Ethnic Studies

"Indigenous Futures: Oaxaqueñx Youth *Encuentro* and New Voices in the California Central Valley"



by Nancy Morales

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Based on a five-year Native ethnography with participant observation of fifteen Oaxaqueñx Youth *Encuentro* events, and twenty-four interviews with 1.5 (U.S.-raised) and second generations (U.S.-born) of Mixtec and Zapotec women and queer youth, Morales argues for more expansive definitions of Indigenous governance, such as *tequio* (community labor) to account for the political participation of Indigenous women and Indigiqueer youth that challenge static nationalist notions of Indigeneity.

•Nancy Morales is an Indigenous (Zapotec) feminist scholar-activist and Native ethnographer. She earned her Ph.D. from the Department of Feminist Studies at UC Santa Barbara in June 2023 and is a UC President's Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Anthropology at UC Santa Cruz.

She is currently working on a short documentary and book manuscript, *Oaxacan Pride: Women and Indigiqueer Youth's Struggles for Sovereignty.*