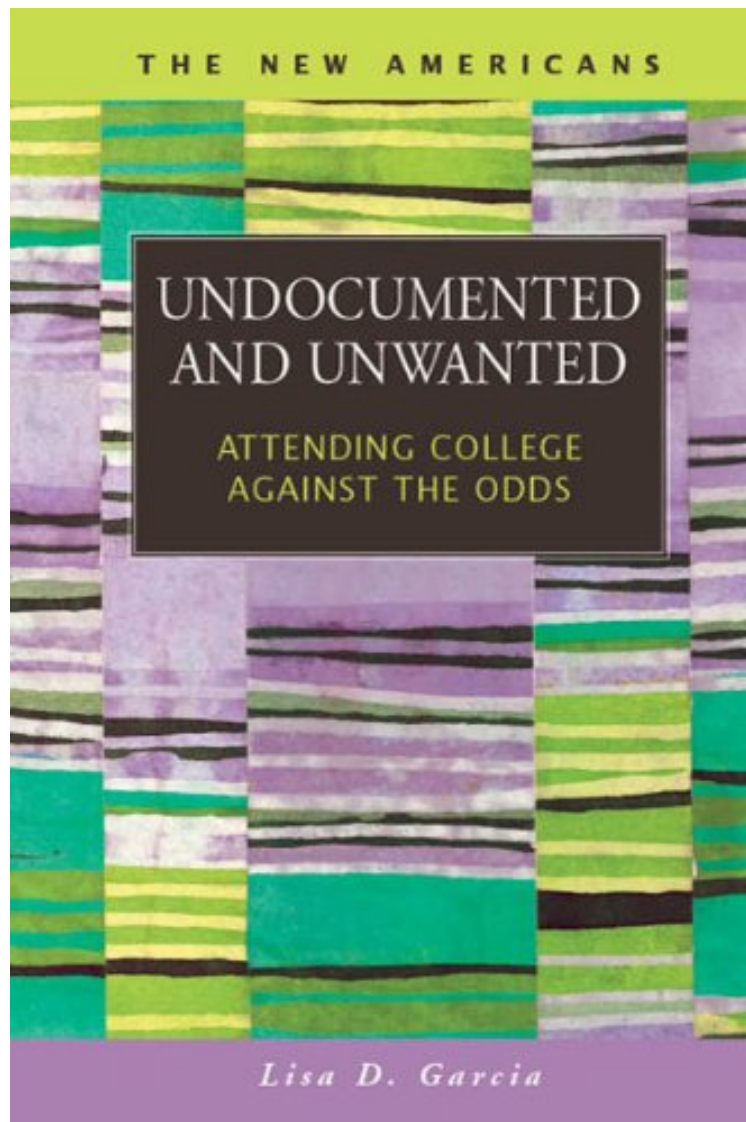


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Undocumented and Unwanted: Attending College Against the Odds (The New Americans: Recent Immigration and American Society)

Lisa D. Garcia

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Recent Immigration and American Society):

Undocumented immigrant postsecondary students face myriad challenges while pursuing a college education. Garcia focuses on the experiences of nine students attending a public comprehensive postsecondary institution in California to assess how different types of social capital help students pursue a college education. She demonstrates how students were wholly or partly reliant on various types of social capital accessed before and during matriculation. Three of the major findings are: institutional agents were instrumental in developing students' social capital, family- and peer-based social capital was important to students' matriculation, and perceptions about immigration status affected students' matriculation and social capital development.

About the Author Lisa D. Garcia received her Ph.D. in education at the University of Southern California where she is currently a postdoctoral research associate in the Pullias Center for Higher Education. She uses qualitative methods to study general issues of equity, access, and diversity specifically pertaining to first-generation college students. Her postdoc allows her to continue working on projects that focus on increasing access to college for Los Angeles-area students.