The author also says far too little about gender differentials, despite the evidence (in figure 2.6) that native black women have had employment trajectories much closer to those of native whites and Hispanic immigrants. The book's attempts to evaluate immigration's labor market impacts would have been strengthened by examining the large economic and sociological empirical literature on inter-city differences in immigration and native job-holding. But this research is barely mentioned in passing in the final summary chapter. Equally neglected are the benefits of immigration for African-Americans: without it, New York's population would have shrunk dramatically in recent decades and the smaller tax base would have supported far fewer municipal jobs for native blacks. Finally, in my view, any book with so many worrisome things to say about racial discrimination, unemployment, immigration, labor unions, and other controversial topics should also offer at least some discussion of the policy implications of its findings.

Nevertheless, this book is an ambitious exploration of key structural and demographic changes in postwar New York, written in clear, non-technical prose. Its detailed case studies of apparel, construction, hotel, and government employment will be of great interest to all those concerned about the city's future.

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