

Steven R. Applewhite, ed. *Hispanic Elderly in Transition: Theory, Research, Policy and Practice.* (New York: Greenwood Press, 1988) 237 pp., \$39.95.

The main focus of this book is aging as it relates to the Hispanic elderly. The author states that "the primary goal of this book is to offer a contextual overview of Hispanic aging—ranging from complex issues to tentative answers."

Chapter 1, "Cultural, Historical and Sociological Overview," consists of two essays. The author states that part one "introduces the reader to the theoretical perspectives in gerontology, social work and demography." He further states that attention is given to defining culture, human behavior, and the social environment. Chapter 2, "Health Status and Health Service Utilization," consists of two essays concerned with the health status and services of the Hispanic elderly. Chapter 3, "Politics and Public Policy," consists of essays concerned with "interest group politics, policy and income maintenance, and the Hispanic elderly." Chapter 4, "Family, Community, and Natural Support Systems," consists of three essays focusing on the various types of family relationships, the barrio phenomenon, and the problems facing the Hispanic elderly. Chapter 5, "Research," consists of four essays that deal with research and marketing perspectives related to Hispanic aging. The final essay, "Cable Television, Telecommunications and the U.S. Hispanic Elderly," is interesting and informative because it addresses some of the advantages and disadvantages of cable television as it relates to the Hispanic population in general and to the Hispanic elderly population in particular.

Overall, this book is very informative, well organized, and easy to read. The author has attempted to arrange the chapters in such a manner that each chapter builds on each other. In his introduction, the author provides his readers with some up-to-date statistics regarding the Hispanic elderly. For example, he provides statistics to show how rapidly the elderly Hispanic population is increasing. The contributors to this book have a high level of expertise in the area of the Hispanic elderly. The many tables throughout are helpful in understanding the material presented.

In summary, this book is well organized and covers topics of interest about the Hispanic elderly. This book will be of great value to gerontologists, social workers, sociologists, psychologists, and nurses, physicians and other health care providers.

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