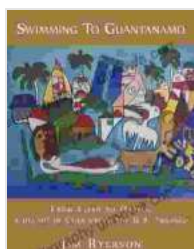


# From Elian to Obama: A Decade in Cuba Under the Embargo

Cuba has been under a U.S. embargo for over 60 years. The embargo has had a significant impact on the Cuban people, causing economic hardship, shortages of food and medicine, and limited access to information and technology. Despite these challenges, the Cuban people have shown great resilience and creativity, finding ways to survive and thrive under difficult circumstances.

In recent years, there have been some signs of progress towards improving relations between the United States and Cuba. In 2014, President Obama and President Castro announced a historic agreement to normalize diplomatic relations. This agreement has led to a number of changes, including the reopening of embassies in both countries, the resumption of commercial flights, and the easing of some travel restrictions.

However, the embargo remains in place, and it continues to have a significant impact on the Cuban people. In this article, we will explore the impact of the embargo on Cuba over the past decade, from the Elian Gonzalez case to the Obama administration's efforts to normalize relations.



## Swimming to Guantanamo: From Elian to Obama A Decade in Cuba Under the U.S. Embargo by Jim Ryerson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Screen Reader : Supported  
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In 1999, a six-year-old Cuban boy named Elian Gonzalez was rescued from the ocean after his mother and stepfather drowned while trying to flee Cuba. Elian was taken to the United States, where his relatives in Miami sought to keep him from returning to Cuba. The case became a major international incident, with both the United States and Cuba claiming the right to custody of the boy.

After a lengthy legal battle, Elian was eventually returned to Cuba in 2000. The case highlighted the deep divisions between the United States and Cuba, as well as the complex issues surrounding immigration and family reunification.

The Bush administration took a hardline stance towards Cuba, tightening the embargo and restricting travel and remittances. In 2006, the administration also imposed new sanctions on Cuba in response to the country's human rights record. These sanctions further isolated Cuba and made it more difficult for the Cuban people to access basic necessities.

The Obama administration took a more conciliatory approach towards Cuba, seeking to improve relations between the two countries. In 2014, President Obama and President Castro announced a historic agreement to normalize diplomatic relations. This agreement has led to a number of changes, including the reopening of embassies in both countries, the resumption of commercial flights, and the easing of some travel restrictions.

The Obama administration also took steps to ease the embargo, allowing U.S. companies to invest in Cuba and Cuban businesses to export goods to the United States. However, the embargo remains in place, and it continues to have a significant impact on the Cuban people.

The embargo has had a devastating impact on the Cuban economy. The country has been cut off from one of its largest trading partners, and it has difficulty importing the goods and services it needs. The embargo has also made it difficult for Cuba to develop its tourism industry, which is a major source of revenue for the country.

The embargo has also had a negative impact on the Cuban people's standard of living. The country has shortages of food, medicine, and other basic necessities. The embargo has also made it difficult for Cubans to travel and to access information and technology.

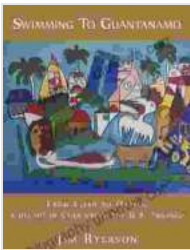
The future of the embargo is uncertain. The Obama administration took steps to ease the embargo, but the Trump administration has taken a more hardline stance. It is unclear whether the Biden administration will continue to ease the embargo or whether it will tighten it further.

The Cuban people have shown great resilience and creativity in the face of the embargo. They have found ways to survive and thrive under difficult circumstances. However, the embargo continues to have a significant impact on their lives. It is time for the United States to lift the embargo and allow the Cuban people to determine their own future.

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The embargo on Cuba has been a failure. It has not achieved its stated goals of promoting democracy and human rights in Cuba. Instead, it has only served to hurt the Cuban people. It is time for the United States to lift the embargo and allow the Cuban people to determine their own future.

- [The Cuba Embargo: A Timeline](#)
- [The Impact of the Cuba Embargo](#)
- [The Obama Administration's Cuba Policy](#) **Image with alt attribute:**



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