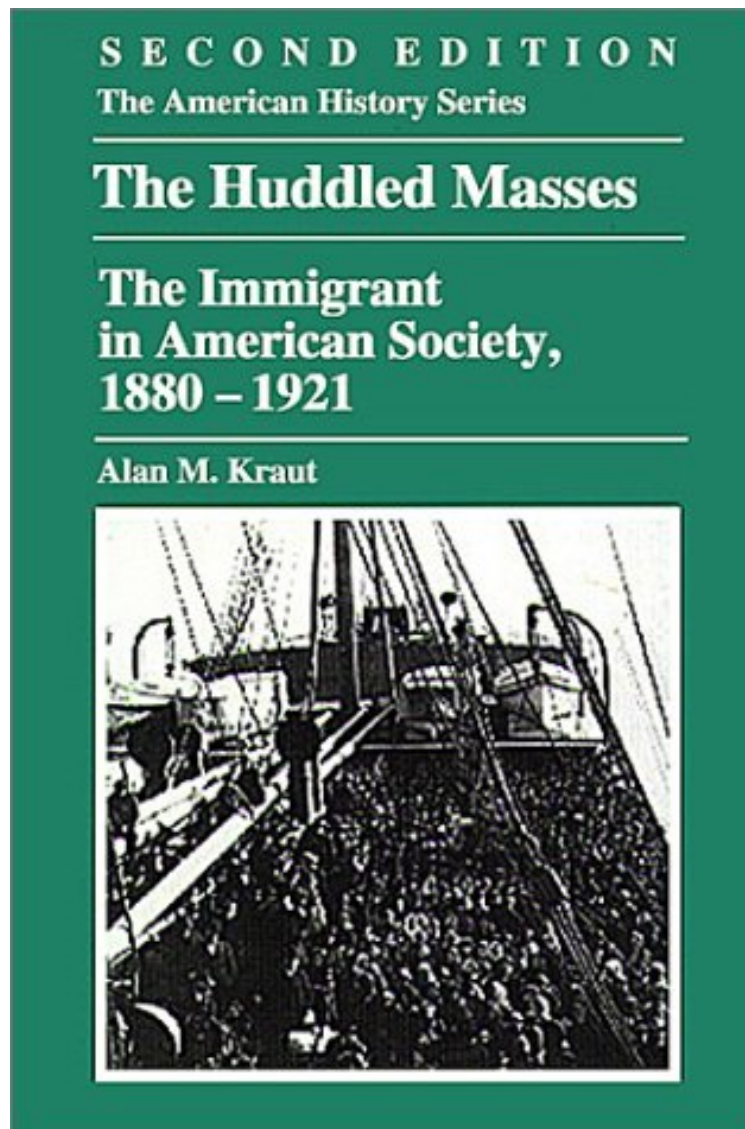


[Download ebook] The Huddled Masses: The Immigrant in American Society, 1880-1921 (The American History Series)

The Huddled Masses: The Immigrant in American Society, 1880-1921 (The American History Series)

Alan M. Kraut

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#543300 in Books Wiley-Blackwell 2001-01-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .61 x 5.411, .76
#File Name: 0882959344267 pages | File size: 78.Mb

Alan M. Kraut : The Huddled Masses: The Immigrant in American Society, 1880-1921 (The American History Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Huddled Masses: The Immigrant in American Society, 1880-1921 (The American History Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not a great book but a good book.By KarynReading this book has

