Record Nr. UNINA9910781219403321 Autore Hahamovitch Cindy Titolo No man's land [[electronic resource]]: Jamaican guestworkers in America and the global history of deportable labor / / Cindy Hahamovitch Princeton,: Princeton University Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-16384-5 9786613163844 1-4008-4002-3 Edizione [Core Textbook] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (350 p.) Collana Politics and society in twentieth-century America Disciplina 331.6/27292073 Soggetti Foreign workers - United States Foreign workers **Noncitizens** Deportation Jamaica Emigration and immigration 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 and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations --Introduction -- CHAPTER ONE. Guestworkers of the World, Unite! --CHAPTER TWO. Everything But a Gun to Their Heads -- CHAPTER THREE. "Stir It Up" -- CHAPTER FOUR. John Bull Meets Jim Crow --CHAPTER FIVE. The Race to the Bottom -- CHAPTER SIX. A Riotous Success -- CHAPTER SEVEN. The Worst Job in the World -- CHAPTER EIGHT. Takin' It to the Courts -- CHAPTER NINE. "For All Those Bending Years" -- CHAPTER TEN. All the World's a Workplace -- Conclusion --Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- Backmatter Sommario/riassunto From South Africa in the nineteenth century to Hong Kong today. nations around the world, including the United States, have turned to guestworker programs to manage migration. These temporary labor recruitment systems represented a state-brokered compromise between employers who wanted foreign workers and those who feared

rising numbers of immigrants. Unlike immigrants, guestworkers couldn't settle, bring their families, or become citizens, and they had

few rights. Indeed, instead of creating a manageable form of migration, questworker programs created an especially vulnerable class of labor. Based on a vast array of sources from U.S., Jamaican, and English archives, as well as interviews, No Man's Land tells the history of the American "H2" program, the world's second oldest guestworker program. Since World War II, the H2 program has brought hundreds of thousands of mostly Jamaican men to the United States to do some of the nation's dirtiest and most dangerous farmwork for some of its biggest and most powerful agricultural corporations, companies that had the power to import and deport workers from abroad. Jamaican questworkers occupied a no man's land between nations, protected neither by their home government nor by the United States. The workers complained, went on strike, and sued their employers in class action lawsuits, but their protests had little impact because they could be repatriated and replaced in a matter of hours. No Man's Land puts Jamaican guestworkers' experiences in the context of the global history of this fast-growing and perilous form of labor migration.