Latinos im Sprachkontakt in den USA.

Korpus zur Dissertation:

Die Einstellung linguistischer Laien der ersten, zweiten und dritten Latino-Generation beim spanisch-englischen Sprachkontakt in den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika

Hartmut Stoesslein
Bamberg 2005
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Korpus Teil A

Speaking Spanish

How important is speaking Spanish for you?

267 Posts – 232 users

Spanish - English

Created on Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 15:53 EST
last post included on Sun, Aug 22, 2004 @ 05:01 EST

A 1 (Sun, Aug 22, 2004 @ 05:01 EST) que es spanish culture realmente me gustaria saber lo que entiendies por our "spanish-culture"? Es esa la cultura de EEUU, la del Paraguay, la de Puerto Rico da le Espana o de Ceuta (Africa) la de los Galapagos. A ver, aclarame eso por favor que no lo capto. I do actually no get that! salu Leon

A 2 (Tue, Jun 01, 2004 @ 17:06 EST) We Should All Speak It! Speaking Spanish and maintaining our Spanish culture is what distinguishes us from non-hispanic whites and blacks.

The language is not racial it crosses racial lines.

If you are proud of your heritage than I think you can go learn Spanish like all the non-hispanic Spanish teachers did when I was in Junior High and Highschool. If non-hispanics can learn it you have no excuse! *bleep*, the Japanese have a salsa orchestra, and you are saying that you have a right to be proud not speaking the language, eating the food or listening to the music! Its not for you to decide what is our heritage, it speaks for itself and by not maintaining the language and the culture you are making a conscious decision to turn your back on the Spanish heritage because you are happy just having the nice last name!
A 3 (Wed, May 26, 2004 @ 10:34 EST) **misspelled** sorry guys, thats `espaqol`

A 4 (Tue, May 25, 2004 @ 12:38 EST) **espaqol** Como lo dice MissAlexandra, es importante para que no te olvides de tus raíces. Tengo dos niñitos y están aprendiendo hablar espaqol y Portuges. Specialmente cuando regresas a nuestros países la actitud es diferente cuando hablas espaqol.

A 5 (Mon, Mar 01, 2004 @ 18:36 EST) m **"It is better to die on your feet ,then to live a lifetime on your knees"**-E.Zapata

A 6 (Thu, Feb 05, 2004 @ 12:43 EST) Re: permiteme decirte esto rata mundana Y tio Diabolous, y ? Que idioma hablas apartede espaqol ?

A 7 (Thu, Feb 05, 2004 @ 12:41 EST) Re: Re: Re: LEARNING SPANISH si si muy importante

A 8 (Fri, Jan 30, 2004 @ 08:55 EST) Re: Improving with Spanish TV Speaking of Spanish tv, when you were watching Telemundo and Univision did you see any back latino shows?

A 9 (Fri, Jan 30, 2004 @ 03:46 EST) **Improving with Spanish TV** One thing is for sure, there are a lot of people who wish they could speak Spanish better. I´m one of them... I`ve been developing a way to unleash the power of Spanish TV as a way to soak up more Spanish. Just turning on Telemundo or Univision by itself is ok, but it has limited value because if you don´t understand something there´s not much you can do... it´s just gone. Videotaping or using Tivo helps for repeating sections, and now that there are spanish closed captions, that helps too. I´ve been working on an online video technology that is better still. It has Spanish closed captions, but they are interactive. If you don´t know a word, just click on it and look it up. If you need to slow down the video... you can do so. English translations of each line are there if you need. Also, the system will test you by randomly generating a listening game using the video. I´d like to show you guys and get your feedback. This demo page has a clip that shows how the system works, a music video by Argentine group Enanitos Verdes (easy), and a travel video on the island of Ibiza, narrated/hosted by a Colombian girl (harder). Check them out, give some feedback on how you like it...and I´ll make some more clips available soon. Here is the link: http://yabla.com/mg.php

A 10 (Thu, Jan 15, 2004 @ 10:00 EST) Re: native tounge Actually it`s not their native tongue. Spanish is a white European language, just as English is a European language. I´d never get mad at a black person for not being able to speak English, what do I care? The indigenous people had their primary language and culture taken away, just as we did. And just like us they planted new seeds and started over. This is phuckin funny, I no more about spics than they do!! HAHAAHA!

A 11 (Sat, Nov 01, 2003 @ 21:05 EST) permiteme decirte esto rata mundana yo soy hispano-parlante osea hablo castellano o espanol,soy de argentina,no es obligatorio que se ensene maldito epsanol en estados unidos porque no es la lengua oficial de este pais,en guatemala ese pais pequeno en centro america donde tiene una poblacion 60 porciento indigena el idioma nacional de guatemala es el espanol osea nisiquiera es una lengua nativa el espanol,pero es lengua oficial de ese pais,porque? arrogancia espanola de tu perra madre patria españa,acaso mexico es unpais bilingue? acaso a los argentinos de nacionalidad italiana en argentina se les da clases en italiano y espanol o solo espanol? noseas maldita arrogante,ademas el espanol no es lengua nativa de ningun maldito pais en latino america,comprendes? o te lo explico en ingles?
A 12 (Tue, Oct 21, 2003 @ 04:15 EST) VERY IMPORTANT I run a hospital data center and some of our computer clients are from South America and Latin America. If I wasn`t able to speak the lingo and was able to help my customers I would be losing on clients and money. Today`s world is multilingual. You have to be able to at least read and write in order to be in this business. I was fortunate at a young age to speak/write my language. My daughter who is going on ten is now learning to speak the language and understand it. It`s part of her culture...

A 13 (Mon, Oct 13, 2003 @ 10:13 EST) Spanish defies me as a tru Latina Woman to me, Spanish is very important. I love all my Latin customs and speaking Spanish is part of it. Also, it`s good to know another language other than English, because it will enable you to communicate better with other types of people.

A 14 (Mon, Sep 22, 2003 @ 21:11 EST) Very important... Knowing your roots is very important, and knowing your language as well. I believe that it is great that many of us still can handle and are still proud of our first language. First of all, the person who can handle two or more languages has more possibility openings. I am proud of knowing two languages, Spanish and English. When I have kids I will make sure they speak both, because in part, losing your native tongue is like losing your roots.

Kommentare auf der URL:

This is Miss Alexandra, I hope you all enjoy your stay. (if you can`t hear the voice of Tupac, refresh the page;) A little about me: I am a 19 year old Mexican American residing in Long Beach, Cali. Just making it happen. I believe that if I work hard for what I want, I will succeed without any help of my looks or my body. I graduated from Paramount High in 2002... yeah! I am currently a college student, I would love to major in English and hopefully teach it one day. I love kids but I would like to focus more on teenagers. I am still a teen myself, and a good motivational teacher never does any harm.

Why I`m part of Migente? I`m very outgoing, and I love to meet new people. So I thought, "Why not go to a place in which I can meet people who I can identify with." I think this is the place, so if you would like to know a bit more about me, don`t hesitate to hit me up.

(...)*Love and Peace to all* (...) I am very thankful for every human being I meet. I always learn something new, even from the negative people. See, my parents did a great job teaching me right from wrong. Therefore, when I see all the negative things around me, I think about the consequences. That`s where my parents come in... my greatest fear is dissipating my parents. They have worked so hard to give me everything I have today. Gracias papi y mami por darme lo mas importante y lo mas grande, que ninguna otra persona me podra dar... amor, moral, tradicion, cultura, apoyo incondicional y una educacion que ninguna universidad me podra dar. Los Amo!

A 15 (Tue, Aug 26, 2003 @ 18:03 EST) Re: SPANISH SPEAKERS tell u what u will doing yourself a favor to learn Spanish. One the English language is the largest. But the Spanish language is the second largest in the world. And if you keep going to the English half u only hurting your Latin heritage. Just like every other heritage might soon be lost cause either the sapnish or English have conquered it. Peace and love meme

A 16 (Tue, Aug 26, 2003 @ 18:00 EST): Re: LEARNING SPANISH I do not know what the problem is about learning Spanish I grew up speaking Spanish. My Spanish ain`t that great. But I can get by. Now English I learned here in the public schools of America. Learned English next to racism and to hate my Spanish/Mexican heritage. Peace and love meme but u know what I have learned to love them once again as I love the American public school system.....

A 17 (Tue, Aug 05, 2003 @ 09:16 EST) Not really.......... It`s not that important for me, but I just know how to read it and thats all and I can sing it, but I can`t speak it.
It is a myth that children cannot learn both Spanish and English and speak them fluently and well. I was born here. My mother understands English but doesn't speak it. I speak English without an accent and speak Spanish without an accent better than most Hispanics born here.

If you are TRULY native tongue it is very important for a Hispanic to speak Spanish because it's their own language. No matter what born in the country or in the U.S. or still from Hispanic Oregon and you have to be proud that you are. You should learn it because you may need it in any circumstances and if you have any children in the future they should be proud of who they are.

I don't speak much Spanish. My father always spoke English to me and my mother is black. When I do speak Spanish or try to learn more, I get funny looks. My father is Dominican so everyone expects me to speak Spanish. I would love to speak the same language as the rest of my family and not have them try to explain everything to me. Spanish should be taught in all schools from the youngest age. I'm still learning and I will get better.

Claro que es importante. It's part of who I am as a person. It's the heritage that my mother passed on to me and I will also pass it on to my children.

I'm a college student in my junior year. I just moved to Washington Heights from the Bronx. Some of my hobbies include art, music, reading, photography, astrology, and more... (..)

I'm a Sociology major/Latin American Studies minor. My ultimate dream, though, is to save enough $ to buy old buildings in the South Bronx and restore them. Hola! Soy estudiante en mi tercer ano. Ahora vivo en Washington Heights aunque me mude aqui desde el Bronx. Algunos de mis pasatiempos incluyen el arte, musica, leer, fotografia, astrologia, y mas.... Con respeto al arte, quiero todo por fotos hasta las pinturas de Van Gogh hasta el graffiti (Mucho respeto a TATS CRU y Tracey168!). En respeto a la musica, me gusta los Oldies, la salsa, el merengue, New age, cumbia, el reggae- me gusta todos tipos de la musica
pero country, no. Mis musicos favoritos son Phil Collins/Genesis, Big Pun, Ambrosia, Veronica, La India, Marc Anthony, Joe King, Tito Rojas, Jerry Rivera, los Beatles, Yanni, muchos grupos de los anos 60s, Dion y los Belmonts, SWV, algunos de los anos 70s y mucho mas.

En mi pasatiempo tomo fotos alrededor la ciudad de Nueva York y en el Bronx, en especial. Prefiero escenos de edificios quemados, graffitti, y cualquier es atractivo a mi a ese tiempo. A mi me encantan a ver buenas artistas de graffitti s leer sobre Nueva York, el Bronx, sociologia, astrologia, s el "urban renewal".

Soy una universaria de la sociologia y las estudias hispanas. Mi gran sueno es a comprar edificios en el sur del Bronx y repararlos.

Y también, para que lo sepas, no soy hispana pero tengo las habilidades a escribir, leer, y hablar/comprender el espaqol y quisiera practicarlo y aprender mas.

A 23 (Fri, Jan 24, 2003 @ 21:39 EST) Re: Part of me! Ofcourse you gotta be proud of where you came from.

Speaking spanish is important to me if i didn`t know how to I wouldn`t be able to speak to half of my family.

And even if i didn` t i would like to learn since many obs looks for bilingual people.

theres much more but all from me 4 now.

A 24 (Sat, Jan 18, 2003 @ 22:52 EST) Re: Re: Very Important I come from a Italian/ Mexican background I lived in Germany for 3 years and now I live in a English speaking country (Grand Cayman) my languages have open doors for me. I think that the more that you know and be able to speak and understand different pleople the better it is. Para mi en mi trabajo es absolutamente escencial el hablar y traducir ingles a el espanol ,italiano o aleman. Mis hijos van a tener que aprender espanol para comunicarse con su abuelo e italiano para comunicarse con su abuela ya que mis padres no hablan Ingles.

A 25 (Fri, Jan 17, 2003 @ 19:35 EST) Re: espanol El espanol es muy importante como cualquier idioma y nos identifica ... el negar el idioma es negar nuestra identidad por razones obvias ... verguenza de nuestras raices o sentido de inferioridad (que a veces se disfraza de superioridad). el espanol es tan importante que hasta los americanos estan haciendo un gran esfuerzo por aprenderlo, entonces pregunto, por que algunos hispanos lo rechazan? por estupid*z.

A 26 (Tue, Dec 31, 2002 @ 00:51 EST) espanol a mi me encanta hablar espanol y cuando tenga mi hijo le enseñaré bien como hablarlo , pero no entiendo por que hay gente que saben hablar espanol y no lo hablan, yo tenia un novio y me gustaba su acento y le hablaba en espanol pero a el le daba verguenza y solo hablaba en ingles" kreo ke eso es muy estupido"

A 27 (Wed, Nov 20, 2002 @ 13:35 EST) SPANISH To me speaking spanish is very important. I want my kids to grow up fluent in the language because it´s part of our culture and who we are. I was raised speaking spanish until I went to school and learned english and it´s how I raise my own child as well.

A 28 (Wed, Nov 13, 2002 @ 14:25 EST) LEARNING SPANISH I AM TRYING TO LEARN SPANISH, BECAUSE MY HUSBAND IS LATINO. HIS MOTHER DOESN´T SPEAK ENGLISH AND I REALLY WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH HER AND UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING SHE IS SAYING, NOT JUST SOME OF IT. I JUST DON´T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY DON´T TEACH SPANISH IN SCHOOL AT AN EARLY AGE LIKE THEY DO FRENCH. WHO DO I KNOW IN THE UNITED STATES THAT SPEAKS FRENCH???????? THERE ARE MORE LATINOS HERE THAN FRENCHMEN.

A 29 (Mon, Nov 11, 2002 @ 22:54 EST) speakin spanish is for me it is important. i didn`t learn it growing up, but as the years go by i learn more and more. i want to be able to speak to fam and friends.
A 30 (Thu, Nov 07, 2002 @ 11:10 EST) **Very important** I am British born and raised in London but my mother was Spanish from Spain and my father from the West Indies - I have spoken both languages all my life and now so do my children its part of me and I want it to be part of them too we are surrounded by English every day so its important to keep the Spanish alive in the home.

A 31 (Wed, Oct 30, 2002 @ 10:59 EST) **Re: Very Important** I AGREE WITH LA QUEEN. I THINK THAT IT IS IMPORTANT. IT IS GOOD TO KNOW BOTH ENGLISH AND SPANISH. AND THE MORE PEOPLE U ARE ABLE TO TALK WITH THE MORE DOORS U WILL BE ABLE TO OPEN IN THIS WORLD MEME.

A 32 (Sat, Sep 21, 2002 @ 11:38 EST) **ESPANOL, SPANISH... POTATOE, POTTATO** I`M VERY THANKFULL BOTH MY PARENTS SPEAK AND READ SPANISH AND WERE ABLE TO PASS IT ON TO MY BROTHERS AND I, I PERSONALLY THINK IT`S A BLESSING TO KNOW TWO LANGUAGES TO WRITE AND READ THEM TOO... SPANISH AND ENGLISH ARE TWO VERY COMMON LANGUAGES USED WORLDWIDE, BUT UNFORTUNATLY NOT ALL KNOW BOTH... I REALLY DIDN`T LEARN TO APPRICIATE THE ABILITY TO SPEAK SPANISH UP UNTIL I STARTED TAKING SPANISH CLASSES AT MY LOCAL COLLEGE, I THOUGHT, `HEY I KNOW HOW TO SPEAK IT AND READ IT...WHAT MORE DO I NEED` BUT THEN CAME THE WRITTING PART, I HATE ACCENTS!!! I HATE THEM I HATE THEM... I WISH THE WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN INVENTED!!! BUT HEY LIFE ISN`T THAT EZZZZY! RIGHT? WELL BY BEING IN THAT SPANISH CLASSROOM ME BEING THE ONLY FLUENT SPANISH SPEAKER AND THE REST GRINGOS... I FELT SPECIAL, SPECIAL FOR KNOWING THE LANGUAGE AND I GUESS BEING ABLE TO KNOW HOW TO COMMUNICATE W/Others OF SPANISH DESCENT... UNLIKE THEM, THE GRINGOS DON`T EVER KNOW HOW TO USE "EL/LOS/ELLA...ECT" CORRECTLY, WE DO... SO YES SPANISH TO ME IS VERY IMPORTANT... I MAY KNOW THE LANGUAGE AS A WHOLE BUT IT DOESN`T HURT TO LEARN THE PROPER GRAMMER BEHIND IT ALL!

A 33 (Tue, Aug 27, 2002 @ 19:54 EST) **It`s great...** I love speaking spanish,but now-a-days my spanish is more like spanglish.I`m learning to speak other languages like German and Albanian so I can understand what my husband is saying.Other than that it`s great speaking in spanish especially when your man can`t catch up to what

A 34 (Sun, Aug 11, 2002 @ 02:24 EST) **I LOVE IT!!!** I LOVE TALKING SPANISH...ESPECIALLY LOVE IT WHEN AM TALKING TO SOMEONE AND THEY REGONIZE MY ACCENT IT MAKES ME REALLY PROUD OF MY HERITAGE...AND I LOVE TO TALK TO SOMEONE FROM OTHER PAISES CAUSE I LOVE TO HEAR THE ACCENTS...WHEN I WAS LITTLE I WAS EMBARESED CAUSE I TALKED DIFFERENT BUT WHEN I GOT OLDER I RELIZE IT WAS WHO I AM "YO SOY CUBANA PUNTO!!"UNA CUBANA*

A 35 (Wed, Aug 07, 2002 @ 23:17 EST) **I love it and need it!** I love speaking Spanish and I need it at the same time. When I was younger my parents didn`t speak English, so Spanish was the first language I learned. Also, I always visit my family in DR, so I need Spanish to be able to communicate with them. Spanish also gives you an advantage in some situations. It is a beautiful language, and I think it is a shame some parents don`t teach their children how to speak it..... ~Stay Dulce. Stay True.

A 36 (Tue, Jul 30, 2002 @ 14:10 EST) **Re: bare with me...** Where can you go to speak fluent spanish in a two month period? I`m in NY. Tell me so I can go learn it. I speak so/so, but wanna improve. I`m a puerto rican who can`t speak it that well.

A 37 (Fri, Jul 12, 2002 @ 14:49 EST) **well** im black and puerto rican and i only speak a little spanish but some people like talkin cuz they always talk bout somebody since the person doesnt understand
A 38 (Tue, Jul 09, 2002 @ 19:37 EST) **speaking spanish is...** I love speaking spanish. I am Latina and my parents, like many other immigrants, didn`t want us to speak it. I`m telling you, oppression is nuts. Anyway, I`ve spent much of my life catching up with my spanish and now i `m there. I love it. I take every opportunity to speak spanish, especially with my parents, who are now happy that I speak it.

A 39 (Fri, Jun 28, 2002 @ 18:29 EST) **Binding Us** I think knowing Spanish is important in binding us together, but i do not feel that it is essential in defing us. I believe that our experiences, especially in the US are a far greater binding force. Spanish allows us a way to communicate with eachother, that is of course assuming that others do not speak it as well, i think you know what I mean. If you don`t , When I was in college , my friends and i would switch into Spanish mode when we wanted to have private conversations, get it? But, i find it hard to call it my "native lounge." The native languages of our cultural homelands, have been taken from us, and in some place extinguished (Taino and other caribbean languages) in other places, only those living in native communities still speake the language (Yaqui, Maya, Quechuan, etc.) for those of us that are connected to those cultures as well, does it make us less if we do not speak those languages.

One more point, if it is so important, please do not tease and make fun of those that are trying to learn it, you will only discourage them more. For what ever reason, some **Latinos/Hispanos** did not learn it and in most cases it was that their parents did not teach them , our they were teased as children and were told that they were not American, because Americans speak English not "Mexican" (I am a Mexican American and the some white people in Cali call Spanish, "Mexican"). So, I would ask all of you that are fluent, ayudanos.

Kommentare auf der URL:
I am a Mexican American searching for friends willing to discuss the diversity of I believe that Mexican, Chicanos and all people from Latin America are "La Raza Cosmica." For in Latin America we find all people, and unlike the English Americas, our ancestors did not practice segregation, but mesigenation. We are mixed biologically and culturally, and through that mixture our ancestors forged many beautiful cultures and peoples. If any one wishes to discuss these views, and does not wish to do it in the forum area, drop me a line.the Mexican and Latin American People.

My Mexican heritage includes Spanish, French, Yaqui Indian, Nahuat and African. I have many "Mexican" friends whose heritages are just as diverse, with Indian bloods coming from the Maya, Huichol, and Mayo just to name a few. But many are not willing to discuss their own diversity.

In addition, I have found the issue of identity to be a hot topic amoung many Latinos/Hispanos & any other name you choose to give us. Given that we all live in los Estados Unidos, and that the gringo sees us all the same, should we not cooperate more? As I persued my college degree in Latin American History, the search for my roots has caused a flame that burns wild. Given our current position in the American casta, should we not look toward our diversity for stregnth and our simularities for unity?

A 40 (Fri, Jun 21, 2002 @ 09:39 EST) **Need a little feedback.** There is a new forum called Viva La Raza. What does this term mean to you? Please go to the forum and post your thoughts.

Peace to all

A 41 (Thu, Jun 20, 2002 @ 16:07 EST) **A NECESSITY** without the spanish language, we wouldn`t be latinos/hispanics we would just be either of hispanic decent or white. Being spanish isn`t just about who your parents were, its about who you are and where you come from historically. How could one ever walk around boasting their hispanic heritage and say "what?, i dunno spanish" just a walking contradiction if you ask me. learn ur language, its what seperates us from the rest.

A 42 (Fri, Jun 07, 2002 @ 12:18 EST) **Re: Extremely important** Speaking Spanish is very important if I didn`t speak Spanish how would I speak to most of my relatives who
speak only Spanish..I believe that speaking more than one language other than English and Spanish is very very important now adays..Lots more people are migrating from many other foreign countries..Some of you are probably saying ok so they should be the ones to learn English,but they do still need someone to help them right?..Speaking more than one language is very important

A 43 (Wed, May 08, 2002 @ 04:12 EST) Extremely important I believe it is very important. Not only it`s part of our culture and our way of communicating to our people. But nowadays when applying to good jobs, they demand you know both english and spanish since spanish-speaking minorities are such a huge percentage of our population. And c`mon, it`s so damn sexy and beautiful! I`m proud to know Spanish! ;0)

A 44 (Wed, May 01, 2002 @ 16:42 EST) Historically Important I don`t speak fluent Spanish, I`ll admit that....my bilingual language is Spanglish. Although gente have their differences of opinions when it comes to Spanglish, it is the only way I am able to communicate con mis abuelos, tias y Raza. Knowing the language gives you the freedom to communicate, the freedom to explore your roots. It doesn`t matter whether your Fluent or you just understand it, as long as you have it and it`s instilled in you. If we don`t know spanish, we`re allowing our history to go down the drains. If you don`t know it....try to learn it!

A 45 (Mon, Apr 08, 2002 @ 10:17 EST) Extremely Important I believe, its part of our culture and advantage we have over many people here in the U.S. In a since, I believe that is what many our the new generations are losing, I mean if we as parents dont teach them their language we`re allowing them to miss part of them. It sorta goes with, "how can we express to have a hispanic generation in high places," if they wont be able to express them selves in spanish, in a sorry way, it takes the flavor. I am a spanish aid, but anyway, learn the language, and teach it to others.

A 46 (Fri, Mar 29, 2002 @ 19:55 EST) Re: bare with me... See, this is what I was talking about. If you don`t know spanish, or don`t speak it well, make an effort. ***CLAPS*** to you for the attempt...much luck in your classes. I hope others will follow your lead. Much respect 2 u

A 47 (Fri, Mar 29, 2002 @ 19:50 EST) VERY IMPORTANT How can one consider themselves latino or Hispanic and not know Spanish? One can`t be American without being able to speak English...Knowing the language of your culture is very important no matter what it is. I`m not going to say that if you dont know spanish, ur not Latina(o) or less of a Latina(o), but make an effort to learn it...even if it`s "matao" (like my grandmother calls it) at least it`s a start.

A 48 (Thu, Mar 14, 2002 @ 13:27 EST) its really important It keeps you grounded to your past, to your roots...I think all latinos should be able to speak spanish..If you dont know it or speak wit an accent, im not gonna knock you for it, but if you refuse to learn it, then your just an uncle tom to me.

A 49 (Wed, Mar 13, 2002 @ 14:41 EST) bare with me... Una persona que no sabe hablal espanol muy bein como yo, es la responsibilidad de esa persona que aprenden..en 2 meses voy a empezar classes para aprender hablal y escriber en espanol... pero una persona que no preden hablal espanol todavía es latino porque que vale hablal el lenguaje sin no sabes la historia de tu pai.

Kommentare Auf URL:

Hello,
My name is Lisa, I`m 21 years old and live in Florida.
I am very proud to be Boricua.. I think its so Important that our people know about our culture, our history....I love learning about OUR Island, And its sad because I know alot of people who know little about Puerto Rico and its history.
Its the Responsiblity of the People to know their "Roots" and only then will you feel a true
sense of PRIDE....
"EDUCATION IS PARAMOUNT"
African Aspects of the Puerto Rican Personality
by (the late) Dr. Robert A. Martinez, Baruch College
The Cuban anthropologist, Don Fernando Ortiz, has stated that "Perhaps Puerto Rico was the Antillean nation least influenced today by the already distant waves of immigration of black trade, whose origin people still wish to attribute unjustly to the glorious Hispanic personality of Friar Bartolome de las Casas... But no doubt, in its music, in its vocabulary, in its psychology, the island received the affectionate and cultural imprint of the black man."

A 50 (Sun, Mar 10, 2002 @ 17:53 EST) speaking spanish is a part of who i am, and i can`t see myself not speaking it. for me its like life without water.

A 51 (Thu, Feb 28, 2002 @ 17:02 EST) SPEAKING SPANISH SPEAKING SPANISH IS GREAT BECAUSE IT GIVES US AN OUTLET TO COMMUNICATE OURSELVES WITHOUT HAVING TO CONFORM TO THE LANGUAGE OF OUR HOST COUNTRY. IF YOU CAN SPEAK SPANISH GREAT DONT LET ANYONE TELL YOU THAT YOU CANT SPEAK SPANISH IN FRONT OF THEM, JUST TELL THEM IF YOU LEARN THEIR LANGUAGE THEN THEY SHOULD TAKE TIME TO LEARN YOURS. SPEAK IT, LOVE IT EMBRACE IT ITS YOUR IDENTITY, AND CULTURE WITHOUT IT WE ARE NOTHING.

Kommentare Auf URL:
I`m 28 year old puerto rican man, currently living in the Orlando, Florida I come from a big family, my parents have been married for 42years, and they still have so much love, respect for each other, that`s one thing I have to have in a relationship. I also have 3 brothers and 3 sisters, and I also have a large extended family with 3 brother in laws, 1 sister in law, 3 nephews and 3 nieces. So I do come from a large family.

A 52 (Wed, Feb 27, 2002 @ 17:04 EST) proud PROUD; knowing spanish is something to feel proud of it i tink that knowing spanish is really cool, and i feel very proud to know it so well. lots of times when i am at work and want to say something to my sweetie on the phone and dont want no one to know what am saying i`ll say it in espanol and the same goes when am whith my friends. any ways lots of time when elderly people who do not speak english and i help them to ask someting or get something or whatever i feel very good. so knowing spanish for me is something to feel very
Kommentare Auf URL:
my 411- salvadorena de corazon, but live in mass. i`m 22 morena, dark brown eyes, long ,curly red hair (not my natural color =})i love sports soccer, basketball ahora asta el football me gusta (GO PATS!!!!!) i like to go out and chill with my friends. i like to work hard and play even harder. anything else ask...

A 53 (Wed, Feb 27, 2002 @ 12:01 EST) Re: Chicano Here i hear u, not knowing spanish limits you to knowing so much history about yourself!!! learn it!!
Kommentare Auf URL:
whoa! updating my message to MIGENTE, and there are so many new things to share...graduated high school (finally), now i`m slowly but surely moving up to cosas grandes y mejores! i`m in college( full-time) and im also working, tengo mucho que hacer, but i always keep open to meeting interesting, FUN, real people....if u think u qualify, drop a note; page, and we`ll work from there!!

A 54 (Tue, Feb 26, 2002 @ 12:31 EST) Chicano Here To me if someone does not know their true language is lost. I mean to really understand your culture and keep it alive u must know the language and the history. To me someone that does not know spanish could be labeled a disgrace. Its like losing a big part of your culture.
My name is Modesto Rodriguez, I am a 24 yr old Chicano student at TX Tech Univ. majoring in Business Admin. in Management and minoring in English with a specialization in Creative Writing. Hope to one day start up my own company. I love writing poems and short stories. Writing gives me a sense of self-expression, and helps me get away from the real world at times. Also, to be a great writer you must also love to read which I do. When I have more free time I may write a book that I have already started an outline for. I am also in the process of trying to get my own small business started, but need to find the time to get it all situated. (UpDate: I am an Independent Insurance Agent) So be waiting to get a direct link to my website soon. One of the many people I admire is Cesar E. Chavez for all the wisdom he shared with us. "Self-dedication is a spiritual experience."---Cesar E. Chavez I like to think that I am open-minded and respectful. Very outgoing I am always open to new adventures. I like to socialize with anyone, and get to know people better. Building a friendship is the greatest thing a person can ask for, but you have to choose them carefully, because some do back stab you. Well, I hope I build a lot of good friendships here with my peeps. I am well educated, and can have a respectful conversation about anything a person throws my way. So peace out and hit me up MiGente.....

A 55 (Fri, Feb 08, 2002 @ 14:07 EST) It`s important I personally don`t speak spanish. Although, I desperately want to! For those individuals who do speak spanish, DO NOT take it for granted. As an African-American, I don`t know my original language. There are so many African languages that I could pick from to learn to speak. You all who are blessed to be bilingual, treasure you capabilities. I think spanish is a very romantic language that harnesses mad sex appeal!!!

A 56 (Mon, Feb 04, 2002 @ 11:01 EST) Aren`t you Mexican? As a Mexican-American who does not speak Spanish I think that language is important to a culture and belonging to a culture. This is a realization I have come to with the last couple years. Before I Would have said you dont have to know Spanish to be Hispanic. This is still true to me, I know that their are other ways to embody the culture like the traditions of family, religion and of course the food! But language does play I big role in feeling apart of a culture for me . I always hate when people tell me you dont know Spanish, well aren`t you Mexican? I definitely feel apart of my culture and proud of my culture but I feel that not knowing the language does put a barrier up. I sometimes feel like an outsider when Iam around "mi gente." I am now making a real effort to learn Spanish, I am taking 102 this semester and I find it extremely difficult to learn since I was not raised in a Spanish speaking family. Wish me luck any tutors out there! I have great admiration for all of you native speakers and to all who have learned the language.

Kommentare auf URL:

A 57 (Mon, Feb 04, 2002 @ 01:03 EST) How important it is to you Speaking Spanish, or any other language of your ancestors for that matter, is something that should be important to everybody. After all, you don`t know where you`re going if you have no idea you`ve come from. Your language is part of your culture. If you think about it, it is your culture. How could our ancestors have survived if they couldn`t communicate? If you don`t know the language of your ancestors, make it a point to go out and learn it.

Kommentare auf URL:

Let me first start out by saying that I`m on here to kill time while I`m at work. That`s it. (...) I like being online because of the interaction and exchange of information. There`s really nothing like it.

A 58 (Sun, Feb 03, 2002 @ 21:35 EST) please don`t take offense i think that EVERY person that says they are HISPANIC should speak spanish. If they don`t then they are not truely a real hispanic b/c when people think of Latinos the first thing they think of is the other language they speak. like i said please don`t take offense b/c i know many
A 59 (Sat, Feb 02, 2002 @ 12:30 EST) **Who, What Identifies Who You Are** Knowing how to speak Spanish is part of my identity. I have pride in knowing how to speak more than one language. Spanish is the language that my ancestors spoke, (well, at least from my Spanish side when the Spanish came to Mexico. The Aztec language, which is part from where I came from was lost or should I say, destroyed.) and which was passed on to me. It’s a gift that I have the decision to accept it and learn more about it or not. However, I know people who are from latin descent and who feel they are "less latin" than those who know how to speak Spanish. I think that not knowing how to speak Spanish or some other language from where your ancestors came from does not make you less of that culture. I can also see why it would make some uncomfortable not to know the language that identifies part of who they see themselves as. If learning how to speak that language really is important to that person than I say, "Learn it. Learn how to speak that language". Basically, it all comes to how important knowing the language is to you.

In this country, learning how to speak and write English is vital if you want to succeed. Although it is not the standard language in the U.S, it is the common language which people from all different states, cities etc. etc. communicate with. So if success is one of your major goals, here in the U.S, than learning how to speak English should be one of your priorities. Not knowing how to speak English does not make survival in the U.S impossible. There are people who don’t know how to speak English, but if you ask them most will say that it is difficult to live in the U.S without knowing how to speak English. 

....So for me, knowing how to speak Spanish as well as knowing how speak English is as important as each other. It all comes to how much you really want to know how to speak that language, how important a language is to identifying themselves as part of that culture, and what language(s) are important to succeed in the country a person resides in. That’s my opinion.

A 60 (Sat, Feb 02, 2002 @ 12:22 EST) **Re: Then learn how to speak** Why should we change the way we speak when we’re with two, or more, different groups. You’re only lying to yourself and others to the kind of person you are. You just have to keep it real. Why should we be limited to learn this NATIVE language when there are others who can properly learn how to speak English. It’s especially difficult for new immigrants to learn how to speak English because of their economic situation. Tell me, how hard is it for you to go to a class and learn a different language? All I’m saying is that we shouldn’t limit ourselves to learning english, or span-glish, for others to understand us. I’ll put it this way - we have already seasoned the stew in

A 61 (Sat, Feb 02, 2002 @ 12:16 EST) **my words from the brain** Spanish is definately a language that has grown out of the shadows and accepted by a majority of the people that live in this country(non-hispanic). Fortunately, many Anglo americans have recognized that we aren’t just inhabitants in THEIR country, but that we have become a familiar race. As a first generation male to be born in this country, I am proud of being able to live here than anywhere else (socially and economically). Although, I do regret not being able to speak Spanish fluently, but it doesn’t hold me back from conversing with others. I don’t think we need to have pride to speak Spanish, but respect for the people that suffered and died for us. Anyone can have pride, but not many can have respect.

A 62 (Fri, Feb 01, 2002 @ 18:35 EST) **The goal is to balance them** i personanly think that one should concentrate to try to master both languages. true, we are latinos, but we are in America. in America we are suppose to speak in English, given that this is the lanagauge os the country. but we must also realize that we are "visitors" in this country to a great extent. keeping this in mind, even if u are born country, or a citizen of this country, it then challenge us to remeber who we trully are: Latinos. in short, i think the key is learnign both lanaguages, and then be wise enough to know which lanauge to
use at the social context u r at any given moment. if u don `t know spanish too well, u will have problems talking with "tia" who is a domint spanashi speaker. if u only know spanish, don `t expect to get into AP english... :)...

A 63 (Fri, Feb 01, 2002 @ 13:35 EST) **How much is enough** I think it`s imperative own all aspects of your culture including the language. But when it comes to Spanish I can speak it but not write it, and let `s just say the reading gets rough. So I do my part to keep up language, but I can`t say I have really done my part.

A 64 (Thu, Jan 31, 2002 @ 21:30 EST) **Then learn how to speak** Right! If you have pride teach yourself how to speak the language properly. Sure when hangin` with the homees, and those of your group, talk your way, but in public in when you`re with those who are not Latinos, out of respect you should speak properly and know how to say, and how to call things in Spanish as you do in English.

A 65 (Thu, Jan 31, 2002 @ 14:25 EST) **Re: the old language** i totally agree that as latinos in the u.s. we have a responsibility to both languages- just because we live here we cannot forget our roots!

A 66 (Thu, Jan 31, 2002 @ 14:20 EST) **Re: Never Hide the Pride** i agree that it is imperative to learn the language in which represents your ethnicity. my only regret is that while i do speak spanish thanks to abuelita coco (rip) i do not speak yugoslavian, which is the language of my mother`s side..... they left europe during WWII with such a bad taste in their mouth that for as long as i`ve known them it`s been all english! but not spanish, if i was to communicate with my grandmother, it had to be in her native tongue! i am very fortunate to have learned it as a baby and it`s harder as you get older...... we speak english in my home, therfore i try to brush up at every chance i get...... another thing i firmly believe, if you are a young worker coming here to the states - you need to learn english........ i mean americanos don`t go to latin america expecting english to be spoken - but here in this diverse country of ours we should be glad that spanish has been embraced because if you`re coming here i think an attempt should be made to learn the language..... but it`s all a matter of opinion i suppose.

A 67 (Thu, Jan 31, 2002 @ 12:22 EST) **the old language** if we respect anything from our culture it should be our native language. We are hispanic so we will continue to speak spanish. Because we live in America, we also have a responsibility to learn English but, we have an even greater responsibility to respect our culture and trully recognize where we derived from.

A 68 (Wed, Jan 30, 2002 @ 23:24 EST) **Re: nope** we are as oppressed if not more. the only thing now is that everyone tried to be politically correct now. i can`t see how anyone can say were getting there because were not. even in todays world we have many companies getting sued over racial discrimination if not more than they did in the 60`s.

A 69 (Wed, Jan 30, 2002 @ 23:21 EST) **activism** this whole world revolves around the white man. there is nothing not one person in this world can do about that. even martin luther king realized that before he died. we are so misinformed still in this day, martin luther king wrote in a memoir just before he died that the white man is never going to give us anything. the only way we are going to get anywhere is if we take it by force. that`s my view to the whole situation. in reality they don`t care what happens. minorities are still being discriminated upon and i don`t see any of that happening till we all start sticking together and make the world revolve around us instead of them. the only way we are going to get that is if we take it.

A 70 (Wed, Jan 30, 2002 @ 19:18 EST) **Re: activism** activism has been dying, replaced with complacency. we live in a society much better informed, but who do even less. the sixties were a time when people belived they could change the world. what happened to
that? people say we don`t have what to fight for. that is the most infuriating excuse. if we look around, outside of our little worlds, there is still rampant oppression, but as Malcolm X said, it is just through more modern methods. everybody has an excuse why not to act, especially now, with the "war on terror" this boiling

A 71 (Wed, Jan 30, 2002 @ 14:50 EST) **activism** No, it`s calmed down to a much better approach. The sixties had it`s riots, Mumia`s and Aim`s activist, Leonard Peltier, from the Pine Ridge incident... If we had exercised the same way then the brother (Peltier) wouldn`t be in his 27th year of incarceration at Fort Leavenworth.

A 72 (Wed, Jan 30, 2002 @ 09:38 EST) **nope** we`re not, cuz we havn`t had teh same kind of oppressive lifestyles as they did in the past. we have more opportunities and because of that, we have become complacent and lax in fighting for anything worth while.

A 73 (Wed, Jan 30, 2002 @ 03:38 EST) **Re: double standard** AquarianRican, At 47, am I too old or to dumb to learn Spanish? I wish my parents would have taught me. I want to learn, if I can! the Wolfmann

A 74 (Tue, Jan 29, 2002 @ 10:17 EST) **double standard** its not that so many of us are trying to shut these important doors rather more like those who made us, not making sure that we can speak. I want to know something everyday about my history to know where im headed. But its hard to do that in this society for so many obtuse reasons. Its hard enough to get to your core as a human being let alone into what made you. Im not fluent but i still have a more truthfull way of being latino than many latinos today which is scued.

A 75 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 22:35 EST) **oops** I can`t imagine not being fluent in Spanish.

A 76 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 22:35 EST) **its my first language** Losing it would be like losing part of who I am. I would not be able to communicate with much of my family. Also, there are just some things that I can only express in Spanish. I`d also miss out of a lot of great works of literature and music written/sung in Spanish. I can`t imagine not be

A 77 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 16:12 EST) Think about it If you don`t speak Espanol, not only are you shutting doors to your future, but you are shutting doors to your past as well.

Kommentare auf URL:
Hey everybody! I`m SalvadoranDiva (and apparently Salvadoran). This picture was taken July 2003 in CUBA. (I`m on the left-with the shorts). I`m 21 and a college student at California State University-Northridge. My major is Political Science and my minor is Central American Studies. I live in L.A. and I`m proud to be a Latina.

A 78 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 15:55 EST) **Re: It`s a must!!!!** its this mentality that makes me laugh and shake my head in wonder: "the truth is that you CANNOT call yourself a "self respecting Latino" if you do not speak the language or have no real interest in learning. "

thats trash... i dont speak the language nor do I make it the first priority in my life to learn it, but I represent better for latinos than 90 percent of the "real latinos" that speak it fluently... someone in jail for murder or drugs who speaks spanish fluently, is more "real" than I am???? get real.... this notion that speaking a language defines who`s real and who`s not is absurd...

Kommentare auf URL:
Personal Introduction:
Here’s a little information about me.
I’m 28 years old, Puerto Rican, I graduated from college back in 98 with a BS in Comp Sci from Columbia University (ivy league), and I work full time now for a local sugar company in their IT department. Definitely a long way from my first job selling hot dogs on the Intrepid back in NY!!! LOL... I know my appearance doesn’t exactly scream “professional” or “business” but that’s why I love breaking the stereotypes that exist for us latinos....
I’m also in a fraternity (the infamous Phi Iota Alpha) and I was the founder of our first Ivy league chapter.
I’m 6’ 1, I weigh 175 lbs, have medium dark skin. Things I like to do include going dancing, watching a movie or renting a movie, playing sports (basketball, football) and as you could probably guess I’m an internet junkie. I do this for a living as well so its second nature....
You’re probably wondering why the hell did I move from NY to Miami. Well, first of all NY is my heart, the place that defines who I am to this day, but motivation without elevation is stagnation and it was time to elevate to bigger and better. As Jadakiss said so elegantly “Gangstas don’t die, they get chubby and move to Miami..... it’s going down dog and it gets deeper, the weather’s nicer and the price is much cheaper”..... I got an apartment dead in South Beach right in the middle of all the action... Oh did I mention no more state or city taxes and on a nice salary that’s a lot of money I’m saving. Sorry for sounding preoccupied with money but I’m trying to hang up my suit permanently at the age of 45 and that ain’t happening in NYC, unfortunately.. Plus where else can you rock tank tops and shorts in January and take a Caribbean cruise without paying for airfare to the port????

A 79 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 15:54 EST) Speaking Spanish I think that it’s VERY important to speak & write spanish, coz it’s part of ourselves. I hate to see latin americans that can’t even speak their own language, then they’re all proud of sayin “I’m latino!”...It’s a shame, and I think we should do something about it, like encourage them people to like their language, to see the beauty of it, and to teach it to their kids. It’s part of our cultural heritage, and we should be proud of it.

A 80 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 15:37 EST) El Espanol.... My parents are from Mexico however my siblings and I were all born here in the U.S. I speak, read and write Spanish fluently.....and I owe it all to my mother. When my siblings and I were young she would make us read Spanish books everyday.....at that time I hated it. Our summer vacations instead of going to Europe or taking a Disney vacation... where did we go? Mexico!!! For 2 1/2 months. We would leave when school was out and come back right before September, when school would start. You see my mother, who is the 3rd oldest out of 17 children never was able to go to school, she was expected to help with the household and care of her siblings. When one of her brothers or sisters needed clothes, she would go buy material and sew shirts/pants and dresses. She was determined to lead a better life and came here to the U.S. It was here in the U.S. that she learned to read/write Spanish through an American woman. Even now to this day, she reads every day. Back then I could not understand how my classmates were going to someplace cool and our family had to travel by car through Sinaloa, Sonora, Nayarit, D.F. (I come from a biggggg family so each stop was a family visit). Some of those car trips man ......listening to nortenas, rancheras, mariachi.... Can anyone relate? I look back now and can’t believe I took it for granted ... I am forever grateful for my parents, especially my mom who instilled morals, values and NEVER FORGET YOUR NOPAL ON YOUR FOREHEAD.
My mother says “Ustedes no saben lo que es sufrir”, and you know what she is right. I for one am proud of my heritage.

A 81 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 15:33 EST) Muy importante I am a spanish teacher at a catholic school in NYC. I find that non-spanish speaking students are more willing to
learn than the students with a spanish background. The spanish students with a spanish heritage think that the "NY Spanglish" is enough to get by. We can all agree that the need to be fluent in Spanish is growing really fast in the corporate world. It is sad to report that our expectations of the babyboomers, generation X and our children of today do not have the role models to follow. Por qui?

Kommentare auf URL:
* American-Dominican
* Fluent Spanish & English Translator - prefer "Spanglish" * Spanish Teacher (Catholic School)

A 82 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 13:57 EST) Re: The Beauty of our Language You are a 100% right. I have read all the posts on here and I agree with yours the most. I myself am one of the unfortunate people who is not fluent in my native language due to the way I was raised. I am willing to and taking steps to learn and perfect my spanish, becaue it is a beautiful language!!

Kommentare auf URL:
I`m 26.....Originally from Queens, NY, now residing in Orlando, Fl. I`ve been in Florida for 13 years now, so you can say I`m pretty much Florida grown BUT I never forget my roots!!

A 83 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 13:41 EST) Re: Re: Speaking Spanish I feel where you are coming from on this. My parents spoke spanish to each other but english to my sister and I. Although I am able to understand and read spanish.....speaking it is a bit of a problem for me. My sister and I do think it is very important that we learn our native language so we are also inquiring about adult education classes.

A 84 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 12:50 EST) VERY IMPORTANT I think that speaking spanish is very important to me. Language is a major part of our culture and of our roots. If we lose our language, we lose part of who we are, we lose our history. As a Mexican...I feel very proud of my heritage..and of my language..and it is very important for me to be a part of it. Besides it is a great advantage to be able to communicate with people in more than one way...

A 85 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 12:24 EST) It`s extremely important.... It`s a unifying, identifying part of our culture. It is also a beautiful thing! Why would you not want to speak the language of your ancestors?

A 86 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 10:53 EST) Re: Speaking Spanish My grandparents were born in Puerto Rico but my parents somehow felt compelled to assimilate while growing up in Williamsburgh, Brooklyn. The result was that they spoke Spanish only so that my brothers and I couldn´t figure out what they were saying. Now that I´m older I feel cheated that I never had a proper introduction to the language of my ancestors. I´m hoping that it´s never too late to start. That`s part of why I´ve joined this list. My wife and I are also actively seeking adult education classes in the Boston area. Wish us luck!

A 87 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 10:18 EST) Never Hide the Pride I feel it is extremely important to know how to speak,read and write Spanish. It is part of out heritage and our up bringing, and I feel it is embarrassing when people from other ethnic backgrounds learn the language before some Latinos. That should show any non speaking Latino the importance of the language. We need to represent ourselves in the best way possible. In order to speak for ourselves we must learn how to speak first.

A 88 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 10:04 EST) ay hombe tantos latinos with so much pride en la lengua. i love it!! i really think that its the best way to show that u have pride, by keeping with ur language....along with knowing ur past. given, spanish started in spain, pero its become the native tongue to latin america, just like ingles is to these gringos. and nisa, Harvest of Empire is an excellent book on latin american influence here in the
A 89 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 21:52 EST) Que Viva!!... Wait what does "que viva" mean? Thats what alot of people must be saying, maybe not out loud but to themselves. I mean how can you be so proud of being something and not even know how to speak the language. That to me is real silly. It makes no sense to me. I think that its the parents responsibility to teach their kids Spanish. Only understanding it is not enough, you need to speak it as well. *smooches*

Toodles! :)

A 90 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 21:42 EST) It`s our native tongue!! Having lived in the US my entire life, I am inevitably American, however, I am Puerto Rican first, as there is no true American. We all come from somewhere else, and one of the ways that I identify myself as a Puerto Rican is by speaking my native tongue - Spanish. It doesn`t matter where one is from, however, to truly be Puerto Rican, Dominican, Mexican, Swedish, German, etc. one must have ties to his or her culture, with the ability to speak the native tongue ranking as the most important. I know there are Latinos out there who were raised without Spanish being spoken in the household. But my retort to that excuse is this - If you are so proud to be a Latino/Latina, why not learn about your culture? Read about the experiences of other Latinos in this country (i.e. Piri Thomas, Esmeralda Santiago, etc.), enjoy your music (salsa, merengue, bachata, etc.), get together and share yourself with other Latinos, and most importantly, learn from all these experiences. You will then understand how important it is to speak your native tongue. (An excellent start to understanding our history in the US is by reading Harvest of Empire by Juan Gonzalez)

A 91 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 19:58 EST) It`s a must!!!! I don`t care who gets angry by my opinion; but the truth is that you CANNOT call yourself a "self respecting Latino" if you do not speak the language or have no real interest in learning. Language is the most basic and essential part of any culture. Knowledge of the language is a MUST!

A 92 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 19:21 EST) sPeAkIn ThE lAnGuAgE Let me jus say that i was born in Costa Rica but im made up of Honduran, Salvadoran, and Nicaraguan decent. I moved to Canada when i was 1 and im turnin` 19teen soon and ive been up here ever since.I am one of those people that can say that i speak the language,write the language, and read it fluently.For this i gotta give thanks to my parents for speakin` it to me and showin` me what the most beautiful culture in the entire universe is all about. I think it`s real sad that there is Latinos that can`t speak the language and this means that they can`t read it or write. But I think that their parents are at falt. They are the ones to blame for their children not bein` able to speak the language. See, i know this costa rican born chick that doesn`t know the language at all. At home she does`n even eat spanish food, nor does she know how to dance any of the beautiful music we got,and when i ask her what do u consider ur self, she says, she doesn` know. Then i know this dude who is totally the opposite and he was born here in canada.His ancestry is English, at least he says it.This dude can do everythin` the chick i mentioned above can`t do. He says, " I may be Canadian born and look strictly canadiense, but my heart is Latino". To me, thats what i think bein` Latino is all about, Knowin` the culture and bein` it.So if u say ur latino and u can`t even speak it and even worse yet aren`t even livin` it, please do ur self a favour, don`t bs yourself. You ain`t bs`n me cuase i know what it`s all about, aight... Let me finish off by sayin` that im proud of bein` a Latino.There is no other culture in this universe that id rather be part of. I didn` say raza cuase there is only one race in this universe and that is the human race, everythin` else is jus cultures, and ours is the best culture out here and lets jus leave it at that..................

keine verwertbaren ANGABEN

A 93 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 17:59 EST) Speak it, but learning how to write spanish I believe that not only known how to speak spanich is important, but also to write it and
read it. I came to this country when I was four years old and I was never taught to write or read Spanish. I am now struggling to learn how to write and read Spanish. Speaking Spanish is an advantage for me but I feel that it would be even better if I learned how to read and write Spanish well.

Kommentare auf URL:

!!MUCHO AMOR PARA TODO MI GENTE LATINA!!

A 94 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 16:56 EST) Speaking Spanish Born and raised here, daughter of 2 immigrants, I am thankful that they never stopped speaking Spanish to me. Growing up, I saw my dad read the English and Spanish newspaper. Eventually, throughout the years, I did the same thing. Not only was I exposed to the language being spoken but now I saw it written and learned a lot more. I now have a job that requires my bilingual skills. This I thank my parents for. There are customs that u can never let go, and speaking your native language is one of them. Being bilingual has many advantages nowadays...I think we should know this by now.

A 95 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 12:30 EST) "YO NO SPEAK SPANISH" I've met many people who were born here in the U.S. and their parents are Hispanics, but they don't speak Spanish. They understand the language, but they don't speak it. I think that for Hispanics is very important that we learn how to speak both English and Spanish. Not only are we bilingual, but we are most likely to get good jobs out there. We have an advantage that we should learn how to use, but what use is understanding the language if your not going to speak it.

A 96 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 12:14 EST) WHO TO BLAME.....? Who can you blame for so many Hispanics that don't speak Spanish? By know people should realize that there is no such thing as being American. People are usually from some other country. Unless you are a Pilgrim you are a true American:)...Most of the people that come to this country work very hard and sometimes two jobs. They don't really have time to teach there kids the language. Usually Grandparents are in charge of that. Spanish is the easiest language to pick up. If you can't learn it, it's mainly your own fault. When you speak TWO LANGUAGES it's much easier finding a job. With being an American comes alot of responsibilities I think. And education should be one of them....1

Kommentare auf URL:

I'M CURRENTLY WORKING ON MY BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ECONOMICS AND FINANCE.... LUV THEORY'S.... TELL ME YOURS....

A 97 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 10:19 EST) MORENO WANTING TO LEARN I speak another language myself.. It is not Spanish..
I speak Creole..<i am trying to learn, but I feel as if no one wants to teach me..<i do adore the Spanish language and culture, and I would like to learn and maybe get to know more people in the process..<i

A 98 (Sun, Jan 27, 2002 @ 08:13 EST) i think that i think that it`s important to keep your culture and heritage alive. even if you aren't Spanish you should still learn how to speak it, because right now Hispanics are the largest minority and you will run into a situation where you will need to know how to speak Spanish.

A 99 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 23:26 EST) Muy Importante Speaking Spanish is important to me because it is a part of my culture. And I know that someday when I have kids I want them to know Spanish and so that when they have kids they too will keep the tradition going. Proud to be Latina
Kommentare auf URL:
Que pasa MiGente!
Welcome to my page! Sorry that its so plain but it will be updated soon! Anyway, as you can see I am of being MEXICAN AMERICAN!!! EVEN THOUGH THE GRINGOS STOLE OUR LAND!! ITS ALL GOOD THOUGH, I AINT MAD AT CHA. hehe
I am originally from Southern California but now I live in H-TOWN, Texas.My true love is southern cali though, there is just no place like it!

A 100 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 22:50 EST) **Español??** Personally, I feel that speaking spanish is extremely important for me..Mainly because I am of hispanic descent. I feel that if you are a full blooded latino or latino you should know your language...It is a part of culture and its a way to keep in touch with your roots...

A 101 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 22:40 EST) **VERY IMPORTANT** I think its very important to speak spanish. Especially for the younger generation whos parents immigrated from other countries. If the younger generation doesn`t keep the language alive, than the language will begin to disapear like others. Also now that people are starting to have more Bi-racial relationships with mixed children, the children should know there language.

A 102 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 20:51 EST) **it is very important** It is very important to speak and read spanish to commuicate with people from different countries, keeping the lanauage alive, helping "immigrants" adapt to a english spoken community. I think Spanish is a very beautiful lanaguage and its fun to speak it. : ) :)

A 103 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 20:05 EST) | **Re: Re: Languages** Listen @s@hole. Before you come out making stupid uninformed comments about people, why don`t you try ASKING me where I stand on the issues. Or better yet, READ where I stand on the issues. Mine was the first post in this forum.
You do yourself no justice by demonstrating a knee-jerk tendency to slam that which you do not understand.
The post you more than likely read, which you cannot possibly decipher a political position from, was my attempt to post the "enye" letter up in this forum, nothing more. Now if you would like to debate me on something, you feel free to do so on the facts, but next time I suggest you keep the insults to yourself until you know who it is you`re insulting.
Kommentare auf URL:
I reside in Rockland County, New York, home of air, trees, and a lot of Irish people. I used to think that Florida was the place I wanted to be. I suppose on some level I do love Florida, but it`s not because the state is particularly inviting. It`s because I have family in Orlando and Miami. And as you will find out if you ever get to know me, family is a big part of my life. Still, the jury is out as to where I will someday end up raising my family. But personally, I`m leaning towards New York.

A 104 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 18:42 EST) **Spanish** Being able to speak and write the language well is important if Latinos want to keep making Latin ethnicity an issue. As part of becoming mainstream America, it is vital for us to be educated. Being illiterate in both Spanish and English impresses no one, and continues the stereotypical thinking that is pervasive in this country. And why is this important? There is a global economic war afoot-Pan Europe, Asian tigers, China and the USA. We need to unite the Americas, if only economically. Consequently, what better emissaries can American companies send to mexico, Central America and South America? American Latinos. And this will signify the upward economic mobility we are striving to reach.
Let`s be supportive here, cut the divisiveness, it serves no purpose other than to reinforce we are ruled by machismo.

A 105 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 18:34 EST) | **Re: Spanish...** Truly, MG hold AltKey and type 164=q. Presto.
Knowledge is power! Education is the key to knowledge. Be smart, be learned, be educated, be aware. It’s not enough to be proud to be a Latino, you need to be ambitious, aggressive, articulate and self-motivated.

Today, the Hispanics have become the dominant minority in America. Ironically, we are considered a minority. It’s sad how often people fail to heed the lessons of history. The Spaniards were here first!!! Unfortunately, as Conquerors. Not the English, they weren’t even second. Are Los Angeles, San Francisco, St. Augustine, and St. Petersburg Anglo? How about Central and South America? Our culture and architecture are everywhere to see and appreciate. The Spanish contribution to civilization is as great as any other nation in the world. Bar none. And every former Spanish colony has sent its young to America. More great ingredients to add to that dynamic melting pot.

With all this, is it any wonder the USA is the only SuperPower?

Now let’s take advantage of that position. Exploit the time, NOW!!! Presently, there are many programs to assist minority firms in getting started or in doing business with the government. This means that there is help if you want to learn how to start your own business! There are free consultants to help you manage your finances and your time. Utilize these, it’s only smart to do so. Believe me, these programs will not survive. Get it while it’s available. There are many who want to do away with these programs, and their last names don’t end in a vowel or a “z”. Need help in finding these resources? Send me a note, I’ll help.

Have an opinion on this, good tell me about it.

A little about me. Physically, I’m 6’0”, 190 lbs., in good shape, black hair, brown eyes. I’m also smart, well educated, bi-lingual and exceptionally curious. I am a student of the world, and enjoy marveling at its complexities and foibles. I believe in God (a purely personal belief not grounded in facts) but not in organized religion. More people have died in the name of God than in all world wars together. Wonder what God thinks about this? As with lawyers, there are way too many priests/holy men/immans. Any so-called holy man sending children to die as bombers should rot in hell!!!! But first let them suffer here on Earth. Let’s not give them a free ride!!

MG is a very interesting site. I’m amazed at how creative the members are with their pages. Of course, the Ladies being Latin, are very pretty, sensual and sexy. Any wonder we’re the fastest growing group in America? Seriously, I’m very impressed by how creative these women are. Some outstanding poems and attitudes about love and life. Which ones? Stop being lazy, Browse and Read on your own!!

