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### CENTRAL AMERICANS IN MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES: SELECTED SOURCES IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

by M. Alexandra Salinas

Central Americans constitute a rapidly growing segment of the population in Mexico and the United States. Their presence has become more apparent since the early 1980s when several hundred thousand Guatemalans, Nicaraguans and Salvadorans fled war-torn Central America. To date very few studies have been done on the acculturation of Central Americans into American society; instead they concentrate on immigration policy, migration, and refugees. More studies have been written on the integration of refugees into Mexican society. This bibliography lists many sources in which information about Central Americans in both Mexico and the United States can be found. The sources are located in the Benson Latin American Collection.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND INDEXES

Gutiérrez, Margo. **Sourcebook on Central American Refugee Policy: A Bibliography with Subject and Country Index.** Austin, TX: Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin and the Central America Resource Center, 1985. 69 p.

This well-indexed bibliography concentrates on the Central American refugee policies of Central American governments, the United States, Mexico and the United Nations. It is a good starting point on the subject of Central American refugee policy.  
HV/640/S687/1985/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

**Chicano Index.** Berkeley, CA: Chicano Studies Library, 1989-. Quarterly Cumulative Supplement.

Despite its ambiguous title, this excellent source indexes journals, books, anthologies, reports, and other documents concerning Central Americans in the United States, arranged by subject. It continues the ~~Chicano Periodical Index~~, which covered the years 1967-1988, and included only journal articles.  
Z/1361/M4/C47/LAC • Mexican American Reference Collection

**Handbook of Latin American Studies: Social Sciences.** Austin: University of Texas Press, 1935-. Annual.

This is the most important bibliographical publication in the field of Latin American studies, both in the wide range of topics that it covers and in the length of time that it has been published. It is an annotated subject bibliography of publications in the humanities and social sciences. The fields which are relevant to this bibliography—anthropology, economics, education, geography, government and politics, international relations, and sociology—are found in the **Social Sciences** volume, which is published in alternate years, and they include information about Central Americans in the United States.  
Z/1605/H23/LAC • Latin American Reference Collection

**HAPI: Hispanic American Periodicals Index.** Los Angeles: UCLA Latin American Center Publications, University of California, Los Angeles, 1970-. Annual.

Indexes Latin American journals and "leading journals treating Hispanics in the United States" in all major disciplines of the humanities and social sciences (1987, p.11). The relevant areas in the social sciences are: anthropology, economics, education, geography, politics, and sociology, which include articles on Central Americans in Mexico and the United States.  
Z/1605/H16/LAC • Latin American Reference Collection

## FACT SOURCES

Bean, Frank D. and Marta Tienda. **The Hispanic Population of the United States.** New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1987. 456 p.

This work focuses on the increasing impact that the people of Hispanic descent have had on the ethnic, socio-economic, and demographic features of the United States population. Groups are discussed individually and then comparatively within a given topic.  
E/184/S75/B4/1987/LAC • Mexican American Reference Collection

**Directory of Central America Organizations.** Austin, TX.: Central America Resource Center, 1984-.

This directory, updated periodically with a new edition, focuses on organizations with Central American interests which are located in the United States.  
F/1425/D573/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

**Seeking Safe Haven: A Congregational Guide to Helping Central American Refugees in the United States.** New edition. New York: Published cooperatively by Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program and Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service, 1985. 112 p.

Slightly outdated source that provides information about the efforts made by these organizations in aiding Central American refugees. The last section is invaluable since it provides information about audio-visual materials and publications. Entries provide full citation, annotation, and price. Government documents are included.  
HV/640.4/U54/S44/1985/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

## PERIODICALS

**Amigos de Casa Marianella.** Austin, TX.: Amigos de Casa Marianella, 1986-. Irregular.

Focus is on the activities of the Casa in Austin, which assists Central American refugees, though information about Central Americans throughout the United States is included. Occasionally statistics and information about recent studies are mentioned.  
HV/640.5/C46/A443/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

**In Defense of the Alien.** New York: Center for Migration Studies, 1978-.

This series includes the proceedings of an annual national legal conference on immigration and refugee policy sponsored by the Center for Migration Studies; which includes topics related to Central American refugees.  
KF/4800/A75/L44/LAC and KF/4819/A2/N375/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

**Monday.** New York: Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program, [198?]-. Weekly.

Weekly newsletter that provides the latest information on human rights, refugees and immigration issues. Information concerning Congressional actions and how and where the most up-to-date resource materials can be obtained is also included.  
HV/640.3/M6632/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

## MONOGRAPHS

Aguayo, Sergio and Patricia Weiss Fagen. **Central Americans in Mexico and the United States: Unilateral, Bilateral, and Regional Perspectives.** Washington, DC: Center for Immigration Policy and Refugee Assistance, Georgetown University, 1988. 77 p.

