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-- NETWORKS -- The First Americans -- Serfdom in America -- Economic Slavery\* -- THE MIDCENTURY WATERSHED -- Permanent Non-Permanent Residents -- Swat the Hyphen -- Postscript: The Puerto Ricans, Citizens by Statute -- NOTES -- 3 Refugees and Other Aliens -- UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES -- THE ACTION STORY -- CHAOS IN INDOCHINA -- Refugee Act of 1980 -- 129,000 Entrants -- The Central American Exodus -- The Lautenberg Amendment -- Same Thing, Only Different -- Good Questions, No Answers -- NOTES -- PART TWO WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR AMERICA? -- 4 How Is Society Possible? -- RELEVANT ASSUMPTIONS<sup>2</sup> -- HOW IS SOCIETY POSSIBLE?<sup>9</sup> -- Cultural Clout -- Senses of Self<sup>29</sup> -- NOTES -- 5 Changing Colors -- QUESTIONING THE UNQUESTIONABLE -- THE CONCEPT OF RACE -- WE NEED TO MAKE WHITE SEEM STRANGE<sup>30</sup> -- INVITATION TO A BANQUET -- AFRICAN AMERICANS: A UNIQUE ETHNICITY -- NOTES -- 6 Ethnic Extremes -- TWENTY-TWO CARAT GOLD -- MARK MCGWIRE AND ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE -- PREACHERS PRESENT ARMS<sup>19</sup> -- ETHNIC OPTIONS<sup>32</sup> -- MAKING IT IN AMERICA<sup>73</sup>. ROOM TO MANEUVER -- NOTES -- 7 Social Class and Social flict -- RURAL AMERICA -- TRUST AND THE WEALTH OF A NATION -- NATURE AND LOGIC OF CAPITALISM<sup>18</sup> -- PUNCTUATED EQUILIBRIUM -- ETHNIC NICHES, AFRICAN AMERICANS, AND CHICANOS -- THE COLORS OF CHANGE -- NOTES -- PART THREE WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? -- 8 Compare and Contrast: Great Britain, Israel, India, and the United States -- ANCESTRAL ROOTS -- ROYAL HYPOCRITES -- RECONSIDERED ROOTS -- ISRAEL AND THE LAW OF RETURN -- A New Nation -- OPERATION MOSES -- SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND RUSSIANS -- THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL -- DEBATES OF A DEVELOPED NATION -- NOTES -- 9 The Twenty-first Century -- LEZA -- OUR INHERITANCE -- POLICY ISSUES -- Role of the Federal Government -- Affirmative Action -- Undocumented Migrants -- CREATIVE CROSSROADS OF THE WORLD -- NOTES -- Bibliography -- Index -- About the Author.

## Sommario/riassunto

The melting pot is a myth, according to Fernandez, who shows that the United States is and always has been a banquet of cultures. As he argues, the best way to deal with the more than 20 million new immigrants since 1965 is to accept, recognize, and eagerly explore the differences among the American people. Fernandez seeks to forge a positive national consensus based on two building blocks. First, the nation's many ethnic groups can be a powerful source of unprecedented economic, artistic, and scientific creativity. Secondly, the nation's many ethnic groups offer a way to erase the black/white dichotomy which, masks the shared injustices of millions of European, Asian, African, Native, and Latino Americans. This is a provocative analysis of how we arrived at our current ethnic and racial dilemmas and what can be done to move beyond them. Scholars and students of American immigration and social policy as well as concerned citizens will find the book equally rewarding.