I am however, dismayed at the number of very very young and apparently single mothers. Alas, no mention of the father’s helping out. This is a big problem we face. Latinas are the highest “at risk” group to drop out of high school, and become unwed mothers. We need these young ladies to enjoy growing up before they take on the highly responsible maternal duties. Guys, there is a difference between having sex and making babies, wear a raincoat. If the baby is yours, Do the RIGHT thing. Be there for child financially and emotionally. You need not live with her to carry out your parental responsibilities. Girls, if he’s not capped, announce the goodies aren’t available.

I was reminded by a woman I respect highly that young Latina women are hard working, loving and caring mothers. I did not mean to imply anything to the contrary. The Latina mother members here all seem to love their kids beyond belief and are doing their best to raise them. For that I applaud them all and wish them every success. I just wish they had an opportunity to enjoy growing up before becoming Moms. It’s tough to have kids raising kids. And we all know it’s tough living on one salary when there are many in the house.

Musings and Observations-
1. Why are so many screen names ending with 4u2nv? What’s that about? If you aren’t envied you aren’t worth it? Get a grip!
3. Why is there so much written in ebonics? And the “n” word? Please give it up!
4. Why show so much “T&A” and then say come correct? What is that all about? If you’re flaunting, Wolves will come hunting. But I must say most of it is truly nice to look at. Go figure.
A 106 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 17:20 EST) **Re: Languages** You are correct what you said. Referencing what "manolotirapolvo" mentioned and especially indicative the ignorance displayed by "Darthmalo", this is what I mean by criticism. Darthmalo relies on the cluster concept. She/He sees people personalities, likes/ dislikes, their viewpoints in clusters. Hence, showing mere prejudice and void of moral content as an empty brain dried on the beach. AmroLatina...keep up the good work...for there will be time when you will speak Spanish fluently.

A 107 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 16:54 EST) **Yes, it is important but,**... As you stated, you are blessed with a language aptitude but it does not make you any better. How would you feel if I told you to speak Dutch, German, French, Polynesian and Russian? I speak, read and write those language/ degreed. You can use your potential when needed when incorporated in the work force where you are needed. This is USA...English is spoken... and common sense dictates... DO NOT judge others but enlighten your friends. You are gifted and should be blessed with that talent. This is why this world is in trouble because we criticize too much instead of making the best for everyone one. So, inspire your friends and show what you can do for them.. Shalom Arovoir, Aufwederseh, Dag, Zadrastvujisti.. Stephan A.

A 108 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 16:42 EST) ...:) Hey, what`s up? I`m full Mexican... and proud of it... and with being Mexican comes my culture and my language... and it means the world to me... yeah, I`m not all perfect about it when it comes to speaking Spanish... but I`m getting there... but no matter what... being Latino is not on how good you speak the language... it`s all in your corazon.... cuidate

A 109 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 15:42 EST) **Spanish Language** I am not a Latina, but I think it is very important to know more than just your language. If you live in the U.S you are going to encounter more than just English speakers. I love the Latin culture and I think people should learn about more than just their culture and their language. I have chosen to minor in Spanish in college so I can read, speak, and write the language proficiently. Just my 98 cents worth.

A 110 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 14:37 EST) **Islands Speaking of Spanish** Hey my ancestors are from a island and my grandmothers grandmother said she was fair skinned auburn hair and came here in the mid 1800`s and wore a ribbon as proof of who they were, she left her family back on that island so people say what nationality are you latin or what , i can`t explain maybe when i get that part together i can learn the language any help thanks  God Bless

A 111 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 14:27 EST) **huh** what`s the difference if you trade one slave owners language for anothers - you can`t replace what`s in your heart and what`s running threw your veins. latinos son latinos no matter what. There are latinos who do understand spanish but wont speak it because of ridicule recieved from family or peers (god forbid you mispronounce something) who are you to judge??

A 112 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 13:03 EST) **Muy importante** Bueno mi gente, el castellano es definitivo muy importante. Tenemos que estar bien contentos en ser LATINOS y enseñar a los que quieran aprender nuestro lenguajes y culturas. Yo vivo en Nueva York, y bueno alla el castellano es todo. Yo apreso mi cultura, el lenguaje...porque eso soy yo!!!
No creo, que por nacer el los Estados Unidos, solo tienes que aprender el Ingles. Hay mucha gente ignorantes que son latinos, y no ensenan a sus hijos. Yo tengo un hijo de dos anos, que es hispano de corazon, aunque tengo sangre Peruana, Española, Dominicana, eh Italiana...para mi, el va aprender mi idioma. Eso es nos que nos unen como hispanos, como gente de cultura que nosotros somos. Así que, nuestro lenguaje es
demasiado importante, especialmente aqui en America. Asi somos, y siempre seremos hispanos...

A 113 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 12:34 EST) ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY A MUST! I IF YOU ARE OF LATINO DECENT AND YOU DO NOT AT LEAST SPEAK OUR LANGUAGE THEN YOU BETTER LEARN!!!!!!! I PERSONALLY AM VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT THAT.......I LEARNED AT HOME. I SPEAK, READ, AND WRITE OUR LANGUAGE FLUently......I KNOW WE`RE ALL NOT BLESSED WITH THAT BUT AT LEAST MAKE AN EFFORT TO LEARN.....I HAVE FRIENDS WHO DON`T SPEAK IT AND I FEEL LIKE STARING THEM WHEN THEY SAY "I UNDERSTAND IT, I JUST DON`T SPEAK IT" I THINK THATS BULLSH$T!!!!!!!I ACTUALLY GET A FEELING LIKE CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE EMBARRASSED OF OUR LANGUAGE........SH$T, LET ME FIND OUT........I THINK THATS ENOUGH FARTIN`, PISSIN` AND MOANIN` FROM ME.........I`M OUT

A 114 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 12:13 EST) Dang It didn`t work. lol

A 115 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 12:13 EST) Lemme try something q

A 116 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 11:40 EST) para mi... ... es muy importante porque vivo en una ciudad donde no hay mucha gente de piel negra que habla espanol, y tambien pocos caribenos. en nueva york, no tuve ningun problema ser bilingue, pero aqui en washington, no hay mucha gente que puede comprender mi accento aunque yo pueda comprender los centroamericanos. ;-) Kommentare auf URL: !!!MAYAGUEZ REPRESENTANDO!!!
como estan mi gente .... i`m gonna write this page in english for our family who has lost the language... i hope to go somewhere and get it back...
i`m a decent bro, livin in washington with all the central americans... lol
i`m chillin in a city that doesn`t think that we come in black.....or that black people can come in a place speaking spanish... if it weren`t for my job, i`d really hate this place. and these mixed-up 2nd generation kiddies get on my nerves too. what the hell is "i`m mixed black and puerto rican".
why does it say "black" under ethnicity instead of "latino"? because even though i have two white grandfathers, and under the big sliding scale of "terms to call mixed people" that exists south of the united states, i am unmistakably black.
[except in south africa, where some other factors, including my surname, put me very firmly in the "coloured" camp... but that`s another issue]
i move from puerto rico to pennsylvania and suddenly i`m not "black" but "latino" just because spanish is my primary language? I DON`T THINK SO. cualfucckingquiera...
auf URL FAHNEn Puerto Ricos

A 117 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 02:04 EST) Re: MUY IMPORTANTE Yo pienso igual que tu. Yo aprendi el espanol en mi casa con mis padres. Yo nací en California y me considero 100% mexicana.. no me gusta el termino Mexicana-Americana porque para mi eso no es ser 100% mexicana sino mexicana y mitad sangre americana. mos dos padres son mexicanos asi que soy mexicana.

A 118 (Sat, Jan 26, 2002 @ 01:21 EST) our beautiful language
Mi grandfather use to tell me, "the spanish language is one of the most beautiful ones there is". I remember when he would tell me to say I love you all one had to say was "te quiero, te amo" and there was so much more feeling into the words that thats the only thing one had to say and it sounded so romantic. I`m grateful that I have learned spanish, I learned it from my grandparents, mother and school. First of all it helps you find and understand your roots and culture and it opens many doors for one. To speak Spanish is a grand part of me. It only makes me feel prouder to be who I am, a Latina-American. Como me decia mi abuelo, "el idioma español es una de las mas bonitas". Me recuerdo que me decia que se podia expresar en el español con mas sentimientos, por ejemplo se puede decir "te quiero, te amo" y eso solo se sentia romantico. Yo aprendi el español con
mis abuelitos, con mi mama y en la escuela. En primer lugar encuentras tus raisers, entiendes la cultura, y te habré muchas puertas. Es una parte tan grade de mi que solamente me hace sentir mas orgullosa de ser Latina.

Kommentare auf URL:
This is the country where I was born. The one that gave me and my family freedom to work and live a better life. The one that gave me the opportunity to go college. So now more than ever I stand proud as an American. The unity that has been spreading among the American people (and even the love other countries have showed us) is the only beautiful thing that has come out of this cold blooded tragedy. There is no doubt in my mind that Americans are forever changed. I hope we can deal with this and only turn it to positivity. Today, I post my US flag high and say. Can`t nobody hold us down, American for life, por vida! 09.13.01118

Incredibly Important!! I`m only half Puerto Rican and my mom never learned Spanish but my grandparents did speak a little of it around me. But because I didn`t learn Spanish (and school didn`t help - I can read it fairly well but can`t speak it for the life of me) I always feel left out. I feel like there is this big part of me missing and I hate feeling that emptiness. I plan on learning Spanish as soon as I can afford a professional tutor and I feel I need to so this emptiness will go away. If you can, learn spanish as soon as possible, don`t wait! If you can speak spanish and have a family, teach them from the day they are born because it is so important to their identity and society! =)

Re: les tengo unas pregunticas Sabes porque, por que ese no es el punto de el forum. Este foro no se trata de porque los Latinos no les interesa aprender un tercer idioma, si no de la importancia de hablar Espa~ol. Aunque si, tienes un poco de razon, pero date de cuenta que la mayoria de los Latinos que no aprenden o no se comunican en otros idiomas fuera del Ingles o el Espa~ol, no han sido expuestos a unas situaciones sociales que requieran el uso de estos idiomas. Por ejemplo, yo puedo hablar Ingles y Espa~ol correctamente, solo con unos problemas minimos, pero a la misma vez, puedo comunicarme de una manera basica en Frances...todo depende a lo que hayas sido expuesto/a.

Re: les tengo unas pregunticas Llevas un buen punto cari~o.. Y es admirable.. Aunque hay muchos que si saben mas de dos idiomas.. Algunos no se dedican a superar su ser..

Profil siehe 119

muy importante If spanish is the language we learned to speak then why so we hide it speak it and speak it proudly.To me its very important because thats my language thats how i let the world know that I am latina.

El idioma es la sangre del espíritu... Hola a todo el que me lee, que cuan importante es el hablar espanol para mi? Sencilla pregunta, sencilla respuesta. Es todo en esta vida, es una de las pocas cosas que me hacen sentirme cerca de mi lindo Puerto Rico. Es el idioma que me ha permitido desahogar mi musica, mi alma, mi son. Fue la primera lengua que aprendi, y a pesar de que hablo ingles e italiano, sera siempre la numero uno en mi corazon...

Para me es muy importante En este tiempo en mi vida estoy abrazando fuerta a mi cultura. La idioma es bella y estoy practicando todo los dias. Ahora estoy escribiendo a un amigo, que vives en mi corazon, en Colombia. Verdad necesito el ayudo del diccionario, pero lo estoy haciendo porque ahora quiero
hacerlo. Tengo mucho orgullo ser Latina, Puertoriqueña y hablando las dos idiomas. Con el ayuda de mis amigos aquí en MiGente, la música de los artistas que me encantan y escribiendo a mi vida, Alex, tengo mucha razón a hablar, escribir y leer esta idioma tan mágico, romántico y lindo.

A 125 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 17:05 EST) ehhh it`s only a slave language anyways I would much rather learn my real native languages of Yaqui, Nahuatl and opata. But Spanish is good to communicate with the brothers and sisters in Mexico. But as for my native language it is not. It was forced upon my ancestors during the spanish invasion in 1519.

A 126 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 14:47 EST) les tengo unas pregunticas Por que sera que a la mayoría de los hispanohablantes no les interesa aprender un tercer idioma como el portugués o el francés o el arabe? Por que creen los de las tercera y quarta generaciones que después de aprender el español, no es preciso que aprendan comunicarse con otra gente? Por que no aspiran a ser trilingue o saber mas de solo dos idiomas?

A 127 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 14:29 EST) PART OF OUR CULTURE SPEAKING SPANISH IS REALLY IMPORTANT SPECIALLY IF IT IS YOUR NAVITE LANGUAGE. IT IS PART OF YOUR CULTURE PLUS IT IS EVEN BETTER WHEN YOU ARE BILINGUAL.... OR SHOULD I SAY LATINO? YOU CAN GET BY WITH SO MANY THINGS..... SOMETIMES IT OPEN DOORS FOR YOUR FUTURE AND A BETTER DESTENY...... AND ONE MORE THING.... ORGULLOSA DE SER LATINA.

A 128 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 13:47 EST) Hablando Espanol Creo Ciertamente que la lengua "ESPANOL" es el idioma mas sexy. Pero por el lado profesional, es cierto abre otras puertas sobretodo si de veras interesa ayudar a nuestra gente latina. Yo por mi parte me siento sumamente orgullosa de poder hablar, leer y escribir mi idioma. Siempre he conservado mi identidad como LATINA. Es un orgullo ser bilingue!!!

A 129 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 13:04 EST) Es muy importante Hablar Español es muy importante para mi porque soy latina y estoy muy orgullosa de serlo, y además si tienes familias con su idioma como el español. Pienso que un bilingüe vale por dos.

Kommentare auf URL:
Hello Mi Gente!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!Gracias for stopping por mi lugarcito.

A 130 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 12:20 EST) I am very proud of my language Desde que tengo 13 anos, vivo en este país, y siempre trato de mantener mi espanol. My parents don´t speak english, so i get the chance to practice my spanish. I also try to read in spanish, even if it`s just cheesy magazines (lol). i refused to stop talking spanish. It`s just sooo beautiful. No matter where you are from, it sounds beautiful, and it`s also very romantic. Gracias

Kommentare auf URL:
Ha! As off 8/24/04, I became a citizen. My mom is really proud, I don`t know why, but HECK, I CAN VOTE NOW! lol
I´ve been asked if I am scared or lonely that I am 27 years old, single with no children and the following is my answer to THE never ending question:
As latina I do have the pressure from my family to have kids and get married young and if one doesn´t follow this rules, one is considered an old maid. Yes it sounds sad and funny but that´s the reality of our culture. There´s so much much expected from a mujer latina that most just crumble under the pressure and try to accommodate to their family´s wishes. I chose a different path simply because I am aware of my options. Most girls know they have the same options but don´t have the correct guidance to make different choices.
I am not trying to mock anyone for their lack of judgement, simply because I am aware how sometimes our parents can mislead us with their well wished advice. Remember: Its
hard to break old costumbres. My mom was no joke, she was super strict and I thank her today, not then, for how she raised me. Today I can `see` what she was trying to do. She was not letting me go off to the world and get lost. Thanks to her and my choices I can take care of a house, a family, a career and myself but that doesn`t mean I am desperate to do so. I know there`s time for everything, the trick is to use it (time) wisely and not just take the `easiest` way out. Staying home, having kids and depending on a man to support me, is not what I want. I am a woman, I am a human being, therefore I can take care of myself BY myself. If I am lucky that someone wants to help that`s great but I sincerely do not need anyone to make me feel that I am accomplishing something. To all women that settle to work and come home a raise a child (children), where are your ambitions? Your ganas to better yourself? Just because you have a child it doesn`t mean you stop growing. I can only but imagine it has to be 20 times harder to fulfill your dreams and goals. Power to all those women who had children while young and are struggling to fulfill their dreams while at the same time raising a family. Eso si es valor! Don`t get me wrong, I`d love to have a family but like i said, when the time is right. I am a very proud mujer latina, who is trying to move ahead in this world, but at the same time I try not to forget where i come from.

As part of the largest growing minority (UL), we need to maintain our unity now more that ever, and show support to all those who are trying to help our minority group have the proper treatment, respect and benefits just like everyone else. Whether is thru arts, politics or by offering better job opportunities, they are trying to help us be accepted and respected in the US.

I am a controller`s assistant for an international greetings card co., in NYC and I attend school almost full time in the evenings (Major-Spanish/Minor-Art History), therefore I don`t have much personal time. Well now that the fall is almost here, its back to school time.

My brother Max A.K.A. MYTMAX: You are my pride and joy! I am so proud of the man you are turning out to be. I want you to know that I love you very much and thank you so much for loving and caring for me like you do. Te quiero mucho Maxito`...lol

Mami- You are the best
Mami, te quiero mucho, gracias por todos los sacrificios que has hecho por mi y por mis hermanos....te queremos mucho!
You are also my strenght and my reason to become a better woman.
Well, thank you for taking your time to read my page....

WELL THANKS FOR COMING BY, AND REMEMBER LIVE TRYING TO..........CIAO

A 131 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 11:32 EST) **Abriendo Fronteras** I find that being able to speak Spanish allows me in to spaces that normally were restricted by physical and imaginary boundaries. It was not easy to conserve this ability, and I have no idea if its all correct. I just know I can talk to people, all my people.

A 132 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 11:27 EST) **Re: Nope** so don`t post anything

A 133 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 09:58 EST) **MUY IMPORTANTE** Creo que el espaqol es muy importante. Y bueno si eso es lo que algunas personas que an escrito que el espaqol es importante deverian ponerlo en practica, por que no es lo mismo pensar que es importante y enrealidad ponerlo en practica y no humillarte por que eres hispano y hablas espaqol. Mi consejo para todas las personas ahi afuera es que si piensas que tu cultura es importante, no solo digas es importante si no que ponla en practica, habla tu idioma, aprende de tu cultura y si eres familia hispana nunca digas yo soy americano. Kommentare auf URL:

My message to all ya is to always be your self. Never try to be someone else.

Mi mensaje para todos es que siempre seas tu mismo. Nunca trates de ser alguien mas.

134 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 09:11 EST) **El Espaqol es muy importante para mi.** Speaking Spanish is very important to me. I will be teaching bilingual students as a career.
Kommentare auf URL:
My name is Jennifer, and I`m reppin` the class of 2002 at K-House. Mucho amor to my peeps at King. I wanna take this opportunity to thank the haters. You make me who I am.

A 135 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 08:46 EST) **MUYYYY IMPORTANTE** Speaking Spanish is sooo important. It is a part of who we are. Without it our culture will fade into nothingness. Who will pass on our stories of triumphs, and hardships? My Spanish is not at all where I would like it to be but I remember when I was younger and how my mother went out to then only Spanish bookstore in our community (La Yuquiyu); She bought my sister and I books in Spanish and in the inside covers she wrote the Spanish alphabet. We practiced reading and writing in spanish for an hour each day. I also remember going to foreign language academy high school and being harrased because I chose to take Spanish instead the numerous other languages that were available.

Everyone thought I sought out an easy A, they could not understand that spanish like english is something one must work at in order to gain better understanding of how to use it properly, and that because I was Latina it did not mean that "poof" I automatically was born with the spanish language gene! I often answered there snide questions or remarks with the simple answer "for the same reasons we are made to take English for four years". When you speak spanish many doors are open to you. Now adays it is an asset to be bilingual. I make it a priority because I don`t want to limit myself to just the toungue of the country I was born in but because I long to embrace the toungue of the country that was born within me. How would I learn from my Tia`s and Tios, cousins and grandparents...how could I read the great authors of Borges, Lorca, Cervantes and so many more. So many things are lost in translation. For the life of me I still have a hard time trying to explain or translate alcapurrias, or pasteles to people! LOL Spanish makes us unique as a race, and to maintain the uniqueness we must preserve it. To preserve it we must practice and pass on the language. With the continuance of the language we will maintain our traditions and culture as well.

Kommentare auf URL:
There is so much that could be said, but often you can write a whole testimony about who you are and what you like, and still not have said anything worth while.... So I`ll try to keep it short... I did say try!

LOL So who am I?... Well... 100% Mujer Boricua, born and raised on the west side of Chicago...

From a time where a block full of kids would get together to play games like freeze tag, johnny apple seed, football, and catch and kiss...

but time moved on, and the old crew grew up. We all went our seperate ways...some making choices that lead us to high school and then into college while others made choices that cost them thier life and maybe their freedom... To all my brothas and sistas out there:

*En esta vida son pocas las veces que te puedes encontrar con una verdadera amistad! Gracias por el apoyo en mis tiempos de felicidad y tristieza...Los quiero mucho! Muchos Besos y Gracias!*

A 136 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 07:53 EST) **Re: Es sumamente importante** Me alegro de poder leer estas cosas... yo soy espaqol,y sin embargo, por aqum (en Europa) las cosas son algo distintas. Evidentemente pienso que la "cultura" (??) norteamericana puede - y con esfuerzos de gente como tu moreliana, lo conseguiris - verse muy beneficiada... Por aqum es a la inversa, cada dma se hace mas necesario el uso del Inglis... espero que pronto la gente hispanoamericana podais desempeqar el papel importante dentro de USA, y ese cambio se vea reflejado por aqum.

Saludos!!!

A 137 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 02:33 EST) **I know enough spanish to get me by.** Speaking Spanish is pretty important especially to a bilingual person such as myself because it could help you open more doors in your designated career. An example is a career like the one I`m pursuing. I plan on working as a producer within the Music...
Industry.
Being bilingual opens doors because I can find more talent due to my knowledge of the
Spanish language. I can find musicians and singers that I can produce for not only in the
English market but in the Spanish one as well. It helps you connect with your culture and
it is also very diverse for instance there are different dialects you have Dominican, Puerto
Rican, Mexican etc. Don't front ya' know the drill "Ta Cache", "Ajoj con Pollo", "Orale
Huey" it's all very different and unique and it makes the language fun. The Spanish
language is hot not only because it's a perk knowing two languages but also 'cause it's
romantic and all that other jazz.

A 138 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 01:58 EST) Speaking spanish Speaking spanish is very
important to me. Even though I am not Latina, (I am Filipina) I have come to find out
that my knowledge of speaking Spanish comes in handy all the time. Of course I know my
native language of Ilocano (Filipino Dialect).

A 139 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 01:16 EST) Es sumamente importante No es porque sea
maestra de espanol, pero mas que nada porque soy latina, que veo una necesidad muy
dependente de aprender y retener el espanol. Es otra manera de poder comunicarnos con
nuestra gente y en el mundo en que vivimos hoy, en donde muchos norteamericanos
estan tratando de aprender el espanol... hasta el punto de pagar mucho dinero para
cursos intensivos en Mexico o otras partes del latinoamerica, creo que nosotros como
latinos nos debemos la oportunidad de aprenderlo, y mas que nada ejercerlo. No es
solamente el hablar espanol que es necesario, sino que tambien el escribirlo, y leerlo. Al
igual, es importante diferenciar entre como uno habla y cuando uno escribe. He visto a
muchos de los latinos que escriben tal y como hablan, y no es la forma correcta de
expresarse cuando uno escribe en espanol; ya sea en un ensayo o papel formal.
Otra cosa que se me hace interesante es que no hay muchos latino/as ensenando
espanol en las escuelas. El resultado es que la mayoria de nuestros jovenes latino/as
que toman clases de espanol lo estan aprendiendo de maestro/as norteamericanos que
quizas no puedan ofrecerles lo que un/a latino/a pueda. Por eso es importante que
nosotros como latino/as educados, que nos unamos para ensenarles a nuestros jovenes
la cultura tan bella que poseemos como latino/as y las costumbres, tradiciones, y la
lengua que nos une. Hay que empezar temprano. Como dicen, si todos pones nuestro
granito de arroz... saldremos adelante; porque querer es poder. :-) Adiosito!

A 140 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 01:01 EST) Re: important The extreme power of language
to shape identity, perspective, culture, and society is often not recognized. Language is
the fundamental vehicle of rational thought, ideas, social norms, ethics, values, and
culture. In addition, language and its use or lack of use conveys a message, and can be
indicative of larger social phenomena. Language can carry meaning which goes far
beyond the literal meaning specified. In this case and particularly for Latinos, the
retention of our Spanish language becomes very important within this context. That is,
the retention of our Spanish language becomes an affirmation of the validity of the
language. As we speak and conserve the Spanish language, we convey an implicit
message that it is important and of value. Because language is the primary medium by
which we receive and transmit culture, we simultaneously affirm the validity of Latino
culture. Conversely, the loss of a language tacitly subverts the significance both the
language and the culture from which it is derived. I apologize if I am being overly
theoretical or loquacious :-) I simply believe that the overwhelming tendency to lose our
language demonstrates a larger societal trend to devalue all language and culture unique
to the anglo-saxon tradition (consider, for example, the efforts to introduce English Only
legislation).

A 141 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 00:35 EST) I wish I wish that I was able to speak Spanish. I
am only able to speak a little and that's only from taking it in school. Some of the girls
especially lately that I've meant have been Hispanic and speak Spanish and I wish that I
was able to speak with them.
EBONICS: well its change time again. so yea. well this is that light skinned boi commin at ya from that 206 central area. i am currently SINGLE well about mah physical apperence. im 6`2, around 170lbs (i know imma lite weight), hazel eyes, tan skinn (gettin darker i love summa) and short hair. and i got 3 ear piercins and 1 tat on mah back of a scorpion.
i feel that imma koo person ta be around, and kick it wit. i can eitha be ya best homie or a cold mutha if ya piss me off. but i tend ta forgive but not forget easily. i tend ta clown alot. i will talk bout ya age or height or anything and the more i talk bout ya the more it means we koo.
i graduated from franklin high skool in 01 and have been attendin s.s.c.c. for ya that dont now its a community college round hea. im takin the auto program and if everythang go rite ill be outta ther in the summa of 03. afta i graduate from there, im plannin on movin back home. and that in houston, tx. yep that good ol souf.
if i omitted anything or ya wanna know anything eitha leave a not or hit me up on aim: Light skinned 41 yahoo: light_skinnedboi
oh and if ya goin ta leave me a note please have a pic cause im tired of females sayin that they cute and then they turn out ta be shot. so yea have a pic or dun drop a line aight.

A 142 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 23:59 EST) neither here nor there. sup peeps? I am a court interpreter for the gov, and I have been bilingual as far back as i can remember.lo que yo miro es esto, mucha gente espera que todos hablen en su idioma. Ingles O Espanol, no importa si no nos unimos. Everybody laughs at the heavy "latino" accent because the english is choppy or at the heavy "gringo" accent because the spanish is mocho. how important is it? very, but don`t ridicule because of small imperfections.
Let`s help each other out. dando la mano uno al otro es del modo que nos adelantamos. Let`s not be the barrel of crabs puling each other down when the other is try to move up.
So for eveyone trying to hate on each others opinions wise up and look at us as a whole don`t forget no mater how much you assimulate, your spanish surname will make you out for who you are and it doesn`t take some one who is bilingual to pick out names like ours. So don`t tell me what language to speak, yo hablo en la idioma que yo quiero. Pero recuerda si vas hablar di halgo que valga la pena!

A 143 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 23:04 EST) Essential to success I love to speak Spanish and I consider it my first language. I am now working on my third language and hope to start my fourth by 2003. I believe that the ability to speak Spanish correctly is becoming essential in the United States. As the Latino population continues to grow, we will need to be able to communicate with people who do not speak English. I was blessed in that I was taught Spanish before learning English at home so I was able to learn both at a relatively young age. When I attended college, I began to work harder at perfecting Spanish so that I would be able to communicate at a professional level. I still work hard at learning the nuances of the language. My efforts have given me a distinct advantage that many others have not been afforded. I thank my family and friends for taking the time to teach me how to speak Spanish correctly.
I also believe that learning other languages besides Spanish is important as well. We often neglect the fact that we are undergoing rapid globalization. Speaking only two languages may not be enough. We will need to be able to express ourselves at a professional level with people from other nations if we are to progress in the business world. This may include learning more than two languages.
I believe that often the United States is isolationist in its stance towards learning languages. In Europe, most speak at least three languages (not including regional dialects) fluently. They are much more cognizant of the importance of communication at the global level than we are in the United States. I hope that we overcome our isolationist mentality. We should start by making learning at least two languages in school mandatory. Only then, can we truly realize our potential as a people.
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A 145 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 20:51 EST) **HIGHLY IMPORTANT** I HAVE to speak Spanish to my friends because won`t/don`t speak English! When I go to Mexico I speak their language (Spanish) but they refuse to speak it here! I know it`s a hard language to learn! I can say the same about Spanish! When in Rome, DO AS THE ROMAN`S DO!

A 146 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 20:00 EST) **Part of me!** well i believe spanish is very important cause it defines where u coming from.Well all i could say is that im very proud of being able to speak spanish especially now that it is coming out into the open.anywayz madd people be even wanting to learn our language cause it is very beautiful.thats all i gotta say about it but im very sure there is much more to say about it.~one~

A 147 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 19:26 EST) **important** Speaking Spanish to me is very important. I`m not a pro at it, but I do know way more than enough to get by. Everytime I am introducted to someone, they are impressed that I do speak Spanish. They encourage me not to lose the language. And for those who are wondering, YES, the girls that I have met are very impressed that I speak Spanish. Not a lot of people in the Phoenix area know how to speak it. But all my life I have been told that it is very important to learn as much as I can, even if it is Spanish, but now here in the AZ (Arizona) there is a lot of legislature to either curb or stop the use of the language. But to me, it is more than a part of my life. If you take away my raza`s native tounge, you are taking away a part of our identity.

A 148 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 18:42 EST) **spicnish aint important** Spanish is not the symbol of Latinos hell no!!!!!!! if that is the case why do Colombians have a extrem;y hard time trying to understand mexicans but have a peice of cake time understanding Dominicans and/or Puerto Ricans. Why do other latinos have hard times understanding Argentine and their Uruguayan brothers???

Theres the Latin Caribbean that is close in dialect alongside Venezuela and Colomba kinda like the way the South American country Guayana talks and got a non-spanish caribbean flavour to them, basicallt its Northern South America and the Caribbean that is very spicy, which if u want, includes Miami. Holla at me, and tell ma` what u think of my fine site.
VERY IMPORTANT i feel it is important because its great to know how to speak spanish at a job. a lot of jobs as fo people who know how to speak spanish n tha is y i think it is of importance

El espanol es muy importante porque uno se puede comunicar con tigo solamente porque tu no aprendistes a hablar espanol? El espanol es muy importante porque uno se puede sentir confundido si no lo saber hablar...Es lo mismo como aqien que solamente habla espanol y no se puede comunicar con familiares que hablan inglis.

So to me spanish is a very important thing in MY life and I do believe it should be important in EVERYONE`S life that is Latino. I know one would feel incomplete because the spanish language is as much of our culture as the music we listen and dance to. If one claims to be extremely into their culture and doesn`t speak spanish, are they really into it? Sure, but how deep can they get into if they can`t communicate with their elders, who are possibly the only ones who can speak to you of your ancestry, you understand? I mean anyone can pick up a book or do research about another religion, another race and have it down packed, yet if it`s NOT your culture..than you`ll never be truly one with it, only knowledgable of it.

Spanish is very important because in many house holds, it`s the only way you can say your what you are. Lets be real, if you came from a family that spoke pure english, I`m talking about maybe 3 generations before yours, your roots will forever be Latino but will your way of living be? Think about that...I know someone out there will probably contradict what I just said, but it will be someone out of a very small percentage..because spanish is our culture

ONE LOVE
 LatinoMex alias NaturalTalent
(Hip-Hop 4 Life, LV Style)

"Poetry is a form of art from the heart"-AGJ

Re: Re: I AGREE BUT TO AN EXTENT In response to Boricualoca18`s stamement that Spanish is not what defines us as latino americans, I have to agree, it does not but Spanish certainly unites us as latino americans.

ITALY HEY, IM AN ITALIANA MANI, I SPEAK SPANISH AND I CHOSE TO LEARN IT B/C IF YOU LOOK AROUND, THERE ARE PEOPLE THAT SPEAK IT EVERYWHERE (NOT TO MENTION THAT IF YOU CHILLIN WIT PR,DR,COLUMBIANS, PERUVIANS, MEXICANS, ALL DA TIME LIKE I DO, YOU GETTIN LEFT OUT WHEN THEY TALKIN ABOUT SUNTIN THAT THEY CANT EXPLAIN IN ENGLISH, THEY START WIT DA SPANGLISH) SO I CAUGHT ON EARLY AND I AM JUST LIKE ANYONE ELSE
HAVIN A SECOND LANGUAGE, JUST IM ITALIAN, I THINK ERRYONE SHOULD KNOW SPANISH CAUSE ONE DAY, IT`S GONNA BE MORE PREVAILANT THAN IT IS TODAY IN DA US:)—MANDY

A 155 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 15:05 EST) VERYYYYYY I think that it is important for spanish people to know spanish because it is part of your culture. Besides its a priviledge. I`m African American but I can never know exactly where I came from because Africa consists of so many tribes and nations with so many different languages. Latinos have an advantage. You can trace who you are and where you come from. My ancestors were killed or beaten to death until they forget their language, their customs, everything. A lot of people are losing their culture and becoming very Americanized, and not learning or speaking spanish is a part of that...

A 156 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 15:00 EST) Es sumamente importante... Creo que es importante hablar en espanol porque es parte de mi cultura. Tambien es importante poder leer y escribir en espanol. Yo tome clases de espanol en escuela y la gente me criticaba por haber tomado una clase tan "facil", pero yo siempre hacia esta pregunta a quien quiera que daba ese comentario.... Para que se da la clase de ingles como un requisito para graduarse de high school si vivimos en los Estados Unidos??? La respuesta es obvia: Para poder comunicarse mediante papel y aumentar el vocabulario, incluso interpretar literatura en ingles. Pienso que MiGente debe de prover mas articulos en espanol para que aquellos quien representan su pais Latino y que no sepan como leer o expresarse bien en espanol, puedan hacer el esfuerzo de aprender lo mas pronto posible....

A 157 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 14:41 EST) para todas las personas que an colocado un mensaje aca Todos ustedes dicen que todas las personas hispanas deben hablar espaqol, si es asi, porque no ponen los mensajes en espanol!!!!!!!

A 158 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 14:23 EST) To me and my family, it is important Everyday in my life, it is very important for me to speak my heritsage language. I speak english day in and day out... when it is time to just chill with my friends and fmaily, I speak spanish because it is a beautiful language and it is more fluent to me. I speak english in college, at work and in the street with clients. Spanish to me is a tradition; a way of expressing myself with my natural heritage; it my sense of who I am..my sense of being.

Kommentare auf URL:
I AM ON MY WAY BACK UP TO NYC JULY 3RD.. I`LL BE THERE UNTIL THE 11TH AND THINKING OF MOVING BACK BY JANUARY. I JUST WANNA HAVE A FEW THINGS ALREADY SET FOR MYSELF AND MY SON BEFORE I MOVE UP THERE LIKE A JOB AND SOMEPLACE TO STAY YA FEEL ME.
FLORIDA IS BEAUTIFUL NO DOUBT, BUT I NEED TO BA BACK HOME. MASS TRANSPORTATION AND THE BIG CITY.. THE LIGHTS, THE GLAMOUR AND THE BEST THING OF ALL, STORES OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY. YOU DONT KNOW WHAT ITS LIKE TO HAVE THE NEAREST SUPERMARKET IS LIKE 3 MILES AWAY. IT IS CRAZY!!!!
I AM GOING BACK TO WHERE THINGS ARE FAMILIAR AND TO WHERE MY FAMILY IS. IM ALL ALONE OUT HERE AND I NEED FAMILY AND FRIENDS NEAR ME!!

A 159 RECITER (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 14:12 EST) IT AINT THAT DEEP LANGUAGE IS ONE OF THE CULTURAL FACTORS THAT CONFUSES PEOPLE OF WHAT THEIR IDENTITY TRULY IS;LANGUAGE DOES NOT IDENTIFY UR ROOTS; EXAMPLE:AN AFRICAN CHILD CAN BE BROUGHT UP IN A LATIN HOUSEHOLD AND LEARN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE....YET THAT DOES NOT MAKE THE CHILD LATINO....

A 160 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 13:34 EST) Spanish por aqui, Spanish por alla... Even if I marry an American who knows not a single word in Spanish, my children are going to learn it! The steadily increasing Latino population in the U.S. is making Spanish more common than ever, it`s estimated that around 50 years from now we won`t be a
minority anyomore! and even if not all of those latinos speak Spanish, there`s already anglos the other ethnic groups who are learning it too!

A 161 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 12:34 EST) **Spanish is very important AT LEAST TO ME!!**
I think that every sngle latino in the world should speak spanish that is why u r latino, Don`t u think, Nobody should put u down because of ur language

A 162 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 12:34 EST) **hmm** If you are hispanic it is to speak spanish. however you can`t hold it against someone if they don`t. some hispanics are adopted and some their parents might not have taught them spanish for one reason or another. so don`t criticize anyone for not knowing spanish. it`s not your place.

A 163 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 12:33 EST) **Re: Re: Re: I AGREE, BUT TO AN EXTENT** I will not put down anyone who is not fluent in spanish because it does`nt make then any less of a latino. I, myself am not fluent, because although my mother was born in PR, she spoke mainly english and that was what I was mostly exposed to. She is fluent in spanish, but she never spoke it to me. Now as an adult it is up to me to decide if I`d like to learn the language or not. I think it is an important part of our latin culture to know the language, but it is not what defines us as latin americans, however I am taking it upon myself to learn the language now. And although I am not yet totally fluent, I understand and speak much more than I did as a child.

A 164 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 12:30 EST) **It`s important to speak Spanish!!** I think that it is important to keep your native tounge because it`s your identity. It shapes who you are. Why be "identified as latino" if you lack one of the most important qualities that a latino should have...which is Spanish!!? America is nice, but our roots don`t come from here!!

**Kommentare auf URL:**
I love my latin men who are into their roots and a real man to me would be one that is a TRUE christian, loving, sexy, romantic, patient. and someone who values my intelligence and appreciates who I am as a woman, not just for what I look like! Tambien, un hombre que sea bien educado!! Below Pictured is:Me, my friend Marlene, and Dad!

A 165 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 12:20 EST) **que??** I don`t think people of hispanic origin SHOULD know the spanish language...it`s definitely an added advantage bcuz it`ll make u feel more in tune with your heritage..

A 166 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 11:26 EST) **Re: Re: I AGREE, BUT TO AN EXTENT** if you are of latin descent you should know the spanish language

A 167 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 11:19 EST) **Re: Very important** Without the language you would still be LATINA!

**Kommentare auf URL:**
I would like to say welcome to friends new and old. Yo soy una Belicena! That`s right BELIZE! For those who don`t know, a lado de Guatemala, that`s right it is not an Isla, look on the map. For those who do es Honduras Britanicas.
I am a College Graduate! Yippee! and I majored in English and Linguistics. I intend to either go to Graduate school for Latin American and Caribbean studies. At one time I considered joining the Peace Corps but when you plan for the future you never anticipate falling in love. I am from New York (Bk`s Finest!) Pero ahora yo vivo en Savannah, Georgia. Not for long though, I am moving to Virginia real soon.

A 168 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 11:18 EST) **Muy IMPORTANTE!** I think it`s important to know about your culture and your language even if you do speak spanish. I admit that my spanish is shaky at times but if you want to really show the ultimate respect to your roots and ancestry you will make an attempt. Being proud of your culture and keeping in time with your roots is not only speaking the language but eating and cooking the food,
dancing and listening to the music, engaging in the Latino community, all these things represent who you are as a Latino. LA CULTURA es mas que la idioma! LA CULTURA es TODO!

A 169 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 10:53 EST) **It depends on who** you are I think it depends on who you are. Like for me I was raised by una madre boricua de pura cepa, but i never learned spanish just the basics. It wasn’ cuase she didn´t enforce it, it was at that time in my life i didn´t know what being hispanic was all about. Now that i´m older i know what it means to be hispanic. It’s like being american, and how funnie would that be if americans didn´t know english. We would look at them like they were weird. I think it´s very important becase it´s part of who i am. Si tu eres latino, puro latino it will be impornat to you to becuase thats your native toungue and should be apart of you. Rember we live in america but are still latinos don´t become americanized, that´s why we have latinos that don´t speak spanish in the first place. Remember you have hispanic blood running through your veins.

A 170 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 10:31 EST) **Very important** Spanish is very important to me, its part of my being w/out it, what would I be??.

A 171 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 10:17 EST) Re: **VERY IMPORTANT** The thing you said about you little brother that was born here, the same thing happend to me. Even though i was born in Puerto Rico i barly lived their long enough to learn "mami" and "papi". I went to scool here all my life and almost forgot my spanish until my mom forced me to speak spanish at home. Thanks to her i recoverd my spanish even though its still a bit shaky.

A 172 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 10:12 EST) very!!! I don`t know but I think it is very important that us latinos (or the ones that clame to be) should know the language. I think you get alot more oppotunities for knowing a second language especially know adays everywhere i got they are looking for people that can speak spanish more than any other language.
You also get paid more in some cases.

A 173 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 10:02 EST) **Agree Speaking is Important** I was born and raised here but I still have many roots in PR. If i didn´t speak Spanish, I could not connect with my roots and that would not be good. I don´t need anyone telling me I have to assimillate, I know that but what is important is that while we learn to mix, we also retain the best of our culture-its a beaytiful thing to speak multiple languages and to have the best of both worlds and why not-we after all have it in the genes-its a matter of practice right?
Kommentare auf URL:
Write your personal message here.
_Hola migente, me llamo Pedro y mi apodo es "Pete". Aquí estoy con mi esposa Lori. Tengo tres hijas de cuales estoy bien orgulloso.I like bicycling, racketball, fishing and golfing. Also like nature walks and reading good novels. I`m learning bachata and merengue too.Mi Email es MarreroPete@cs.com
Estoy a la orden y se me cuidan._

A 174 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 09:56 EST) | **VERY IMPORTANT** NOT ONLY IS SPEAKING SPANISH A PART OF MY PUERTO RICAN CULTURE, BUT IT IS A PART OF ME. I WAS RAISED MOSTLY IN THE U.S. BY MY PARENTS WHO WERE BOTH BORN IN P.R. MY OLDEST BROTHER AND I, WHO WERE BORN IN PANAMA, BOTH SPEAK, WRITE, AND UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE VERY WELL. NOW FOR MY TWO YOUNGER BROTHERS WHO WERE BORN HERE IN THE STATES, IT´S A DIFFERENT STORY. THEY UNDERSTAND IT, THEY KNOW WORDS HERE AND THERE, JUST NOT AS MUCH AS MY BROTHER AND I. IT´S A LEARNING PROCESS. THEY´LL GET IT SOONER OR LATER. IT´S GREAT THOUGH TO KNOW THE LANGUAGE. MANY PEOPLE WHO DON´T KNOW IT ALWAYS WANT TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT. THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES ALSO THAT COME WITH
IT. IT JUST FEELS GOOD TO COME OUT TO THIS HUGE WORLD BEING ABLE TO UNDERSTAND TWO TINY WORLDS IN IT...THE ENGLISH SPEAKING ONE AND THE SPANISH SPEAKING ONE.

A 175 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 09:44 EST) **Hello** My father is from Trinidad and my mother is from Salinas, Puerto Rico. My first language was Spanish and second English. I don't know a lot about Trinidad because I was raised by my mother's family. I feel Spanish is very important regardless if your mother or father has another ethnic background. I speak and write Spanish well. But, I must admit at times I forget the meaning of certain words that aren't used on a daily basis. I believe Spanish has a positive effect on Latinos and it's a part of your culture.

A 176 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 09:36 EST) **Re: I AGREE, BUT TO AN EXTENT** I am 100% Mexicana. I am 8th generation here in the US. I'm lucky I even know Spanish. Although my parents know how to speak perfect English, I thank my parents who spoke only Spanish in the house to my brothers and sisters. I believe if you are Latino or Hispanic you have the responsibility when become an adult to at least know your language. Make the effort to learn it or know your roots, and culture if you were not exposed to it when you were a child. In school they do not teach you about Pancho Villa, Benito Juarez, Montezuma, etc. The schools teach you about the Wright Brothers, Ben Franklin, Amelia Earheart, etc, and that ok because we are in America. I'm not saying that if you don't know Spanish or your culture you are less of a Latino, como dicen "un coconut" brown on the outside white in the inside. Acuerdensen, knowledge is power. All righty, i will step out of my soapbox now. Mucho Amor.

A 177 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 09:30 EST) **Howspeaking spanish is important to me.** It's important to me when it comes to getting a job especially where I work at. I'm constantly asked to translate for them. And out of 600 employees I am one of five hispanics that talk Spanish.

A 178 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 09:28 EST) **This is our Culture!** I am a full Ecuana brought up in a Spanish speaking household. My ability to speak Spanish is a gift given from God to use wisely. It is always a great advantage to be bilingual, but especially Spanish and English. These are what most jobs look for now a days. And Spanish is a great language for the plain reason it comes from the Romance languages. If you know Spanish you will be able to derive words from other languages. I think it is to speak Spanish as well as any other language you may know.

A 179 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 09:00 EST) **Spanish first** I was raised here with only Spanish speaking parents, so I did not grow up speaking English...thank God.

Once i have my children, it is important for me to make sure they speak Spanish first. English will come with time and school, but I will only speak Spanish in the house. When the children are old enough they can make their decision on what language they prefer to speak, but they will always have two languages.

**Kommentare auf URL:**
Welcome people of migente.com. All you need to know is that I am a Puerto Rican man living in New Jersey. I have a degree in Exercise Science from The College of New Jersey. I'm currently a Senior Health & Fitness Specialist and completed the American College of Sports Medicine Fitness Instructor certification.

A 180 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 08:55 EST) **Very Important....** Personally my opinion is that the speaking Spanish is important because you can help those hispanic-americans out that maybe don’t speak anything else than the Spanish language. As a matter of fact, I was raised speaking both languages within my household. Its a priviledge to speak spanish...... Y si tu lo hablas te sientes feliz...Yo no cambiaria hablar espaqol para nada. Being able to speak both Spanish and English is the door to increase your
horizons......So I would consider that both languages are very, Extremely important to Hispanic-Americans.....Peace and Love to you all......Diamante

Kommentare auf URL:
To all the fellas out there mucho amor y cariño. Y ha todos quiero decirles esto: La vida es solo una. Vive cada día como si fuera la última. Uno nunca sabe cuando es la última. Fulfill your life with all of your pleasures and desires. It`s wonderful to dream. And it`s even better to make your dreams come true. And last but not least, lots of love, peace and harmony for us all. Hope you enjoyed your stay. Keep in touch. Amor y Paz como siempre.
The main Picture is I with the shirt that reads "1979". Drop me a note and I promise to respond.

A 181 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 08:48 EST) very important En mi opinion hablar espanol y ensenarle el espanol a nuestros hijos deberia ser muy importante. El espanol es parte de nuestra cultura.Debemos de estar orgullosos de nuestra cultura y sobre todo de nuestro idioma.
Kommentare auf URL:
Soy puertoriqueno pero vivo en Virginia Beach, me gusta la musica, los deportes,la poesia y muchas otras cosas mas. Dentro de poco voy a regresar a Puerto Rico pues pienso volver a la universidad.mido 5 `7" y peso 155 libras.mi pasion es la musica y la poesia, escribo poemas para desahogar mis sentimientos y inventar historias.

A 182 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 06:46 EST) its important but... I was raised in a household were spanish was in every aspect a part of what makes my family puertorican. I do agree that being able to speak spanish has its benefits especially with work, traveling and being a well rounded person, BUT I also feel that english its just as important or more so.. because without knowing the language., there is alot that holds that person back.. me personally, I can read, write and fully understand the spanish language, but I would not change the fact that english was my first language.

A 183 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 01:33 EST) SPANISH ONLY. my perants r spanish speaking south americans.they only speak spanish in the home to me and my other hermanas..they like 2 keep the culture and the beautiful language alive.we were taught from little 2 appreciate what we r, and to enhance our background.la idioma means alot to the family,to my perants its part of who we r and were we r coming from.im proud of who i am and what i am,i woudent want 2 b anything eles.i woulent change it 4 a second.take care,1 luv.   dios te vendiga
Kommentare auf URL:
WHAT`S UP MI GENTE, THIS IS MAMISITA COMING THRU REPRESENTING SYDNEY CITY. FIRST UP JUST WANNA SPREAD SOME CHILEAN LUV TO ALL MY LATINOS WORLD WIDE. A BIT ABOUT MYSELF. IM CURRENTLY IN THE BEAUTY INDUSTRY,NAIL ARTIST.I WILL BE STUDYING BEAUTICIAN AND MAKE UP ARTISTRY IN A YEARS TIME AT BEAUTY COLLEGE.I HOPE TO HAVE MY OWN BUSINESS UP AND RUNNING IN 3 YEARS. I HAVE 3 BEAUTIFUL SISTERS, SENDING A SHOUT OUT TO MI HERMANA BUTTERFLII, UN BESO GRANDE....BE SURE TO SEND HER MUCH LUV.
MIGENTE HAS BEEN A GREAT PLACE, WHICH HAS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK OPENLY WITH FELLOW LATINOS, WHO TRUELY FEEL ME....I HAVE MET INTERESTING PEOPLE WITH GREAT MINDS. IT HAS TAKEN ME BY SUPRISE HOW PROUD MANY PEOPLE ARE OF THEIR HERITIGE WHICH IN RETURN HAS MADE ME FEEL PRIVILLAGED TO BE LATINA.

A 184 (Thu, Jan 24, 2002 @ 00:58 EST) Re: Spanish... hablar espanol es muy importante para mi ya que es mi primer idioma, pienso, y sueno en espanol, e ingles es mi segundo idioma, ser bilingue es muy importante, en estos paises de habla inglesa se tienen mas oportunidades de trabajo y poder ayudar a nuestra comunidad, brindarle un servicio en nuestro idioma... es lo maximo!! . I`m proud to Speak Spanish, it is very important to me! take care
I grew up speaking English because my parents decided that being fluent in English was very important since my brother and I were going to be in school here and live here. So I was never fluent in Spanish. In fact, I hardly knew any words. I understood most of what was said to me but I could never say what I wanted or felt in Spanish. I hated not being able to communicate in a language that was supposed to be native to me. A language that was mine. I decided to take Spanish classes in junior high and high school. In fact, I’m still taking Spanish classes. I have come such a long way!! I do feel that Spanish is important to learn not just because it is our language and we should know it, but because we can help more of our people when we are able to communicate with them. Not to mention, Spanish is a beautiful language in and of itself.

Kommentare auf URL:
My name is A.L.
I am a proud Hermana of Alpha Sigma Omega Latina Sorority, Inc.
I am a member of Latinos Unidos @ the University of WI-Parkside (The Best Side!)
I am a mentor for the University of WI-Parkside’s ARU-Always Reaching Upwards Mentoring Program

Well.... Like Latinasia, I´m was taught only english in the household as a child. I guess my father, who is Black, didn’t go for that idea....he just liked having a Puerto Rican woman on his side. They’re still together though....so I guess it was more than the arroz y habichuelas. However in the end, it was my responsibility to learn Spanish both to read and write. It wasn´t easy.... I´ll tell you that. Matter of fact, I´m still learning, because what is taught is soooo different than what people speak. BUT through my travels to PR and speaking with others that I knew and know that had the gift....I´ve got it down...pretty much. I guess I have the boriqua style down too. For those who may not know.... R’s sound like L’s and the S’s and D’s get dropped altogether. Not to say it’s proper, but for the most part that’s what I practiced. Thus, it’s like American English vs. British English...
In the end... I feel that the Spanish language is part of my culture...not to be embarassed about...so I had to learn to become whole.
Respects

how important is speaking spanish to me?
in my case, i´m from Argentina so it´s my mother language. So, when i go beyond this country, it´s important to me as a person to keep my identity. The language it´s part of it and when surfing or chatting it´s very hard. Luckily, finding latin people ain´t that hard these days, but Internet contents are way behind the recommended standards.

Very Important I am mixed w/Asian & Hispanic. I felt very cheated when in my house hold, I was forced to speak English Only. I have mixed cultures, but since I was raised in the states, my parents didn’t want me to be discriminated anymore than I already would be, for being a minority. I felt bad walking around w/a hispanic-like face, but yet not be able to speak spanish. I decided to take spanish in school and start having my family and friends speak to me in spanish. I eventually picked it back up, but I could have avoided this hardship along time ago. Now, the problem I have is being accepted by asians, b/c I look too hispanic, and spanish b/c I look asian. I´m both, proud of it and wouldn´t deny or change it!

Nope not important to me at all, since i´m not spanish... haha...
A 190 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 20:44 EST) **Boricua** Speaking spanish to me is like holding my pride and rich soul borinquena all the way in california, being the only puerto rican at work and people not able to understand the way we speak tells me how unique the spanish language is, yeah people may say that spanish is all the same but little do they know that we come from all the cream of the crops from Colobians, Mexican, etc...... growing up as a hispanic and having teachers tell me that yeah you in the usa now and we only speak English that gave me the power to ask them then tell me why you we have Americans teaching it at school and why are we as hispanics bilinguals getting the better jobs? Check point Spanish is what I speak and Boricua is what I am so with this I leave by saying speak you mind and better yet do it in Spanish:) Yesenia

A 191 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 20:09 EST) **it`s cool** When growing up in cayey, puerto rico spanish was the only language I knew of. I was more embarassed to speak english, when I heard people speak i would wonder why ! spanish is such a sexy language, even now morenos,chinos, y blancos want to here us speak it no matter what we are saying. so be proud and be sexy with it too.

A 192 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 19:18 EST) **My history........** Spanish is as important to me as much as my history and culture are. It`s the language of our ancestors. As for me, it will also be the language of my kids.

A 193 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 19:13 EST) **Espanol** It`s a huge advantage to speak spanish these days. I notice many latins living in the States are speaking more english then their native tongue spanish. I live in NY so i mostly speak english ...only time I speak spanish is when I`m in Puerto Rico visiting my family. My family is bilingual anyway so it isn`t as important to me. My children will most definitely speak spanish and english. It`s important for our children to speak spanish. It`s a beautiful language that should be spoken amongst friends and family.

A 194 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 19:02 EST) **I STILL REMEMBER......** WHEN I WAS A KID I HATED TO SPEAK SPANISH, TO ME IT WAS A DISGRACE THAT I WAS ABLE TO DO IT. WHEN MY PARENTS WOULD TALK SPANISH TO ME WHEN THEY PICKED ME UP FROM SCHOOL OR WHEN WE WERE AT THE STORE.....BUT LIKE I SAID I WAS A KID I DIDNT KNOW ANY BETTER, THANK GOD KIDS CAN GET AWAY WITH EVERYTHING....NOW I CANT BE MORE PROUD OF BEING ABLE TO SPEAK BOTH LANGUAGES (and write). I KNOW HERE ON MG THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF HISPANIC CULTURES AND HONESTLY I HAVEN'T TAKEN THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW OR UNDERSTAND THEM BUT I KNOW ONE THING THAT DEFINITLY UNITES US.....ITS THIS BEAUTIFUL LANGUAGE WE SPEAK.

A 195 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 17:28 EST) **Is Beautiful** I think Spanish is the most beautiful language. I feel bless because I`m Hispanic and what I think about Hispanics who can`t speak Spanish is they`re sooooo ridiculous... ( even though) Sometimes the one to blame is their parents for not teaching their kids their roots and where they come from.,,

A 196 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 17:05 EST) **Very lucky** I feel very proud and lucky to have been given this special gift from my parents, the gift of teaching me Spanish. Thank you Papi Y Mami. I in turn pass that gift to my children, maybe someday they will thank me too :)

A 197 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 16:48 EST) **Re: I AGREE, BUT TO AN EXTENT** Let`s make this clear. The question is not if you are less latino(a) because you don`t speak spanish. The question is how important is for you to speak spanish. No matter what language you speak, being a latino is in your blood and no one can`t take that away from you.
A 198 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 16:01 EST) **I`M Lucky eNoUgH tO bE tRiLUaL... bUt eVeN iF i WaSn`T hAlF sPaNiSh, i`D wAnT tO lEaRn.**

A 199 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 15:49 EST) **Cursing in spanish** "It`s important to speak spanish but don`t forget to know a few curses. If you go to a Latin American country you`ll need more than the English "Yo mama". Take the time learn a couple of "Hijo de gran....." You`ll be thankful.

A 200 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 15:31 EST) **hola migente!** spanish is what identifies me. it is my parent`s culture and it is mine. so many opportunities are available to those who speak a 2nd language. i love speaking spanish and i don`t know why anyone whi is latino wouldn`t want to speak it. if they really wanted to, they can learn it. i wasn`t born to a french family nor has anyone told me to learn frecnh but i speak it fluently. broaden your horizons!luv everyone!

A 201 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 14:50 EST) **I AGREE, BUT TO AN EXTENT**

A 202 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 13:46 EST) **What`s the point** What is the point of being a Latino(a) if you cannot speak your own language. Then we might as well be White, or Black, or Italian, u get my point."...I HAVE LITTLE PROBLEM W/ THAT......WHAT ABOUT THE LATINO(A)`S THAT CANT SPEAK IT, OR ONLY JUST A LITTLE, BECAUSE WE NEVER HAD THAT INFLUENCE OR PART OF US IN OUR LIVES DAILY?? I CAN SPEAK ON IT, BECAUSE I AM BI-RACIAL.....ARE WE ANY LESS HISPANIC BECAUSE WE CANT SPEAK THE LANGUAGE?? YO SOY BORICUA Y MORENO.....AND I NEVER GREW UP AROUND MY FATHER, WHO IS 100% PUERTO RICAN. I MEAN, C`MON, ASK YOURSELF THAT QUESTION. I`M NOT SAYING THAT WE SHOULD SIT IN A POOL OF SELF PITY, BUT WE ARE NOT LESS HISPANIC THAN THE NEXT LATINO(A). ITS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO LEARN THAT SIDE OF US. I KNOW IT IS FOR ME....AND I KNOW THAT MY DAUGHTER WILL ALWAYS KNOW WHAT SHE IS....LATINA, SIEMPRE....DONT JUDGE THOSE THAT CANT SPEAK IT FLUENTLY, HELP YOUR FELLOW LATINO...ENCOURAGE THEM TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CULTURE, HELP THEM LEARN MORE ABOUT THEMSELVES, OURSELVES......MUUCHO AMOR POR MI GENTES, SIEMPRE.......BE SAFE

Kommentare URL:

ONE THING THAT MAKES ME MUY CALIENTE, IS SOMEONE WHO THINKS THEY ARE BETTER THAN THE NEXT BECAUSE THEY "CLAIM" TO HAVE A 6 FIGURE INCOME, A RIDE THAT SITS ON 20`S, OR WHATEVER ELSE YOUR MONEY AS MADE YOU BECOME....
important

A 203 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 13:44 EST) **importante** there are 27 nations in the Americas where Spanish is the official language. So imagine how much fun you can have !!!

