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978-0-521-86787-0 - Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus

Silvia Pedraza

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## *Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus*

The Cuban exodus is estimated to be from 12 to 15 percent of the country's population. It also harbors several distinct waves of migrants, alike only in their final rejection of Cuba. In this book, Silvia Pedraza links the revolution and exodus not only as cause and consequence but also as profoundly social and human processes that range from the political and economic to the cognitive and emotive. But, ironically for a community that defined itself as being in exile, virtually no studies of its political attitudes exist, and certainly none that encompass the changing political attitudes over the nearly 50 years of the exodus. Through the use of two major research strategies – participant observation and in-depth, semistructured interviews with 120 Cubans who were representative of those who left between 1959 and 2004 – Pedraza captures the processes of political disaffection of participants in this major historical drama. She emphasizes the contrasts among the four major waves of the exodus not only in their social characteristics but also in their attitudes as members of different political generations.

Silvia Pedraza is Professor of Sociology at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *Political and Economic Migrants in America: Cubans and Mexicans* (1985) and the coeditor of *Origins and Destinies: Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in America* (1996, with Rubén G. Rumbaut). She has also published articles in such journals as *Social Science History* and the *Annual Review of Sociology*. A child of the Cuban refugee exodus, she lived through both a dictatorship and a revolution, which left an indelible mark on her research.

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*University of Michigan*



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Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi

Cambridge University Press

32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521867870](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521867870)

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First published 2007

Printed in the United States of America

*A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.*

*Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data*

Pedraza, Silvia, 1946–

Political disaffection in Cuba's revolution and exodus / Silvia Pedraza.

p. cm. – (Cambridge studies in contentious politics)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-521-86787-0 (hardback) – ISBN 978-0-521-68729-4 (pbk.)

1. Cuban Americans – Politics and government. 2. Cuban Americans – Social conditions. 3. Cuban Americans – Interviews. 4. Immigrants – United States – Political activity. 5. Cubans – Migrations. 6. Cuba – Emigration and immigration – Political aspects. 7. United States – Emigration and immigration – Political aspects. 8. Cuba – History – Revolution, 1959 – Influence. 9. Cuba – History – Revolution, 1959 – Public opinion. 10. Public opinion – United States. 11. Public opinion – Cuba. I. Title.

II. Series.

E184.C97P43 2007

304.8'730729109045–dc22 2006100710

ISBN 978-0-521-86787-0 hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-68729-4 paperback

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Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

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*To my mother, Silvia Lubián Pedraza,  
and my cousin, Alicia María Pedraza,  
both of whom did everything they could to help me*

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978-0-521-86787-0 - Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus

Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>page</i>	xii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>		xiii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>		xvii
<b>1</b>	<b>FALSE HOPES</b>	<b>1</b>
	Cuba's Refugees: Manifold Migrations	1
	Political Disaffection	9
	Theoretical Framework	14
	Data and Methods	19
	Studying Refugees	26
 <b><i>Part I For and against the Republic, for and against the Revolution: The Cuban Exodus of 1959–1962 and 1965–1974</i></b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>THE REVOLUTION DEFINES ITSELF</b>	<b>35</b>
	Sociology of Revolution	35
	Democracy	37
	The Church for the Revolution	56
	Humanism	58
	The Revolution Betrayed	62
	The Church Dissents	64
<b>3</b>	<b>THE REVOLUTION DEEPENS</b>	<b>66</b>
	Nationalism	66
	The First Wave: Those Who Wait	78
	The Church versus the State	87
	The Revolution: Political and Social	89

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86787-0 - Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus

Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Contents

4	THE REVOLUTION REDEFINES ITSELF	92
	Socialism and the Bay of Pigs	92
	The Church Is Silenced	107
	Marxism-Leninism	109
	The First Wave: Those Who Escape	110
	The Cuban Missile Crisis	112
5	THE REVOLUTION CONSOLIDATED	115
	Consolidating the Revolution Within	115
	The Second Wave: The Petite Bourgeoisie	120
	Political Prisoners	128
	Tending Bridges	139

*Part II The Children of Communism: The Cuban Exodus of 1980 and 1985–2004*

6	LOS MARIELITOS OF 1980	151
	The Third Wave: Refugee “Vintages”	151
	Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality	159
7	AFTER THE SOVIET COLLAPSE	177
	The Fourth Wave: The Special Period	177
	The <i>Balseiro</i> Crisis	183
8	THE LAST WAVE	205
	Political or Economic Migrants?	205
	Familial or Economic Motives	210
	Both Political and Economic Motives	215
	Political Motives	228

