



Annotated Bibliography of Hispanic Literature

Prepared by: Seth Kellam, ISU Intern
and Henry Evans, Research Specialist
February and March 2005

Partners for Prosperity (P4P) is a non-profit organization dedicated to reduce poverty throughout sixteen counties in Eastern Idaho and the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.. Because P4P takes a grassroots approach to development, it is important to gather information about poverty from the people experiencing it most directly. The poverty rate for the Latino population is extremely high, however, community partners have suggested that some methods of research inquiry are more appropriate when dealing with Latinos than others. The purpose of this annotated bibliography is to begin to identify research methods used with Latino populations and to understand what methods of inquiry are most appropriate. This annotated bibliography looks at a several research methods used to answer a variety of questions.

Ahituv, Avner & Marta Tienda (2004). Employment, motherhood, and school continuation of young White, Black and Hispanic women. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 22(1), pp. 115–158.

The authors examine the empirical relationship between early employment activity and school continuation decisions for young American women using a dynamic, sequential discrete-choice framework that estimates schooling, labor supply, and birth decisions jointly, controlling for unobserved heterogeneity and the endogeneity of these life cycle decisions. The authors analyzed data from the National Longitudinal Study of Youth (NLSY) a national survey of 12,686 men and women aged 14-21 as of January 1, 1979 and who were interviewed annually for 16 subsequent years. Approximately half of the sample observations are women. Based on their analysis, the authors found that the rate of school withdrawal increases as work intensity rises which helps explain the higher departure rate of Hispanic girls from secondary school and the premature departure of young black women from college. The disturbing implication is that youth employment induces long-run wage stagnation for early school leavers and potentially increases race and ethnic inequities.

Albrecht, Stan L., Leslie L. Clarke, Michael K. Miller, & Frank L. Farmer(1996). Predictors of Differential Birth Outcomes among Hispanic Groups in the United States: The Role of Maternal Risk Characteristics and Medical Care. *Social Science Quarterly*, 77: 407 –33.

The authors note that even though prior research has identified a number of barriers to health access for “Hispanics” including socio-economic factors, language and cultural differences and constraints on access, Hispanic health as reflected in low birth-weights and infant mortality rates compare favorably with more socio-economically advantaged groups. That being the case, this article provides additional understand about why this occurs. The article examines predictors of differential birth outcomes among Hispanic subgroups in the



United States. While a growing body of data is available comparing Hispanics with Anglos and blacks, comparatively fewer studies have addressed infant mortality differences among Hispanic national origin groups. Using linked birth-death data from 1983-84 for the United States (National Center for Health Statistics). The data was selected because it contains data on a population of births to Hispanic women available by sub-group in the United States and the authors suggest that as such it is one of the best sources of data available at the time of publication. Two years of data were used to provide sample sizes within the subgroup that were large enough for multi-variate analysis. The data set contains information on parental socio-demographic characteristics, pre-natal care utilization and other predictors of birth outcomes but does not contain information on other key indicators such as family income, access to medical care and family structure. Based on this data the researchers have found that Puerto Ricans had the highest infant neonatal and post-neonatal mortality rates, while Cubans had the lowest rates. Mexicans and other Hispanics had rates that were only slightly higher than Cubans and substantially lower than those of Puerto Ricans. These researchers note, that while the socio-economic disadvantage of Hispanics in the United States continues to be well documented, the translation of this into a consistent excess in the risk of infant deaths simply has not been established. Based on these differences, it is clear that continued uncritical ethnic labeling can obscure important differences among subgroups, including diversity of social histories and cultural identities that can, in turn, affect health behaviors and health outcomes.

Bauder, Harald (2001). You're good with your hands, why don't you become an auto mechanic? Neighborhood context, institutions and career development. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 25(3), pp. 593 – 608.

Previous research has linked socio-demographic neighborhood characteristics with labor market outcomes for youth, but this research has provided little evidence of how these linkages work. This article examines practices of urban institutions and the career development of inner-city minority youth in the United States. A comparative study of two Latino inner-city neighborhoods in San Antonio, Texas, analyzes in-depth interviews with seventeen administrative officers of community-based institutions. The results reveal that institutional practices and administrators' interpretations of the cultural attributes of youth and neighborhoods differ between the two case study areas. In one neighborhood, cultural preconceptions among administrators, accompanied by the spatial and social isolation of youth, channel some youth towards secondary careers. Institutions in the other neighborhood focus on social and spatial integration strategies and thereby facilitate acculturation. The article explores institutional practices of cultural marginalization.

