

An analysis of stories from the Humanizing Deportation project that reveals a uniquely expert point of view of Mexican and Central American migrant experiences: those of the migrants themselves.

The digital storytelling project Humanizing Deportation invites migrants to present their own stories in the world's largest and most diverse archive of its kind. Since 2017, more than 300 community storytellers have created their own audiovisual testimonial narratives, sharing their personal experiences of migration and repatriation. With *Migrant Feelings*, *Migrant Knowledge*, the project's coordinator, Robert Irwin, and other team members introduce the project's innovative participatory methodology, drawing out key issues regarding the human consequences of contemporary migration control regimes, as well as insights from migrants whose world-making endeavors may challenge what we think we know about migration.

In recent decades, migrants in North America have been treated with unprecedented harshness. *Migrant Feelings*, *Migrant Knowledge* outlines this recent history, revealing stories both of grave injustice and of seemingly unsurmountable obstacles overcome. As Irwin writes, "The greatest source of expertise on the human consequences of contemporary migration control are the migrants who have experienced them," and their voices in this searing collection jump off the page and into our hearts and minds.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ROBERT MCKEE IRWIN is a professor of Spanish at UC Davis. He is the author of *Mexican Masculinities* and *Bandits, Captives, Heroines, and Saints: Cultural Icons of Mexico's Northwest Borderlands*, and he is the coordinator of the Humanizing Deportation digital storytelling project.



MIGRANT FEELINGS, MIGRANT KNOWLEDGE

BUILDING A COMMUNITY ARCHIVE

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