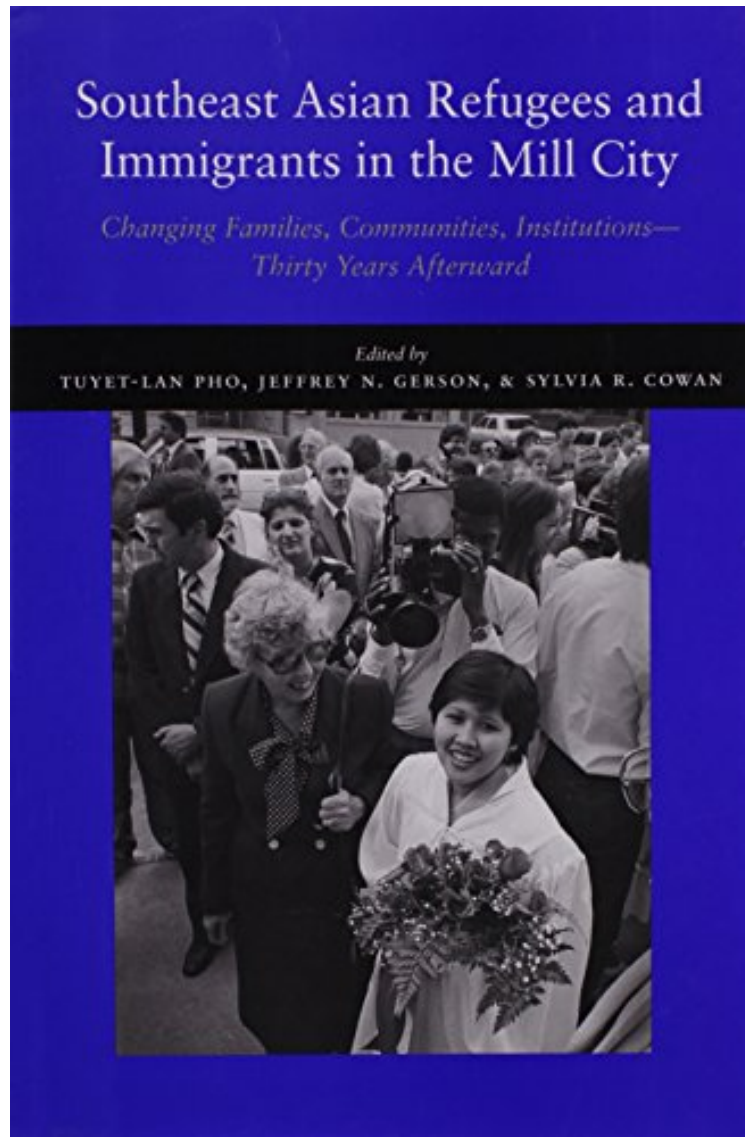


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## **Southeast Asian Refugees and Immigrants in the Mill City: Changing Families, Communities, Institutions Thirty Years Afterward**

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This timely volume examines the influx immigrants from Southeast Asia to Lowell, Massachusetts, over the past thirty or so years. Numbering about 20,000 people a very significant one-fifth of the city's population these are primarily refugees and their offspring who fled genocide, war, and oppression in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam in the late 1970s and resettled in the United States. The Lowell experience is representative of a truly national phenomenon: communities in Long Beach, Orange County, and San Diego, California; Seattle, Washington; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota; Houston and Dallas, Texas; New Orleans, Louisiana; Northern Virginia; and Southern Florida have experienced similar population growth. The historical and contemporary essays chronicle the formidable efforts of Lowell's Southeast Asian community to recreate itself and its identity amid poverty, discrimination, and pressures to assimilate. They also examine the transformation that has occurred of both newcomers and the community at large. This process provides opportunities for growth but also challenges past practices in the city and state. In this volume, contributors approach the subject from points of view rooted in anthropology, political science, economics, sociology, education, and community psychology. Their work contributes to a broader understanding of U.S. refugee policy, migration, identity and group formation, political adaptation, social acculturation, and community conflict—major issues today in New England and the nation.

"Southeast Asian Refugees and Immigrants in the Mill City offers a welcome addition to a growing multidisciplinary literature on new immigrants to New England. The volume . . . offers an extremely valuable . . . attempt to document the growth and experiences of Lowell's newest immigrants, and as such, it opens the door to what one can only hope will be an outpouring of new studies . . ." *New England Quarterly*