

Ed. Mary Bosworth, et al. *Race, Criminal Justice, and Migration Control: Enforcing the Boundaries of Belonging*. Oxford U. Press, 2018. 253 pp. Hardcover: \$51.93. ISBN 978-0-19-881488-7

This book, co-edited by Mary Bosworth, Alpa Parmar, and Yolanda Vazquez, focuses on the trajectory of racially charged migration policies on the implementation and criminalization of migrants. Mary Bosworth is a Criminology Professor at Monash University, Australia and St. Cross College at the University of Oxford. Alpa Parmar is a Lecturer of Criminology at the University of Oxford. Yolanda Vazquez is an Associate Professor at University of Cincinnati College of Law. The essays cover the intersectionality of race in four sections: 1) Race, Borders, and Social Control; 2) Race, Policing, and Security; 3) Race, Courts, and the Law; and 4) Race, Detention, and Deportation. As an introduction to intersectionality between race, and gender and class, this anthology gives a somewhat comprehensive compilation of migration issues stemming in countries that exercise firm control over migration of incoming migrants and exiting migrants. Each chapter focuses on an issue ongoing with a specific population of people, and how the mechanisms in place for migration function criminally and divisively.

The first section of the book explores the ways in which social control impact groups coming and even leaving their home countries. In “Race, Gender, and Surveillance of Migrant Domestic Workers in Asia”, written by Maggy Lee, Mark Johnson, and Michael McCahill, the issue of the ‘maid trade,’ and the problematic procedures foregoing and following migration for these women in Hong Kong and Saudi Arabia reveals a class system that excludes these women from their culture and each other (13-28). The second chapter, Portrait of a Human Smuggler: Race, Class and Gender among Facilitators of Irregular Migrations on the US-Mexico Border by Gabriella E. Sanchez, is a study of smuggling as criminality through a critique of ‘trauma narratives’ which, according to the author, has done little to help those without seemingly harrowing migrant stories as unworthy of entry (29-42). This first section ends with Lirio Gutierrez Rivera’s “Gender, Race, and the Cycle of Violence of Female Asylum Seekers from Honduras”, an evaluation of how colonial ideas on gender and oppressions based on race in the circumstances of female Honduran asylum seekers has made them seem “lesser” after and even prior to their choice to migrate. (43-60).

The second section, which focuses on how the security of borders can be blinded by racial profiling stemming from border policy, begins with Ben Bowling and Sophie Westera’s “Racism, Immigration, and Policing”, which discusses how border control officials have been taught to look for persons who look like they do not belong, perpetuating stereotyping against these individuals once they have successfully migrate in state street policing (61-77). Sanja Milivojevic’s “Race, Gender, and Border Control in the Western Balkans” argues for greater research opportunities involving the intersectionality of race and culture in the Global South to avoid research tainted in Eurocentric viewpoints (78-92). The book then transitions to a more Eurocentric Global South in Louise Boon-Kuo’s essay “Visible Policing Subjects and Low Visibility Policing: Migration and Race in Australia”, to illustrate racial hierarchies in criminal policing in Australia and how research needs to be undertaken on how administrative difficulties can also create barriers because of racial profiling (93-107). Part Two ends with an analysis of

police officers and how their work as “border agents” forces them to racially profile individuals legally residing in the UK in Alpa Parmar’s “Policing Belonging: Race and Nation in the UK” (108-126).

Part Three dives into the courts and the law surrounding race and gender with “Strangers in our Midst: The Construction of Difference through Cultural Appeals in Criminal Justice Litigation” by Ana Aliverti, which discusses the major impact of how law and a court system institutionally coded for white men in Colonial Times is not appropriate to apply to the daily realities of women and racial minorities in the UK (127-141). Then, Yolanda Vazquez analyzes labels used to describe migrants and how this can create a particularized view of groups of racial minorities in “Enforcing the Politics of Race and Identity in Migration and Crime Control Policies” (142-158). Aggressive policies, such as the ones used by the Trump administration to separate and exclude certain groups from migrating, affecting currently settled migrants, are next explored in Jennifer M. Chacon and Susan Bibler Coutin’s article, “Racialization through Enforcement” (159-175). The section finishes with an essay on how asylum seekers in England, post-Brexit, are detained at rates much higher in immigration detention centers and how these narrative often go ignored in “Refugee Law in Crisis: Decolonizing the Architecture of Violence” by Eddie Bruce-Jones (176-196).

The final section of the book focuses on race issues in the detention and deportation of migrants, introduced by Hindpal Singh Bhui’s article, “Understanding Muslim Prisoners through a Global Lens,” which takes a close look at how homogenous views of Muslim migrants bar some from migration or asylum seeking in England and the US (197-213). In Mary Bosworth’s essay “‘Working in this Place Turns You Racist’: Staff, Race, and Power in Detention” details the struggles with systemic racism in migration and how the policies currently in place mold the way officers and administrators target individuals, even without meaning to (214-228). The editors then tailor their focus to the policy issues creating a system of racial profiling that may be unconscious to the ones profiling migrants in Tanya Golash-Boza’s “Raced and Gendered Logics of Immigration Law Enforcement in the United States” (229-244). The substantive part of the book end with an Epilogue by Emma Kaufman entitled “Epilogue: When Citizenship Means Race” and encompasses the after effects of deportation, not only in terms of racial profiling, but also the pressures that are placed on mothers and families in separations (245-250).

