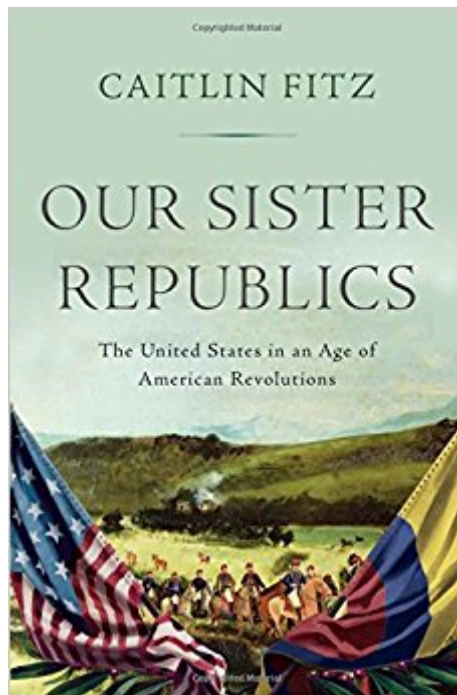


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Our Sister Republics: The United States In An Age Of American Revolutions



Synopsis

A major new interpretation recasts U.S. history between revolution and civil war, exposing a dramatic reversal in sympathy toward Latin American revolutions. In the early nineteenth century, the United States turned its idealistic gaze southward, imagining a legacy of revolution and republicanism it hoped would dominate the American hemisphere. From pulsing port cities to Midwestern farms and southern plantations, an adolescent nation hailed Latin America's independence movements as glorious tropical reprises of 1776. Even as Latin Americans were gradually ending slavery, U.S. observers remained energized by the belief that their founding ideals were triumphing over European tyranny among their sister republics. But as slavery became a violently divisive issue at home, goodwill toward antislavery revolutionaries waned. By the nation's fiftieth anniversary, republican efforts abroad had become a scaffold upon which many in the United States erected an ideology of white U.S. exceptionalism that would haunt the geopolitical landscape for generations. Marshaling groundbreaking research in four languages, Caitlin Fitz defines this hugely significant, previously unacknowledged turning point in U.S. history. 8 pages of illustrations

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Customer Reviews

A wonderful reminder that the United States once looked at our southern neighbors and felt brotherhood instead of the need to build walls. In these trying international times, it's heartening to look back and reaffirm the fact that our nation was founded upon cosmopolitan principles, not

isolationist ones. It's ever important (perhaps even necessary) to look at ourselves in the mirror and remember who we were... and who we might still be.

A new angle on the development of political and race relations in the Americas. Today you can access information from surveys and social media about how regular people view Race and political events. That insight is usually missing from historical analysis, leaving readers with limited perspectives. This book provides great firsthand research on how regular people viewed race and Revolution across South American political history. The book is well written and informative.

This is written only 4 percent into the kindle version, but I'm not sure I can go much further. The author's position is that "Americans" (ie: citizens of the U.S. in the late 1700's) were hypocrites in their support of Latin American freedom while holding Blacks as slaves. From today's perspective, that's logical but then there was a difference. Hispanics were the same as whites. Indeed, leaders of the revolutions in Spanish-America were white. They dragged the Native population with them. At this point in my reading, author has made no distinction between the pro slavery south and the anti slavery north. As is typical of today's history, this is just a racial slugfest. I will try to slog through this time, but if I get to 20 percent and it's still just a racial condemnation, I will stop - but not before updating this post. Hopefully it will begin to tell history - and not a political message - and I will read the whole book and return with a happier report.

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