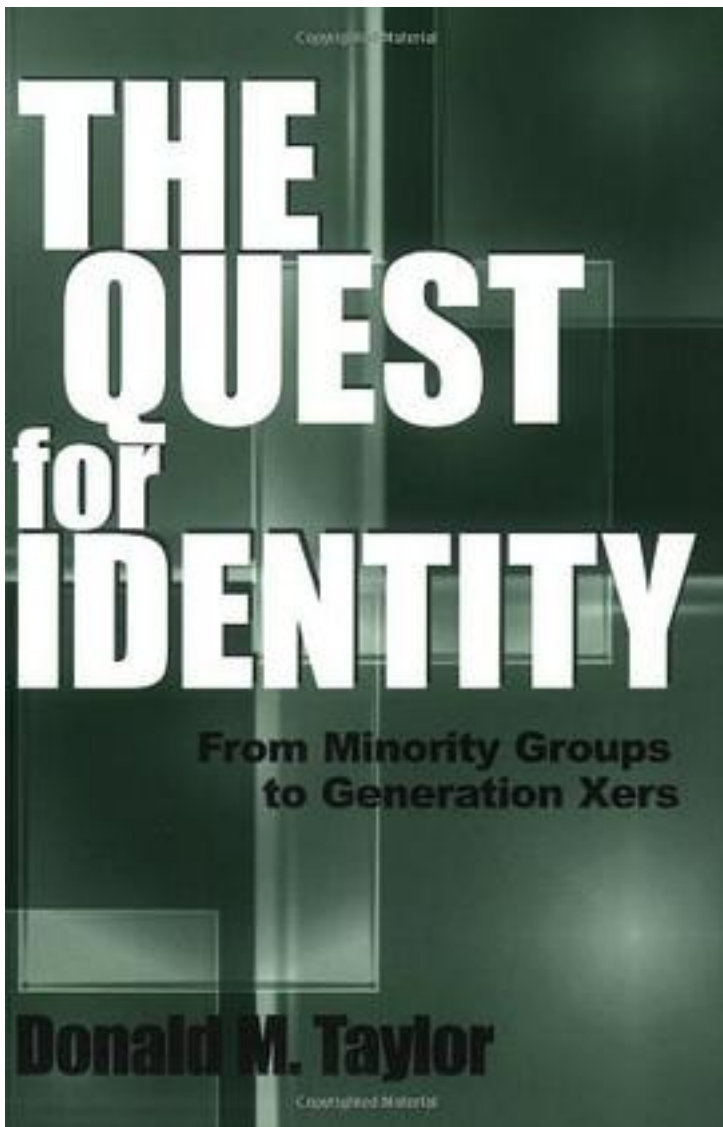


The Quest for Identity



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出版者:

出版时间:2002-11

装帧:

isbn:9780275973100

Examples groups experiencing profound social problems and proposes possible solutions. There are groups in society that experience profound social problems, and there are others that show signs of a growing social malaise. The problems include massive academic underachievement, family dysfunction, substance misuse, violence, and delinquent behavior. In the United States and Canada, this highly unflattering profile applies to Aboriginal people, African Americans, and certain Hispanic groups. To this list, Taylor adds the ever-growing number of so-called "street kids" that roam inner-city streets, and, finally, to a lesser, but no less frightening extent, he adds what have traditionally symbolized society's most privileged group--young, white men. As Taylor points out these are not the only groups who stand out as noticeably disadvantaged, but they are among the most visible, and due to his research and activities, groups that allow him to test his arguments and offer his proposals for change. Drawing upon his research experience in Canada, the United States, South Africa, and Indonesia, Taylor examines the impact of assimilation, and policies of cultural diversity and multiculturalism on these groups. He offers surprising insights into the causes of group malaise and individual failure, and his conclusions are bound to be of significant interest to scholars, students, and researchers involved with intergroup dynamics and cultural diversity.

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