*Part III Civil Society Returns*

9	THE CHURCH AND CIVIL SOCIETY	239
	The Church in Cuba	239
	The Church among the Immigrants	259
10	DEMOCRATIZATION AND MIGRATION	264
	Exit-Voice Relationships	264
	Four Theses	267
11	THE IMPOSSIBLE TRIANGLE	283
	Cuba, the United States, and the Exiles	283
	War by Another Name	291
	Neutralizing the Exiles	294

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86787-0 - Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus

Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

[More information](#)**Contents**

Transitions in Cuba	295
Transitions in Exile	299
Refugees as a Social Type	307
<i>Appendix: List of Interviews</i>	313
<i>References</i>	319
<i>Index</i>	341



Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86787-0 - Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus

Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## *List of Tables*

1.1 Cuban Immigrants in the United States by Year of Immigration, 1990 and 2000 U.S. Censuses	<i>page 5</i>
1.2 Cuban Immigrants in the United States by Year of Immigration and Sex, 2000 U.S. Census	6
6.1 Racial Composition of Cuba, 1899–2002	156
6.2 Cuban Immigrants in the United States by Year of Immigration and Race, 2000 Census	156
7.1 Typology of Migration	202
11.1 Attitudes toward Cuba among Cuban Americans in the Miami Area, by Waves of Migration, in 2000	300

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86787-0 - Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus

Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## *Acknowledgments*

I am truly grateful to many colleagues and friends for the support they gave me during my research. Above all, I want to thank the 120 Cubans for the interviews they granted me, long and sincere, and the documents they shared with me. Without their help, this book would not have been possible. Their names are listed in the Appendix. Although my insights and conclusions issued from what I learned from them, I am solely responsible for any errors that remain.

In addition, many people went out of their way to help me procure an interview. For this, I am grateful to Concha, Olga, and Benito Besú; Alfredo and Liana Blanco and Maricusa Repilado Blanco; Joaquín Calvo and Emma García-Menocal; Max Castro; Jesús and Idalmis Cruz; Emilio Cueto; Himilce Esteve; Andrés Gómez-Mena; Eulogio González; José Manuel Hernández; Francisco León; Melchor Loret de Mola; Nicole Lucier; José Martín and Victoria López-Pedraza; Bernard Mulaire; Patricia and Daniel Pastor; Christine Reinhard; Natalia Revuelta; Oscar Luis Rodríguez and Barbara Grau; Carmen Rodríguez and María Rodríguez; Angelina, Luisa, and Norma Rodríguez; Pedro Romañach; Nicolás Sánchez; Gladys Santana; and Silvia Villalón.

Many people also lent me photos, poems, and works of art to use for illustration. For this, I am grateful to Robert Aponte; Ricardo Blanco, artist; Elvis Brathwaite, from Associated Press AP/Wide World Photos; Alberto de la Cerra; Elly Chovel from the Operation Pedro Pan Group; Arturo Cuenca, artist; Belkis Cuza-Malé, poet; Rafael Díeguez, artist; Isabel Ezquerra from the University of Miami's Otto Richter Library, Cuban Heritage Collection; Alina Salgado; Dawn Hugh and Melissa Mame from the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Miami; Joanne Leonard, artist; Huber Matos and María Luisa Matos; Lisette Elquezabal, from

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

### Acknowledgments

the *Miami Herald*; Ben Osborne and Charity Schmidt; Angel Pardo; Felix Peña; Coiré Rodríguez; and Jesús Selgas, artist. Jessica Cepelak and Ciara McLaughlin from Cambridge University Press assisted me with the photos and illustrations.

Still others helped me find important sources: Father Juan Manuel Dorta-Duque, from the Antiguos Alumnos del Colegio Belén; Cynthia Harris, from the *Jersey Journal*; José M. Martínez, from *La Voz Libre*; Isabel Tejera, from *Desafíos*; Yuzuru Takeshita, Professor Emeritus of Public Health, the University of Michigan; Lesbia Varona, from the University of Miami Otto Richter Library, Cuban Heritage Collection; as well as Karen Mike, Leif Backman, and Anthony Davis from the University of Michigan Interlibrary Loan. The Sánchez family provided invaluable help in transcribing the interviews.