helped me understand the mindset of immigrants the people who were already in the US. Looks as though the mindset of US citizens has not changed over the years. We're still suspicious not very kind to immigrants. I do wish this had more about the German immigrants since that is my heritage but it does a good job of looking at the hardships of immigration. I would recommend this book. Can't say I love it but I like it a lot. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great book - excellent condition - perfect By Ann-marie Tromp Interesting and easy reading. Perfect for college students or anyone who wants to find out history of immigration. 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Standard account of immigration By James Seymour Kraut explores the dual image of immigrants in American society. One view depicts immigrants as heroes pursuing a better life. The second idea portrays immigrants as victims of circumstances beyond their control. Kraut contends that these approaches present a simplistic view, diminish the humanity of immigrants, and deny the immigrants' control over their lives. Four factors shaped people's decision to emigrate and conditioned their reaction to the New World: the historical experiences of the immigrant's ethnic group; the cultural values of that group; the immigrant's own expectations and goals; and the individual immigrant's abilities and aptitudes. These factors provide a clearer understanding of the immigrants than the earlier beliefs. Kraut examines the global patterns of migration at the end of the nineteenth century. Technological innovations and economic dislocations encouraged people from Europe and Asia to travel to Australia, North America, and South America in search of work. A portion of these migrants intended to labor in these regions and then return to their native lands with their earnings. Another group expected to settle permanently. Both types experienced common events in their journeys. After steered passage to the US, they faced inspection and the possibility of exclusion as undesirable. After admission into the country, they largely rejected agriculture for factories and mines in the industrial Northeast and Mid-West. They tolerated poor working and living conditions because of higher wages, and because they viewed these jobs as temporary employment. Within cities, immigrants settled in ethnic enclaves and centered their lives around their houses of worship. They supported political machines, which courted their vote. Their insularity was a reaction to the assimilation of social reformers, who strove to indoctrinate the immigrants through schools, settlement houses, and reforms. The large numbers and different ethnicities of the new immigrants engendered suspicion from many native born whites. Their arrival strained old institutions and precipitated changes in the existing order. Many native whites blamed the newcomers for the problems of industrialization and urbanization and lobbied to restrict immigration using quotas. Strengthened by the 100% Americanism of World War I, Congress passed laws which restricted immigration and stemmed the flood of arrivals into the United States, which ended the immigration period.

In the two decades since the first edition of this tremendously successful book appeared, a vast scholarship undertaken by historians, sociologists, economists, and cultural anthropologists has altered the contours of American immigration history, challenging scholars to rethink long-held perspectives. Insights derived from these diverse sources enrich the second edition of this popular text and have prompted important changes in emphasis and interpretation. Thoughtfully written to help student readers appreciate the varied pre- and post-migration experiences of the many groups and individuals who came to, and came to shape, the United States during this busy period, *The Huddled Masses* is essential reading for all enrolled in the United States history survey as well as specialized courses in Immigration and Ethnic Studies.

About the Author Alan M. Kraut is Professor of History at American University in Washington, D.C., where he has taught since 1974. In addition to teaching at American University, in 1995, he was Visiting Professor in the History of Science at Harvard University. He is a specialist in U.S. immigration and ethnic history, the history of medicine in the United States, and nineteenth century U.S. social history. Dr. Kraut is the author of four books and over a hundred articles and book reviews. His books besides *The Huddled Masses: The Immigrant in American Society, 1880-1921*, second Edition (2001), include an edited volume, *Crusaders and Compromisers: Essays on the Relationship of the Antislavery Struggle to the Antebellum Party System* (1983), *American Refugee Policy and European Jewry, 1933-1945* (co-authored), and *Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes, and the Immigrant Menace* (1994). He is also the editor of the *Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the National Archives of the United States* published in microfilm by University Publication of America (1991-present). *Silent Travelers* won several national awards, including the Theodore Saloutos Award from the Immigration and Ethnic history Society and the Phi Alpha Theta Award for the Best Book in History by an established author. Dr. Kraut's scholarship has been supported by grants and fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation, The National Endowment for the Humanities, the Smithsonian Institution, the American Philosophical Society, and the National Institutes of Health. In April 2000, he became the President of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, the largest organization of immigration scholars in the country. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the Academic Council of the American Jewish Historical Society and the Executive Board of the Society for the History of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era. He is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of American Ethnic History* and has previously served as a member of the editorial board of *The Journal of Immigrant Health*. An active public historian on immigration and public health matters, Dr. Kraut has served as a member of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island History Committee, a consultant to the National

park Service, and an adviser to the Lower East Side Tenement Museum (NYC), the Stanford L. Ziff Jewish Museum of Florida, and the Strawberry-Banke Museum (Portsmouth, New Hampshire). He has been a historical consultant to documentaries broadcast on the Public Broadcasting Station and the History Channel./ These include Journey to America (1989), America and the Holocaust: Deceit and Indifference Fear: The Story of Polio (1998) and Maters of Life and Death and In Search of Ourselves, two episodes in the PBS Series, A Science Odyssey (1998). As a member of the Committee on the Health and Adjustment of Immigrant Children and Families of the National Research Council, Dr. Kraut Participated in a two-year study, From Generation to Generation: The Health and Well-Being of Children in Immigrant Families (1998). Dr. Kraut was awarded the University Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1984. For the academic year 1999/2000 he was named American Universitys Scholar/Teacher of the Year, the Institutions highest academic honor.