



Chicano! by F. Arturo Rosales

Arte Público Press, 1997

ISBN: 978-1-55885-201-3 (Paperback)

*Age Range: 14+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 8+ (Recommended by Publisher)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Based on the four-part series of the same name set to air on the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in April 1996, *Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement*, by F. Arturo Rosales, is an impactful literary milestone that details the struggle of the Mexican-American community for social and legal equality and cultural identity, and its efforts to achieve full participation in the American political process.

This groundbreaking work, which features 150 historical photographs, focuses on individuals, issues and pivotal events that made up the popular movement known as *el movimiento* or *la causa* in the period 1965-1975. An often ignored aspect of the civil rights struggles in the 1960s, it was nonetheless a landmark period for the second-largest ethnic minority in the U.S.

For more than a century — since the time of the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848 — Mexican Americans have struggled to achieve equality and full rights as citizens. During the 1960s and 1970s, many Mexican Americans took stock of their lives and began a nationwide movement to claim their civil rights and assert their cultural identity. They took a name that had been used despairingly against them for years — Chicano — and fashioned it into a term of pride, affirmation and struggle.

Featuring numerous interviews with the activists, revolutionaries and authorities involved in the Chicano Civil Rights Movement, *Chicano!* examines why the Mexican-American experience is distant from other “immigrant” experiences and explores the cultural and political conflict that has marked the relationship between Mexican-American and Anglo-American institutions in the United States. Aimed at a broad general audience, *Chicano!* focuses on four themes: land, labor, educational reform and political government.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

“The book is an education and inspiration; particularly, the moving chapter on the United Farm Workers and its founder and leader, César Chávez.” —*Booklist*

“This is a valuable historical summary of political activism of Latinos of Mexican descent...The value of Rosales’ book is enhanced by the use of interview transcripts done for the TV series.” —*Library Journal*

“*Chicano!* should be required reading.” —*The Denver Post*

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AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Winner of the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights in North America Book Award

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

HuffPost: [“Librotraficante’ Caravan Set To Smuggle Books Back Into Arizona Following Ethnic Studies Ban”](#)

Houston Press: [“Dumb-Ass Arizona Law Keeps University of Houston-Published Books Out of Schools”](#)

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book’s intended use.

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