



THE CUBAN REVOLUTION: CUBAN EMIGRATION

POSSIBLE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What was the impact of exiled Cubans, following Fidel Castro's rise to power in 1958, on the political, cultural, and economic landscape of Cuba and the United States?
- How did exile impact Cuban emigrants and their acculturation or assimilation process?

BACKGROUND

Following the fall of the United States' backed Batista government, Fidel Castro rose to power surrounded by his communist comrades in arms in January 1959. With the new communist government, many Cubans feared the change that this societal organization would bring.

On September 1965, Castro announced from Havana's Plaza De La Revolution that anyone who wanted to leave Cuba for the United States would be able to do so through the port of Camarioca. Between October 10, 1965 and November 15, 1965 nearly an additional 3,000 Cubans emigrated to the United States. By June 1, 1965 the United States Coast Guard intercepted an additional 6,862 Cubans fleeing the new Communist regime.

As Cubans migrated to other countries, so did Cuban culture. Following the mass exodus, many Cuban exiles settled in United States cities such as Miami, Tampa Bay, Orlando, Jacksonville, Las Vegas and New York City. In the years following the initial migration, other waves of emigrants fled the newly communist nation. Though their experiences varied, many Cuban immigrants to the United States underwent the challenging task of maintaining and honoring their Cuban culture while also assimilating to American culture.

As the United States begins to explore reengaging with Cuba after years of isolation, Cuban Americans continue to discover the unique attributes of acculturation from their exile and explore their evolving political ideologies toward



RESOURCES

Personal Stories

- [The Cuban Exile Story: 'Americans Cannot Understand How Deep Is the Hurt' \(The National Review\)](#)
- [Cuban revolution: Exiles' stories \(BBC News\)](#)
- ["There, the Sugar was Sweeter": Cuban-American Poet Richard Blanco Comes Home \(Condé Nast Traveler\)](#)

Articles

- [Hard time and broken families haunt the hope of a new Cuba \(CNN\)](#)
- [Cuba's Exiles: Portrait of a Refugee Migration \(Latin American Studies\)](#)
- [Voices: Will Cuban exiles seek to reclaim property? \(USA Today\)](#)
- [The Cuban Revolution and the Myth of Racial Inclusivity \(Black Perspectives\)](#)
- [Criminals 'in exodus from Cuba': US fears Castro emptying his jails - into Florida \(Independent\)](#)

Audio

- [Fidel Castro: From rebel to El Presidente \(NPR\)](#)

Data

- [PBS American Experience - Timeline: Post-Revolution Cuba](#)
- [Timeline: Cuba profile \(BBC News\)](#)

Video

- [Cuban Exiles in Tampa 1957 \(Roger Sharp Archive\)](#)
- [Cuba \(1960\) Full Length Documentary \(Nuclear Vault\)](#)
- [Take a Tour of Little Havana in Miami \(1st Look\)](#)
- [In Little Havana, Cuban- American increasingly divided \(AFP News Agency\)](#)

Poetry

- [En es llegó Fidel "and then Fidel arrived" \(Lenin502\)](#)
- [The Children of Cuban Exiles: Who Am I? by Sonia Guerra \(Juan Perez\)](#)

Websites

Fidel Castro

- [People and Events: Fidel Castro \(1926 -\) \(PBS American Experience\)](#)
- [Modern History Sourcebook: Fidel Castro: Second declaration of Havana, 1962 \(Fordham University\)](#)
- [Modern History Sourcebook: Fidel Castro: On The Export of Revolution \(Fordham University\)](#)
- [Castro Internet Archive: History Will Absolve Me \(Marxists.org\)](#)

The Cuban Revolution

- [Yale University Library - The Cuban Revolution: Roots, Repercussions, Resistance: Digital Collections](#)

Cuban Exiles

- [People and Events: Cuban Exiles in America \(PBS American Experience\)](#)

Images

- [Cuban Exile Pictures and Images \(Getty Images\)](#)
- [For an Exiled Cuban Photographer, Freedom Was in Color \(NY Times\)](#)
- [The "Other" Boatlift: Camarioca, Cuba, 1965 \(US Coast Guard\)](#)
- [In pictures: 116 years of US-Cuban relations \(BBC News\)](#)
- [In pictures: Cuba at 50 \(BBC News\)](#)
- [Cuba in Revolution \(Selected Work\) \(International Center of Photography\)](#)