The Hispanic Women Experience in Douglass Residential College
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Background
- The Hispanic college population will increase to 27%.
- More Hispanic females (17.6%) are enrolling and graduating than Hispanic men.
- The percentage of women attending women’s college (16.7%) is increasing as well.
- Theories necessary to analyze the experience: cultural deficient model, community wealth framework as a part of critical race theory; sense of belonging; Women’s college.
- This study will focus on Hispanic women in Douglass Residential College, a women’s college at Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ.

Research Question
What is the Hispanic Experience in Douglass Residential College (DRC)?

Methodology
1. Recruitment:
   - Hispanic first-year students were sent emails
   - 17 accepted and participated
2. Interviews
   - Annual Interviews were conducted by PI
   - Interviews for 4 years; narrative inquiry method
3. Transcription and Analysis
   - Coded on Dedoose
   - A team of 1 PI, 1 graduate students, and 3 undergraduate students looked at the data

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>Major Studied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diva</td>
<td>Dominican, African American</td>
<td>Second Generation</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolores</td>
<td>Peruvian</td>
<td>First Generation</td>
<td>Biology; Art; then Spanish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>Puerto Rican</td>
<td>Second Generation</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvia</td>
<td>Puerto Rican, Colombian</td>
<td>First Generation</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Dorming
- RA=resident assistant
- PALS= peer academic leader
- Understanding diversity in terms of women and Gender
- DIVA
- DISA
- Traditional Events
- PLEN
- Externship

Conclusion & Future Research
- DRC allowed the women to thrive due to the numerous resources and inclusive environment.
- The 4 themes helped them develop into the women they became.
- All graduated in four years and had ideas of what they wanted to pursue post graduation.
- Response: “I think that Rutgers has been good to me despite my moments but I think Douglass has been an exceptional place. If anyone was applying to Rutgers and not applying to Douglass I would tell them that was a mistake.”
- Future Research
  - Other residential colleges: Duke and Northwestern
  - Non-traditional Students (Ex: Sophia House)

References

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