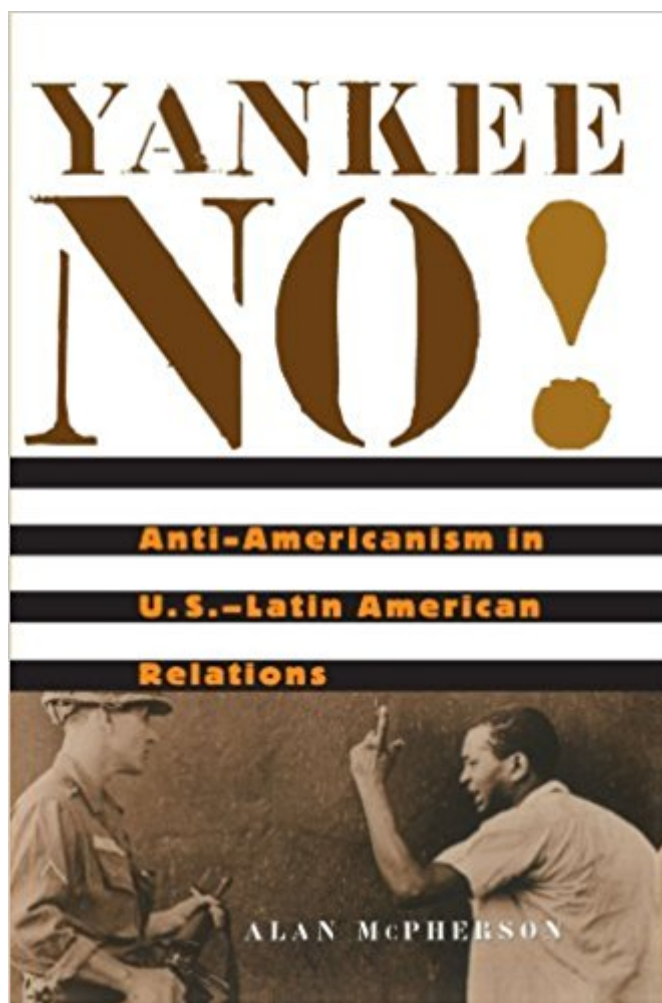


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# Yankee No!: Anti-Americanism In U.S.-Latin American Relations



## Synopsis

In 1958, angry Venezuelans attacked Vice President Richard Nixon in Caracas, opening a turbulent decade in Latin American-U.S. relations. In *Yankee No!* Alan McPherson sheds much-needed light on the controversial and pressing problem of anti-U.S. sentiment in the world. Examining the roots of anti-Americanism in Latin America, McPherson focuses on three major crises: the Cuban Revolution, the 1964 Panama riots, and U.S. intervention in the Dominican Republic. Deftly combining cultural and political analysis, he demonstrates the shifting and complex nature of anti-Americanism in each country and the love-hate ambivalence of most Latin Americans toward the United States. When rising panic over "Yankee hating" led Washington to try to contain foreign hostility, the government displayed a surprisingly coherent and consistent response, maintaining an ideological self-confidence that has outlasted a Latin American diplomacy torn between resentment and admiration of the United States. However, McPherson warns, U.S. leaders run a great risk if they continue to ignore the deeper causes of anti-Americanism. Written with dramatic flair, *Yankee No!* is a timely, compelling, and carefully researched contribution to international history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Alan McPherson has not only made a valuable contribution to the literature on U.S.-Latin American relations but, more importantly, he has provided a superb analysis of anti-Americanism by identifying its variability, its ambivalence, and the U.S. resilience in confronting the challenge during the critical years framed in this book. In his sophistication and in his writing he demonstrates all the attributes of a seasoned historian. (Lester D. Langley, author of *The Americas in the Modern*

