

California State University, San Bernardino

CSUSB ScholarWorks

Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD)
Video Recordings

Arthur E. Nelson University Archives

2018

Capstone Presentation: "VIVA LA MUJER: Nosotras Las Madrinas"

CSUSB - Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/lead>

Recommended Citation

CSUSB - Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD), "Capstone Presentation: "VIVA LA MUJER: Nosotras Las Madrinas"" (2018). *Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD) Video Recordings*. 13. <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/lead/13>

This Video is brought to you for free and open access by the Arthur E. Nelson University Archives at CSUSB ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD) Video Recordings by an authorized administrator of CSUSB ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@csusb.edu.

LEAD Original Programming

" VIVA LA MUJER: Nosotras Las Madrinas" (2018)

START – 00:00:00

[Music]

>> Bienvenidos and welcome to the next installment of LEAD media programming from Studio 54, campus of California State University San Bernadino, the digital media platform for inspired educators, leaders and community activists and advocates taking our message directly to the people to the gente. Thank you for sharing our common interest in the analysis, discussion, critique, dissemination, and commitment to the educational issues that impact Latinos. I'm your host, Dr. Enrique Murillo, Jr., and this episode is a syndicated replay from season nine of LEAD Summit 2018. The theme that year was Viva La Mujer, and the strands and design of the summit that year were all planned and led by the mujeres [phonetic] of LEAD. As a group, Latina females start school significantly behind other females and without proper support and intervention are never able to completely catch up to their peers. Latinas graduate from high school at lower rates than any other major subgroup and are also the least likely of all women to obtain and complete a college degree. This capstone presentation entitled Viva La Mujer, Nosotras Las Madrinas was offered by the past and at the time current LEAD events honorary chairpersons, all strong advocates, activists themselves, who had made significant contributions to our community. Affectionately known as madrinas de honor, the distinguished panelists, the [foreign language] and drawn from decades of their personal and professional lives to discuss and shed light on their role, actions and journey working, empowering and struggling towards social and economic justice, diversity, equity, educational labor equality, civic political human rights and societal change. Continue and enjoy the full value and complexity of this episode. We extend our appreciation to our LEAD sponsors and partners, planners, volunteers, speakers, panelists, production team, affiliates and all our town hall chapters. We commend them for lifting their voice and for uplifting the plight of Latinos and education. Thank you, gracias, [foreign language]. Now this is our capstone, which means it's the last little [foreign language], the last thing for today. Of course, what we're doing here is raising awareness, raising consciousness, right. Trying to get people to step in and to get involved. So at this point, it's my great honor to be up here with this very distinguished group of mujeres, right. [Foreign Language]. I'm going to get tired of saying that. Okay, we're going to turn over this featured capstone panel to the capable hands of Patricia Aguilera who serves as a student services professional IV. She is the federal work study and the California Dream Grant and loan coordinator here at Cal State University San Bernadino in the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. She has a master's degree in public administration. Patty, all yours.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Enrique. Good afternoon. My name is Patricia Aguilera, and I am a financial aid counselor here at the university. I'm one of the long term, I think, university employees. I've been here almost 30 years, and I still stand here before you.

[Applause]

I have also had the distinct privilege to serve on the LEAD hospitality and planning committees with a great group of individuals and volunteers. This afternoon, I will be serving as your moderator for the capstone presentation, Viva La Mujer Nosotras Las, I'm sorry, Madrinas. Anyway, I am proud to be here among this beautiful group of women and sharing their stories today with you. We'll be going over various questions, and at the end of each presentation, we'll have a few questions for the audience to give us, okay. So basically, Latino girls and women make up one in five females in the United States. And by 2060, are predicted to form nearly 1/3 of the total female population. As a fast growing and influential constituency, Latinas have made significant strides and progress in a number of areas. Yet, progress has been extremely slow, and there is a long way to go to fully close gender, class, educational and racial disparities. Latinas are incredibly entrepreneurial. And as the number rate of Latina-owned businesses has increased eight times than of men-owned business, yet remains significantly under-representative, especially among Fortune 500 companies. In terms of economic security, the disparities are leaving a growing portion still likely to live in poverty, and as single heads of households still earning less in the labor market. For decades, too, Latinas have been more likely to lack health coverage among Americans uninsured and still have the least access to healthcare of any group of women. In terms of civic and political leadership, Latinas have a rich history of leadership in our communities but remain unrepresented in all levels of government. As a group of Latina females start school significantly behind other females, and without proper support and intervention, are never able to completely catch up to their peers. Latinas graduate from high schools at lower rates and in any major subgroup and are the least likely of all women to obtain and complete a college degree. This capstone presentation will be offered by past and current LEAD events honorary chairpersons, all strong advocates and avid activists themselves who have made significant contributions to our community affectionately known as our madrinas. The distinguished panelists of mujeres will draw from decades of their personal and professional lives to discuss and shed light on their role, actions and journey working, empowering and struggling toward social and economic justice, diversity, equity, educational labor equality, civic, political human rights and social change. Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the following panelists. Our first 2010 inaugural LEAD summit madrina, Sylvia Mendez.

