

# In Their Own Words

*Hispanic leaders condemn America;  
their quotes assembled by California activists*

**Booklet Reviewed  
by James P. Lubinskas**

**H**ow do Hispanic activists see the future of the United States? *Reconquista!: The Takeover of America* lets them speak for themselves. It contains pages of quotes from university professors, activists and elected officials that betray an openly racist plan to "reconquer" the Southwestern United States. These leaders understand that demography is destiny and are eager to take power and land from "Anglos." For anyone who doubts that Hispanics are saying these things, or who may simply want to hear the tone in which they discuss *reconquista*, the California Coalition for Immigration Reform (CCIR) offers an audio tape that includes every quotation in the booklet.

Here are excerpts from a few of the quotations.

Professor José Angel Gutierrez of the University of Texas, 1995: "We have an aging white America. They are not making babies. They are dying. It

*James Lubinskas is the assistant editor of American Renaissance, published monthly by the New Century Foundation.*

is a matter of time. The explosion is in our population. You must believe that you are entitled to govern.... Don't you find it curious that in the midst of all this harassment and repression that there are those who are saying that they are concerned because we're Latinizing Los Angeles? That

**Reconquista!  
The Takeover  
of America**

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(714) 921-7142  
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there's too many Mexicans here? That we're the biggest national security threat to the United States? I love it! *Se estan cagando cabrones de miedo!* (They are sh\*\*\* in their pants with fear.) I love it."

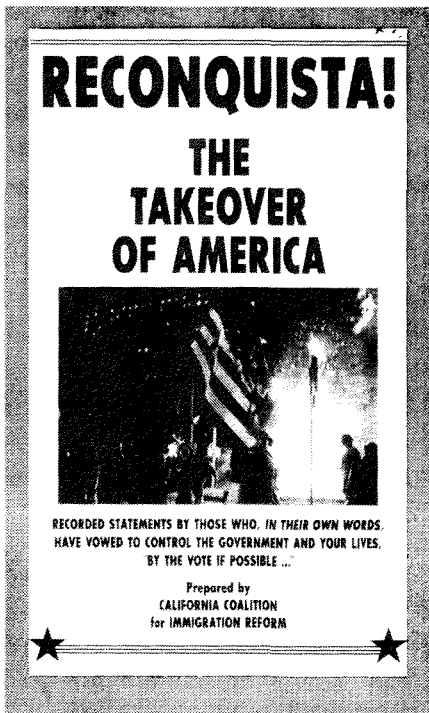
Richard Alatorre, Los Angeles City Council, September, 1996: "[T]hey're afraid that we're going to take over the governmental institutions and other institutions. They're right, we will take them over, and we're not going to go away, we are here to stay...."

Art Torres, former California State Senator and current chairman of the California Democratic Party: "Remember, [Proposition] 187 is the last gasp of white America in California. Understand that. And people say to me on the Senate floor when I was in the Senate, 'Why do you fight so hard for affirmative action programs?' And I say, 'Because you're going to need them [when whites become a minority.]" (laughter)

Gloria Molina, Los Angeles County Supervisor, June 1996: "[W]e are politicizing every single one of those new citizens that are becoming citizens of this country.... And our vote is going to be important. But I gotta tell you that a lot of people are saying, 'I'm going to go out there and vote because I want to pay them back.'"

Antonio Villaraigosa, Majority Leader in the California State Assembly, June 1997: "We know the sunny side of midnight has been the election of a Latino speaker [in the state house], was the election of Loretta Sanchez against an arch-conservative, reactionary, hate-mongering politicians like Congressman Dornan."

Mike Hernandez, Los Angeles City Council, June 1996: "*Somos Mexicanos* (we are Mexicans)! Mexico, some of us say, is the



country this land used to belong to!... We are the future, we will lead the Western Hemisphere.!"

Fernando Guerra, Professor, Loyola Marymount, January 1995: "[W]e need to avoid a white backlash by using codes understood by Latinos but not offensive or threatening to others."

Armando Navarro, Professor, University of California, January, 1995: "[T]ime is on our side, as one people, as one nation within a nation, as the community that we are, the Chicano/Latino community of this nation. What that means is a transfer of power. It means control."

Ruben Zacarias, Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District, June, 1997: "And I'll tell you what we've done with the INS. Now we're even doing the [citizenship] testing that usually people had to go to the INS to take, and pretty soon,

hopefully, we'll do the final interviews in our schools. (laughter) Incidentally, I started this very quietly because there are those that if they knew that we were creating a whole new cadre of brand new citizens it would have a tremendous political impact."