A 204 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 13:32 EST) Re: **muy importante** no need for me to say anything cuz giancarlo10 has just stated it perfectly. speaking spanish is just as important as knowing ur history and claiming ur latino-ism.

A 205 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 13:18 EST) **muy importante** its extremely important...not only to keep in touch with your culture and background but for the many benefits that it has in being bilingual..

Kommentare URL:
Well Wassup To ALL My Latinozzzzz!!!!...Mi nombre es Giancarlo...i am now 22 years old..ay i am gettin to be a viejito..lolol but i still look good..lolol i am an italian mexican Caballero from queens New york city... Thats right ladies un Caballero not many gentleman left in this world especially in the latino community where a lot of men treat there woman with no respect..well i am the complete oppisote i am all about being a caballero thats the way i was raiseD BY MI QUERIDA MAMA ( ..) I also go to school full time i attend CW POST LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY...SO ANY MAMI’ S FROM LIU HOLLA AT ME... where i am majoring in public relations and minoring in journalisim....i also speak 4 languages 3 fluently...i read and write italian, spanish, and of course english fluently, and i speak moderate portughese i know this is hard to believe but if u dont believe me try me test me and i will prove u wrong..lol....My dad is Italian from Sicily...And my mom Is MeXICAN from Mexico City...well everyone un bacio(kiss) a tutti and i loook fwd to hearing from all of u real soon...please show me some love drop me a note or hit my g-book whatever u wish i would really appreciate it...

A 206 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 13:05 EST) Re: **Very Important!!!** I AGREE WITH YOU 100%, HOWEVER, HOW SAD AND UNFORTUNATE THAT THE END RESULT WAS THE NEED TO RESORT TO VIOLENCE

A 207 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 12:56 EST) very important speaking spanish is not only important to maintain in our hispanic culture, but it is essential in our society. Not to sound materialistic, but jobs higher faster if you know more than one language especially spanish. We as hispanics should proud that we are able to speak two very important languages. We should continue to pass on not only our culture and heritage but our language as well that plays such an important part in who we are.

A 208 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 12:34 EST) Re: **Re: Very Important!!!** I totally agree with you!! You are one out of many people who understands that some latinos/as did not have the opportunity to learn the language, but sincerely want to. I think its important to say that this does not make those people any less of their culture, because nobody can honestly look at me and my nature and say i am not "really" a latino, just because i was not able to learn the language.

A 209 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 12:24 EST) **Very**... As I was growing up, I was spoken to in spanish but I was not encouraged to speak back in spanish. Thus now I have a harder time holding a conversation in spanish although I can understand it well. Being able to speak the language has become very important to me. I feel that I am hispanic so speaking the language is and should be apart of who I am.Cuidate Migente!
~Maminchula683~

A 210 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 12:06 EST) **DOESNT MATTER** ITS IMPORTANT TO ME. BUT IN MY OPINION IF U CAN WRITE READ & SPEAK GOOD FOR U IF U DONT U DONT OR EVEN IF U HAVE ONE MORE THAN THE OTHER IT DOESNT MAKE U ANY LESS SPANISH. BROOKLYN .....NALA
A 211 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:56 EST) **Very Important** As a semi-spanish speaking latina I think it is very important to speak the language as a way to hold on to ourselves. Sometimes I am mad at my mother for not teaching me to speak fluently but I also understand that she was trying to have me fit in to an English speaking dominant culture. I feel that our language and culture are really all we have to hold to.

A 212 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:50 EST) **Very Important** I think speaking spanish is very important. It`s also something all latinos should be proud of. It is a shame that some people know it but don`t want to speak it. It is a blessing to know how to speak spanish!

A 213 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:35 EST) Re: **Very Important!!!** hey you...well i understand that speaking spanish is a big part our culture. thankfully i can speak the two languages fluently. but you have to understand that there are some latinos that didn`t have that opportunitity. so it isn`t there fault.yeah i pity the ones that seem to be ashamed and all...but not all. but i do agree on you one some points.

A 214 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:30 EST) **Depends** When I was younger I had to be forced to speak Spanish.I had alot of Italian friends growing up and I was almost embarrassed of being hispanic because of the re*bleep*tion alot of hispanics have.As time went by and I staI found out who I was and to be proud I found it to be important.Whenever I hear someone saying something about hispanics I always say, “well we can speak 2 languages...how many can you speak”?Living in NY its also a blessing.Although I always felt it would be easier for me to find a job being bilingual...hasnt helped me at all!!!I guess it is fun to use when you have to talk about someone on the subway or something :)

A 215 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:25 EST) **It is** part of who I am. My dad made us retain our ability to speak, write, etc., spanish, after we came from Cuba. I can`t see not speaking it or writing it. I feel more comfortable in spanish than in english. Although english was my favorite subject in elementary and junior high school, that is why it was fairly easy to learn it.

A 216 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:22 EST) **Very Important!!!** I think any latino or latina that for whatever reason don`t know the language and have no will to learn it are ashamed of their heritage. When I was in the USN and said something in spanish to a latino in the EM club. He looked up at me and said “I don`t speak that *bleep*, I`m from northern California.” Needless to say, There was a fight at the end of the night. It just makes me sick when I see a latino ashamed of his own kind.

BETO

A 217 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:16 EST) **I think...** I think that speaking spanish is VERY important... it what links all latinos together.

If you do speak spanish you w/ your friends you have probably noticed they are the people you feel closest to. You can say things to eachother in a public place & have it be more intimate. Sometimes I wanna say something to my friend & don`t want everyone to know so I`ll say it in spanish... I can`t do that with my friends who are of another race, ya know?

I feel bad for latinos who`s parents don`t even know spanish... are you really representin` ? i don`t know... i would rather know spanish, then have some non-latino know more than me & be like & you`re latina?? ALL IN ALL:

I think it`s something that brings latinos together. Seperates us from the other nationalities. Distinguishes our culture for any other...

A 218 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:06 EST) **ITS A NECESSITY .... ...** my mom never really learned english so when i was younger we could barely communicate until i learned to speak spanish and now i can also read and write in spanish as well so it opened up the communication line between her and i tenfold plus i think speaking spanish is a
manifestation of latino culture ... i don`t think not knowing spanish makes u any less latino but it makes u less aware of such because speaking spanish MAKES u remember even though i wonder what latino ever wants to forget about their heritage?

A 219 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:05 EST) Viva!!! I have mastered both Spanish and English. I made sure to study Spanish from 7th grade all the way to college. I didn`t want to embarass myself by mis pronouncing my parents` language. Both of my parents have a complete mastery of English as well. It`s worked out wonderfully. I work for a Spanish firm and when I have to deal with my superiors in Spain I know I can handle myself. My poor boss embarasses himself regularly and doesn`t even know it. We should all try to learn Spanish. Not just to order some `cuchifritos` but for genuine communication. There are many fabulous books and plays in Spanish that you wont be able to enjoy if you don`t having a grasp of the language. Music is so much more enjoyable when you understand the lyrics, not just shake your `trasero` to the beat. The language of our parents is very important to me and we should all make the effort to learn it and learn it well.

Kommentare auf URL:
I love Migente!
I love being able to post my opinions. I`m real big on letting people know how I feel. :-) I appreciate all Latinos. Don`t care where you`re from. Heck, anyone who is a fan of Latin culture is a friend of mine.

A 220 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:01 EST) hmmm.. Spanish to me is like water.... Can`t live with out it...

A 221 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 11:00 EST) si eres bilingue vales por dos personas pero...al fin y al cabo it`s all about the pepito jokes.

A 222 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 10:48 EST) Very Important To me it`s very important to know my native language. I have many family members who don`t know much English and of course that`s my first language.

A 223 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 10:17 EST) Sense of self I think that it is extremely improtant to learn Spanish. My father made it his first priority to teach me not because of the fact that it would be beneficial living in todays diverse society, but because in learning it it gives you a sense of culture and pride. Should you be stoned for not knowing how? No-and in the words of meiver "Regardless of where I live, where I go, what other languages I may learn... Yo soy Panameno y hablo Espaqol.

A 224 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 10:01 EST) It`s my native tongue.. Es parte de lo que soy como persona. I learned to read and write in Spanish, I learned some of the most important lessons in my life in Spanish, and I consider it to be a significant component of my national identity, my family structure, my cultural identity. My raw emotions are expressed in Spanish and so are some of my most beautiful dreams.. so yep - it`s pretty darn important lol Regardless of where I live, where I go, what other languages I may learn... Yo soy Dominicana, y hablo Espa~nol.

A 225 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 09:34 EST) "PRIDE" PERSONALLY I FEEL HONORED THAT I SPEAK AND WRITE SPANISH.
FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE "LATIN" AND DON`T SPEAK OR UNDERSTAND IT. I INCOURAGE YOU TO LEARN SO.
AND FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE IGNORANT AND THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE WE`RE LEAVING IN THE UNITED STATES WE DON`T NEED TO SPEAK SPANISH ANYMORE` PLEASE KICK YOURSELF IN THE *bleep* FOR ME BECAUSE YOU ARE WRONG.. THANKK YOU!
P.S I RESPECT EVERYONES PINIONS THEREFORE RESPECT MINE! "GUALANTECO_1)

A 226 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 09:10 EST) **If you are latino you should at least try to learn spanish.** If you are latino you should learn to speak both languages. English because you live here in the states and spanish of course because of your heritage. Its important in todays society to retain both languages.........It brings forth alot of pride, satisfaction and reward. You may think that not knowing your language doesnt make you less of a latino, but you are missing a vital part of your culture.

A 227 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 08:32 EST) **i agree** the first language i learned was spanish and i speak it very well and it upsets me to hear someone say yeah i`m spanish but i can`t speak it and parents r mostly to blame. As for mewhen i have kids the first language i´m teaching them is spanish because i´m very proud of it!! mucho amor

A 228 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 08:23 EST) **it doesn`t hurt** Learning a second language does not hurt in any situation. Learning Soanish is very useful especially in the US considering a good portion of the country has Spanish as their second language or even their first before English. I happened to learn English first to blend in with other Americans but there are times when I wish my Spanish was better so I could communicate more with mi abuelito. I once was told that once a foreign language is mastered then it is easier to understand a foreign culture and once you learn a second language, you can cure monolingualism. Paz

A 229 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 07:25 EST) **Re: KEY FIGURE IN THE CULTURE WORD UP** I FEEL EVERYTHING YOU SAY CUZ UNFORTUNATELY I AM ONE OF THOSE FEW THAT WEREN`T TAUGHT TO EXERCISE SPEAKING IT....SO I CAN READ, WRITE A BIT, AND UNDERSTAND, AND EVEN TALK A LITTLE BIT BUT I DO NOT KNOW IT LIKE I SHOULD....BUT I AM AND WILL LEARN!!!

A 230 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 07:20 EST) **The Beauty of our Language** I think learning to speak Spanish should be important to all Latinos and Latinas out there. If you do not know how to speak it you are not any less of a Latino you are just missing out on something very special. The Spanish language takes ordinary English words and turns them into a thing of beauty. Learning to speak Spanish isn`t just something you should do because it is part of who we are as Latinos but it is a privelege and an honor. Letting beauty come out of your mouth is a wonderful feeling. 
Kommentare auf URL: 
Hey there Mi Gente this is a mature 24 year old latin male representing Queens. I´m on here just to chat and bug out on my spare time and perhaps share some poetry with some of you. 
Here`s a lil info on me, I work three jobs and still manage to have time for fun. 
auf URL: Fahne Gautemalas

A 231 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 01:56 EST) **lo mejor de dos mundos** Ser bilingue es tener lo mejor de dos mundos. Aveces uno le da pena hablar espa(~)ol porque tal vez lo hablan mal (aunque la consequencia de no hablando espa(~)ol es la muerte de esa parte de su raices.) Todos tenemos que tener orguillo de nuestra idioma, de nuestra lengua natal. 
For those that do not speak spanish and want to learn, it`s never too late.

A 232 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 01:32 EST) **agree with leti** I wish I knew it... and I´m taking Spanish class now to learn it cuz I wanna be able to ocmunicate with more of my peoplez.... but unfortunatly I wans´t brought up learning it. I still have mad pride being a Latino... and not being able to speak Spanish hasn`t changed that... but as I said I still wanna fulfill my interest to learn.
A 233 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 00:55 EST) i agree i agree with leti28, If had the the chance i would turn back the hands of time and cherish my mother who was bilingual. She spoke spanish to me and always put alot of effort into teaching me, however, she was the only family i had that spoke spanish in the states, so it was very difficult to practice and speak fluently. She died before i became a teenager, and i never forget my heritage. I`m a Panamanian in mind body and soul. Although, speaking spanish is an advantage to have, I am what I am...a LATINA!

A 234 (Wed, Jan 23, 2002 @ 00:07 EST) Re: KEY FIGURE IN THE CULTURE Amen to that!!!! I actually learned spanish as my first language and then had to go through ESOL in kindergarten...which was amusing, but I am so glad that my mom made sure that I was completely bilingual by teaching me how to read and write in spanish! It`a an advantage no matter which way you look at it...and I will definitely keep the tradition going with my kids...I want them to have the same opportunities and advantages of being bilingual...and most importantly, I want them to be able to participate in that part of hispanic culture!

A 235 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 23:48 EST) to speak or not to speak? Lets get one thing straight alo of people belive that if u dont speak spanish that u r lacking in culture. I was brough up in a home where our parents didnt teach us spanish and although i learned on my own, i dont think that speaking spanish or not made me more or less puerto rican or Latina then the next. Is all who we r is spanish speaking people?No SPanish is a wonderful language this is true. But not all Latinos hav gotten the oppurtunity to learn it. Thus the feel of importants is only in the eye of the person who place labels on people based on if they speak it or not. To make it simple. I am as Latina as the next, speaking spanish or not.

A 236 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 23:27 EST) KEY FIGURE IN THE CULTURE SPANISH IS NOT A SECOND LANGUAGE! I learned spanish at the same exact time as I learned english, and I value that. Because english is spoken much more frequently in the U.S it doesn`t put spanish on the back burner. Spanish should be exercised as much as possible, even if it is only among family members. Losing spanish is losing a big piece of our culture. We can`t be made to believe that this beautiful language is that of our parents and grandparents; IT`S OURS TOO! To those that weren`t taught this wonderful language then sorry, but you have missed out on something great. This doesn`t denounce you as latino/a, but it does take away. To those that have had an opportunity to really enjoy this language, then keep passing it on! El espanol nos une.

A 237 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 21:48 EST) Re: Speaking Spanish.. Si ,That right I dobelieve that some thinds only belong en espnol!!

A 238 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 20:44 EST) SPEAKING SPANISH IS A IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR CULTURE TO ME SPEAKING SPANISH IS SO IMPORTANT. MY MOTHER NEVER TOUGHT ME SPANISH AND I WISH THAT SHE TOUGHT ME. I SPEAK SPANISH NOW AND I AM SO GLAD. EVERY LATINO SHOULD LEARN SPANISH. THEY SHOULD LEARN THE PROPER SPANISH AND THEIR SPANGLISH. IT IS WHO WE ARE. BEING BORICUA I SEE LOTS OF MY BORIQUEN PEOPLE NOT SPEAKING SPANISH AND IT UPSETS ME SO MUCH.
BORICUAS DESPIERTAN!!!!!!!!! YOU HAVE TO LEARN SPANISH. YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT ALIVE. SOMEHOW OR SOMEWAY. PLEASE DO IT FOR YOUR HERITAGE AND FOR YOUR PEOPLE. THE LANGUAGE IS A PART OF YOU.
ADDIÓS Y MIL GRACIAS

A 239 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 20:29 EST) el espaqol para mi hablar espaqol es muy importante, es un idioma muy bello y me enorgullesa el poder hablarlo, escribirlo y leerlo. Es una ventaja saber espaqol en los Estados Unidos ya que nuestra poblacion hispana crece cada dia y es bueno poder comunicarse

A 240 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 20:25 EST) Hablar Espaqol Hablar Espaqol para mi es de suma importancia, no solo porque es lo que me identifica y es mi lengua nativa, sino porque debido a nuestra idiosincracia y cultura es mucho mas facil para mi expresar mi punto de vista de una forma mas precisa. Sobre todo en Espaqol podemos decir cosas con un sentido mucho mas criollo y con un colorido distinto. Muchos sabemos decir "no tengo pelos en la lengua, o esta mas jincho(a) que sobaco de monja" y todos nos entienden. Mas sin embargo si decimos "I have no hair on the tongue o it more pale than a num armpit" nadie sabe de que rayos hablamos. Saludos desde Miami con sabor Boricua.

A 241 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 20:14 EST) Espanol I think it`s very important to me because i can say things more clearly, make since.Another reason is because there are some people who get on my f***king nerves and i just want to talk about them so much.

Kommentare auf URL:
IM FUNNY , FRIENDLY , AND I LOVE TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS, IM A CRAZY GIRL, BUT WITH A BRAIN. I`m sweet girl too you could say. I`m in a relationship (Santo).
Flaca y ConejoTo my papi chulo..Santo aka Conejo..Damn yo ne se donde empezar..Santo,Conejo..mi amor yo te amo muchisimo con todo mi corazon..I don`t ever want to be alone..Tengo tanto amor por ti..Yo te quiero saber que without you. ...Bonito tu eres, el razon que vivo..yo quiero pasar el resto de mi vida contigo..y estoy tan feliz que eres mio.I remeber the first day you and i met..you had just arrived from mexico 3 years ago..i didn`t ever think that you i would be together...but guess what we are.
From the bottom of my heart, nothing is gonna tear us apart..

A 242 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 19:16 EST) Speaking Spanish.. Some jokes just sound better `en espanol` than in English. Then again, the reverse is true too.. hehe
Kommentare auf URL:
My Info and Stats
- American
- Born: Havana, Cuba - Ethnic: Catalan, Gallego, Espanol- Live in Northern NJ, USA.
- AIM/Yahoo: LPUIG73

Thanks for Stopping by.. Welcome to my page, mi gente. I tried to add `Spanglish` as my spoken language but it was not an available option.
I`ll tell you a bit about myself, where I am originally from and some of the things I enjoy in life.
I`m originally from a quarter of the Cuban capital Havana called `Luyano.` I was born in 1973, in Vedado. My folks suffered a hard life in Cuba under the oppressive dicatorship of Fidel Castro and the Communist regime. In 1980, during the Mariel Boatlift, my family and I left Cuba to begin a new life here in the USA.
Eventually we settled in the state of New Jersey. I attended public schools my whole life, including college, where I majored in the study of History, Geography and Political Science in preparation for becoming a school teacher. My real passion has always been the history and politics of Cuba. This is a subject you can usually find me discussing here on `Migente.`

A 243 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 19:00 EST) From a non-Latina... Pues, yo no soy una Latina y espanol es mi 2a lengua pero, en mi opinion, hablar espanol es MUY importante.
La cultura latina es muy influyente en mi vida y creo que la lengua española es la parte más grande y (quizas) más importante en la cultura o "la raza". Sin embargo, yo no pienso que toda la gente latina (aquí en los estados unidos) tiene que saber hablar español. Sí, inglés es la primer lengua de los EEUU y todos que viven aquí (yo creo) necesitan saber hablar inglés pero, si personas tienen problemas con inglés, no es tan malo... Lo que sea tu preferencia... ingles o espanol (o franceses, portugues, tagalog, chino, japoneses, swahili, arabe... no importa!) Hay alguien en este país que habla su misma y propia lengua.. Podemos todos nosotros convenir y amarnos? Por que no podemos ser amigos?

If there are errors, please excuse them, jaja!

Kommentare auf URL:
Rainbeaux285  Hola! Que honda? I`m Shayla and I`m from Memphi, TN. I was born in GA and raised in Germany and San Fran, California (West Coast, baby!)

A 244 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 17:43 EST) Orgullo de Ser hispano y Hablar EspañoEl orgullo es de ser hispano no solo en hablar español. A veces uno siente que el hablar español es lo más importante pero muchos somos nacidos en los Estados Unidos. Somos Americanos. Les digo que gracias a mi mamá que se asusto cuando con mi hermanita llegamos de la escuela hablando ingles, nos puso a estudiar español cada sabado desde las nueve de la mañana hasta las tres de las tarde por seis aqos. Ella tenía miedo que no íbamos podermos comunicar con nuestros abuelitos y nuestra familia que solo hablaban español. Cuando estaba chiquitita, le tenia odio a la Escuela de español que me hacia tomar un sabado entero en ves de poder salir a jugar con mis amiguitos de la escuela americana. habian dias que mama nos iba llevando a la fuerza y nosotras íbamos llorando todito el viaje. Esa fue la experiencia mia, aprendí a hablar y escribir el espaqol y a veces tengo errores pero por lo tanto se comprende lo que quiero comunicarles. Yo soy orgullosa de ser hispana, a la misma ves tambien soy orgullosa de saber el idioma que hablan mis abuelitos porque me da tanta felicidad poderles hablar en su idioma. El problema es el uso del espaqol que si no lo uso, me da miedo perderlo.

A 245 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 17:42 EST) Agradeczo a Dios por haberme hecho una hispanohablantel vivo por las telenovelas y no se lo que haria si no pudiera entender a pedro el escamoso. tambien no hay nada como poder ayudar a la gente recien llegada a este pais de latinoamerica que no saben ni un pepino de ingles y son tan apreciativos cuando les traduce lo que no entienden. Es como si hubieras hecho que el camino fuera menos aspero para ellos.

hay otras razones, pero se me han ido de la mente.

A 246 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 17:30 EST) el hablar el espanol para mi es lo mas importante si no hubiera aprendido a hablar el espanol, seria mas dificil, siendo una moradora de los estados unidos, enterrarme de los acontecimientos en brasil. Ingresar en la comunidad de hispanohablantes me ha ayudado mucho porque los hispanohablantes a nostros los brasilenos nos brindan oportunidades que no se puede hallar "afuera", en la sociedad donde el ingles domina. por ejemplo, si yo no viera tanto el canal de univision, yo no sabria que se puede llamar a brasil por solo $0.25 al minuto. esta especie de informacion no se puede obtener viendo NBC o ABC. si no entendiera el espanol, no me hubiera enterrado de que hubo muchos musicos brasilenos que ganaron el grammy latino este ano pasado. tambien si no hablara el espanol, no podria nunca ver las telenovelas de brasil, las cuales me encantan aunque sean dubadas en castellano. son muchas las cosas que uno puede averiguar, solo si sabe el espanol.

A 247 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 17:01 EST) YA VEN LES DIGO... SOY UN POCO BURRA A ESCRIBIRLO! HAHAHA

A 248 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 17:00 EST) WE ARE LATINOS WITH OUT SPANISH, WHERE WOULD I BE???? BEAM ME UP SCOTTY.. THERE IS NO LIFE FORM IN THIS PLANET....
A 249 (Tue, Jan 22, 2002 @ 16:59 EST) PARA MI ES MUY IMPORTANTE! PORQUE ES EL PRIMER LENGUAJE QUE SUPE HABLAR Y ME PUEDO SENTIR MAS SECAS DE MI CULTURA Y MIS RAICES! MIS PAPAS ME DICEN QUE NUNCA A QUE SENTIRSE AVERGONZADOS DE HABLAR TU IDIOMA Y MAS CUANDO VIVES EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, AL CONTRARIO TIENES QUE ESTAR ORGULLOSO DE TU PAIS Y TU IDIOMA QUE SABES!! AUNQUE A VECES SOY UNA BURRA AL ESCRIBIRLO O HABLARLO PERO HAY ME HAGO ENTENDER! AHORA QUE SOY MADRE DE DOS ANGELITOS MAS LE TENGO QUE ECHAR GANAS A QUE ELLOS ENTIENDAN EL IDIOMA QUE YO SE Y QUE ELLOS TIENEN QUE ESTAR ORGULLOSOS DE HABLARLO! QUE VIVA MEXICO! :) 

A 250 (Tue, Jan 08, 2002 @ 20:36 EST) Un1mate y DragonAzul No es justo que ustedes sean tan bruscos y duros con aquellos que saben hablar Espanol. Algunos, y no por que quieran, son de tercera y cuarta generacion, y simplemente no han tenido quien les ensene. Pero tal vez, en el sentido etnico y de herencia, siguen siendo Latino (Latinos. En vez de perder tiempo con criticas inutiles que no llevan a nada, sean Latinos positivos, y denle motivacion para que aprendan su idioma.

A 251 (Sun, Jan 06, 2002 @ 12:25 EST) Learning Spanish for celebs Learning Spanish is great for 2nd and 3rd generation Latinos as a means of connecting to their roots. At the same time, its really important that non-Latinos also learn Spanish in an attempt to better their relations with Latinos and maybe learn more about various Latino cultures (since there is no one overwhelming culture). Not to be too critical though, but the thought of celebs learning Spanish to me often seems like opportunism at its worse. Maybe Aguilera was genuine in wanting to learn Spanish, but somehow the thought that her label new what it would do for record sales by having a crossover album just keeps looming in my head. Look at Shakira on the radio here... Platinum record sales or attempts to get fans in Latin countries for any celeb certain seem like a motivating factor. 

Kommentare auf URL: Former Spanish instructor, started the first Latin-American service fraternity in Louisiana, enjoy reading, cooking, boxing, being generous. Value Family and Friends above all other things. I`m also a writer for Urban Latino Magazine; if you don`t already subscribe, you have no idea what you are missing. 

A 252 (Fri, Jan 04, 2002 @ 09:58 EST) Speaking spanish I don`t get very many opportunities to speak spanish in the city where I live. There is a small but remote latin population here. I enjoy any opportunity I get to flex my skills. I am afraid if I don`t use it, I might lose it. My grandmother has passed on now but when she was still alive she insisted on spanish only. My parents used to be really strict about spanish only at home. Now that I am grown they are not so strict about it but when I call home, out f respect, I speak spanish to them. It is important to me to speak spanish whenever I can. I would never condemn someone who doesn`t know how to speak their native tounge. Being born in America and being secong and third generation latino, it is understandable not to be fluent. 

A 253 (Fri, Jan 04, 2002 @ 09:15 EST) Re: INCULTOS I for one prefer that everyone speaks to me in English because its my first language. I don`t see the problem with that. I`m not fluent in spanish, but I understand what everyone writes and says in Spanish. Does that make me a bad person? No. Not being fluent is not denying my heritage. I am who I am, a latina born in America where English is the first language of most Americans. 

A 254 (Fri, Jan 04, 2002 @ 08:31 EST) Re: Re: Spanish... The reason those characters don`t translate is due to a technical issue. Mi Gente is NOT trying to hold you back, but
certain characters are read as "Terminators." In other words, they’re reserved for programming. If these characters are allowed, then they would probably screw up the entire page. All of this text is saved to a database and archived. An apostrophe is a termination or end string character. So basically, if you tried to put certain characters you wouldn’t be able to search on them.

A 255 (Fri, Jan 04, 2002 @ 01:40 EST) **Cuántos Verdaderos Latinos Existen?** Que vergüenza y pena saber de tantos latinos que se orgullean por ser mismos de su propia raza, y a media vuelta con la cabeza caída admiten que no saben el idioma de sus padres. Algo especial es saber esa idioma Latina que todos reconocen por su belleza y amor en asi mismo. Mas poder a los que saben escribir y leer sus idiomas fluentemente. **Me choca** cuando escriben en sus páginas que prefieren hablar los dos idiomas, pero cuando les hablas en español se esconden porque mintieron y no se lo saben ( o como ellos pensaban). Que le pasa a nuestra propia raza en la juventudde hoy? Viva la lengua del amor y paz..español por siempreestaremos juntos y unidos solo de una familia de puro orgullo.

A 256 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 23:41 EST) **INCULTOS** INCULTOS SON TODOS AQUELLOS QUE SE HACEN PASAR POR LATINOS Y EN SUS PÁGINAS ESCRIBEN QUE PREFEREN HABLAR EN INGLÉS, ENTonces PARA QUE SE TOMAN LA MOLESTIA DE ESTAR EN ESTE CANAL ,, SIENTANCE ORGULLOSOS DE SER LO QUE SON LATINOS

A 257 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 22:31 EST) **Re: Re: Spanish...** Yeah I think it`s kinda funny when I go to put song lyrics onto my page that I find meaningful, yet when I cut and paste from the actual website, the letters with accents and so forth don`tt transfer! I think this is because MiGente was started by the same people that started Asian Avenue, and then started Blackplanet, and a friend of mine told me that this company is run by Asians. This friend of mine is one of the people that started Icaramba.com *go check it out*, which is a site that was constructed by Latinos, and you can use the accents and everything just fine there! Don`tt get me wrong, I like MiGente; I have been using it longer than most other websites on here and I am here mostly every day. It`ts like an addiction! But I do believe that some changes should be made to accomodate the fact that Spanish is spoken here....

A 258 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 22:21 EST) **I agree a second language is a must** I wish I had the opportunity to grow up in a bilingual home. I think it is an advantage overall. Working in any idustry knowing Spanish is a must Now I am finnally taking Spanish in College and driving all of my spanish speaking friends crazy.

A 259 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 22:15 EST) **Learning and embracing** I too sadly fit in this category. Growing up in my household, my parents wanted nothing but english coming out of my mouth. My father is Peruvian and my mother is Puerto Rican. My father was told in his country and when he got to the US that learning the english language was important for you to succeed. As was the case with my mom. My father went through blatant discrimination when he came to NY because of his lack of english. These events motivated my father to learn but also to instill in me the value of the english language. I can remember growing up not uttering a word of Spanish in my household. Everything had to be "ENGLISH, ENGLISH, ENGLISH"! The only good thing that came out of that was my ability to become articulate and to enjoy reading. It wasn`tt until I was 16 that I started learning my native language. I picked up a few words from my dad, grandmother, and my mom. I also asked when I was growing up what certain Spanish words meant, and I learned by myself. Looking back at my life, I felt that I was robbed of my identity. I understand the reason why my parents pushed the english language on me but to deny me of my Spanish language was horrible. I can remember the uncomfortable conversations I had with my Peruvian cousins, my grandmother, and a couple of uncles and aunts who only spoke Spanish. It was embarrassing and frustrating to communicate with them. I just wish my parents could have taught me my native language when I was
growing up. It is part of who we are and to lose that is to lose your identity. To all those in my predicament, I feel your pain! I`m still learning to speak Spanish, even today.

A 260 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 18:55 EST) **I believe it is very important** I can honestly appreciate this article because at this point in my life I am embracing my Latino heritage. I was one of those children who was assimilated into the Anglo culture and not taught to speak Spanish at home. Although I understood why at the time, I wish my parents could have stood differently on the point.

I am seeking to speak, read and write our language better. I happen to work at a job where I need to speak daily and it has been a pure Godsend. I love speaking to the men I work with and they help me with my tenses and verbs. I can still use some more help, but I am on my way to speaking this beautiful and melodious language much better than I could ever imagine.

Si, para hablar Espanol es muy importante a mi. (=to me)

A 261 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 18:14 EST) **Second Language** Of course its important to me. Its the second language of the states. Its easy and fun to talk sing and dance to. Not because I am Latino. It means alot to me. I love speaking spanish. Its convienent and its taught in school. I take pride in speaking spanish. Its my second favorite language and its part of america and all the latino and all the communties around america. If you are latino and don`t know spanish you should learn.

Kommentare auf URL:
Love our people, friends, family everything. Cherish every minute of your life. Life is a gift. From our families and past Families. and friends alike.

My name is Angelo Elias Tineo. I was born, raised and live in Elmhurst, Queens, New York. I am 26 years old. I am a former United State Marine. Single, I am a Accountant Assistant at TIAA CREF investments, and a Full Time Student at Devry. I am taking Electronics Computer Technology. I am a employee for Seat Service At Shea Stadium For the NEW YORK METS, LETS GO METS!!! Love the Yankees too. Giants, Jets, Rangers, and New York Knicks, and the St.John`s Red Storm.

I am latino, Dominican. I am here to talk, meet and have fun. To represent, and know more about our culture and keep it strong and keep it real.

Give a phat shotout to QUEENS,BROOKLYN. MANHATTAN,BRONX,STATEN ISLAND, LONG ISLAND,NEW JERSEY,CONNECTICUT, YONKERS, UPSTATE, the whole ENTIRE tri-state all the states. All over mad love.

So, thanks for stoping by, hit me up with some notes, emails, pages, and the guessbook. My aol screen is ANGELOTINEO@AOL.COM and I am also in Black Planet same screen name for all three.

Take care, much love one love to Migente.
Angelo Elias Tineo

A 262 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 17:18 EST) **es lo mas importante que hay en este mundo...** si tu eres un latino quien no sabe hablar espaqol en este pais, tu estas *bleep* migente. sabiendo hablar los dos idiomas (ingles y espaqol) perfectamente aqui en los estados unidos te puede llevar a lugares donde tu ni sabias existido. hay muchos latinos en este pais que no saben hablar espaqol y para mi, esto me da una ravia. los padres de estos niqos les tienen que ensegar como hablar espaqol del primer dia! para mi, el espaqol no es tan dificil, pero para otros, es como apreder chino y eso no puede ser asi!

A 263 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 17:10 EST) **Re: Spanish...** I think the height of hilariousness was that when I went to enter in my last name as Hernandez, it would not accept the a with the accent. Though I think this is quite ironic for a Hispanic web-site, I think it might have something to do with the coding of accented characters. I know in HTML, something it has to be denoted as a &nsp[something something] and poof, there`s the character. But it is pretty ironic and somewhat ummm... dumbfounding : )

A 264 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 16:59 EST) **Re: very** Simply because people did not learn Spanish (or chose not to speak it) does not mean it is not important to them. I
actually grew up bilingual until I was 6 years old. Upon then, I came across the scary realization that I was not to speak Spanish in either private or public school and my physical safety was threatened. People need to realize there is an entire generation that grew up in the 80s where he move of bilingualism was considered a detriment to the development of children. Though we now know this not to be the case, you have to remember the sign of the times, and the 80s were at times brutally harsh.

Also, remember not everyone grew up in Texas, New York or California. I grew up in rural/suburban Greenville, South Carolina? You know I could seriously count on ONE hand how many Cuban families were in Greenville until 1992? And the Columbian community (though now growing) was virtually non-existent then either. So, if one is not able to speak it in school, derided by the public if s/he does, can’t speak it with friends, and is told by others that it’s bad, what’s the incentive (remember as a SIX year old) to speak it? Not much. Many claim, My parents made me speak it at home. It was not a problem that my parents spoke only English to me. For almost a year they only spoke Spanish to me. But, one has to remember there are also some very quiet kids : ). I happened to be one of those.

I guess my point is, I wouldn’t jump to the assumption they never learned to speak it because it was not important to them, but perhaps as a cultural adaptation for progressing as a minority in a majority culture. Keep that in mind. Thanks! : )

I 265 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 16:50 EST) **very** speaking spanish is very important para mi. it helps me keep in touch with my roots and culture.

A 266 (Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 16:18 EST) **Spanish**... Is as natural to me as English, even though it was also my second language.

Pero dejame decir algo....

I find it hilarious that in an article about the importance of speaking Spanish, MiGente is unable to process the letter "enye." You know...the n with the "~" over it? Call me nuts, but I think this problem needs to be corrected.

**A 267 BEGINNIng**: Created by Xicana72 on Thu, Jan 03, 2002 @ 15:53 EST

*How important is speaking Spanish for you?*
Korpus Teil B

Living in Spanglish

What do you think of the use of Spanglish?

120 posts - 108 users

Spanish - English

Created on Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 12:17 EST
last post Tue, Feb 17, 2004 @ 11:33 EST
list closed on the server: August 2004

B 1  (Tue, Feb 17, 2004 @ 11:33 EST)
viva pancho villa...

B 2  (Fri, Nov 08, 2003 @ 15:03 EST)
puertoricangl13 ya all hatin` on that person. But i have got to admit spanish is not no slang. Spanish is spanish and that is it. I thought it was spanish not spanglish what the heck is a spanglish.

B 3  (Mon, Jul 08, 2003 @ 20:35 EST)
It`s always been here
First of all I don`t think it`s always true that Spanglish is use because person doesn`t speak both languages fluently, like in my case I speak, write and read very fluently in both English and Spanish and yet I use Spanglish because it just comes out. Second, Spanglish has been around since the battle in "El Alamo" when the gringos were the ones trying to commnicate with the locals and vice-versa. Since the day that Mexico gave half of its territory to USA everyone caught in the middle had to learn both languages and like in my case sometimes a mixture of both just came out. Also sometimes Spanglish just has to be use, like when you call your girlfriend "Mamita" or say you like to dance "Salsa", you can`t just translate the words and call your girl "Mommy" or say you like to dance "Sauce", you can`t just call your cousin Pedro, Peter, because that`s not his name. It`s all right to use Spanglish because "Lo Cortes no quita lo Cuahtemoc" meaning that not because you speak English and mix it w/ Spanish your not latino. Mmeeooww or Mmiiiaauu?? lol

B 4 (Tue, Jul 02, 2003 @ 07:46 EST)
Spanglish,
Its funny, Spanglish is the only type of spanish i talk. Its no slang, i guarantee you if you can mix 2 languajes and someone else can understand everything you say, you both are some smart MO`FO`s. More gramar, I dont think so, we should apreciate the beauty of the mix of these 2 languajes cause noone else in the world can do it like us. AIRBORNE

B 5 (Tue, Jul 02, 2003 @ 07:46 EST)
Spanglish,
Its funny, Spanglish is the only type of spanish i talk. Its no slang, i guarantee you if you can mix 2 languajes and someone else can understand everything you say, you both are some smart MO`FO`s. More gramar, I dont think so, we should apreciate the beauty of the mix of these 2 languajes cause noone else in the world can do it like us. AIRBORNE

B 6 (Mon, Jul 01, 2003 @ 13:04 EST)
Re: Spanglish...
Sorry it`s me again, do me a favor and check your first line also. ( I think spanglish is a slang). If you are referring to spanglish then say spangliss not spanish and your suppose to say is a slang, not spanglis a slang. Now once again, please get it together. By the way, I am a Bori, so don`t think this is coming from another race. Bye,bye and have a nice day.
B 7 (Mon, Jul 01, 2003 @ 13:00 EST)
Re: **Spanglish**
I`m sorry to say, but you need to increase your grammer skills a little more, because you have the nerve to say that we should speak the proper spanish, yet your english grammer is not to sharp. In your third paragraph, third line going down, you wrote.
(normal setting should be not get worse than it). It should be (normal setting should not get worse than it is). No disrespect, but lets get it together.

B 8 (Sat, Jun 29, 2003 @ 12:30 EST)
**New Language**
Spanglish is the new language de todos los teenagers and rebles, kid!

B 9 (Tue, Jun 25, 2003 @ 20:57 EST) **Spanglish**
I think Spanish a slang that most Latinos use to talk in their daily lives, but should only be used in certain settings, like for example with close friends and family.
Any other setting would be stupid to use and would only cause the stereotypes of how Latinos talk in a lower frame of mind as compared to how other races view us.
It`s bad enough that we have so many negative stereotypes about us, speaking improperly in a normal setting should be not get worse than it already is viewed upon our society today.
Know how, when, and where to speak when it`s the proper setting. If not for me, but for our people`s re*bleep*tion... -Expresivo

B 10 (Mon, Jun 24, 2003 @ 23:41 EST)
**how i hablo**
spanglish isnt a bad thyng as is ebonics as long as these renditions of english arent mistaken for acceptable in the eyes of employers by the speakers. spanglish, as spoken between friends beautiful thing, an expresion of the cultural fusion of america but in words an tones. any hispanic that denies or condemns the usage of spanglish is denying their own heritage and demeaning their brothers and sisters. i am educated and am very capable of expressing myself in perfect english but enjoy the comfort of falling occasionaly into a blend of spanish and ebonics because its the easiest way 2 express myself 2 the people around me, i am completely aware that in the business world this usage of the langauge is frowned upon, but anywhere else it should be nothing but encouraged.. adios

B 11 (Sat, Jun 22, 2003 @ 22:26 EST)
**spanglish**
not to hate but most of us who speak spanglish is because we are to inarticulate in either english or spanish so we just communicate using the easiest way to explain things which means using both languages!

B 12 (Wed, Jun 19, 2003 @ 22:20 EST)
**everyone does the same thing**
I speak spanglish everyday no hay un dia that I don`t do it. the reason is that we want to get nuestro mensaje across to our parents or other family members. so yo no tengo otro alternativia para a ser eso.

B 13 (Tue, Jun 18, 2003 @ 17:49 EST)
**Re: Re: Re: Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar**
and shows ignorance Cometela pues, but don`t expect to speak it in an official setting. Or get hired for it if you can`t keep it formal.

B 14 (Mon, Jun 10, 2003 @ 12:21 EST)
**spanglish?**
I am very fortunate, I do not have spanish roots that I know of but I live a spanish life and spanish is my dominant language, so I have learned to read speak and write spanish in an english dominant country, most of my friends are immagrents from mexico and it is
frustrating to know people who have worked and lived in this country for 3 to 4 even 10 years and their english is so bad, and I don`t know if it is cause they don`t try or they just don`t want to, but I feel that if they are going to live in another country they should be able to hold their own in that country`s language, and that doesn`t just apply to latinos in this country that applies to gringos in spanish countries and everybody else. that is my opinion.

B 15 (Thu, Jun 06, 2003 @ 03:40 EST)

**Does anyone here know the definition of Spanglish?**

First let me get things straight. Spanglish is not code switching! Spanglish is what you call "borrowing" which is the use of a word from another language which demonstrates morphological/phonological adaptation to the matrix language. Often it represents the appropriation of a term not available in the matrix language. An example of this would be using words like "parqueando, imeileando, loncheando" Estas son palabras donde la raiz de la palabra deriva en un idioma y termina en otro. Como el ejemplo que di que al final de cada palabra termina en el gerundio. Code switching is more like using the right grammar and and correct words of each language of switching them in a sentence. Spanglish usa el code switching en el que se cambia de lenguajes en el idioma pero en el spanglish se usan los angliserismos o el borrowing. Esto es lo que mata el espanol ya que se crean palabras que no existen ni en el ingles ni en el espanol. Code switching es lo que acabo de hacer en este paragraph y oracion.

B 16 (Tue, Jun 04, 2003 @ 11:53 EST)

**Boricuz representando**

Yo Creo que hablando "Spanglish" is just a fun way of communicating to people of our race, it helps people of other races pick up on little thing we talk about everyday and it makes me proud to let people knoe, "hey i can speak both and at the same time" Its all in fun. Im a Puerto Rican, Panamanian born in Ny and I do speak both.

B 17 (Thu, May 30, 2003 @ 18:39 EST) **a time and a place**

I speak spanglish when i am with friends or at home , i believe there is a time and a place i agree that if you are at work or somewhere you would like to be respected you should pick a language and stick to it , if your latino its your duty to represent, but i mean if you are just chillin with friends then there is no harm, there is a time and a place for everything.

B 18 (Tue, May 28, 2003 @ 10:25 EST)

**Spanglish? What is that?**

Good morning: Spanglish is not and should never become an acceptable form of communication in our Latino communities. I am employed by an international financial firm that is filled with a wealth of young Anglo men and women who speak not only English but French and yes Spanish as well. These "Americans" understand the value of being bilingual, they take the time to learn to speak, read and write "Our" language. Why can`t we do the same? How embarrassing for our Latino children who grow up with Spanish speaking parents and NEVER learn the language. It is a shame and we as a people should come together to abolish this pattern in the Latino/American upbringing. We are crippling our future by NOT producing Latinos who can represent us in both the Spanish and English communities. Based on our birthplace we may be American; however, we are Latino and should take pride in all that it signifies. For the record, I do speak, read and write Spanish. God bless.

B 19 (Mon, May 27, 2003 @ 06:45 EST)

**I LOVE IT**

YO HABLO SPANGLISH CADA DAY MOSTLY BECAUSE I OFTEN SWITCH DE IDIOMAS ALL THE TIME. ES MUY IMPORTANTE TO SPEAK BOTH THE LANGUAGES THAT YOU MIX PORQUE USTED DEBE QUE HABLA PROPERLY SOMETIMES.
WHY STOP...
I THINK TALKING IN SPANGLISH IS UNIQUE. I COOL TO TALK AND MIX THE LANGUAGE AND WHO CARES IF ALGUIEN NO ENTIENDE TODO THAT I SAY. I SAY LEARN SPANISH AND DONT COMPLAIN

i love it
well, personally, i love Spanglish. i (being mostly black) am not fluent in spanish, but i do know quite a bit. i mix what i know with english EVERY day. it kinda bothers my mom when we are in public and i`m talking to one of my spanish speaking friends through spanglish ... but *shrug* sometimes stuff just comes out that way lol. not like i actually mean to speak spanish in front of people who don`t know the language ... it`s like a 2nd language to me now. sooo there`s nothing wrong with it ... shoot ,everyone needs to know atLEAST a little spanish~ya know?

look...
i think that its nice that someone has put spanglish on the map..because speaking personally..i`m from philly and i grew up around alot of spanglish and this lead to me finding out more about my cultures, learning how to speak spanish and respecting the difference...to the author...bien hecho...~!

spanglish book
In response to Luving in Spanglish, I beleive that latinos should be able to express themselves in a ny way they feel most comfortable in, but they should also be able to use the spanish language as a tool in the evergrowing latino society and to give them the uper hand in jobs, and advancement in society in general. Spanglish does not suffice for this to happen.

mixin it up is cool but....
....we should be able to speak either language when we have to. If we`re in a professional environment or a formal setting, we have to be able to communicate clearly. It looks good on us as a people when we can master two languages.

Keep speaking it
I speak spanglish every day, i try not to when there`s someone who doesn`t understand spanish, but why should they get offended, I`m proud that i can speak spanish and english, so i`ll speak it as loud as i can anywhere i am, is my mouth and my voice. If they can`t understand get a dictionary and learn. This country is not just english anymore, and it really never was. So everyone keep speaking spanglish and be proud of it.

mix it up why not
all i got to say is spanglish im gonna keep on speakin` in both languages cuz there`s nothin wrong with it and i feel proud to be able to speak in both no matter what otters think.

Re: DO WE CARE....I THINK NOT..
In front, behind, to the side. I`m not going to stop platicando con un amigo just because I don`t want someone to be offended because they can`t catch everyword. More than a distinction between what clouds our judgement on the issue of this being a revalton of
Latinos standing out in America, we have to realize that our parents, who not all had the proper education, used Spanglish to relate to their children. Mixing in their customs, beliefs, and traditions with GI Joe and Barbie. It was a way of life not and should not have to be questioned or taken as an offense when others don`t understand.

B 28 (Tue, May 14, 2003 @ 16:59 EST)
**DO WE CARE....I THINK NOT..**
MY WAY OF THINKING IS IF WE DO NOT HURT ANYWAY WHY STOP? OF COURSE WE SHOULD BE POLITE AND NOT DO IT INFRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE THAT DO NOT ANDURSTAND. PERO SIGUE UNO ADELANTE...

B 29 (Tue, May 14, 2003 @ 02:50 EST)
**Spanglish, franglish..**
everyone mixes up languages. this isn`t only a latino custom. my asian friends do it all the time too. nothing new so people no deben estar estresando over switching idiomas... todo el mundo lo hace. moi personalmente love to speak espanol, english, and francais all at the same tiempo!! i call it franglish ;)

B 30 (Mon, May 13, 2003 @ 21:35 EST) **Just stuff** well I just have to say that theres Spanish & Spanglish, theres English and Ebonics. I don`t care what it is it all gets it`s point accross no matter what. whether the other person likes the way they speak or not. I hear Cono but I say Malcreado. I hear Pop but I say Soda. although my Mom says Peksi translation... Pepsi. well you get the picture I think it fun really. oh well as My Grandma said Cada quien tiene su guey. ;O)

B 31 (Sat, May 11, 2003 @ 10:40 EST)
**HOLA MI AMOR**

B 32 (Fri, May 03, 2003 @ 16:28 EST) **Spanglish no es Ebonics.**
In the first place Ebonics is a fashon langauge. It constantly changes. Words that are in style one moment are replace later on by someting else. Come on do people still say give me five?
I can`t really say what is going on in the East coast with spanglish because my experiance is in the southwest especially Tejas.
Spanglish in Texas which is called TexMex has move on from what was a pigin languege to a full fledge creol.
http://www.tamiu.edu/~kdegarcia/texmex/
Some of you people need to get over it.
Spanglish is here to stay.
Orale aye los watcho.

B 33 (Fri, May 03, 2003 @ 13:05 EST)
**Moya**
I believe that spanglish is a beautiful language for our latinos why because we could speak both spanish and english here in the U.S. alot of american like that especially americans learns how to speak spanglish.

B 34 (Thu, May 02, 2003 @ 17:26 EST)
**Re: sorry---N~**
yeah for whatever dumb reason migente doesn`t allow the use of accent codes in the text...of all the sites out there i would think this one would accomodate that...and for that matter, why doesn`t this site have dominoes as one of its games?
B 35 (Thu, May 02, 2003 @ 14:16 EST) sorry---N~ hey it`s supposed to be GENERATION N~..with the squiggly line on top .. but it didn`t come out .. it came out Q. well "alt +164 is suppose to be N~

B 36 (Thu, May 02, 2003 @ 14:13 EST)
Generation "Q"
We are part of Generation "Q" as I`ve heard it being coined. Spanglish is part of the way we survive our schizophrenic cultures. Like I heard the Actor Hector Elizondo say " To speak a different language is to have another soul". Basically we tend to mix our souls quite a bit. I thank my mother for teaching my brother and I spanish as our first language at home. When we started going to school and learning English she would always make us choose one language to speak at a time. I know many of us were not as fortunate as I to learn proper spanish, and I don`t reprimend that. I just think spanish is such a beautiful romance language and English is so Barbaric that I try not to incorporate english when I`m speaking spanish. I admit to speaking spanglish with my "latino" friends..b/c it`s our way of mixing our souls. However I do think it is very rude to speak spanish is front of someone that doesn`t for evil purposes. Think about it people it`s like a Korean "nail lady" talking her language while she is doing your nails and you have no clue what she is saying. Well, my point is.. let`s leave the spanglish to the spanglish speaking. And pick up a book by Marquez, Allende, Paz, Puente, or whoever, and educate yourself about being "hispanic". It`s not just about SALSA and SPANGLISH and LATINLOVahs"..We need better role models than Jennifer Lopez, Ricky Martin, or even Shakira... No offense to anyone... I just hate stereotypes.

B 37 (Thu, May 02, 2003 @ 10:22 EST)
Spanglish World
Spanglish is part of our world now. Many people don`t know how to speak English well so they have make their self comfortable. In the U.S everyone speak the way someone can understadn them it doesn`t have any affect b/c everyon undestand it.Anyway is hard to see a person that speak they language without putting another language. WELCOME TO THE REAL WORLD......

B 38 (Wed, May 01, 2003 @ 15:48 EST)
It comes from lack of teaching (basically)!
To be honest with you I also at times speak spanglish...I am hispanic, but my parents never spoke spanish to me so I never learned it. I do regret not knowing it, but it`s not because I`m ignorant or incapable of learning, it`s that I didn`t grow up with it being spoken in my ear. I don`t think that it affects the U.S culture. It may effect hispanics sometimes, because it will cause problems with comunication, but that`s it!...

B 39 (Wed, May 01, 2003 @ 11:21 EST)
WHY MAKE A BIG DEAL OVER SPANGLISH?
Spanglish is just a mixture of english and spanish spoken in at the same time. it has nothing to do with ignorance or idiocy. Lets put it this way it is a type of slang that hispanics, latinos, use. You need to stop wasting time on this subject because you as well as i know it is not going to go anywhere. And let me say something for those who disagree cada quien tiene su opinion verdad!

B 40 (Wed, May 01, 2003 @ 10:14 EST)
we have the best of both worlds.
i working a juvenile correctional
i run into a lot of juveniles who cannot understand the mainstream language. so being fluent in english and spanish...and even throwing in the spanglish from time to time it reminds me of all the power i hold as a proud latino and an american...there are those who player hate the fact that we are so versatile...asi que pa`lante mi gente....

B 41 (Wed, May 01, 2003 @ 03:08 EST) Re: Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
cuanta M´...SEE RIGHT NOW IM USING MY SPANGLISH...IM PROUD OF KNOWING TO LANGUAGES...NOT EVERYONE SPEAKS 2 LINGO´S...WHEN P WITH FRIENDS AND FAM I USE SPANGLISH AND IM PROUD...A EL QUE NO LE GUSTE QUE NO SE LO COMA~~.

B 42 (Tue, Apr 30, 2003 @ 09:05 EST)
Spanglish
In my opinion I think that spanglish is natural not many people in this world knows how to speak that very fluently when they know two languages. I am kinda one of those people. sometimes when i am speaking english i come back and speak spanish and that`s why mainly when i am speaking with people i speak spanglish.

B 43 (Tue, Apr 30, 2003 @ 03:03 EST) Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
How can you say Spanglish is vulgar and ignorant when in your own page you use Spanglish. Fu_kin idiot!!!

B 44 (Mon, Apr 29, 2003 @ 16:50 EST)
Spanglish is a TALENT!!
I don´t think there are many people out there that would understand what Spanglish really is all about, unless you are from my Generation. Spanglish is not something to be proud of or deny. Spanglish comes from the way some of us were raised. I was raised in all English speaking school and went home to a mom that didn´t know how to speak English. Meanwhile, I´m watching Sabado Gigante, Star Search, Mari Mar, Bugs Bunny, Chapolin Colorado, 90210 etc... I didn´t choose to speak Spanglish, but it became a form of communicating to my sister, hermano, Papi and Mami all at the same time, without having to say it in English and in Spanish. I´ve had others recommend me for this as almost a talent, so there you go!!! Have a Happy, Happy Dia!

B 45 (Mon, Apr 29, 2003 @ 11:08 EST)
spanglish
I agree Spanglish has it`s uses...More so it is even necessary. In so many instances our youth as well as adults are expected to be part of two or three distinctly different worlds. The culture of work, family, and society...You can not survive without being able to "code switch" What I mean by that is that without the ability to communicate differently with all of those different groups of people, what you say and how you say it may be illegitamized because you haven`t said it in a way that the particular group can accept. Therefore it`s important to have Spanglish, proper spanish, proper english, etc. Not everyone around your way will hear you the same way if you come at them speaking in a way that alienates them...Learn to code switch...Today`s generation likes to call it alot of things...without it, it`s difficult to survive.

B 46 (Sun, Apr 28, 2003 @ 20:13 EST)
Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
Not being able to speak perfect Spanish or any spanish for that matter does not lessen oni right to the culture. But to accept bad Spansh when you have the choice to learn proper Spanish is wrong. When you don´t have a choice, how could any one blame you? Slang has its uses and its roll in society, but proper language does too.

B 47 (Sun, Apr 28, 2003 @ 03:23 EST)
Spanglish...
I think there’s nothing wrong with Spanglish at all ... For example when i speak english I`m chillin` with my english speaking friends & I speak with slang and when I`m around my elders or in a situation to use proper english I do so.. The same en espanol when im around my elders or in a business situation with my job or meet a stranger im not going to come off using Spanglish to them as I would to one of my close friends who would know and understand what I was talking about. It`s all about the right time and place and with whom to use it with but also in reverse there should be no cirticization towards the pepole who do or don`t use spanglish because it`s all about how you were brought up and raised no one should judge anyone for something like that at all whether it be Ebonics used in English or Spanglish...

B 48 (Sat, Apr 27, 2003 @ 01:46 EST)
Re: Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
and to add to my statement I just crossed Theta Nu Xi sorority in which my chapter is majority latina. We encourage people to be who they are no matter what because its not the language that makes who you are its where you come from.

B 49 (Sat, Apr 27, 2003 @ 01:40 EST)
Re: Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
First of all you are not full latino so you have no place of correcting me. I said that I learned english first and I didn`t claim my spanish to be the best in the world. It is not ignorance!!!!! For your information as long as I`m proud of who I am and what God made me then I can speak any type of language I want. I feel insulted by your response and ask that you refrain from insulting me!!!

B 50 (Thu, Apr 25, 2003 @ 21:19 EST)
Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
you are correct. Hispanic/Latin isn`t in the language and it isn`t in the blood. It is in the way your family raised you, the values they gave you, and the culture you love.

B 51 (Thu, Apr 25, 2003 @ 16:34 EST)
Should Latin American language (A.K.A spanglish) be tought in U.S. Schools?
First off i donot want to refer to it as "SPanglish", but i realize that it also cannot be refered to as Caostilian Spanish!!! Now what i am saying is, wouldn`t it make sence for American public schools to teach a language that is more and often compatible with the population of latin decent in this country?!?!
Nowing that caostilian is the purest form of the spanish language branching off of the dead (no longer used) language of "Latin", but does teaching this language in our school systems really provide our nation with an introduction to communicating with the Hispanic community...

B 52 (Thu, Apr 25, 2003 @ 12:20 EST)
Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
No chigrl, it doesn`t. Those who would tell you that are probably just having an identity crisis of their own. The whole point of the book this guy wrote is to indentify the new culture that has emerged as a result of mixing 2 cultures together. the new one is neither "American" in the traditional sense nor is it the same as the culture in the many different countries of origin that make up "Latinos". You have a culture and a way of communicating that is distinctive, which is a product of your own experience and if people look down on you for that, then they are the ones who have the real problem, not you.

B 53 Thu, Apr 25, 2003 @ 11:49 EST) Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
I was born in the US as were my parents. My Grandparents came here in the early 30`s from Mexico. When I was young my parents asked me if I wanted to learn Spanish, but I wasn`t intrested. The Spanish I do speak, I have learned by myself through out the years. My grandma is happiest when she can speak her native language to her grandchildren but not all of us can speak it back to her. Because I can not speak "proper
I tend to use spanglish so that I can practice. They say if you don’t use it, you lose it. I haven’t much to begin with so I use what I have. So does this make me less Hispanic?

B 54 (Wed, Apr 24, 2003 @ 18:49 EST)

**Spanglish**

I am fluent in both English and Spanish. Spanish was my first language. Because of that, I think in both languages. The fact that one language may come to mind before the other when I’m thinking about something manifests itself in the way I speak. This does not mean I am ignorant of my roots nor of either language. This does not mean I am vulgar or illiterate or disrespectful to my heritage. I know when its appropriate to speak English and I know when it is appropriate to speak Spanish and I also know when it is appropriate to speak Spanglish. It simply means it is who I am. A Hispanic Salvadoran American.

B 55 (Wed, Apr 24, 2003 @ 17:15 EST)

**Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance**

My father is puerto rican and my mother is black. My father has never been in my life, so I use the little bit of spanish that I know to so that I can exercise what I know in hopes to learn more. I can barely communicate with my grandparents on my father’s side of the family but my family helps me out so that I’ll learn. If that is what you call "spanglish" then oh well, but don’t ever tell me that I can’t claim my heritage because you feel as if it is derogatory. you’re gonna have to get over it hunny. with all the mixing of culture that is going on out here, it is going to be hard not to encounter people who use it. did you ever try thinking about that maybe, people are trying to use it the way i do.

