

Western Oregon University

Digital Commons@WOU

Academic Excellence Showcase Proceedings

Student Scholarship

2020-05-28

Emerging Conflicts for Latina College Students and their Parents

Sandy Cerda-Lezama

Western Oregon University, scerdalezama17@mail.wou.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/aes>

Recommended Citation

Cerda-Lezama, Sandy, "Emerging Conflicts for Latina College Students and their Parents" (2020).
Academic Excellence Showcase Proceedings. 250.
<https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/aes/250>

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Scholarship at Digital Commons@WOU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Academic Excellence Showcase Proceedings by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@WOU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@wou.edu, kundas@mail.wou.edu, bakersc@mail.wou.edu.

Emerging Conflicts for Latina College Students and their Parents

Latinx population college attendance has substantially increased over the past decades (Krogstad, 2015). Typically, Latinx college students consider higher education achievement to honor parental efforts and to end generational poverty (Ceja, 2004; Jabbar, Serrata, Epstein, & Sánchez, 2019). However, there are risks for these students to drop out of college (Camacho Liu, 2011) and they often face significant responsibilities in their households.

The relationships between emerging adults (ages 18-25) and their parents experience change and create the potential for conflict when adult children transitions into college and into adulthood. In this qualitative study and the focus of the AES presentation, we focus on the experiences of Latina college students who identified areas of conflict with their parents concerning: 1) family expectations conflicts with parents regarding time, labor, and family-focused responsibilities when pursuing college degrees; 2) academic and career choice conflicts; and 3) dating, courtship, and marriage conflicts concerning expectations and practices. For this presentation, we focus on a subgroup of Latina perspectives concerning family expectations and related conflict and outcomes for relationship quality between parents and their daughters. Data analysis has begun and this presentation will outline preliminary findings and the ways that family expectations create conflict, are shaped by gender and cultural contexts, influence emotional and behavioral outcomes, and influence the parent – emerging adult relationship during this developmental period.