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Exploring co-curricular involvement among undocumented Latino students

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Abstract:

Drawing on Alexander Astin's theory of Student Involvement and the literature on campus racial climate, this study examined the types of co-curricular involvement among Latino college students. Specifically, this study focused on undocumented Latino students and their co-curricular involvement in high school, college, and in their community. Additionally, the study explored the factors that motivated these students to join these clubs and organizations. In the spring and fall of 2009, a total of 169 Latino students participated in the study: 17 were undocumented and 152 were documented students. The findings of this study were consistent with other related studies in that the undocumented students reported high levels of involvement, especially during high school and college. However, the main reason for their involvement appeared to be related to gaining networking opportunities, and less for emotional support. The study concludes with a discussion of the limitations of this study, recommendations for future research, and implications for student organizations, college personnel, and faculty.

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Includes bibliographical references (pages 54-59)

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