B 56 (Wed, Apr 24, 2003 @ 14:15 EST)

**Re: Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance**

and when you are posting: Representing la pais mas bonita de America Central. on your site, you show how it is ignorance. Not in a bad way, but as a person who is still learning a language. Pais es masculino. El pais mas bonito. That is one of the worries of not correcting Spanglish. That people might not know the difference between slang and proper language. You should be able to do both.

B 57 (Wed, Apr 24, 2003 @ 14:11 EST)

**There is a difference**

We may anglisize certain Spanish words and we may Latinize certain English words to the point that they are accepted in the mainstream, but colloquialisms and slang, are still just that. If one is going to use Spanglish as an excuse for not learning English and Spanish properly, then they should not complain when they do not get hired for their lack of proper linguistic skills. lengua callejera pa pa calle, la jerga se jurguea and all that, But while I might spit the latin lingo with my friend or on these posts. I also know how to speak with elders and business partners, and strangers in an element of education and respect. So if you think Spanglish is alright for every setting, you are wrong. Anglicismos en el idioma espaqol no son necesariamente spanglish, si no evolucion del idioma, pero jergua y colloquialismo no es automaticamente aceptado en el foro comun.

B 58 (Wed, Apr 24, 2003 @ 13:01 EST)

**Re: Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance**

I’m Panamanian and Black. I learned english first because my African-American mother does not speak spanish. I spannish words from my father, I learned how to speak and phrases from mi abuelita and from friends at school. Yes, using the "N" word toward a black is harsh but it was given by those who hated and still hate blacks. Spanglish is something just like african culture becoming part of Latin America. IT JUST HAPPENED!!!!!! It’s not vulgar nor does it show ingnorance especially if it was how you were taught. Nor does it have anything to do with the ghetto or lower class because I live in a very upper class white neighborhood along with many other latinos and we all HABLAMOS SPANGLISH.
Spanglish is vulgar and shows ignorance
To me Spanglish is a derogatory term as the N word is for blacks. I hate it when idiotic, just-found-their-latin-roots-at-18-yeears-of-age illiterate morons use it. It is a sign of ignorance and ghettoness. Some of us have worked our asses off to have a positive image in this country to have some ghetto hoodlum butches everything we have worked for with this and other "chican" or sub-hispanic-cultures created in this country. If you are the type of person that believes using Spanglish and other devices in the likes of it makes you look more latin/hispanic...please do the rest of us who actually REALLY know about our language and heritage a favor and DO NOT CLAIM YOURSELF AS A REAL LATIN/HISPANIC......!!!

yeah yeah yeah well dis be d ~1~ one and only baby dee well i think dat d use of spanglish is madd important cuz if u forget una palabra en ingles la puede decir en espanol es es laganansia also killandote no vaz hacer na spanglish is mi favorito language

soy Australiana
I am an Australian citizen living in the US. My mother`s family came from Portugal and southern Spain. I must say that I am very proud of my Spanish blood. My father is of Native Australian and Irish. I speak some Spanish, but am learning more everyday and want to become fluent in Spanish. I encourage my children to speak Spanish at home, but they mix English and Spanish when they talk to me, I have no problem with that, but I would love them to eventually become fluent in the Spanish Language.
Adios amigos

Re: My 2 centavos lol I just got the book in the mail yesterday and so far it is definitely interesting... I suggest que you go to amazon.com ahora mismo! (jeje)

My 2 centavos lol
Well I only speak "spanglish" to my friends or family. I don`t go to the bank and say "Dame some money" to the cashier. I don`t go to Santo Domingo and tell somebody that I need "confle" con leche.
I know when I have to speak 100% proper English and 100% proper Spanish. Spanglish is just my lazy and American way to speak to my friends in a way they can understand. I actually think the book would be interesting and I`d love to read it.

Re: Re: SPANGLISH is nothing to be proud of
The problem with his statements about Black spanish or whatever is part of a larger problem altogether.
For whatever reason, well simply put self hatred. Hispanic people do NOT want to identify or be identified with BLACK people. However one wants to take that, it is the dirtiest thing in the spanish community to be considered "dark," or blacker than others.
And its weird to me because there would be no such thing as Latino people without African slavery or slaves. The key element to Latino culture is the black blood that is in us.
The Indians influenced us through their customs and their blood. But the first people to learn the language that we speak today, were BLACK people. The slaves, the african slaves were the ones who had to learn what the Slavemasters (Spanish speaking europeans) wanted. African dialects had a MAJOR influence on the linguistics of Spanish speakers in teh caribbean and for that matter South America.
Have you ever heard an African talk?
Compare it to Spanish from DR or PR or Honduras.
Machine gun pacing, rhythmic timing almost to an unspoken beat. Spanish and African
may not sound alike to some, but when you listen to the people from Spain speak
spanish, they dont sound like us.
However, if this *bleep* wants to call things Black or white spanish, let him. He is just
one more snob in a dying breed of people.
The more that people learn spanish or spainglish whatever, the more there will be seen
of interracial dating between Hispanics and non hispanics.
First it was the trend for Black guys to date spanish women, so you saw more brothas
sayin "mami ven aqui"
or como estas? etc
Now Hispanic men are going out with Black girls on teh strength.
You will see more black women at salsa clubs and also more women speakin a little
spanish to get a spanish brothas attention.
I think its great. Because the more we blend with each other the stronger we become as
people.
The carribbeans strength comes from teh ability of the people to mix together and unify
not to separate themselves into individual parties and be divided.
As for his statement about the caribbean being oriented to the USA,
The caribbean has NO choice, because Uncle Sam is a nosey bastarde. Who will put trade
embargos on people if they dont do what he says. or likes for that matter.
If the caribbean countries ever get any more capitol or get an industry boom i feel they
would be more like mini Japans.
Very isolated, very nationalistic and patriotic and very un american.
Even though american influences would still be present i think you would see a different
PR or DR or PA in a situation where USA dollars would not reign supreme.
And Spanish would even be MORE wide spread.
Thats just my opinion
Paz
Illa

American Royalty
I don`t mean to get technical about the subject of American royalty. When Ed Morales
said,"Latin America never had royal families and is not part of the old world," he wasn`t
exactly right. While true that they never succeeded or materialized into lasting dynasties;
I believe that Emperor Maximilian and Empress Carlotta of Mexico that ruled during the
1860`s and were from the Austrian House of Hapsburg would indeed qualify as royalty
and most definitely from the old world. I don`t mean to split hairs, but I can`t stand to
see people throw out facts, and have them be validated by the mear fact that they wrote
a book without doing enough research.

LET EVERYONE BE WHO THEY WANNA BE!
HEY LOOK EVERYONE I KNOW I`M UNDER AGE AND *bleep* BUT LOOK THERE IS A LOT
OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD RATHER SPEAK SPANGLISH. BECAUSE FOR THEM IT IS MUCH
EASIER. SEE LIKE ME AI`VE LIVIN HERE SINCE I WAS NINE YEARS OLD AND I`VE
PRETTY MUCH HAVE GOTTEN USED TO SPEAKIN MORE ENGLISH AT HOME THAN
ANYTHIN SURE MYU PARENTS URGE ME TO SPEAK SPANISH TOO BUT SEE WHEN U R
WIT GRINGOS 24/7 THEIR WAYS JUZ GET TO U. I REALLY THINK IF U WANNA SPEAK
SPANISH AND ENGLISH BOTH SEPARATE HYE THA`S COOL I`M NOT GOING TO JUDGE
BUT IF U SPEAK THEM MIXED THA`S COOL TOO. HEY NOBODY IS PERFECT IN THIS
WORLD SO EVERYBODY JUZ DEAL WIT WHAT U GOT.

Lemme do me and u do u
I believe everybody has the right to speak as they wish. Its not about right and wrong its about being yourself. I embrace spanglish jus cuz thas how I talk when I`m around latinos my age. When I`m with my elders I sppeak straight spanish out of respect. and the same goes with english. Ebonics when I`m chillin` and English when I`m having a conversation with one of my teachers. Its all about when and where. But when it comes down to it....Just be yourself! Asi que ponte los tenis, come confley, printea eso, y dame el remote! hehehehe....

B 68 (Mon, Apr 22, 2003 @ 14:36 EST)
Re: Can we all just speak SPANISH, please!!!!!
No one had "so much time on (their) hands" that they "invented" Spanglish. It was something that happened naturally as people grew up speaking both English and Spanish and can also be attributed to the influence that English has had on Spanish over the years here in the US. It is not something that most who speak this way even think about, it just comes naturally. I find nothing offensive about hearing or even speaking Spanglish. And the fact that it is a means of communication makes it a form of expression. I happen to speak English and Spanish very well and I have no trouble slipping into Spanglish when I find myself in that context. The point of any language is to communicate with people, not to use it as a means of measuring one`s social or intellectual status. When I`m around English-speaking people, I speak English. When I went to Spain last year, I spoke Spanish. When I go to East Harlem this Friday or to the Lower East Side of Manhattan para visitar a mi abuela, I`ll speak Spanglish. I find more value in being able to speak to people on whatever level they are on rather than criticizing or looking down on them for whatever language or dialect they communicate in. Anyway, that`s what I think. Cojelo con take it easy, mi gente =)

B 69 (Mon, Apr 22, 2003 @ 14:32 EST)
Re: Language Murder
I don`t think that we should be using Spanglish at all! I think that it is an assasination of the Spanish language. Living in the United States and being born here has already taken away so much of our latino culture, why should we let our language be corrupted too? While White America is forcing our immigrant Populations to Learn English, we should be forcing our children to learn proper spanish. Do you think that black people take pride in Ebonics? NO, Ebonics never got anyone a job or a loan or anything. What makes us think that spanglish should do the same for us?

B 70 (Mon, Apr 22, 2003 @ 12:53 EST)
Spanglish
To me it means you are illiterate in two languages.

B 71 (Mon, Apr 22, 2003 @ 11:15 EST)
Can we all just speak SPANISH, please!!!!!
Spanglish is a terrible way of excusing poor grammar, formation of words, and pronunciation. When I hear Spanglish I feel insulted as a bilingual individual. If you have so much time on your hands to invent and practice "Spanglish" you need to really enroll yourself in a Spanish 101 class at a community center or college. It is sad that people literally stomp on such a beautiful and historically reknown language. Please: instead of sayin "parquear" stop yourself and correctly say "estacionar"....you will sound more educated and impress yourself. If any of you have questions of any aspect of the language, drop me a note....I have studied it for seven years and have traveled abroad....I know my stuff.....and my roommate is from Central America... so I can double check :)

B 72 (Sun, Apr 21, 2003 @ 16:44 EST)
I feel that I feel
what Chugo is saying about Spanglish....Im not hispanic or latin america but I am African American and I dont like when people refer to "black" talk as ebonics...I guess its the same for Latinos and spanglish
B 73 (Sun, Apr 21, 2003 @ 13:31 EST)
**Re: Spanglish**
i AM READING LOTS OF RETARDENESS, SPANGLISH WAS BROUGHT UP BECAUSE HISPANICS WHO CAME FROM OTHER COULDN'T PRONOUNCE ENGLISH WORDS CORRECTLY ITS WRONG. Its a huge embarrasement, and it doesnt retain any positive culture values or symbols, it just makes us look DUmb, JUST like EBonICS with AfricanAmericans.

B 74 (Sun, Apr 21, 2003 @ 13:27 EST)
**Re: My opinion**
If your excusing spanglish, then its because your spanish is nasty, IF you know a word of it!!!
SpanGLish IS NOT a FORM of expression, PAINTING, SINGING, WRITING, is a FORM NOT SPANGISH, GET YOUR *bleep* CORRECT NIGGA!!!!!!!!!!

B 75 (Fri, Apr 19, 2003 @ 21:20 EST) **spanglish**
I think that Spanglish has become a way for Latinos to carve out a niche in US culture and society. It is a way to retain what we have always had while at the same time embracing lo Americano. It`s the best of both worlds. Spanglish takes things beyond simple bilingualism. It is an affirmation of lo Latino within American culture. It separates the Latino living in the US from the Latinos "back home". Spanglish has helped us to establish ourselves as a real presence en los estados unidos. It`s our way of saying que estamos aqui, y que llegamos para quedarnos. It embraces both past and future, a quality essential for a people living entre dos mundos.

B 76 (Fri, Apr 19, 2003 @ 17:12 EST)
**Re: its all good** I never thought I spoke TexMex, but I guess I do. One thing I do know, is that you can tell by a persons voice whether or not they are from the valley.

B 77 (Fri, Apr 19, 2003 @ 13:48 EST)
**proud of speaking Spanish**
I think we all should be proud of speaking both languages. I grew up in Texas. I live in Maryland. Over here people see you different when you speak spanish. They want people to learn English if they are only fluent in Spanish

B 78 (Fri, Apr 19, 2003 @ 11:40 EST)
**My opinion**
I think that it`s an essential form of self expression that nuestro gente can relate too. Morenos tienen a language they can express themselves and feel comfortable with, but either way it is about what you feel comfortable with, as an individual. Individually, we have our own ways of getting our point across, or making something known, whatever. As of myself, before I ever started school I was speaking 3 languages, living in a trilingual envirnoment. When I started school, english was pushed so much from teachers, and my parent felt that it was the best way for me to succeed. So I had to relearn, my spanish, thus creating my own form of Spanglish. Coming down again to individuality.
I will buy this book, no doubt!

B 79 (Fri, Apr 19, 2003 @ 11:07 EST)
**its all good** Well where i´m from its not Spanglish but Texmex. and i guess its all the same. like i said its all good.

B 80 (Fri, Apr 19, 2003 @ 08:32 EST)
**Code-shifting (Spanglish)**
This is such an interesting phenomena. Right now I´m researching code-switching for my linguistics semester project. Through recording some of my code-switching bilingual
buddies, I`ve come to the conclusion that this is just a wonderful expression of language. However, I`m finding that my friends who are college educated speak Spanish with more English and they speak English with little to no Spanish. It`s the other way around for my friends who don`t have a college education in that they speak English with more Spanish than they do speaking Spanish with little to no English. Would you agree or disagree? Please respond.

B 81 (Thu, Apr 18, 2003 @ 20:26 EST)
Re: Re: Re: SPANGLISH is nothing to be proud of
I agreed with you guys Latina1018. I personally use Spanglish but is nothing that I`m too proud of. I think that Spanglish takes away the real meaning of the spanish language. We should not try to change the meaning of what makes us who we are.

B 82 (Thu, Apr 18, 2003 @ 18:17 EST)
Spanglish is good because if a foerign person does not know a word in English, they use the spanish form and the person knows!
It`s all in the tongue.

B 83 (Thu, Apr 18, 2003 @ 13:44 EST)
not so good
spanglish is not that good to use with friends of differernaces of diffrent countries because some words mean alot of diffrent things in diffrent countries.

B 84 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 18:13 EST)
Agreed, Spanglish should be used openly yes, but wisely
As compared to "Ebonics" it is important to know that expression has its form according to its place. It`s very convenient to engage in conversation with someone else who knows both languages and use Spanglish. However, we should be considerate of those who don`t understand Spanish and try to stick to one language. It should also be reserved for a comfortable environment and not for somewhere like the workplace.
I walked into a furniture store one day and as soon as the attendant got the jist of my being Dominican, he automatically started speaking Spanglish, whereas he started off very professionally. I was mixed between now trusting this guy because we shared something, and not trusting this guy because he felt like he didn`t HAVE to be professional to me.
I speak Spanglish very often, and am for it. But it is also important that we KNOW our english language and our Spanish language...Spanglish can`t get us thru conversation on all occasions.

B 85 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 16:41 EST) Re: Re: SPANGLISH is nothing to be proud of
bori-cuba, you make a very good point. It would profit many people within the culture to realize that the reason that we have so many problems with "our own"predudices, stem from the division of our own people. When we make statements that separate our selves , we are allowing and permitting hatred and selfdegredation. I would not change Salazar`s article, it is his freedom of speech to state his opinions. I do , however, believe that it is a mentality like his, that causes us the grief that we needlessly put on our selves, and keep keep us in an "inferior" state of mind

B 86 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 15:57 EST)
Re: Spanglish does have its place, but don`t always look to rely on it.
I was getting ready to put a post in this forum but it looks like someone beat me to it. SHADESofPASSION, did a great job of summing things up.
I would like to add that, especially for those of us who are 1st and second generation Latino Americans, please do not commit the error of letting your children not learn Spanish. Speak to them in Spanish, read to them,and let them read to you, in Spanish just as you do in English. Encourage them to learn the language and take a refresher yourself if necessary by immersing yourself in the language as much as possible. You
would be doing your children, and yourselves, a great dis-service otherwise. The thing about Spanish and any other language is that there is a lot of truth in saying "It loses something in the translation". Some works whether music, books, plays or other, need to be experienced in its original form for you to truly appreciate it.

B 87 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 15:56 EST)
**I think that spanglish is a good thing**
I think that spanglish is a good thing. I am not fluent in Spanish the way my great grandparents or grandparents are. So when I don`t know how to say something in Spanish, I use spanglish to get my point across. It really comes in handy. If someone is speaking to me in Spanish and I don`t understand what they are saying, they use spanglish, and I definately will pick up on what they are saying. As long as it is not used in the work place, it`s okay. You wouldn`t speak all ghetto at work, but would speak proper English, so that is the same way we need to look at spanglish.

B 88 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 14:17 EST)
i`m all about spanglish... seriously, it`s one of the coolest things as far as our culture... people can tell i`m puerto rican and have lived on the island and new york - not because of my english or my spanish - but because of my spanglish, and the words i use... being bilingual is difficult- sometimes you don`t remember the word you`re trying to say in english, so you say it in spanish, and vice-versa... i`m all about the spanglish, like i said... because, as a boricua, it`s a part of who i am... it`s not `hamburguesa`... it`s "HAMBELGEL"!!!

B 89 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 13:13 EST) **I think...** it`s good, because not only you don`t forget your native language, but you learn more words every day and relate it to our language. for instance, Dominicans (me) have some words that i didn`t know but are spanglish, such as "nitido" and it means "neat" see that? cool huh?!...keep it up!

B 90 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 12:13 EST)
**Is there a problema with spanglish?**
In many communities across the US, plenty of latinos use spanglish. Spanglish to me is a way to connect with people whether for a joke or to explain something. however, its also a way to determine in some peoples eyes what nationality a person is by the way they say Tigere or que onda...or mire socio... This by no means is a legit way to determine always what a person is...i know plenty of people who were raised around people that are not of the same nationality. Another thing though spanglish has been frowned upon by many who speak spanish as there 1st language because its sounds like improper spanish. When I first moved to DR my ex was talking spanish the way most guys from Washington Hts talk...then somone pulled me to the side ans said why does he speak so uneducated. So whether u think its uneducated or not... its part of our society and a part of a connection.
Hasta Siempre,
Ladyj007

B 91 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 12:00 EST)
**Didn`t think it was an issue** It just happens naturally I guess. I didn`t think it was offensive or an issue. In all actuality, my non spanish speaking friends are amazed that we can do that. some of them can`t even speak English without stumbling on their words.

B 92 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 10:25 EST)
**THE PERMEABLE COCOON**
1. LIKE MR. MORALEOS STATES IN HIS BOOK-SPANGLISH ALLOWS FOR SEAMLESS CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHO MAY HAVE DIFFERENT AGENDA`S ON THEIR PLATE.BUT SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE.
2. SPANGLISH ALSO AIDES THOSE PEOPLE WHO MAY HAVE A PROBLEM W/EITHER-OR LANGUAGE BY MIXING THEM.
EX. HAVE YOU EVER SPOKEN WITH A FOREIGNER WHO COULDN`T UNDERSTAND A SINGLE WORD YOU SPOKE. YOUR FIRST THOUGHT IS , "IS THIS PERSON SLOW OR SOMETHING?". BY MIXING THE TWO, IT GIVES US A LARGER AUDIENCE TO COMMUNICATE WITH.

B 93 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 09:40 EST)
**Re: Re: SPANGLISH is nothing to be proud of**
I use Spanglish a lot. I am a totally bilingual man and I`m equally comfortable speaking both languages. Bilingual people understand that when you are so immersed in a culture and another language and use it equally you sometimes forget words in one language and may need to switch to convey your thought. We also understand that you don`t translate most things verbatim. It`s more like interpreting. It just depends on the mood, the situation, and the feeling you`re trying to convey. Latina1018, I agree with you in that the implication that this "Black" Spanish is a "tainted" version of "puro blanco" Spanish. As a writer he should have articulated his point a little better which I feel was Puerto Rican spanish, for example, has African/Carribbean influence. He made this same inference when he spoke of "Black English" Your SKIN COLOR is not indicative of your culture. Race is different from nationality is different from culture. There are many whites who grow up in urban neighborhoods grow up around black people and are mostly influenced by blacks. They are just as quintessential as the people they grew up around. It would be wrong to say the culture they are a part of belongs to blacks. Who says that pronouncing every single syllable of a word and enunciating so perfectly is the CORRECT way to speak. Pues, ya me cansi de este tema asm que me voy... pero quiero mandarle un mensaje a la gente. No tenemos que ponernos un tmtulo para justificarnos. Somos quienes somos... y punto. Cada quien es un mundo aparte y no se puede poner en categoria a cada uno.

B 94 (Wed, Apr 17, 2003 @ 00:36 EST)
**The use of "Spanglish" is a normal phenomenon!**
I code-switch, in other words speak "Spanglish," and I am fluent in both Spanish and English. I code switch because its useful to me. I don`t see why some people are so discontent with "Spanglish" as a form of expression. Code-switching is a natural phenomenon of language when there is bilingualism involved. I see Spanglish as a valid dialect of English and Spanish. Its a form of expression and it has a definite pattern that it must follow in order to make sense or sound natural. I think it shows a sophisticated understanding of how the two languages work. Contrary to what some people on this board have said, speaking Spanglish isn`t always as a result of not knowing how to speak the language. I often switch into the other to better convey a meaning. Rather than trying hard to translate something that doesn`t quite catch the meaning of what I`m trying to say, I`d rather switch to what will get to the heart of what I`m trying to say. Just remember, that there is an appropriate time and place for different forms of expression. Spanglish is a valid form of speech but its not here to replace Spanish and English altogether.

B 95 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 18:42 EST)
**reply**
I believe that the developement of spanglish within latin american society is unavoidable. There is simply nothing that can be done between using our native language with our families and using the "required" language in this country. Eventually difficulties in speach will occur with the language used least. In our case that would be spanish. How would it affect american culture? well that is another story. I only see it` s effect within our own social construct. Outside of it it does nothing but create frustration within groups that can only pick up parts of a conversation. Now if it works the other way around...as in not being able to say some words in english and having to say them in spanish....then you got a serious problem. This, in itself, may create some isolation within american culture.

B 96 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 16:24 EST)
beauty of a language
i can remember plenty of times where i nwas either speaking english or spanish and
gotttena word or two, thereby filling the gap with the word in the other language. I
don`t know about classifying it as "black Spanish" but non-the-less its what makes each
dialect unique. sometimes i laugh at how stupid we can make things sound and
completely understand like "oh no here comes the the cop with his "tatequito"! lol
things like that are hillarious. all i can say is the we have to be careful where we use this
kind os slang. You won`t catch me talking to anyone of a high stature like "hey tomalo
suave con take it easy meng" even though its funny, it can ruin our chances at a good
job in english or spanish

B 97 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 16:18 EST)
Re: SPANGLISH is nothing to be proud of
I totally feel every thing that you are saying. In a way Salazar is already making
distinctions between the "races" when he makes the assumption that Spanglish is
prevelent throughout Latin America, he says" I used to think that there wasn` t a Black
Spanish because Black Puerto Ricans seemed to talk just like White Puerto Ricans, but
then I realized that we were all speaking a "Black" Spanish...". I beleive that his
statement was offensive. I know that what he was trying to infer was that , the Spanish
language in the Caribe has African influences. If I could say that, come on, it is not that
difficult! The words that he chose to express his opinions were insulting. It is like he was
saying that The African influences in the language had a negative effect on the "puro
blanco", like the language was tainted. I could be getting all worked up for nothing, who
knows. It is 4:15 in the afternoon, I am hungry, tired and stressed over preparing for
finals. So, if I am wrong, forgive
me.

B 98 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 15:46 EST)
I USE SPANGLISH A LOT!!!!!!!!
WHEN I AM AT WORK AND THERE ARE SOME WORDS I CANT SAY IN SPANISH, SO I SAY
IT IN ENGLISH. I MIX MY SENTENCES WITH SPANISH AND ENGLISH. ITS VERY USEFUL
FOR ME WHEN I AM AT WORK, OR AT SCHOOL OR EVEN WITH MY FRIENDS. ALSO,
WHEN I GET MAD AND I CANT SWEAR IN ENGLISH, I SWEAR IN SPANISH WITH SOME
ASSYRIAN. LOL. BUT TO ME, PEOPLE I KNOW AND MY CUSTOMERS THAT ARE REGULARS
AT THE STORE I WORK AT USE SPANGLISH A LOT. IT HELPS ME UNDERSTAND THEM A
LITTLE BIT MORE INSTEAD OF ONE LANGUAGE. =o)

B 99 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 15:26 EST)
CORRECTION!!
I DIDN"T EVEN KNOW!! SRY FOR THE TYPO ABOVE!! :OP

B 100 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 15:25 EST)
I EVEN KNOW SPANGLISH WAS AN ISSUE!!! :O) Ok I think People are just running
out of things to talk about. I mean come on. I was raised think What I was just fine. My
whol family speeks Spanglish Fluently!! ;O) Well Any Wayz Migente! Eso es my
Opinion! ;O)

B 101 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 15:13 EST)
my opinion
either you speak spanish or english.....spanglish is not a language.....nor should it be
considered one....

B 102 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 15:09 EST)
What can I say...
To me using spanglish never meant that we were forming a new "culture", to me it
meant that we were losing our culture. It`s funny that anybody can make an excuse for
anything, no matter how visible the problem is. Yes I feel that speaking spanglish is a
problem though many and I mean many people speak it. As new generations form here
in America, the more we lose what was once our culture and ancestry. No lie on that either, just go to the country you`re sooo proud of representing and they`ll laugh at you. Natives of your origin country can tell if you`re from their or if you`re a Mexicano, Cubano, Puerto Rican...Colombiano...They can tell if you`ve become "gringo". It`s sad but true, that here we see many kids in our era representin` their country and they can`t even speak the language that comes with the culture. I speak spanglish, no doubt on that, and I`m not gonna all of a sudden make up a bull excuse for my habit just because somebody wrote a book on it on HIS PERSPECTIVE. I speak both languages very very well, but to call una CAMUONETA "troka" and to say "Parquear" instead of "Estacionar" infront or even to a person who speaks proper spanish, will make you feel eliterate.

ONE LOVE
MUSIC AND POETRY LOVERS
CHECK OUT MY SITE
LATINOMEX ALIAS NATURALTALENT

B 103 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 14:08 EST)
gracias
i thought i was the only one! being that i am solo mediano puertoriquenno, i speak spanish bastante bien, pero sometimes i just can`t find the words, and so therefore spanglish! but i don`t believe that, that somehow detracts from my culture. if anything it just displays the full spectrum of my latin identity, together with african american ancestry.

B 104 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 12:52 EST)
Re: Ta Bien! I guess... I agree con Ustedes, Some people sound Tan Estupido Hablando Spanglish Que I get Mad. Many Latinos that come to this Pais, forget how to Properly Hablar Spanish Por que They`re trying to Learn English. But No One should Forget How to Hablar Proper Spanish. Por Que to Tell you The Truth, Se Olle Silly Y Bien Stupid.

B 105 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 10:58 EST)
I am the epitome of Spanglish
When I was little I use to be embarresed that my family spoke a different language then my friends did. Now I`m embarresed that I don`t speak it well enough. When I get together with my family or other Latin friends all we speak is Spanglish, especially when I`m in Texas. The language binds me to my heratage, even if it isn`t completely Spanish. I use spanglish so often that my boyfriend (who isn`t Hispanic) understands it. I love it when we`re in public and other people look at us funny when he speaks it to me.

B 106 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 09:10 EST)
I LOVE it
I love to say, "este Tipo estas Crazy...." or "Aros con Beens" better yet.... no on the real, being able to speak two languages, and Escribiendo los dos, es un poder para los latinos aqui en los Estados Unidos. We have to understand, it no "phenomonon" as People put it, it just a fact that @ home we speak 90% Spanish with our siblings and outside we speak 90% english.... it`s great to add Sabor in there.....

B 107 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 07:14 EST)
i LOVE speakin Spanglish
y i speak. eventhought they my friends and all but i dont like them criticizing my dominican culture

B 108 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 06:39 EST)
it doesn`t hurt...
Being able to speak more than one language is definitely a plus and even trying to learn another language or knowing enough words of another language to help communicate with somebody who speaks that language won`t kill us the english language consists of many foreign words or originated of many foreign words hey a lot of our cities have
foreign sounding names Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc besides there are very few people who actually speak perfect English anyway

B 109 (Tue, Apr 16, 2003 @ 01:24 EST)
Its OUR culture!!
For whatever reason it was created we should embrace it. Not everyone will agree but thats there right. I for one am happy to finally see that someone took their time to explain how it came about. We all at one time have used the language never knowing why? Now we have the answer and with this book it only helps us understand and hopefully except as part of us and not as a thing that keeps us down. Instead of frowning on it we should be able to use it to empower us as a culture and GENTE!!!

B 110 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 23:40 EST)
IT IS OK AND IT IS NOT
Many people use it because it is like a fad, others that don`t speak English good enough use it because they are lazy to learn it properly. Others were raised on two languages and constantly forget how to say it in one so they use words from the other. Sometimes I feel that there should be rules to the language, well most of the time I feel like this. I know most of the old timers get upset when you use Spanglish, they say use one or the other!

B 111 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 20:40 EST)
Y B ASHAMED????
IF THIS IS HOW WE WANT 2 XPRESS OURRELFS THEN LET IT B.NOBODY HAS THE RIGHT 2 CRITICIZE OUR LATINO LANGUAGE.WE SHOULD B PROUD OF WHO WE ARE.VIVA LATINO`S !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

B 112 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 20:28 EST)
Question!?! Do you think that African Americans and other ethnic groups will be exposed to it nationally or only within regions. For example, will spanglish be featured on t.v.?

B 113 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 19:57 EST)
Why ruin the language
Wh look stupid.. People usualy say biles.. for bills o deudas..

B 114 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 19:21 EST)
I`M TELLING YOU...
FOR ALL THAT HAVE NEVER SEEN BLADE RUNNER RENT IT, THE LANGUAGE THEY SPEAK IS A MIX OF A WHOLE BUNCH OF DIFFERENT LANGUAGES, THAT EVENTUALLY WHAT GONNA HAPPEN, THE WORLD WILL CREATE A LANGUAGE MIXING ALL DIALECTS, OR MAYBE THATS JUST WHAT I FEEL WE NEED, LANGUAGES ARE BEAUTIFUL, BUT ONE LANGUAGE THAT WOULD BRING US ALL TOGETHER, I WOULD REALLY LOVE THAT, ANYWAY, GOD BLESS.

B 115 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 18:39 EST)
SPANGLISH is nothing to be proud of
I used to think Spanglish was okay..but I compared it to the way that people think of Ebonics(which is completely stupid in my opinion..a mocking of Black people). It is terminology defined by White America..in the case of Ebonics it is to degrade African Americans. In the case of Latinos it is to speed up the assimilation process..These are just my views. You dont see White Americans running to make up a cute little nickname for their slang do you??

B 116 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 18:14 EST)
Re: Ta Bien! I guess...
I agree with you con eso.
B 117 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 17:35 EST)
Re: Ta Bien! I guess...
You are so right. It’s ok to speak spanglish but we should also not loose the regular proper spanish that is our true language. In a few generations no one will really speak it!

B 118 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 17:21 EST)
Ta Bien! I guess...
From my point of view I think its OK to an extent. I see many Latinos using Spanglish because they don’t have proper vocabulary. In that case, then I don’t think some one should use Spanglish. But to use it as a form of expression towards each other as Latinos, then I’m all for it. Por Que! You know what I’m saying MiGente.

B 119 (Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 17:12 EST)
What Up
I think the use of spanglish in the US is just fine. Because it gives people who don`t speak spanish something to learn and it is easier and sounds cool too, but I don`t think it`ll really effect the culture, only in one case. That case being that many families won`t be teaching their children fluent spanish.

First Post : B 120 LuzMariaSalazar [1st post] on Mon, Apr 15, 2003 @ 12:17 EST
What do you think of the use of Spanglish and how it effects U.S. culture?
Siehe Anfang 1. Beitrag
Korpus Teil C

Are you still considered Latino if you don`t speak spanish?

Can you say that you are truly Latino if you don`t know the language. What if you know everything about your particular culture except the language? What are your views?

463 posts – 368 users

Spanish – English

Created on Fri, Jul 06, 2001 @ 02:43 EST
last post included on Thu, Aug 12, 2004 @ 16:04 EST

C 1 (Thu, Aug 12, 2004 @ 16:04 EST) Are you still considered Latino if you don`t speak spanish? Of course you are. Example: You`re born to Puerto Rican parents and put up for adoption. You get adopted by a Caucasian family, and you learn how to speak English. Just because you can`t speak Spanish doesn`t mean you`re not Spanish!!! "Latino" is an ethnic background...not a language.

C 2 (Sat, Jul 31, 2004 @ 13:51 EST) Just cause you cant speak spanish... Just cuzz you cant speak spanisch doesnt make you less of a latino. I don`t speak spanish all that well.. i can understand it bit, write it and all that other stuff. Its nort really my fault I cant speak it. Im half Jamaican half Dominican ...but i was brought up and raised in jamaica so that was the language I spoke... and my dad was the spanish one... but he never took the time to teach me it... and he didnt really live with me either. So im 50% spanish cuz of my parents... but i still say im 100% latina and 100% black because thats how i feel.

C 3 (Wed, Jul 28, 2004 @ 17:35 EST) Holla back!!!!!!!!!!! Of course you are still considered Latino if you don`t speak spanisk because, it`s like alot of people know how to speak spanish, that don`t mean the are spanish right?? So if Spanish cna`t speak spanish it reall y don`t take nothing away from who they are. Ya smell me????????????

C 4 (Sat, Jul 24, 2004 @ 23:04 EST) DARK RICAN.. I AM A BLACK PUERTO RICAN, VERY RARE. TO CUT A LONG STORY SHORT, SPEAKING SPANISH FLUENTLY MAKES THE DIFFERENCE. YOU SPEAK IT FLUENTLY YOU SPANISH AS FAR AS I A WAS TAUGH IN MY YEARS LIVING IN PUERTO RICO.

C 5 (Wed, Jul 21, 2004 @ 18:55 EST) my spanish isn`t great... ...but I speak it fairly well. It`s an ethnic thing, not an Inaguage thing. Remember, we`re Hispanic Americans. Chinese Americans are stil Chinese if they don`t speak Chinese. German Americans are still German if they don`t speak German. Arab Americans are still Arab even if they don`t speak Arabic. No one questions any of the above, so why would we do it with Hispanics? Silly question, man. Of course you`re still authentically Hispanic.

C 6 (Tue, Jul 13, 2004 @ 23:01 EST) .. In my opinion not knowing how to speak ure language is bs..honestly its the parents fault for notwanting to teach that kid spanish...i mean speaking ure native toungue is beautiful..especially if u got the accent..so not speaking spanish is rather not good..

C 7 (Mon, Jul 12, 2004 @ 21:10 EST) For All To Whom It May Concern: Ther is a black homosexual that goes by the name: boriqueta 21 1999; This person has aliases, among the most notorious was noluv4u2 (now
deceased) lol; also: Mulato-Indegina; suc-dis
Gimme_Ed
sancochoboricua dese2 fleon several, several, more
If you get into a debate with him be on the lookout for these characters, a clue is also
that he usually goes by gay or none of your business, etc... and many are half PR
This guy is crazy, he spends his whole day doing this and has nothing better to do than
incite riot. Avoid him and report him.
He frequents the Gay forums the most but several identity forums as well. He has a
nasty self-hate problem and tends to attack Latinos that are either white or part white
stating that they are not real Latinos. Clear case of self-hate. Report him to MiGente on
the alert tab if he annoys you!!!!!!!

C 8 (Wed, Jun 30, 2004 @ 19:41 EST) at least half MAN, not being able to speak
spanish dont mean $hit. My spanish isnt very good, but i can still speak it pretty well. I
beleive all that matters to qualify u as latino/latina is being at least HALF latino.

C 9 (Mon, Jun 28, 2004 @ 18:36 EST) lol ok i agree wit x stylez cuz nuthin makes a
person wat they are i didnt grow up around any one who skope spanish enough for me to
learn it although i do noe some so it isnt tha persons fault they dont noe it its who every
raised them thas all

C 10 (Mon, Jun 28, 2004 @ 14:45 EST) hagan el esfuerzo los hispanos hablamos
espanol, si no lo han aprendido hagan el esfuerzo, querer es poder, good l

C 11 (Wed, Jun 09, 2004 @ 14:35 EST)????? But how could you not know the language?
I mean surely you must be around spanish speaking members of your family. At least the
effort to learn you should be made.

C 12 (Thu, Jun 03, 2004 @ 19:48 EST) latino/a regardless just because a latino/a
doesnt speak spanish i don think it makez them any less latino u know?my neice and
nephew were brought up speaking english they went to a school where the majority of
the teacherz were american so for those who didnt have the privledge of not growing up
speaking spanish it doesnt not make them any less latino thatz like saying if a i dont like
to where dressez that makez me less of a female which is stupid

C 13 (Sat, May 29, 2004 @ 10:14 EST)?/? MIREN ADENTRO DE SUS CORAZONES

C 14 (Mon, May 24, 2004 @ 12:51 EST) Hispanic/Latino Where does the term Latino
come from? Obviously it means a Latin person. To be Latin, don`t you have to speak
Latin? The Latin language originated in Roma, Italia (Rome, Italy) a few thousand years
ago. It was inspired by early Italic and Celtic languages from the north, was refined with
Greek words, but it was spoken as a language in Italy. Eventually Latin spread through
the Mediterranean area, each country brutally destroying it, creating their own versions
of its words, adding their own words, and eventually forming the modern day romance
languages, such as Italian, Romanian, French, and Spanish/Portuguese.
Now you may ask "If the Italians were the original peoples who spoke Latin, wouldn`t
Italian be the closest language to Latin?" The answer is yes. Italian`s father was known
as a barbaric form of Latin spoken by the lowbrow people. It later evolved into the Italian
language.
Now what someone might ask is "So if the Italians invented the Latin language, wouldn`t
Italian people be Latino? The Census bureau doesn`t seem to agree, or at least isn`t in
touch historically. Their definition of Latin is someone whose racial background comes
from Mexico/South America. Why is that? Since Spaniards came from Spain, somehow
Spaniards taught the Maya/Aztec/Inca natives how to speak Spanish. The Spaniards
came to Mexico/South America looking for gold in the age of exploration, and while they
enforced their culture into the natives as they raped and mutilated them, they
accidentally formed Mestizos, half native half European people. After a couple hundred
years of mixing into the Native South Americans, Mexicans, Brazilians and other modern
cultures were formed. But that still doesn`t explain why they are called Latino, does it? The truth of the matter is, there is no true reason why they are called Latino. The obvious reason would be that since Spanish was a romance language formed from Latin, they must be Latin too? No, that doesn`t make any sense. Italians are the ones who created the Latin language, not the Spaniards. Latin is a dead language, and there is and never was such thing as Latinos. If there were, Italians would be them. It is as gross of an ignorant description as calling Native Americans "Indians". Why weren`t people from India called Indians a couple of hundred years ago? That is another story altogether. The term Latino is one of those racial categories that the government makes up because they do not know how to categorize native south Americans because they already gave Native Americans that title, so they make up a category based on what language they speak, and not what race they are. Imagine seeing these boxes on that census sheet: White, Black, Asian, and Jewish. A few people would get angry with that. Jewish is not a race, it is a religion, just as the term Hispanic/Latino is not a race, it is a language preference that isn`t Latin to begin with.

C 15 (Fri, May 21, 2004 @ 13:27 EST) my bad to my comment b4 it didnt come out the way i wanted it to i mean just becaus u cant speak the language doesnt mean that u are not hispanic/latino.

C 16 (Fri, May 21, 2004 @ 13:26 EST) Anwser im mexican and spanish was around me but i just didnt pick it up i am learning now but you shoulndt be able to be called latino/hispanic or w/e just becaus u cant speak the language

C 17 (Sun, May 09, 2004 @ 17:00 EST Re: a damn shame That is true that it is damn shame that some families are not brought up speaking spanish, but at the same time I was raised only on english because my moms first language was spanish and she went throught so many hardships in school and in everyday life because she didn`t speak english, and she didn`t want the same for me. But don`t get me wrong l go out and do my thing learning how to speak spanish, because that is one part of my roots that I feel I need to connect with.

Eassim

C 18 (Sun, Apr 18, 2004 @ 16:55 EST) a damn shame i guess but i dont know why they wouldnt have been brougten up speaking spanish but yeah anywayz people that are hispanic/latino and dont know spanish thats a damn shame...

schande

C 19 (Thu, Mar 25, 2004 @ 01:16 EST) 1 Ok i Know that the spanard bastards raped and enslaved natives and africans and today some of ya`ll have spanard blood. I also know that they racist azzez charged the cultures and languages of africans and natives but so did the european charge the culture and language of africans and natives in north america. Some african americans and native american even might have european blood but they don`t call themself european or english like the africans and natives of latin america call themself spanards or latins. If ya`ll can call each other latin or spanish then the africans and natives of south america can call themselfs portuguese because there slave master was from portugal. African americans and native americans can call themself european or english also. In the days of jesus his peoples slave masters were romans i guess jesus and his people could of called themselves white romans instead of brown and black hebrews ok i understand now. fot those of you who call yourselves "latino, latina, or hispanic, what i want to know is why? latin was the official language of rome as well as the name of a sw city on italy. that has little or nothing to do with someone from mexico, argentina or honduras,etc. rome`s empire didn`t make it this far. hispanic refers to anyone who can speak spanish. it`s derived from spain which were the one of the 1st anglos over here spreading their syphilis and smallpox and yet those of you with aboriginal ancestry from this hemisphere identify yourselves with the very people who destroyed the riches, power and your story (not his-tory) of your ancestors.
why? *keep in mind, this is just a question, not a judgement or anything, so don`t be getting all mad and *bleep*, thinking i`m starting something.*

C 20 (Sun, Mar 14, 2004 @ 18:15 EST) JUST BECAUSE YOU DONT SPEAK SPANISH DOESNT MEAN YOU ARE NOT SOME PEOPLE AREN`T BROUGHT UP SPEAKING SPANISH AND THAT IS NOT THEIR CHOICE. YES THEY CAN LEARN IT DOWN THE ROAD BUT THAT IS NOT FAIR TO SAY SOMEONE ISNT PUERTO RICAN OR DOMINICAN OR LATINO JUST BECAUSE THEY CANT SPEAK SPANISH.

C 21 (Mon, Mar 08, 2004 @ 11:39 EST) Zero Wait wait wait. Unecessary? Cmon it is a part of our culture. At least try to speak it a little. Don`t completely abandon it simply because you understand it and others understand you. The Spanish language itself is constructed alot better than english and there are many things that words cant define in english and there are in spanish. Spanish is something you should definently know without it being at the expense of your english.
see C 21,  C 24, C 28, 37

C 22 (Sun, Feb 15, 2004 @ 14:55 EST) Re: Damn!! well being both Dominican and Puerto Rican both my parents speak it, but I don`t like to speak it, I don`t have the accent to speak it. I understand it but it`s not a dominant language as it is with English. I use English in school outside.. everywhere I go, but when my mom talks to me in spanish I just reply back in English. It`s not that Im ashamed of who I am or where I come from, cause` I`ve been to both places and only spoke it there, I just find it un necessary to speak it if u understand or speak english.

C 23 (Mon, Feb 09, 2004 @ 19:29 EST) you have to define latino For starters, some people consider Brazilians to be Latinos, and they speak Portuguese. I think it`s unfair to demand that people speak Spanish in order to fit into this category of "Latino." Although I myself place a lot of importance on the language and speak it, I can`t say to someone else to whom their Latino culture means just as much to them as it does to me that they aren`t Latino. I agree an effort should be made, but let`s find out why an effort has not been made by individuals before we judge. Not every Latino grows up with Spanish in their home. Besides, it is this type of "you`re not Latino enough" attitude that makes it hard for us to unite as a peoples.

C 24 (Sat, Jan 31, 2004 @ 10:19 EST) Re: Re: Zero Learning to speak your native language and keeping culture alive?
Important
Knowing how to speak the language of the country you are in?
MUCH MORE IMPORTANT!
How are you going to santo domingo and not know how to speak spanish? Pretty embarassing huh. Even more so when you are in America and can`t speak english when going to pay bills or going out to eat!
Jawohl, schande
See C 21,  C 24, C 28, 37

C 25 (Tue, Jan 27, 2004 @ 17:43 EST) Damn!! Its really disheartning to believe that some of us Latinos, hispanics, spanish-people whatever the hell you wanna call yourselves cant speak spanish. We are only indentified by the language we speak, nobody gives a damn what country you are from, and yet we cant even speak it. If you are truly latino you are of parents from latin countries and can speak spanish. If you are from parents who both are from spanish speaking countries and you dont know spanish, you need your *bleep* whooped. Lets lift as we climb, let no man or woman stay behind.

C 26 (Mon, Jan 26, 2004 @ 23:12 EST) Re: Zero I believe that every "Latino/a" 1- Understand and embrace his/her culture.
2-In order to do so, one must be able to speak thier native language.
Wherever us Latinos come from, may it be Dominican Republic, Cuba, or Mexico, we all
must be able to connect with our people. How am I going to go to Santo Domingo and talk English to my fellow Dominicans who speak Spanish. The problem now and days comes when we get parents from two different cultures, countries, or races having children. I myself, am a product of an inter-Latino marriage. My father is Dominican and my mother is Argentine. Even though I embrace my Dominican side as if I had no outside influence, I can`t negate the fact that I still am affected. However, I still speak Spanish. Even though I speak it with a Dominican accent, I still am able to embrace my culture. Kids these days in urban societies don`t want to embrace their Latin heritage and would rather look up to 50 Cent, 2 Pac, or Biggie, rather then Jose Pepe Gomez, Julia Alvarez, Frida Kahlo, or Salvador Dalm. KIDS WAKE UP!!! Coqo, Spanish is a part of your blood, appreciate it and take the time out to learn. Bueno, this is of course my two cents. Okay, hasta la proxima, ta to

URL: I`ve been waiting the entire summer for the month of August to come, and its finally here. So on the 20th of Aug. everybody has to send me a note, email, or give me a call telling me HAPPY 25th BIRTHDAY. Ya me estoy poniendo viejo pero todavia me siento como un chamaqito. Bueno, a todos mis bacanos en Ensanche Luperon, Los Shampos, cuidanses, y toditos los plataneros en el mundo, sigen la chercha este verano.

C 27 (Thu, Jan 22, 2004 @ 15:01 EST) REALITY It doesn`t matter if you don`t speak Spanish. Maybe some of you didn`t have the opportunity to learn it. I think you`re NOT a latino when you PRETEND that you only speak English and behind that you know Spanish. Those are the kind of people who should NOT be considered Latinos. You know why????!!!

C 28 (Fri, Jan 23, 2004 @ 10:07 EST) Zero Didn`t have the opportunity to learn it?
Cmon, there is always the opportunity. Its the effort that is lacking. There is always room for education. Because if there wasn`t we`d all be pretty stupid.

C 29 (Thu, Jan 22, 2004 @ 15:01 EST) REALITY It doesn`t matter if you don`t speak Spanish. Maybe some of you didn`t have the opportunity to learn it. I think you`re NOT a latino when you PRETEND that you only speak English and behind that you know Spanish. Those are the kind of people who should NOT be considered Latinos. You know why????!!!

C 30 (Sun, Jan 11, 2004 @ 15:51 EST) Claro que si, pero... Hay mucha credibilidad en saber la lengua

C 31 (Sat, Jan 03, 2004 @ 03:54 EST) SOMETHING FOR XICANOS TO READ! We Will Rise - rebuilding the Mexikah Nation
by Kurly Tlapoyawa 2002 COPYRIGHT

About the Book
Mexikah Tiwi!!! - Forward Mexicanos!!!
A bold cultural movement is emerging among the Chicano-Mexicano people. A movement known as "Mexikayotl" (Meh-Shee-Kah-Yoht) which seeks to reclaim, preserve, and advance their Indigenous heritage. But to define Mexikayotl as a mere movement is not enough - it is a vibrant living philosophy, a means by which Chicano-Mexicans can reclaim their rightful place in the world. The book you now hold in your hands is an introduction to this way of life, offering a glimpse into the complex Indigenous heritage of the Chicano-Mexicano nation.

As an Indigenous (Native American) people, the majority of Chicano-Mexicanos have been denied the ability to fully embrace and celebrate their cultural heritage. They have had worthless labels such as "Spanish," "Hispanic," "Latino," and even "Indo-Hispano" deliberately thrust upon them - labels which deny their Native roots and replace their cultural identity with that of a white European. Mexikayotl offers a solution to this ignorant practice of demographic genocide.

To have a Mexikah identity is a proud and assertive cultural statement. The word, within
its modern context, describes an Indigenous (ethnic) Mexican - a member of one of the many Indigenous nations which thrive in the country of Mexico. It is an identity which allows detribalized Chicano-Mexicanos to openly embrace their Native heritage. To share a common Mexikah identity is not to deny your Purepecha, Raramuri, Yaqui or Mixteka blood - Mexikayotl is not about division. It is an open declaration that even after 500+ years of cultural imperialism and Hispanic genocide, Chicano-Mexicanos remain a proud nation of Indigenous people!

WE WILL RISE ? REBUILDING THE MEXIKAH NATION by Kurly Tlapoyawa is a powerful and thought provoking examination of Chicano-Mexicano history, identity, language and culture. It is a bold declaration that Chicano-Mexicanos are Indigenous to the American continents, and can never be considered "foreign" or "illegal" by anyone. The terms "Chicano" and "Mexicano" come from the Nahuatl word "Mexikah, which describes Native Americans of Mexican tribal roots.

"I wrote WE WILL RISE in order to shed light on a subject which mainstream historians have long chosen to ignore," explains Tlapoyawa. "If Chicano-Mexicanos and Central Americans were recognized as being Native people, the Indigenous population living in the United States would rise exponentially. This downplayed fact scares the hell out of white America as well as the Hispanic and Latino organizations who propogate the artificially-created "Hispanic" population to justify their government funding."

Tlapoyawa`s goal in writing the book is to inspire young Chicano-Mexicanos to reclaim who they are as vibrant Native people.

"Five hundred plus years of Hispanic/Latino mental colonization has led to the stigmatization of all things Indigenous," Tlapoyawa says. "We are a fiercely Native people, yet we have been trained to be ashamed of this. I want to do away with this shame and replace it with a strong sense of self-worth and purpose in being Indigenous."

WE WILL RISE offers a look at the Indigenous cultural heritage of the Chicano-Mexicano nation, including the pre-Kuauhtemok forms of government, education & commerce. "This is a people whose Indigenous heritage is being systematically destroyed by the dominant society and by labels such as `Hispanic` and `Latino`," Tlapoyawa says. "Prior to WE WILL RISE, this issue of demographic genocide has never been fully addressed in a comprehensive and easy to read fashion."

Kurly Tlapoyawa is a dancer in the Mexikah-Chichimekah tradition and a member of Kalpulli Ehekatl. He has two daughters and is married to a strong and conscious woman warrior. He travels the United States giving workshops on Mexikah culture and history and his opinion columns appear regularly at Columns

He has also appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Houston Chronicle and various newspapers in Mexico. 2002 COPYRIGHT

HOMEEPAGE:
What is......
SENDING A SHOUT OUT TO ALL THEM FINE LOOKING MEXICAN FEMALES AND A WUZ UP TO ALL THEM ROCKERAS/ROCKABILLY CHICS... I`M COMING AT YOU STRAIGHT FROM LOS ANGELES SINGLE AND DRAMA FREE! JUST HERE TO MAKE FRIENDS. SO IF YOU`D LIKE TO BECOME FRIENDS SEND ME A NOTE.

IF YOUR THE TYPE OF FEMALE WHO DOESN`T LIKE MAKING FRIENDS WITH THOSE WHO DON`T HAVE A PICTURE, IT`S ALL GOOD! JUST DON`T FRONT LIKE YOUR ALL THAT ON THE NET, BECAUSE THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE IN REAL LIFE WHO IS PRETTIER AND NICER!

"AVIENTAME, AVIENTAME HASTA DONDE QUIERAS, Y LUEGO VEN A MIRAR COMO REVIVO," CAIFANES/JAGUARES

"REJECTION IS ONE THING, BUT REJECTION FROM A FOOL IS CRUEL," MOZ

"I WISH I WAS BORN MEXICAN"

Morrissey once told a Las Vegas audience composed of (what else?) mostly Mexicans that "Mexico is the only Spanish word I know. But it`s the best word."

That concert was part of 1999`s "Oye Esteban!" tour. An advertisement for his concerts that year excitedly screamed, "$!El cantante! $!El concierto! (The singer! The concert!)." On
that tour, Morrissey performed wearing T-shirts and belt buckles emblazoned with "Mexico" and at times even the Virgen de Guadalupe, the spiritual embodiment of Catholic Mexico.

Morrissey`s most famous acknowledgement of his Mexican fans, though, came here in Orange County during that same tour. "I wish I was born Mexican," Morrissey told an overwhelmingly Mexican audience at UC Irvine`s Bren Events Center. "But it`s too late for that now." This is the Dylan-at-Newport moment of the Mexican Morrissey crowd, the defining moment of the scene, something that everyone attended even if they were somewhere else.

The argument can even be made that Morrissey`s acknowledgement of his Mexican lovers goes back as early as 1992`s Your Arsenal; on "Glamorous Glue," he wondered, "We look to Los Angeles/For the language we use/London is dead/London is dead/Now I`m too much in love." Elizabethan English and its people have perished, he tells us; long live the Spanglish race of Nuestra Lady de los Angeles.

Regardless of when Morrissey discovered his Mexican worshipers, it`s indis*bleep*ble that he now tailors his career for them. He lives in Los Angeles, the second-largest city with Mexicans, and attends rock en espanol shows in Huntington Park to see Hispanic troubadour Mikel Erenxtn sing excellent Spanish versions of "Everyday Is Like Sunday" and "There Is a Light that Never Goes Out." His current tour eschews the East Coast and Midwest in favor of Latino or nearly Latino enclaves in Arizona, California and Las Vegas. Morrissey`s participation in Jaguares Revolucion Tour is another show of solidarity with the people who`ve made him a king.

"It`s no secret that he moved to Southern California where there`s a huge Mexican base," says Javier Castellanos, who`s trying to get Morrissey to come to his Anaheim club, JC Fandango, and displays a smiling picture of the eternally dour Morrissey to prove it. "I told him, You know there are a lot of Mexicans who love you. And he just nodded his head."

Anyone attending Friday`s show will most likely hear "Mexico," a new song he debuted on this tour. A slow ballad similar to the baroque horror of "Meat Is Murder," "Mexico" reads like a Chicano manifesto:

In Mexico
I went for a walk to inhale the tranquil cool lover`s air.
I could taste a trace
Of American chemical waste.
And the small voice said, "What can I do?"
I lay on the grass
And I cried my heart out for want of my love.
Other stanzas are just as radical, with the most memorable passage observing that Mexicans in the United States face a situation in which "It seems if you`re rich and you`re white/You`ll be all right./I just don`t see why this should be so."

After years of searching for contentment, Morrissey found it in the Mexican republic of Moz Angeles.

"Morrissey found us, and we bumped into him, and we fell in love with him," Ben says. "And he loved us back."

"CAMINO DESCALZO PERO FIRME, CON LOS OJOS PUESTOS EN LA LEALTAD, SIN OLVIDAR EL ORIGEN HUMILDE QUE ME VIO NACER Y LEVANTARME DE TODA LA ADVERCIDAD, CAMINE SEMIDESNUDO POR QUE LE DI MI COBIJA AL DESPROTEGIDO, ALEJE EL PAN DE MI MESA PARA DARLE DE COMER AL HAMBRIENTO . . . NO OLVIDE MI ORIGEN, MI CULTURA, PROVENGO DE TIERRA AZTECA LLENA DE MAGIA, AMOR, TRADICION, LEALTAD, VENGO DE ESA CULTURA QUE ME ENSEQA A VER POR LOS DEMAS . . . TE DOY MIS OJOS PARA QUE RIAS, MIS MANOS PARA QUE LUCHES, MI MENTE PARA QUE RESISTAS . . . HE CAMINADO AYUDANDO, SIN VER A QUIEN HE LLorado POR OTROS SIN SABER QUIENES SON, ME HE DESANGRADO POR AQUELLOS QUE ME QUICIERON VER CAER, PERO NUNCA LES DI LA ESPALDA, MI ALMA NO ME LO PERMITE ESTOY AQUI PARA AYUDARTE, PARA PROTEGERTE, PARA LUCHAR POR TI . . . . PUES SOY UN GUERRERO DE SANGRE. ....

What is......
1) XICANO (A) is a person of Mexican ancestry born in the United States who is mainly of
Nativeamerican blood like Nahua, Zapoteca, Huasteca, Huichol, Apache, Maya, Chontal, Otomi, Tarascan, Mixteco, Yaqui, Camanche, Pima, Papago etc...... with some European ancestry but not as much. by the way the name Mexico comes from the ancient Mexicatl pronounced (me shee kah) aka the ancient Azteca people. so when you call yourself Mexican you are calling yourself a Nativeamerican.

2) LATINO (A) this term comes from the Latin people who spoke the ancient Latin language and also founded the Roman Empire. The ancient Latin people have nothing to do with Mexicans, but in the United States this term was applied to Mexicans and other people.

3) HISPANO (A) a person who is born in Spain. A Mexican born in Spain is considered a Hispano/Mexicano, but in the United States they applied this term to Mexicans and other People eventhough we are not Spaniards..

Just wanted to drop some knowledge to all Xicanos, since so many on here seem confused with those terms!

TOO A WHITE PERSON AN APACHE, HOPI, NAVAJO ETC..... IS A NATIVE AMERICAN AND TOO A MEXICAN A NATIVE AMERICAN IS A BLOOD BROTHER OF THE SAME RACE! NICAN TLACA PRIDE! IF YOUR OF MEXICAN DECENT NEVER DENY YOUR TRUE ROOTS!

