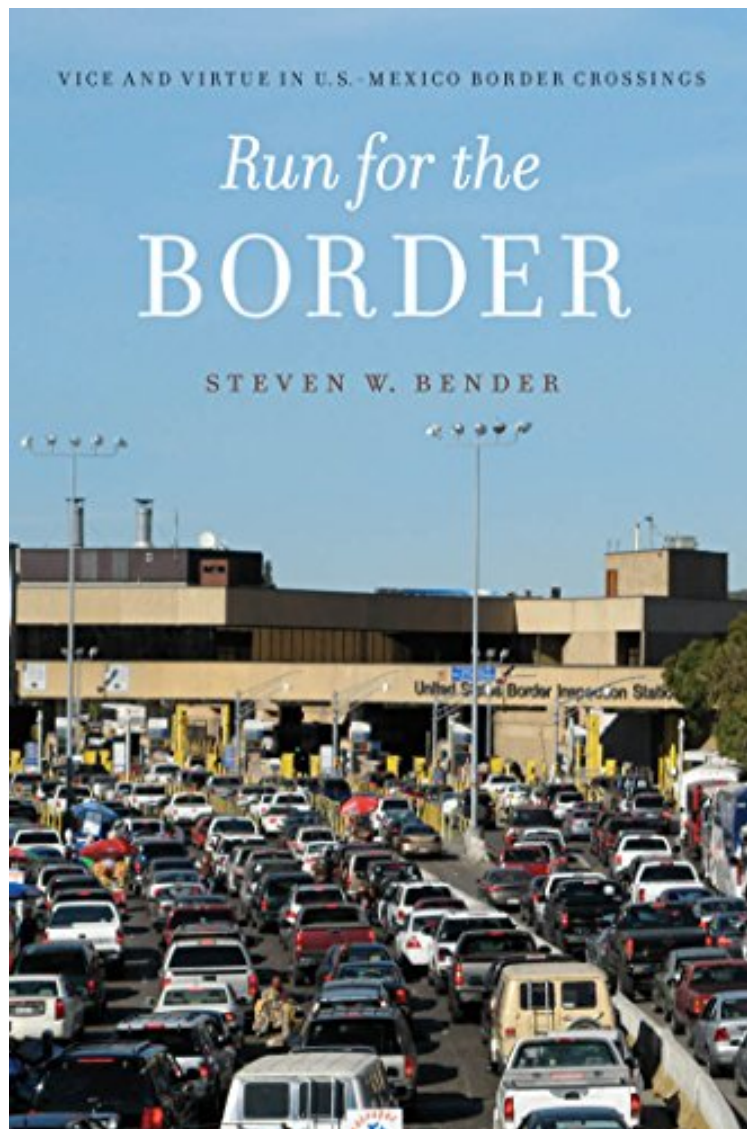


(Mobile ebook) Run for the Border: Vice and Virtue in U.S.-Mexico Border Crossings (Citizenship and Migration in the Americas)

Run for the Border: Vice and Virtue in U.S.-Mexico Border Crossings (Citizenship and Migration in the Americas)

Steven W. Bender

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Steven W. Bender : Run for the Border: Vice and Virtue in U.S.-Mexico Border Crossings (Citizenship and Migration in the Americas) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Run for the Border: Vice and Virtue in U.S.-Mexico Border Crossings (Citizenship and Migration in the Americas):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Engaging, thought-provoking and helpful By Rose CV Steve Bender's book, *Run for the Border*, offers an incredibly engaging and thought-provoking historical account of issues centering on the southern border. Well-researched, *Run for the Border* provides varied perspectives on why different populations sought to either escape or seek refuge from the border. These perspectives included those of individuals north and south of the border. By offering these cross-border views, *Run for the Border* facilitates a broader understanding of events that led to unauthorized migration to the United States. Importantly, *Run for the Border* provides valuable and helpful recommendations for comprehensive reforms regarding border crossings. Overall, I strongly recommend the book.

Mexico and the United States exist in a symbiotic relationship: Mexico frequently provides the United States with cheap labor, illegal goods, and, for criminal offenders, a refuge from the law. In turn, the U.S. offers Mexican laborers the American dream: the possibility of a better livelihood through hard work. To supply each others demands, Americans and Mexicans have to cross their shared border from both sides. Despite this relationship, U.S. immigration reform debates tend to be security-focused and center on the idea of menacing Mexicans heading north to steal abundant American resources. Further, Congress tends to approach reform unilaterally, without engaging with Mexico or other feeder countries, and, disturbingly, without acknowledging problematic southern crossings that Americans routinely make into Mexico.

"Benders account offers an important corrective to the idea that there is any single narrative that ought to drive the complex debate on immigration policy. With a series of graphic illustrations Bender explodes many of the myths about immigration and tells the complicated interlocking series of stories that have colored our understanding of the relationship this country has had with Mexico and which Mexico has had with us. It is an important and valuable contribution to the increasingly vituperative political debate on how to manage the border."-Gerald Torres, author of *The Miner's Canary: Enlisting Race, Resisting Power, Transforming Democracy* "[O]ne insight that is clearly articulated throughout this work is that the decisions that our governments make, whether unilaterally or cooperatively, have direct and critically important impact on their constituents."-David Hatten, *cljbooks* "No doubt, borders are incredibly fascinating. And if you want a pleasant way to understand the multitude of factors driving the enormous legal and illicit traffic across the U.S.-Mexico border, then *Run for the Border* is the book for you. Benders detailed and nuanced review of the U.S.-Mexican border, its history and its complexity, is invaluable. It presents a very readable collection of historic to very modern examples demonstrating why people move goods and themselves in both directions. Benders rich analysis gives us the tools to understand what is wrong and occasionally right--with our trade, immigration and drug policies. In reviewing immigration reform and drug legalization Steve Bender makes some sober and some surprising policy suggestions. *Run for the Border* takes common U.S. border mythology and smashes it to pieces. What is left after reading this very interesting and compelling book is a much richer understanding of the U.S.-Mexico border. It uses history and modern cultural references to show what the border is and does. We also learn how and why people, legally and otherwise, have crossed goods and themselves over it for the past 150 years. Bender reveals the complexity of border traffic and shows us, strand by strand, how it works. Along the way, he also exposes the unfortunate fog of myths, stereotypes, and rank racism that have obscured our understanding of the border and the people who cross it. *Run for the Borders* fact-based approach gets us well beyond the din of the intense and sometimes bitter debate over immigration and drug policies."