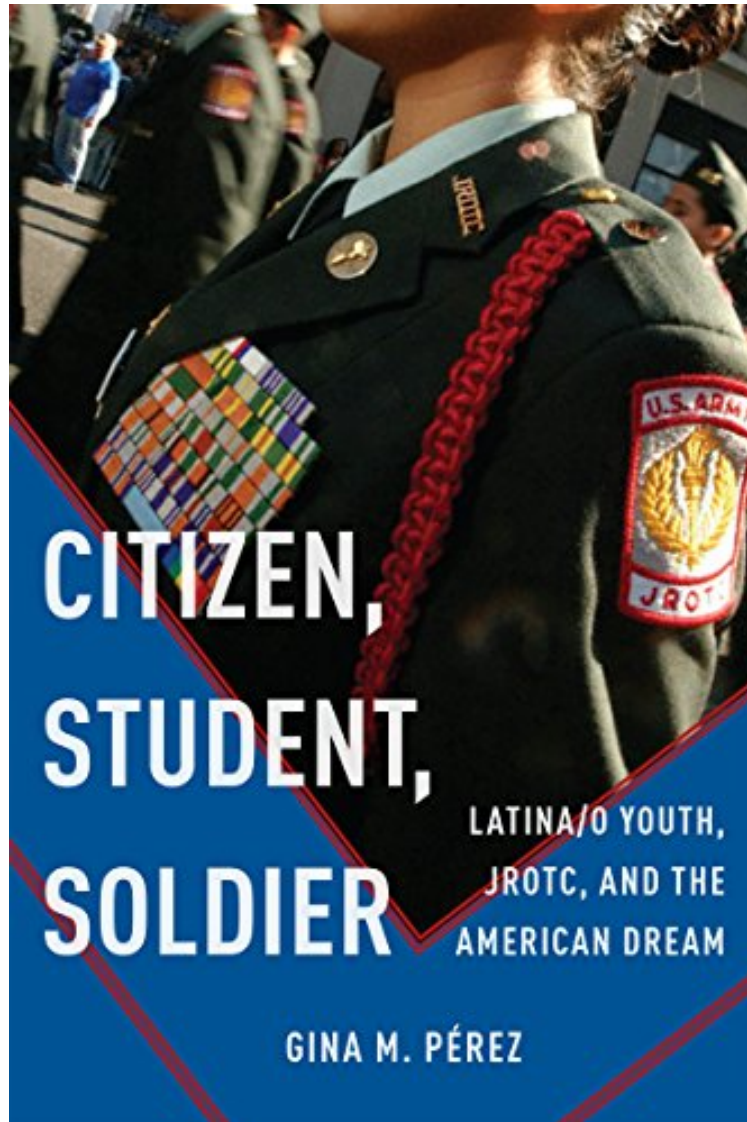


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## **Citizen, Student, Soldier: Latina/o Youth, JROTC, and the American Dream (Social Transformations in American Anthropology)**

*Gina M. Prez*

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#1463388 in Books Gina M P rez 2015-11-27 2015-11-27Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .67 x 6.00l, .0 #File Name: 147980780X272 pagesCitizen Student Soldier Latina o Youth JROTC and the American Dream Social Transformations in American Anthropology | File size: 58.Mb

**Gina M. Prez : Citizen, Student, Soldier: Latina/o Youth, JROTC, and the American Dream (Social Transformations in American Anthropology)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be

worth my time, and all praised Citizen, Student, Soldier: Latina/o Youth, JROTC, and the American Dream (Social Transformations in American Anthropology):

Since the 1990s, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs have experienced unprecedented expansion in American public schools. The program and its proliferation in poor, urban schools districts with large numbers of Latina/o and African American students is not without controversy. Public support is often based on the belief that the program provides much-needed discipline for "at risk" youth. Meanwhile, critics of JROTC argue that the program is a recruiting tool for the U.S. military and is yet another example of an increasingly punitive climate that disproportionately affect youth of color in American public schools.

Citizen, Student, Soldier is an important book for scholars and students of U.S. anthropology. It could form the backbone for a course on an increasingly militarized homeland that stubbornly remains invisible. By making America visible, Perez also makes it available for critique. -American Anthropologist

"In this important and much anticipated work anthropologist extraordinaire Gina Prez provides a powerful portrait of the making of American citizenship today. By examining Latino/a youth and their aspirations and attitudes towards the JROTC in relation to the rapid expansion of the military and larger neoliberal policies of retrenchment, Perez challenges narrow understandings of citizenship through a rich portrayal that truly honors their voices and dreams." -Arlene Davila, New York University

"Presents a provocative analysis of how young Latinas and Latinos navigate the JROTC program, where significant portions of the participants are students of color and young women, in the context of neoliberalism and the new American militarism. Prez argues persuasively that Latina/o youths aspirations for recognition as full citizens within limited structural conditions lead them toward the personal, social, and economic benefits offered by the military. Her work provides a fresh perspective on Latino youth, the military as an avenue for upward mobility, and citizenship in the post 9/11 era." -Patricia Zavella, University of California, Santa Cruz

Readers will find detailed descriptions of marginalized youths attempts to undertake positive forms of development that might lead to social inclusion. Perez puts these descriptions in context in terms of the current debates about citizenship in the US, including civic obligation, social opportunity, and US militarism in the land of opportunity. -CHOICE

Perez's new book is a very readable, even conversational, account of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps or JROTC in a high school in Ohio. Citizen, Student, Soldier is highly accessible, depending more heavily on descriptions and interviews than on theoretical argument. While Perez does engage some of the theoretical questions of the day, the book is not especially theory-driven. That is mostly a positive for making the book readable and relevant. -Anthropology Database

About the Author: Gina M. Prez is Professor in the Comparative American Studies program at Oberlin College. She is the author of *The Near Northwest Side Story: Migration, Displacement, and Puerto Rican Families*.