass in a Rustbelt City. MacArthur fellow Mike Davis is the author of many books, including Planet of Slums and, most recently, Budas Wagon: A Brief History of the Car Bomb.

From Publishers Weekly Hagedorn (People and Folks), a scholar of gangland culture for more than 20 years, contends that gangs have existed since the Roman Republic and will continue to thrive as long as globalization continues to create untenable situations for the urban poor. Hagedorn surveys street gangs from Mumbai, Paris, L.A., Rio de Janeiro, Cape Town and 15th-century Florence, examining the role race and ethnicity play in gang formation (the white Gaylords of Chicago, the Latin Kings) and how the gang itself can be regarded as an alternative social institution, providing protection and economic opportunities for neglected populations. Hagedorn's description of gangs as institutionalized living organisms explains why they are so difficult to eradicate. Although Hagedorn is an

undeniable authority on the topic and has logged plenty of face time with gang members, his work relies rather heavily on analyzing academic studies as opposed to providing in-depth descriptions of his own firsthand observations. His focus on old school gangsta rap also reveals a slight disconnect from his youthful subjects, as he refers to pass artists such as Cypress Hill as popular modern-day performers. While Hagedorn has produced a well-organized, well-researched and sensitive study, readers hungry for more ethnographic accounts should turn to Sudhir Venkatesh's *Gang Leader for a Day*. (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

About the Author John M. Hagedorn is associate professor of criminal justice and senior research fellow at Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois, Chicago. He is editor of *Gangs in the Global City*; co-editor of *Female Gangs in America: Essays on Girls, Gangs, and Gender*; and author of the highly influential *People and Folks: Gangs, Crime, and the Underclass in a Rustbelt City*. MacArthur fellow Mike Davis is professor of history at the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of many books, including *Planet of Slums*, *City of Quartz*, and *Ecology of Fear*.