

The Discussion of Family Violence in LatinX Families

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Domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, abuse, and/or incest within the family are often considered “taboo” or forbidden topics of discussion. Because of cultural norms and patriarchal family structures, this is particularly true among non-white populations. In this research project, we will examine how people of LatinX/Hispanic descent in the US do or do not discuss these issues. The first step will be a comprehensive meta-analysis of existing literature in sociology, psychology, and family studies. From that, an interview schedule will be developed and 5-10 interviews will be conducted with LatinX/Hispanic adults living in the Lynchburg area, and a qualitative analysis of pertinent themes will be done. Because the LatinX/Hispanic population will constitute 30% of the US population by 2050, there is a great need for more research on these topics, which will ultimately support social policy changes.

