A Note from the Editor

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As the authors in this special issue make clear, the subject of Latinos and the military has been underexplored. I am grateful to Luis F.B. Plascencia and Gina M. Pérez, the editors of this special issue, for bringing together a set of provocative essays that work to unravel the role of militarism and militarization in the lives of Latinos in a variety of historical moments and across multiple sites. Employing interdisciplinary approaches and spanning topics that include the targeting of Latinos with limited economic opportunities or unauthorized citizenship; the increasing encroachment of enforcement institutions such as the military, the police, Border Patrol and Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Latino lives; and the representation of Latino military experiences in films and literature, these essays contribute to our understanding of militarization processes in the construction of nationalism, citizenship, masculinity and notions of community and deservedness. I expect that this special issue will generate excitement and inspire other scholars and activists to engage in this much-needed conversation.

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