[Applause]

Our 2011 LEAD summit madrina, Dr. Judy Rodriguez Watson.

[Applause]

Our 2011 inaugural feria educative madrina, Trini Gomez.

[Applause]

Our 2015 inaugural global LEAD summit madrina Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark. Got it.

[Applause]

Our 2015 feria educative madrina, Lillian Esther Hernandez.

[Applause]

I'm sorry. I missed one. My apologies. Our 2013 LEAD summit madrina, Honorable Josie Gonzales.

[Applause]

And now last but not least, our 2017 LEAD summit madrina, Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes.

[Applause]

Okay, so we're going to start first with Sylvia Mendez. You are a civil rights champion, the oldest daughter of Gonzalo Mendez, a Mexican immigrant, and Felicitas Mendez, a Puerto Rican who fought so you and your brothers could have an equal education. Mendez versus Westminster was a 1947 Federal Court case that challenged the practice of school segregation. And as a young girl, you were the lead plaintiff in this lawsuit. In this ruling, the United States Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit held that forced segregation of Mexican American students to separate Mexican remedial schools was unconstitutional and unlawful. This is a long landmark historical decision, and as paramount requisite in the America system of public education in social equality. It must be open to all children by unified school association regardless of lineage. Madrina Sylvia, s you continue with the legacy left by your parents to campaign for education, encouraging students to stay in school and to ensure that the importance of Mendez versus Westminster in American history will not be forgotten. Will you please tell us about the role your mother and other community women played during the landmark desegregation case that bears your name?

>> Yes, thank you. Good afternoon. [Inaudible]. I'm so glad to be here and see all these students that are here today. Anyway, I have to tell you that there was, there is a book, 62 pages of all the women that were involved in Mendez. And I'm not going to speak about all of them. I'm just going to speak about three of the women and the three women that have inspired me. One was my [foreign language] that I always said she made a Rosa Parks stand before Rosa Parks. Because when we went to that school, and we were right there getting ready to be admitted, and the clerk said, Miss Bedari

[phonetic], you can leave your children here, but your brother's kids will have to go to the Mexican school. My cousins, because we all know, we all come in all colors, don't we? My cousins had blonde hair, almost blue eyes, and the lady said you can leave your children here. But your brother's kids will have to go to the Mexican school. And what did Mathia [phonetic] do, Mathia Solida [phonetic] Bedari [foreign language]? She said, I am not leaving my children here. If you won't take my brother's kids, I am not leaving my children here. And I am taking them to the Mexican school. So she is one of my heroes. She took us home that day and told my father, and that's when he started fighting the case. So that's my number one, one of my number one persons. The other person that I have always admired in the Mendez case, aside from all these other women that are in this book, was Miss Gooseman. Miss Gooseman was a lady in Santana that was fighting to get her child into a white school really. And she had even hired a lawyer, but her lawyer failed her. Her lawyer failed her in getting Billy into a White school. But she did join the Mendez case and eventually got him into a White school. But she had started all by herself just going to the, speaking to the superintendent and everybody trying to get her child there, even hired a lawyer. Which she wasn't able to do. The third person that I have admired and who to me is my hero is my mother. My mother, when my father decided to fight this case, because he wanted to be a farmer when we moved to Westminster, as you all know the story by now. My mother is the one who had to run the farm and take care of all the 14 braceros, do all the cooking, take care of the packing house so my father could be out there. But aside from that, she organized a committee for all the children that was called, I have it here, right here, and it was, the Parents Association of Mexican American Children. And they would meet every week trying to decide how are we going to fight this case. And it was everybody, all the women, all the men there in Westminster, joined in and would go to this meeting. And they were trying to decide how we're going to fight it. It wasn't until [inaudible] they decided let's make this a class action suit for everybody. So I've always known that my mother was a very important part in Mendez. To me, my mother is the one that I have to give the credit for me being here today because when she was dying in 1997, she said Sylvia, somebody has to go out there and tell the story about the Latinos, how they have always been so brave. How we have always wanted the best for our children. You need to go tell the story because nobody knew about it in 1996. Very few people knew. And she's the one that said Sylvia, you have to go out and start talking about it. And it was her that inspired me to go out there and start talking about the Mendez case because she knew that it was part of history and it was part of our culture, the Latinos, how we have always fought for equality and justice and how we always wanted the best education for our children. So I would say that she is my champion woman in Mendez versus Westminster. Thank you so much for listening to me.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Sylvia. Viva La Mujer. Viva La our mommas, right? Yeah. Viva. All right. Next, I would like to introduce Trini Gomez. You are very well known and have deep roots and have been highly active in and across our regional communities. You have always placed a high value on education and social economic endeavors and in the

