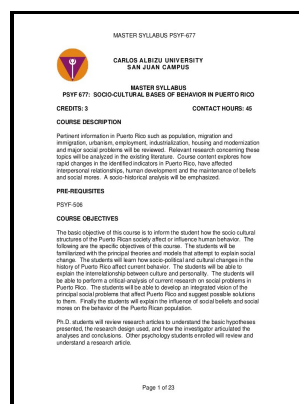


Puerto Rico - a socio-historic interpretation

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Notes: Bibliography : p. 327-336.

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Puerto Rico: a socio

Supporters of independence, such as Bonocio Tio and his wife 51 Lola Rodriguez de Tio and the revolutionary patriots Segundo Ruiz Belvis, and Emeterio Betances, faced exile, incarceration, and even death. This fact has been overlooked in the island's cultural histories, perhaps because of the sensationalism that has surrounded the practices of espiritismo over the years. She was an enigmatic figure with respect to her private life, and little is known about her.

PUERTO RICO

The first novels, such as *La peregrinacion de Bayodn* 1863 by Eugenio Maria de Hostos, *Cofresi* 1876 by Alejandro Tapia y Rivera, and *La charca* 1894 by Manuel Zeno Gandia, show a common preoccupation with Puerto Rico's colonial condition. Among island-born Puerto Ricans living on the mainland, 43% had some college education or more.

Colonialism and Neocolonialism

As Sarah Mills argues, the centrality given to psychoanalytical concepts in current theories within the field of postcolonial studies makes it difficult to engage in an analysis of the material conditions of colonization without falling into the abstract notions postulated in psychoanalytical theory. Tapia, Brau, and Zeno Gandia represent mainstream Puerto Rican intellectuals whose literary work is recognized as seminal in the development of the island's national literature. One of the first Puerto Rican scholars to examine and emphasize the importance of the African component in Puerto Rican culture was Jose Luis Gonzalez in his influential and highly debated essay *El pais de cuatro pisos*.

Biblioteca de La Casa Latina

Their active participation in and contribution to the cultural development of Puerto Rico, however, has only recently been acknowledged and become an object of study. Indeed, there is a close relationship between Puerto Rico's historical and literary development insofar as the literature reflects the historical events that have structured and shaped national identity.

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