

The final section of the book chronicles an unpredictable turn of events that generated a new memory climate. A number of “memory knots,” sparked by the detention of Augusto Pinochet in London for crimes against humanity, came to the fore in 1998. Particularly illuminating is Stern’s analysis of *funas*, public outings of torturers by the Chilean Children for Truth and Justice Action. The *funas* constituted a new type of memory work that evaded bureaucratic channels and centered on shaming rituals. These actions, along with support from President Ricardo Lagos’s administration and shifts in military leadership, broke the impasse. One concrete result of the changed political environment was the creation of the Valech Commission, a truth commission on imprisonment and torture. A nagging question remains as to how Pinochet’s loyal base interpreted the military leaders’ refusal to defend the former dictator.

An accomplished scholar, Stern creates novel terminology and conceptualizations to historicize memory. This volume should inspire further research, including an examination of the relationship between memory struggles and the emergence of a consumer-citizen model. Careful to situate the Chilean case within the broader history of transitional justice and human rights, Stern’s work nudges scholars to examine transnational ties between memory actors. The final installment of Stern’s trilogy is a poignant story of Chileans’ reckoning with painful memories, whether in presidential palaces, supermarkets, or in the streets. Thus, Stern has created his own memory script that readers should debate, discuss, and benefit from.

*Hofstra University*  
*Hempstead, New York*

BRENDA ELSEY

*The Politics of Sexuality in Latin America: A Reader on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights.* Edited by Javier Corrales and Mario Pecheny. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010. Pp. xv, 454. Tables. Figures. Notes. Appendix. Index.

In the past decade, LGBTQ rights have steadily increased in Latin America. These changes have already been decades in the making, but the relevant scholarship—led by anthropologists and cultural studies scholars—has yet to fully interrogate the genealogies of Latin American LGBTQ politics. Enter this important collection edited by Javier Corrales and Mario Pecheny, which is both an initial effort toward such an interrogation and a demonstration of the saliency of LGBTQ issues in scholarship on democratic processes in Latin America, as well as in these processes themselves. The editors have brought together a number of previously published articles, essays, and encyclopedia entries, as well as unpublished works on Latin American LGBTQ rights, with a particular focus on the late 1900s and early 2000s. This work, the first English-language reader on Latin American LGBTQ politics, has broad regional representation over its thirty entries.

Strengths of this collection include the writing of both established and emerging scholars, as well as that of Latin American activists, writers, and politicians. Similarly, the

inclusion of texts available in English translation for the first time, particularly those of activists, is beneficial in increasing the book's readership beyond specialists. The collection's broad geographic scope—including attention to Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Venezuela, and Central America and other transnational analyses—is impressive, even if some regions, such as the Southern Cone, receive more attention than others. In addition, the essays focus on myriad themes, ranging from grassroots and political party activism to studies of transnational LGBTQ political cultures, media and the Internet, and human rights. The editors, in their insightful introduction and their essay selections, dramatically argue for—and demonstrate—the importance of LGBTQ sexualities for the study of “state formation, citizenship, democratization, civil rights, inclusionary politics, bargaining, social movements, identity, public policy . . . and the quality of democracy” (p. 1).

However, the collection does have some weaknesses, which, while not diminishing its importance, should be noted. Readers could have benefited from the inclusion of a contributors' page to orient readers to the authors' qualifications for inclusion in the text, thereby bringing both the importance of LGBTQ issues and the authors' scholarship to the attention of one of the editors' target audiences: non-specialists who might be unaware of individual contributors' significance.

The selections are uneven in quality, which is surely due in part to the differing kinds of scholarship available and may also reflect challenges in obtaining publication rights. The scholarly articles with their ample citations and primary sources are first rate; these include works by James Green, Rafael de la Dehesa, Aluminé Moreno, Florence Babb, Mariela Castro, former Brazilian president Lula da Silva, and many more. The encyclopedia articles, while they are generally informative for scholars unfamiliar with the field and do include bibliographies, nevertheless lack clear attribution for their claims, some of which have been and continue to be challenged. The collection also could have benefited from more translations of Mexican studies; there are published examples from both activists like Nancy Cárdenas and prominent social critics, including Carlos Monsiváis.

Most essays focus on contemporary issues and the recent past, and they are supplemented by an informative timeline. A richer historical genealogy, however, could have provided beneficial contexts for looking at change over time, in questions of pre-1970s queer community and identity development, in ongoing debates on sexuality that have shaped political and cultural norms, and in similarities and differences between nations that account for the current diversity of rights. This absence is partially due to the paucity of historical studies on Latin American queer sexualities, although cultural studies sources could have provided more background. Pablo Ben's piece, though, is a good start and, on the whole, the collection is an impressive and welcome addition to the field. It will serve as a useful reference for scholars seeking to incorporate LGBTQ issues into their research, as well as a valuable source for in-class materials that will highly engage students of all levels.

*University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign*  
*Urbana, Illinois*

RYAN JONES