Reading Number 76
from *Latino Politics in America*
by John Garcia

p. 535, ¶ 1– “The closeness of the [2000] election, growth of the Latino electorate, notable partisan attention directed to the Latino communities, and more Latinos seeking elected office all provide evidence for the political gains that Latinos take into the new millennium.”

p. 535, ¶ 2– “While much has been made of the rapid and continuous growth of the ‘largest minority,’ this pattern will be reinforce in the future.”

*Ibid.*, ¶ 4– “The influx of Latinos into less ‘traditional’ areas is becoming more evident.”

p. 539, ¶ 2– “The expansion of Latinos into metropolitan areas and regions of the country where they have been less evident serves a couple of political and social purposes.”

*Ibid.*, ¶ 4– “…part of the future of Latino politics is the process of community building within the Latino community, as well as bridging within existing community interests and institutions in more recently settled areas.”

*Ibid.*, ¶ 5– “The second basic ‘fact’ that bears relevance to the future of Latino politics is the existence of a pan-ethnic community.”

p. 540, ¶ 2– “The dispersion of Latinos across different regions of the country has brought more Latinos into contact where only one group previously predominated.”

*Ibid.*, ¶ 3– “The mid-1990s firmly established the real ‘political capital’ of Latinos in American politics. Metaphors of ‘invincibility,’ ‘a sleeping giant,’ and ‘soon to have your place in the sun’ have been used for decades, especially in references to the Mexican-origin population. More recently, similar themes of potentiality and conversion of a significant, growing population into a major political, economic and cultural force were evident in the mass media, espoused by political and economic leaders, and by activists and organizational leaders from the different Latino communities. Since the mid-`90s, there is greater evidence that Latinos have moved to more concrete indicators that the ‘Latino vessel has arrived’ on the American political and social shores.”