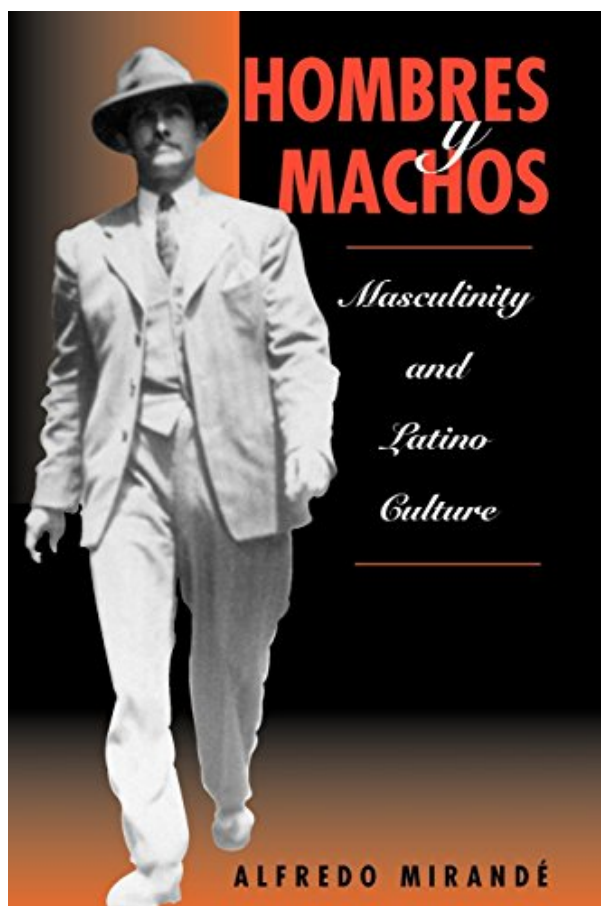
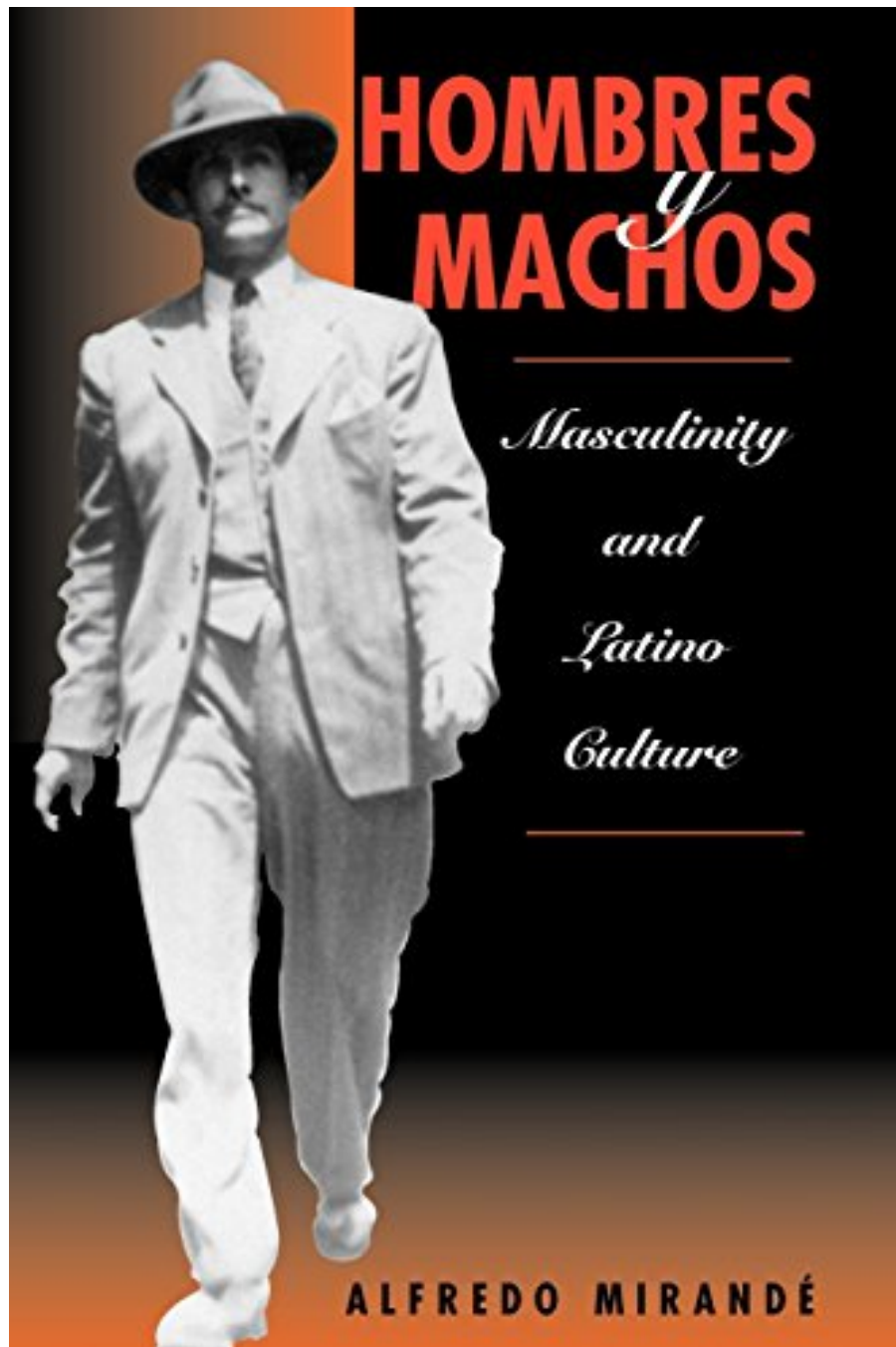


