



# Desbordes: Translating Racial, Ethnic, Sexual, and Gender Identities across the Americas (SUNY series, Genders in the Global South)

*María-Amelia Viteri*

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*Examines the intersections of “Latino,” “queer,” and “American,” to illustrate how the categories of class, race, gender, sexuality, and ethnicity are directly entangled with issues of citizenship and belonging.*

María-Amelia Viteri explores the multiple unfixed meanings that the term “Latino” takes on as this category is reappropriated and translated by LGBT “Latinos” in Washington, DC, San Salvador, and Quito. Using an anthropology-based, interdisciplinary approach, she exposes the creative ways in which migrants—including herself—subvert traditional readings based on country of origin, skin color, language, and immigrant status. A critical look at the multiple ways migrants view what it means to be American, Latino, and/or queer provides fertile ground for theoretical, methodological, and political debates on the importance of a queer transnational and immigration framework when analyzing citizenship and belonging. *Desbordes* (un/doing, overflowing borders) ethnographically addresses the limits and constraints of current paradigms within which sexuality and gender have been commonly analyzed as they intersect with race, class, ethnicity, immigration status, and citizenship. This book uses the concept of “queerness” as an analytical tool to problematize the notion of a seamless relationship between identity and practice.

“A sophisticated ethnographer and linguistic anthropologist, Viteri provides a rich analysis of heretofore understudied populations. This is a pioneering study.” — Lawrence La Fountain-Stokes, author of *Queer Ricans: Cultures and Sexualities in the Diaspora*

María-Amelia Viteri is Associate Researcher and Professor of Anthropology at FLACSO/Ecuador (Latin American Graduate School of Social Sciences) and Visiting Scholar at the Latin American and Latino Studies Institute at Fordham University. She is the coeditor (with Aaron Tobler) of *Shifting Positionalities: The Local and International Geo-Politics of Surveillance and Policing*.



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