An excellent work that looks at Central Americans in both Mexico and the United States. This study is particularly interesting because about 88% of Central American refugees are residing in these countries. Each country is examined separately, though both similarities and differences between them are discussed.  
JV/7412/A549/1988/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

**Lives on the Line: Seeking Asylum in South Texas, A Report.** Washington, DC.: Governmental Affairs Office, American Bar Association, 1989. 25 p.

This report "describes the conditions under which asylum applicants are detained and examines the extent to which legal information and representation are necessary" (p. 1). The focus is on Central American asylum applicants on the Texas border.  
HV/640.5/C46/L58/1989/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

Ferris, Elizabeth G. **The Central American Refugees.** New York: Praeger Publishers, 1987. 159 p.

Analyzes the refugee policy subscribed to by the following countries: Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras and the United States.  
HV/640.5/C46/F47/1987/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

Friedland, Joan and Jesús Rodríguez y Rodríguez. **Seeking Safe Ground: The Legal Situation of Central American Refugees in Mexico.** San Diego: Mexico-U.S. Law Institute, University of San Diego Law School; México, DF: Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, 1987. 82 p.

A two-part study in which the Mexican refugee problem is discussed and the Central Americans are placed in context.  
HV/640.5/C46/F74/1987/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

Montes, Segundo. **El Salvador 1987: Salvadoreños refugiados en los Estados Unidos.** San Salvador: Instituto de Investigaciones, Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas, 1987. 263 p.

A study which concentrates on Salvadorans in the United States over a forty-year period.  
HV/640.5/E2/M7/1987/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

Montes, Segundo and Juan José García Vásquez. **Salvadoran Migration to the United States: An Exploratory Study.** Washington, DC: Center for Immigration Policy and Refugee Assistance, Georgetown University, 1988. 45 p.

According to the authors the purpose of this study is "to examine fundamental factors that give us a clearer picture of the migration phenomenon" (p. 1).  
JV/7423/M66/1988/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

Salvadó, Luis Raúl. **The Other Refugees: A Study of Nonrecognized Guatemalan Refugees in Chiapas, Mexico.** Washington, DC: Center for Immigration Policy and Refugee Assistance, Georgetown University, 1988. 50 p.

Based on case studies conducted in Chiapas, this work describes "the difficulties, social and economic achievements, and hopes" of the nonrecognized Guatemalan refugees (p. 2).  
HV/640.5/G9/S24/1988/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

Suárez-Orozco, Marcelo M. **Central American Refugees and U.S. High Schools: A Psychosocial Study of Motivation and Achievement.** Stanford, CA.: Stanford University Press, 1989. 182 p.

The first full-length work on the psychosocial "experience of a group Central American youths recently arrived in the United States" (p. vii), which documents and interprets key issues from the lives and experiences of recent immigrants from war-torn Central American nations. While the focus of this work is on secondary education of Central American refugees, some attention is given to work and family life.  
LC/2670.4/S82/1989/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

United States. General Accounting Office. **Central America: Conditions of Guatemalan Refugees and Displaced Persons.** Washington, DC: U. S. General Accounting Office, 1989. 40 p.

A government report which focuses on Guatemalan refugees in Mexico.  
HV/640.5/C4/U47/1989/LAC • Benson Collection stacks

United States. General Accounting Office. **Central America: Conditions of Refugees and Displaced Persons.** Washington, DC: U. S. General Accounting Office, 1989. 46 p.

A government report which focuses on Nicaraguan and Salvadoran refugees as well as displaced persons in El Salvador.  
**HV/640.4/C35/U547/1989/LAC • Benson Collection stacks**