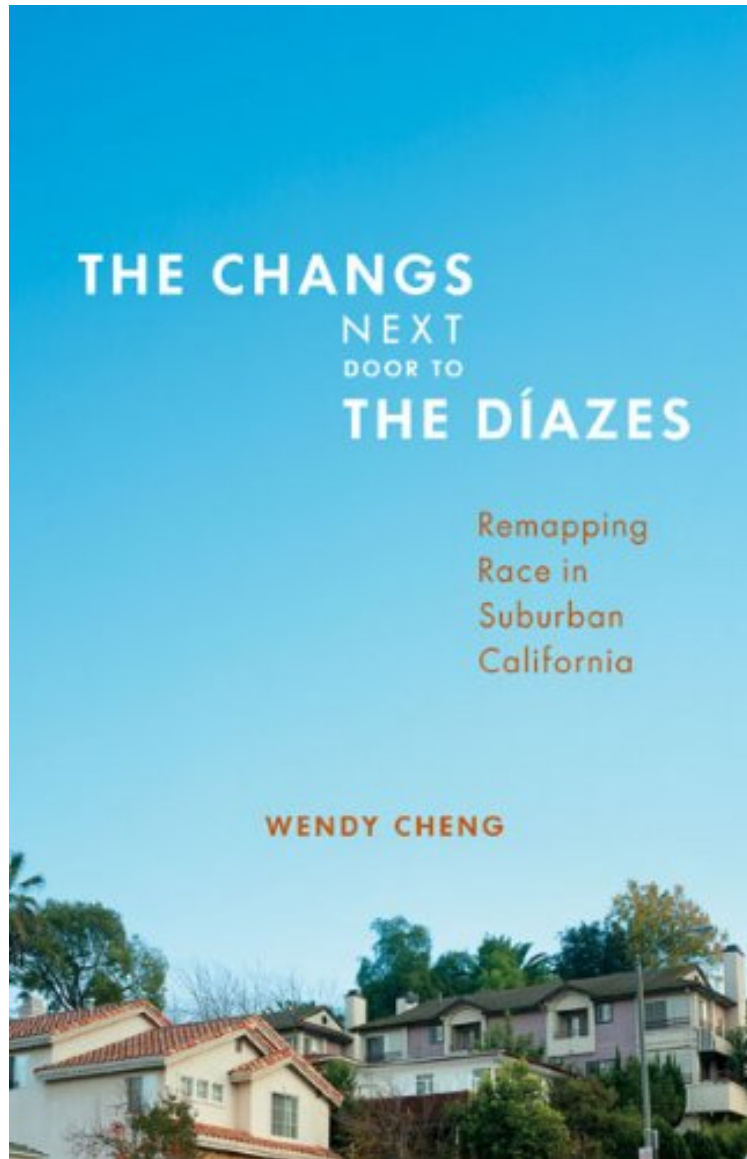


(Get free) The Changs Next Door to the Dazes: Remapping Race in Suburban California

The Changs Next Door to the Dazes: Remapping Race in Suburban California

Wendy Cheng

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Wendy Cheng : **The Changs Next Door to the Dazes: Remapping Race in Suburban California** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Changs Next Door to the Dazes: Remapping Race in Suburban California:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great book for understanding contemporary Los AngelesBy

JDLWendy Cheng provides an excellent example of how Asians and Latinos are crafting Los Angeles into the harbinger of American identity in the 21st century. The book is based on personal stories that allow everyday people to share how they've managed to create life-affirming and aspirational identities out of the detritus of things like housing segregation and racial discrimination in a local boy scout troop. Read this book! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. My students really enjoyed reading this book By Regina Davis-Sowers My students really enjoyed reading this book. It helped bring the concepts of our class on race, class, and gender as social constructions. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. (LA) Latinos and Asian By Gabriela Salgado Finally! A book that puts the spot light on the SGV and the interactions between the Latino and Asian communities.

U.S. suburbs are typically imagined to be predominantly white communities, but this is increasingly untrue in many parts of the country. Examining a multiracial suburb that is decidedly nonwhite, Wendy Cheng unpacks questions of how identity especially racial identity is shaped by place. She offers an in-depth portrait, enriched by nearly seventy interviews, of the San Gabriel Valley, not far from downtown Los Angeles, where approximately 60 percent of residents are Asian American and more than 30 percent are Latino. At first glance, the cities of the San Gabriel Valley look like stereotypical suburbs, but almost no one who lives there is white. *The Changes Next Door to the Dazes* reveals how a distinct culture is being fashioned in, and simultaneously reshaping, an environment of strip malls, multifamily housing, and faux Mediterranean tract homes. Informed by her interviews as well as extensive analysis of three episodic case studies, Cheng argues that people's daily experiences in neighborhoods, schools, civic organizations, and public space deeply influence their racial consciousness. In the San Gabriel Valley, racial ideologies are being reformulated by these encounters. Cheng views everyday landscapes as crucial terrains through which racial hierarchies are learned, instantiated, and transformed. She terms the process regional racial formation, through which locally accepted racial orders and hierarchies complicate and often challenge prevailing notions of race. There is a place-specific state of mind here, Cheng finds. Understanding the processes of racial formation in the San Gabriel Valley in the contemporary moment is important in itself but also has larger value as a model for considering the spatial dimensions of racial formation and the significant demographic shifts taking place across the national landscape.

"What sets *The Changes Next Door to the Dazes* apart is Wendy Cheng's attention to the ways in which the demographic shifts over the last 40 years have made their way into the everyday lives of West San Gabriel Valley residents. Cheng has made a compelling case for the placeness of this part of the San Gabriel Valley." James Kyung-Jin Lee, University of California, Irvine