Buzi, Ruth S., Maxine L. Weinman and Peggy B. Smith (1998). Ethnic Differences in STD Rates Among Female Adolescents. *Adolescence*, 33(130).

The authors examine the rates of sexually transmitted diseases among 205 female adolescents who sought care at either of two teen health clinics. The clinics, located in public county hospitals in Houston, Texas, provide primary and reproductive health care services, including family planning, STD testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, school physicals, HIV testing and counseling, EPSDT (early periodic screening, detection, and treatment), and health education. Females between the ages of 13 and 20 years who had an STD at the time of the clinic visit (between December 1992 and July 1993) were recruited to participate in the



study. The mean age of the females was 17.3 years. One hundred forty-nine were Black, 20 were White, and 36 were Hispanic. One hundred thirty-eight were still in school, however, the dropout rate was highest and the graduation rate lowest among Hispanics. Although 19 were single, Hispanics were overrepresented among married teens, 11 versus 2 Black teens and 1 White teen. This report includes (a) an investigation of infection and re-infection rates among this population, (b) historical information that suggests that black teenagers had higher rates than whites or Hispanics of infection and re-infection of sexually transmitted diseases, (c) a statistical summary of the rates of infection, and (d) findings indicating the relationship between cultural, ethnic and gender issues and sexually transmitted diseases. Specifically related to Latino teens, the study found that among Latino teens, the marital rate was lower and the mean number of sexual partners was higher than in previous samples (Smith, Weinman, & Mumford, 1992; Weinman, Smith, & Mumford, 1994). Prior studies conducted at these clinics indicated that the mean number of sexual partners among Hispanic teens was 2.01, compared with 3.05 in this study; and previously 56% had been found to be married as compared with only 30.6%. It has been suggested that the behavior of Hispanics is changing as a result of exposure to the mainstream culture (Marin, Sabogal, Marin, Otero Sabogal & Perez-Stable, 1987; Pavich, 1986). Researchers have found that the sexual behaviors of acculturated Latino adolescents are similar to those of White and Black youth (Ford & Norris, 1993; Sonenstein, Pteck, & Ku, 1989).

Cobas, Jose, Hector Balcazar, Mary Benin, Keith Verna, & Yinong Chong (1996). Acculturation and low birth weight infants among Latino women: a reanalysis of HHANES data with structural equation models. *American Journal of Public Health*, 86(3), pp. 394–397.

This article uses a structural equation model to reanalyze the data employed by an 1989 study on the effects of acculturation and the risk of low birth weight in infants for a sample of Mexican American females who were pregnant and ranged in age from adolescence to early adulthood. The authors examined data reported in the Mexican-American portion of the Hispanic Health and Nutrition Examination Survey and included only women who had experienced at least one live birth. The authors examined the variables: education, age, poverty index, size of community, language use, ethnic identity, parity, smoking and low birth-weight status. The model includes predictors of acculturation status, intergenerational family conflict, educational attainment and household income. The authors suggested that there is a link between risk of low birth weight in infants and acculturation of the Mexican American teenage mother.

Delgado, Melvin (1996). Community asset assessments by Latino youths. *Social Work in Education*, 18(3), pp. 169–179.

The article describes a community asset assessment of the Puerto Rican community in Holyoke, Massachusetts using youth as interviewers. It focuses on the factors that facilitate or hinder community asset assessments, especially in those that facilitate or hinder assessments in Latino Communities. The article is primarily a theoretically driven piece focusing on the paradigm shift in community assessments from the scarcity paradigm, to a strength-based approach. Noting that youths have been the subject of increased attention in academic and policy-making circles; however, most of this attention has focused on youths as a group "at risk" and not as a resource. The author suggests that Latino community assets



have generally been conceptualized as natural support systems. These support systems generally fall into four categories: family, friends, and close neighbors; religion; folk healers and commercial establishments and social clubs and that the use of Latino adolescents in community asset assessments offers much promise for the field of school social work.