FAVORITE ROCK BANDS: JAGUARES/CAIFANES, MORRISSEY/THE SMITHS, MANA, CHENCHA BERRINCHES, INSPECTOR, EL GRAN SILENCIO, MARIA FATAL, HEROES DEL SILENCIO, AND MANY MORE.....

ROCK ON FOOLIO Y QUE VIVE LE ROCK!

SEE C 31, C 71 C 74  C 81

C 32 (Sat, Dec 27, 2003 @ 20:30 EST) money made easy Reply ironung

HOW TO TURN $6 INTO $6,000!!!!!

C 33 (Fri, Dec 19, 2003 @ 13:52 EST) Re: Si no saben espanol TampaRican:

I agree with you. One should at least "attempt" to learn the basics. Verdad?

C 34 (Thu, Dec 18, 2003 @ 18:19 EST) Si no saben espanol Traten de aprenderlo. Es algo muy triste ver a latinos aqui en EEUU hablando solamente ingles... like it or not, spanish is FUNDAMENTAL part of our culture.

C 35 (Wed, Dec 17, 2003 @ 20:01 EST) Re: Que viva el espaqol!!! It doesnt hurt to learn it but if u dont speak or understand Spanish it doesnt make u any less of a Latino.

C 36 (Tue, Dec 16, 2003 @ 19:24 EST) Que viva el espaqol!!! We should keep our culture alive, and Spanish is a central part of our culture.

C 37 (Fri, Dec 12, 2003 @ 10:33 EST) Zero I think to many people place to much importance on roots and utterly degrade the purpose of the here and now! The more important question is, can you truly consider yourself American if you don`t even try to learn English! I disagree with the overwhelming population of lazy hispanics coming to this country and living here for almost a decade and answering drive thru windows and phone call with "Spekin SPanich?”. My grandmother is Dominican and is slow of learning. But even she at the age of 50 went to school to learn about the english alphabet, vocabulary, and grammar. If you are living here i believe it is more important to conventrate on english than spanish.

SEE C 21, C 24, C 28, 37

C 38 (Mon, Dec 08, 2003 @ 08:19 EST) yo alright bet you see i`m puerto rican through my parents...i was born and raised in ny but i speak spanish very fluently. i speak 3 languages with utmost fluency. two of these include english and spanish. i will be quick to label a nicca fake if he doesn`t speak spanish and claims to be pr. i wear my flag because i know what it stands for and continues to stand for. I know my country´s history, I know what pains my country has endured and i know how, if at all, these pains were cured. i love my country to the heart and for a person to walk around sayin he/she
is puerto rican yet you never see him with a flag on him/her or speaking spanish cuz they
don`t know how to speak it. i come from a neighborhood strong in culture and ethnic
roots...there is a great deal of pride in my life and if someone including jlo wants to walk
around sayin she is pr but she can`t speak it, she can fukk off. because i don`t consider
her to be pr like she considers herself to be...and that`s just my point of view....if you
can`t speak the culture of your country in the native language of that country, don`t
wear the flag, point blank...

C 39 (Sat, Nov 08, 2003 @ 00:03 EST)..... Whether you speak spanish or not doesn`t
matter. Being truly latino is on the inside and being proud of your race and your culture.
It doesn`t matter if other people say that you aren`t latino. As long as you know in your
heart that you truly are latino then forget what everyone else says.

C 40 (Tue, Nov 04, 2003 @ 03:33 EST) Latino Culture I have not read through all of
these messages, so I may be a bit repetitive, excuse me. I would like to first bring out
the historical fact that spanish is not the language of latin america, it is a language
forced upon the people of Latin, central and south america. We as latinos look for things
to hold on to and say this is who we are, this is all fair and good, but to say that one who
does not hold true to the same beliefs as you, as to what is latino culture and is therefore
any less latino than you, is ignorant. There are people out there who know spanish but
yet have no idea about their ancestors and where their own personal beliefs derive from
but they know a european language and they are more culturally secure? haha. To be
looked down upon by my own people because I am an americanized third generation
nuyorican who was never taught spanish, the language that was embedded in the minds
of our "spainized" ancestors, just hurts. So people if you really want to know what is a
good judge of what makes a latino, first do your research and see what Latino truly
means, it does not mean the Eurocentric language of Spain.

C 41 (Tue, Oct 28, 2003 @ 23:49 EST) ANYBODY THATS SAYS SOMEBODY IS NOT
LATINO CUZ YOU DON`T SPEAK SPANISH IS AN IDIOT...... JUST MY THOUGHT. YOU`RE
FULL LATINO IN MY EYES IF YOU`RE BLOOD PARENTS ARE LATINO, PERIOD. NOW
WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO DENY YOUR LATIN ROOTS IS DIFFERENT STORY, I WOULD
CALL YOU A SELL OUT, BUT YOU`RE STILL LATINO WHETHER YOU ADMIT IT OR NOT..

C 42 (Thu, Oct 23, 2003 @ 12:23 EST) Re: Re: It`s not my fault.. OK I`M TRYING TO
LEARN AS MUCH SPANISH AS POSSIBLE I AM PROUD TO BE OF A HERITAGE OF HARD
WORKING PEOPLE AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES AM I IGNORANT IT`S PEOPLE LIKE
YOU THAT MAKE PEOPLE LIKE ME NOT KNOW WHERE TO TURN CONCERNING MY
CULTURE. I EMBRACE TO LANGUAGE OF THE COUNTRY I WAS BORN...LANGUAGE IS
NOT A CULTURE... TRADITION IS CULTURE PRLION!

C 43 (Thu, Oct 16, 2003 @ 08:13 EST) this is stupid how can a race that is growing so
steadily sit here and say that those who don`t speak spanish are not hispanic enough.
that`s bull. i`m not a speaker yet no one asked me if i`ve ever tried to learn or if my
family has ever tried teaching me. i put in years trying to learn spanish but i realized
speaking spanish does not make u spanish, it`s loving the place u have come from,
loving ur culture. it`s all in the heart, mind, blood. when u believe that u would rather
die to save the very existense of ur culture that is what makes u hispanic and no one
here seems to realize that. speaking spanish is only one very small part of being hispanic.
open ur eyes and see that.

C 44 (Wed, Sep 17, 2003 @ 13:07 EST) Re: It`s not my fault.. LACHULABLANCA......IT
IS NOT ABOUT BLAME!
IF YOU BOTHER TO LEARN OTHER THINGS AND NOT LEARN HOW TO SPEAK THE
LANGUAGE OF YOUR ANCESTORS THAN YOUR SO-CALLED PRIDE IS JUST TALK!
BEING HISPANIC IS NOT RACIAL, WE ARE WHITE, BLACK AND ALL THE COLORS IN
BETWEEN! BEING HISPANIC IS ABOUT CULTURE! IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE CULTURE
THAN YOU CAN NO LONGER CALL YOURSELF A HISPANIC! YOU ARE DESCENDENT OF
HISPANICS BUT YOU WOULD NOT BE ONE!  
IT IS IGNORANCE LIKE YOURS WHICH WILL CAUSE OUR HERITAGE TO BE SWALLOWED UP AND SENT TO EXTINCTION!  
SEE C44, C 46, C 53, 55, 56, 57, 105

C 45 (Mon, Sep 15, 2003 @ 13:07 EST)  It`s not my fault.. It`s not my fault my father (who is mexican and purtorican) never taught me spanish. People that think you aren`t latino because they don`t speak spanish are ignorant and narrow-minded!  
SEE C 42

C 46 (Fri, Sep 05, 2003 @ 14:04 EST)  Re: Re: here`s the real If you don`t speak the language, eat the food, listen to the music or keep the traditions of whatever group u say u belong to, then u dont!  
You cannot be proud to be hispanic now that it is the fad and the trend and hiding it whenever the trend was contrary!  
You can learn new skills and form new career paths as an adult, therefore there is no excuse for someone who claims to be a proud hispanic who "cannot" learn what it means to truly be hispanic!  
SEE C44, C 46, C 53, 55, 56, 57, 105

C 47 (Thu, Sep 04, 2003 @ 15:33 EST)  Re: here`s the real Not for nothing, Corleone, but before you knock Latinos who can`t speak Spanish you might want to learn English. Your grammar and sentence structures are horrendous.

C 48 (Wed, Aug 27, 2003 @ 01:55 EST) here`s the real yo if u don`t speak spanish, then u can`t really consider urself latino. unfortunately, they r some fruitcakes who come from a latino heritage and don`t want nothing to do wit it. they r just that-fruitcakes. anyways they are others of us who just kill the language. i ain`t gonna lie and say that i speak it mad nice-cause i don`t. but i really do try my best to speak. an i ain`t talkin bout the old spanish from spain cause basically them just white people who speak spanish. LoL. i try to keep it real and speak the spanish from "los paises," as they say.

C 49 (Fri, Aug 22, 2003 @ 13:00 EST) the lingo thing....... I`ll be the first to admit that i`m "la gringa" in my fam, but i still hold all my latin roots firmly in my heart and soul. I can still cook a bad-bleep- arroz con habichuelas dinner with tostones and the whole nine...Granted, I feel you need the latin blood in your veins to BE LATINO/A, Hispanic, Spanish, WHATEVER...but the truth is,

C 50 (Sat, Aug 16, 2003 @ 11:58 EST) "Unity" Whereas, WE, the Native Americans have been severed from our families, culture and land by the illegal agents of the United States government. "We must NO LONGER operate as seperate entities and seperate races(i.e. National Congress of American Indians, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Native American Rights Fund, National Council of LA RAZA, National Latino Council, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and Congressional Black Caucus etc.) We all have been fighting for the same rights, but we are divided! This is our weakness. The opposition to OUR goals use this to their advantage. AFRICAN AMERICANS, MEXICANS, AMERICAN INDIANS, AND BLACK-LATINOS NEED TO UNITE NOW!!!

C 51 (Sat, Aug 16, 2003 @ 11:55 EST) "Set The Record Straight" First, the word Latin is only descriptive of the language and NOT the ethnic origin! Historically the Romans were the FIRST Latin speaking people thus Rome, Italy. ITALy is LATI spelled backwards. People who think they are LATINOS are NOT! You really are Mullatos, Morenos, Moors. i.e, an ethnic mix of Negroid and Caucasoid genes. The original LATINS were of Indo-Aryan origin. Our genes became mixed when the Greeks and Romans invaded Africa; thus Alexander The Great(Devil), Julius Caesar(Devil), Constantine(Devil), Napoleon(Devil), Marco Polo(Diablo), Hernando Cortez(Diablo), Christopher Columbus(Diablo), George Bush(Devil) etc. We have been miseducated and have willingly ACCEPTED these "Little
WHITE Lies." There is nothing Holy(day) or Honorable(Great) about invading the country/land of an indigenous people and stealing it. No matter how YOU choose to justify it in the name of GOD, ALLAH, JEHOVAH, YAHWEH, DIOS, JESUS, NATIONAL SECURITY, TERRORISM, 9/11/01 it is still Wrong! Everybody wants to rule the world and MAKE THEMSELVES feel superior because of physical, cultural, religious, social, intellectual, or geographic differences. Humanity needs to learn the TRUTH about the origins of life, nature, and our purpose for existence. Someone said "The Truth Shall Make You Free." John 8:32

p.s. People please stop mis-quoting the Bible the correct scripture is read like it is written above NOT "Set You Free." Nevertheless, the Bible, Koran, and Torah are plagiarized books in their entirety,. People try to say that GOD, ALLAH, YAHWEH, said the words that are written in them when FACTUALLY they are thw WORDS of Mortal Men who say they WERE INSPIRED. Thus the books of Matthew, Luke, Moses, Ezekiel, Paul, Muhammad etc. PLEASE WAKE UP.

C 52 (Fri, Aug 15, 2003 @ 21:51 EST) Re: Re: Re: Re: Okay... DEFINITION OF LATIN(O): Pick up Webster` s dictionary and read the definition of Latin and Latino, I am tired of telling everyone, read it yourself. Same goes with the definition of Hispanic. Under the definitions: Haitians, Italians, French, Portugese, and Brazilians are Latinos, just ask them. Philipinos on the other hand are no longer Hispanic because they did not keep the Spanish language, so even though many have spanish last names and spanish blood, they have moved away from it to not truly be Hispanic, something that non spanish speaking Hispanics are doing as well.

OKAY WELL ASK ANY LATINO SUCH AS A DOMINICAN, PUERTO RICAN WHAT THEY CONSIDER WEST INDIAN CARIBBEANS TO BE! IF YOU DON´T KNOW WHAT A WEST INDIAN IS THEY ARE PEOPLE LIKE JAMAICA, TRINIDAD, BAHAMAS BARBADOS HAITI AND ETC.

ALTHOUGH REGGAE MUSIC IS LATIN BUT YOU´LL NEVER SEE THEM TAINOS GRAMMY`S NOW WOULD YOU? LOL

ALRIGHT YOU HAVE POINTS BUT IF THERE WERE TAINOS(100%) ALIVE DO YOU THINK THEY WOULD WANT TO BE CALLED PUERTO RICANS A NAME THAT THE SPANISH GAVE THE ISLAND(PUERTO RICO/RICH PORT) I MEAN EVERY THING WAS CHANGE FROM TAINO TO SPANISH.

WHAT I MEAN IS THE MOST P.RS ARE TRIO AND DUO I CAN TELL YOU LOOK WAY DIFFERENT FROM MEXICANOS THE THING ABOUT ARE PRS SPANISH EVEN DUMB *bleep* BLACK PEOPLE CALL PUERTO RICANS SPANISH PEOPLE JUST CAUSE YOU SPEAK SPANISH THEY LOOK AT THAT FLY SPANISH MAMI LOL.

I SAW A TV SHOW WERE A BLACK DUDE WAS DOING STUPID STUFF AND ASKING QUESTION HE ASK A PUERTO RICAN WOMEN IS SHE SPANISH AND SHE SAID YES WTF AND HAD A PUERTO RICAN FLAG ON HER SHIRT. SHE LOOKED LIKE ANY OTHER PUERTO RICAN NON SAYING THAT YOU CAN PIN POINT WHOS PUERTO RICAN OR NOT. CAUSE YOU ALL COME IN PACKS OF COLORS RIGHT!

THE BORICUA THING WHY GO BACK TO THAT ORIGINAL NAME JUST GLORIFY YOU BARELY SURVIVED TAINO ROOTS.

THE MUSIC, I KNOW THAT AS FAR AS THE MUSIC FROM NON ANCESTRY HATERS THAT THE MUSIC IS HEAVY AFRICANO Influenced.

WHAT ARE THE INDIAN ONES.

AND THE SPANISH ONES BESIDES THE LANGUAGE.

QUESTION- WHY IN LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE YOUR LETTING YOURSELVES BE CATEGORIZED AS AND WHAT IS A BLACK LATINO?

WHITE LATINO?( TWOQUESTIONS IN ONE)

EURO MA

C 53 (Mon, Aug 11, 2003 @ 13:06 EST) Re: Re: Re: Okay... Tell it........ You just rambling on and on and on and don`t make any sense.

First you are disagreeing by simply making statements and not offering any facts to back
your disagreements, therefore your rambling is meaningless you are simply saying "i disagree" without saying why, which shows that there is no why with you since you just believe what you believe and have no basis for it!

ROOTS OF PR MUSIC: PR music is a mixture of european, african and native music. Simple answer. PR music is not derivative of Cuba. Cuban music is Cuban music and PR music is PR music. Only a PR and a Cuban would be able to recognize the difference that exists between the two. Salsa is not Cuban. Salsa is a mixture of the Cuban Son with various other types of music of various countries. PR salsa is Son with Bomba and Plena, while other countries have different forms of Salsa. This is why Salsa from PR is different from Salsa from Colombia for example. So sorry to burst your bubble, but Salsa is not Cuban. It was born in El Barrio at the hands of PRs.

ARE PRs BORIQUA? The statement you made was so ignorant. Puerto Rico was called Porto Rico and Boriken, therefore PRs are Puerto Ricans, Porto Ricans and Borikenos or Boriquas. Only people who love categories would be so ignorant as to be confused by that.

ARE PRs SPANISH? Here you may have a point but your ignorance fails to capture what you are trying to say. Only the people from Spain are Spanish all other descendants of the Spanish not in Spain are Hispanic. So they may not be Spanish Mamics but they are Hispanic Mamics or PR Mamics.

ORIGIN OF NATIVES: Sociologists and Anthropologists now believe that all natives of the Americas were originally from African and Viking descendency. But this has not yet been proven definitively.

DEFINITION OF LATIN(O): Pick up Webster`s dictionary and read the definition of Latin and Latino, I am tired of telling everyone, read it yourself. Same goes with the definition of Hispanic. Under the definitions: Haitians, Italians, French, Portugese, and Brazilians are Latinos, just ask them. Philipinos on the other hand are no longer Hispanic because they did not keep the Spanish language, so even though many have spanish last names and spanish blood, they have moved away from it enough to not truly be Hispanic, something that non spanish speaking Hispanics are doing as well.

C 54 (Sun, Aug 10, 2003 @ 03:46 EST) Re: Re: Okay... EURO MASTER
well actually to bust your bubble latinos are not people who live in spain or italy we are white, latinos are people who live in latin america.
we need not to be categorized in the latino group just cause you speak our language does not mean anything.
okay you say people that are latinos are people who speak spanish french etc. well would you consider haitians, trinidadians, people from dominica (not the dominican republic) to be latinos since they speak french?
you said:
I am proud of being hispanic because it was my ancestor who came to this hemispere first, the spanish and those who eventually became the natives (no one really knows where they came from).
WTF ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? ARE YOU A CLUELESS P.R AS MOST OF YOU ARE.
MOST P.R TALK ABOUT HOW THEY LOVE THEIR MUSIC.
AND DON`T KNOW THE ROOTS OF IT.
QUESTION- HOW IS IT THAT YOU CHANGE YOUR ROOTS/ANCESTRY WHenever POSSIBLE?
HOW? CALLING YOURSELVES BORICUAS, WHY YOUR PUERTO RICAN STICK TO THAT AND FUTHEREMORE WHY DO YOU FEMALES CALL YOURSELVES SPANISH MAMIS?
YOUR NOT SPANIARDS FROM SPAIN. I DON`T GET IT THEY SAY IM A SPANISH MAMI THIS AND THAT, YOUR PUERTO RICAN ETC OKAY!
THE FUNNY THING IS THAT MOST PUERTO RICANS THINK THAT SALSA MUSIC WHICH IS ACTUALLY CUBAN MUSIC IS HEAVILY INFLUENCED FROM THE EUROPEANS CULTURE AND INSTUMENTS LOL

C 55 (Fri, Aug 08, 2003 @ 12:39 EST) a response read on
SEE C44, C 46, C 53, 55, 56, 57, 105
C 56 (Fri, Aug 08, 2003 @ 12:38 EST) Re: Okay... Let me state clearly, if you have 100% hispanic blood than you are hispanic by nature, whether you speak spanish or not. The question is not whether you are by blood. Why even consider yourself something if you don´t relate to it? It makes no sense to me that someone can claim to be proud of their heritage, no matter what it may be, yet they relate more to other heritages than the one they are “proud of”. Tell me, if all hispanics stopped speaking spanish what would happen? And its not only about the language, but the culture, the music, the food. You are a hipocrite if you claim to be a proud hispanic if you dont eat the food, dont speak the language, dont listen to the music and dont know the culture, what the hell are you being proud of? To be proud there must be a reason. Pride without reason is the type of unhealthy and unnatural pride that causes arrogance. Why are u proud of being Mexican, Puerto Rican, Dominican, Colombian, etc? If your answer is just because u come from there or your parents came from there than your pride is false pride! I am proud of being hispanic because it was my ancestor who came to this hemispere first, the spanish and those who eventually became the natives (no one really knows where they came from). I am proud because the blood of those pioneers and adventurers runs through my veins. I am proud that the language that dominates the most land/sea space on the planet is spanish. I am proud of being PR because it was the PR who made spanish signs, tests, forms, etc possible in an english nation. Its not about who u date, marry, socialize with, its about who you are and where your roots are. I was born and raised in NYC and it just baffles me how PRs born and raised here claim to be proud, yet the culture that dominates them is not PR. Being proud of something means practicing it, developing it, enlarging it, spreading it, maintaining it, not letting it die or go away into history! You can be 100% by blood but not necessarily 100% by culture and practice! SEE C44, C 46, C 53, 55, 56, 57, 105

C 57 (Thu, Aug 07, 2003 @ 08:40 EST) Not Latino If You Speak Spanish Well, by definition, speaking Spanish makes you hispanic if that is your origin, meaning it is not just your second language. Latin is the language of the Latino, anyone who speaks Italian, French, Latin, Spanish, or Portugese is Latin. If you are descendant of hispanics and don´t speak spanish or care to learn then you are turning away from your roots and therefore have disqualified yourself. Those who claim to be proud of being hispanic and have never bothered to learn spanish while learning other languages and other things are just confused or just plain hipocritical. SEE C44, C 46, C 53, 55, 56, 57, 105

C 58 (Tue, Jul 22, 2003 @ 09:53 EST) Hmmmmmmmmmmmm... I don`t even care about that any more. I know many people in my life who does not speak spanish and they are 100% latino. I thought that spanish, portuguese, and italian comes from the latin language so can those groups be latinos too? I ask because all my italian friends considered themselves latinos, although some are light and dark skin.

C 59 (Mon, Jul 14, 2003 @ 17:32 EST) Re: Responding to the ignorant people, that believe hispanic is soley a language. I think we should be united as people and stop hating on each other...even though we do not share the same culture, we should be united as one. I, for instance, am Mexican but I consider myself a native american not a latino. Even though I am this, I am not going to hate you if you are PR just because you consider yourself otherwise...
Just as long as you know your culture and have strong moral values and pride to back it up is just great... it’s all about heart..

C 60 (Thu, Aug 21, 2003 @ 11:02 EST) My Friend

My friend Marsela is completely Mexican and does not know one word of spanish she stil Mexican.

C 61 (Fri, Jul 11, 2003 @ 16:14 EST) Responding to the ignorant people, that believe hispanic is soley a language. Living as a latino is hard enough, I dont need a south american telling me that I am not latino enough because I dont speak spanish well. I refuse to let my latino pride stop me from becoming a strong intelligent american. I know, I make my family pround. I was raised in a one parent home, my mother whom raised me, was rediculed as a child for not knowing enough english. She has faced racism far greater than any of us will, yet with all these obstacles, she finished school with a masters in phsycology, a far cry from the stereo typical spic. Being that my mother was exposed to such dispicable gestures of tolerance, Teaching me english, in an english speaking country was a pryority. My entire family, mom, sis and older brother eat and prepare spanish food, we also listen and dance to spanish music. But most of all, we constantly struggle to help break down these boundaries that we all face as latinos in this country. I have no prejudice towards any of my hispanic brothers and sisters whom cannot speak english very well, because I was spawned from that struggle. It is always the ones least proud of their culture, that segregates there family, I am still your brother wether I speak fluent spanish or not. I am an American, proud of my culture. How dare you people try to rip apart the brotherhood!

C 62 (Tue, Jul 08, 2003 @ 13:13 EST) FiestyGirl

Okay- let me try to see if I understood right. You don`t mind when a white girl dates a hispanic guy. You just don`t like the white girls that ONLY date hispanic guys. Or do you not like the white girls that act ghetto & date hispanic guys? Is it the first one or the second one that bothers you? See it bothers me when I see anyone acting in a way that seems "ghetto" or just disrespectful to others- whether they are white or latin. I only dated hispanic guys growing up so did that make me a brown chaser then eventhough I am latin? Or does that only apply to white girls? You like dating latin guys no? So why is it wrong if a white girl prefers a latin guy because she feels they are more respectful or family oriented than guys that aren`t latin. I`d rather them date the latin men than think they are too good for them. Do you agree with that?

C 63 (Mon, Jul 07, 2003 @ 21:35 EST) Re: Re: Okay...

I agree with you. I don`t like the white "brown chasers"...... I don`t like it at all and i DO get offended. Whenever i see it (white girl, latino OR black dude) i get so aggravated. But this isn`t the right forum for that one.

C 64 (Mon, Jul 07, 2003 @ 20:52 EST) Re: Okay...

Bellezza~ I dont get offended when I see a white girl with a hispanic guy. I see the cutes couple at my school the guy is Mexican, and the girl is white, and I think that they are so cute. But there ARE those white girls who just DONT date white guys. They love Mexican or hispanic guys and will only date them. THOSE are the brown chasers. THose are usually the girls who act ghetto. They dont know much spanish, but they talk in Mexican slang, use words like p*ndejo and such. Its funny because it would be one thing if the girl grew up in a hispanic neighborhood and has only been exposed to that crap, but I live in a mostly white Chicago suburb, and the girls still act like that. and THOSE are the girls who are the BROWN CHASERS. Am I a brown chaser? Maybe, my bf is Mexican and I`m a half white/half hispanic. But I`ve also dated white guys too (but they dont compare to latin men, IMO).

Its when the person ONLY dates hispanics when they are a brown chaser. Hell, my mom was one:) Actually, no she wasnt because she dated white guys too. I guess it gets me mad when these white girls think they talk better spanish than me, because as a Latina, I should be able to talk better spanish, and I get frustrated. Its embarrassing, and they
like to embarrass me like ha ha, I`m a white girl, and I know better spanish, and I date all of your hispanic men......I dont know it just gets to me.

C 65 (Sun, Jul 06, 2003 @ 03:53 EST) **Okay...** I`m Nicaraguan- born in Managua but raised in Miami. I spoke spanish to all my elders growing up & english to my siblings & cousins. The fact that I do speak spanish doesn`t make me any more of a latin than the ones that don`t. We were just raised differently. Personally, I`m glad that I do speak spanish as well as english. I am bilingual & I don`t judge those that don`t speak spanish yet it seems like some of you do judge the ones that do speak it. You know, if someone just got here a year ago of course they haven`t learned the language. There is nothing wrong with having pride in the country you were born & raised in eventhough they may not speak english- yet. It takes some time so give those people a break.

Fiestygirl- normally I agree with some of what you say. However, this time I don`t. It`s good to see that even though you don`t have to learn spanish you are taking the steps to doing so. However, there is absolutely nothing wrong if a "white" girl/guy speaks it better than you or even me. My spanish isn`t perfect so it`s possible that some white person will come up to me & correct me every once in a while. Why should I get offended by it? Yeah, I`ll be a bit mad at MYSELF for not knowing it better but I`ll find it nice that someone from another culture (!!!) wanted to learn something from mine. Brown chaser? What exactly is that? I`m assuming you mean someone that "chases" after latins. Do you really get offended when you see a white person with a latin person? If so, then please don`t look at my page. I wouldn`t want someone getting offended. Seriously though, why would that upset you? Why does it matter?? My husband & I aren`t "chasers" of any kind so the term "brown chaser" is not only new to me but also very offensive. Are you a "brown chaser" if you date latin guys? What? Does that only count when a "white" person is dating them? Seriously though- please explain this to me a little more. I`m interested in why you are so offended by non latins dating latins.

SEE C 62

C 66 (Wed, Jun 25, 2003 @ 18:49 EST) **Re: ....** HELL YEAH GIRL!!! i know exactly what you are saying!!! I was adopted and i don`t know either of my languages! (spanish or portuguese) And just because i don`t know the language don`t make me less of a latino. I deal with mostly everything that latinos deal with. Don`t get me wrong i am TRYING to learn the language, i just hate that blancitas be doin that *bleep*!

SEE C 63

C 67 (Mon, Jun 16, 2003 @ 18:09 EST) .... I dont know, I dont speak very good spanish, I am learning though. But what gets me so mad is when a white person speaks better spanish. I mean, seriously. They take like 6 years of spanish in school, then come talk crap to me in spanish, like I understand everything they are saying. I try to talk back but they notice flaws in my spanish and have the nerve to correct me. Damn! gets me so mad! It gets me mad especially to see white girls talking spanish, they are usually the brown chasers.

SEE C 64, C 67, C 75, C 88, C 96, C 97

C 68 (Sat, May 31, 2003 @ 14:32 EST) **Growing up in a Foreign Land.** Hello all, well I grew in a home where no english was spoken. I still remember the many times at school when i struggled to understand what was being said & taught. Thank God, I some how came out on top. Aprendi hablar ingles muy bien. Y para que vea mucho mejor que mis amigos. Even if they were white/black/americans.

I definitely consider myself a Latino, and a very proud Colombian. Over the Years I know I`ve made mistakes when I speak spanish and even some when I speak english, but it hasn`t changed me one way or the other. I consider myself an individual member of the Latino community. There is no right or wrong way to be latino. We are all different and the thing that unites us more than anything is we see each other as a large extended family.

Face it, you know it isn`t the same when you meet a caucasian/african/asian american.
You have certain expectations from a Latino stranger. We share food, language, culture, history, and even a future. What becomes of our people depends on what we choose to do with ourselves.

Yesterday’s Latino didn’t speak English. Today’s may speak broken English. Tomorrow’s may speak perfect English.

Igualmente el Latino de ayer sabia hablar español. El de hoy se ha olvidado. Pero el de maNana queda todavía por ser definido. Hermanos y Hermanitas, if you speak it I’m glad for you if you don’t that’s cool too. Just don’t think you’re better than someone else, because they don’t.

Sinceramente,
Harold Antonio Molina

C 69 (Sun, May 25, 2003 @ 23:51 EST) Re: Re: .... >>YOUR STATEMENT WAS TRUE , I AM MEXICAN AND I DON´T SPEAK SPANISH, MY FAMILY BEEN BORN HERE IN CALI 4 SIX GENERATIONS AND DOWN THE LINE SPANISH WAS NEVER TAUGHT. I AGREE WITH U ALL THE WAY IT´S LIKE ANY COUNTRY THAT YOU WANT TO LIVE IN U GOTTA LEARN THE LAUANGE HOW ELSE WOULD U BE ABLE TO HAVE A GOOD STABLE FUTURE. PEOPLE ALWAYS COME UP AND TALK TO ME IN SPANISH AND I GET OFFENDED SOMETIMES BECAUSE I HATE TO BE STEREOTYPE. MOST OF MY FRIENDS COME FROM MEXICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES ALSO , SO ALL MY LIFE I NEVER FELT LEFTED OUT, BUT WHAT I DO HATE IS WHEN A BLACK PERSON COMES UP AND SAYS HOLA OR SOME *bleep* AND THEN I LET THEM KNOW, THAT I DON´T SPEAK SPANISH AND THE´LL BE LIKE WHY NOT U SHOULD LEARN ,OH MY GOD, I FEEL LIKE IT AN´T NO ONES *bleep*EN BUSINESS *bleep* THERE ARE ALOT OF THINGS THAT ALOT OF PEOPLE SHOULD LEARN , I FEEL THAT I LIVED FINE WIT OUT SPANISH.

I totally agree. What is hilarious and pathetic to me is how so many people come on here with "Latino Pride" yet cannot speak English worth a damn or are very uneducated and have the nerve to tell othes to learn Spanish. *bleep* that, man. Learn *bleep*ing English and learn it well or get the *bleep* out. It´s hilarious how some of these Mexican, Colombian, Ecuadorian kids, etc. can come here at 18 without speaking 5 words of English and are completely fluent in a matter of months yet some of these "Proud Boricuas" (especially, because they seem the loudest and most uneducated here) have been here all your lives and can´t speak English that well. This is the US. Aprende inglis. Si no te gusta, vete al *bleep*.

SEE C 69, 300, 301, 302

C 70 (Fri, May 23, 2003 @ 06:07 EST) ay yai yai just because you don´t speak spanish doesn´t make you any less latino then the next person, many people in my family say if you don´t speak spanish then your NOT LATINO ENOUGH to be called one, and that ain´t even true because spanish isn´t even latin americas native language, all the indigineos folks had their own speaking system until THE SPANIARDS came and taught then the spanish language, so to me my family is pretty discomboluted about this whole ordeal about not speaking spanish, i didn´t learn spanish until i was 8 years old because my grandparents on both sides always complained that they couldn´t understand me so my momma taught me the language, i can speak it now but i´m still against people calling other folks not latino enough because it´s very stupid i must say.,.....

C 71 (Sat, May 17, 2003 @ 01:06 EST) BRIEF HISTORY OF THE REAL LATINOS

Ancient Peoples of Italy
by Jeff Matthews

The future of the Italian peninsula was shaped by the different peoples who inhabited it between the years 800 and 200 BC. These include the Etruscans, Greeks and the many Italian tribes such as the Latins, Campanians, Samnites, Sabines, etc. Such tribes had spread out much earlier into Europe from the east and southeast both as invaders and, more gradually, as farmers, giving up hunting and gathering for the more efficient process of tilling the soil. In the process they developed towns, government and written language. This slow diffusion started before 6,000 BC.

By 1000 BC most of the peoples in Italy were Indo-European, a term that declares
common origin (at least 10,000 years ago) of people as different as Swedes and Iranians or Punjabis and Spaniards. Work in both linguistics and molecular genetics supports this idea of common Indo-European origin. In Italy this meant that the speakers of Latin (hence Lazio, the area around Rome) spoke a language like Oscan, the language of their neighbors the Sabines, Samnites and Campanians (Naples is in Campania). Though no modern descendant of Oscan exists, it was to Latin as, say, modern Italian is to Spanish. An additional sister language of Latin was Umbrian, spoken by inhabitants of central Italy.

Other peoples lived along the Tiber river; among these were, of course, the Latini. There is confusing historical overlap of Latini and Romans. Traditionally, Rome is said to have been founded in 753 by descendants of Aeneas, a refugee from the Trojan War. Well before Vergil’s treatment of this legend, the Romans regarded Aeneas as the founder of their race, the one who succeeded Latinus, king of the local tribe, and whose descendant, Romulus, founded Rome. Archaeology places Latini culture as early as 1100 BC. True imperial expansion of Rome starts in 295 BC when the Romans, at the Battle of Sentium (near modern Ancona), put an end to the competition in Italy by defeating a combined force of Samnites and Etruscans.

Roman Civilization

Already during the Copper Age the area of the Alban Hills, just to the south of the mouth of the Tiber, was inhabited by an Italic agricultural and pastoral tribe called Latini. And it was due to them, in all probability, that Rome was founded towards the middle of the 8C BC on one of the numerous hills (the Palatine) in the marshy depressions surrounding the river. The town and territory occupied by the Latini expanded gradually during the royal period (753-510 BC, under the seven kings of Rome: Romulus, Numa Pompilius, Tullus Hostilius, Ancus Marcius, Tarquin Priscus, Servius Tullius and Tarquin the Proud). In this period the juridical and social organization of the new nation evolved, revealing clear influence from the nearby Etruscan civilization.

Territorially, at the end of the 6C BC, Roman Lazio extended over some 2000 sq km. It covered the lower Aniene Valley as far as its junction with the Tiber and from there to the sea, besides including the major part of the Alban Hills and the coast from the mouth of the Tiber to the promontory of Anzio. Alongside stock rearing and agriculture the economy of the Latin monarchy was based on commerce, favoured by Rome’s geographic position between Campania (Magna Grecia) and Etruria as well as by the proximity of the mouth of the Tiber, which was a harbour of growing importance also because of the presence of productive salt pans.

The Republic

The passage from monarchy to republic (510-509 BC) was not only a simple institutional change. It also involved a profound juridical and social transformation, as with the emancipation of the plebs who succeeded in gaining access to the highest offices of State, previously a monopoly of the patrician oligarchy. The complex events of the social struggles with the latter class produced the promulgation of written laws for the first time. These Laws of the Twelve Tables, carved in bronze (450 BC), were soon followed by others.

While developing its own institutions and social structure, the Roman State found itself involved in a series of conflicts with the neighbouring populations. Rome so succeeded in strengthening her position that at the end of the 3C BC rivalled the other four great military Mediterranean powers: Carthage, Egypt, Syria and Macedonia.

SEE C 31, C 71 C 74 C 81

C 72 (Wed, May 14, 2003 @ 02:21 EST) Well... I pretty much speak +...i`ve tried to learn Spanish, but i lack the commitment. I didnt learn growing up because i`m half Puerto Rican, half Greek, and my father (the Greek side) didn’t know Spanish, so he didn’t want my mom to teach me. Personally, I think language is only a small part of ethnicity.

C 73 (Thu, May 01, 2003 @ 11:35 EST) AM I ? BORN IN THE US. 1/2 DOMINICAN 1/2 PUERTO RICAN. RAISED BY SINGLE PARENT , LIGHT SKINNED, GREEN EYES, LOVE CARNE FRITA, MY SPANISH IS VERY WEAK, GOT THE DOMINICAN SLANG DOWN. SOME
PEOPLE DO NOT CONSIDER ME SPANISH BECAUSE I SPEAK IT WELL. OTHERS SAY "LEARN IT"

74 (Mon, Apr 28, 2003 @ 01:17 EST) CHECK THIS OUT! It`s Not All White
The era of pretending that Mexicans/Central Americans are white is long over
By Patrisia Gonzalez & Roberto Rodriguez | Web Published 9.13.2002
For years, headlines have warned us of the "browning of America." Not so, says a recent
article in the Los Angeles Times. It posits that the United States is in no such danger
because Latinos are increasingly viewing themselves as "white." We can now exhale.
It`s reminiscent of an observation from Jack Forbes` landmark 1973 book, "Aztecas del Norte: The Chicanos of Aztlan." He wrote: "Throughout the Americas, a strange
phenomenon exists. Almost every country in the hemisphere is doing away with Indians,
either by genocide or by legislation or custom."

In the Americas, being Indian is a condition of extreme poverty and marginalization. As
such, if they learn Spanish, become urbanized workers or professionals, according to
government, they cease being Indian, guaranteeing that "Indians" can only be poor.
The Times article promotes the historical fiction that the U.S. Census Bureau has been
perpetuating regarding people of Mexican, Central and South American origin. In
"Aztecas," Forbes writes: "The Aztecas del Norte (an Azteca is a person of Aztlan or `the Southwest`) compose the largest single tribe or nation of Anishinabeg (Indians) found in
the United States today." Forbes, perhaps the foremost U.S. native scholar, continues to
assert that most Mexicans/Central Americans are indigenous.
Contrarily, the bureau has historically created the methodology to ensure that the
majority of "Hispanics/Latinos" get counted as white, even if half have traditionally
chosen "other race." This amounts to demographic genocide, though as Forbes notes:
"This disappearance is completely imaginary and exists only in the minds of the
European-oriented ruling class."

Truthfully, "Hispanics" don`t freely choose white (even the designation is Euro-centric
and "burrocrat-imposed"). Rather, the bureau continues to herd (or statistically redirect)
them into checking the white category. Coupled with a lack of a census educational
program that rejects the poison of racial supremacy, many, out of shame or due to no
viable options, opt for the white rather than indigenous category. Incidentally, Mexico,
conscious of its indigenous roots, doesn`t consider its citizens white.
The bureau`s mischaracterizations are but the latest in a long line of unsuccessful efforts
to completely "de-Indianize" the continent. The first efforts were religiously inspired. A
successful conversion by European priests resulted in the creation of Christians. Indians
were evil. Christians were of God. The objective was to spiritually or physically stomp out
all things Indian, including the Indian.
Despite this, Mexicans/Central Americans remain of primarily indigenous stock.
Undeniably, there`s been mixture throughout the continent, but generally not enough to
supplant the indigenous root. Despite this, the European colonizers invented countless
bizarre and unscientific racial categories that persist to this day. They were created not
to describe, but to exploit them.
Two economic systems and world views on race collided in 1848 when the United
States annexed half of Mexico. In an effort by Mexico to protect its former citizens from
slavery and being warped upon, most Mexicans in the United States were legally
designated neither as black nor Indian, but white. After slavery was outlawed and the
wars against native peoples ceased, segregation, legal discrimination, land theft and
lynchings persisted. Despite the tenuous legal fiction that Mexicans were white, they too
were treated similarly. During this era, light-skinned Mexicans (claiming European
ancestry) occasionally managed to win the right -- for court purposes -- to be considered
white.
At the end of the 19th century, as part of a modernizing project, Mexican intellectuals
began to see their country as a mestizo nation or as part of a "cosmic race" (combination
of four races). The seemingly enlightened philosophy, in reality, was anti-indigenous,
predicated on the idea that modernizing meant leaving its Indian past behind. As Forbes
notes, the whole world is mestizo (racially mixed), yet only Mexicans are stigmatized by
that Colonial leftover "half-breed" or "not belonging" designation.
Mexican Indian Otomi leader Thaayrohyadi Bermudez notes that government has historically determined who is an Indian: "The ideology of the mestizo was created as a way to divide people. Mestizaje is more ideological than racial or biological." He adds that anyone of Otomi ancestry is considered Otomi.

In 1930, the U.S. Census considered Mexicans a race (Indian) unto themselves. However, Mexicans ("Latins") in the U.S. and the Mexican government fought that designation and sought to recognize them as "whites" -- not because they had biologically changed, but because the harsh Jim Crow era was still in effect. Notice to the bureau: The era of pretending that Mexicans/Central Americans are white is long over. Yet we can predict that the bureau will continue to produce faulty questionnaires, which will in turn produce faulty responses... and the media will continue to reproduce those erroneous results.

* For more literature by Jack Forbes on similar topics, go to: http://cougar.ucdavis.edu/nas/faculty/forbes/personal/forbes.html

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Gonzales & Rodriguez can be reached at XColumn@aol.com
SEE C 31, C 71 C 74 C 81

C 75 (Tue, Apr 15, 2003 @ 20:08 EST) **Cocolaeyes** What? I didn't get your last statement......

C 76 (Sun, Apr 13, 2003 @ 14:48 EST) **Grr** While I don`t think its fair to tell Latinos they`re not Latino enough if they don`t speak Spanish.

However from personal experience, why do non-Spanish speaking Latinos have such a problem with half Latinas who speak Spanish?

C 77 (Thu, Mar 27, 2003 @ 12:22 EST) **I am truly latina no matter what anyone says** Just because you dont speak Spanish it dosent make you any less a person. My parents tried to teach me when i was little but they talked mostly English in the house my grandparents would take care of me and talk all spanish. Im not fluent in it but i understand enough to have a conversation with someone. Its also allot harder to learn another language when you are older and you allready know one.

C 78 (Wed, Mar 26, 2003 @ 21:27 EST) **chicano frm TEX** we chicanos fool not latinos are hispanos

C 79 (Wed, Mar 12, 2003 @ 14:33 EST) **Parents** i just wanted to comment on the statement that the parents are at fault. My Nigerian mother raised me, since my "father" left her and she tried her best to have me learn about my dominican half she really didnt know how to. There were times when other latinos would look down on me so that only added to the hatred i already had due to my father. She tried soo hard and i feel like i let her down at times. Im 15 now and i refuse to tell anyone im anything but Nigerian.

C 80 (Fri, Mar 07, 2003 @ 00:04 EST) **NAH!!!!!!! SER LATINO ES HABLAR EL ESPAN~OL!! YO HABLO EL ESPAN~OL Y ESTOY SIMPLEMENTE FELIZ!! LOS IDIOMAS SON SUPER BUENOS DAH CUZ YOU CAN COMMUNICATE WITH YO PEEPZ!!**

YO VOY DE APRENDER PORTUGES,HINDI,ARABICO, Y MUCHOS MA`S!! NO ENTIENDO COMO UN LATINO NO QUIERA APRENDER SU PROPIO IDIOMA....DAMN*(^#^^&#@ QUE FEO ES ESO!!

YO SOY MEXICANA MEXICANA MEXICANA Y HABLO ESPAN~OL JAJAJJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJA JJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJAJ.

QUE RICO SE SIENTE!!!

YO SI TENGO HIJOS ELLOS SOLAMENTE ME VAN HABLAR EN ESPAN~OL...*bleep*O...CLARO..........COMO QUIERA VAN APRENDER EL INGLES EN LA ESCUELA O POR LA TELE...NO LES VA HACER DAN~O APRENDER OTRO IDIOMA.
NOT LATINO PERIOD!!!

Technically Spanish is a form of Latin which is not really Latin. French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian are all forms of Latin. The real Latin was spoken by the Romans who were the real Latinos. So how many of you have Roman ancestry and consider yourselves real Latinos? ME I have Nahuatl ancestry which is the modern day Aztec people and some Spanish blood too. I don’t see how we should be considered Latinos if we are not Romans to begin with.... ME I’m more proud of my native Mexican roots than calling myself something I’m not.

El orgullo de ser latino is in the blood not in the language

The important fact here is that, we must show some commitment to keep the Latin culture on the top. It doesn’t matter if you are Spanish-speaker or not, the really important is being proud of our Latin flava.

Yo el orgullo de ser latino is in the blood not in the language The important fact here is that, we must show some commitment to keep the Latin culture on the top. It doesn’t matter if you are Spanish-speaker or not, the really important is being proud of our Latin flava.

Re: .......

YOUR STATEMENT WAS TRUE, I AM MEXICAN AND I DON’T SPEAK SPANISH, MY FAMILY BEEN BORN HERE IN CALI 4 SIX GENERATIONS AND DOWN THE LINE SPANISH WAS NEVER TAUGHT. I AGREE WITH U ALL THE WAY IT’S LIKE ANY COUNTRY THAT YOU WANT TO LIVE IN U GOTTA LEARN THE LANGUAGE HOW ELSE WOULD U BE ABLE TO HAVE A GOOD STABLE FUTURE. PEOPLE ALWAYS COME UP AND TALK TO ME IN SPANISH AND I GET OFFENDED SOMETIMES BECAUSE I HATE TO BE STEREOTYPE. MOST OF MY FRIENDS COME FROM MEXICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES ALSO, SO ALL MY LIFE I NEVER FELT LEFT OUT, BUT WHAT I DO HATE IS WHEN A BLACK PERSON COMES UP AND SAYS HOLA OR SOME *bleep* AND THEN I LET THEM KNOW, THAT I DON’T SPEAK SPANISH AND THE`LL BE LIKE WHY NOT U SHOULD LEARN, OH MY GOD, I FEEL LIKE IT AIN’ T NO ONES *bleep*EN BUSINESS *bleep* THERE ARE ALOT OF THINGS THAT ALOT OF PEOPLE SHOULD LEARN, I FEEL THAT I LIVED FINE WIT OUT SPANISH.

Yet another forum created to separate us as people instead of bringing us together...Like we don’t have enough of them... If someone chooses to view you as less hispanic because of the way you dress or speak, etc, thats their hang-up and no ones else.

I speak Spanish and appreciate it, but I don’t look down on anyone living in America who doesn`t. It`s not always a part of their culture depending on where they grew up and they shouldn`t be obstrazied for it. It`s a different story if they lived in a Spanish speaking country and chose not to learn Spanish. much like the hispanic people who live in America and chose not to learn English. In that case I see a problem with it.

Also What if you speak it but other latinos tell you it`s not "good Spanish". Let your opinion be known Check out the "What is good Spanish" forum under identity. Or copy and paste this http://www.migente.com/Members/Forums/viewforum.html?FORUM=28321

Use a little to make a lot!

STEP 1: Get 7 separate sheets of paper and write the following on each piece of paper "PLEASE PUT ME ON YOUR MAILING LIST."
Re: I agree Carlos

I agree. Sometimes people make you feel bad over something you don't have any control over. It's not my fault that I was never taught Spanish. My parents thought we kids would get confused if we were spoken to in both English and Spanish. So, they just spoke to us in English. Now, people think it's sad because I don't speak Spanish. I am trying to learn now, have been learning for awhile now, I know a little bit, but I am afraid to try to speak it in front of fluent Spanish speakers because they will just think I sound funny, because I'm not as fluent as they. Like they are any better than me! Like they are more "Latino" then I am, just because their parents spoke Spanish to them.

SEE C 64, C 67, C 75, C 88, C 96, C 97

C 89 (Fri, Jan 10, 2003 @ 17:03 EST) nope

Simply put, speaking Spanish is not the defining characteristic of Latinos. Your ancestry will not just change because you do not speak the language. I do think that if you do not, you should make the effort to learn it. We should embrace our differences instead of letting our culture be watered down and swallowed by the mainstream. Keep the culture strong.

C 90 (Tue, Dec 31, 2002 @ 00:42 EST) karinda

kreo ke uno es lo ke kre ke es y lo ke ama ser.

LATINO, YES I`M THAT AND MORE

TRUE. I DON`T SPEAK SPANISH WELL. BUT I DON`T SPEAK AFRICAN, APACHE OR CAYMAN EITHER. . .DOES THAT MEAN I`M LESS OF A LATINO? DOES IT MEAN THAT I`M LESS OF A PERSON? NO IT SIMPLY MEANS THAT SHOULD I DESIRE TO LEARN THESE THINGS IT WILL ENHANCE MY KNOWLEDGE OF MY ETHNIC BACKGROUND. I LOVE SALSA, MERENGUE, AFRICAN ART & DANCE. NATIVE AMERICAN FLUTE MUSIC AND THE BLUE WATERS OF THE CAYMAN. I MAY NOT KNOW THE LANGUAGE, BUT THE INTENSITY, THE PASSION, THE LOVE OF WHO I AM. . .LIVE WITH ME EVERYDAY. I`M PROUD TO BE OF HISPANIC DESCENT. IT DOESN`T MATTER IF YOUR LIGHT, BROWN OR BEIGE ~ MY LOVE FOR LATINOS DOESN`T HAVE A BOUNDARY. IT EXISTS THROUGH THE SAME RESPECT LOVE AND DEVOTION THAT WAS TAUGHT TO ME BY MI FAMILIA.

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enjoy it while sitting in front of the computer in your underwears....... ladies, e-mail those pictures GRIN
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look at my page.... a PR.... WHITE as they come.... my parents never taught me the language, i had to learn it the hard why..... for other culture that didnt know me.... I was the WHITE boy and treated that way in a black/PR neighborhood in the 60`s 70`s in high school.... the black kids used to bother me caused i dated black chicks.... hell, thats all there was at August marting HS in jamaica queens... the PR girls didnt think i wasnt DOWN.... thats cool, cause i still got all the black coochi i could get... nuff said..

what does speaking spanish have to do with anything?

If speaking a particular language defines your ethnicity, then that means I'm latina even though both my parents are African American....see how silly that sounds? if were born latino, then you are...regardless of what language you speak

C 94 (Sat, Dec 07, 2002 @ 01:57 EST) I agree Carlos

I am half black and have latino (puerto rican to be exact) I was raised by the black side of my family. If I don`t speak the true language of my African American ancestors than that doesn`t mean I`m less black. I can`t deny an entire part of my ethnic existence just because I don`t speak a language. I was in a situation when I was getting my hair cut by some dominican catz and they were saying that I "looked Spanish". When they asked me what I was I told
them. One of them chimed in and said, "If you don`t speak spanish then you ain`t
spanish". He made me feel bad for something I totally had no control over. What`s up
with that?

C 95 (Wed, Nov 27, 2002 @ 04:30 EST) latinos are latinos regardless Personally, I`m
not Latino but I have these questioned asked a lot to me since I`m Asian, and I think
Latinos are Latinos regardless of whether they speak Spanish or not. Latinos are Latinos
based on their ethnic origin, BUT i do believe that they are less cultured if you don`t
speak the language. It is nearly impossible to ever fully learn a culture without learning
their language because half of their beliefs, studies, words, exist in another culture that
doesn`t exist in their own. For instance, there are words in the Korean language that
don`t exist in English because they are defined as something that is part of the Korean
culture, but no matter how much I study the Korean culture without learning the
language, I would never be able to understand that.
So honestly I don`t think that not knowing Spanish would make you less latino, but it
definitely means that there exists some parts of the culture that you will not fully
understand without learning the language. IF this weren`t true, then it`d be so much
easier for people to understand the culture behind spanish speakers. Why is it that
americans that learn spanish sometimes say things that offend native spanish-speakers
but isn`t considered offensive in english? OBVIOUSLY the cultural differences.

C 96 (Mon, Nov 25, 2002 @ 21:04 EST) Lets see.... Well, I`m Guatemalan/Polish, and I
was not raised in a traditional hispanic home, everything was
SEE C 64, C 67, C 75, C 88, C 96, C 97

C 97 (Mon, Nov 25, 2002 @ 21:03 EST) Lets see.... Well, I`m Guatemalan/Polish, and I
was not raised in a traditional hispanic home, everything was Americanized. I was
exposed a little to the culture though, I know a little about it. My dad never taught me
spanish, so I never learned it. I tried taking it in school but it was just too hard, so I just
gave up. I am still aware of my roots though.
Does this mean I am not latino at all? I doubt it.
SEE C 64, C 67, C 75, C 88, C 96, C 97

C 98 (Sun, Nov 24, 2002 @ 23:39 EST) Re: This is Ridiculous bbgormildew, "whiter
than a muthajumpa"? I don`t think you realize the racist tone saying something like that
has.

C 99 (Sun, Nov 24, 2002 @ 23:35 EST) This is Ridiculous Speaking Spanish is not the
only part of being Hispanic. You don`t suddenly lose your ethnic background by speaking
only English. If you think that way, then you obviously don`t know enough about your
own culture if the only way you define it is by speaking Spanish. Look at all of the
European immigrants that came to America in the early part of the 20th century. They
learned English quickly because they knew that being proficient in English would help
them become successful in education and business. However, they still managed to keep
their own ethnic traditions to this day, as in Italian Americans,
German Americans, Irish Americans, and Jewish Americans, for example.

C 100 (Wed, Nov 06, 2002 @ 12:39 EST) Fake latino? A latino is a latino/a regardless
because it is part of there blood, their chemistry, their biology. A fake Latin is an italian
or white cat (even someone else) trying to perpetrate like they are really latino when
they are not. Like this cat that lives near me. He`s Jewish, whiter than a muthajumpa,
his name is Reed Lipschien or some ish. This cat got a nice trim up, fly clothes, and tells
black women hes P.R. so he can get the goods because it`s not hip around my way to be
jewish. But when I first met the cat, he was telling me he was italian because he thought
I was. Now he is running around saying "whut up boricua" and stuff like that. then I told
him one day that I didnt eat pork, he asked if I was a muslim, I said "No, i`m a five
percent" and he was like...ok word b, i`m down with Islam, yeah word.....THAT is
fake!  puede ser latino de corazon y latino biologicamente .
C 101 (Tue, Oct 22, 2002 @ 22:29 EST) **Re: well** this is so true. i am puerto rican and white. i dont know spanish fluently, but that doesnt make me anyless hispanic. i know who i am and where i come from so that is all that matters.

C 102 (Tue, Oct 08, 2002 @ 08:53 EST) **There is fake Latinos...** Funny thing... I am living in Tampa, Fl. and I realized one thing. Most latino here are Americanized. There is one thing not knowing the language but there is a thing being too Americanized. I am a proud Dominican/Puerto Rican. I grew with a strong Dominican father who upheld his hispanic roots and with my Puerto Rican who let say is a pura latina woman. I had to learn the idioma and the culture. I love eating my plantanos y sancocho... But there is latinos who forget all the wonderful things that make us unique. That is what make them non-latinos to me. Those are the fake ones. Those are the one who you see only recognizing their latin roots when they are seeking attention. Really, is it that hard to know who you and where you came from? You can have friends who are african american, caucasian, asian... You get the point.. But you will always be latino. So don`t forget where you came from. Cultivate it and you will see the riches that can unfold. "El ritmo de mi isla es que me hacer la mujer que soy ahora y para siempre... LATINA"

C 103 (Sat, Sep 28, 2002 @ 04:23 EST) **Non Spanish speaking hispanics** it all comes down to the theories of assimilation a parent IS suppossed to teach thier children about their roots and thier native language who better to teach it. "es una pena que un hispano no habla espaqol y que no sabes de sus raises." yes as a latin american it is your responsibility to learn you language and culture but it should be taught at home from those who know best.

C 104 (Fri, Sep 27, 2002 @ 13:15 EST) **si no hablas el idioma** usted no es de la cultura latina. Yo soy decendiente de madre colombiana y padre chileno, soy blanco y hablo el castellano. No hay razon para no aprenderlo...

C 105 (Thu, Sep 26, 2002 @ 19:42 EST) **simple answer to simple question** are latinos who dont speak spanish still latinos, yes. are they true to their culture and proud of it, no. If all latinos gave up speaking spanish and listening to spanish music the term latino or hispanic will eventually die out for lack of differentiation. It is wrong for latinos to leave that which makes them hispanic. Hispanics must stop being dominated by the sub cultures that have them speaking english or slang while not knowing a word of spanish.

C 106 (Mon, Sep 09, 2002 @ 17:33 EST) **YUP U ARE IF YOUR ROOTS ARE FROM LATIN/HISPANIC COUNTRIES YOU ARE HISPANIC.....IT DOESN`T MATTER IF YOU DON`T SPEAK THE LANGUAGE.....

C 107 (Sun, Aug 25, 2002 @ 09:36 EST) **@El Morenito** I just have to say I agree w/Morenito when you say that it`s NOT the fault of the children if they are not taught to speak Spanish. It`s a choice the parents make, and they have every right to do so-whether we all agree w/them or not. Myself, we plan to teach our bebitos both English and Spanish and to steep them in american & latino culture from day 1. But that`s just us- everyone does things their own way.

C 108 (Mon, Aug 19, 2002 @ 09:41 EST) **band wagon Latinoism** I belive ther is such a thing as a fake latino and this is my definition: If you don`t speak a lick of spanish couldn`t care less about historical figures in your culture, can`t cook the food dance the music but (and here is the key) on the day of el desfile Puerto Riqueno (cause it`s desfile no parada) suddenly you find every flag due rag and jersey you can get your hands on and learn how tu say MI Gente Que Bonita Bandera and hasta la muerte your a## is a fake Latino con todo el respeto merecido, que no es mucho.
Being Latino is so much more... I feel that speaking Spanish is a big part of being Latino. But some Hispanic families don`t teach their kids Spanish. Is it the kids fault that their mother or father didn`t teach them Spanish. No! But I have seen Latinos that have taught themselves Spanish, learned everything about their culture on their own. I don`t think it is a such thing as a fake latino, because you are what you are. A Honduran is a Honduran wheather he is born in the states or in Colombiam. A Boricua a Boricua, Dominicano es Dominicano. ETC. You are what you are. No one can take that from you. It is when people start to deny what they are is when start having problems.

well this is the bull#### i go thru everyday. i am dominican and white and i don`t know spanish. i get barked on the regular by fellow hispanics that say its a shame that i don`t know spanish and that i am a fake hispanic. sorry to say but f### you! i think as long as i claim an

who you are Latin is who you are. Its what you feel deep inside not what words come out of your mouth. The majority of latins in the US speak broken spanish and its not a bad thing if you are at least trying. I think its because most of us don`t live in mostly latin populated areas and really if the only place you use the laguage is in your home then you have a tendancy to lose it a little. You can still be a part of the culture and traditions and still speak broken or little spanish.

