

Questions for reading: *At War with Diversity*, Crawford

This book made a splash when it appeared and it's still important, but you should engage with it ... you might want to challenge some things he argues and/or develop and provide new support for others:

1. How does Crawford understand U.S. language policy past and present? How has that worked? What advantages and disadvantages does it have?
2. How did the American population regard official English legislation at the time he was writing?
3. What is his hypothesis on p. 10? Why is it important and interesting? (I think it is both, whether he's right or wrong.)
4. He sketches several historical scenarios involving communities that we have not discussed — e.g., Cajuns, Californios, Hawaiians. How do they compare with the Wisconsin situations of language and Indigenous people and immigrant people we have discussed?
5. What does the famous Franklin quote (p. 11) tell us about language and immigration past and present? About broader social issues in the U.S.? (Also Roosevelt on p. 8.)
6. On p. 21 and elsewhere, Crawford makes statements about German and WWI. He's hardly alone and some are much more strident, like Tolzmann: "[t]he Anti-German Hysteria certainly ranks as one of the most brutal inquisitions in American history" (1995:1073). How do you interpret Crawford's view? If he asked you for advice on a new edition, what would you tell him?
7. Where does the modern English Only movement come from? Is it connected to anti-immigrant and racist groups in his view? Who is the Federation for American Immigration Reform?
8. Crawford notes (esp. pp. 26-27) that earlier immigrants (often earlier by a generation or two) sometimes lead efforts for English only or other anti-immigrant-language legislation. How should we understand that? Are there Wisconsin parallels? Have you seen evidence of this in any of our recent readings or discussions?
9. "What kinds of bilingual accommodations are reasonable and necessary to ensure minorities' access to government and education?"
10. What is his big picture assessment of linguistic diversity in the United States?
11. Later in the book (beyond the part you're reading), Crawford writes (p. 66) that all languages other than English in the U.S. "would gradually die out in this country", save for "the replenishing effects of immigration". Is that right? Explain.

Reference

Tolzmann, Don Heinrich, ed. 1995. *Vol. I: The Anti-German Hysteria of World War I; vol. II: The World War on [sic] Experience*. München: K.G. Saur.