### Meanwhile, on the streets...

Street activists use more colorful terms than elected officials and college professors. Here is Augustin Cebada, a leader of the Brown Berets, on July 4, 1996: "Go back to Boston! Go back to the Plymouth Rock, Pilgrims! Get out! We are the future. You are old and tired. Go on. We have beaten you, leave like beaten rats. You old white people, it is your duty to die. Even their own ethicists say that they should die, that they have a duty to die. We are the majority in L.A.... Through love of having children we're going to take over."

The only non-Hispanic quoted in *Reconquista!* is Vice-President Al Gore. He was the keynote speaker at the 1995 conference of the Southwest Voter Registration Project, which helped speed through one million new naturalizations

in time for the 1996 elections. He said: "This President [Clinton] wants to put the 'N' back in INS.... The President and I look forward to hearing your views on every single step we take to create a balanced immigration policy that makes the most of our diversity. We are all the descendants of immigrants, whether our forebears came on the *Mayflower*, or in steerage from Eastern Europe, or walked across an unmarked border in Texas or California."

This excellent little booklet contains photographs of many of the people it quotes, along with samples of the aggressive graphics that Hispanics often use in connection with their cause. CCIR has done a first-rate job of gathering information that is almost never reported. This collection deserves the widest possible distribution. **ISC**



This is the CD cover for a Mexican rap group that calls for the massacre of whites: "Let's kill whites — like Pancho Villa!"

# Ethnic Empowerment

## A textbook for highschoolers

### Book Review by Wayne Lutton

The late 1960s witnessed the first calls by Chicano activists and their allies for Mexican American studies in public schools in California and other parts of the American West. They demanded to be instructed in the history and culture of their own people, who they see as distinct from the majority of Americans. Over the years, Chicano Studies courses have proliferated in high schools throughout the West, and, more recently, to parts of the Midwest, South, and East — indeed, wherever colonies of Mexicans have taken root.

Courses require textbooks and so to fill this need, veteran Los Angeles high school teacher Carlos Jimenez wrote *The Mexican American Heritage*. It is used by school districts across the country (last March a parent in Indianapolis, Indiana contacted our office and urged me to read this book, which his teenagers had encountered).

For those unfamiliar with what passes for ethnic studies these days, *The Mexican American Heritage* may contain a few surprises. Its themes include victimization, separatism, and Mexican nationalism.

While White students are repeatedly lectured that “race is an artificial construct” with no meaning, this is not what Mexican Americans are told. At the outset the author affirms, “The concept of ‘race’ is a difficult yet important subject to discuss. Understanding one’s racial background is essential for a clear grasp of a person’s true identity.” Jimenez correctly points out that Mexicans and Mexican Americans “are directly related to Asian people” who migrated into Alaska, Canada, parts of the Western United States, Mexico, Central and South America.

*Wayne Lutton is the editor of The Social Contract.*

This does not discourage him from mistakenly referring to the descendants of these Asian migrants as “Native Americans” and to claim that the Western Hemisphere was wholly Indian in prehistoric times [from an anthropological standpoint, “Siberian Americans” is a more accurate designation for American Indians, a.k.a. “Native Americans”].

Jimenez includes a section on “Identity.” Here the student is informed, “Knowing one’s identity is the first step toward realizing one’s fullest potential. Having a clear sense of who we are, and why, will prevent us from trying to be something we are not.

Knowing one’s identity and the history behind it can give one the confidence and pride to look into the future with optimism and hope.”

Throughout his book, the country of Mexico is equated with that of *Aztlan*, the name of the Aztec’s mythical homeland. While conceding that “the exact location of *Aztlan* is something about which historians disagree,” Jimenez

strongly suggests that it included what is today northern Mexico and the part of the United States once claimed by Mexico. The author fails to recount that other historians observe that Aztecs never lived in what is today the American Southwest. Their long lost empire largely encompassed what is now southern Mexico.

To Jimenez, it is essential for students to understand that White Americans stole *Aztlan* from Mexico. “This,” he asserts in Chapter Three, “The Loss of *Aztlan*,” is “territory that, today, could have made Mexico a world power.”

Though Jimenez states “all who live here should know exactly how the United States acquired this land, how the current border was drawn,” students reading his text are exposed to only one side of the story. “Mexico’s lack of organized and effective leadership” coinciding with “land hunger and aggressive actions of the United States” accounts for

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**The Mexican  
American  
Heritage**  
Second Edition—  
Revised  
by Carlos M. Jimenez  
Berkeley, CA: TQS Publications  
333 pages, \$39.95

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