HOMBRES Y MACHOS: MASCULINITY AND LATINO CULTURE BY ALFREDO MIRANDE



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About the Author

Alfredo Mirandé is professor of sociology and ethnic studies at the University of California at Riverside. He is the author of *The Age of Crisis*, *La Chicana*, *The Chicano Experience*, and *Gringo Justice*.

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Although patriarchy, machismo, and excessive masculine displays are assumed to be prevalent among Latinos in general and Mexicans in particular, little is known about Latino men or macho masculinity. *Hombres y Machos: Masculinity and Latino Culture* fills an important void by providing an integrated view of Latino men, masculinity, and fatherhood—in the process refuting many common myths and misconceptions. Examining how Latino men view themselves, Alfredo Mirandé argues that prevailing conceptions of men, masculinity, and gender are inadequate because they are based not on universal norms but on limited and culturally specific conceptions. Findings are presented from in-depth personal interviews with Latino men (specifically, fathers with at least one child between the ages of four and eighteen living at home) from four geographical regions and from a broad cross-section of the Latino population: working and middle class, foreign-born and native-born. Topics range from views on machos and machismo to beliefs regarding masculinity and fatherhood. In addition to reporting research findings and placing them within a historical context, Mirandé draws important insights from his own life. *Hombres y Machos* calls for the development of Chicano/Latino men's studies and will be a significant and provocative addition to the growing literature on gender, masculinity, and race. It will appeal to the general reader and is bound to be an important supplementary text for courses in ethnic studies, women's studies, men's studies, family studies, sociology, psychology, social work, and law.

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About the Author

Alfredo Mirandé is professor of sociology and ethnic studies at the University of California at Riverside. He is the author of *The Age of Crisis*, *La Chicana*, *The Chicano Experience*, and *Gringo Justice*.

Most helpful customer reviews

9 of 11 people found the following review helpful.

Excellent and eye opening

By Robin Orłowski

I read this for a sociology class on Mexican Americans and could not put it down. Mirandé weaves both qualitative and quantitative analysis to examine how Hispanic and Latino men really act.

Too much of the mass media assumes that the lazy, super-macho, virulent and violent Hispanic man is the cultural norm rather than the exception. Mirande shows that subjugation has more often than not introduced those elements into this culture, rather than the other way around. Because family is very important in the Chicano culture, these men are more likely to spend time with their children than Anglo men.

Also interesting was the section on GLBT chicanos and how culture influences acceptance of sexuality. Despite the predominance of catholicism in Latino communities (which usually disapproves of homosexuality) evidence presented in the book suggests that their culture's concept of sexuality is more fluid than the anglo counterpart. Furthermore, the author notes the 'Top' male in lovemaking is generally accepted in society while the passive one is the only person who is not regarded as a real man.

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

Macho vs. Hombre: or Will the Real Latino Men Please Stand?

By adg23@columbia.edu

Doctor Mirande goes boldly where no Chicano has gone before: to provide a positive revisionist analysis of the term "macho." Using anecdotal evidence from his own childhood to flesh out his sociological study, Mirande shows that he is not an apologist, but rather an academic that is interested at finding the truth behind the myths instead of merely buying into them. The results of the studies were surprising, even for him! In the burgeoning area of men's studies, this text should prove indispensable

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

Review of masculinity

By I. Lyons

I found this book to be enlightening. Mirande's analysis is fresh and applicable not only to Latino men but to other men of color as well. I highly recommend this book for anyone who would like to develop a different way of re-imaging masculinity.

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