



June 1996

Race and Ethnicity in America: Meeting the Challenge in the 21st Century. Gail E. Thomas (Ed.).

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Recommended Citation

(1996) "*Race and Ethnicity in America: Meeting the Challenge in the 21st Century.* Gail E. Thomas (Ed.)," *The Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*: Vol. 23 : Iss. 2 , Article 22.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/jssw/vol23/iss2/22>

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Gail E. Thomas (Ed), *Race and Ethnicity in America: Meeting the Challenge in the 21st Century*. Washington, DC: Taylor and Francis, 1995. \$29.95 papercover.

This edited book of original articles is an attempt to examine issues of race and ethnicity in the United States with reference to three major issues: education, health and employment. It is not, as its title might suggest, a general work on the subject of race relations but rather an attempt to focus on specific social issues that have policy relevance. As such it contains useful material on the ethnic dimensions of educational, health and employment problems. An additional strength is its concern with various ethnic groups. The articles in the collection deal with African, Asian, Hispanic and Native American communities and cover different facets of their lives with specific reference to educational, health and employment questions.

The articles in the book deal with a number of topics which will be of interest to different readers. There are in the educational section, articles on subjects as diverse as the paucity of black teachers, bilingual education, tribally controlled schools and effects of school desegregation. In the health section, the articles cover topics as diverse as racial differences in mortality, race and infant mortality, AIDS and race and the contribution of public health programs to the improvement of minority health. In the employment section, the authors discuss employment and ex-offenders, the white-black employment gap and race and gender factors in rates of return to educational investments. Much of the material is interesting and will be of value to social scientists concerned with race and ethnic issues in American society today.