

Workers' Archival Power and the Politics of Knowledge in Puerto Rico

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, Puerto Ricans have been forced to confront the island's long history of colonialism and exploitation. As part of this reckoning, workers have begun to reclaim their own history by creating and preserving their own archives.



The Lettered Barriada: Workers, Archival Power, and the Politics of Knowledge in Puerto Rico

by Jorell A. Meléndez-Badillo

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 23460 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 266 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



These archives are not simply collections of documents. They are sites of struggle, where workers are challenging the dominant historical narrative and asserting their own agency. By preserving their own stories, workers are creating a new archive of Puerto Rican history, one that is more inclusive and accurate.

The Importance of Archives

Archives are essential for understanding the past and shaping the future. They provide a record of what has happened, and they can be used to challenge dominant narratives and to assert new perspectives.

In Puerto Rico, the official archives have long been controlled by the colonial powers. This has meant that the history of the island has been told from a very narrow perspective, one that has marginalized the voices of workers and other marginalized groups.

By creating their own archives, workers are challenging this official narrative. They are creating a new archive of Puerto Rican history, one that is more inclusive and accurate.

Workers' Archival Power

Workers have a unique archival power. They are the ones who create the records of their own lives and work. They are the ones who have the firsthand experience of the struggles and triumphs of the working class.

When workers control their own archives, they have the power to shape the historical narrative. They can decide what stories are told and how they are told. They can use their archives to challenge the dominant ideology and to assert their own agency.

In Puerto Rico, workers have begun to use their archival power to challenge the dominant historical narrative. They have created their own archives, and they are using these archives to tell their own stories. This is a powerful act of resistance, and it is a sign of hope for the future.

The Politics of Knowledge

The creation of workers' archives is a political act. It is a challenge to the dominant historical narrative and a way of asserting the agency of workers.

The politics of knowledge is about who has the power to define what is true and what is false. In Puerto Rico, the colonial powers have long controlled the production of knowledge. This has meant that the history of the island has been told from a very narrow perspective, one that has marginalized the voices of workers and other marginalized groups.

By creating their own archives, workers are challenging this monopoly on knowledge. They are creating a new archive of Puerto Rican history, one that is more inclusive and accurate. This is a powerful act of resistance, and it is a sign of hope for the future.

The creation of workers' archives is a powerful act of resistance. It is a way of challenging the dominant historical narrative and asserting the agency of workers. It is also a way of creating a new archive of Puerto Rican history, one that is more inclusive and accurate.

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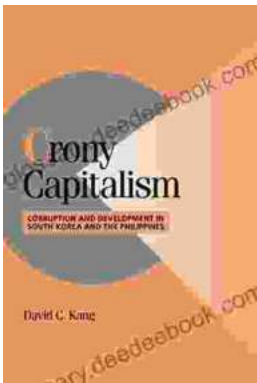
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