

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787768703321
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Titolo	Migration and national identity in South Africa, 1860-2010 // Audie Klotz [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2013
ISBN	1-139-89215-0 1-107-46113-8 1-107-45913-3 1-107-46493-5 1-107-47204-0 1-107-46842-6 1-139-20874-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiii, 282 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	304.868
Soggetti	Immigrants - Violence against - South Africa Xenophobia - South Africa Migration, Internal - Africa South Africa Emigration and immigration Social aspects South Africa Ethnic relations
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Historiographies of migration -- Asians and the ambiguity of imperial subjecthood -- Apartheid and the dilemma of African citizenship -- Refugees and the post-apartheid paradox of rights -- The end of exceptionalism.
Sommario/riassunto	An extraordinary outbreak of xenophobic violence in May 2008 shocked South Africa, but hostility toward newcomers has a long history. Democratization has channeled such discontent into a non-racial nationalism that specifically targets foreign Africans as a threat to prosperity. Finding suitable governmental and societal responses requires a better understanding of the complex legacies of segregation that underpin current immigration policies and practices. Unfortunately, conventional wisdoms of path dependency promote

excessive fatalism and ignore how much South Africa is a typical settler state. A century ago, its policy makers shared innovative ideas with Australia and Canada, and these peers, which now openly wrestle with their own racist past, merit renewed attention. As unpalatable as the comparison might be to contemporary advocates of multiculturalism, rethinking restrictions in South Africa can also offer lessons for reconciling competing claims of indigeneity through multiple levels of representation and rights.
