



## Generos de Gente in Early Colonial Mexico: Defining Racial Difference (Hardback)

By Prof Robert C Schwaller

University of Oklahoma Press, 2016. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. On December 19, 1554, the members of Tenochtitlan s indigenous cabildo, or city council, petitioned Emperor Charles V of Spain for administrative changes to save us from any Spaniard, mestizo, black, or mulato afflicting us in the marketplace, on the roads, in the canal, or in our homes. Within thirty years of the conquest, the presence of these groups in New Spain was large enough to threaten the social, economic, and cultural order of the indigenous elite. In *Generos de Gente in Early Colonial Mexico*, an ambitious rereading of colonial history, Robert C. Schwaller proposes using the Spanish term *generos de gente* (types or categories of people) as part of a more nuanced perspective on what these categories of difference meant and how they evolved. His work revises our understanding of racial hierarchy in Mexico, the repercussions of which reach into the present. Schwaller traces the connections between medieval Iberian ideas of difference and the unique societies forged in the Americas. He analyzes the ideological and legal development of *generos de gente* into a system that began to resemble modern notions of race. He then examines...



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