Reflecting on the question of advanced marginality as it is elaborated by Wacquant in Urban Outcasts, this article examines the ways in which problems of relegation, territorial stigmatisation and unemployment emerge from the narratives of French writers of Algerian origins in the last twenty years. It proposes a reading of November 2005 clashes in French cities reconstructing historical networks of social and cultural reasons that contributed to ignite them. Semi-fictional accounts of immigrants' life in the banlieues are a privileged source of information about the social distress that nurtured the explosion of urban violence. Reading between the lines of these representations helps grasping what happens underneath the surface of an overexposed situation of inequality that periodically morphs into violence.

Introduction.

2 Politics in the Gilded Age  
How did business influence politics during the Gilded Age? In what ways did government reform the spoils system and regulate railroads? What effect did the transition from depression to prosperity have on politics in the 1890s?  

3 The Business of Politics  
The Gilded Age suggests that there was a glittering layer of prosperity that covered the poverty and corruption that existed in much of society. Politics of immigration in France and the United Kingdom present many convergences. In both countries, migration flows occurred when the countries were fully developed national states. On the other hand, there are also divergences between France and Britain, the main one is that the structure in France is centralised as there is a special ministry for immigration, while in Britain, the system is more bureaucratic and fragmented as the UK Border Agency is under the authority of the Home Office. The systems differ by the fact that France is more centralised and Britain more fragmented and bureaucratic. Britain is more precise thanks to its point-based system for work-permits. However, France has a tougher system.