



## Coming Home?: Refugees, Migrants, and Those Who Stayed Behind

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**Coming Home?: Refugees, Migrants, and Those Who Stayed Behind** From Brand: University of Pennsylvania Press

Few things weigh on the human spirit more heavily than a sense of place; the lands we live in and return to have a profound ability to shape our notions of home and homeland, not to mention our own identities. The pull of the familiar and the desire to begin anew are conflicting impulses for the nearly 180 million people who live outside their countries of origin, often with the expectation of returning home. Of 30 million people who immigrated to the United States alone between 1900 and 1980, 10 million are believed to have returned to their homelands.

While migration flows occur in both directions, surprisingly few studies of transnationalism, global migration, or diaspora address return experiences. Undertaking a comparative analysis of how coming home affects individuals and their communities in a myriad cultural and geographic settings, the contributors to this volume seek to understand the unique return migration experiences of refugees, migrants, and various others as they confront the social pressures and a sense of displacement that accompany their journeys.

The returns depicted in *Coming Home?* range from temporary visits to permanent repatriation, from voluntary to coerced movements, and from those occurring after a few years of exile to those after several decades away. The geographic sites include the Balkans, Barbados, China, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Germany, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Rwanda, and Vietnam. Several studies portray the experiences of returning refugees who earlier fled war and violence, while others focus on economic or labor migrants.

As the essays show, connections between permanent returnees and home communities are contentious and complex. On the one hand, issues of land title, property rights, political orientation, and religious and cultural beliefs and practices create grounds for clashes between returnees and their home communities, but on the other, returnees bring with them a unique ability to transform local practices and provide new resources.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"Coming Home? offers ethnographically rich portrayals of the way the imaginings and realities of 'home' affect refugee experiences and subjectivities. . . . The volume is an important contribution to migration scholarship and an especially welcome examination of the overlooked and understudied phenomenon of return migration."—*Journal of Anthropological Research*

#### About the Author

Lynellyn D. Long was Chief of Mission for International Migration in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Country Representative for the Population Council in Vietnam. She teaches in the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Ellen Oxfeld is Professor of Anthropology at Middlebury College.

### **Users Review**

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##### **Amy Cason:**

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of reserve you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with education books but if you want really feel happy read one with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. Often the Coming Home?: Refugees, Migrants, and Those Who Stayed Behind is kind of book which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

##### **Arlene Martin:**

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**Terry Snider:**

The book Coming Home?: Refugees, Migrants, and Those Who Stayed Behind has a lot of information on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was authored by the very famous author. The author makes some research prior to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you will get the point easily after scanning this book.

**Robert Hansen:**

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