

Acknowledgments

There are few places in the United States like California, where immigration has had a sustained and profound effect on society and politics. In the past decade, the state has not only witnessed various ballot propositions relating to immigrants but has also seen the rise of various elected officials who are first-generation immigrants, with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger among them. The Public Policy Institute of California has been a wonderful place to work on issues of immigration, race, and ethnicity. Working across the street from the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services provides me with a daily reminder of the demographic and political transformations currently under way in the United States. I hope that this book sheds some light on the significant and growing role of immigrants and their descendants in the American electorate.

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