collaboration of community groups working toward mutual goals and objectives. Oftentimes, the plight of Latino men dominates the discussion on Latinos and education. However, Latino females in particular face cultural, economic and educational barriers to not just finishing high school but entering and completing college. Latina females are often stereotyped into submissive and docile roles, no ambition other than producing children or becoming homemakers. Madrina Trini, we feel you are a good role model for many of our young women. Will you please share about some of the challenges you had to overcome in completing your education throughout your life to achieve your goals?

>> Good evening. Throughout my life, education and training has helped me to achieve my goals. I was raised by my maternal grandmother who was opposed to girls going to further their education. She was old fashioned and very, very conservative. When she told me I couldn't go on to high school, I wrote to my dad. My maternal grandparents lived about 400 miles from my mom and dad, so I wrote to my dad and said well, grandma says I can't go to high school. So dad came over and tried to tell her Trini has to go to high school. I was the oldest of the 12. He said, all my kids have to be educated. So she has to go to high school. So my grandmother said okay, send her to high school, but I don't want her. Take her. And that really broke my heart, because I was kind of spoiled, you know. I was raised, you know, with my hat, my gloves, and then to go home and share the backseat with 11 other kids. It was terrible. So I went to high school. My dad was a foreman for the Santa Fe Railroad. And where he was living, where we were living, he got bumped. And the railroad, whenever you run out of seniority, you get bumped if somebody else wants your place. So he moved all the way to a place by Belen, New Mexico. But he had terrible allergies because of the cottonwood trees. And cottonwood trees are all up and down the Colorado River in Arizona. So the doctor told him you've got to go as far West as you can near the ocean. So my dad started moving. I went to five high schools in four years. So, when we arrived in San Bernardino, it was in 1943, which was about the same time that I had graduated. When we got here, the superintendent came down to meet us children. The superintendent of the Santa Fe Railroad had carried me when I was a baby. So he asked all of us kids different questions. And he asked me if I could type, and I said yeah, I can type 85 words a minute. He said 85 words a minute? You're hired. So we got here like on a Thursday, and within a week, I was working. I was hired out as a car clerk at the Santa Fe yard office, which was a little shack underneath the overpass on Mount Vernon, overpass bridge. There was a little shack, and that's where the trainmen worked out of, the switchmen, the conductors. It was just a little shack. There were no bathrooms for ladies. Mice and the rats and cockroaches ran all over the floor. We had three spittoons. And when I told my mom, mom, nothing but old men, but I'm going to get good money. So I stayed on, I stayed on and like I said, it didn't have any bathrooms for ladies. I had to go around to the breezeway. And of course, all the conductors and trainmen and everything, you know, that they had like whistle and just kind of tease me. And so I was not going to go to the bathroom. So what I would do is I would not drink water, and I would hold it for eight hours. So but there I learned a lot of things. That was the beginning of my education in like I would say now computer. We had our data processing was the entering of the initial numbers and what the car contained into this