At the University of Michigan, many staff members were helpful. Some helped me learn new data analysis techniques, in particular Al Anderson, Ren Farley, Lisa J. Neidert, and Patrick Rady of PDQ, Inc., and JoAnn Dionne, data librarian from the Library. Still others helped me learn the new digital world, in particular Rick Smoke and Carrick Rogers from the Sociology Department, as well as Monica Trujillo, my research assistant, who was sponsored by the Summer Research Opportunity Program. Patricia Preston from the Sociology Department and Peggy A. Westrick from the College of Literature, Science, and Arts Office of Research processed my Faculty Research Assistance Awards.

A number of colleagues went out of their way to offer useful comments, some of which I heeded. For this, I am grateful to Nelson Amaro, Jesús Barquet, Heriberto Brito, Steven Gold, Pedro Ladislao Guerra, Bert Hoffman, Richard Sukjo Kim, Enrique Pumar, Joane Nagel, Doug McAdam, Vicky Unruh, my student Jordi Martínez-Cid, and two anonymous reviewers.

I am particularly grateful to Joane Nagel at the University of Kansas, Jorge I. Domínguez at Harvard University, and Sueann Caulfield at the University of Michigan for supporting my grant applications.

Ruth Homrighaus helped me copyedit the original manuscript, and Brian MacDonald served as my production editor for Cambridge University Press. I am grateful to both.

Lewis Bateman, senior editor at Cambridge University Press in New York, was both supportive and exacting, and I thank him for seeing value in this work.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

### Acknowledgments

This research project was initially supported by a seed grant from the American Sociological Association's Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (1995–96). The necessary support came from the University of Michigan's Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies' Faculty Grant and Fellowship (1997–99), for which I am particularly grateful to Provost Nancy Cantor and Dean Homer Rose. A grant from the Rockefeller Foundation's Scholar in Residence Program at the Rockefeller Foundation Study and Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy (Summer 2003), allowed me to spend a peaceful summer working through difficult intellectual issues. Travel to Italy was made possible by the University of Michigan's Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies' Discretionary Funds, for which I am especially grateful to Dean Homer Rose, from the University of Michigan's Rackham School of Graduate Studies, and Dean Terrence J. McDonald, from the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science, and Arts. Associate Dean Susan Gelman of the College of Literature, Science, and Arts helped me obtain a Faculty Research Grant. Joseph P. Marino, Associate Dean for Research of the College of Literature, Science, and Arts, and Lester P. Monts, Senior Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs, helped me obtain Faculty Travel Awards that made participant observation in Cuba and Puerto Rico possible. With sincerity, I express my gratitude to all of them. Without their support, this research would not have been possible.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## *Abbreviations*

ACU	Agrupación Católica Universitaria (University Catholic Group)
Auténticos	Partido Revolucionario Cubano Auténtico (Auténtico Political Party)
CANF	Cuban American National Foundation (Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana)
CCL	Consejo Cuban por la Libertad (Cuban Liberty Council)
CDR	Comités para la Defensa de la Revolución (Committees for the Defense of the Revolution)
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CID	Cuba Independiente y Democrática
CONIC	Confederación Obrera Nacional Independiente de Cuba (Cuban Independent Federation of Trade Unions)
CSDC	Corriente Socialista Democrática Cubana (Cuban Democratic Socialists)
CTC	Central de Trabajadores Cubanos (Cuban Workers' Confederation)
CUJAE	Instituto Politécnico Juan Antonio Echeverría (Polytechnic Institute Juan Antonio Echeverría)
DRE	Directorio Estudiantil Revolucionario (Revolutionary Students' Directorate)
ENEC	Encuentro Nacional Eclesiástico Cubano (Cuban National Ecclesiastical Congress)
FEU	Federación Estudiantil Universitaria (University Students' Federation)
FMC	Federación de Mujeres Cubanas (National Association of Cuban Women)

