## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is a product of the unique, interdisciplinary spaces I have been fortunate to inhabit—in particular, the Ethnic Studies Department at UC Berkeley, my alma mater, and the Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) Department at UC Santa Cruz, my current institution. I landed in LALS after my first department at UC Santa Cruz, American Studies, folded. I thank my colleagues in LALS—in particular, Lorato Anderson, Gabi Arredondo, Lily Ballofet, Jeff Erbig, Sylvanna Falcón, Adrián Félix, Johnny Fox, Rosa-Linda Fregoso, Shannon Gleeson, Fernando Leiva, Christina Navarro, Ursula Oberg, Justin Pérez, Patricia Pinho, Cecilia Rivas, Marianna Santana, Jessica Taft, and Pat Zavella. Many have read and responded to my work. All allowed me to become the scholar I am today by welcoming me and giving me the opportunity to focus on my research and writing. George and Megan Bunch, Vilashini Cooppan, Nathaniel Deutsch, Peggy Estrada, Carla Freccero, Jennifer González, Debbie Gould, Herman Gray, Jody Greene, Miriam Greenberg, Kirsten Silva Gruesz, Dan and Adriana Guevara, Amy Keys, L. S. Kim, Kim Lau, Amy Lonetree, Annette Marines, Steve McKay, Teresa Mora, Judit Moschkovich, Dard Neuman, Marcia Ochoa, Matt O'Hara, Laurie Palmer, Micah Perks, Juan Poblete, Irena Polic, Craig Reinarman, Seema Rizvi, Warren Sack,

Helen Shapiro, Shelley Stamp, Dana Takagi, Veronica Terriquez, Lew Watts, and Alice Yang provided me with sound guidance and sustaining pep talks, often over good food and drink. UC Santa Cruz's former executive vice chancellor, Marlene Tromp, brought Stacy Kamehiro, Felicity Amaya Schaeffer, Megan Thomas, and me together via the EVC Fellows Academy. I am grateful to EVC Tromp for establishing the EVC Fellows Academy and to Stacy, Felicity, and Megan for their careful readings of my work and companionship. Hunter Bivens, former director of UC Santa Cruz's Center for Cultural Studies, gave me the opportunity to share an early draft of chapter 2 at a colloquium in 2015. Jackie Powell provided vital staff support when I directed UC Santa Cruz's Chicano Latino Research Center (now the Research Center for the Americas), while Candy Martinez assisted with research. Other students—namely, Ruben Espinoza, Cesar Estrella, Alina Fernandez, Vicente Lovelace, Mauricio Ramírez, Gaby Segura, Alma Villa, Jimi Valiente-Neighbours, and Aimee Villarreal—helped motivate me with their own scholarly undertakings. Katharyne Mitchell, dean of the Social Sciences Division at UC Santa Cruz, and her predecessor, Dean Emeritus Sheldon Kamieniecki, were steadfast in their support.

Having spent several years developing this book project, I encountered new interlocutors and was delighted to find I could still count on old ones. Jesse Alemán, Alicia Schmidt Camacho, Sylvia Chan-Malik, Nick De Genova, David Eng, Jill Gurvey, David Manuel Hernández, Robert Irwin, Sara Johnson, Josh Kun, Laz Lima, Anthony Macías, Rhacel Parreñas, Birgit Rasmussen, Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán and Matt Wray helped move this project along with their smart questions, helpful suggestions, and friendship. Alicia Laz, Frederick Aldama, José Aranda, Veronica Acevedo Avila, Mati Córdoba Azcarate, Lindsey Berfond, Wilson Chen, Elizabeth Chin, Sean Donahue, Rhonda M. Gonzales, Carmen Flys Junquera, Marián Martínez Martínez, Steve Pitti, and Rachel Valinsky gave me the opportunity to share work in progress at their institutions. "Illegality Regimes," a conference in 2013 organized by Juan Amaya Castro and Bas Schotel at Vrije Universiteit

Amsterdam, and "Studying Race Relationally," a workshop organized by Ramón Gutiérrez and Natalia Molina at the University of Chicago in 2016, were especially generative. I am grateful to Ramón and Natalia in particular for providing me with the feedback and encouragement I needed to get this project off the ground.

This book would not exist without the resolute support of Niels Hooper, my editor at UC Press. I am grateful for the constructive reports he coaxed from the anonymous readers. Special thanks go to Rachel Ida Buff, George Lipstiz, and Rebecca Schreiber for their astute observations and to Ramón, Natalia, and Michael Omi for endorsing my book. Robin Manley and Jon Dertien helped turn this book into a tangible reality.

I thank Jörg Brüggemann, Alberto Ledesma, and Julio Salgado for permitting me to reproduce their works of art in my book. Dario Canul and Cosijoesa Cernas of Tlacolulokos approved the use of the photos I took of their murals at the Los Angeles Public Library. I am grateful to all of these artists for their vision and inspiration. I owe a debt of gratitude to Alberto for coming to Santa Cruz to speak to my students in my Immigrant Storytelling seminar in the spring of 2019. His generosity, wit, and talent continue to hearten me.

Support from the University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States and UC Santa Cruz's Committee on Research allowed me to conduct essential research for this book.

I finished writing Assimilation as a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) at Stanford University over 2019–20. I am grateful to the CASBS leadership and staff for welcoming me and providing me with the logistical support and intellectual community that I needed to expand this project and bring it to completion. I learned from and enjoyed the company of the other members of my cohort—in particular, Rene Almeling, Brian Arthur, Nina Bandlej, Giulia Baroni, Kathleen Belew, Mario Biagioli, Marco Casari, David Ciepley, Anita Hardon, Mai Hassan, Paula Moya, Noah Nathan, Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, Bruno Perreau, Laura Richman, Ramón Saldívar, Ellie

Shermer, Mark Warren, and Su-Ling Yeh. Carole Hessler provided me with a peaceful home to return to after a long, productive day at work. COVID-19 separated us sooner and more abruptly than any of us ever expected, so I cherish the relationships that I forged at and because of CASBS that much more.

I thank my family for putting up with me as I wrote this book and for reminding me that there is life beyond it. Between trips to archives, writing retreats, and presentations, I lost my Aunts Mawe, Mary, and Arlene and my father-in-law, Scip. I have no doubt they would have taken great pride in seeing me wrap this project up.

Finally, I thank Eric Porter, my friend, colleague, and partner in life. For the past twenty-five years he has listened to my half-baked ideas, read many an inchoate draft, and witnessed more than a couple melt-downs. I am grateful for his patience, insight, candor, company, and generous support. He and our curious, compassionate, and increasingly conscious children motivate, distract, anchor, and buoy me.