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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Political Disaffection in Cuba’s Revolution and Exodus

SILVIA PEDRAZA
University of Michigan
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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# Abbreviations

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

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