great big book about this big, about this tall. They sat me in the stool and little and some books, and I would enter all that information there. I also learned the teletype. I learned how to do the card programming, what do you call it, keypunching, keypunching. And so I worked nights for a long time. In 1945, I got married. I was 20 years old. And I took a leave of absence. I had two children. And my husband, my first husband, Josito [phonetic] [inaudible] Gomez decided to go to college. He went to college to the University of Mortuary Science and became a mortician. He became the director of mortuary at Tilley's Funeral on Sixth and Mount Vernon. But you know, not too many people were dying at this time. This was a young, this was sort of a young area. So they were paying him \$5 a funeral. He said you know what, we will never afford to have a house. So he went back to school, and he went to Los Angeles to the Aeronautics University at Los Angeles, Southwest University of Los Angeles. And he graduated from there, and he got a position at Norton Airforce Base into the missile program. In the meantime, you know, we began to have, we bought a house. We could afford sending on our first --

[Inaudible Question]

Oh yeah, I went back to work. I went back to work to afford a house. So then, but we had a good life. We were able to send my first child Anna [inaudible] Gomez to college, and my son also went to, he started in Valley, they both started in Valley College. And then Anna went to the University of Long Beach. In 1967, it was a very sad time for me because my husband died. And so it left me as a young widow taking care of my, I think she was 85, my mother was 85. She'd been living with me since she was 59. Took care of my mom. I'd had my, I had had Vanessa who was by that time was nine years old. I took care of my mom, Vanessa, and I was head of household. And I also, just about every other week I'd go see Anna at Long Beach. And I'd go pick up my son at yeah, Camp Pendleton in San Diego. I'd pick him up every Friday and bring him home and then take him back every Sunday night. In the meantime, during all these years that I was working for the Santa Fe Railroad, I saw that I needed more education so that I could work days. I had been working nights. Nights and weekends, and so I just wanted to see if I could make my life better. So I went back to school, and I took shorthand to bring my shorthand up to speed. Anyway, I was able to take care of my family. And then in 1976, I met Graciano Gomez. We married in 1978. And by that time, he started a little newspaper. He started a little newspaper, and I told him, why are you hiring so many people? I can do this with one hand tied behind my back. He said I've been working for big corporations, I can do this. So he said okay, you're going to be the office manager. So I became the office manager. And we had the newspaper from 1987 to 2009. So that's been my life story. I've been going to school practically all my life. I sent Anna to USC, my grandson to USC. My youngest daughter to the University of California in San Diego. And I've had the good luck to send another granddaughter to Princeton, my other granddaughter to Harvard. And now she is working out of London. So --

[Applause]

So anybody can do it. Just work nights, days, whatever. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Well thank you, Trini. That was a beautiful story. And I'm sure you are so proud of your children and your grandchildren. And basically, you set the mold for them, and that's quite an accomplishment.

[Inaudible]

And she's proud to say that she has lived 93 years today.

>> Bravo.

[Applause]

And she still rocks. All right, next, I would like to introduce our Honorable Josie Gonzales. Josie Gonzales, you have proudly have served as the first Latina elected to serve as supervisor for San Bernardino County. And just this afternoon we found out that covers 24 cities within the county of San Bernardino. Is that correct? Great. So she has served us for a number of years and prior to that has served in numerous civic and governmental leadership roles and committees. You have championed issues important to our communities including public safety, economic development, improved transportation, ending chronic homelessness and environmental stewardship. You have stated that these key issues are best addressed through cooperative efforts developed on federal, state and local levels. So clearly, women and Latinas in public service have both continued to break through in politics and are on the rise and shown and have clear impact on policy program and operations. Today's issues and problems require leaders that have diverse skillsets and innovation and can only come from a diverse ideas and players. Women and Latinas bring those skills. Different perspectives instructional and cultural difference to drive effective solution. In short, we changed the way solution are forged in important ways. Madrina Josie, will you please share with us why it is so important that we keep pushing forward?

