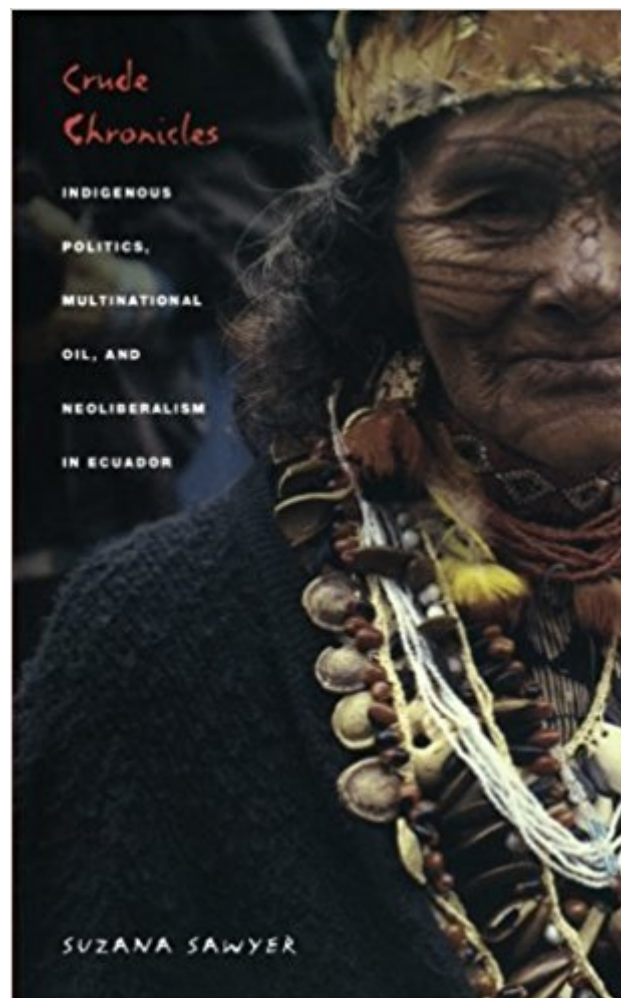




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Crude Chronicles: Indigenous Politics, Multinational Oil, And Neoliberalism In Ecuador (American Encounters/Global Interactions)



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Synopsis

Ecuador is the third-largest foreign supplier of crude oil to the western United States. As the source of this oil, the Ecuadorian has borne the far-reaching social and environmental consequences of a growing U.S. demand for petroleum and the dynamics of economic globalization it necessitates. *Crude Chronicles* traces the emergence during the 1990s of a highly organized indigenous movement and its struggles against a U.S. oil company and Ecuadorian neoliberal policies. Against the backdrop of mounting government attempts to privatize and liberalize the national economy, Suzana Sawyer shows how neoliberal reforms in Ecuador led to a crisis of governance, accountability, and representation that spurred one of twentieth-century Latin America's strongest indigenous movements. Through her rich ethnography of indigenous marches, demonstrations, occupations, and negotiations, Sawyer tracks the growing sophistication of indigenous politics as Indians subverted, re-deployed, and, at times, capitulated to the dictates and desires of a transnational neoliberal logic. At the same time, she follows the multiple maneuvers and discourses that the multinational corporation and the Ecuadorian state used to circumscribe and contain indigenous opposition. Ultimately, Sawyer reveals that indigenous struggles over land and oil operations in Ecuador were as much about reconfiguring national and transnational inequality—that is, rupturing the silence around racial injustice, exacting spaces of accountability, and rewriting narratives of national belonging—as they were about the material use and extraction of rain-forest resources.

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Customer Reviews

“Crude Chronicles seamlessly weaves the compelling richness of an exceptional ethnographic account with the power of a story well told. By chronicling the history of the ongoing contest that has characterized the politics of petroleum in the Ecuadorian , Sawyer brilliantly illustrates the imbricated process by which indigenous and neoliberal geographies are configured and reconfigured in the process of making nature, nation, and citizens. Crude Chronicles will surely become a key reference point in future debates about the cultural politics of nature.”

—Peter Brosius, University of Georgia

Crude Chronicles is a splendid example of fine-grained ethnography. It illustrates in many ways why this approach continues to be the hallmark of anthropology. The best feature of the book is the lovingly detailed descriptions and close-to-the-ground analysis of dialogue and events. It will be mandatory reading for Latin Americanists interested in social movements, especially the indigenous and environmentalist movements, and of course, students of Ecuadorian politics.

—Jean E. Jackson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“Crude Chronicles ”seamlessly weaves the compelling richness of an exceptional ethnographic account with the power of a story well told. By chronicling the history of the ongoing contest that has characterized the politics of petroleum in the Ecuadorian , Sawyer brilliantly illustrates the imbricated process by which indigenous and neoliberal geographies are configured and reconfigured in the process of making nature, nation, and citizens. "Crude Chronicles" will surely become a key reference point in future debates about the cultural politics of nature.”--Peter Brosius, University of Georgia

Just a good book in general, gripping narrative. Would recomend if you wanted to learn more about the issues with Oil in South America.

This is one of the best books on indigenous politics that has been written. The author’s 20 years of experience in the Ecuadorian ia show in the depth of her narrative and in her careful and accessible use of Foucault to draw out the complexities of indigenous identity, conceptions of nation and nationalism, and the impact of global forces. It is also beautifully written. Clearly, a labor of love and conviction by a scholar who has spent hours listening to indigenous activists , oil company officials,

state officials, NGO workers, academics, and, most importantly native Ecuadorans of widely diverse political views and fashioned a wonderful book. If you are interested in all the complex political issues surrounding globalization as seen from the , you don't need a Ph.D to find this a great read

I ordered this book because it was assigned for my introduction to anthropology course. Having it available as a kindle ebook means that I have one less book to carry around, and it cost less than the paperback version. The book is interesting, but is a bit of a slow read.

This is a failed ethnography. It is incredibly one sided. Sawyer claims to be the voice for the indigenous peoples, but she only studies OPIP, dismissing the DICIP. Her arguments are incredibly basic: oil companies are bad, OPIP is good. The book reads more like a travel book: Sawyer and her Journey to Ecuador.

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