This is an outstanding contribution to the growing scholarship on Chicana/o education. Yosso skillfully provides the field with the most powerful and insightful analysis ever produced about the experiences Chicanas/os endure as they navigate the obstacle-laden educational pipeline, from elementary school through graduate school. Using the lens of critical race theory and a rich corpus of social science research, Yosso shapes multiple counterstories into a dynamic fusion of shared discourse that challenges social and racial injustice along the educational pipeline. Critical Race Counterstories offers visibility to the invisible, and much hope to Chicanas/os who face despair at the margins of society.

— Richard R. Valencia,
Professor of Educational Psychology and Faculty Associate of the Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Chicanas/os are part of the youngest, largest, and fastest growing racial/ethnic “minority” population in the United States, yet at every schooling level, they suffer the lowest educational outcomes of any racial/ethnic group. Using a “counterstorytelling” methodology, Tara Yosso debunks racialized myths that blame the victims for these unequal educational outcomes and redirects our focus toward historical patterns of institutional neglect. She artfully interweaves empirical data and theoretical arguments with engaging narratives that expose and analyze racism as it functions to limit access and opportunity for Chicana/o students. By humanizing the need to transform our educational system, Yosso offers an accessible tool for teaching and learning about the problems and possibilities present along the Chicano/a educational pipeline.

Tara J. Yosso is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara