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Cornelius, Wayne A.; Fitzgerald, David; and Borger, Scott, eds. *Four Generations of Nortesños: New Research from the Cradle of Mexican Migration*. Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2009. 250 pp. ISBN 978-0-9800560-1-3, \$55.00 (cl); 978-0-9800560-0-6, \$24.50 (pb).

Immigration from the town of Tlacuitapa in the state of Jalisco, Mexico, is studied in this scholarly but accessible book. The authors examine such factors as who migrates and why. Immigrant networks via friends and family are also scrutinized. A novel approach of the work is to examine the quality of coyote services (human smuggling networks that have been so absurdly demonized in the United States). The authors find that drug lords are unlikely to use immigrants as “mules” because of concerns that the undocumented will be caught by border guards or die in the desert. Immigrant smuggling and narcotics networks are purposely separated and have nothing in common.

Of course, the authors are interested in the pervasive issue of identity. They find that 66 percent of the immigrants to the United States from Tlacuitapa identify as Latinos—which they note is a U.S. term indicative of U.S. cultural influence. There is no index or information on the authors, although the Spanish survey questionnaire is available. The narrative and survey identify matters of interest to U.S. government agencies (such as the CIA, State Department, Border Patrol) and to ideological and political groups, although some questions such as “do you smoke/drink less in the U.S or Mexico” are largely irrelevant. Despite the social science approach, this is a readable study emphasizing the dynamics of the vibrant U.S.–Mexican border region.

Salvador Rivera  
SUNY–Cobleskill