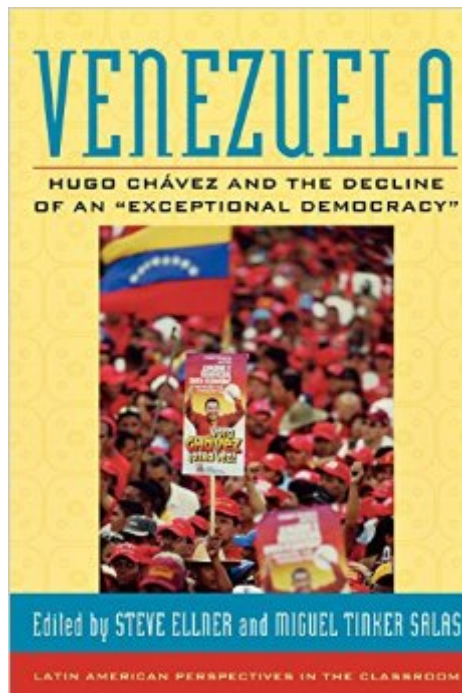


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Venezuela: Hugo Chavez And The Decline Of An "Exceptional Democracy" (Latin American Perspectives In The Classroom)



Synopsis

This authoritative book offers a comprehensive assessment of contemporary Venezuela. Analyzing the multifaceted phenomenon of Hugo ChÁvez, leading scholars move beyond his flamboyant style to focus on the concerns of popular social and political movements. The book challenges the misleading notions that for several decades glorified Venezuelan "exceptionalism" and minimized the role of important actors. After setting the historical and socio-economic contexts, the contributors explore racial issues, social and labor movements, electoral politics, economic and oil policy, and United States support for the Venezuelan opposition. Underscoring the complexity of ChÁvez and his popularity, the book highlights the need to avoid simplistic assessments of the past and present and offers a clear-eyed understanding of Venezuelan reality today. Contributions by: Christopher I. Clement, Steve Ellner, Maria Pilar Garc a Guadilla, Daniel Hellinger, Jos  Mar a Herrera Salas, Edgardo Lander, Dick Parker, Miguel Tinker Salas, and Crist bal Valencia Ram rez

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Customer Reviews

This book is well researched and takes a look at what is happening on the ground in Venezuela. It also presents ample documentation on U.S. intervention. The book takes a look at diverse developments. The introduction by Ellner and Tinker Salas shows how an overly rosy view of Venezuelan democracy in the decades before Chavez came to power passed over the pressing social and political problems that explain Chavez's election and his political successes.

This book shows over and over again that Venezuela was not the "exceptional democracy" it claimed to be. Of course this claim has been verified by ascension of Chavez, as he is most certainly less democratic than the presidents of the Punto Fijo pact.

a great book , will tell how slanted and deceitful the u.s.a. government is. when somebody like president hugo chavez tries and does something for his people, how it irritates the elite government of the u.s.a. it has helped with my understanding of the world situation.

This book is totally worthless. Total propaganda. I wish there was a non-partisan book out there about Venezuela. I'm just glad I didn't buy it (borrowed from some sucker). Don't buy this book!

This volume is filled with nauseating pro-Chavez essays that cheer his "defiance of the neo-liberal agenda." Of course, by that they should mean "destruction of democracy." Anyone who is vaguely familiar with recent developments in Venezuela should realize that Chavez will make false promises to Venezuela's impoverished to achieve his goal of being president for life.

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