Age)McPherson expertly extends the field of U.S. foreign relations into social and cultural history. In his analysis of U.S. relations with Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Panama, he deftly avoids the trap of writing international history solely with the 'view from Washington' perspective. I unequivocally recommend it. (Stephen Rabe, author of *Eisenhower and Latin America*)This timely, deeply researched, analytically rigorous, and handsomely written study probes the many anti-Americanisms that have bedeviled U.S. relations with Latin America. Why do they hate us?' is an urgent question today. McPherson impressively demonstrates that it has profound historical roots that can inform caring policymakers eager to prevent global violence. (Thomas G. Paterson, author of *Contesting Castro*)McPherson opens a revealing window on the heretofore elusive phenomenon of anti-Americanism. In so doing he takes his place in the front ranks of younger scholars writing about U.S. foreign relations. (William Walker, Florida International University)McPherson examines the years from 1958 to 1966, when anti-Americanism was a prominent theme in inter-American diplomacy, to deliver a helpful reminder that anti-Americanism is not a new phenomenon nor a product only of the Middle East--and that it has been confronted quite effectively in the past, at least when its sources were sought out and taken seriously. He provides several vivid case studies, starting with the attacks on Vice President Richard Nixon in Caracas and continuing on to Cuba, Panama, and the Dominican Republic. Together, these examples show the variability and ambivalence of anti-Americanism; they also emphasize the importance of U.S. policies that respond to its challenges rather than dismissing it as a cynical invention of alienated elites...This well-written and balanced book should be required reading in the White House, in Langley, and around Foggy Bottom. (Foreign Affairs 2004-03-01)[Yankee No!] makes a singular contribution to our understanding of a generally neglected aspect of inter-American relations. It represents a bold attempt to add a cultural dimension to diplomatic history. The current upsurge in anti-Americanism across the globe in the wake of the Iraq war makes its appearance most timely. (Philip Chrimes International Affairs 2004-10-01)This is a book that should be read by everyone interested in foreign relations, not merely historians specializing in the field but others in the academy and general public. Latin America has always been the testing ground for the development of U.S. foreign policies, and McPherson admirably takes these case studies and demonstrates the nature of anti-Americanism, one that bears a striking resemblance to the current global phenomenon. (Kyle Longley American Historical Review 2004-12-01)[McPherson's] understanding of Latin American anti-Americanism and the U.S. response is more complex and has more analytical depth than any previous study. The book is extremely well researched in both U.S. archival and Spanish-language sources, and combines a rich discussion of U.S. foreign policy through three presidential

administrations, with a sophisticated attention to larger domestic historical processes in both the United States and Latin America. (David Sheinin International History Review) Exquisitely timed... McPherson's scrupulous historical account and subtle treatment of inter-American relations illuminates the dilemmas and complexities posed by the multiple variants of anti-Americanism. His superb study can help interpret contemporary political realities and the strains and challenges of managing global affairs in a decidedly unipolar world... McPherson treats 'anti-Americanism' precisely as it deserves to be treated--seriously, carefully, and with great sophistication. (Michael Shifter Georgetown Journal of International Affairs 2004-06-01) The urgency of Alan McPherson's excellent book increases daily during these tumultuous and sanguinary times. The United States would do well to heed his conclusion, that 'arrogance in the face of aggression eventually produce[s] more aggression'... Yankee No! is a timely call to form a new genre of scholarly inquiry into the global phenomenon of anti-Americanism, which has not been treated widely heretofore. (Eric Roorda Hispanic American Historical Review) Alan McPherson's study in contemporary international history is a timely one. Yankee No! combines cultural and political analysis of the decade or so between the mid-1950s and mid-1960s to uncover 'the broader meanings and workings of anti-Americanism' during a period when it was particularly prominent... Written in an admirably detailed and clear style, Yankee No! should answer the needs both of general readers interested in the modern politics of the Americas and American foreign policy, and of scholars and students of these disciplines. (British Bulletin of Publications 2004-04-01) Alan McPherson's monograph on the role of anti-Americanism in inter-American relations is a timely one. As the author correctly observes, the events and aftermath of September 11 added new urgency to the task of unraveling and understanding the roots of anti-Americanism throughout the world... Yankee No! exhibits both solid research and strong writing... As far as McPherson's writing is concerned, his prose is at once concise and engaging. The author has a good eye for the compelling quote, and the title of the first chapter, 'The Road to Caracas: Or, Richard Nixon Must Get Stoned,' combines humor and compelling historical analysis. Although the book is somewhat brief (170 pages of text), McPherson makes persuasive arguments and explains complex events and issues without resorting to jargon. In short, the book is both intellectually provocative and a good read... For both scholars and interested laypeople, it should be considered essential reading. (Matthew Loayza H-Net)