The researchers hired youth to work as interviewers who were chosen because they had participated in cultural and educational activities; learned about the effects of substance abuse on individuals, families, and communities; and undertook leadership training to carry out school and community education on alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. The interviewers, six girls and four boys who ranged in age from 3 to 15 were paid \$100 for their participation (six hours per week for four weeks). Youths conducted interviews in pairs or groups of three to provide mutual support and were supervised by two adult staff members. The author suggests that the use of youth in Latino community asset assessments is promising. There are, however, several hindering factors in the process such as restrictions on questions asked, confidentiality of data, interviewer bias, training demands, a need for increased level of supervision and field support, restrictions on scheduling interviews and limitations on referrals to agencies.

Delgado, Melvin (1998). Linking schools, human services, and community: A Puerto Rican perspective. *Social Work in Education*, 20(2), p. 121–131.

This article describes the results of a longitudinal study of Puerto Rican families with children in bilingual classes in a Boston elementary school bilingual program. Parents and their children were followed for 2 1/2 years to examine the views and suggestions of parents on how community (natural support systems), schools, and human services agencies can better collaborate to educate children. Recommendations are made to facilitate the development of closer collaboration among these systems to better reach Latino communities in urban areas of the United States. The study consisted of four sets of interviews with parents, with each set of interviews focused on gathering information on specific subjects (all interviews were conducted in the participants' homes every six to eight months). The typical family in the sample was headed by a woman, average age 32.9, with three preschool- and elementary-age children. She was born in Puerto Rico and arrived in the United States (Boston) in 1974 and had been living in her current community 10 years. She did not finish high school and was receiving some form of public assistance. Her language preference for the interviews was Spanish. With the exception of demographic characteristics the data was analyzed using qualitative methods to do the following: (1) identify key points in response to each question, (2) identification of key themes, and (3) ground themes in the professional literature. The results proved very revealing concerning the needs of Puerto Rican families and the limited options they perceive themselves to have in seeking assistance. Puerto Rican parents not only had a very limited support system, but also did not feel comfortable seeking assistance from Latino and non-Latino social services organizations. The authors suggest that the elementary school the families' children attended, however, proved to be one of the most important resources in their lives. The elementary school played a prominent role in their lives because it successfully addressed all four key aspects of accessibility: (1) geographical; (2) cultural; (3) operational; and (4) psychological. Urban-based schools, contrary to popular belief, can fill an important vacuum in Latino communities; in so doing, they can attract other formal resources to help Latino families.



Flippen, Chenoa (2004). Unequal returns to housing investments? A study of real housing appreciation among Black, White and Hispanic households. *Social Forces*, 82(4), pp. 1523–1551.

This article looks at housing appreciation in minority and integrated neighborhoods. The author analyzes the appreciation of houses in these neighborhoods and comparable housing in predominantly White communities looking to see if any inequality in appreciation is due to neighborhood racial composition per se rather than nonracial socioeconomic and housing structure factors. The article employs a dynamic approach to the issue of housing appreciation, considering both racial, ethnic, and poverty composition at purchase and change in those characteristics over time. It examines differences in real housing appreciation across Black, White, and Hispanic households by applying a hedonic price analysis to data from the Health and Retirement Study, combined with data from the 1970, 1980, and 1990 Census. The analyses combine data from the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the 1970, 1980, and 1990 Census of Housing and Population. The HRS is a nationally representative, longitudinal survey of the pre-retirement population and their spouses or partners. The survey was constructed to follow a cohort of adults born between 1930 and 1941 (and therefore aged 51 to 61 at the time of initial interview in 1992), through the retirement process and into old age. The HRS includes a total of 12,654 individuals and 7,607 households. Of those, 74.4% are white, 16.3% are black, and 9.3% are Hispanic. While much of neighborhood appreciation inequality is explained by nonracial (particularly socioeconomic) factors, minority composition continues to exert a significant effect on appreciation even net of these considerations, particularly in highly segregated communities and those that experience large increases in Black representation. Unequal housing appreciation has a large negative impact on the overall wealth holdings of mature minority households, and has important implications for racial and ethnic stratification.

Freeman, Lance (2000). Minority housing segregation: a test of three perspectives. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 22(1), pp. 15 – 35.