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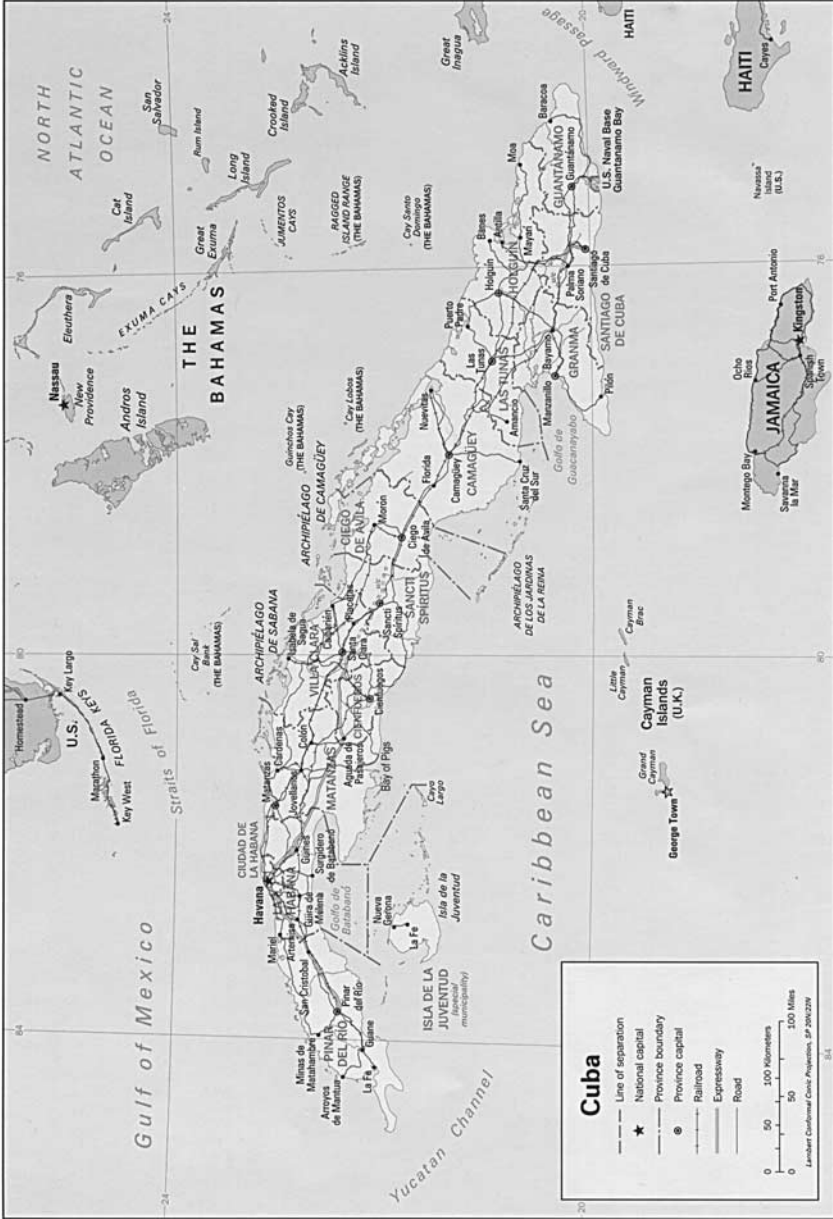
Silvia Pedraza

Frontmatter

[More information](#)**Abbreviations**

FNTA	Federación Nacional de Trabajadores Azucareros (National Sugar Workers' Union)
FRD	Frente Revolucionario Democrático (Democratic Revolutionary Front); later renamed Consejo Revolucionario Cubano (Cuban Revolutionary Council)
INRA	Instituto Nacional para la Reforma Agraria
INS	Immigration and Naturalization Service
JUCEPLAN	Junta Central de Planificación Económica (Central Economic Planning Board)
MDC	Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano (Christian Democratic Movement)
MH	Ministerio de Hacienda (Treasury Department)
MININT	Ministerio del Interior (Ministry of the Interior)
MRP	Movimiento Revolucionario del Pueblo (Revolutionary Movement of the People)
MRR	Movimiento de Recuperación Revolucionaria (Movement for Revolutionary Recuperation)
Ortodoxos	Partido del Pueblo Cubano Ortodoxo (Orthodox Political Party)
UJC	Unión de Jóvenes Comunistas (Communist Youth League)
UMAP	Unidades Militares de Ayuda a la Producción (Military Units to Aid Production)
UNEAC	Unión Nacional de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba (Cuban Writers and Artists Union)

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Map of Cuba

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