A person can speak spanish or not, they are still latino. although to others they might be less latino then those who speak spanish.
In my opinion, speaking ur language and following ur cultures traditions is a way of keeping ur culture alive, especially if u live in USA or another contry besides your homeland. I actually feel kinda bad for those spanish people that cant speak spanish becuase they wont be able to express that part of them that makes them different from other people.

Catholicism was imposed upon us by the Hispanic invaders. We have our own creator whom we call Ometeotl which means "dual cosmic energy." Ometeotl is a culmination of all forces in the universe and is represented by the sacred dualities of these forces...water/fire, life/death, male/female, day/night, good/bad. We have no need for foreign religions created by foreign cultures; we have our own.
* All of us at the age of 5 were kidnapped and systematically mind raped. This "education" has succeeded in brainwashing all of us into being european clones. Most of us speak English and Spanish; two European languages and are Christians; a white religion. It is time to de-colonize our minds and think as individuals. Don`t let the wasicu control your destiny, learn your true history and culture!

Latin America is named after the White people of Latin descent who stole our land and claimed it as their own. The Europeans brand everything they "own" with their name, it is no different with our land. Some may believe that the term Latino is a unifying factor for the people living in Latin America and it is; for the whites living on our land not us.
* Latinos are white people from Southern Europe living in "Latin America." They are the people of Latin (white Roman) descent. Latin is a white language that was spoken by the Romans. When the Roman empire fell, the Romans eventually forgot Latin because it was no longer taught in their schools. English, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and French all developed from Latin as dialects then eventually became languages. The people who speak these languages are therefore the descendants of the Latinos. Latino is simply Spanish for people of Latin descent; the Europeans.
* Hispanics are white people from Spain. The Romans called the Spaniards "Hispanos" which means people of Hispania (Spain).
* When the Spaniards invaded our people, they could not pronounce our name (Mexica, pronounced meh - shee - kah) because there is not a sound in the Spanish language for "sh". The Spaniards then put an "x" in the place of the "sh" to signify an unknown sound. Mexicano or Mexican therefore are mispronunciations of our true name.
* We, the Mexica people have occupied this continent for over 60,000 years.
* Our original home is Aztlan. Aztlan is located in the four corners region (Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona) along the 4 great rivers: (What we call the Nahui Atl) the Colorado river (the river begins and ends in Arizona and Colorado, therefore to us it was considered 2 separate rivers), the Green river, and the San Juan river
* We migrated to Mexico/Anahuac around 1016 A.D. because of the severe droughts of the time.
* Before we left Aztlan we were called "Azteca". But the Azteca broke up into 8 tribes, the Mexica being the last to leave south.
* Most everyone today uses the term "Aztec" in reference to the Mexica, which is absurd. The Azteca no longer existed after 1016 A.D. By then we had all broken up and changed our names to Hopi, Alcohua, Mexica etc..
* Does this mean we are "INDIANS"? NO! THE INDIAN PEOPLE LIVE IN INDIA. If you are tempted to use the word, substitute it for an accurate one like Indigenous or Native. If you want to go even further, use the term: Ixachilankah (Nahuatl for natives of this continent which we call Ixachilan) or Anahuaka (natives of Anahuak). It is very important that this term not be used by our people.
* Spanish is NOT our "Mother Tongue." Spanish is a foreign language from Europe. We speak it only because we remain under colonial rule. Nahuatl is our true language.
* It is very important that we learn Nahuatl because as long as we speak white languages, we will think like white people. Europeans are the only people in the world to develop a linear world-view; everyone else has a circular world-view. In the linear world-view, the past is irrelevant because the ultimate goal is to get to heaven. Everything that occurs in the past is therefore useless because when you ask for forgiveness, you acquire a clean slate. This is why you hear whites always saying "forget about the past" or "stop living in the past." It is no suprise that the Europeans are the only people in the world to develop retirement homes (because they dont realize their parents nurtured them throughout their lives and must then be nurtured in their old age; instead they put them in these homes to rot) and industrialization (which is an economic system that systematically destroys the Earth). This is an illogical way of viewing the world because any normal person can see that the past, present and future are all related. We must acquire our original circular world-view in order to understand the events that happened in the past which still effectus in the present and how it will continue to effect us in the future.
* Some people claim that we are the "cosmic race" a mixture of whites and "indians". They say how can you fight against something that is in your veins? Do you think that if Hitler raped a jewish woman the resulting child would love his father and proclaim to be a German?? I think not. By acknowledging the Spanish blood that was raped into you as valid, you are justifying the mass rape of our foremothers.
* North and South America in Nahuatl are called Ixachilan and are considered to be one mass of land united by the Eagle and Condor not two seperate continents. Anahuak is the section of Ixachilan which includes Aztlan, Mexiko, Amalpan (Belize), Kuauhtemallan (Guatemala), Atenantitech (Honduras), Kuzkatlan (El Salvador), and Nikananawak (Nicaragua). "Central America" was created when Spain divided up our land and handed it out to former Spanish soldiers and their descendants still own these countries to this day. Just as "Mexicanos" is a false term for natives of Mexico, "Salvadorenos" is a false term for the natives of Kuzkatlan. The correct term for natives of El Salvador therefore is Kuzkateca.
* The Spanish names we have now are slave names which were given to our ancestors by the Spaniards. During our enslavement on the encomiendas, we were named after our Spanish slave masters to signify that we were their property. When the encomienda system came to end, the Spanish priests began forcefully converting us and giving us Christian slave names. That is why many of our people are named after saints such as Maria, Juan, Jose, Rosa etc..
In our language "Mexica" refers to `Mexi" which is another name for the sun, Tonatiuh. The word therefore means, "People of the Sun". Mexica is plural. Mexicatl is the singular form..Therefore; "I am Mexicatl (Ni Mexicatl)" & "We are Mexica (Tehuan Mexica)".

C 115 (Wed, Jul 31, 2002 @ 00:21 EST) lations = latinos lations... typo for Latinos... sorry  

C 116 (Wed, Jul 31, 2002 @ 00:15 EST) they are latinos I think Lations are Lations regardless of whether they speak Spanish or not. Its the blood line. There are Latinos all over Europe for up to many generations now and they probably walk around only speaking French or German, but regardless they`re still Latinos. I don`t believe a race should be put on you by what language you speak, but by what your true family descent is. 

C 117 (Wed, Jul 17, 2002 @ 21:43 EST) the big answer OF COURSE THEY ARE! people dont have to speak spanish. usually i see people think they`re not cuz they always see hispanics say theyre latinos. FACE IT! all; central americans, south americans and some carribeans ARE latinoes and they talk spanish, but what about those other countries say brazil for example it IS in south america but doesnt speak spanish instead they speak portuguise but they ARE latinos! god bless you! 

bella__latina  

C 118 (Sat, Jul 13, 2002 @ 02:51 EST) I am who I am regardless of language I know not one bit of Spanish, except for the various obscenities that my parents only spit when we were in trouble or when they were mad at eachother. I speak english because i grew up in America and that`s what u speak in school. Is it really fair to say that spanish was the only language of our people. Once again another thing forced apon Native cultures in the America`s by who else but the so called "discoverers" themselves: the Spanish. I am happy just speaking English cuz that is the language of Americans like it or not. What`s really sad is that u have "hispanic" people living in america longer then me who can`t even speak english not because they can`t but because they do not even bother to try. If i lived in Spain or Mexico i would learn the language out of necessity and respect for where i live. But that`s another issue. Bless. 

-Blue130  

C 119 (Fri, Jul 12, 2002 @ 14:47 EST) yes cuz u can be latino and not talk spanish maybe becuz your family likes to talk in english and plus if u were born from a latino then that considers u a latino  

C 120 (Wed, Jul 10, 2002 @ 14:04 EST) Re: Re: Chicano here! I feel that if one is latino, then they are latino wheter they claim it or not. Sometimes people that dun know spanish make the effort to learn it or maybe its because the parents decided that when to came to the U.S to teach there children english and along with that did not teach them. Whatever the case is one is latino then there latino, and if there truly ashamed then thats there problem d know who i am and where i come from then i am secure and set.  

C 121 (Fri, Jun 07, 2002 @ 16:38 EST) Re: Re: this is my kind of subject... I don`t thinkspanish people should be hating on each other. We have a hard enough time. JUST BECAUSE YOU DON`T SPEAK SPANISH DOESNT MEAN YOUR NOT SPANISH  

C 122 (Fri, Jun 07, 2002 @ 11:35 EST) Re: this is my kind of subject... Well alot of people say if you can`t speak the language you`re a fake Hispanic or..Latino (what ever ya wanna go by) You bein` Hispanic doesn`t go by what language you speak but by your culture and,heritage..Speaking spanish does help out alot though..
this is my kind of subject... I am a light skinned hispanic person who doesn't speak spanish. I am constly being teased and called "hispanic wanna be" I know pretty bad. People just assume because I don't look like a hispanic person and don't speak spanish I am white which makes me mad. I don't think you have to speak spanish to be spanish. It just like saying you can't be african american without speaking african.

SEE C 121

Re: soy cubana the only native language that exists in the Caribbean is Spanish and a version of the Yoruba (african) language that has been syncretized with the Spanish language. If there is a Taíno Language, I'd love to hear it...whoever does hear it should become a millionaire because they've discovered a dead language. and the african people didn't come before colonization, they came during colonization. How do you think they got there??? The only part of latin america that still has a tie to a native language is central and south america, where many people still speak Quechua and other indigenous languages. Unfortunately for the caribbean, but the Taínos were WIPED OUT! We only have fragments of pieces of artwork from their culture. All we know is Spanish, and a Spanish version of African.

soy cubana Though my father was born and raised in Cuba in a traditional family, for whatever reasons, he chose not to raise my brother and I as bi-lingual. This has always been something I have struggled with when reflecting on my Latina identity. While I feel that not knowing spanish is a big communication barrier, especially when interacting with family elders, I still feel connected to my culture in many other ways. I definitely want to build my spanish speaking skills, but it also bothers me when Latinos talk about spanish as if it's OUR native tongue. Spanish is the language of the conquistadors who colonized and enslaved our peoples and while the language is a large piece of our heritage, it is not everything. We should not forget the languages of the Indigenous and Afrikan people that came before colonization.

Language is one of the MOST important aspects of culture. I don't think anyone can argue with anthropology when it is stated that Language is a factor in determining civilization and culture amongst people. Therefore, based on that, I think that it is incredibly important that if you consider yourself Latino(a), that you learn Spanish. It is one of the only things that we have left to hold on to, in a country where assimilation is inevitable. I understand totally that some of us, being that we were born here, don't speak the language, but as we grow older it is our responsibility, not only for us, but for our children, to learn the language of our fathers and grandfathers so that we might be able to pass down something that is a bit more substantial than what we've learned being brought up in the United States.

SEE C 124

INTERESTING ME, SPEAKING AS A LATINA KNOWING EVERYTHING ABOUT MY CULTURE AND A VERY FLUENT SPEAKER OF SPANISH I FEEL AS SUCH....YOU, BEING A LATINA MEANS THAT YOU ARE OF DIFFERENT CULTURES AND BELIEFS THAN THE AVERAGE AMERICAN. I FEEL THAT YOU SHOULD TRY YOUR HARDEST TO KNOW EVERYTHING THERE IS ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND AS WELL AS THE LANGUAGE. ALTHOUGH, I KNOW MANY LATINAS/LATINOS WERE BORN IN THE STATES. THAT IS AGAINST THEIR WILL AND THEREFORE, NOT KNOWING THE LANGUAGE IS THEIR PARENTS FAULT. WE AS LATINOS CAME TO THE STATES FOR SECURITY AND MANY OTHER DIFFERENT REASONS. NOT KNOWING THE LANGUAGE MAKES YOU NO LESS OF A LATINO/LATINA THAN THE NEXT. STAYING TRUE TO YOUR ROOTS AND LIVING YOUR LIFE AS THE PERSON YOU REALLY ARE IS WHAT MAKES YOU A LATINO. THAT'S MY VIEWPOINT.
C 128 (Wed, Apr 10, 2002 @ 04:59 EST) **Sure Why Not? Even a mute Latino is still a Latino.** Or one could say that the language doesn`t really matter since ppl mostly respond to how something is said not by what is actually said.

C 129 (Tue, Apr 09, 2002 @ 01:38 EST) **Hmm...** Well, I feel that not being able to speak the language, does not make you less Latino.. But I feel that most Latinos growing up in America are losing the language. Spanish is huge part of our cultura. Its in a roots, and it doesn`t hurt to learn it... There`s tons of us around:)

C 130 (Thu, Apr 04, 2002 @ 15:20 EST) **Re: Chicano here!** That kind of mentality that you have is wrong. There are alot of reason why Certain Hispanics/Latinos do not know their language.. Sometimes they were simply not taught, or they weren`t around spanish-speaking people. So I dont think they should be labeled a disgrace, and besides, are you really fit in that position to be labeling people a disgrace and whatnot? I believe you have to have the blood in the first place, I mean if a white person knows the spanish culture and language? Are you gonna consider her Latina because she knows the Hispanic/latino world??

C 131 (Mon, Mar 18, 2002 @ 22:59 EST) **Lo que yo se** El language de mi padre esta casi perdido, pero una cosa que yo he prendido de tanto aqos de escuchar de otros que porque yo soy creado de aqui(los estados Unidos), que yo soy mas americano que hispano. Buen yo te digo(porque eso lo que mas importa anyway), que yo soy de las dos. Yo tengo mi cultura de aqui, y tambien de mi padres quien me crearon. Yo llevo los valores y idioligias que dominan las culturas latino que son asta mas fuerte que de los americanos que creen en qasi nada (anything goes attitude), sin restriccion O respeto a los de mas, especialmente a los propio padre que dejan que los nigos le hablen paratras. Aunque yo hablo mas por, mala costrunbre, el ingles. Todavia vas a notar una gran diferencia en comportamiento, cultura, una mentalidad, y una manera de ser dentre un europareqo americano y un latino americano. Usted me dice, si O no?

C 132 (Wed, Mar 13, 2002 @ 18:30 EST) **Re: Chicano here!** If you call yourself Chicano, that implies, to me, someone who is of Mexican descent, with Aztec/Spanish ethnicity, who is now living in America. If this is the case, then you are also a lost soul and disgrace unless you speak your Native American language as well as Spanish. I don`t think that someone should be labled a sell-out or disgrace just because their parents didn`t teach them Spanish. Some of the most powerful and involved activists that I know are Chicano, do not speak Spanish, and are doing more for the Latino community than others who know the language but choose not to be involved in the betterment of their people

C 133 (Wed, Mar 13, 2002 @ 14:20 EST) **first time writing in spanish (bare with me.)** la problema con migo es que en mi case mi papa y mi mama siempre hablaban en espanol pero yo le respondia en ingles..poreso es que yo no predo hablal en espanol mucho.. mi pronuciation es fatal... yo casi nuca escribo en espanol porque no se mucho y eso los predes notal como estoy escribiendo..Per apaltalme deso yo se la historia del puerto rico, la cultura... Yo tengo primas que saben habla en espanol y se bula de me porgue yo no se hablal y yo respondo asi.." es verdad yo no hablo bein pero yo se de la historia y tu que habla no sabe nada." Yo tengo una amiga que siempre dieces que yo no soy puertorriquen porque yo nacie in los estado unidos pero eya no sabe nada de la historia.. que derecho eya tiena para decirme que eya es ma puertorriquen que me.... Yo soy boricua en mi corazon..

yo voy a empezar classes para aprender a hablal , escriber, y leere en espanol.....y voy al colegio para estudios latino..

mi punto en todo esto es que vale hablal en espanol si no sabes de donde veines...quen vale que sepa hablal pero no sabes la historia de tu pai..(land)

Im pretty sure theres alot of mistakes, however short this may seem this is the longest ive ever written in spanish.. but soon that will change with my minor in spanish and major in latino studies....
If you don't know the language don't let others keep you down... You learn the language and be proud.

C 134 (Mon, Mar 11, 2002 @ 22:34 EST) **NO hablo Espanol** I think that latinos need to be careful of not knowing their language. A hot topic is bilingual education where children (hispanic and non hispanic) are taught in Spanish. I work as a bilingual teacher and many of my students are loosing their Spanish everyday. I work to try to educate my children in both languages because being educated and fluent can eventually lead to an advantage over another person.

If you look at the African Americans and Native Americans their culture has almost been lost completely. If latinos aren`t careful this same thing could happen. For example, many African Americans can say they are African American, but don`t know ANYTHING about Africa or their culture. Imagine if the culture is slipping now, what it will be like generations down the line.

C 135 (Sun, Mar 10, 2002 @ 19:06 EST) **La Lengua es La Voz** La lengua de cada cultura expresa sus propios sentimientos, pensamientos, tradiciones, y muchas otras cosas. No es diferente con los paises hispanos.

Cada pais en el mundo hispano tiene diferencias en la lenguaje y las palabras que la gente usa.

Sin embargo, creo que somos unidos por nuestra lengua. Es la verdad que nuestra cultura tiene mas cosas de la lengua. Pero creo que es un feo caso cuando usamos la lengua de otra cultura para enseñar nuestra cultura a nuestros hijos.

C 136 (Fri, Mar 08, 2002 @ 01:00 EST) **Re: Chicano here!** You know what really irks me about ultra-culturalists like you, is that people like you walk around with a God complex. I am in close proximity to you, as I go to UT Austin and you go to TX Tech, so I have experience the same cultural influx you do. I am not fluent in Spanish for whatever personal reason. So label me a disgrace. Your post isn`t in Spanish. Your page isn`t in Spanish. Does that make them a disgrace to your cultural roots? Recognize the contradiction in what you say, because none of anything you have to say is in Spanish.

Even the fact that you prefer speaking English, as stated on your page. Sure you listen to Cumbia and Tejano, and sure you`re into activism, but do you lobby for a political realignment of voter dispersement to better represent Chicoano voters. If you`re going to pipe up in a forum, back up your statement with some solid evidence, not just, "and they could be labeled a disgrace"...note the passive voice. Who labels me and people like me a disgrace? Is it people like you? Who `s to say you`re not a disgrace? So judgemental and opinionated. You as a Catolico cast the first stone, and you as a Chicoano hinder the advancement of Chicoano progress by looking down upon your own kind.

C 137 (Tue, Feb 26, 2002 @ 12:20 EST) **Chicano here!** Well my opinion is that if someone does not know there true language they are a lost soul. They are slowly killing our culture, and soon we will be like some Native-Americans that do not exist anymore. We must keep our culture alive and learn the language as well as the history. One that does not know there language is not true to there roots, and could be labeled a disgrace.

C 138 (Mon, Feb 25, 2002 @ 14:41 EST)... i never grew up with tha language. my mother could never really speak it and my father was in tha Navy and was rarely around to teach me. i was born and raised in tha states but i know that i am full out boricua in my mind and in my heart.

C 139 (Wed, Feb 20, 2002 @ 00:44 EST) **hell yeah!** there is obviously more to the culture then just the language.

C 140 (Wed, Feb 20, 2002 @ 00:40 EST) **Re: They are latino......** i agree with you a hundred percent.
C 141 if you speak spanish and like merengue but are irish/german decent? does that count? catfishron...

C 142 (Tue, Jan 29, 2002 @ 15:49 EST) Well... As many people said, it runs in the blood but u should be able to speak the language cuz it plays a big role. I think it`s the parents fault that their kids don`t spaeck the language cuz they don`t enforce it at home. In my case i could talk and read both languages and to this i thank my parent cuz they used to talk to me in spanish all the time and they still do....lol

C 143 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 15:20 EST) Re: Re: They are latino..... well i`m Filipino and i consider my self Hispanic because the Spanish ruled the Philippines for over 300 years. However only like 5% of the people speak Spanish.

C 144 (Mon, Jan 28, 2002 @ 07:43 EST) Re: They are latino..... but speaking spanish is a part of being Latino..

C 145 (Fri, Jan 25, 2002 @ 00:35 EST) I speak spanish now... Growing up my parents were very Americanized and even though they spoke to my brother and I in spanish once in a while, we still didn`t know Spanish. I don`t think that made us any less Dominican than we are...we both have been there, we both know the culture, both dance merengue and we both love platanos. I was Dominican Princess two years in a row. I speak Spanish now because I learned it in school but my brother`s Spanish is still rusty. But we are both Dominican... it`s in our hearts not our tongues.

C 146 (Fri, Jan 18, 2002 @ 14:45 EST) They are latino...... It`s in the blood, not the language.

C 147 (Tue, Jan 15, 2002 @ 14:05 EST) I DO!!!! I BELIEVE IT`S SOMETHING THAT RUNS THROUGH YOUR BLOOD. I DON`T THINK THAT NOT TALKING SPANISH MAKES YOU ANY LESS OF A LATINO. I DON`T KNOW ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE,BUT THAT`S JUST MY PERSONAL OPINION. I DON`T MEAN TO OFFEND ANYONE.

C 148 (Thu, Jan 10, 2002 @ 14:07 EST) How Sad! Its very sad to say that a Latino does not know his language. If you know the culture then you have to know the language. If you know where you come from you should know how to speak your language. If you can`t speak the language should you consider yourself spanish, not really. You don`t know spanish there for you can`t be spanish.

C 149 (Wed, Jan 09, 2002 @ 13:26 EST) Definitely Just because a person does not speak the language doesn`t mean they are less hispanic. Still I think that the language is a big part and sometimes it`s not even the person`s fault they can`t speak spanish. Some times the parents don`t renforce the language enough at home. But it is awshame that some peolpe don`t speak the language.

C 150 (Tue, Jan 08, 2002 @ 19:53 EST) what a shame !!!!!! of corse u can but its a shame that in ur kids wont know it eather adn so on and so forth and i think that all latinos cant forget there language its a dam shame

C 151 (Mon, Jan 07, 2002 @ 23:43 EST) Check this out!! you should take advantage. I wanted to share this article that I found on a bulletin board a while back...

152 (Mon, Jan 07, 2002 @ 20:11 EST) What A topic Being Latino doesn`t mean you have to speak spanish. Also that doesn`t mean that you have lost part of your heritage either. Speaking spanish doesn`t determine a person from losing their hertiage. Knowing your family history and what they have done for your generation means more. I am tired of people saying cause a person doesn`t speak spanish isn`t latino. Well that is bull who gave them the right to say that.
C 153 (Sun, Jan 06, 2002 @ 13:17 EST) **hmm? i was born and raised in the USA with parents of european and mexican decent so i spoke english most of my life and learned spanish later on but consider myself to speak + i have always felt a closer connection to my mexican heritage to that of the other yet if one saw me, i do not look like a stereotypical hispanic/latina as some of my family that are full hispanic/latinos that do not even know the spanish language other than taco, burrito or tequila so however you feel in you heart makes you feel who you are, i feel americana too**

C 154 (Sun, Jan 06, 2002 @ 11:35 EST) i just looked at... ...a whole lot of people`s profiles ... generally those with obvious amounts of indian blood says that it doesn`t t matter... ...and those that are obviously close to white... or close to black.. say that it does. i find that very interesting. could it be that since what means "latino" in the minds of most [non-latino] americans is based on a degree of appearing, to some degree, indio, and therefore those who already appear it don`t need the language to prove it to others... hmmmm?

C 155 (Wed, Jan 02, 2002 @ 21:18 EST) **yeah u can be** it doesn`t matter if u dont know the language as long as you know where u come frum and sum if not all the heritage.that is what makes a latino/latina the heritage the language is a part of it but not all of it.

C 156 (Wed, Jan 02, 2002 @ 00:16 EST) my opinion my parents were ridiculed and heavily chastized for speaking spanish in school. they chose not to teach me spanish, so since it wasn`t one of their prerogatives, it wasn`t one of mine. there are reasons why things are the way they are, and since people don`t conform to your view of a perfect latino (if you say it is a shame, or you`re not latino if you don`t speak spanish), than you need to question yourself on your heritage. heritage isn`t based on language, and it is obvious by the nicknames of a lot of ppl that they claim their minority side of their heritage, but not americanism. i`m mexican american. i say i`m mexican whenever anyone asks, and i don`t know spanish thoroughly. point blank, if you have a problem with it, then you need to realign your point of view of national pride. SEE C 136

C 157 (Tue, Jan 01, 2002 @ 22:33 EST) **the language** I find it a shame if a latino/a doesnt speak Spanish. **But if you got it in your heart** you aint no less latino than the ones who cant speak English.

C 158 (Sat, Dec 29, 2001 @ 22:45 EST) **NOT REALLY... I DONT BELIEVE THAT NOT KNOWING SPANISH DOESNT MAKE YOU LATINO. I DO BELIEVE THAT BEING LATINO AND NOT SPEAKING SPANISH IS A SHAME. IF YOU ARE LATINO AND BORN FROM SPANISH PARENTS YOU SHOULD KNOW SPANISH. ITS AN SHAME IF YOU DONT. I FEEL ITS AN INJUSTICE FOR PARENTS NOT MAKE THAT A PART OF PARENTING DUTIES.**

C 159 (Fri, Dec 28, 2001 @ 18:42 EST) **Knowing the Language doesn`t make you a LATINO** Now if I said that speak french that`s that makes me a French person?? NO!!! Then One person`s heritage is not measure only because they are able to speak the language. Being a Latino is living and learning everything there is to know of our culture. If one is of Spanish Heritage, one should try to learn everything there is of our culture and that is also learning the language so that one can trully live and feel the beauty that our ancestors have left us. Now, who are we to blame our parents for not teacing the language? Actually I would said that I parents may have tried to get us to speak it but we were young and did not know better and in that youthhood "WE KNEW EVERYTHING" and learning the language to its fullness was not our interest then; but know that we are adults we realized that we wasted valuable times in our past because we refused then to learned it and now we
must or we need it for our jobs. I personally value very much my beautiful language that I learn back in my country and I encourage my children to speak it too.

C 160 (Thu, Dec 27, 2001 @ 16:05 EST) **true dat** yo madd niggas can`t speak spanish i see it as a shame and all cuz people is losin thier spanish hod if u can`t speak it as much u losing something that is very big part of you that is all i have to sa

C 161 (Mon, Dec 24, 2001 @ 00:23 EST) **Look at that** Have you noticed that most of the people who think that speaking spanish is an important aspect of being latino wrote their messages in spanish?

C 162 (Fri, Dec 21, 2001 @ 13:39 EST) **Boricua state of mind** Yo creo que es importante conocer el idioma de tu cultura. Despues de todo es parte de. No quiero decir que no seas menos latino o whatever pero el idioma espaqol es parte de todo latino.

C 163 (Thu, Dec 20, 2001 @ 17:44 EST) **Re: of course** i completely agree with your point of view. I also think that it has to be earned. not saying im the best but you have to live the heritage and when you do that a whole new outlook on life comes with it. we as latinos do things different and we look at things with a different view. being latin is a way of life. i think those less fortunate to know their heritage through family should look into learning as much as they can. thanks for sharing with us.

C (Thu, Dec 20, 2001 @ 17:04 EST) **To speak, or not to speak... that is the question...** I`m ashamed to say that I`m NOT a spanish-speaking latino, but that doesn`t mean that I`m less of one. The thing is that fellow latinos look down on us because we are unable to speak spanish, and other cultures assume that spanish is our first language. I agree with pure sugar DR. Not speaking the language does not make you less of a latino. In fact educated latinos like myself are the ones that are working to carry our culture into the future. We are the ones that are trying to be role models, to show tomorrow`s future (today`s youth) that the possibilities are endless. So in fact... who`s to question me because I don`t speak spanish? I do feel that if you do not speak spanish, and you`re of latin decent, then you must at least make an effort to learn, because there is so much that you miss out on. I grew up speaking only English, but now, as an adult, I`m changing that. I`ve already got a degree, and now I`m taking courses to learn spanish. While I`m at it, I`m going to go for my 2nd degree in foreign language, then go for my Master`s degree. So, my point is, just because I can`t speak the language, doesn`t mean that I don`t want to, and I`m not proud of my culture! Not to get into racism, but young professionals like myself are the ones making a mark in the "White Man`s World" (if you will) for the rest of our culture to follow!

C 165 (Wed, Dec 19, 2001 @ 16:30 EST) **of course** A latino is not only considered for his/her language. Being a latino has to be earned. Your actions and how you carry your heritage are the factors that make you one. sometimes is not the person`s fault that their parents didn`t make the effort to teach them properly. However, I think that if you are a latino you would at least make an effort to learn the language.

C 166 (Sun, Dec 16, 2001 @ 13:08 EST) **hi** Well i know how to speak it but to write it or read it im not good but i can read little or just about enough no just cause i cat read or write spanish does that mean im not rican hahahaha well i think not because my parens are rican but is all good though bye Mita28~

SEE C 166, 167, C 168

C 167 (Sun, Dec 16, 2001 @ 13:07 EST) **hi** Well i know how to speak it but to write it or read it im not good but i can read little or just about enough no just cause i cat read or write spanish doe that mean im not rican hahahaha well i think not because my parens are rican but is all good though bye Mita28~

SEE C 166, 167, C 168
C 168 (Sun, Dec 16, 2001 @ 13:06 EST) **hi** Well i know how to speak it but to write it or read it im not good but i can read little or just about enough nojust cau i cat read or write spanish doe thatmen im not rican hahaha bye Mita28~

SEE C 166, 167, C 168

C 169 (Sat, Dec 15, 2001 @ 21:34 EST) **Si y no** Si no puede hablar espanol, va a perder un parte importante de la cultura. Considera los franceses en Quebec Canada. Ellos tienen una identidad diferente de otros canadenses. Yo creo que dos idiomas son importantes para ser Latino y American. No hablo espanol perfectamente, pero yo creo que es importante a saber y hablar algo para no perder la cultura. It`s also important to know and speak English to not be left behind in the fast moving USA world. Latinos who don`t speak English are marginalized and lose opportunities. pacgator

C 170 (Sat, Dec 15, 2001 @ 18:48 EST) **Not Speaking Spanish doesn`t `t mean you`re less of a Latino/a** I know how to speak spanish but I don`t speak it hardly ever! We are in a English Speaking world and we should speak spanish! Now if we were in a place that spanish is widly used then you can speak it but most of my friends speak spanish and they speak english over spanish! It deals of where you live and how you were brought up. Bartzjepr

C 171 (Tue, Dec 11, 2001 @ 11:39 EST) (Sun, Dec 09, 2001 @ 04:53 EST) **you are who u are** The spanish language is a big part of our culture but you cannot deny what runs thru your veins. You are who you are born to be and that`s one thing u cannot change. If language is a big deal, go learn it because for sure, it`s a beautiful language.

C 173 (Thu, Dec 06, 2001 @ 21:55 EST) **You Are Who You Are!!!!** I am puro Latina....Because of my hertiage, my cultures and my background..It is true what they say, for some of us who weren`t taught to speak spanish at a young age, because of our parents, but yet they were taught to speak spanish by our grandparents...But I love both my grandparents and parents...It is up to us now to know and speak spanish...But to answer the question...No, you don`t have to Latino(a) to speak spanish....You are who you are....Yo soy puro Latina....that is who I am no matter what!!!!!!!!!

C 174 (Thu, Dec 06, 2001 @ 16:12 EST) **Language is important, but it doesn`t make you Hispanic** to me it is very important to know your original language, and that includes speaking, writing and reading. i admit i don`t read or write spanish perfectly, but i try and i am still learning. it makes me kinda sad when people don`t know their native tongue, but i don`t think any less of them. your primary language, your style of clothes, music or favorite food doesn`t make you american, hispanic, african american, etc. it is knowing where you came from, your roots, your culture, and being proud of it! i am a true hispanic straight from the heart! represent your home country, in my case mexico. VIVA MEXICO!!!!!!!!!!!

C 175 (Tue, Dec 04, 2001 @ 13:18 EST) **This is a tough subject.** It`s true that less and less hispanics are actually speaking spanish these days, especially the younger, american born generation. Black people call themselves African Americans, even though they don`t speak african. I guess in terms of ethnic origin... yeah, a hispanic person who does not speak spanish is still hispanic. As far as culture goes, not many "ethnic" people live as their ancestors did.

C 176 (Sat, Dec 01, 2001 @ 14:22 EST) **HMMM** Tho i think that there are things about the culture that can be understood better if you speak spanish I really dont think that being considered latino(a) should be based on that one thing there are so many factors and that would be like saying that you are not latino bc of your skin color or something...It the **passion you have for your culture** that makes you latino(a). I have seen many that were so moved to be closer to their cultural roots that they chose to learn spanish even tho they were not taught by their parents and think thats wonderful.
that they feel it brings them closer, but I don't think that people should be made to feel any less proud of their heritage because they don't speak Spanish and anyone who tries to do that to someone, shame shame! We all have our own way to appreciate and embrace our roots, and it doesn't have to be thru the language.

C 177 (Fri, Nov 30, 2001 @ 20:10 EST) **Speak the Language?** In my opinion, I don't think you have to speak the language to be considered Latino.
The embracing of la cultura (the culture), el sabor (the flavor), el ritmo (the rhythm), el amor (the love), and el espiritu (the spirit) is what makes us Latino. We come in many flavors, colors, dialects. But it is the diversity of the Latin culture that makes us truly beautiful. Gracias a Dios!

C 178 (Wed, Nov 28, 2001 @ 20:51 EST) **no that not true** its not fair to say ur not Spanish cuz u can't speak it cuz some ppl's parents never taught them. Its not there fault and Spanish is difficult not everyone can learn it. It takes practice I know Spanish but its not perfect cuz when I was younger no one taught me I had to learn for myself so if anyone says ur less Spanish cuz u don't speak it its not true ur probably ten times more Spanish then that person

C 179 (Tue, Nov 27, 2001 @ 22:22 EST) **It doesn't matter** You're not Latino or latina by what you know how to do. I can speak Spanish but I can't dance to salsa or merengue too good. I know how to cook but prefer Italian over Spanish. I don't think that makes me less of a Latina. To me it's knowing my background where I came from. Where my family came from. Your roots make you Latino/a. To me also my upbringing.

C 180 (Tue, Nov 27, 2001 @ 12:48 EST) **Sorry** I really wouldn't consider someone a true Latino if he/she didn't speak Spanish. Nothing Personal, just stating my opinion.

C 181 (Sun, Nov 25, 2001 @ 17:24 EST) **basically** it really doesn't matter if u know it or not, becaue being what u are is in the heart not in what u can do and what your abilities are and how u represent yourself.
i mean...if somebody judges u because u cant speak Spanish does that mean that if a pure caucasian comes up speaking Spanish fluently they're Latino? no...If you have the blood in you, etc, etc, you're latino....point blank.

C 182 (Wed, Nov 21, 2001 @ 16:21 EST) **IT MATTERS** it does matter if u know the language but only if u think that knowing it makes u more or less latino, if u really have a pation for your culturethen it doesn't matter. Aveces no es culpa de ellos wur no sepan espanol, y eso no quiere decir que no les guste oh que lo quieran aprender, solo uiero decir que si uno respeta a su cultura y trata de saber todo acerca de ella entonces puede ser mas latino que alguien que habla espanol y no sabe nada de su cultura.

C 183 (Tue, Nov 20, 2001 @ 16:14 EST) **Una cosa mas** Una cosita mas---mi ultima frase dijo que nadie tiene que ser lo que su sangre le dice....eso realmente no es verdad. Lo que queria decir es que su corazón le dice con quienes quiere identificarse. He pensado mucho en porque me gusta tanto esa cultura, pero amigos me han ensenado que fue el mano de Dios que nos dirige. En eso tenemos que pensar

C 184 (Tue, Nov 20, 2001 @ 16:03 EST) **Individad/Individualidad** Interesante que nadie aqui respondes en espaqol...pero bueno. No soy una para decir quien es quien, pero creo que un gran parte de una cultura es su lengua, porque la lengua es todo...la literatura, la musica, como hablan. Asi que creo que sera bueno que los que identifican con el nombre "latino" saben un poco de espanol. And by the way, I'm American--but I studied all those four years, spent a year in Spain as an exchange student, y ahora, por el casamiento, soy media Colombia, y muy orgullosa de eso. Asi que creo que es una pena que yo hablo y escribo espanol mejor que esos que se identifican con la cultura. Si se da cuenta, nadie tiene que ser lo que su sangre le dice--todo esta en el corazon.

SEE C 184
C 185 (Mon, Nov 19, 2001 @ 16:27 EST) lol.. You guys are funny...
I was born in PR. Love my people...
I speak +.
Am I latina.
Of course I am!

C 186 (Sat, Nov 17, 2001 @ 11:58 EST) Re: Individuality You are exactly right angel...
Its funny how people expect all latinos to be clones.. Like if you fall down we all have to say, "AYYY!!" or we are not latino!! This ridiculous.. As we mature and find our niche in this world we all do become individuals I agree, that does not mean we forget where we came from or who we are LATINO!! Speaking spanish is an action something that anyone can do, being latino is something embedded inside of you that no one can take away and you do not have to DO ANYTHING!!

C 187 (Thu, Nov 15, 2001 @ 15:52 EST) Re: new question By the way, for those interested, I read, write and speak spanish fluently.

C 188 (Thu, Nov 15, 2001 @ 15:49 EST) new question This question is for those people who think that one can not be Latino if they dont speak spanish. I hear your arguments about preserving culture and all that, but what do you all think will happen is that part of our culture is lost. Do ya`ll think that we will be categorized as black? white? asian? other? Will we be assimilated into the American mainstream? I don`t know what will happen but one thing I do know is that we will not stop being Latino. Latinidad (for lack of a better term) is more than just spanish...

C 189 (Thu, Nov 15, 2001 @ 07:33 EST) Re: AMERICAN Your situation is the same as mine....almost exactly the same. It makes me feel good to see all the posts here after mine and know that I am not the only one...
Besitos Pa` Todos...

C 190 (Tue, Nov 13, 2001 @ 20:02 EST) Individuality if you are born a latino, your going to die a latino. It is up to the individual to seek the knowledge of their culture. Being able to speak spanish does not really qualify you as latino. If that was the case does that mean that everyone who goes beyond Spanish 4 is latino???? no no....Being able to shine with your heritage makes you a latino. its simple, like buttah

C 191 (Tue, Nov 13, 2001 @ 10:39 EST) Re: you should know spanish I hear where you are coming from but I think that you are wrong. First of all Spanish in not the native language of people from Latin America. So I think that it would be safe to say that people who speak Spanish are not speaking their native language. Which native language is yours, for that matter all people from Latin America? And as for blaming my parents for not teaching me Spanish well their not the one`s to blame. I guess I should point the finguere at mi "abuelos" since they refused to teach all ten of their children how to speak Spanish, forbidding it! But they did that out of love and the knowledge of the prejudice`s of their time. I made it a point to learn Spanish. Because I was tired of others treating me as if I am somehow less. I have a great friend who speaks both Spanish and English with ease, yet she can`t cook and her knowledge of the culture is less than mine. So who decides what is important and what is expendable??? Maybe we need to stop putting of dividers and start opening our minds!!!

C 192 (Mon, Nov 12, 2001 @ 19:30 EST) just and fyi IT doesnt really matter whether you were born in PR or Continental USA , you are an American , we call ourselves Puertorricans and we are really proud of who we are thats why it doesnt matter where you were born and you are a descendent from somebody from PR or you were born on the island we BORICUAS are the same with different backgorunds but proud of who we are .... So NOBODY should let anybody to make you feel less if you dont speak spanish, as far as Im concerned hte language is part of the culture not the culture as a whole!
C 193 (Sun, Nov 11, 2001 @ 21:24 EST) **AMERICAN** I am a NuYorican and never been to Puerto Rico. My parents never spoke Spanish to me so I never learned it. They used to make front of me saying that I`m not a real Boricua because I do not speak Spanish. I took it all through school, went to a bilingual church, and have friends that speak no English. I have put it to practice. I know how to read and write it good. I went out my way to learn it and now I can understand more than speak it. I practice everyday and I am getting better. So, now does that make me latino? I am just a Puerto Rican born in the US which makes me and American and that is something I am very proud of.

C 194 (Fri, Nov 09, 2001 @ 23:36 EST) **Re: you should know spanish** As a Chicano growing up not knowing Spanish, I was always puzzled. But in my community, Mexicans have live there for years. I live outside San Bernardino California. My grandparents never taught my dad Spanish, because when they were in school, they got wiped for speaking Spanish. Spanish speakers were put in the retarded classes back then. So they never taught there kids, for they thought that their kids would be punished too. Now I lived with my dad for 11 years, `cause my mother who tried to teach me Spanish was a drug addict. I never truly learned, but I can`t blame my parents or grandparents. Those with that attitude should also hear about the history behind some. For it`s not the easiest thing to keep the old family language alive.

C 195 (Fri, Nov 09, 2001 @ 07:12 EST) **It`s a shame.....** I can`t speak spanish fluently! But it takes nothing away from me! I try to carry conversations in spanish when I speak to my family and friends. I can`t say some words but I still make an attempt. It is difficult when I am at work and some one needs help in spanish but like I said "I try!"

C 196 (Thu, Nov 08, 2001 @ 01:24 EST) **Re: you should know spanish** If English is your first language, then that is your OWN language. What you mean to say is that it`s a shame you don`t know your grandmother`s language.

C 197 (Tue, Nov 06, 2001 @ 17:49 EST) **Re: HMMM...... LOL, okay...** Listen.. me personally I knew a some Spanish always.. I took Spanish at school and I knew more than the teacher!! Those Gringos who take Spanish and school and can count don`t really know Spanish.. So I don`t know what you mean by its easy to learn?!?!? I mean I speak better than Gringos understand most things but I can really suck talking to a native speaker, because I have to think too much. Its not EASY.. Unless you are immersed you can never truly be as fast or swift as a native speaker... Do you wanna clarify what you mean by take the time to learn?!?!? Is there some certain level of Spanish speaking ability that you wish someone to have and if so what is it?!?!

C 198 (Sun, Nov 04, 2001 @ 13:00 EST) **you should know spanish** hey it doesn`t make you any less latin ,but it is ashamed that you don`t know your own language. i was born in ny and i learned spanish first then eventually through t.v. and school i learned english,and thanks to my mother i learned to read and write spanish. thats another thing i really blame your parents if you don`t know how to speak spanish.

C 199 (Wed, Oct 31, 2001 @ 14:53 EST) **Re: Re: hola** Of course I know the difference. These are just terms used by people to identify themselves, and does it really matter what we call ourselves. Your intentions are well in trying to educate us what the difference is between the terms Hispanic and Latin, but please lighten up. Since I was born in the Northern Hemishpere, I guess I could call myself a Norte Americano. But does it matter. It`s just a word.
Re: real

What you are saying is the same thing that I am passing thru in my life right now and I hate it. How can other Puerto Ricans or other Latinos in general expect us to be "proud" of who we are and show that when they front on us like we are not all "family". I can write and read Spanish pretty good and pronounce anything I need to, but it is not growing up around family "constantly" speaking Spanish.

So is that our faults?
What makes it even worse for me is I have a darker skin color.....como canela and I get TREATED like I am frontin on being Puerto Rican! Yeah, it hurts my feelings but it also pisses me off because who is anyone to say that we are any less Hispanic because we don`t speak, or we don`t speak good Spanish?
My father is Puerto Rican and he was adopted by his step-father, a black man......so he is not Puerto Rican because HE doesn`t speak Spanish? What you are is what is in your BLOOD. Yo soy boricua porque es lo que siento in mi SANGRE! En mi ALMA y CORAZON!!
I get problems from people of all races. Because in my house en la pared hay una bandera puertorriquena, and because I make homemade Sofrito and eat platano y arroz con pollo y habichuelas......because my two year old walks around yelling "BORICUA!"....And people say to me that I am fronting....fronting on what, though? That is my question! I am what I am and soy orgulloso pero, what gives Spanish Speakin Hispanics the right to tell me that I ALSO cannot be proud and that I am not Puerto Rican ENOUGH. It hurts me that every corner I turn to I am not accepted when I have nowhere else to turn. We are known as the people with big hearts and lots of love to give....so why are y`all turning away your own people??! Why can`t you embrace those of us with darker skin or who speak Spanish a little funny if not at all?! Embrace us because we are your own and if our own people do not embrace us, who will?
I would like someone that is of lighter skin or speaks fluently or who has ever fronted on a "half-Latino" or not showed love to someone who doesn`t "look" Hispanic, only to find out that they are to respond to this....

Or someone who just has somethin to say about this because it is a sublect that I have seen is widely a problem around where I am from (midwest). Are people like this in Florida or NJ or NY, where there are lots of darker Latinos or many Latinos that do not speak fluently......? Are there problems with people of every race INCLUDING Latinos assuming that we are one thing we we are realy Hispanic? Whatz the deal people? +/-

I am latina! I am half latina and half white. Being Latina is what distinguishes me from being white. It is the reason people ask me what my heritage is. It is not my fault that I do not speak Spanish fluently. Both my parents speak Spanish fluently, but I didn`t learn much as a child. Since then I have struggled to learn and gain firm grasp on the language. I know that it is important thing and part of our culture. But just because one doesnst speak spanish doesnt mean they are not Latino.

Re: Re: hola

Last week a co-worker told me I`m not `spanish`, that I should stop frontin`. I`m about 90% sure that she was joking with me, but I have to admit that, though I laughed, it bothered me a great deal that she would say that to me.
All my life I`ve been called `la gringa (ita)`, people have treated me as if I chose to be this light. And now that I`m 28 years old and words escape me when I`m speaking Spanish, I wonder what it means to be latina? Is it enough to have a spanish last name? or being able to speak in spanish without having to say, `Como se dice fluent?` Does it mean being able to dance cumbias all night long? or being able to put that constantly (!) moving accent mark over the right letter in a word? I don`t know.
Maybe it`s all those things and none of those. I suppose feeling latino is like many things in this strange world: it`s a purely personal thing that no one else can dictate for us. Yes, it`s important to remember and honor our roots, but to accuse someone of not being hispanic because he/she doesn`t speak the language is something we can`t afford to do. As a people, whether you take that to mean the hispanic peoples or americans it doesn`t matter much to me, we should learn to celebrate our strenght and individuality and learn
from our weaknesses. To truly preserve the culture, the language is not all that feasible in my opinion. We`re in america. Things are bound to fuse together, to blend making new traditions, new customs. Is this a bad thing? I don`t happen to think so. The only bad thing I can see happening is someone coming by on Thanksgiving and giving me sh*t cuz I`m serving platanos as one of my side dishes! We have to work with what we know people.

C 203 (Mon, Oct 29, 2001 @ 05:18 EST) Re: HMMM...... Just thought..daum i like what i wrote! lol... Don`t let so many years of history go! Take the time to learn your language! & your HISTORY!

C 204 (Mon, Oct 29, 2001 @ 05:11 EST) Re: Re: Re: hola WTF?? We are bound to lose the language, and then you say they make us feel not american? You have serious issues! Your native language should be something you strive to keep, its your ORGULLO..PRIDE!! I hope you don`t think everything is bound to be lost.... if so you`d be including yourself!
SEE 203

C 205 (Mon, Oct 29, 2001 @ 01:28 EST) Re: hmmm I am glad you said that. I am trying to learn our language, but it is difficult with age. Some of my friends who have Spanish as their first language don`t understand why it`s so hard to learn.. It is my one wish in this world.... to speak fluent, proper spanish. But I am glad to know I am still considered a latina! Thank you ;)
Re: hola Hispanic are hispanic, not Latinos. Don`t any of you here know the difference? What`s with this Latino/Latina crap? How many of you here speak Latin or were born in Latium?
L. PUIG

207 (Wed, Oct 24, 2001 @ 22:17 EST) Re: Re: Re: hola You are right it is a weakness, but it is up to the parents to keep the language alive!

C 208 (Wed, Oct 24, 2001 @ 00:05 EST) Re: HMMM...... you`re right!!!!!!!!!!!i love you for saying it. esco

C 209 (Tue, Oct 23, 2001 @ 23:57 EST) Re: Re: Re: hola not knowing spanish is actually a weakness.can`t you see that?what better way to honor all those that came before us than to preserve our culture(language,music,food,etc.).ask your grandparents if i`m right. peace esco
SEE 208

C 210 (Mon, Oct 22, 2001 @ 21:08 EST) Re: Re: hola What do you mean us from them! First of all, you must not be from America because who is "them"? That`s are problem we let the United States make us not feel like Americans, but I`m not gonna let them do it, because my parents came here from PR in 1945 and were raised and my grandfathers fought in the Korean War! And to answer the speaking Spanish Question, if your parents first language is English just like mine is, it`s gonna be very hard to train your kids to speak Spanish! So once again I don`t speak Spanish fluently and I guess that just makes me more Puerto Rican American because as time goes on were bound to lose the language and big deal, our bills come in English!!!!
SEE C 207

C 211 (Mon, Oct 22, 2001 @ 19:09 EST) Re: Being Latino yeah right! esco

C 212 (Mon, Oct 22, 2001 @ 19:06 EST) Re: hola language is one of a couple of things that distinguishes us from them.what binds mexicans,cubans,dominicans,puerto ricans besides a common history?LANGUAGE!preserving our language should be one of our
main objectives!

one esco

C 213 (Mon, Oct 22, 2001 @ 15:28 EST) hmmm although I do believe the Spanish Language should be taught to our kids so they too can pass it on, we live in the U.S and we are Americans of Latin Descent so we can;t expect this to happen. Many of my friends don`t know a word of english but know everything about there culture, so yes u are definitly latino even if u don`t know spanish......

C 214 (Mon, Oct 22, 2001 @ 12:51 EST) Re: hola It`s not whether I can speak my ancestors language, but what I do to preserve my heritage. The language isn`t understood by non-Spanish speaking people, but they do understand when they`re told about the history.

C 215 (Mon, Oct 22, 2001 @ 00:38 EST) IT`S IN MY BLOOD My ethnicity is made up of mostly hispanic and just because I wasn`t raised to learn spanish I`m not going to deny what I am. I`m a true latina whether I speak spanish or not. "IT`S IN MY BLOOD!"

C 216 (Sun, Oct 21, 2001 @ 18:13 EST) Re: So ashamed... Same hear! keinkommentar

C 217 (Sun, Oct 21, 2001 @ 02:57 EST) hola if you don`t speak spanish which is the one of the threads that binds us to our history, You`re fake.

C 218 (Sat, Oct 20, 2001 @ 17:17 EST) Being Latino Being Latino is a lifestyle and a Culture.....so many things involved. Whether you can speak spanish is an addition to your heritage. I believe their is nothing wrong with not being able to speak spanish. It is what you exude and what you believe in as a LATINO.

C 219 (Wed, Oct 17, 2001 @ 20:53 EST) uh yeah yo i am "Latino" and i don`t speaka the espanish! i think that there is nothing wrong with that!

C 220 (Wed, Oct 17, 2001 @ 01:59 EST) Re: good question.... You make a good point. This "Latino" label expects people who were born and raised in the United States to have the same culture as their grandparents. That`s ridiculous. People say that you shouldn`t ignore your past--well, you shouldn`t ignore your PRESENT either. I live in CA and I know many Mexican-American people. I think that other Latinos fail to realize that Mexican-Americans have been here a very long time. Yes, there are millions of new immigrants but there are many who have been here much longer than Puerto Ricans, Cubans and Central-Americans. If you`ve been here that long, it only makes sense that you`re going to speak English, not Spanish.

SEE C 196, C 220, C 222, C 272

C 221 (Mon, Oct 15, 2001 @ 14:53 EST) good question.... I am 3rd generation mexican-american and my spanish isn`t that great, though I do speak a little. What is it to be Latino/a? Is the color of your skin? Everyone knows that we range in color from pastey white to very dark. Is it our our physical features? There again, we have alot of diversity, from indian features to european. The formal definition of Latino/a encompasses people whose native language isn`t spanish. I think that those people who think that you are not latino unless you speak spanish are interpreting the situation incorrectly, as if we are denying who we are or are ashamed, but in reality are just a product of our upbringing. We have no control over that as children and now as adults I feel that most who don`t know spanish are trying to learn. Understanding your culture means appreciating your culture and that requires no language whatsoever just an open mind and open heart.
Latino Victims of the WTC Attack

There is a group called the Tepeyac Association which donates money to Latino victims of the WTC attack who do not qualify for traditional sources of relief.****The Association not only donates money to the families of victims, but to those who are now unemployed because of the attack.****Don`t think that if you can`t donate hundreds of dollars that your contribution won`t matter. It all adds up! Many people are suffering right now and desperately need help. For many, Tepeyac is their ONLY source of help. Browse the website to see pictures of the victims and read their stories. Donate today and help those struggling to recover from this horrible tragedy.

http://www.tepeyac.org/pfev.htm

If you want make a donation, make your check or money order to: Associacion Tepeyac de New York (Desempleados)
and send it to:
Associacion Tepeyac de New York
223 West 14th St.
New York, NY 10011
If you have any questions, e-mail AsocTepeyac@tepeyac.org or call (212)633 7108

C 223 not available

C 224 (Sun, Oct 14, 2001 @ 15:07 EST) I Don`t Think So... A huge part of being Latino is the language therefore how can u truly be latino if u don`t know spanish... if u don`t try to know it?? b/c that`s jus denying ur race...u are latino but not a true one if u don`t speak the language...

SEE C 196, C 220, C 222, C 272

C 225 (Sat, Oct 13, 2001 @ 21:53 EST) Most definitely Yes, Latinos/Latinas who don`t know the Spanish language are still considered to be Latinos...Even without the espanol, knowing the traditions, the cultural roots, and the sabor is enough...However knowing so much about the culture, one should make an effort to learn espanol, to be able to pass it down to the next generation...

C 226 (Sat, Oct 13, 2001 @ 11:01 EST) Re: yeah My friend had the same experience. He`s half PR, half Eritrean and his mother didn`t teach him Spanish. He learned because they traveled frequently to PR and to be able to communicate with this relatives, he had to know Spanish.
Its unfortunate that people here are unable to learn Spanish in their homes with their parents or grandparents,but you (not you cara de angel, but you in general) can`t tell me that people don`t have the opportunity to learn outside of their homes (school or self-taught). Like Domi said, it`s really not that hard.
Spanish isn`t the only factor that makes you Latino (understand the the term Latino here is all encompassing for Spanish-speaking LA countries because to list each nationality individually is time consuming) but it is the MAJOR factor.
Can somebody(not the anti-colonizationists wanna be revolutionaries) explain why you wouldn`t want to know spanish?

C 227 (Fri, Oct 12, 2001 @ 17:54 EST) aye... speaking spanish doesn`t make you latino. Where were your parents born? where were your grandparents born? How were you raised? What were you taught growing up? This all has something to do with it. My family is from Puerto Rico, I was born in NY, my stepfather was white so we didn`t speak spanish around the house as a child. Does this not make me a latin american?? I know I am boricua 2 tha heart...
C 228 (Fri, Oct 12, 2001 @ 15:57 EST) yeah if u are proud of ur culture and u love ur latino roots then u r latino lots of ppl don`t speak spanish b/c sometimes there parents never taught them i learned spanish the first time i went to puerto rico that was like back when i was 7 but i considered myself to a latina since i was a little kid because i was influenced by the culture i was around it 24/7 it was the way i lived just because i didn`t speak it didn`t mean i didn`t love an drespect it SEE C178

C 229 (Fri, Oct 12, 2001 @ 15:33 EST) Re: HMMM...... I agree with you 100% and I don`t see why people don`t even want to learn Spanish, even nowadays... Posters keep saying that they don`t need to know Spanish to be Latino because they know their culture. Culture is alot more than just knowing your history. Knowing Spanish helps you learn more about your culture. For example, I`m trying to get my Pto. Rican friend into Verso Negroid/Poesia Afro-Antillana (which is related to the Son and salsa by association) which is written both in vernacular Spanish or PR/Cuba and how the emisores speak. I think it was frustrating for him because didn`t have enough knowledge of Spanish to understand everything that was being said. He`s missing out on such an important part of Puerto Rican culture, which-by the way-is so much more than just salsa and tostones.
SEE C 229, C 253, C 257

C 230 (Fri, Oct 12, 2001 @ 01:39 EST) HMMM...... I feel Very strongly about this subject. I believe if you are going to wave your flag like crazy and REPRESENT..then take time to learn your language. People who aren`t hispanic take the time & effort... why can`t YOU?? I think you take time to learn the songs on the radio, take time to chill, take time to go to the PARADES, and say how HISPANIC you are..how about learning your beautiful language?? If you don`t learn soon no one will speak it but the people in the countries.. C`MON!! Its not that difficult!
SEE C 203, C 204

C 231 (Thu, Oct 11, 2001 @ 17:10 EST) I hope so... I`m not a total fluent speaker of Spanish either, but I do speak a lot, understand most and can write and read some. I`ve met a few other latinos who know less then me, but I always consider them latinos, though it`s true that some native speakers will look down on you if you don`t speak spanish fluently, which I`ll say right now is just some ignorant nonsense, my last name is Vargas and my everything about me looks latin, my skin, eyes, hair, everything. Native speakers have to realize that it`s not always a latino`s fault for not speaking the language fluently, for example, I was born in the U.S. my mother speaks fluently but was raised in this country, so her english is perfect and my brothers and I didn`t grow up in a predominately spanish neighborhood, however, since i`m in college now i plan on taking spanish courses, to brush up on my spanish and I would recommend that to any other non speaker, because language/knowledge is power.

C 232 (Thu, Oct 11, 2001 @ 09:31 EST) Of Course You Are! If you consider yourself to be latino then thats it, no matter if you speak Spanish or not. But, the question is really how will be viewed in what you consider your mother country. If you consider yourself Puerto Rican and go to puerto rico visiting family without speaking spanish then you will be viewed as a gringo/a. Thats the fact.
In any case, if you are latino, it best serves you to learn the language. It is part of your culture.

C 233 (Thu, Oct 11, 2001 @ 02:39 EST) Blah Blah It doesn`t matter if you speak Spanish or not, or whether others consider you to be Latino. The fact is, you live in this country, they speak english here, not spanish, and if you have a close affinity to your heritage, who`s going to tell you your not? And if they do, will you believe them? I hope not. Oh yeah, one more thing. in this country, if you look latino and have a Spanish last name, they`re going to classify you as latino. So your latino any way you see it.
a few words

yea id definitely say that you are still latino even if you dont speak spanish. i was an orphan in colombia until i was 1 and from there was adopted by an american family. i dont speak a word but have managed to educate myself on the language and to a degree the culture that i never experienced. i consider myself fully latino. just without the language.....just cause you dont speak it doesnt mean you dont know or fell where you are from. im colombian raised in the US and im proud of that. i mean seriously.....some of my boys are chinese and they dont speak mandarin, so does that make them less???
it goes back to whats in your heart.
Latino blood still courses through me.

MY SPANISH IS TERRIBLE BUT NOBODY CAN DENY MY BLOODLINE...ITS THAT SIMPLE!

