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Maras: Gang Violence and Security in Central America

By Thomas C. Bruneau, Lucia Dammert, Elizabeth Skinner

University of Texas Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Maras: Gang Violence and Security in Central America, Thomas C. Bruneau, Lucia Dammert, Elizabeth Skinner, Sensational headlines have publicized the drug trafficking, brutal violence, and other organized crime elements associated with Central America's mara gangs, but there have been few clear-eyed analyses of the history, hierarchies, and future of the mara phenomenon. The first book to look specifically at the Central American gang problem by drawing on the perspectives of researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds, Maras: Gang Violence and Security in Central America provides much-needed insight. These essays trace the development of the gangs, from "Mara Salvatrucha" to "M-18," in Los Angeles and their spread to El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua as the result of members' deportation to Central America; there, they account for high homicide rates and threaten the democratic stability of the region. With expertise in areas ranging from political science to law enforcement and human rights, the contributors also explore the spread of mara violence in the United States. Their findings comprise a complete documentation that spans sexualized violence, case studies of individual gangs, economic factors, varied responses to gang violence, the use of intelligence gathering,...



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