

The common events of human experience—planting trees, chopping wood, helping a friend, holding a child—she handles honestly with a sureness of vision and deft control of rhythm. The poems are filled with sharp images of sun, light, stars, trees, bones, dawn, rain. The voice we hear is conversational but never casual. At times it commands the reader: “take my hand,” “go in,” “speak, tell me everything”; at other times it eases us with surreal visions: death dancing, wearing a suede jacket, and taking liberties with her; “and the frogs, evicted for weeping,/falling out of Room 103,/their toes spread like stars.” Linda Hogan’s poems are a celebration of life that has moved beyond sorrow:

I am done with weeping
The bones of this body say, dance.
Dance the story of life.
Mothers, rise up from the table.
Watch me, I will dance all our lives.

—Victor Macaruso
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A. William Hogle. *Immigrants and Their Children in the United States: A Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations, 1885-1982.* (New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1986) 491 pp., \$70.00.

All disciplines dealing with immigrants and their children in the continental United States since 1789 are represented in this compilation of titles of doctoral dissertations. This bibliography will prove invaluable for most scholars in ethnic studies. The title, unfortunately, may be misleading. It refers to the subject matter of dissertations, and, as such, the volume attests to and illustrates in a concrete way, the historical development of research in ethnic studies. A simple reference to ethnic studies in the title would have been less ambiguous.

An informative preface precedes the bibliography, and Hogle discusses here the text’s limitations (such as exclusions of titles on the native ethnic groups—Hawaiians, Eskimos, and American Indians—on black slaves brought to the United States in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and on Spanish-speaking residents in the Southwest before annexation), and he provides statistical analyses of 3,543 dissertations completed between 1885 and 1982 and dealing with immigrant topics in the period since 1789. These analyses confirm a steady increase in interest shown by academics and other Americans in

immigrant matters. Høglund, for example, examines historically the overall increase in research, studies the distribution of the dissertations among fifty-seven disciplines, notes the increase in dissertations written by the children of immigrants, and describes the diversity of the ethnic groups (114) referred to in the dissertation titles.

In relation to Høglund's numerical analyses, the preface comments on the historical changes in philosophy which fostered certain kinds of research into topics dealing with immigration. In the first historical period (1885-1920), the output was minimal (fewer than fifty), in spite of what Høglund describes as "widespread agitation among Americans about the 'immigrant problem.'" This paucity of research is attributed to the preoccupation which served them well. At the time, recent immigrants were blamed for society's problems and it was doubted that immigrants were capable of making cultural contributions. By the most recent historical period (1951-1980), the number of immigrant-related dissertations increased eightfold over the level of the previous three decades. Moreover, the relative role of the disciplines in contributing to the scholarship on immigrants shifted. Høglund credits this upsurge of doctoral work to the growing ethnic awareness among Americans.

These recent dissertations revealed more than ever before the diversity of ethnic groups in American society. Postwar immigrants inspired studies of the latest newcomers, while more than thirty new groups became the focus of doctoral work. In the 1980s, however, interest in ethnic studies may be waning, perhaps due to scholars reasserting assimilationist views and employing the concept of social class to examine ethnicity.

Høglund also provides a description of the entry format for the alphabetized (by author) and numbered bibliographical entries, a list of abbreviations for the disciplines referred to in the annotation, and an appendix, which lists dissertations dealing with ethnic groups arriving in America before 1789. An index of the ethnic and nationality groups referred to in the bibliography completes the text.

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