PLEASE BELIEVE ITS REAL IN THE FIELD IF YOU DONT KNOW SPANISH IN SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD (THEY DONT CARE IF YOURE FROM SPANISH DESENT) THEY WILL TRY TO GANK YOUR *bleep*. I DONT LOOK HISPANIC BUT I AM & I SPEAK SPANISH (THANK GOD) YOURE CONSIDERED EVERYTHING ELSE BUT SPANISH. ITS NOT A PRE-REQUISITE BUT YOU SHOULD LEARN IT. NOBODY CAN TAKE AWAY WHAT YOU ARE BUT IN THE EYES OF A CERTAIN FEW U ARE NOT SPANISH. DONT TAKE MY WORD FOR IT. TAKE IT TO THE FIELD & FIND OUT.

Por supuesto Spanish is not a pre-requisite to belonging to your heritage. But, if you`re really concerned about it, you can always learn Spanish.

no offense but what kind of a question is this? if it is in your blood, i dont care if you dont know what "hola" means, you are latino. that`s your nationality basically, and thats what you r.

cause I don`t speak spanish. Althou, I still feel like I can`t join certain latina/o groups cause i don`t speak spanish. I love it when I meet others who don`t speak spanish, cause it makes me feel like I`m not the only one.

no offense but what kind of a question is this? if it is in your blood, i dont care if you dont know what "hola" means, you are latino. that`s your nationality basically, and thats what u r.

I`m a PROUD Chicana! Even though I wish I was able to speak my language perfectly, I don`t find that I`m less of a Chicana/Latina because I can`t. I`m still just as proud (if not more) of my culture as any other Latino/a-Chicano/!! I understand the language...I was raised in an English & Spanish speaking household, but I just never spoke it regularly.

The word Chicano doesn`t come from farm workers. It comes from the Spanish word Mexicano (Mehicano) which comes from the Nuatl Meshica.

I don`t like it either, no matter where it comes from. Mexican-American is what we should use. Latino, Hispanic, etc were applied to us, and as somebody else said, they are too broad.
C 244 (Mon, Oct 01, 2001 @ 10:00 EST) simple enough When you see an Asian person, you immediately assume that he or she is `chinese`, right? Now let's assume that this Asian person doesn't speak their native language, are they not Chinese? Are they some sort of hybrid person? My point is we are too quick to access and label. If someone is of German heritage, but doesn't speak German but fluent speaks Spanish, are they Latino then?

C 245 (Sat, Sep 29, 2001 @ 13:44 EST) Re: HEY WHAT ABOUT ME?? I am also PR and Italian and felt growing up I always had to prove myself. I don't speak Spanish and although I wish I did it does not make me any less latina. I was born in the U.S so I have embraced all of my cultures. Unfortunately, my Italian culture has suffered the most due to my dominate Puerto Rican father. I am very proud latina and no longer feel I have to prove myself. We Latinos need to bridge the gap amongst ourselves. Latinos are generally a mixed breed...The origin of Latinos is due to the the age of exploration where many different ethnicities bred and created LATINOS!!!

C 246 (Sat, Sep 29, 2001 @ 12:15 EST) Re: Hispanic/Latino I don't like the terms Hispanic or Chicano. I've had debates about the origin of Chicano in the 70's so that makes me a fogey too! Chicano is derived from a word which means swine and that's what farm owners used to describe farm workers...as filthy pigs. Some farm workers (RIP Cesar!) took on the word and tweaked it a little to come up with Chicano. Their theory was if they're going to call us this then will make the word our own and change the meaning. To me, whether you call me Chicano/a or filthy pig...I'm still gonna kick your *bleep* Peace!

C 247 (Sat, Sep 29, 2001 @ 10:27 EST) Hispanic/Latino Hey, I'm really enjoying this! I remember going through this debate back in the Sixties (yeah, I'm a fogey). Some of is disliked the term Hispanic because it referred to Hispaniola and was a European construct. At the time many of us began adopting the term Latino/Latina because it was how we described ourselves in Spanish. But when the term is used by non-Hispanic or non-Latino people it can take on a condescending tone, which is why many of us don't use it. Here where I live, I'm still referred to as Spanish, even though I'm not from Spain. I try not to take it too seriously.

C 248 (Fri, Sep 28, 2001 @ 18:34 EST) Re: Re: Latino is inclusive, too broad of a word My point exactly. The term "Hispanic" is usually associated with, in your words: "people from Spanish-speaking countries or origins". However, what about those people from countries such as Brazil, Guyana, Belize, Haiti, etc that are not Spanish speaking. Perhaps I wasn't clear before. A lot of folks associate LATINO with Spanish speaking countries ONLY (not including Spain). For example, some folks are saying that you are not a true LATINO if you can't speak SPANISH. Seems to me we are saying the same thing. People are going to label themselves whichever way they want. Just my thoughts, don't need a lessons regarding the many cultural difference within and surrounding a particular region.

C 249 (Fri, Sep 28, 2001 @ 17:53 EST) Re: Latino is inclusive, too broad of a word what does Hispanic mean to you, then? I hope your answer is not :"people from Spanish-speaking countries or origins" because then where do you leave Brazil in than definition? Why not just call ourselves "Mexican", "Argentinian", "Brazilian", "Mexican-American", instead of trying to all fit into one label, when in reality our cultures are so different?

C 250 (Fri, Sep 28, 2001 @ 17:27 EST) Latino is inclusive, too broad of a word Wouldn't the word Latino be a reference to all languages that gets it roots (language, etc) from LATIN? Therefore, Latinos would include those folk whose culture and language are Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese. Latino doesn't automatically mean Hispanic. SEE C 248
It's great to see that there are so many people out there questioning the whole idea of identity and how we all use the same words and mean so many different things. Some people stick big flags on their cars to show the world what they are, yet they know little of their culture or how they got to where they are. Others are called anglo wannabees because they don't sprinkle enough "yo's" in their sentences, but they can tell you all about the struggles we as a people have lived through. So when I meet someone who says they're hispanic or latino, I don't question it. I'm glad of it. They all should be welcome.

SEE C 247


NO Yes, there are many varying forms of Spanish spoken. Castellano has been the standard dialect since the expulsion of the Jews and Mors from Spain. This standard Spanish is what was brought over to the Americas and changed based on where you're from for various reasons. We each have a few words or phrases that are unique to our respective homelands (in the DR we call them Dominicanisms), but if you put a Cuban, a Puerto Rican, and a Mexican in a room together they'll be able to understand each other. Even if a Dominican says something like "palo si boga, palo si no boga", (s)he'll still be able to communicate in standard Spanish what that means. The language is one of few things that unites a Cuban and a Mexican. The accents may differ, but they'd still be speaking the same language. It's not like you're putting a Yemeni and a Macedonian in the same room and expecting them to know what the other is saying. Castellano is not that different from what we speak today in the Americas. Really, the only thing that is majorly different is that the majority of us from here don't use the vosotros form. If you go to Spain, you won't have trouble understanding or being understood unless you're talking to a gallego or a vasco.

SEE C 229, C 253, C 257

Being Latino does not mean you are Aztec, or Inca, or Maya. It means you are from mexico, peru, Bolivia, etc. People from Argentina are latinos, not italians. therefore, I really think your logic is that of one who doesn't even speak spanish (no VALES nada, not "no valles nada") but who finds pride in being Latino. How much do you know about latin culture? have you ever been to a latin country? Have you ever lived in one? How could you even communicate with a true latino person if you can't even peak their language? How can you understand a culture if you can't even speak to its people?

SEE C 249

There are many dialects of Spanish spoken. Actually, I believe the Spanish spoken in Spain is Castillian which is quite different then what we identify as Spanish. Put a Puerto Rican, a Mexican, a Cuban and any other Latino in a room and listen to the different varieties of Spanish. Amazing! We've taken a language and made it our own. That's the beauty of language.....make it your own and spread the good word of peace and understanding.

God Bless!

SEE C 246
Latinos The meaning of latino is anybody that comes from south america, that doesn`t necesarily say u r going to speak spanish.

No te mientas, no estes tan ciego. Whether we like it or not, Spain is a part of us. It`s part of our history and we need to learn to reconcile ourselves with that fact. In reality, being a Latino and refusing to learn Spanish is about as pro-active as the Latinos who come to the US and refuse to learn English. The people who refuse to learn Spanish because it was the language of the colonizers have blinders on. Have you read Leela Ghandi`s Postcolonial Theory? In the first chapter of Postcolonial Theory she discusses the dilemma of the people of postcolonial Africa/Asia in their attempt to form an identity of their own. There`s a "therapeutic" process these people must go through that involves remembering, re-membering, and accepting both (or in the case of we Latinos all) contributions (pre-colonial, colonial, and the present) that form these new cultures. I`m not very good at articulating her ideas, but I recommend the book to anyone who has not yet read it! Siempre pa`lante, nunca pa`tras!

And in response to the original question, if you don`t know the language how much of the culture can you truly know and understand? Who are you depending on to teach you about your culture? Language is especially important because there are things that people can try to tell you about who you are but those things get lost in the translation. SEE C 229, C 253, C 257

being latino.. I have to agree with papichulo1 and no1rumbera. Eventhough it is a difficult question to answer because of all the opinions out there. Being latino doesn`t mean you talk spanish. :o)

Re: Bieng Latino dang boy that was sweet. i don`t think every one understands what being latino really is these days. there are so many people who don`t acknowledge how difficult and unique being latino really is and how some who call themselves latinos aren`t true to thier latin culture and create different images of what a latino is. i really like your respon.

Bieng Latino Spanish is the language of those who conquered this Hemisphere as well as Portuguese an French which are Latin Languages.Being Latino doesn`t mean you have to speak 1 of those languages,a Latino is unique to this hemisphere,you don`t hear them running around callin themselves Latinos.A Latino is a mixture of Spanish,Indian,African or Portuguese Bloods.That to me is a TRUE LATINO, the mixing of the bloods not the lanhuage of of those who conquered us.

Spanish is the enemy, Spanish is the murderer of Aztecs, Incas, etc. They raped our women, killed our men and children. Pinche Mensa, tu no valles nada. You need to wake up ruca. We carry european names, and religion. We are basically saying that we honor them killing and destroying our real culture. Think about it.

A Culture is not just Language I do not know enough spanish to survive somewhere like Puerto Rico or DR...BUT!! Knowing how to speak spanish does not give you Latino membership in my book. There are plenty of Panamanian, PRs DRs, Colombians etc who speak spanish but do not know a thing about their country except that "My family comes from there." So how can you really identify with your Latin roots without knowing anything about them? Those in the Caribbean especially have alot to learn about calling themselves Hispanic but then at the same time casting distrust and disdain for their darker skinned cousins. I do not know Spanish but I do know that when Balboa discovered Panama he did not find it empty. Of course you would say "Duh he found Caribs and Arawaks and other Indians on the island." Ok yeah sure.. But what he FOUND was that there were ETHIOPIANs in Panama. This is WAY
Before the slave trade began via the Portuguese and the Dutch traders. Now that makes you think...among other things my country is made up of many people and I know for sure that to simply speak spanish does not make me more Latino than someone who does not.

I would rather know my countries` intricate highly interesting highly enlightening HISTORY and DETAILS with a slight grasp of spanish than know spanish wholly and have no place at all to identify that spanish language with. In the end we are in a very mixed up world where we have been scattered to the four winds and our children and ourselves not knowing spanish is a result of that.

I have something to say to those that claim that Latino is simpy about Language. "No es verdad." Being a spanish speaker is not a fad or a state of coolness and I feel that the reality of this, is that when all of this Latin craze dies down and Chinese women or whoever become popular we will have to take a step back so to speak and do the mental salsa within ourselves. LATINOS ARE NOT SOME FLAVOR OF KOOLAID to be drunken and sampled tasted and then eventually discarded.

Its nice to be liked or admired but I dont feel that alot of these Pro-Latin feelings stem from genuine Latino ideals. I feel it comes from alot of people wanting to be apart of something that for the time being is popular. You have Hip hop which is idolizing Latin women, MINUS the respect they deserve and in the end you just have this sub-culture all based around getting in a mujere`s panties.

When all of that is gone we still need to identify with ourselves and not with somebody else`s opinions of us.

We should think we are cool before Jay-Z comes out with "Hey Papi." Latin women are supposed to be sex symbols before you see them frolicking around in "Fiesta." You dig? And so what you hear words like "Mira," and "mami" on the radio or the rap videos. Is that all we are is a bunch of pieced together images and some various verbs and nouns that people use to get us to buy their records?

We are better, beautiful people than that. I am in the process of learning Spanish but I think that Panamanians, Puerto Ricans, as well as Dominicans and everybody else needs to stop fronting about who they are.

My country just like Puerto Rico and DR..etc is made up of many different types of people and for us to simply say we are spanish because we speak it is wrong. We have totally lost touch with our identity as people in general. I find it sickening that someone from Puerto Rico or Panama or DR would have a absolute hatred for African-American people, along the lines that "Im Panamanian and I dont like Black people." (Meaning "Im not Black, because Im Latin") Well heres a lesson to all teenagers on this site. Everyday some white says the word "**bleep**" (Note the spelling) they are talking about our great great great grandparents. in other words our families. That`s right they brought black people to the Caribbean for slavery and because of them Puerto Rico DR Panama SOUTH AMERICA, etc..exist as they are.

Without "THEM" there is no "US."

Dont get me wrong Im not anti Latin but we need to get our facts straight. FINE teach your seeds spanish and all of that but dont lie to them about who we are and where we come from.

Yeah Panama, Puerto Rico, but who started all of that?

Its not like it was 5 black guys and a bunch of light skinned women who started our countries. These people were brought by the thousand s to build our countries. To not know these things is to not know a big part of being Latino. And about our struggle. So to simply say its just a language means you have this concept that all you have to do is speak spanish and wave your bandera and everything is all good. Well *bleep* anybody white black chinese can pull that off. I`ve met people who were Chinese who spoke better Spanish, french, Haitian creole than i EVER have.

So would you think they were Latino if they walked up to you and said Hola instead of NeeHi?

What you think? Peace Illa

Homepage: :Hola, my name is PanIlla. I`m 24 years old and a May Taurus. I am full blooded Panamanian and I started this page so I could meet and make some friends
online and elsewhere. I grew up for the better part of my life in Upstate New York and the lack of Latino culture there is awful. I hope that I will meet some cool and interesting people and that I can be enriched by my online familia. We’re all cousins in the end anyways.

Quick facts about self. I am one half of a Hip-hop group known as COV which stands for Circle of Victor.s. Latinos in hip hop are as important as African-Americans in hip hop (peace to the originators) and once we drop you will see it also comes in many guises.

C 263 (Mon, Sep 17, 2001 @ 03:09 EST) It depends... I think it depends mainly on the persona and whether or not they want to consider themselves Latino or Latina. You don’t necessarily have to know the language just be proud of who you are and take an interest to learn about where you came from. It is basically up to the individual and they can’t let others tell them who they can or can’t be.

C 264 (Thu, Sep 13, 2001 @ 16:14 EST) Latino... What is Latino? can we really define it anyway? In the U.S., Latino signifies race. So in that sense, whether you speak spanish, cook latin dishes, or even "look" latin- (whatever that could mean!), you would still be latino.

But then, If we try to translate Latino, we find that it is really just "latin". So now we must inlcude French, Spaniards, Italians, and so on.

And what about us Philipinos? We were a former Spanish colony, and Spanish is a language spoken on the island. Many Philipinos still have spanish Surnames. But we’re not even considered Hispanic/Latino. Even still, does that change our history or culture? No.

Just be you. Don’t let anyone try and tell you that because of your "race" that you must do, speak or act a certain way. America is fond of categorization, but that doesn’t mean that you have to be too.

C 265 (Thu, Sep 13, 2001 @ 03:55 EST) Shhh...Quiet...Lia Speaks Yes. You can truly be considered Spanish even if you don’t speak the language. I’m half Indian and I don’t speak any of the languages. How I know this? I don’t. I’m sleepy right now and I don’t know what I’m writing and I don’t know if I make sense. So if I said something wrong I’m sorry. My cousin is puerto rican and he doesn’t speak spanish. Not because he isn’t but because his father did not teach him. My friend is Italian and her parents never taught her. It doesn’t make her any less Italian, right? Right? My prayers go out to all those affected deeply by the act of violence that occured on Tuesday. God Bless. Love, Lia Psst...You know I’m sleepy. lol

C 266 (Mon, Sep 10, 2001 @ 20:23 EST) Re: Identifying Yourself What about those of us "latinos" that don’t speak spanish because that is not our language? My parents are Brazilian. I am fluent in portuguese because that is what I grew up hearing in my house. When I am at home with my family I never feel any less of a latina merely because I speak a different language. However, growing up in a world where the definition of "latino" has been primarily centered on those cultures that speak spanish, once I walk outside of the confines of my home I feel misplaced. Many have accused me of not being latino enough because they ignorantly believe that to be a latino means to speak spanish. That is not the case. I wish that schools would teach our children that there is more to the latino culture then language. There a traditions that are constant throughout each country and there are differences between them that we should all learn to appreciate. You should never feel less of a latino because you don’t speak the language. Language is merely a part of the culture. It would help to learn. But, as long as you stay true to your identity and keep yourself abreast of your culture’s history and its future, you are, in my book, a true latino.

C 267 (Sun, Sep 09, 2001 @ 23:21 EST) Re: Re: Identifying Yourself If you cant speak the language you aren’t hispanic plain and simple. Our language is the most important part of our culture that must live on
C 272 (Fri, Aug 31, 2001 @ 00:13 EST) Re: TO palace-guard If you want to get to the nitty gritty, "Latino" refers to Italians. In other words Europeans. If you mean that Latino is shorthand for people who have ancestry in "Latin America," then it means us. You have many non-white people, whose roots are in the Americas, running around thinking that they`re "Latin." It`s inaccurate.

There are two reasons for the Latino label: 1) The government didn`t know what to do with the brown people, so 30 years ago they came up with Hispanic/Latino. It did not refer to "any race" back then. They didn`t want to create a mixed race category on the census.

2) Now you have white Cuban-Americans who want to market products to all the new immigrants, so "Latino" now means "culture." That way the white Cubans can appoint themselves cultural spokespersons of the "Latino" market and get lucrative advertising contracts with Fortune 500 Companies. They just got one with McDonald`s, because supposedly they understand how to market to "Latinos." Of course that`s false.

Many people who fall under the definition of "Latino" don`t have a different culture. Many have been in the US for four or five generations and don`t even speak Spanish. But they`re called Latino or Hispanic anyway. So it`s about much more than culture. It`s partly about race, and creating a market share.

SEE C 196, C 220, C 222, C 272
C 273 (Thu, Aug 30, 2001 @ 16:35 EST) **Re: So ashamed**... YES, YES. I feel you so much. My Dad`s mom was (AA) his dad Dominican, but he left them. Daddy speakd spanish with ease, but never did when i was little. He was an alter by yet forbid me to have communion. I love my Blk skin but must i give up my latina roots to do that? All my life people have walked up to me and spoke spanish yet for many of those years I said I don`t speak spanish...sorry. Strangers told me who I was before I knew, how cruel. I`m learning now and i feel this will assist in making me whole
Peace NajaOni

C 274 (Thu, Aug 30, 2001 @ 15:45 EST) TO palace-guard Latino derives from the word Latino Palace-gaurd
I included Latin and Romance cause I know most people do not know th meaning of the two.
Latino doesn`t only mean a person from Latin America.
You gots to be wiser and more knowledgeable than that!?!?!?!
SEE C 271, 274,277,278, 287

C 275 (Thu, Aug 30, 2001 @ 11:46 EST) **Never Been Taught**. I am proud to call myself a Chicana and Latina. I was not taught Spanish as a child because my parents had crossed the border when they were young and struggled with English, not to mention that my grandparents on both sides only spoke Spanish. I have always heard Spanish spoken around me, and I can actually understand it more than I can speak it! I wasn`t taught Spanish until I got into high school, and that was my parents choice! Now they want me to speak it all the time, and it`s hard when you have to learn a language at an age when you should have learned it earlier. I still have problems with my Spanish, but I can communicate. I don`t think you need to speak Spanish to be Latino, that`s kind of like saying you need to have 2 parents that are completly Latino. (Like you can`t be 1/2 black and 1/2 Latino.) That`s simply not true, you can be Latino but not have to speak the language. That`s also like saying for all the Latino-Americanos that in order to be American (Whether a citizen by birth or naturalized) you must only speak English and know all the rules, syntax, and spelling. I guess you`re Latino only if you believe you`re Latino.

C 276 (Wed, Aug 29, 2001 @ 17:25 EST) **Huricardo** My definition is complete. You just added two others 1. Latin 2. Romance.
SEE C 271, 274,277,278, 287

C 277 (Wed, Aug 29, 2001 @ 16:57 EST) **Romance Languages** This is a key part of the Definition of Latin
4 : of or relating to the peoples or countries using Romance
Now for Romance Languages look up the word Romance:
Main Entry: 1ro7mance
Pronunciation: rO-`man(t)s, r&-; `rO-`
Function: noun

Main Entry: Ro7mance
Pronunciation: rO-`man(t)s, r&-; `rO-`
Function: adjective
Date: 1690
: of, relating to, or being any of several languages developed from Latin(as Italian, French, and Spanish)
You only placed part of the definition in this forum.
Stop confusing people. Spread knowledge not chaos!!
SEE C 271, 274,277,278, 287

C 278 (Wed, Aug 29, 2001 @ 16:52 EST) TO Palace-Guard Hey buddy. Thats is only part of the definition
First off look up Latin definition [1,adjective]
Then read definition 4 below.
Here it is in the text
Main Entry: Latin
Pronunciation: `la-t&n
Function: adjective
1 a : of, relating to, or composed in Latin b : ROMANCE 2 : of or relating to Latium or the Latins
4 : of or relating to the peoples or countries using Romance languages; specifically : of or relating to the peoples or countries of Latin America
SEE C 271, 274, 277, 278, 287

C 279 (Tue, Aug 28, 2001 @ 08:41 EST) Soory but this is how i fell..... In my own opinion, it`s a damn shame when I meet a person who says they are latino and they can`t speak spanish.......I fell sorry cause they say thay are proud of who they are and so forth but being a latino means being able to uspeak your luanguage...but then again it wouldn`t be there fault cause they were never taught.....all i can do is shake my head....... 

C 280  (Mon, Aug 27, 2001 @ 17:36 EST) Definition According to the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary at http://www.m-w.com/ the following is the definition of Latino: One entry found for Latino.
Main Entry: Latino
Pronunciation: l&-`tE-("nO
Function: noun
Inflected Form(s): plural -nos
Etymology: American Spanish, probably short for latinoamericano Latin American
Date: 1946
1 : a native or inhabitant of Latin America
2 : a person of Latin-American origin living in the U.S.
- Latino adjective
SEE C 229, C 253, C 257

C 281 (Mon, Aug 20, 2001 @ 22:11 EST) Re: Re: Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS! I am feeling you, I am half puerto rican and half domminican. I feel as though it makes no difference because when we fill out any type of application it is the hispanic box that we ALL check off.

C 282 (Fri, Aug 17, 2001 @ 17:36 EST) True you are not latino if you don`t speek spanish. you MUST speek spanish in order to maintain ur hispanic heritage & roots. although, i`m not latino, but asian from the philippines. I wanted to speak spanish because of my name, spanish colonies invaded my country centuries ago, u name it. i preferred castilian dialect of spanish because its tooo original, da language itself came frum spain, and Spain is the only richest country in the spanish-speeking world. good luck.

C 283 (Fri, Aug 17, 2001 @ 00:03 EST) Re: Hijole! I agree with the whole idea that refusing to accept the language and identity is the problem not the idea that somebody is not Latino if not fluent in Spanish. I have many friends who arent fluent in spanish not because they refuse to but because they werent fortunate enough to be taught by their parents. Being fluent in spanish is definitley a plus in many ways, and those of us who are should realize the importance of that fact and help those who are willing to learn.

C 284 (Thu, Aug 16, 2001 @ 11:47 EST) Spic-n-Spanish Speaking Spanish has nothing to do with it. A culture is constantly evolving... re-inventing itself. To say that language is what defines us would be wrong in my eyes. There are a whole lot of other things that goes into making me "spicy" :) I speak fluent Spanish, but even if I didn`t... I would still be Latino. Not speaking it,
were less Spanish, but I soon realized that because of circumstances they are just less in touch with their culture, at least that aspect of it. Those people that are mixed babies or 3rd, 4th generation Latinos tend to lose a bit of their Spanish because of the use of English in the US. I think that a language doesn`t make a person more or less spanish, I speak French and by no means does that make be a bit French. So good luck to those who are trying to get in touch with their culture and language!!! =)

C 292 (Sun, Aug 05, 2001 @ 09:54 EST) re: this hurts You have every right to be hurt over this type of divisive question, but you must be prepared to deal with it effectively. Defining "latino" is highly subjective because, as you mentioned, that would include Brazilians who don`t speak Spanish not to mention members of indigenous tribes in Central and South American that use Spanish as a second language if at all. Does fluency in Spanish make you more or less Latino? I didn`t for me. I am a third generation Puerto Rican in Buffalo, my parents were born here, I am truly a the result of the mix of the Puerto Rican culture and the socioeconomic factors of my City. My Spanish vocabulary at the age of 17 was about 10 words. I took the time to learn Spanish in College (one year on exchange in P.R.) trying to resolve my "identity". Time after time people challenged my sense of self, told me that I was less of Puerto Rican or not Puerto Rican at all. If I wasn`t Puerto Rican what was it? After learning Spanish better than most of the dorks that criticized me (got a B.A. in Spanish Language & Lit.) and living on the Island for a year I recently figured it out finally at age 27. Leaning Spanish didn`t make me more Latin. However it did make me more employable (sorry I can`t spell for beans). Learning Spanish did give me access to literature, lyrics to music, the ability to communicate with more people directly but it didn`t change me. Speaking Spanish facilitates participation in certain aspects of the Latin culture as much as not speaking Spanish does not preclude from being part of it. Funny thing now is that people who belittled me when I was 18 accept me as fully Boricua now. What has change about me? Has speaking Spanish has made me more Puerto Rican than my sister that can`t? What makes me Puerto Rican is my way of being, acting, thinking passed on to me from my mother as it was passed on to her from her mother. As long as you feel and wish to identify yourself as a Latino then you are. We are members of a continuum in degrees of culture. Nobody can tell you if you or aren`t Latino. I look in the mirror and see a Latino. What do you see?

C 293 (Wed, Aug 01, 2001 @ 12:04 EST) OFFENCE U TALK ALOT OF SHIIT!!!! WHO THE FUKK IS TALKING ABOUT WHAT HONDURAS GOT AND DONT GOT U FUKKIN IDIOT...WHY U TRYING TO DICE MY PEOPLE MAN??? R U NUTS?? WE DONT PLAY THAT *bleep*TY SPORT ANYWAY...IMPRESS U, 4 WHAT??? WHO DA FUKK R U? HONDURAS?? GIMME A BREAK...

C 294 (Tue, Jul 31, 2001 @ 13:19 EST) this hurts hmm, so if we don`t speak Spanish then we should consider ourselves less Latino, or call ourselves whitey?!?!?!? I can`t believe this. Not every Latin culture or country speaks Spanish. take Brazil, they speak Portuguese, and I believe they are just as Latino than any other Latin culture. I have a problem with someone saying that since I can`t speak fluent Spanish then that makes me less Latino. Same thing with if someone says I`m less Latino because I`m mixed. I am trying my hardest to learn the language I knew when i was quite young and lost. my father is White American and speaks 4 languages, that doesn`t make him less American. It is not my fault that I can not speak fluent Spanish. I know it must have been hard for my mother to continue the Spanish at home and I hate the fact that my parents did not continue speaking to us in Spanish at home. I am taking classes and considering going to my mom`s country to learn about the culture and emmerse my self in the language because it is a part of me. It hurts to think people are so ignorant to this and many topics as such. If someone is not trying to learn the culture that is apart of them, then that can be hard to understand I guess. It is even more hard for me to comprehend that some people are saying things like, you are less of something. Are us Latinos trying to progress in this nation or are we trying to opress each other? why are we putting each other down? Another thing that bothers me is that people have to stress "Soy pura..." So if I`m not pure of any culture than I`m less than you? hell no. I`m proud to be of many
ethicities, so then i am open to learn a lot. I should be open to learn alot even if I was 

pure or not. And no one is pure anything anymore anyway. I read and go places to learn 

about many cultres and traditons. This helps me understand others and the things they 

do. I beleive those that have this certain attitude that are saying negative things don`t 

even know any better. They are blind by they`re so called pride. 

peace and love to everyone who understands.

C 295 (Sat, Jul 28, 2001 @ 20:23 EST) Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS! "now you 
tell me something about your country that would impress me,huh...." 
At least Honduras is a country with a great soccer team. Stuck up person!

C 296 (Thu, Jul 26, 2001 @ 13:59 EST) can`t win I am of Panamanian/ Puerto Rican, 

English, Danish descent. My mother is the Latina one ( now passed away) and my father 
is white. They both spoke perfect English and perfect Spanish. They were professors in 
each language. They both wanted us kids to grow up learning Spanish. My sister and my 
first languages were Spanish. That`s all we spoke until we went to school at age 4. It 
went down hill from there. We didn`t speak it as much around the house. I don`t blame 
my parents. I don`t. Everyone wants to blame the parents for stuff like this, but you 
can`r when the kids grow up where there are NO OTHER latinos around and where they 
are the only ones that are different. It`s hard. You want to fit in and you want to ignore 
everythig that makes you different from the other kids. Years later, when you know 
better, you regret that. I understand and can read Spanish, but when I speak it, it`s 
another story. I even studied. I can`t roll my Rs for the life of me. I just can`t. Latinos 
always alienate me because I can`t speak Spanish and it hurts because I can`t be all 
white nor all Latina. I`ll never be just one thing. I can`t practice because the Latinos 
that see that I look somewhat Latina don`t understand why I don`t speak Spanish better. 
Don`t alienate. Don`t blame the parents, just understand and help. We want to learn. 
Just give us a chance we know more about the culture than you think.

C 297 (Mon, Jul 23, 2001 @ 13:45 EST) Re: Re: Please let me know, By the way, 
"correct" Spanish (in books at least) consist of mostly Latin American Spanish from 

Mexico & South America. ------ The purest form of Spanish is Castillean from Spain. The 

dialect in Colombia is also very correct and formal. Spanish from Mexico is derived from 

the Spaniards and is diffused with Arabic and Indian. 
Just a little F.Y.I for you! 
I also agree with you . I rather learn proper spanish instead of slang because when I go 
for a job I want to know how to speak correctly! It doesn`t matter to me who teaches, as 

long as its taught correctly!

C 298 (Thu, Jul 19, 2001 @ 13:19 EST) personal decisions i think that even if you 
don`t speak spanish, you are still very much latino. because so many latinos are growing 
up here in the u.s., it`s not crucial that they know how to speak spanish. i think it`s a 
personal decision about how close one wants to be to their culture. i mean, many asians 
only speak english and i can`t think of one black american i know that speaks an afri
can language...but that doesn`t make them any less of what they are. you should still be 
proud and represent and it`s great if you can speak the language too!

C 299 (Wed, Jul 18, 2001 @ 01:03 EST) Spanish Ain`t A Thang Whatz up mi gente!!? 
To me, I think that just because one doesn`t speak Spanish, doesn`t mean they ain`t 

Latino. Some children are never taught by their parents--it ain`t their fault. My parents 
never taught me Spanish. I learned Spanish all by myself. I took the time to watch 
Novelas, listen to spanish programs, speak to my people y familia, and I even took 
classes. Some of the raza put me down because I didn`t officially speak the language 
and it hurt because I was so proud to be learning it. I was proud to be Latino. The funny 
thing is though, that at the I learned not only how to SPEAK spanish but also how to 
WRITE in spanish and those that put me down didn`t even now how to write it!!! They 
felt dumb when they discovered how much I learned and now they respect me. They 
ever ask me to help them out with their ENGLISH!! I think as long as you represent for
the raza, don`t forget who you are, and you are proud to be who you are, you are Latino regardless of speaking Spanish. Much Love to All The Raza and People of Mi Gente!!!!!!!
California Love!!! Al Rato...!!!

C 300 (Tue, Jul 17, 2001 @ 22:47 EST) Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!
Correction...the way you speak is a dialect, not a dialogue.
SEE C 69, 300, 301, 302,

C 301 (Tue, Jul 17, 2001 @ 22:35 EST) Re: Please let me know, You are upset when "gringos" teach you Spanish in school. I know a lot of so-called "gringos" who speak better Spanish than Latinos. A lot of so-called "Spanish-speaking" Latinos did terribly in Spanish class because their (Spanish) wasn`t correct.
Gina, I think you resent your "gringo" teacher because they spoke Spanish and you didn`t. Most foreign language teachers are Americans. Big deal. They may be American but if they know their stuff and can teach correctly, go for it, I say. By the way, "correct" Spanish (in books at least) consist of mostly Latin American Spanish from Mexico & South America.
SEE C 69, 300, 301, 302

C 302 (Tue, Jul 17, 2001 @ 21:55 EST) Re: CURSED BY TWO TONGUES
You also forget that a lot of Latinos ARE Caucasian.
I`m sorry to say this and no offense, but if everyone else who came here had to learn English, what makes Latinos any different? I could say the same thing and tell you that the British took our Gaelic (the Irish language) away from us. I still must speak English.

C 303 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 15:16 EST) yes and no
You will always be Latino no matter what. Being Latino is more than speaking the language, and looking like you are Latino. **It`s about how you feel inside, and belonging to a wonderful culture.** However, language is a very important part of the Latino culture. It`**s what connects us Latinos together.** I think it`**s a shame** when Latinos don`t make an effort to teach their children Spanish or the culture. If so many people keep of doing this, the culture will become more Americanized everyday. I think the Spanish language is a beautiful language, and I`m grateful that I am bilingual. More people should acknowledge the fact that speaking the language is a way of representing the culture. I had the privilege of living in the Dominican Republic and then coming to America, so I already knew Spanish when I was growing up in America. For those Latinos who were born here, it may not be so easy to learn Spanish in an English-centered society. Parents need to know that knowing Spanish is also important, and American Latinos need to make an effort to get better intergrated with the culture.
SEE C 69, 300, 301, 302

C 305 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 13:48 EST) lil mistake
I know its off subject, just had to let you know, that i spelled "no" wrong, and i just realized it I`m not illiterate...lol...just a mistake...ok bye

C 306 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 13:46 EST) ju must represent
I feel that (like many have already said), what you don`t know about your culture, you should try your best to learn. I personally have a mixed background, and although i was taught a lot about my latino and West Indian background, i know that there is much more that i need to know. You have a better advantage when you know two languages, especially spanish, and there is alot more money out there for people who are bilingual. I feel like if you did not have the advantage of being born bilingual, you should do your best to educate yourself and become fluent in spanish. I have a lot of friends who are Puerto Rican, Dominican,etc, or of mixed background,like myself, yet know limited spanish, but they are constantly trying to learn more, and constantly trying to stay connected with what`s going on with our people, and doing things to improve their spanish, like watching telemundo, galavision, univision, and LTV. I honestly lose respect for people who are constantly holding it down for the latinos, but don`t try and educate themselves or learn about there culture. It also annoys me when people question how "latino" you are because of how dark you are.
Latinos come in all complexions, and being dark doesn't make someone any less latino than the next person. What's that all about? Bueno mi gente, that's all I have to say. In some cases, even if the "obvious latino/a" has no clue about their culture, they will be considered more latino than a darker one who knows the language, and lives the culture. Have to say....cuidense

SEE C 305

C 307 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 13:18 EST) **Embarrassment** I feel that it's a privilege to be able to speak more than one language. And for people not to take advantage of this is just sad. Now I'm not saying that you're more latino when you know Spanish than when you don't. But everyone should want to be able to speak Spanish. It's pretty much the fault of the parents for not teaching their children from birth to be bi-lingual. And to speak it properly not that + b*%$ S*#@!!! Please people get it together

C 308 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 12:59 EST) **Mixed...** I have had a black/latino upbringing for the past 12 years...Not only can I throw down in the kitchen, get down to the music, and let you in on my culture...I can also speak the language...Some people who are hispanic but can't speak the language aren't true to their roots...but, it isn't their faults...People who are Latinos should always consider themselves Latinos, regardless of the language they speak...

C 309 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 12:20 EST) **Re: Re: Re: So ashamed...** Thanks Mammita! People can be so cruel, even people in my own family have rejected us, because of our color. I am proud to be a Black Latina. But a lot of are our people are not! Although I am not fluent in the language, I can cook any dish very well, dance to salsa well, and have studied the Puerto Rican culture to get a better understanding of where I come from and who came before me. I owe this to my mother, she as given me strong legs to stand on, and my Abuela, who told me stories of her life in PR, when she was a girl.

C 310 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 12:04 EST) **Speaking Spanish...** I think that speaking Spanish is a really important part of taking pride in your heritage. Speaking from the perspective of someone who is multi-cultural and didn't have a direct latin influence in my life...I make an effort to speak Spanish, although it wasn't my native tongue...cuz I think it is a really important part of my culture...and taking pride in the beautiful language that it is!!!!!!!!!

C 311 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 11:41 EST) **speaking the language** I must agree with you. I believe that if you want to be an integral part of your culture you should know the history of your roots, the language, and not to say the least the traditions of that culture or country. If you do not know this 3 major factors, we would be like the African-American community, they do not know where they came from, they do not speak their language, and they do not know anything about their history. HOW COULD SOMEONE CONSIDER THEMSELVES LATINOS JUST CAUSE THEY ARE GORGEOUSLY TAN. If you want to be a LATINO, you MUST know this three factors, and not only like their music and holidays.

C 312 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 10:08 EST) **its part of your culture** Speaking your country's language is very important because it shows that you carry your roots with you. GELÖSCHT MEHRFACHE POST SEE 321, C 313, 314, 315

C 313 (Mon, Jul 16, 2001 @ 10:08 EST) **its part of your culture** Speaking your country's language is very important because it shows that you carry your roots with you.
its part of your culture Speaking your country’s language is very important because it shows that you carry your roots with you. SEE 321, C 313, 314, 315

its part of your culture Speaking your country’s language is very important because it shows that you carry your roots with you. However, its usually not people`s faults when they cant speak the language. They weren't the ones who chose to speak english from the time they learned their first words. Their parents chose to make them more american, for whatever reason it may have been, and its wrong because they're losing a big part of their identity. However, I know many people who cant speak the language but carry their culture deep within them, cuz you gotta remember that language is not the only aspect of a persons culture...There a many other factors carried in that term, and alot of people make the best they can out of them. I believe that if you feel that Latino, hey se toda/todo tu!
SEE 321, C 313, 314, 315

Spanish Language What has frustrated me is having my own not teach me the language out of fear (from what I gather) of having an accent when speaking english. I am Puerto Rican and even though I understand what is said in spanish I cannot put phrase, sentences of words together. I have taught my children the basics and I am going to school to learn how to write the language. I feel that I would go further if I could comprehend the writing and reading of spanish so therefore I take classes. As for my children, I get them to see spanish speaking channels to learn from listening and viewing favorite shows. However, I do not believe not knowing how to speak the language defines who you are. I know in my heart I am proud of my culture and instill those values in my children at home.

Language shouldn`t define a person I definitely believe that language is a crucial part of understanding one`s culture, but it shouldn`t define a person. Language isn`t all there is to a certain culture. I believe understanding your culture`s particular traditions and its history is far more important. Does not speaking English make a person less American? If you want to get real technical about the whole subject, then Spanish is just another European language. IF understanding the true language of your culture is needed to define you as a person, then we all need to learn the original language of our respected cultures before the Europeans arrived. If not, then maybe we might all be Euro-Latins instead of Latinos. Just some food for thought, sorry if I offended anyone. Peace.

language is part of culture- not all of it I do not think that all Latinos need to be able to speak Spanish in order to assert their cultural background. Many Latinos arrived in this country when it was not acceptable to have a second language. There were no ESL programs. You learned English without an alternative in order to go to school. Parents, wanting a good education for their children, spoke English as much as possible. That does not make their love of country or culture any less. Calling someone more or less Latino is just one more divisive measure that should not be taken. Language is a part of culture-- not the deciding factor. Any resistance to assimilation should be rewarded, regardless of fluency. My father does not speak Spanish anymore, but that does not make him any less Panamanian. He was born there, not here. And just b/c I learned Spanish in school instead of at home does not mean that I should deny my Panamanian heritage or not consider myself Latina.

quick advice Try to learn and study as much as you can about the history of your country and heritage. There`s nothing more beautiful than passing that knowledge to the little ones that are growing up in this country. Make a conscious effort to learn to speak, read and write correctly Espan~ol, there`s nothing more satisfying that knowing how to do that. Later.
C 320 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 23:15 EST) **Re: Be who you are** Kudos to you! You have to keep the language or at least make an honest effort to learn. Perdemos mucho do nosotros mismo sin nuestro idioma.

C 321 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 20:19 EST) Let me put it like this... Language is part of your culture. If you say you are Dominican, then you must speak the language that Dominicans speak, you must eat or know about the food that Dominicans eat, you must dress or know how dominicans dress in the native country. Understand this, I am using Dominicans because I am Dominican, but this could be apply to any country. To answer the question, does not speaking the language makes you less of Latino?? Latino, well "Latino" is not a culture, it is not a nationality! It is just a name given to those individuals from the colonies that speak a language that derived from Latin. Now, if you do not speak Spanish, then you can be call Dominican cause Dominicans speak Spanish and also other countries. Those individuals that do not speak the language and that have melted with the other cultures in country already have names for the subcultures... Is a Dominican-yor` the same as a Dominican and a Newyork-Rican the same as a Puerto Rican? Think about it is just logic.

C 322 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 19:55 EST) **A simple example** I want to ask a question for everybody if they would like to answer since it is related to the topic of be latino. lets take one non-spanish speaking latino who goes or has gone to visit their country, vs. the spanish speaking latino who has NEVER been to theirs???? Who is more "latino"? should it matter at all??? Whos to judge........

C 323 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 18:09 EST) **Faded Culture??** It shocks me to know that Latinos are allowing our rich and beautiful culture to fade away. Take the time and know not only your native tongue, but our food, music and history. We have fought too hard and too long to have our culture fade away, to be Latino is too be proud of your culture.... don`t turn away from that.

C 324 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 14:26 EST) **look at yourself** even if your not latino, you should at least want to learn spanish for your own enrichment. We are in the times where the workforce looks for more bilingual people. We will be the majority very soon. Knowing spanish is knowing your roots. Just try. I do not lookbad at latinos who do not speak spanish, everyone has there reasons. I look bad at those who see it as unneeded or no gain to them. Then honestly how can you represent for your fellow latinos if you can`t even communicate with them? I wonder how stars like Lorenzo Lamas or Rachel Welch feel knowing they have latino in them but cannot speak the language... SEE C 322

C 325 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 12:31 EST) **If You`re Latino Speak the Lingo** I think it is very important to know Spanish if you are Latino. As many have said, If you don`t speak Spanish.. you are not REALLY Latino. You can have Latino Heritage... but being a Latino means living you`re culture. The language is a major part of the Latino culture. I know that when I have kids they`re gonna learn Spanish first, like I did.

C 326 (Sun, Jul 15, 2001 @ 00:56 EST) **Re: it starts with us** in my opinion you`re definitely right.this generation comming up is really not teaching their kids our language.that`s very sad because when this generation pass on,if we don`t teach our children how to speak spanish,our language is gonna eventually die,if you know what i mean...we need to be proud of who we are.it really makes me mad when there are latinos who claim that they don`t know any spanish.i`m sorry but that is bull $hit.it feel so good to be hispanic and know how to speak,write and read spanish.i`m so damn proud of my culture,i love being puertorican...

C 327 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 23:31 EST) **YO that`s messed up** ok i`m mixed, but a good part of me is latino. And I"m proud. But I was raised in a mixed family, I never got
to know my latino family very well, and I didn’t speak the language in my household. I grew up in a white environment, but that still doesn’t mean that you’re anymore latino then I am. YOU know that`s problem with our society, we`re always trying to split up groups of cultures by their faults and differences. And that`s messed up. I did learn spanish but I learned the hard way. NOt everyone has the means to learn it. Hey a white person could learn spanish but that still doesn`t mean they`re latino. When does a just person `s language ever define who they are and what culture they represent?

C 328 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 23:07 EST) This is funny!!! LOL if you don`t know Spanish you might as well consider yourself to be something besides Latin. The language is part of your culture. You should at least try to learn it. I mean it`s just bad to say "I`m latino" and not know spanish. Where I`m from you would be seen as a gringo and nothing more.

I do understand, on the other hand, that the reason you may not know the language is because your parents probably failed to teach it to you or you havn`t been exposed to people who know the language. It could also go to the extreme that your parents prohibited you from speaking spanish to learn english (to be more competitive in the American culture). I personally think it`s stupid but that`s my opinion and another forum all together.

C 329 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 22:13 EST) SPANISH I BELIEVED THAT WHEN YOUR ARE PROUD OF YOUR CULTURE YOU HAD DO KNOW THE LANGUAGE....

330 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 22:01 EST):) true that woman!

C 331 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 22:00 EST) Re: Be who you are aright, girl!!!

OH,if i should be proud of anyone`s quote in this forum, it`s yours!! te felicito por tu orgullo de ser quien eres....BRAVO, mamita!!!

SEE C 331, C 333, C 334

C 332 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 21:59 EST) dido gurl.. that is stright up a fact.if u dont know spanish at least try to learn it cause its part of your culture. and if u dont even give a dam if u dont speak spanish u should might as well call your self a dam whitey!

SEE C 330

C 333 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 21:55 EST) wut matters is if u try it`s nice to be able to speak spanish, i noe, i do...but please don`t go around reppin` ur Latino status if u don`t to TRY at least learn a bit...i understand ur viewpoint if u noe a bit but struggle sumwut....but don`t go around tryin to rep ur Latino Pride if all u noe is YO QUIERO TACO BELL

SEE C 331, C 333, C 334

C 334 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 21:52 EST) wut matters is if u try it`s nice to be able to speak spanish, i noe, i do...but please don`t go around reppin` ur Latino status if u don`t toat least learn a bit...i understand ur viewpoint if u noe a bit but struggle sumwut....but don`t go around tryin to rep ur Latino Pride if all u noe is

SEE C 331, C 333, C 334

C 335 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 21:00 EST) it dontt matter to me it don`t matter you know it you know it... but i cant understand it and sh*t but i can`t talk it back b-cuz i just don`t think it sounds rite tha way i say it ya know... And just b-cuz you can`t speak it don`t mean your not PR b-cuz I get that "Oh you can`t speak it then your not PR" but it`s all good that them say what they want you know what you are and what you aint ya know... But BIG UP to every 1 up on here that be repin` for PR... and im out with losts of love muah...
C 336 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 17:45 EST) Spanish I believe that knowing Spanish is not necessary to some people because if they become accustomed to speaking English with their neighbors and family it’s not absolutely their fault if they’ve lost their native language. Sometimes the people in our environments help us to determine what must be spoken most whether it’s Spanish or English. And it doesn’t mean that they’re not Latino, it just means that it’s up to them to decide whether it’s important to keep their native language alive.

C 337 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 16:31 EST) Spanish It’s not absolutely necessary to know Spanish, it’s a plus if you do. I stop to think though when I see that EVERYTHING is in English, then I remind myself to ALWAYS think in Spanish. I don’t want to lose my first language, and I’ll be passing it on to my kids.

C 338 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 16:00 EST) Be who you are Para mi es bien importante hablar mi lengua..naci en Puerto Rico y no por que vivo en los Estados Unidos por mas de 21 anos me considero parte americana..eso no es asi..por que yo no nací aqui..nací en mi querida Isla del Encanto. Esa es mi raza y no tengo por que darle explicaciones a nadie cuando me piden que hable en Ingles..mi primera lengua es el espanol y al que no le guste que se chupe una paleta.

Comment on URL:
Hola mi nombre es margarita, vivo en la ciudad de Manchester, Connecticut, donde hace un frio peluuu...y el verano es bien humid...donde te tienes que baqar tres veces al dia...por que si no aprestas...jajajaa. Me puedes conseguir en el chat de yahoo donde entro a relajar o bromear if you can’t handle me ..you got big issues or too much time on your hands..pero solo entro para eso..si me insultas te insulto yo tambien, por que nadie es nadie para cojer insultos de ningun pende**. Me considero una persona cariñosa y odio que los hombres me mientan. Busco la sinceridad en la persona pero como tu te expreses de mi yo tambien lo hare de ti ..por que aqui nadie me paga mis biles.

C 339 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 15:48 EST) it starts with us I think, we should be the example with our kids. I am from TX, and my first language I learned was Spanish, but I see a lot of us second generation kids not teaching our kids to speak Spanish. That is wrong, so don’t let our children down and don’t let our culture die. laters.

C 340 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 14:26 EST) The importance I think it’s extremely important to know Spanish when you are Latin. I’m Cuban and very proud of it and it’s the biggest turn off when a Latino or a Latina doesn’t know their own language. Personally I think it’s an insult...but sometimes it’s not their fault maybe their families didn’t speak it. That’s why it’s so important to pass our culture to our youth. I know Spanish has helped me get around especially living in MIAMI. PEACE I`M OUT!

C 341 (Sat, Jul 14, 2001 @ 00:55 EST) Pride Being able to speak our language gives one more thing to express our cultural pride. Somos latinos y con orgullo. I don’t think it makes us anymore or less Latinos. It is a gift that if we have we should use to the max. There are many things that help us show our pride in our cultura and language is one more. But I think that knowing were you come from, our roots, is more important than being able to speak a language. Languages can be learned, our culture is part of who we are.

C 342 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 23:29 EST) IT DOES MATTER!!!! I BEILIVE THAT KNOWIN` YOUR LANGUAGE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF BEING LATIN BECAUSE NOBODY IS GONNA SEE U WALKING DOWN THE STREET AND JUST KNOW U R SPANISH U HAVE 2LET PEOPLE KNOW WHAT IT`S ALL ABOUT AND BY SPEAKING IS THE ONLY WAY WE CAN PROVE IT, PLUS BEIN LATIN AND SPEAKING BOTH LANGUAGES IS A BIG PLUS IN THE REAL WORLD ANND IT`S A WAY TO REPRESENT 4 OURSELVES OUR COUNTRIES AND LA ENTERA RASA LATINA.
WHO CARES IM proud to be a PUERTORIQENO. I SPEAK BOTH BUT AGREE WHO CARES IF SOMEONE ELSE CAN`T.IT`S A GIFT TO BE ABLE TO KNOW MORE THEN ONE LANGUAGE.BE

Re: I THINK I think it`s easy to have narrow-minded views about something you`re good at while others aren`t. Case in point: experienced drivers have absolutely no patience for new drivers who are just beginning. Not that they can`t drive; they just can`t drive as well as YOU yet. And it appears that some Latinos have no patience for others who, for one reason or another, don`t speak fluent Spanish. I don`t speak fluent Spanish (although I`m learning more and more with each passing day). My father was Mexican, but he died when I was very young, and because of the hatred that my Mexican grandmother had for my Bermudan mother, I had virtually no contact with the other side of my family. Does that make me "less Latino" because I don`t speak the language fluently or know everything about Mexican culture? NO, not any more than it makes me "less Black" to a police officer in an all-White neighborhood after a certain hour. "Being Latino" is NOT something that`s bestowed upon you because of everything you`ve acheived; it`s what`s INHERITED from your BLOODLINE. That`s what makes a person Latino. Period.

Spanish v`s English I just don`t understand why some of you guys are blaming the parents. My parents are both puertorican they both speak spanish and english. It wasn`t up to them to teach me. It was up to me to learn about my culture. My parents are both Puertoricanas. My father would speak to me in english and spanish and my mother would talk to me in spanish. When we move to Puerto Rico I was only 10 yrs. old I knew how to speak spanish, but I didn`t know how to read or write in spanish. It was up to me to learn the language. It took me awhile to learn how to read and write but I got it down packed. The point to this story is don`t blame your parents for not showing you or teaching you about your culture, if you are proud of being what you are is never to late to learn. Just as long that you don`t forget were you came from and be proud to be a PUERTORIQENO. Hasta la proxima.

send ur child to bilingual school!? Speaking spanish has nuttin to do with u being hispanic or "Latino". A person can be half latino and have a baby by someone who`s not hispanic... but the baby, no matter wat n e one says, is half Latin. I went to grammar school in NY and was in bilingual classes from Kindergarden to 4th grade, so I no my Spanish as well as my english. Now, if was to ever have a child by someone who wasnt hispanic, i would send my child to bilingual school, becu cause my family is Dominican and most of them dont speak english so my child will no his/her spanish and english so he/she can interact with my family as well as with their daddy`s family. i dont know if there are people out there dat agree with me on sending ur child to bilingual school even if only one of da parents is hispanic and da other is not, but i strongly believe u should!

It`s up to you I`M A VERY PROUD SALVADORENA AND I SPEAK BOTH ENGLISH AND SPANISH. TO ME IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO BE BILINGUAL BECAUSE IT`S PART OF ME AND MY PERSON. I`M NOT SAYING THAT IF YOU DON`T SPEAK SPANISH YOU SHOULDN`T CONSIDER YOURSELF LATINO. LATINO IS YOUR ETHNICITY, YOUR CULTURE NOT THE LANGUAGE YOU SPEAK

Language I aint hispanic or anything. but i do have a ton of different cultures in me. Im white. But im mixed with German, irish, english, american indian, scottish (Scotland), there is no way i would be able to speak all those languages. if you speak the language of all the cultures your associated with i say all the more power to you. you will probably make it farther in a business then i. being Bilingual does help you out. But if you speak one language there is absolutely nothin wrong with that. Were all human.. Thats my thought now Peace Out!!!
129

C 349 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 18:11 EST) Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS! first of all immigrante,you need to know that us puertoricans have accomplished many things,for ex.in the show biz we have jennifer lopez,ricky martin,marc anthony,chayanne and many others,in sports we have tito trinidad,posada and we can`t forget MISS UNIVERSE DENISSE QUINONEZ.now you tell me something about your country that would impress me,huh....i came from pr when i was just 16 and i`ve been here in the states for 11 years and let me tell you that i can teach you and your little punk a$$ friends how to speak proper spanish.i`ve been speaking spanish my whole life because in my home we know how important is to know both languages,english and spanish.so be4 you start talking $hit,get the facts straigh.and don`t be hatin on us cause we are making it in this world just congratulate!!!!i think that is very important to know spanish fluently.it is a very big advantage in this country to be bilingual.it should be taught and practice at home every day.even though is better if kids start learning it when they are little,it`s never to late to learn.we need to have that desire in our hearts to better ourselves and learn our language,cause if many other people from other countries that don`t speak spanish are so determined to learn it why shouldn`t we???tenemos que preservar nuestro lenguaje y costumbres para las proximas generaciones....much love to all boricuas xoxo

SEE 326

C 350 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 17:22 EST) okay This is truley ridiculos. Do we not fight for the same cause do we not sit next to each other in Cino de Mayo or Puerto Rican day .What are those days for ?? Do you stand around and say"oh they can`t speak the language so they have no right to be here" that is the feeling that i am getting . That I being a person that was born to a Puerto Rican mother and black father have no right to call my self Puerto Rican and Black. That is truly SAD. There is no unity there is only standards "your this if your that"that is Stupid. I do belive that any language is an asset to any one. I do however think that for any one to come to and point a finger and say that my mother is stupid and dumb for not teaching spanish is ridiculous. I have the upmostat pride in my mother. and thats that. It is easier for people that already know the language to point the finger. But i am sure that there are people like me that had to teach themselves.

C 351 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 17:01 EST) On being a true latino If you can not speak Spanish then shame on your parents. There is no excuse. Even if only one of your parents is latino, he/she should have taught you the language as I child. Being bilingual is an asset not something to be ashamed about. If not take a look at the presidential campaigns and how everyone now wants to learn Spanish.....

C 352 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 16:54 EST) I THINK I THINK THAT YOU ARENT A TRUE LATINO UNLESS YOU SPEAK SPANISH.. UNLESS YOUR PARENTS EITHER NEGLECTED YOU OR THEY DIDNT WANT TO TEACH YOU SPANISH.. BUT IF THATS THE CASE.. THEN YOUR PARENTS ARE DUMB.. BECAUSE BEING BILINGUAL CAN HELP YOU VERY MUCH IN THE WORLD.. BUSINESSE AND PERSONAL.. OKAY WELL THOSE ARE MY THOUGHTS ON THIS SUBJECT.. PEACE OUT..

CRISTAL

C 353 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 16:49 EST) What!!!!!!! This is crazy. What if you are part germany, half itallian does that mean that you need to know these languevs to be acpected by all germans and itallians. As a society we are constanly putting hurdles in front of each other. I am Puerto Rican and Black. Which i am very proud of. I was taught very little spanish by my mother. But regardsles im proud that i am Puerto Rican. I came across a fellow Puerto Rican that said I was not and i will never be PR because i don`t speak spanish. That hurt alot because i have so much respect for the Puerto Rican community it was like i had no one to turn to." There was no love" you know! how will i learn if people are going to be stuck up about it. it`s the truth. i f i try to speak to people in spanish they turn their nose at me. Then when i don`t speak im not consider true to...
my people. But i know who i am i will continue to love the island that my mother came from, the island that my relatives live on, and the blood that runs through my body.

C 354 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 15:58 EST) Re: Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS! aw hell nah cousin. don`t even trip like dat. I`m from Honduras and i`ve been dissed already from caribbean peeps. personally, i think the caribbeans` spanish adds a lil flavor. those differences is what i love about latinos. we don`t talk it perfect, nahmean. i admit that. but dont be making the gash between central am. and the caribbean even bigger. latinos unidos o separados?

C 355 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 15:01 EST) SPANISH doesn`t make YOU. MAKE YOURSELF not let the language make you. I am latina and dont speak spanish nor have I tried to Learn it. Does this make me ignorant? HELL NO, it doesnt cuz I have no use for the language, It will not help me succeed in life. Does it make me less latina, NOPE, this blood that runs through my veins is what it is and will never change wether i know the language or not. I am very americanized and alotta latino folk have refused to accept me. Im sorry they feel that way. All i know is ihave a goal in life and when that goal is reached my language will not have made me, I WIL HAVE MADE MYSELF!

