Un Nuevo Dia is a bilingual (Spanish/English) quarterly publication whose purpose is to report on “the progress being made both locally and nationally in new and improved educational programs for minority children.” It is achieving this goal by printing articles which deal with discriminatory practices against minority students in various community public schools. Many of the articles offer solutions to this problem, emphasizing community action as an effective political tool. One issue, for example, was entirely devoted to the experiences of five Chicano community members who became involved in their respective school systems and how each of these people was able to alter and improve educational conditions for their children through community action and personal involvement. The journal presents problems in a positive fashion, showing the power that community political action groups have to effect changes in public school policies. The articles are easily read in both Spanish and English and the format is visually pleasing, with nice graphic work and appealing photographs. Unfortunately, the journal does not contain a table of contents nor are the issues dated, which reduces its usefulness.

Un Nuevo Dia cites some solutions, e.g., community involvement as a requisite for change, and this is the journal’s major appeal. In a broader sense, however, it fails to break new ground in the area of ethnic awareness and tends not to be germinal in the questions it raises. For the most part, the articles are descriptively written, concentrating on current educational problems which have been articulated elsewhere. Little in the way of analysis, in-depth reporting, or new ideas were presented in the issues reviewed.

Finally, focusing only on “minority” children is a major drawback of Un Nuevo Dia and is a problem with most ethnic publications. They continually fail to recognize that our existing monocultural public education is detrimental for all students. It is imperative to change the notion that the white American middle class represents U.S. society and to stop conforming to a particular ideology dictated by textbooks and textbook companies if humanistic liberating education is to take place. From this perspective, Un Nuevo Dia does not provide progressive innovations in the field of education.

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1Un Nuevo Dia. (Boulder, Colorado: The Chicano Education Project) v. 6, no. 2, n.d., p. 16.