Alan McPherson has not only made a valuable contribution to the literature on U.S.-Latin American relations but, more importantly, he has provided a superb analysis of anti-Americanism by identifying its variability, its ambivalence, and the U.S. resilience in confronting the challenge during

the critical years framed in this book. In his sophistication and in his writing he demonstrates all the attributes of a seasoned historian. (Lester D. Langley, author of *The Americas in the Modern Age*)  
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I really enjoyed this book because it focuses on different countries such as Cuba, Dom Rep, Panama, Venezuela etc. In each chapter you study the history behind Anti-Americanism and if it is real or imagined. I enjoyed the historical facts, the pictures, and all the data about Central, South America and the Caribbean. During this historical moment is very important to understand the reasons behind Anti-Americanism. This book gives you these reasons and more. A must read for people interested in Latin-American studies, Spanish, Spanish-American studies, etc.

McPherson's take on anti-Americanism (ie, "anti-USism") in the cold war Caribbean was written as an historical guide to the 9/11 era and its recurrent themes of "Why do they hate us?" and "How can they hate us?" He explores the wilful naivete behind the plaint by referring us to an earlier era which has merged almost seamlessly with the new. McPherson takes anti-USism as unique, but I disagree. There most certainly is an anti-Britishism (re: Ireland, India) and anti-Russianism (Poland, the Baltic States.) There doubtless was an anti-Rome-ism too. Colin Powell's "Pottery Barn Rule" ("You break it, it's yours, you've bought it") is the historic norm. Great powers, by nature, inevitably act the bull in the global china shop and are as inevitably hated for it. Although more thoughtful policy makers are aware of this dilemma, such knowledge has little practical effect. McPherson's analysis of anti-Americanism in Venezuela, Cuba, Panama, and the Dominican Republic stresses the underdog resentment of America's neighbors, and suggests anti-Americanism is more an elite than a grass-roots phenomenon. His recounting of the US-Cuba rupture is his key point. In the need of the new revolutionary elite to consolidate sovereignty over their country, Fidel's early pragmatic "Menshevism" gave way to a radicalizing class war and anti-Americanism, both of which were only latent and needed considerable stoking to emerge as a mass force. This echoes the need of conservative elites to promote their own anti-Americanism, to keep the Colossus of the North from trampling their own turf, a problem too remote from the majority's daily struggle for survival. The US, for its part, conveniently conflated anti-Americanism with Communism as a rationale for extending its cold war battlelines: who else but Commies could find fault with the USA? This raises a question that McPherson seems to avoid: that anti-Americanism might also be a manipulated pretext in Washington, a rationale to pursue policies otherwise morally unacceptable. McPherson quotes US Secretary of State Christian Herter that his Department "applied a series of tests to the Castro

regime" in its first ten months, without specifying as to what said tests might have been. But we know that Fidel was not the only one pursuing disingenuous "ambivalence." Anti-Castro actions and McCarthyite red-baiting were already conveniently outsourced to the CIA, exiles, and private agencies, allowing the US to maintain its facade of diplomatic neutrality. The upper middle class, middle-aged white males running the State Department reacted much the same to Caribbean anti-Americanism as they did to the simultaneous civil rights movement at home. Because at bottom they already knew the answer to their posed question. Without indulging in conspiracy theory, how convenient and necessary it seems for "them to hate us

This book is excellent - and not too long either. The author drew up a high number of sources to show the origins of anti-American sentiments in four Latin American countries. By own admission, he doesn't try to explain all strands of anti-Americanism there, but emphasizes the role of the intellectual leaders in those countries. Within these confines, he wrote an excellent - academically serious but also readable. Highly recommended!

do not be fooled by the lying apologists of the us. The North America has given much offense to the peoples of latin america, and here is why. Open your eyes, please, North Americans, and learn about the rest of the Americas.

Only idiots like azov (Bumble) would read this drivel.:)

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