C 356 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 14:48 EST) Being Latino and speaking the language I was born and raised in Boston, MA, both my parents are Dominicans. I can remember while I was growing up my mother telling us that we had to speake spanish in the home and speak english in school and with friends. I appreciate it now that i`m an adult that she made us learn how to speak and read in Spanish, it has helped me throughout my working career get good paying jobs because of me being Bi-Lingual. I have two daughters ages 16 and 13 which I have raised the same way. It is important to know your language and to be proud to be called Latina/o

C 357 entfällt

C 358 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 13:46 EST) what i think i say its to your advantage to speak spanish especially if you consider yourself latino, how can you say that you are proud to be from such and such country and not even understand your own countrymen. It`s good to be proud about who you are and what your culture is, in any language, if thats the case then be proud all the way!!jawohl, stolz,

C 359 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 13:31 EST) Re: Re: very important but does not determine whether or not ur latino Hey, I don`t think you are less of a Latino if you do not know the language, but do keep in mind that culture and language are practically fused. Words like parcero... like anejo, will never connote the same feel in English... i guess the word that best ilustrate this is Amor.. you can tell ppl i love you... but te amo... thats another hitoria. La lengua es la cultura.

C 360 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 13:28 EST) I agree with CurlyPRican I think that it is very critical that we latinos learn about our history and culture in any language but nowadays especially here in the US it is more critical that we learn Spanish. There is a greater need now to fulfill positions that require that a person be bilingual. Being bilingual not only benefits us but provides better services to those who only speak Spanish. But we cannot discriminate any Latino for not knowing the language.

C 361 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 13:13 EST) spanish language As of my point of view, the most important thing is to know where you`re from and to represent and to be proud of your country. I am from Puerto Rico...and I do speak both spanish and english. Through out the 17 years I`ve been living, I have met latinos that do not speak spanish, but are as proud as anything of their country. That`s what`s important!

Que Dios los Bendiga!
*FUERA LA MARINA DE VIEQUES, PR*
C 362 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 10:29 EST) Re: Very Important That`s the exact boat I`m riding in Caifane ... I have no idea why (since both my parents can speak spanish) but the only time I ever heard them speak it was when we were visting relatives or anywhere in Mexico. I actually used to speak it at a very young age, but once i started school I completely lost it. If I had a penny... no wait, not even a penny... if I had a freakin peso for every time someone called me a pocha I`d be the Latina Bill Gates. I can understand it somewhat but I can`t carry on a conversation if my life depended on it. I`m really trying hard to learn though. I`ve been wanting to. I work at a bank in a barrio in SD (near the border) and 98% of the customers speak spanish. I`m trying my hardest to learn, and I`ve noticed I have been picking it up. Right now I can talk to you somewhat about pretty much banking only, but hey, you gotta start somewhere verdad? ~Rica

C 363 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 01:59 EST) Very Important Some people just weren`t taught Spanish and that`s not their fault, but there has to be a want to learn the language. How can you truly be proud of your culture when your completely ignorant on how most of it`s people communicate.

C 364 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 01:10 EST) Re: very important but does not determine whether or not ur latino MariposaLatina gracias for your opinion, I think alot of people can learn y relate. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

C 365 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 01:07 EST) Re: :-)) Latina1018, muchas gracias for your opinion, I think you spoke fro alot of people in your position. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

C 366 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 01:05 EST) very important but does not determine whether or not ur latino yes, i`m a latina. no, i do not speak spanish. i don`t even look like the "typical" puerto rican. america is supposed to be a "melting pot." we need to accept individuals for who they are and not criticize or mock others for what they may be lacking. parents should encourage their children in a positive way about their heritage. if that doesn`t happen, it`s up to the individual to find themselves and accept themselves for who they are. and yes, there are a lot of "native" spanish speakers who need to learn the proper language. who am i to say, you may ask? i`ve worked for the new york city public school system for 13 years and i have seen both the english and spanish languages so misused. we need not to only embrace our differences, but teach and learn from each other. peace to all!!!!

C 367 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 00:57 EST) Re: It`s Okay Gracias Salasararado for your opinion, it is greatly appreciated. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

C 368 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 00:54 EST) Re: The subject gina V gracias for your opinion, it was higly appreciated. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

C 369 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 00:36 EST) Re: Re: Hablando Espanol tonsof24yoldfun I think people need to hear about your experience too, thanks. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

370 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 00:33 EST) Re: Espanol Latinloco RA, gracias for your opinion, they need to hear that. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

C 371 (Fri, Jul 13, 2001 @ 00:27 EST) Re: Re: So ashamed... honeisos, thankyou fro your response. I think A LOT OF PEOPLE NEED TO HEAR THAT. SEE 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371

C 372 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 23:49 EST) Is the parents responsibility to teach the kid the language. I dont like to judge anyone because in realty many people have
different reasons why they don’t know the language. Although, i do find very shameful is for parents not to teach their children where they come from. For most children from other cultures is hard to assimilate both cultures but its the parents responsibility to teach the kids what is their background. Culture has to be taught and acknowledge if not where is the respect for the familia that has provided the strength of the individual. Above all, parents should be ashamed of not teaching the kids the language.

C 373 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 22:50 EST) **Re: Who cares!!** Latino mean to me being caliente, sauvé, extasy, tropical, latino is what you are deep inside that no one will take away no matter what. Me I know how to write and speak spanish and english perfectly, I think being a latino that doesn´t speak spanish is considered more of a latino than anyone out there. I believe that all the latinos that live in the states are more patriotic than the people that live in their native country. And hat is a Fact.

C 374 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 21:19 EST) **But...Aren´t you Spanish??** I was told once that there are 3 things that make up any culture. 1) the food 2) the music and 3) the language. Out of three....i have 2...i can cook my some patelles or arroz con gandules...i can tear up the dance floor wit a salsero...but NOSPEAKA SPANISH MI AMOR!! This is very embarassing for me...My last name is GARCIA...I have all the traits of the “typical” Puerto Rican....honestly...because I do not speak the language people are constantly insulting me..."You don´t speak Spanish? But you look Spanish?!" this intimidates me sooo much...that sometimes...i deny my heritige bc I can´t stand being insulted...BUT!!!
I am working on it...i mean...it is very difficult when everyone EXPECTS you to speak PERFECT spanish and you sound como una gringa!! LOL!! though I have met some gringas dat speak better Spanish then me.
Do me a favor...when a fellow Hispanic tells you that he/she does not speak spanish....PLEASE be sensitive....because believe me...IT IS EMBARRASSING!!

C 375 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 20:45 EST) **is to your advantage...** knowing more than one language is always going to be to your advantage. hell, even knowing some of another language is better then nothing.
i grew up going to school in San Diego, CA. my folks wanted my brothers and me to learn english because they were afraid to forget the little english they themselves already knew. but was it at the expense of my original tongue? over the last few years of my life, i have struggled to relearn Spanish with limited success. it sounds funny to me, my accent is horrible but i have nothing to be ashamed of. it doesn´t affect who i am anymore then i let it. i am myself. who i am is of la Raza.

C 376 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 19:19 EST) **Re: Hablando Espanol** I am not latin myself but my husband is and our two children are. I am african and white though. I think that culture is not revolved around language as much as people might like to think it is. I don´t know any language from Africa but am as deep into african culture as I can be. I am not less of a black person as a african coming straight from africa who has ceol language.
Mu husband is rican and he knows spanish and can speak it if he wants to. He chooses not to speak spanish when out of the house because as he says he is in the us where the language majority is english. He doesn´t even like it when he meets other spanish speaking people who in public refuse to speak english. He dislikes going into stores etc. and the employees can babrley speak english. He has said to me and others that speaking spanish hasn´t much to do with how "down" you are to your culture. He speaks spanish only at home to our two sons but spanish isnt their first language -english is. I am bilingual myself but in japanese-but I am not japanese at all. So see I think knowing another language has nothing to do with how "down" you are to that culture. If you can´t speak spanish but are latin then you still are latin as much as if you could speak spanish.
Re: So ashamed...
I can truly identify with what you said. I am also Latina and I can’t speak or understand it very well. I feel like and outcast by my people, and because I am brown skinned, many Latinos have questioned me, about my heritage, asking me to prove I am Puerto Rican. I get so angry about it.

SEE C 271, 274, 277, 278, 287

Hablando Espanol
Maybe I am wrong but calling ourselves “Latino” is definitely a new thing. We must realize that we as a people living in the states have made our own culture. With Hip-hop, modern salsa, poetry, and movies. We need to know English and as long generation after generation are being produced we forget our traditions and customs that’s just the way things go. I believe its really important to keep it alive, but some people don’t think that way.
As long as we live here, work and educate ourselves in English we need to do whatever possible to show the importance of being bilingual even if it isn’t learning Spanish.
You are Latino as long as you embrace it and know what it is. It doesn’t make you any less of a latino if you don’t speak the language yet you understand the history of Latin America. As a community we need to learn how to evolve and grow with the society.

NYCFEVER

Who cares!!!
It doesn’t matter if you know a lot of Spanish but at least if you know some then that is what counts. You’re not a disgrace to any latinos because you know some at least. Me, I speak a little and know half. That don’t mean that I am a disgrace and I know nothing.
-bonitababy4lyfe

Re: Hard to say...
You have a good point, however the problem lies when generations pass and the language of our culture becomes obsolete in America.
I think it is our responsibility to learn and speak Spanish at home to keep it alive.
Just my 2 cents,
DJ MARQUEE

Hard to say...
I feel as though I am split on this question because I know how it is to not know Spanish that well, however, I do think people can be a true Chicano/Hispano/Latino regardless of knowing the language. True, the language is very important, but it is not the only thing that makes the culture. The culture is within us, how we express it is totally up to us.

Espanol
Its one of the most important things about our culture to understand and be fluent in. You can never say you know everything about a culture if you dont know the language, and as rich and powerful as ours is, why not learn it? Espanol es importante. Latino por Vida.

Re: Ricans and Dominicans
It’s all good what you said Chica but before anyone starts to criticize others they should have facts to prove their point. Now QuevivaBarcelona just said an assumption that has no backing. It’s absurd and ignnorant. It’s obvious that he’s just a dumb young kid who doesn’t know any better. But before anyone speaks have some backing to prove your point.
SEE C 383 C 399 C 402 C406 C 411

DOMINICAN Spanish
Every Latino should be interested in speaking their native tongue. It is part of our culture. It is very sad that now-a-days the generation of Latinos that were born here but there parents weren’t don’t influence there children to learn how to speak the Spanish Language. We should have pride in our separate language and encourage our children to be a part of being bilingual.
C 385 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 08:48 EST) **viva los boricuas** viva los boricuas y dominicanos soy colombiano y quiero y mi raza hispanana siempre nosotros desnuniendonos devianos de pensar mas en nuestra herencia y decir somos una sola raza

C 386 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 08:31 EST) **Re: spanish speaking and proud of it** well said.
SEE 321, 386, 392, 413, 414, 415

C 387 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 01:10 EST) **spanish speaking and proud of it** First off I wanna say that it is pathetic that people have to come on here and be disrespectful--everyone is entitled to his/her own opinion but without offending others--everything has a limit. Now to the languagie bit, I believe that knowing the Spanish language is extremely important because it is a big part of our cultura and identity. But I can`t knock people that do not speak Spanish because I understand that some people were not taught and everyone has what they value as important. For me my language and culture became very important to me when I left to boarding school at age 14 and entered a community of students where I was the only Latina. During this experience was when I decided to learn about who I was and I started to learn about my history and language. I had always spoken Spanish but now I was motivated to perfect it. This carried over into college and there I majored in Spanish Literature and Language. So what I am saying is that everyone has what they value and I chose to make my culture and language a priority because I think that this is something that I can pass on to my children not to mention it being a tremendous benefit to be bilingual in this day and age.

C 388 (Thu, Jul 12, 2001 @ 00:06 EST) **Re: Ricans and Dominicans** FIRST OF ALL, I KNOW WHAT QUEVIVABARCELONA SAID WAS RUDE, BUT I JUST HAVE TO SAY A FEW THINGS.
1. BORICUAITALIANO, IT`S ECUATORIANO, NOT ECUADORIANO OR EQCUADORIANO.
2. IT WAS HIS OPINION.
3. DON`T BE DISSING ECUADORIANS UP.
I THINK THAT WE ARE ALL LATINOS AND WE SHOULDN`T BE SEPERATING OURSELVES BY COUNTRIES. IT`S OBVIOUS THAT WE ALL HAVE DIFFERENT STYLES OF LIFE, CULTURES AND CUSTOMS. DON`T BE BRINGING UP WHAT EACH COUNTRY BRINGS OUT TO THE WORLD. THINK MORE DEEP. **LATINOS ARE ALL THE SAME!** JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE DIFFERENT ACCENT IT DOESN`T MAKE THEM ANY LESS(GOES OUT TO QUEVIVABARCELONA.)
N-E-WAYS...I`M NOT PICKING NO SIDE HERE (ECUADOR VS. PR. & DR.), I ThInK THAT YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT, BUT JUST REALIZE THAT EVERY INDIVIDUAL IS DIFFERNT, NOT ALL ECUADORIANS ARE @SS, OR ALL PR. & DR. CAN`T SPEAK PROPER.
LEARN TO ACCEPT REALITY AND GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER.
OH...AND WE ECUATORIANS DO BRING THINGS OUT TO THE WORLD, WE GOT THE BANANAS, THE GALAPAGOS TURTLES, HELP COLUMBIA EXPORT **R****A, HEE HEE, SEE WE`RE USEFUL TOO!
BUT SERIOUSLY, LATINOS, KEEP IT REAL...DON`T JUDGE ON LANGUAGES, CUSTOMS OR ANYTHING ELSE.
I LOVE MI GENTE LATINA!!

C 389 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 23:23 EST) **round and round with language again** I think that as a North American female of mixed ancestry, Asian and Mexican mestizaje...I have been blessed with an aptitude for language-meaning, put me anywhere and I will eventually be speaking like the natives. However, at present I only speak two languages-Spanish and English and I speak both well. Sometimes I am a like most people who excel at something and can be elitist-like "hey speak to me properly" however, the bottom line is that I have no right to try to tell another person how they are culturally, nationally, ethnically, and especially to what degree-If you are Mexican, Boricua, or whatever, then that is what you are-regardless of
what language you speak. I think its always a good idea to be able to articulate one`s ideas, sentiments, thoughts, etc in a way that people may comprehend. For some persons, they have to do the best with what they have...So I will repeat my previous statement, from a practical standpoint, it is always wise to speak ANY language you know, well.

C 390 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 22:52 EST) **To be or not to be a Latino** I don`t believe speaking proper Spanish is a must to be considered latino. I think if you try and you know some history of your roots, that`s good. To be a true latino you should also respect other latinos because being latino doesn`t mean your just Mexican, you can be PR, Dominican, cuban, etc. We should be UNIDOS! Of course it`s hard without respect but it`s easier when we have Orgullo! Orgullo for being latinos is pretty much all it takes to be latino, because if your not proud then you don`t even bother trying to learn the language or the history. So just keep up the Orgullo. Pride and Respect!! Orgullo y Respeto!! Hasta luego!

C 391 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 21:27 EST) **Re: CURSED BY TWO TONGUES** true indeed! many people think spanish is their native tongue. but we (speaking from my experience and being mexicana) have been twiced removed from our true ways. nahuatl, otomi, or any indigenous toungue from mexico we should learn. go to certain areas in mexico and some refuse to speak both english and spanish. we should learn the native tongue.

C 392 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 20:44 EST) **Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!** REPRESENT MIGENTE! I like what I am reading. Let this motherF*** know that he can not come here and dis other people`s nationalities. Respect is something you need to be taught young man! YEah, respect my CULTURE!!! Culture is what you eat, the way you dress, your traditions and more than anything culture is your lanaguage... Dominican Spanish is my language! and if you don`t like it, you need to bounce Weeper snapper cause we are not going anyway. We need unity to progress in this country. I hope you have learn from this ordeal. Knowledge shall be salvation. Punk A$$,keinkommentar

SEE 321, 386, 392, 413, 414, 415

C 393 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 20:30 EST) **Ricans and Dominicans** THIS MESSAGE IS FOR QVIVABARCELONA. QUE VIVA LA *bleep* TUYA EN SU VOCA. YOU HAVE SOME NERVE DISSIN MY RICANS AND MY DOMINICANS. YOU BETTER LEARN SOME REPSECT AND SOME ORGULLO. I AM TRYING SO HARD NOT TO BE MEAN BUT YOUR IGNORANCE IS UN PEDAZO DE *bleep*. THAT IS RIGHT I AM PUERTO RICAN AND I SPEAK PROPER SPANISH. HOW DARE YOU!!!!!! IT IS THE PUERTO RICANS AND DOMINICANS WHO HAVED MADE THE CULTURE WELL KNOWN!!!!! (I AM NOT FORGETTIING MY CUBANOS OR MEXICANOS)! LOVE YOU GUYS TO!! WE HAVE THE SALSA AND THE DOMINICANS HAVE MERENGUE AND BACHATA. WHAT CAN I SAY THAT YOUR CULTURE HAS BROUGHT. I AM SORRY I AM NOT BASHING THE EQUADORIAN RACE! LOS ECUADORIANOS TIENE UN PEDAZO DE *bleep* EN MEDIO DE LA GENTE TUYA. PORECEITIO ECUADORIANO! VETE PARA *bleep* PORQUE TU NO SABES NADA!!!!! VIVAN MI GENTE BORICUA Y MI GENTE DOMINICANA!!! Y DILE A NUESTRO *bleep* ECQUADORIANO QUE EL ES UNA LASTIMA Y UN PEDAZO DE BASURA.

HOW DO YOU LIKE MY PROPER SPANISH NOW!

EL ESTUPIDO QUE SEAS TU!!!

CON MUCHO ORGULLO DE LA GENTE BORICUA AND DOMINICANA,keinkommentar, stolz -BORICUAITALIANO!!!!

C 394 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 19:35 EST) **It`s Okay** I say it`s okay if Latinos don`t know how to speak spanish. It doesn`t make a person less of a latino. However it wouldn`t hurt for my brothers and sisters to learn. The language is like getting in contact with your heritage. Tan a migente, lo no importa si saben espanol, todos es mi hermanos y hermanas siempre
First of all, I am a Latina and I can admit that my Spanish is not the very best but not speaking Spanish does not mean that you are not a true Latino. Feeling Latino and representing it is what makes you a True Latino. So don’t cut all Latinos that don’t know Spanish. It may not be their fault they don’t know it may be the way they were raised. So don’t hate. Latinos have got to stick together no matter what!!! One Luv :)

The thing that bothers me about this subject is I had the opportunity to travel and meet different Latino people. Not only did some hate me because I was from the US, but I notice that we are all divided because the language and its differences in accent and dialect. I dream of the day when we can all be valuable entities of a race that I can call MiGente.

I AM ITALIAN AND PUERTO RICAN MIX. I WAS NEVER TAUGHT MY LANGUAGES. ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO I LEARNED SPANISH. I KNEW WORDS AND SOME SENTENCES BUT NOT FLUENTLY LIKE I WANTED TO. AND TODAY I AM HAYY THAT I KNOW THE LANGUAGE. IT IS UP TO US TO LEARN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE. I AM NOT DOWN WITH +. IT IS JUST AN EASY WAY OUT TO LEARNING SPANISH. I TAKE MY DICTIONARY WHEREVER I GO AND IF I DON’T KNOW THE WORD IN SPANISH, I LOOK IT UP! LEARN IT LIVE IT AND LOVE IT!

DISFRUTA LA LENGUA, Y ENSEÑASELA!!!!
GRACIAS A MI GENTE LATINA Y VIVE TODO EL MUNDO LATINO ESPECIALMENTE MI GENTE DE PUERTO RICO!!!!!!!
QUE VIVA MI ISLA DEL ENCANTO!

Never to late to learn... Even if one’s parents did not teach him/her Spanish, it is never too late to learn. The language is at the heart of the Latin cultura.

Hey Boriqua...You forgot to mentioned that if you look under this clown’s educational level is reads: N/A....You see how Estupid he is.....

Ok I had to check out your page before commenting and I see that you’re not just young in age but you’re also young minded. I can’t believe that with all the Boricuas and Dominicans that you have in your friends list you still have the nerve to try to dis them. Also how can you being from Ecuador try to dis a country like Puerto Rico. You can’t even compare the two at all starting from how it looks to how much $hit they are going through in YOUR country. So please don’t talk about how our accent in Spanish is or how we use our words...who the hell told you that YOU speak proper Spanish yourself. It’s funny because you’re hating on the two countries that bring the best music to us, that’s merengue and salsa, I bet you listen to boricuas and dominicans singing and playing that lovely music all the time too huh?? By the way tell me what does Ecuador bring to us? NADA HUH!
So Papito just sit and read all the notes that you have gotten for being so ignorant, maybe you can learn from your latinos brothers and sisters. PEACE!

I feel that if you’re really latin, you would know spanish. I can’t stand when i meet a latina that doesn’t know a lick of Spanish. Even if you were born and raised in the states you should know Spanish if your parents are Latin.

C 395 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 18:56 EST) **Spanish Speaking** First of all, I am a Latina and I can admit that my Spanish is not the very best but not speaking Spanish does not mean that you are not a true Latino. Feeling Latino and representing it is what makes you a True Latino. So don’t cut all Latinos that don’t know Spanish. It may not be there fault they don’t know it may be the way they were raised. So don’t hate. Latinos have got to stick together no matter what!!! One Luv :)

C 396 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 17:48 EST) **The subject** The thing that bothers me about this subject is I had the opportunity to travel and meet different Latino people. Not only did some hate me because I was from the US, but I notice that we are all divided because the language and its differences in accent and dialect. I dream of the day when we can all be valuable entities of a race that I can call MiGente.

C 397 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 16:57 EST) **Our Language is a part of who we are** I AM ITALIAN AND PUERTO RICAN MIX. I WAS NEVER TAUGHT MY LANGUAGES. ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO I LEARNED SPANISH. I KNEW WORDS AND SOME SENTENCES BUT NOT FLUENTLY LIKE I WANTED TO. AND TODAY I AM HAYY THAT I KNOW THE LANGUAGE. IT IS UP TO US TO LEARN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE. I AM NOT DOWN WITH +. IT IS JUST AN EASY WAY OUT TO LEARNING SPANISH. I TAKE MY DICTIONARY WHEREVER I GO AND IF I DON’T KNOW THE WORD IN SPANISH, I LOOK IT UP! LEARN IT LIVE IT AND LOVE IT!

C 398 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 16:06 EST) **Never to late to learn**... Even if one’s parents did not teach him/her Spanish, it is never too late to learn. The language is at the heart of the Latin cultura.

C 399 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 15:30 EST) **Re: Re: Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!** Hey Boriqua...You forgot to mentioned that if you look under this clown’s educational level is reads: N/A....You see how Estupid he is.....

C 400 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 13:55 EST) **Re: Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!** Ok I had to check out your page before commenting and I see that you’re not just young in age but you’re also young minded. I can’t believe that with all the Boricuas and Dominicans that you have in your friends list you still have the nerve to try to dis them. Also how can you being from Ecuador try to dis a country like Puerto Rico. You can’t even compare the two at all starting from how it looks to how much $hit they are going through in YOUR country. So please don’t talk about how our accent in Spanish is or how we use our words...who the hell told you that YOU speak proper Spanish yourself. It’s funny because you’re hating on the two countries that bring the best music to us, that’s merengue and salsa, I bet you listen to boricuas and dominicans singing and playing that lovely music all the time too huh?? By the way tell me what does Ecuador bring to us? NADA HUH!
So Papito just sit and read all the notes that you have gotten for being so ignorant, maybe you can learn from your latinos brothers and sisters. PEACE!

C 401 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 13:28 EST) **Latinos de verdad** I feel that if you’re really Latin, you would know Spanish. I can’t stand when I meet a latina that doesn’t know a lick of Spanish. Even if you were born and raised in the states you should know Spanish if your parents are Latin.

SEE 400
Estrella..It`s ignorancia and envidia that some So call Latino`s from other coutries have against us latino`s from the caribean......You know I would let the subject go...But I hate when people try to dis our nationalities....you know they just need to take along look at the mirror before they can speak...if they have one. People just like to playa hate all day all night....

SEE C 383 C 399 C 402  C406 C 411

Spanish, what a language

We all have our little accents and dialects. I am guilty of being a + speaker, but you know what I love knowing both my languages. There are just some words in spanish that I can`t live without because they mean too much and no english world could replace them. Por ejemplo "co~no" o aves "~no" this one word can mean so many things. An extremely versatile word that can represent shock, pain, love, beauty, satisfaction, distain, humor, sadness,..etc. In english there is only on word for love but in spanish te quireo, t`adore, t`amo . . etc. I think it is very important to teach and learn spanish. Just think of all the beautiful salsa songs that use lyrics that are still not really matched by todays pop english music. Well just a my thoughts.

C 405 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 11:39 EST) :-)

I am a latina. I don`t have time to tell u my story but I can tell u something. I am mixed with PR and black. My parents divorced when I was a baby and my mom(who is black). I only saw my dad maybe once every two years for about an hour. I did not grow up in a latin household. When I turned about 17 I decided that it was time for me to learn about my culture and find out who I was. You have to understand that up until that point I was descriminated against by both sides (black & latino). My abuela told me a few years ago that spanish should come easy for me and I should be able to learn it with no problem. Note, my abuela never spoke a word of spanishh to me. It has been hard on me to become my culture but I know that I am proud of who I am now. Whn someone asks me what I am I proudly say that I am latina. When I do become fluent in spanish I will be even more confident in myself. I hope that this may help someone who has prejudice against people like me. I am trying. It was an unfortunate thing for me to grow up not knowing my beautiful heritage. Don`t hate me because I don`t know, help me because I want to.

Latina

Before anyone tries to dis!!!! Take a big F&cking look at the mirror!!!!!
Re: It IS important... DJMARQUEE:

Felicitos por tu respuesta y aunque hablo el ingles; te estoy escribiendo en espaqol porque me siento orgullosa de ser hispana y no me averguenzo (como muchos) de hablar el espaqol. En mi casa yo le prohíbi a mis hijos terminantemente que hablaran el ingles y les enseñé siempre sentirse orgullosos de su raza. Hoy dia son unos profesionales y saben los dos idiomas a la perfeccion. Tampoco entiendo porque si este web se llama "mi gente".

Homerpage:

Hola; soy puertorriqueqa y vivo en NY. Mi profesion es Enfermera. Soy felizmente divorciada y me siento muy contenta de pertenecer a la familia de Migente.com. Me pueden escribir si gusta a mi e-mail personal: nurse5d@hotmail.com

Re: Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!

Aight well I am from Central America and all I gotta say that we dont try to dis people from the Caribbean like koolmanLou said. I think as latinos we should be united. It dont matter if you know spanish well or no we are latinos and we should be united!!

~ONE~

It IS important... It is obvious that as generations pass, families are influenced more and more by the American culture. However, I feel that it is important to know your roots. For example, when you speak to your abuelos from back home u want to be able to relate to them. It is our responsibilty to speak Spanish at home to keep the culture alive!

Just my 2 cents, aufforderung

DJ MARQUEE

Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!

mira... first off, ur entitled to ur opinion... pero u need to chills w/ the "its so nasty how prs and drs speak" u buggin for reals... not everyone speaks the same... we`re all different... so deal w/ it!!! by the way im 1/2 Rican and 1/2 Scottish... i don`t speak spanish as fluently as i would like to pero im improving.... pero by no means does that make me LESS latino!!!! i know my roots very well thank you.... u the one who`s lost!!!! find urself and maybe then u can gain a better tolerance for others!!!!!!!

Re: Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS!

You know I`m really started to hate some of stupid f&cking people here in MG. I can`t believe that we have some ignorant mutha*bleep*$rs out here. This the second stupid comment I read that tries to Boriquas or Dominicans. You know I noticed that maybe we`re not all to united after all. I have noticed that Central and south Americans try to dis people from the Caribbean. What`s up with that? First of all y`ah Spanish isn`t the best because sometimes when y`all talk I don`t understand a thing they said? By the NJPAPI the idiot who wrote it iss from Guatamala where there`s civil strife and government revolts like every 3 months.... How you like that?

SEE C 383 C 399 C 402 C 406 C 411

Re: Please let me know.

Please don`t listen to what others say about your Spanish... just do it! I`m a person who grew up monolingual (English) in a bilingual home (my parents spoke Spanish). For a long time, I was very embarrassed to speak Spanish because of other native speaking Latinos who wouldn make fun of my Spanish or correct me in public. But when I was in my 20`s, I decided that it didn`t matter what others thought about my linguistic abilities. It was then that I started talking (mocho as my Mexican relatives would say). I started reading simple magazines in Spanish and conversing with sympathetic fluent speakers of Spanish. The result is that I now speak well enough to get compliments from native speakers. The ultimate compliment that one can give you is to ask "Where are you from originally?" instead of "Oh, you`re mocho". It has taken me 15 years to get where I am linguistically. Yes, I listen to Spanish music and watch the Spanish programs, but more importantly, I
use the language in spite of other`s opinions. I am now a bilingual teacher working on my Masters degree in Bilingual Education. I teach reading in both languages to little children. In the process, I have taken basic Spanish grammar and learned academic Spanish because I want to improve. There are educated Mexican Americans who can communicate in both languages, but we have to go through the same learning process as any other raza. Speaking at home with the relatives and friends does not automatically qualify us to teach. It requires learning the mechanics of the language. Unfortunately, this is something that not enough of us are willing to do because we think that we know enough to get by. But think about it...don`t we go to school so that we can communicate in English? Again, I repeat, start talking and to **@@3 what other`s think! Start reading those revistas. Buy a English/Spanish dictionary. Register for a Spanish I grammar class at the local junior college. It`s cheaper than a university course. It will help you. Ten orgullo de ser si misma. Ne dejes que otros deciden su futuro. Hable con confianza. Los que van a criticar siempre lo haran (there`s an accent over the a on the last word). You are a Latina. You are also an American. It has taken me 40 years to internalize this concept. Share these feelings with your kids. They will learn another language, too. Read about the history of Mexico. It`s a fascinating history of a race that has survived in spite of conquests and subversions. One can get boggled down in the logistics of what Spanish means or where Latin really comes from and so on.... Yes, we Latinos have the same melting pot dilemma that other Americans have, but fortunately, there is such an influx of Spanish available in today`s society that we, unlike other cultures, can sustain and be fluent in two languages (at least) without leaving the USA. Ain`t that great? (Yes, I know that ain`t is not a word, but I do have a sense of humor.) Hang in there and JUST DO IT!

C 413 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 10:05 EST) Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS! Listen you ignorant bastard. The way we speak is call a dialect. In other words imbecile, we pronounce some words with a different accent and use some words that you do not use and still absolutely correct Spanish. Your problem is that you are so ignorant and arrogant you do not understand this. You might like the way someone speak because you feel they should sound like you. I haven`t check your page, but you must be from Spain because of your name. I love the way my people speak, it is a reflection of our culture, of our blend with other cultures and languages. You need open your eyes and see that you are not in Spain anymore. Peace, Love, & Knowledge shall be your salvation SEE 321, 386, 392, 413, 414, 415

C 414 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 10:02 EST) You not even from Spain??? Stop sweating Spaniards!
SEE 321, 386, 392, 413, 414, 415 keinkommentar

C 415 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 09:58 EST) Re: RICANS AND DOMINICANS! Listen you ignorant bastard. The way we speak is call a dialogue. In other words imbecile, we pronounce some words with a different accent and use some words that you do not use and still absolutely correct Spanish. Your problem is that you are so ignorant and arrogant you do not understand this. You might like the way someone speak because you feel they should sound like you. I haven`t check your page, but you must be from Spain because of your name. I love the way my people speak, it is a reflection of our culture, of our blend with other cultures and languages. You need open your eyes and see that you are not in Spain anymore. Peace, Love, & Knowledge shall be your salvation SEE 321, 386, 392, 413, 414, 415

C 416 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 08:35 EST) RICANS AND DOMINICANS! RICANS AND DOMINICANS NEED TO LEARN HOW TO SPEAK PROPER SPANISH, ITS SO NASTY HOW PRS AND DRS SPEAK, I WANT TO THROW UP WHEN I HEAR IT, AND YOU ARE NOT LATINO IF YOU CANT SPEAK SPANISH, UR A *bleep* GRINGO AND U LOST ALL YOUR ROOTS. C
C 418 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 02:10 EST) **Please let me know**, Just checking back in, I personally don`t speak Spanish, I understand and read some. It seems that there are a lot of Latinos that don`t think you qualify as being Latino if you don`t speak the language. I`m a bit confused, because I consider myself to also be American. And that doesn`t mean I "AmerikkKanized" either, it means that my Mom (mainly Hopi Indian decent) was born here as I was. I am a proud Mexican-American. 

What really confuses me is that when I took a Spanish class in High School I transferred out because the Spanish teacher was a GRINGO. Wondering where all you Spanish speaking people were then - to let a GRINGO teach Spanish? Later, when I took a class in college, my Spanish teacher (of Spanish decent) constantly mocked and put me down because I didn`t know how to speak it. I can`t begin to tell you how badly I felt that someone in my own race did not accept that at least I wanted to learn. Instead of accepting that I wanted to learn he made it so unbearable (with the jokes in front of gringos) that I quit. That was in the 80`s. Now, today I still haven`t "found time" (my excuse) to learn, but know that the urge to learn is growing powerful. I even urge my own children to learn, but even now the teachers in their high school are gringos. Now again where are you Educated Spanish Speaking Latinos? 

Moreover, can you tell me what is the correct Spanish Language to learn? Is it the language the Spanish in Spain speak? Is it the language that the Mexican in Mexico speak? The Brazilians speak? The Puerto Rican Speak? Etc, etc, etc...When we call ourselves "Latinos" isn`t that derived from the true "Latin" Language? Doesn`t `t "Latin" originate from Europe? Is there any Educated "Latinos" on this site that can clarify this? I`d (perhaps others too) would like to know the CORRECT language to learn before I (we) invest time. Seems that we Latinos have the same melting pot dilemma that the Americans have.

SEE C 396, C 418, C 455

C 419 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 01:11 EST) **Spanish and it`s importance**... I am a linguist in training and therefore I am very passionate about language. I grew up in a monolingual home...we spoke Spanish only. To this day I think my parents for having blessed me with this. Today my Spanish is almost perfect and obviously so is my English. Not to mention that knowing Spanish has advanced my learning French and Italian in college now. It truly is an advantage when u speak another language at home. Language can serve as a means for defining an identity, but in our case I say if u actively embrace ur Latino culture and perhaps don`t speak the language, then ur Latino. Now if u go by saying I am not Latino...I don`t even speak the language then ur a sell out. Being Latino is a state of mind enhaced by speaking the language. Now if u don`t speak the language, go out and pick up a book...u would be surprised what u pick up and remember...and don`t tell me it`s hard...cuz I am taking German...damn that is hard! And I can still remember learning English in school...the key to language acquisition is immersion...go to any Latino neighborhood or listen to LaMega 97.9 and enjoy Latino culture.

C 420 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 00:49 EST) **This is just my view.**... Being half Dominican, half Puerto Rican... I fall in the stereotype of the "non-spanish speaking Puerto Rican"... Which Isn`t so... but I feel that.. Speaking spanish is a tremendous advantage.. Especially for those of us here in the US. You know that spanish is spoken just as much as english is here... So it`s like if you`re latino.. then you almost "need" to be able to speak spanish because it`s expected from you. 

It`s also a huge part of our culture and who we are. So not speaking spanish.. Is like lacking a piece of you.. But like I said, that`s MY view.

C 421 (Wed, Jul 11, 2001 @ 00:08 EST) **NOT REALLY BUT REALITY** I THINK THAT SPEAKING SPANISH IS PART OF YOUR CULTURE AND YOUR DECENT IS FROM I DON`T WANT TO SNAP ON MY OWN PEOPLE BUT **HALF OF US DON`T REALLY KNOW GOOD SPANISH. I FOR ONE SPEAK WRITE AND READ AND I KNOW IT BEACUSE MY PARENTS
HELPED ME TO UNDERSTAND HOW IT IMPORTANT IT WOULD BE IN THE FUTURE AND. BUT I THINK THAT IF YOU DON`T EVEN SPEAK SPANISH THEN WHY CALL YOURSELF SOMETHING YOU DON`T EVEN KNOW WELL ENOUGH TO SPEAK. I`M NOT TRYING TO DISS ANYONE BUT BEING SPANISH AND NOT BEING ABLE TO SPEAK IT IS PART OF BEING AN IGNORANT PERSON TO THEIR NATIONALITY EVEN IF YOUR NOT BORN IN THE COUNTRY.

C 422 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 23:31 EST) ionoe... I`m the product of a biracial marriage (Salvadoran and African-American), and i think that the ability 2 speak the language that creates half of my interesting culture is mad important 2 who i am. Don`t get me wrong, i`m educated about African-American history as well...although 4 the most part i could care less about what people say/think about me, i know how society is, and it`s happened before, that people will expect me 2 prove that i`m in fact who i say i am, and i think that knowing about my culture (meaning i know my languages) is something that`s gonna help me get thru life easier rather than set me back...i wouldn`t wave a flag around of the US if i didn`t know about this country`s history either...just my opinion...no offense 2 anyone...i`m out.

C 423 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 23:27 EST) latinos: we have a big advantage! i think you have to know spanish, couze how you can say: iam latino if you dont know your language, and the united state in these moments you have a big advantage if you can speak both languages. that why iam so proud por ser latina.

C 424 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 19:11 EST) very VERY important... knowing both languages is the most important thing a latino can have. i knew spanish perfectly inside and out until i was 5 then lost it until i was 13 cause my grandmother got on my case. now, i know who to speak, write, and read spanish great! for all you latinos out there... don`t you ever, EVER forget your spanish, please. el espaqol y ingles es lo mas importante que hay en este mundo y en los estados unidos! cuidate mucho y ciao!

C 425 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 18:51 EST) ~*Important for me*~ ~I just enrolled in a spanish class at the local college. Growing up I didn`t think I would need it. Now I`m 33 yrs. old and living in south Delaware I need to speak it more. So, now I `m going to learn the proper spanish so I can translate to help others that are not as fortunatre. I feel it`s important to know both of our languages. Nena*~

C 426 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 17:39 EST) Language is vital to a culture Consider this scenario: Every branch of my family can be traced back to Germany. My family cooks some German dishes and follows some traditions; however we do not speak German. Should I still call myself German? I think not. While food and traditions are important, language is one of the most defining parts of a culture. To be a full member of a certain culture, it should be reflected in your everyday life. I have many international friends from Venezuela, Nicaragua, Brazil, etc. that take great pride in their cultures and languages and resent americans who try to claim a culture they have never seen. Someone from Germany would laugh in my face if I told them I was German. I am an American with German ancestry. The same goes for Latinos. Why should Christina Aguilera be considered latino only because of her parents. She didn` t even learn Spanish until the Ricky Martin/Latino music movement began, just so she could cash in. I`m not trying to offend anyone, I just think cultures and traditions should be taken more seriously. Yo hablo espanol. Tu puedes decir lo mismo?
latinos speaking spanish? after reading these excerpts i feel as if alot of people are blaming others for not learning a language. language is a beautiful thing and should most definately be taught, but it DOES NOT define who you are and where you come from.

Should that question be asked? Of course a person should know spanish! If no, then you have been ameriKKKanized. Therefore you are not Latino, you are of Hispanic descent. But of course many of you will take offense to this, and make an excuse. Go to Latin America speaking your native english language. You are considered norteNo.

My .02 Now, Im not Latino but even I know some basic spanish! I think if you`re Latino, especially in areas with a large latino population, you SHOULD know your language. I´m not saying you have to speak spanish to be latino so don´t get me wrong. It´ s evident that Spanish is like the second official language of the US and it´s even being learned by non-latino`s. I was in the hospital recently and noticed that everyone there spoke spanish fluently! If non-latino`s can learn it, it should be easier for Latino`s to learn it since you have that background.

Knowing Spanish is Important PERSONALLY THINK THAT YOU ARE WRONG BECAUSE YOU DON`T HAVE TO SPEAK SPANISH TO BE LATINO ETC. ETC. I JUST THOUGHT I WOULD LET YOU KNOW MY OPINION PLEASE DON`T GET MAD IT´S JUST MY THOUGHTS PEACE OUT,
DAWG4LIFE16 A.K.A. JON"THA DON" RIVERA

Knowing Spanish is important, but not a must in order to consider yourself a Latino. To be Latino is in your blood, in your roots, in your heritage. But I feel that knowing the language is important to communicate with those that do not speak English, and that way you can help that person in not feeling alienated or like an outsider. You feel me? At least some Spanish. Many people do not speak Spanish that were born here in the U.S. because their parents or whoever raised them didn´t choose to speak it at home. And many of those children that are now adults wish their parents hadn´ t been so selfish in that aspect. I was blessed in having two wonderful parents from Texas that spoke both in our home. I learned from my mother that reading and writing Spanish is like it sounds. That tip made it so easy for me as I grew up. Latino parents, please use Spanish in raising up your Latino children. In the long run they will appreciate and thank you for it.

important but not necessary Knowing spanish or not knowing it does not determine if u are really latino. I think that is more of a spiritual and mental way of thinking, feeling and being. But i think it is very important to learn and maintain the Spanish/English bilingualism with every passing generation. It is a beautiful language and the way in which our parents, grandparents,and relatives related to each other. Learning all the native tongues would be nice, but i dont think its realistic.

Language... I have friends that are latinos and don´t know spanish and yeah there are still consider latinos.If would be better that every latino would know there language cause that makes us more proud of our nationality! I myself grow up knowing spanish then english and know that i have my kids,my daughter of 4 years knows spanish and english.So yeah...no matter what language latinos speak they are still consider latinos!

You speak Spanish...? you are hired! I have been in the United States for six years and one of the key points of my success is that I speak Spanish. Every where I apply for jobs, one of the first things employers usually ask me is if I speak Spanish. People that can speak Spanish have more opportunities to get
jobs and get pay more than the people that don`t. I would feel very uncomfortable if I am with my Family and I don`t know what they are talking about. Speaking the Language is part of being Latino.

C 436 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 15:08 EST) **Language** I wish I had learned Spanish growing up. My father did not want us raised speaking Spanish. I think by now we both regret I was not taught. I know I could take classes, but I found it`s harder to learn now. So if anyone out there has a easy way for me to learn, I`ll take suggestions. I do know some, and understand some of it, but not enough to carry on a conversation.

C 437 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 14:33 EST) **Yes, it is important** I`m Mexican american born in California. My parents came to California from Cd. Juarez Chih. some 27 years ago. Growing up I spoke both languages. English at school and spanish at home, I wouldn`t have it any other way. I`m very proud of the fact that I speak spanish. It`s a shame when I met people, they look very latino, and don`t speak a word of spanish. I know that when I have my kids I will teach them spanish. I just think that being latino, or in my case Mexican, spanish is part of the whole package. But it`s never to late to learn.

C 438 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 14:02 EST) **Re: Language is important** I am biracial and of my parents my father is Puerto Rican and speaks Spanish.I do not. For whatever reason, as I was growing my father chose not to speak spanish to me or my siblings. Imagine being surrounded by friends that are fluent in Spanish, sitting at their dinner table and not being able to communicate with them. Imagine having brothers and sisters that speak Spanish and imagine not being able to communicate with Latin people that are more comfortable speaking in their native tongue. It`s hard. To feel as if you`re not entitled to call yourself Latino when you are constantly surrounded by people of the same cultural background is even harder. I thank God everyday he has given me the ability to learn because I am constantly learning about my culture from friends and family. I eat the food, I dance the dance, and God knows I have the attitude of a Puerto Rican women. I am Latino and I have always promised myself that I would do my best to become more familiar with Spanish. I`m just asking that what I`ve just written be considered when you come across another Hispanic that gives you a blank stare when you approach them with certain expectations.

C 439 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 13:46 EST) **Tongues do not indentify a Latino** I have many friends who are latinos, but do not speak spanish. At first, I found that strange that latino families did not take the time to teach their kids spanish. You start to think different after you speak to them and realize that they know alot about their culture and where they came from. If they don`t, then you take the time to teach them about it.

C 440 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 13:36 EST) **I think it is very important** I think that it is very important that latinos, and people of ALL cultures should know their native language as well as English. As of this point in my life (I`m 21) I am not fluent in Spanish, however I WISH I was. My father and everyone on his side of the family are Puerto Rican and fluent in Spanish and English. My abulea, said that she tried to tech me Soanish when I was a little girl, but that I did not want to learn. I wish she would have tried harder because I am suffering now everytime I go to visit them In PR, which is at LEAST once a year. I am in the process of trying to learn Spanishe, but it is much more difficult to learn another language when you reach a certain age. I guess I have a little bit of an advantage because I do understand the language and I know enough of the words to kinda sorta get me by, but it is still hard for me. So yes, I do think that know your native language is extremely important and I hope that by the time that I have children , I will be fluent in Spanish so that I will be able to teach them so that they can get an extra helping had in evolving world.

C 441 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 13:11 EST) **Re: CURSED BY TWO TONGUES** Lonestar, you have great points,,, not too many people know are indigenous tongue which is Nahuatl.
Im part of a brotherhood that is based off Nahuatl unlike the greeks. Also one more thing before I leave, your culture is how much you feel you are, and when it comes to speaking it well, a parakeet can speak espanol !!!!!

C 442 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 12:17 EST) CURSED BY TWO TONGUES THERE IS A POEM BY OLIN TEZCATLIPOCA - IT TALKS ABOUT HOW FIRST OFF WE HAVE BEEN CURSED BY SPEAKING SPANISH - WHICH IS THE NATIVE TONGUE OF THE SPANIARD AND THEN THE ENGLISH TONGUE OF THE CAUCASIAN - WE NEED TO SPEAK OUR TRUE LANGUAGE - "NAHUATL" - DON´T GET ME WRONG THIS IS JUST MY OPINION - TAKE IT FOR WHAT IT´S WORTH.

C 443 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 11:58 EST) Re: Not really Man!
I guess I´m one of them!
sorry about my wrtiting!
I need coffee :-(
SEE C 425, C 443, C 444

C 444 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 11:56 EST) Not really Who cares if you don`t speak spanish & and if you don`t want to learn. That doesn`t make you a bad person, or makes you you that you hate your culture.
As long as your a good person.
No matter what your background is, what counts.
A look of the Latinos on this site are a bunch of ignorant fools anyway.
Can`t even speak proper spanish or english.
SEE C 425, C 443, C 444

C 445 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 11:38 EST) I see spanish as a tool. Regardless of your feelings towards your culture, people or family...knowing how to speak spanish can really get you around in this country and in the world.
Knowing how to speak spanish is a fact that goes on your resume and it helps you build an instant connection with millions of people everywhere.
It knocks down barriers!
So my kids van hablar espaqol!

C 446 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 10:07 EST) Language is important No matter what you will always be a latino even if you dont speak the language. But can you truly understand your culture without knowing spanish. Sure many people are going to say yes, but come on honestly. You cant truly understand the music, traditions, and courtesies unless you do. I heard alot of people saying that it doesnt matter. Well you go back to where your culture originated and you tell me that it doesnt matter. Go back to Puerto Rico, Mexico, Dominican Republic, etc....... and you tell me that you can totally interact and blend in. People say that it really doesnt matter, but honestly speaking it does because unconsciously you are loosing your culture. It`s sad when I meet a hispanic and try to interact with them in spanish only to recieve a blank stare back. And for all the people that are going to tell me that their parents didnt teach them that is bull because if you trully wanted to know you would have made the effort to ask them to teach you or found help elsewhere. Always be proud of who you are and be true to yourself.............

C 447 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 09:27 EST) Oh Boy Anyone who thinks that not speaking spanish removes you from being Latino is foolish. What about what is in the heart? In the soul? In the blood? Does the ability to not speak a language erase all that? Yes speaking our tongue is important, if not crucial to the survival of our culture. But damn, who am I, who are YOU to tell someone that they are not Latino because for whatever reason they can`t speak the language? I also belive that it is very important to know our tongue in order to keep our culture and heritage strong and alive. I myself was blessed with parents who still exclusively speak spanish to me. Spanish is my first language, English my second. But I have never felt that those who can`t speak spanish are not Latino. To me, SHAME of who u are is the only thing that can disqualify you from being a LATINO. If
you are ashamed of who you are, of who your parents are, of your culture, of your look, of anything that is a direct mark of ur Latino heritage, then I will say, you are not Latino...because we are proud of who we are. Peace

C 448 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 06:27 EST) **important** I agree with CHICANA77 on this one. Not being able to speak Spanish does not make you a non or less of a Latino. It is the teachings of the padres on this one. I have many friends who do not speak Spanish or are very uneducated en la lengua. I feel that it is very important to learn everything that we can about a language that our grandparents were brought up with. I have seen many instances where my friends are prejudice to Mexicanos (Nationals), and others who do not know English. AND MY FRIENDS ARE OF MEXICAN DESCENT born in the US. After they find out that I know Spanish, they have felt really stupid and uneasy around me. I rip into them, sure, but it pizzez me off that they are still not willing to try. An example. About five years ago I met my ex-girlfriend who was half Mexican and half white. She had a lot of stereotypes of people who spoke Spanish, Mexican Nationals, even the currency of the peso. But when she met me her views on different things changed. The one that didn`t was speaking Spanish. She tried, but not hard enough. She even asked me to teach her Spanish. And I did try. But when it came to it, she never wanted to speak in Spanish. I always tried to convice her that a big part of learning it was trying to speak it. She started to get good to. So when ever her and I would go to a Mexican restaurant (I mean a real MEXICAN RESTURANT, family owned MEXICAN RESTURANT, not owned by gringos where all the MEXICANOS were in the kitchen) and I would tell her to practice and order in Spanish. She never did. Then I noticed that she would hardly try to speak Spanish to me when her and I were alone. After a few weeks of showing her how to say different words, but her not wanting to try and say them back, I got mad and told here that if she didn`t want to practice, then for her to stop asking me to teach her because I was just wasting my breath and we were both wasting our time. THEN, one day she met my family, I mean not just my mom and dad, but my aunt`s and cousins and uncles who only spoke Spanish. I know this sounds bad, but I felt like a personal victory had come my way. Everytime my family would ask her something, she would just look at them. She knew that they were talking to her, but she never answered. At times she would look at me, but I told her that was her pay back because she never practiced Spanish, and I told her that I was not going to answer for her. She was on her own. I was willing to teach, but it also weighs on the person who is asking to learn. We cannot force anyone to learn anything, but we have to talk to our friends and family that do not know how to speak the language and encourage them.

C 449 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 01:44 EST) **Wonderful topic!!!** I am a 20 yr old Mexican American woman from Texas! My father was born and raised in Mexico and my mother here in Texas! So I am like 99.99999% Mexican American and darn proud to say so! My Spanish is fair. It`s the only way for me to communicate with my paternal grandparents. I wish I knew perfect Spanish! I am currently taking a college Spanish course and it`s helping tremendously! I used to get really really nervous when I spoke it or read it aloud in church. Now I am (somewhat) confident with it! I wish my parents would have taught me Spanish first, but they didn`t so now it`s my responsibility to learn it. Not only for myself but for my future descendants. If our generation doesn`t teach our children and our children`s children then what is going to become of our heritage and culture?????

C 450 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 00:57 EST) **knowing the language** I personally do not speak Spanish, but I understand it. I think it is important to be able to speak the language to communicate with other Mexicans (my people). I wasnt raised with the language, although that is my dad`s first language. My mom does not speak it due to the fact my grandparents were punished for speaking it. I still know I`m MEXICAN. It does not make me any less or more Mexican. I know my culture and am striving to learn how to communicate with my people, especially my family in Mexico.
C 451 (Tue, Jul 10, 2001 @ 00:51 EST) **Not Really** Personally, I don`t conider a latin person LATIN, if they dont know how to speak their own language..I understand that it`s not their fault. I blame the parents for not teaching them thier language..I know both spanish and english and and I thank my parents for that..And I`m going to make sure that my children are raised the same.

C 452 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 23:23 EST) **What Runs In Your Veins** As a Puerto Rican man, with a known Taino ancestry, I do not feel it is necessary for anyone to speak Spanish as a claim to their heritage. My heritage would dictate that I speak the dialect of the Arawak Indians who came to inhabit the island of Puerto Rico, which they called Boriquen and that`s where it comes from, and were known as the Taino tribe. A person`s spoken language does not reflect who they are as a person or the bloodline that has given birth to their life. I`m proud of my Spanish heritage and my Taino heritage and do not need to speak Spanish or Taino to claim my heritage. Taino-ti! ("May the great spirit be with you" in Taino)

C 453 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 22:47 EST) **okay** well hey i`m not latina, but i have a great respect and love for the culture. to me it`s always great to meet a latino that was raised in the US that speaks spanish. it`s just an extra sign of respect for their culture in my opinion. i think that anyone who learns even the smallest bit about where they came from is showing respect not only for your culture but for yourself as well. i am Cherokee indian, and i have visited the rez nearest to where i live several times, and i have my name engraved in the cherokee language on my class ring. i`m learning the language too, but it`s taking a while. However, if you don`t speak spanish, you are still missing an important part of the full connection to your culture. it`s always good to learn at least.... -Catalina

C 454 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 21:14 EST) **You are what you feel....** I grew up not knowing Spanish (even though that was the only language spoken around me most of my life) until I was 16 years old. Yet I never questioned whether or not I was Puerto Rican or Latina. I feel a strong connection to my people through our music, our food, values, and our common struggles. Language is just one aspect of our culture. If everyone in the world spoke English we would still be distinguished by the color of our skin, our traditions and our connection to the people of our region. Be proud of who you are regardless of whether you have adopted all aspects of the culture. "It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country, but rather for him who loveth the whole world. The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens." - Baha`u`llah

C 455 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 20:54 EST) **don`t judge a book by its cover** My Dad never spoke English and even though he could pass as Caucasian he was discriminated against because the language he spoke. So, as we (10 children) grew up he made sure that English was the only language we learned. Yes it always bothered me not to speak Spanish, but I do understand the language, and I`m very proud who I am and of my Mexican American culture/heritage. I try real hard to do things to keep the culture/heritage alive, I even make sure that my kids study the language in school. I`ve been harassed by Spanish speaking people because I wasn`t able to speak fluently, and by American people because the color of my skin. Harassment from Americans is kind of understandable, but when your own people harass you it`s hard to take. Because of the harassment [discrimination] from my own people I`ve rebelled (when I was younger) by not embracing my culture. So, when you put down someone from your race it only helps to lower the numbers and aids in extinction of your culture. I guess because it wasn`t important to my parents it wasn`t important to me to learn it. I don`t blame my parents for banning us from speaking Spanish. I`m sure that they were only trying to protect us from the injustice that they went through. Growing up as a Mexican-American was hard, I can`t imagine how hard it was for my parents who spoke very little English in their days. As a parent all you can do is hope that what you teach your children doesn`t stifle or hurt them in any way.
All I can say is don`t judge a book by its cover, study it - you may be surprised of our pride.
SEE C 396, C 418, C 455, 41

C 456 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 19:52 EST) **Representing!!!** Although italian born i was raised in venezuela and there is nothing more in the world that i am more proud of. I carry the latino name to its full extent but still never denying my european heritage thats why i learned italian always representing what i am

C 457 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 19:30 EST) **You are still hispanic but....** But it is really sad how many hispanics out there don`t speak spanish!! i know that alot of times is not the persons fault, but i look down to those hispanic parents who wish not to speak in spanish to there kids, i have a 5y.o. son who speaks perfect spanish and its was my priority to teach him the language. and i love to talk, read and write in spanish its me its part of my culture and where i came from!! proud to speak spanish

C 458 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 19:29 EST) **You Are Latino, But** This is an interesting question since Latinos (everyone of Spanish descent) is proud. So if you are going to go on about hispanics or being Latino, you should learn the language. But just because you can`t speak it, doesn`t mean you aren`t Latino. You`ve caught enough hell for being one already. This situation is similar to the one in Israel where they go through their periodic nonsense of "Who is a Jew".
If you care, care enough to learn the language.

C 459 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 18:42 EST) **We all Hispanic regardless** You have to look at people of the different groups and ethnic backgrounds. I work w/ alot of Italians who don`t speak a word of Italian but they still consider themselves Italian. I also work a few Irish guys they don`t have Irish accents but they still consider themselves Irish. Now problem is the if your come from a Hispanic family, they should`ve diffinitely taught you how to speak Spanish. You also have to understand that alot of immigrants that came before us we`re always getting discriminated against so their families want to just assimilate to the mainstream culture. Now for those Latinos they that feel ashamed because they don`t speak Spanish. How about taking a college course in Spanish? It really helps it helped me. I`m glad you bought this subject out Mammita. Remember 2 generations from now if you don`t teach your kids to speak Spanish all they`ll have is a Spanish last name. It`s inevitable.
SEE C 383 C 399 C 402 C406 C 411

C 460 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 17:44 EST) **So ashamed...** I am a puerto rican and dominican female, and I do not speak spanish or understand it that well. I am so ashamed to say this but my parents just didn`t raise me speaking spanish (although both of them speak it perfectly). I am so upset with them for that. I love spanish music, can dance to it, cook it, everything, I just can`t speak my language, that s**t is so pitiful. I am so disappointed with myself that I haven`t picked up on it yet. When I have kids, they are definitely going to know both English and Spanish. I think that the language is a very important part of our culture.

C 461 (Mon, Jul 09, 2001 @ 17:23 EST) **real** i am a product of puerto rican and african-american culture and i speak a little spanish. i look hispanic and black and people come up to me and start taking to me in spanish adn i get tongue tied. i can read it and write it pretty well but can`t speak it well. i am not considered hispanic by other hispanics that i am around because i can`t speak spanish and it makes me feel really hurt when those people don`t consider me hispanic. i am trying more now to practice but it is hard. i feel that you are a product of your parents and should be considered hispanic or any culture even if you don`t speak the language. Sometimes when people of the same culture tells you you are not then you sometimes just stop trying to speak the language or don`t even try because you get discourrage for not fitting in your culture which should be rightfully claimed. Adios me gentes
Interesting Being a product of both african-american and Panamanian decent. I speak spanish and english, but english is not the language of my african ancestors. I don`t speak a lick of african language so does that mean I can`t claim that side of my race? I think you are what you are regardless if you speak the language or not. Most people look at me and think I`m just black until I speak spanish. Most people think latino`s all look a certain way but just like black people latino`s come in all shades.

Bienvenido a mi pagina. Primero yo no busco el amor del internet. El segundo, yo no busco amigos de tipo. ¿Entiende? Bueno, sólo las damas. Ahora que tenemos eso derecho. LOL, yo encontrado a muchas personas frescas en aqui. Estoy en muchas cosas quiere, Artes Marcial, el Obstaculo que compite sportbikes, la cocina, fuera, las playas (el amor Miami), toda clase de musica, salsa que baila, la poesma erotica, el culturismo etc etc. Deje caerme una nota o pagina alguna vez. Si hay mas usted quiere saber preguntar apenas.

!Todo pido es que usted viene verdadero o se ausenta!

Carlos