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# Undoing Border Imperialism (Anarchist Interventions)



## Synopsis

Harsha Walia has played a central role in building some of North America's most innovative, diverse, and effective new movements. That this brilliant organizer and theorist has found time to share her wisdom in this book is a tremendous gift to us all.

Naomi Klein, author of *The Shock Doctrine* *Undoing Border Imperialism* combines academic discourse, lived experiences of displacement, and movement-based practices into an exciting new book. By reformulating immigrant rights movements within a transnational analysis of capitalism, labor exploitation, settler colonialism, state building, and racialized empire, it provides the alternative conceptual frameworks of border imperialism and decolonization. Drawing on the author's experiences in *No One Is Illegal*, this work offers relevant insights for all social movement organizers on effective strategies to overcome the barriers and borders within movements in order to cultivate fierce, loving, and sustainable communities of resistance striving toward liberation. The author grounds the book in collective vision, with short contributions from over twenty organizers and writers from across North America.

Harsha Walia is a South Asian activist, writer, and popular educator rooted in emancipatory movements and communities for over a decade.

**Praise for *Undoing Border Imperialism*:**

Border imperialism is an apt conceptualization for capturing the politics of massive displacement due to capitalist neoglobalization. Within the wealthy countries, Canada's *No One Is Illegal* is one of the most effective organizations of migrants and allies. Walia is an outstanding organizer who has done a lot of thinking and can write not a common combination. Besides being brilliantly conceived and presented, this book is the first extended work on immigration that refuses to make First Nations sovereignty invisible.

Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, author of *Indians of the Americas* and *Blood on the Border*

Harsha Walia's *Undoing Border Imperialism* demonstrates that geography has certainly not ended, and nor has the urge for people to stretch out our arms across borders to create our communities. One of the most rewarding things about this book is its capaciousness; astute insights that emerge out of careful organizing linked to the voices of a generation of strugglers, trying to find their own analysis to build their own movements to make this world our own. This is both a manual and a memoir, a guide to the world and a guide to the organizer's heart.

Vijay Prashad, author of *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World*

This book belongs in every wannabe revolutionary's war backpack. I addictively jumped all over its contents: a radical mixtape of ancestral wisdoms to present-day grounded organizers theorizing about their own experiences. A must for me is Walia's decision to infuse this volume's fight against border imperialism, white

supremacy, and empire with the vulnerability of her own personal narrative. This book is a breath of fresh air and offers an urgently needed movement-based praxis. Undoing Border Imperialism is too hot to be sitting on bookshelves; it will help make the revolution. —Ashanti Alston, Black Panther elder and former political prisoner

In Oakland, California on March 24, 2015 a fire destroyed the AK Press warehouse along with several other businesses. Please consider visiting the AK Press website to learn more about the fundraiser to help them and their neighbors.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Harsha Walia is a South Asian activist, writer, and popular educator rooted in migrant justice, Indigenous solidarity, Palestinian liberation, antiracist, feminist, anti-imperialist, and anticapitalist movements and communities for over a decade. She has most recently been affiliated with No One Is Illegal, South Asian Network for Secularism and Democracy, Women's Memorial March Committee for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Downtown Eastside Is Not for Developers Coalition, and the Olympic Resistance Network. She is the cocreator of a short film, and her writings have appeared in thirty academic journals, anthologies, magazines, and mainstream newspapers as well as on alternative Web sites.

Andrea Smith is an intellectual, writer, and activist. She cofounded INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence and currently teaches at University of California, Riverside. She's author of *Conquest* and editor of *The Color of Violence*. Contributors include Yogi Acharya, Carmen Aguirre, Tara Atluri, Annie Banks, Mel Bazil, Nazila Bettache, Adil

Charkaoui, Yen Chu, Karen Cocq, Jessica Danforth, Ruby Smith DiÃaz, Nassim Elbardouh, Craig Fortier, Harjap Grewal, Mostafa Henaway, Freda Huson, Syed Khalid Husan, Jane Kirby, Aylwin Lo, Karla Lottini, Alex Mah, Robyn Maynard, Graciela Flores Mendez, Cecily Nicholson, Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, Toghestiy, Sozan Savehilaghi, Mac Scott, Lily Shinde, and Rafeef Ziadah.

Harsha Walia is a no holds barred (im)migrant rights activist. I love her eloquence in calling out the double standards and hypocrisy of xenophobic immigration laws.

In "Undoing Border Imperialism", South Asian activist Harsha Walia and over twenty other migrant justice activists explore the complicated intersections between decolonization, anti-capitalism, gender liberation, First Nations sovereignty, anti-imperialism, disability justice, and ecological sustainability. Focusing on the issues of working-class racialized immigrants in North America, particularly Canada, this exciting new book importantly interconnects the struggles for indigenous self-determination with the struggles of undocumented immigrants against the military-surveillance-prison-industrial-complex. Infusing Third Wave feminism with radical queer theory, this anthology furthermore tackles the problems of homonationalism and Western feminisms that essentialize communities of color as inherently heterosexist, transphobic, and patriarchal, thus deconstructing the pervasive neoliberal Western narratives which right-wing politicians and the capitalist media use to justify military interventions and corporate globalization. Given the current context of heightened Islamophobia, rampant militarism, white supremacy, climate chaos, economic inequality, settler colonialism, and heteropatriarchy, immigrants of color and indigenous peoples are more vulnerable than ever. As such, this book is a wake up call for the radical left to unite in solidarity with oppressed people around the world to tear down the borders that keep us divided and defeated. With beautiful illustrations by Melanie Cervantes of the Justseeds Artists' Cooperative, "Undoing Border Imperialism" is another excellent contribution to the Anarchist Intervention Series co-published by AK Press and the Institute For Anarchist Studies. I strongly recommend this book.

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