

## ABSTRACT

### **The Short Fiction of the Hispanic Caribbean and its Diaspora 1960s-1990s: Representations of Political and Social Issues**

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This study aims to examine the ways in which selected authors of the Hispanic Caribbean and the Diaspora, writing in the 1960s - 1990s have used the short story genre to represent the experiences and the condition of Hispanics in Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic as well as in the United States and Europe. The exploration of short stories by selected authors in the period identified will proceed within discussions of treatment of social and political themes at the macrocosmic level. At the same time the discussion will seek to identify any similarities, contradictions and inconsistencies in the selected Hispanic-authored texts. I propose to identify specific themes as common threads of Hispanic Caribbean Short Fiction written in the period identified (mid-1960s -1990s). This also includes an examination of the representation and treatment of each theme by selected authors/stories in order to explore various representations and pinpoint areas of convergence and divergence at technical and sub-thematic levels. The works will be discussed within certain parameters, that they share certain thematic and stylistic similarities and that the authors have achieved complex representations via portrayals of specific Hispanic Caribbean issues. The focal points are: **political tensions** and their representations at the individual level, **stereotypical images**, **migration** and migrant **identity**.

Keywords: Alison G. Altidor-Brooks; Hispanic Diaspora; social and political tensions; sexual taboos and stereotypes; Hispanic migration, migrant identity.