

us survive.” A long poem “Leap in the Dark” contains a powerful image of resistance to acculturation: “I will be apprentice to the blood/inspite of the mood of a world/that keeps rusting, rusting the wild throats of birds.”

— Susan Scarberry-Garcia  
Colorado College

**Charles V. Willie. *Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status: A Theoretical Analysis of Their Interrelationship*. (Bayside, NY: General Hall, 1983) 270 pp., \$11.95 paper.**

The author examines the interrelations of race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status through the presentation of a collection of his writings about blacks which have been reprinted from various sources. By reprinting this collection of works, Willie seeks to gain the opportunity to take “theoretical stock” of what he has learned through his involvements as a planner, student, teacher, researcher, administrator, policy maker, consultant, and concerned citizen. His aim is to link his work with others in the field, hoping to benefit from their clarification and correction. Willie’s main objective is to articulate his theoretical conceptions about the field of race relations.

*Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status* differs significantly from most race relations books on the market today because it presents a balanced theoretical view. It is at variance with the Marxist and the colonialist. The author disagrees with the Marxist claim, “that capitalists are responsible for racial discrimination and the segregation of blacks into a semislave caste system of limited opportunity so that their labor can be exploited without resistance for the economic benefit of the affluent,” and that of the colonialists, which “classify black ghettos as contained communities that are exploited for the benefit of the dominant people of power.” Willie rejects the assumption that subdominant populations are passive without freedom of choice. He also rejects the tendency to ascribe all power to the dominant groups and to analyze only their populations.

This book excels over other race relations books because of the author’s rejection of minority stereotypes. Several sections are devoted to demonstrating how researchers perpetuate negative minority stereotypes by projecting normative behaviors of the majority populations upon members of the minority population. Willie prefers to examine why the

black affluent have not yet arrived rather than why the poor blacks have been left behind. Consequently, this book presents research of contemporary situations analyzing psychic and social circumstances.

Willie's focus on sociology as a science of humanity as opposed to a science of historical determinism adds an interdisciplinary dimension which is lacking in most race relations books. The most significant achievement of *Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status* is Willie's ability to increase awareness of social problems and to simultaneously furnish practical methods for achieving solutions. As an activist sociologist, Willie expresses his dissatisfaction with the "absence of an accumulative body of social theory pertaining to theoretical implications of investigations and their analysis."

*Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status* is an excellent book, particularly for those students of race relations looking for material which supplies suggestions on how individuals can bring about social change. Unlike so many race relations books that heighten feelings of frustration and anger by increasing awareness of social problems without offering practical solutions, this book gives encouragement to become active.

— Kimberly S. Hee  
Pitzer College

**Victoria Wyatt. *Shapes of Their Thoughts: Reflections of Culture Contacts in Northwest Coast Indian Art.* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984) 80 pp., \$9.95 paper.**

An exhibition at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History in New Haven, Connecticut, was held from November 1983 to May 1984. The exhibit focused on 200 years of the creative responses of Northwest Coast Indian artists to interactions with explorers, fur traders, missionaries, businessmen, tourists and ethnographers from a variety of cultures.

Twelve museums and several contemporary artists and private collectors contributed art work for displays. *Shapes of Their Thoughts* is a beautifully rendered retrospective catalogue of the art displayed in the exhibit. Aside from considerable redundancy as the text moves from one media or from one category to another, it is hard to fault this comprehensive softbound book.

Between the attractive rust, white and black loon on the cover to the illustration credits on page 80, there are four photographs dating from