Editor's Note

This issue of the Journal of the National Association of Ethnic Studies presents an interesting cross section of ethnic groups in the United States: Native American, Vietnamese, Latino, African American. Several of the articles involving these groups raise the persistent question of assimilation versus acculturation and where the health and welfare of the children of immigrants or the younger generation of immigrants lies. Shaw N. Gynan in "Hispanic Immigration and Spanish Maintenance as Indirect Measures of Ethnicity: Reality and Perceptions" has found that the newest generation of Latinos not only are more involved ethnically with their Spanish heritage than earlier immigrants but also are more proficient in English, information that might cause the promoters of English as the official language of the United States to rethink their position. In "An Examination of Social Adaptation Processes of Vietnamese Adolescents" Fayneese Miller, My Do, and Jason Sperber show that this age group finds its strength in a strong attachment to their ethnic community and proficiency in speaking and writing English: the first keeps them grounded and the second two allow them the confidence to progress in their new society. In "Community Versus Assimilation: A Study IN American Assimilation at Saint Joseph's Indian Industrial School" Sarah Shillinger shows through oral history the effects of being removed from one's ethnic community as Indian children were in the board school movement of the early twentieth century.

Tim A Pilgrim's article, "Giving Oral Expression 'Free Rein": Implications for Diversity of University Hate Speech Codes," wrestles with what is known as the "hate" speech that regularly slithers through U.S. society. He promotes the concept of community discussions to diffuse hate speech and yet encourage free speech.

We are especially pleased to publish Alma Rosa Alvarez' "National Traitors in Chicano Culture and Literature: Malinche and Chicano Homosexuals." At the closing banquet of a recent NAES Conference, a NAES member asked why this Journal had not published more articles on the subject of homosexuality or sexual preference. The answer, of course, was that we were not receiving articles on that subject. Alvarez' articles begins to correct the problem and is a mesmerizing analysis of the story of La Malinche and its ramifications for Mexican/Chicano homosexuals. This Journal always will be willing to push boundaries in directions our readers are interested in pursuing.

Ethnic Studies Review Volume 20

This issue's Review Essay is David Goldstein-Shirley's "Black Cowboys in the American West: A Historiographical Review." He presents the work done on black cowboys during the last half of the 20th Century. This work has been a long time coming and is frustratingly incomplete and thin, so this essay is a beginning, and a generous beginning at that, of repairing the record. Goldstein-Shirley, through his review of the work that has been done on the subject gives any researcher a perfect place to begin.

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