Prior research on the residential patterns of minorities has generally found that relative to other minorities, African Americans are substantially less likely to reside in proximity to Whites. These earlier studies, however, failed to consider whether preferences for integration with Whites or household wealth played any role in shaping the patterns that were observed. The research presented here shows that both residential preferences and household wealth are important determinants of being able to achieve proximity to Whites. Nevertheless, African Americans remain at a distinct disadvantage, compared to other minorities, even when accounting for residential preferences and household wealth. Data for this study were drawn from the MCSUI Los Angeles and Boston samples and the corresponding data from Summary Tape File 3A of the 1990 Census. The MCSUI is a survey of households in Atlanta, Boston, Detroit, and Los Angeles that was designed to gather information to further our understanding of inequality in urban areas (Johnson, Oliver, & Farrell, 1994). This study focuses on Boston and Los Angeles because Detroit and Atlanta are primarily African American and White cities, and this would preclude undertaking a comparative analysis across minority groups. Because the focus is on how minorities translate individual characteristics into proximity to Whites, only minorities were included in the sample. The size of the sample was further reduced by excluding those minorities who were not asked about their preferences for residential contact with whites. Confining the



analysis to respondents living in the Boston and Los Angeles metropolitan areas limits the ability to make generalizations from these findings to residents of other cities. The final sample consisted of 591 African Americans (335 in Los Angeles and 236 in Boston), 351 Asians (346 in Los Angeles), and 557 Latinos (343 in Los Angeles and 232 in Boston).

Ganderton, Phillip T., Richard Santos and Patricia Seitz, “Employment Patterns of Hispanic High School Graduates without College Experience.” *The Social Science Journal*, v. 39, I. 2, pp. 301 – 7.

The authors present the employment patterns of Hispanic high school graduates who did not attend college in the United States. They make use of longitudinal data from the High School and Beyond Surveys from 1980 to 1986. An evaluation of the Hispanic women and men who experienced at least one period of unemployment shows that there is a higher frequency of employment periods than unemployment periods for this population. The authors portray the dynamics of the school-to-work transition among Hispanic youth.

Hadjicostandi, Joanna, & Sutham Cheurprahobkit (2002). Drugs and substances: Views from a Latino community. *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 28(4), pp. 693–710.

The authors note that the last three decades have seen an increase in the study of licit and illicit substance use and abuse. Very few studies, however, have been conducted to show the views of minority people on what substance abuse really is and how it affects their families and communities, although connections have often been made between crime and minority involvement in drug trafficking, use and abuse. This exploratory study presents an attempt to explore Latino or Hispanic people's perceptions and attitudes regarding the use and abuse of both licit and illicit substances, in Midland, Texas. Further, it is set up to examine individuals' views on drugs' definitions, their use in their community, and their effects on abusive and violent behavior in the family. The findings indicate that although individuals in this Hispanic community hold views on drugs similar to those in other communities, they nonetheless place most importance on the impact of the use of legal substances (alcohol and tobacco) on problem creation. Fifteen interviewers were to conduct an interview survey from March 19, 2001 to April 6, 2001 from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. To insure the validity and reliability of the methodology, the researchers employed four techniques: 1. the instrument was pre-tested among interviewers and a purposive sample and then revised, 2. Spanish-only speakers were referred to the two bi-lingual interviewers and interviewed later, 3. interviewers were instructed to ask for the youngest/oldest male/female over 18 in the household and then the categories then switched if the person was not home, and 4. at least two follow-ups were required before the interview could be discontinued. Utilizing this methodology, the researchers interviewed 199 of the total 364 residential units in the target area producing a response rate of 54.67 %.

Hummer, Robert A., Monique Biegler, Peter B. De Turk, Douglas Forbes, W. Parker Frisbie, Ying Hong, & Starling G. Pullum (1999). Race/Ethnicity, Nativity, and Infant Mortality in the United States.” *Social Forces*, 77(3), pp. 1083–1118.



The article discusses association of race/ethnicity with the mortality risks of adults in the U.S data taken from the NCHS Linked Birth/Infant Death Files for 1989-91 (NCHS 1995). Of major importance for this study, the Hispanic-origin coverage area was expanded in 1989 to encompass all states except New Hampshire, where the number and proportion of Hispanics are extremely low. Following a descriptive analysis, the researchers use the SAS logistic regression procedure (SAS Institute 1990) to estimate the relationships between race/ethnicity, nativity, other risk factors, and infant mortality.

