

Nayeli Gomez
November 12, 2021
ENG1121
Word Count: 1201

U2 Annotated Bibliography

Introduction

Why are Mexican American discriminated against? This is the question I decided to write my paper on. I got interested in this topic because I am Mexican. I have witnessed first-hand the racism there is against Mexicans in the United States. I want to further understand why we are looked at differently and thought as less than any other race. I want to understand why many Americans consider themselves superior to us when they're the ones who invaded the land from Native Americans. I think in my research I will the many different barriers placed on Mexicans.

Source Entries

Citation #1

- Gamboa, Suzanne. "Racism, Not a Lack of Assimilation, Is the Real Problem Facing Latinos in America." *NBC News*, 9 July 2020, www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/racism-not-lack-assimilation-real-problem-facing-latinos-america-n974021.

Summary This article focuses on racism on Hispanics. Many white people view us as foreign. No matter how long Latinos have been in America they are not viewed as assimilated. There is a dividing factor between us. Numerous government officials have bashes on Mexicans. One of

them being John Calhoun who names Mexican's terrorists because they weren't white. Mexicans are also denied more house loans than whites. There was also a lawsuit which involved a lawsuit with Abercrombie and Fitch, they refused to hire anyone that did not look white.

Reflection I agree with this text. There is a lot of unfairnesses done to Mexicans. It is outstanding how whites are praised for knowing Spanish but the moment a Mexican American talks Spanish they tell them to talk English. This is a form of exclusion. Now with social media being present awareness of social injustice is being broadcasted for everyone to see. The author's writing style is very informative. The choice of genre makes it effective because it's just stating facts. I know this is a credible author because the document is considered an analysis on news. Regarding my question this news article illustrates some ways in which this country has criticized Mexicans. With generations evolving and everyone running towards equality hopefully there's a finish line.

Quotation "We're seeing a rise, almost a backlash, against the post-racial lie that we thought we were in, when we could not quote-unquote 'see color,'" Van Cleve said. "Race, darkness, skin type, all the things that label people, our bodies, our hair, an accent, culture, all the codes we've been trained in America to see, cannot and will not go away."

Citation #2

- TheNewYorkTimes. "A Conversation with Latinos on Race | Op-Docs." *YouTube*, YouTube, 7 Mar. 2016, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLLCHbCgJbM>.

Summary Many of the young generation can see there's racism. They have issues self-identifying themselves. They wish they could be lighter than they are. They're too dark to be white but not dark enough to be considered African American. They have problems finding who they are when they sense they don't belong.

Reflection It is obvious there is racism because someone was called out for looking brown. Kids now a days hate where they come from and wish they could be like every other American. The fact that someone of Latin culture can look American with their light skin and blue colored eyes just shows how supportive you are of this barrier. This documentary illustrates how divided our culture is. I appreciate the way the director decided to go about this documentary by showing us different faces and their thoughts on the topic. This goes back to my original question because it shows how no matter if you were raised in the states and breathed the same country air as whites there is a difference between the races.

Quotation “Often Times I find a checkbox on a form, and I am confused on whether or not I should put Latino or Hispanic but I’m Mexican”

“I don’t identify as Guatemalan...not from there not from here”

“I thought my name was spic until I was about 13 and that was my first awareness that race was issue”

Citation #3

Ortiz, Vilma, and Edward Telles. “Racial Identity and Racial Treatment of Mexican Americans.” *Race and Social Problems*, U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2009, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3846170/>.

Summary This article explains the ways in which Mexican Americans are racialized in the United States. It wasn’t until 1930 that Mexicans had a racial category in the census. However, in 1940-1950s the census declared Mexicans as white, but Mexicans still check off the box of “other race”. Hispanics are confused on what to choose. The census Bureau changing the racial

classification as none, to Mexican, to white, to any race shows how much the government is confused as well. Because there are so many immigration laws making it impossible for Mexicans to be in the United States, they are called out on for being “illegal”. If someone has a lighter skin tone or a child of intermarriage, they might carry social resources that make them more acceptable to whites.

Reflection I found this journal the most eye opening and learned so much from it. I agree with the text. Mexicans are treated differently no matter their education. You are looked down upon for not having an education but also when you have one because you’re amongst whites. It doesn’t matter if you were first, second or third generations you are still facing so many barriers. There was a survey conducted and when they were asked if they thought someone would perceive them as Mexican 62% said yes. 58% perceived that they experienced a stereotype. Many Mexicans were denied promotion because of their ethnic background. I just can’t seem to understand why the country would be built this way and hope it changes soon. In correspondence to my question, it is clear to see that racism occurs because of looks, legal issues and education.

Quotation

“...we found that darker Mexican Americans... report more experiences of discrimination... darker men report much more discrimination than lighter men and then women overall. ...more educated Mexican Americans experience more stereotyping and discrimination than their less-educated counterparts, which is partly due to their greater contact with Whites. Lastly, having greater contact with Whites leads to experiencing more stereotyping and discrimination”

Conclusion

In my research I found the different ways in which Mexican Americans don't feel comfortable and are prejudiced against. What surprised me is that nothing has changed since the early 1900s. It doesn't matter if you have an education, you are still called out for being Mexican. Because of how you look and talk. Lighter skin toned Mexicans are sometimes given a pass because of how they look like but that isn't even right. I understand that as Mexicans we must fight much harder than the Americans for equality. I think all Mexicans must know about this social injustice. We must come together and fight. Whites took over the precious land of Native Americans and since the beginning America has been a refugee for immigrants. This country must learn to leave in peace with one other. We don't want any trouble, but we must try and go through the extremes to be seen. Not all whites are racist and that's good, but we need to make sure the whole nation feels that way.