While the book may be accessible to new participants in this field, there are almost as many negative attributes as there are positive. Syntactically, the book is consistent, organized, and offers a comprehensive overview of many issues, some not popularized by the mainstream media, yet it suffers from errors the editors could have avoided that result in choppy transitions and content that could have been more inclusive. Overall, the book is one that may help introduce readers unfamiliar with the plight of migrants moving across borders, but it is not quite as valuable from a holistic, academic perspective.

In terms of the organization, the book is organized in such a way that one receives a robust crash course on a few select topics. Each chapter dives into a new topic with little relation to the others except thematically. The larger parts are organized in such a way that a reader can address a problem, see how it applies, and where our current challenges lie overcoming racial

and intersectional disparity in migration. Starting with the border itself is a unique way of coming full-circle for these authors--they show that the problem is not just migrants coming, but also their ability to leave is impeded by differing cultural factors as well.

However, while the book is appropriately divided into organized parts, a summation of the point the editors are trying to illustrate preceding each part would have acted as a better guide to the conclusion the editors were trying to establish without forcing readers to re-analyze each article. It is jarring moving from essay to essay without a transition to account for the order of the essays. While the theme of each part is apparent, jumping from different countries and policy issues and back again is harder to follow as a reader while trying to simultaneously follow the overarching main point.

One of the better organizational moves the editors employ, however, is the addition of each article citation used at the end of each chapter. This makes bibliography scanning for relevant materials much easier and more accessible than a comprehensive set of citations listed at the end of the book. The footnotes included, too, are incredibly helpful explaining information for readers that may not be familiar specific legislation or regulatory concerns discussed. Additionally, the book leans heavily on the narratives established in the essays. This was important for readers unfamiliar with the issues faced by migrants in different situations, but dedicating only one chapter to each problem meant that, inevitably, the reader is left with some information, but not nearly enough to be adept in any of the issues presented. Having a few longer essays dictate each sections did not go to the real substantive reasons behind the policies or issues that stem from said policies in migration, nor were many solutions offered that could help remedy the issues, which the book itself points out at the beginning is so important (p. 8). For this reason, this work seems better as introductory material than it is as an informative material for experts in the field.

Despite any flaws with a choppy transition between chapters, the syntax of the book is coherent and structured as if written by the same person. If the content could smoothly glide into one another more, there would not be a need to adjust oneself for each essay. The writing, also, was neither lacking substance, nor overly wordy--it marked a healthy balance between academic and accessibility to novice academics. The foreword, too, gives a much needed overview of the project, although the book's delivery falls somewhat short in its promises. However, the epilogue, written by a separate author, does not seem to encompass the goals of the book as well as the foreword does. If anything, the epilogue is more of an essay added in at the end in an attempt to wrap up the text than an actual conclusion tying the articles together. It felt almost as jarring as the transitions between the other articles both in structure and in content.

One of the most positive compliments this book garners is its focus on migrant race and intersectionality. While many academic sources focus a great deal on race or gender or class, this book makes sure to tie them all together as best it can. It is especially promising to start the book off with an issue predominately gender based in the first chapter as gender and race for many women are not inseparable experiences (p. 17-25). That said, the book could have contributed more to the scholarship of gendered experiences than it did; it tied the end of the book together

with gendered issues, but that seemed less sincere in its goal to be inclusive of gender than it would have been to have it more readily spread among the contributing essays.

The book is also very aware and sympathetic to harmful rhetoric. It necessitates its analysis on giving credence to migrants and those who help migrants cross borders, which shows a strong leaning in the direction of migration reform. While many may be aware of issues involving Muslim migrants in Europe and Mexican migrants in the United States, this book in addition to the former pair, also discusses issues not prevalently discussed on media channels in the U.S. It emphasizes that the problem is not an “us” versus “them” issue, but an issue every country faces and deals with differently, impliedly letting readers know that there are other--and better--ways to deal with migration policies. And where this is a great effort by the editors to be inclusive of legal issues and it is important to discuss the more popularized migration policies found in the US and England, there could have been more emphasis on countries that do not have as much of a Eurocentric viewpoint, which tends to lend itself to the “white versus racial minority” dichotomy; this is a systemic problem everywhere racism and culture clash.

Author diversity is prevalent within this compilation as well, which does give credence to the idea that maybe some of this work is not entirely Eurocentric. There are also detailed discussions of research the field needs, but has not been undertaken, especially with regard to the Global South’s viewpoint being excluded. The book admits to readers that research in this field is problematic by not being as inclusive as it should be, which is an issue readers unfamiliar with the research benefit in knowing (p. 237-245). The data used was primarily composed narratively, which made each essay easy to follow. While more hard evidence would help with persuading skeptical readers, there is an disgruntled, implied acceptance that this is a difficult system to keep hard, reliable data on considering the parties involved.

To conclude, the editors of this book were remarkably consistent using a shared voice, an organized system flawed only in a few ways, and a diverse groups of authors contributing to the conversation they manufactured. While it would have been better if the editors presented this as a collection of essays instead of a cohesive review of race and intersectionality, it is written in such a way that is accessible to anyone wanting to learn about the policy issues migrants face before and after they migrate. This book is best left to a sophomoric audience seeking introductory information, but does offer insight on future research that needs to be undertaken, adding some value to scholars looking for their next research project.