The authors report that over many decades, researchers have documented mortality differentials across U.S. racial/ethnic sub-populations. Most often investigated are differences between non-Hispanic Blacks and non-Hispanic Whites, but studies of Asian and Hispanic American mortality are becoming more common as well. In addition, the U.S. foreign-born population has been shown to exhibit more favorable levels of health and mortality than their U.S. born counterparts, a pattern that has puzzled the demographic and public health communities for decades. The increase in the foreign-born and minority populations makes the need for such studies more pressing. In 1996 about 24.6 million persons of the U.S. population were foreign-born. Life expectancy at birth for non-Hispanic Blacks is about seven years shorter than that of non-Hispanic Whites, a demographic fact that has drawn considerable attention from the research and policy communities. A substantial portion of the difference between the two groups is a result of the harsh socioeconomic circumstances in which many Blacks live.

Kaiser, Lucia L., Hugo Melgar-Quinonez, Marilyn S. Townsend, Yvonne Nicholson, Mary Lavender Fujii, Anna C. Martin and Cathi L. Lamp, “Food Insecurity and Food Supplies in Latino Households with Young Children.”

The authors examine the relationship between food insecurity and food supplies in Latino households using a cross-sectional survey, conducted February to May 2001 in six California counties. The researchers employed a convenience sampling methodology to recruit 274 low-income Latino families with preschool children from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Head Start, and other community-based organizations. The researchers were able to compile complete data for 256 families and measure the following variables: *Food Security*, Household *Food Scores* using Pearson correlations, the Kruskal-Wallis test, and logistics regression. Attaining a significance level at $P < .05$, the researchers found that in Latino households, greater *food insecurity* is associated with a lower variety of most *foods*, particularly fruits and vegetables. Future research in Latino households should explore the effects of seasonal food insecurity and household food shortages on food intake of individual household members, especially young children.

March, Kristi L. and William C. Gong (2005). Providing pharmaceutical care to Hispanic patients. *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, 62(2),210-213.

This commentary article discusses aspects of providing pharmaceutical care to Latin American patients. Specifically, the authors discuss the role of language problems and the need for medical professionals who are culturally sensitive so that patients from “minority groups” follow the medical advice given to them. Of particular interest to the researchers is



the impact of culture and language regarding the patients on the absence and presence of pain. This article presents no statistical analysis and is primarily a theoretically driven piece that focuses on the challenges faced by pharmacists in dealing with the medicinal beliefs of patients and suggests tips for better communication with patients.

Quandt, Sara A., Jessie D. Davis, Thomas A. Arcury, Julie Early, & Janeth Tapia (2004). Household food security among migrant and seasonal Latino farmworkers in North Carolina. *Public Health Reports*, 119(6).

Food insecurity is defined as lack of access at all times, due to economic barriers, to enough food for an active and healthy lifestyle. The objective of this study was threefold: to characterize levels of food security, food insecurity, and hunger among migrant and seasonal Latino farm workers; to assess predictors of food insecurity for this group; and to describe the strategies farm workers use to cope with food insecurity. Adults from 102 farm worker households in North Carolina responded to a survey that used a Spanish-language adaptation of the U.S. Household Food Security Survey Module and questions about socio-demographic characteristics and food behaviors. Twenty-five farm workers participated in in-depth interviews in which they described their households' food security situation and coping strategies. The researchers found that forty-eight of the 102 sample households (47.1%) were classified as food insecure, including 10 (9.8%) with moderate hunger and five (4.9%) with severe hunger. Households with children had a significantly higher prevalence of food insecurity than those without children (56.4% vs. 36.2%). Additionally, households with children accessed food programs such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) that were unavailable to those without children, while those without children were more likely to access food pantries and to consume wild game or fish. Coping strategies included borrowing money, reducing food variety, and adults consuming less food to protect children from hunger. Overall, food insecurity was more than four times as prevalent among farm worker households as among the general U.S. population. Conclusion: Policy changes to increase economic resources and access to federal programs are needed to decrease this food insecurity.