



The Migrant Presence: Australian Responses 1947-1977 (Studies in society)

Jean I. Martin

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This classic work in Australian sociology examines the way in which Australian institutions have responded to the influx of migrants of non-Anglo-Saxon origin. Until the end of the sixties, the typical Australian reaction was that these migrants could be, and were being, *assimilated* into the mainstream of British-Australian society and culture. At the end of the sixties, both the assimilationist philosophy and the claim of successful and effortless absorption came into question, and migrants of non-English speaking background began to be defined as *problems*. Now, in a third phase, migrants themselves are rejecting the notion that they are, above all, problems or people with problems. Instead they are asserting their rights and dignity as legitimate minorities in an ethnically plural society. The author goes on to trace in detail the response of the institutions of education, health, and the trade unions to 'the migrant presence'.

'Well written, well presented, well documented and challenging.' - C. A. Price, *The National Times*

'Well written, sympathetic to the point of anger and should be included in any course on Australian society or public policy... an invaluable contribution.' - James Jupp, *Politics*

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