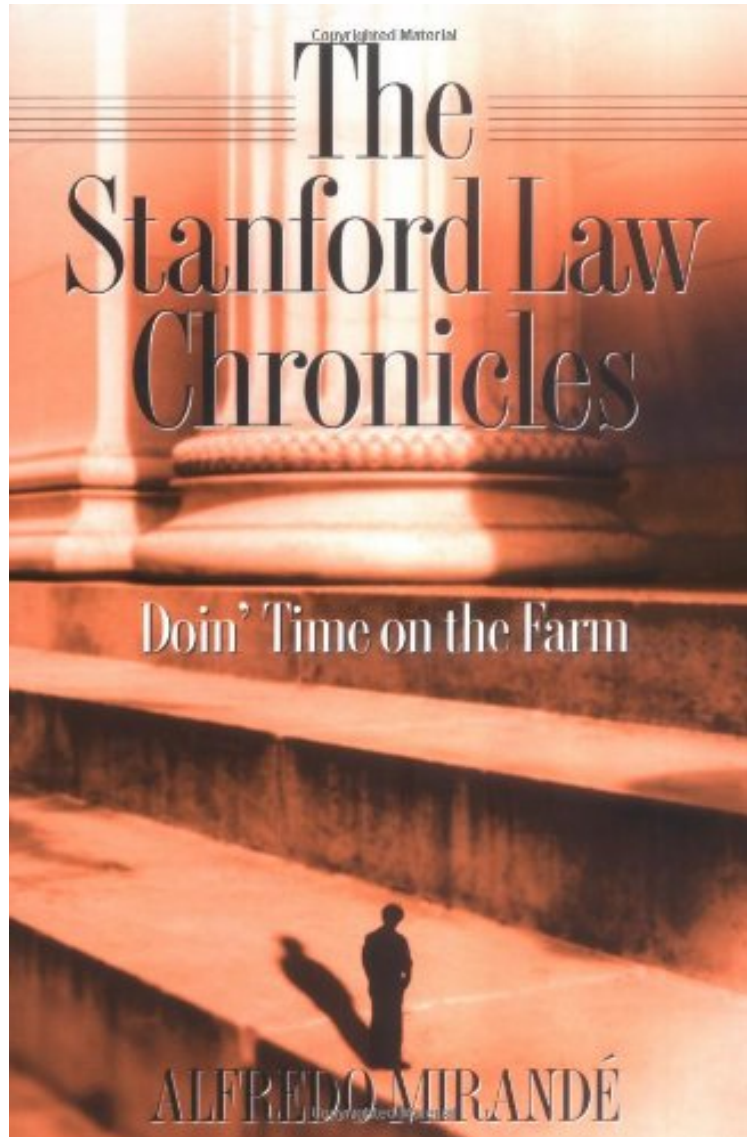


[Free pdf] The Stanford Law Chronicles: Doin' Time On The Farm

The Stanford Law Chronicles: Doin' Time On The Farm

Alfredo Mirande

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Alfredo Mirande : The Stanford Law Chronicles: Doin' Time On The Farm before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Stanford Law Chronicles: Doin' Time On The Farm:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An Old School Chicano Activist Spends Time at the FarmBy Marco Antonio Abarca"The Stanford Law Chronicles" was a must purchase for me. Like the author, I am a Mexican American graduate of Stanford Law School. I finished only a few years ahead of him and know many of the people of whom he writes. My wife is even mentioned in the book. It is from this close vantage that I review this book.As a

tenured sociology professor with a strong activist commitment to social justice, Alfredo Mirande was not a typical first year Stanford law student. Not only was he much older but Mirande was a lot more accomplished than the typical twenty four year old law student. From the very beginning, Mirande viewed himself as a participant observer in the law school experience. This informed distance made his experience different from that of the average student. As a sociologist, Mirande was interested in how Stanford Law School formed students to enter into America's legal and business elites. Throughout his three years at Stanford, Mirande was both an insider and an outsider. By joining the law review and clerking for a judge, Mirande followed the path of an ambitious law student. Yet at the same time, his formation as an activist Chicano professor would never allow him to fully embrace that experience. Like many other students, Mirande felt that combination of alienation and boredom which is so typical of the law school experience. The value of "The Stanford Law Chronicles" can be seen in at least two levels. First, as a sociological study on the formation of American elites. Second and I think more importantly, "The Stanford Law Chronicles" is a rare autobiography from a Mexican American intellectual. There are many books on the formation of elites but Mexican American autobiographies are scarce. Alfredo Mirande is a gifted writer and it is as an autobiography that "The Stanford Law Chronicles" will be read in coming years. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By NickiAwesome read. You won't regret purchasing this book.

In the midst of a long and distinguished academic career, Alfredo Mirand left his position as professor of sociology and chair of ethnic studies at the University of California, Riverside, to attend law school at Stanford University. This book is both an extraordinary chronicle of the events in his life that led him to make this dramatic change and a comprehensive, first-person account of the law school experience, written by a person of color. Mirand delivers a powerful and moving critique of the obstacles he encountered and of systematic attempts to strip him of his identity and culture. He also reflects on the implications of an increasing number of women and minority law school students for law and legal education.

From Publishers Weekly This is a decidedly personal account sometimes irritatingly so of Mirande's experiences as an established academic (professor of sociology at the University of California Riverside) who started a second career by attending Stanford Law School. Throughout, Mirande sketches in scenes from his family's history as he examines the impulses that led him to law school and to react to it as he did. In nearly all respects, Mirande found studying law dehumanizing. He saw himself as a Chicano systematically marginalized, silenced and confronted by hierarchies into which he couldn't gain admittance. His complaints range from umbrage at a professor who didn't call on him in class, to resentments of fellow students who in turn resented him and a critique of the law itself as dominated by an elite white male culture. The author did find the practical side of law far more attractive. A course in lawyering and social change and a practicum in which Mirande successfully represented an applicant for political asylum appear to have made attending law school worthwhile. Readers will be alternately exasperated and intrigued by Mirande's well-written but self-absorbed account of his law school years. (Nov.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Dispelling illusions about the law school experience for the first time from the perspective of a Mexican-American, Mirand gives a bold account of the nature of law school. His experience documents how elitism and rigid hierarchies are embedded in law schools regardless of their status." Multicultural (October 2006)