1. Record Nr. UNINA9910450363503321 Autore De La Torre Miguel A **Titolo** La lucha for Cuba: religion and politics on the streets of Miami // Miguel A. De La Torre Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2003 **ISBN** 0-520-93010-X 1-282-35717-4 9786612357176 1-59734-697-7 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (203 p.) Disciplina 305.868/72910759381 Soggetti Cuban Americans - Florida - Miami - Politics and government Cuban Americans - Florida - Miami - Religion Cuban Americans - Florida - Miami - Social conditions Exiles - Florida - Miami - Political activity Exiles - Religious life - Florida - Miami Exiles - Florida - Miami - Social conditions Christianity and politics - Florida - Miami Oppression (Psychology) - Political aspects - Florida - Miami Miami (Fla.) Politics and government Miami (Fla.) Religious life and customs Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 161-169) and index. Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Abbreviations -- Preface --Nota di contenuto 1. An Ajiaco Christianity -- 2. La Lucha: The Religion of Miami -- 3. Psalm 137: Constructing Cuban Identity while in Babylon -- 4. Machismo: Creating Structures of Oppression -- 5. The End of the Elián Saga: The Continuation of La Lucha -- Notes -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto For many in Miami's Cuban exile community, hating Fidel Castro is as natural as loving one's children. This hatred, Miguel De La Torre suggests, has in fact taken on religious significance. In La Lucha for Cuba. De La Torre shows how Exilic Cubans, a once marginalized

group, have risen to power and privilege--distinguishing themselves

from other Hispanic communities in the United States--and how religion has figured in their ascension. Through the lens of religion and culture, his work also unmasks and explores intra-Hispanic structures of oppression operating among Cubans in Miami. Miami Cubans use a religious expression, la lucha, or "the struggle," to justify the power and privilege they have achieved. Within the context of la lucha, De La Torre explores the religious dichotomy created between the "children of light" (Exilic Cubans) and the "children of darkness" (Resident Cubans). Examining the recent saga of the Elián González custody battle, he shows how the cultural construction of la lucha has become a distinctly Miami-style spirituality that makes el exilio (exile) the basis for religious reflection, understanding, and practice--and that conflates political mobilization with spiritual meaning in an ongoing confrontation with evil.