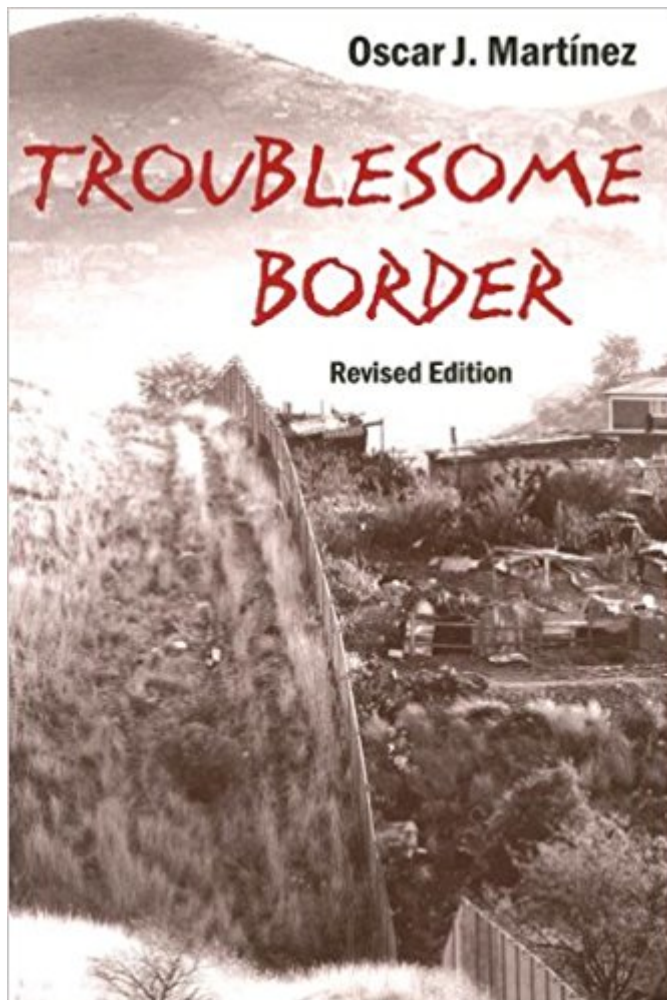


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# Troublesome Border, Revised Edition



## Synopsis

U.S. residents are largely unaware that Mexicans also view their northern border with concern, and at times even alarm. Border communities, such as Ciudad Juárez and Tijuana, have long been subjected to heavy criticism from Mexico City and other interior areas for their close ties to the United States, a country viewed with apprehension and suspicion by the Mexican citizenry. • Oscar Martínez's words may come as a surprise to those who associate the U.S. southern border with banditry, racial strife, illegal migration, drug smuggling, and official corruption—all attributed to Mexico. In *Troublesome Border*, now revised to reflect the dramatic changes over the last two decades, a distinguished scholar and long-time resident of the border area addresses these and other problems that have caused increasing concern to federal governments on both sides of the border. This second edition of *Troublesome Border* has been updated and revised to cover dramatic developments since the book's first publication in 1988 that have once again transformed the region in fundamental ways. Martínez includes new information on migration and drugs, including the extraordinary rise of violence traced largely to the rampant illegal drug trade; the devastating effects of U.S. Border Patrol "blockades" that have resulted in thousands of deaths; and the impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This welcome book by an expert on the U.S.-Mexican border focuses on conflict between the two countries. Martínez's account differs from previous works that have used historical and political-geographical methodologies in that he uses a topical approach. His readable, concise

overview includes the history of the frontier, the role of Indians and Chicanos on the border, the impact of provincial versus Mexico City views, and the consequences of ecological issues. Martinez discusses interesting parallels with other borders, and suggests establishment of a binational commission patterned after one used by France, Germany, and Switzerland to resolve border issues. Highly recommended for informed readers and specialists. Roderic A. Camp, Central Coll., Pella, Ia. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"The best single-volume introduction to the subject for fellow scholars, and it should be a palatable introduction to the border for captive students, who will appreciate its breadth, clarity, organization, and brevity." #151;Hispanic American Historical Review

"The book provides a balanced treatment of the evolution of a cultural transition zone between distinct national entities." #151;Journal of Multilingual & Multicultural Development

"Many scholarly studies of the American-Mexican border region emphasize conflict. This book does, too, but its approach is distinctive and intellectually challenging. . . . Deserves high marks for even-handedness. . . . This book is excellent." #151;International Migration Review

"Excellent contributions to the history of border culture and dependency." #151;The Journal of Arizona History

"This welcome book by an expert on the U.S.-Mexican border focuses on conflict between the two countries. MartÃ- nez's account differs from previous works that have used his-torical and political-geographical method-ologies in that he uses a topical approach. His readable, concise overview includes the history of the frontier, the role of Indians and Chicanos on the border, the impact of pro-vincial versus Mexico City views, and the consequences of ecological issues. . . . Highly recommended for informed readers and specialists." #151;Library Journal --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

used it for class. served its purpose. would recommend

bought it for a class, didnt really read it, just used it for a midterm I had, and it was somewhat interesting, but was not very entertaining.

A PROFEX Monograph

This book uses conflict as a unifying theme to examine historical and contemporary relationships in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. Well into the twentieth century, Mexico and the United States faced many troublesome issues at the border that often erupted into armed confrontation. Settling the final boundary between the two countries in itself caused long-term

contentiousness, leaving a legacy of bitterness on both sides, but particularly in Mexico.

Unauthorized armed incursions from the United States into Mexico for the purpose of fomenting revolution and detaching land from the latter country likewise created serious friction. The border partitioned a distinguishable geographic and cultural region inhabited by Indians and Mexicans, creating untold predicaments for both groups. Indian raids across the border became a source of international strife until the 1880s. For Mexicans who remained south of the boundary as well as for those who became Mexican Americans by virtue of their incorporation into the United States, the border shaped frontier life-styles that differed markedly from those of the mainstream societies in each nation. After discussing each of these themes, the author provides an overview of current-day border issues. The book concludes with general comments that place the U.S.-Mexico border experience in perspective.--- from editor's introductory notes

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