[Applause]

>> Thank you very much for your very kind introduction. Good afternoon honorable assembly member, if there are any other electeds in the house, I don't see you, but I would definitely want to recognize you. Honorable Madrinas and all of you students out there in any special organizations, welcome. It is a beautiful opportunity when we are asked to come before you and speak in a manner that might inspire, that might enlighten where you're at in this point in time in your life. It is imperative that we recognize that we must continue to strive in a forward motion because there are those such as the lives in the stories that you've heard and you will hear. Such those as the lives in your own families. And such lives as those in the pages that fill our history books who have sacrificed, who have been told no. Who have been refused. Who have been rebutted. Who have been criticized, ostracized and proverbially been looked upon as

the underdog. And yet ladies and gentlemen, let me tell you that before you I stand in the year 2018 as the proverbial underdog. Because those past underdogs never gave up. They'd be kicked around. They'd be set aside, and it was irrelevant. They got up, and they stood up, and they kept marching forward. And that is the secret formula. That is the super mystical formula of when we look back in history and say how did so and so triumph? How did they get this company to become so successful? How were they able to come up with this idea and succeed? Where I come from, and I believe where most of our ancestors come from, we come from a place where work trumped education. Education was for those that had money. Education was a commodity, was a, was something you heard about. You did not participate. And it is that hard work, that four letter word, work, that ultimately paved the way for those of us today who walk onward. Who stand before you in order to be able to continue to build upon their hard work. Leadership, the type of leadership that we need is a varied kind of leadership. And it comes from a varied background. We don't want to all be the same. And leadership determines the kind of progress that ultimately is made. And we need all kinds of progress, therefore, you need to see different backgrounds. Having and trusting in one's power of discernment to identify the optimal direction in order to achieve the desired outcomes is important. And you achieve that through your hard work and through education. You must learn to trust your instinct. You must learn to trust your level of accomplishment. You must learn to trust that what you think that your cognitive thought is what ultimately will get you through. And what do I mean by through? I mean through until the end. Because ladies and gentlemen, God is good. God takes care of all of us. And He gives the best gift. And the gift is the present. And it is the present, ladies and gentlemen, every single day that is the optimal opportunity for us to continue to move forward and achieve and continue to build our dreams, our hopes and the future. Very simply put, it is imperative that we continue with an open mind and open eyes. Have a broad vision. Because ladies and gentlemen, I will tell you that prejudice is still alive and well. It is just better camouflaged. And it takes your mind, not the color of your skin. It takes your mind to be able to get a good grade in your classes, in your tests. It takes a good mind in order to be able to outthink, out-prepare and accomplish said goals that you have set for yourself. This gift that we receive every day is the gift of the sacrifice that has been made over and over and over for hundreds of thousands of minutes and hours and weeks and years. That effort is the effort that opens doors and breaks more glass ceilings. It opens the opportunities for people like us to be CEOs, to be assembly members, to be senators. And with God's grace, maybe one day even president of the United States of America.

[Applause]

The type of leadership we demonstrate is not in what we say but in what we do. In our actions, we determine the type of progress we make. If we act dumb, if we say dumb things, if we fail to get up every day with that present that God gives us every day to do our best, if we fail to do that, we are determining our fate that day. We have to identify and strengthen our own powers of discernment to identify our optimal direction. What do you bring? Where did your family come from? How did your family struggle? What price did they pay that you today, like myself, are able to attend classes, go to work, live in a

beautiful house with God's grace. Be able to be a self-sustaining independent adult. What do you bring to your life today that is a lighter load because of yesterday but is a beautiful gift for tomorrow? Because ladies and gentlemen, especially you young ones that are here. Those of you that are not parents yet but one day will be, I tell you that right now you may not think about it, but you are carrying the torch. You are carrying the weight of the responsibility so that one day your children can step into your shoes, into our shoes, and be able to lead that torch, no different than the Olympic torch. That we might be able to light the way of the past so that people can see where we come from and light the way for the future. That they may not stumble, and that they may stand proud because we are part of a nucleus inside an atom that has had a beautiful explosion on society. I am so proud to be a Latina.

[Foreign Language]

Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Josie, for such an inspirational and motivational response. Okay, next, I would like to introduce Dr. Judy Rodriguez Watson. Judy Rodriguez Watson, you are copresident of the Seal Beach-based Watson Associates Development Corporation and an ardent supporter of education. You cochair California State University San Bernardino's tool for education fundraising campaign in 2006. The effort raised more than 3 million to equip the university's College of Education building, with technology labs, clinics, literacy and assessment centers. Yeah, that's great. More.

[Applause]

That currently serve the students and the Inland Empire community. In 2010, CSUSB named its four year old public art program the Judy Rodriguez Watson Public Art Project in honor of your passion and financial support for placing art in open spaces here at Cal State and surrounding community and around the city of San Bernardino. Dr. Rodriguez Watson, could you please tell us about the role of philanthropy in promoting education, and in particular, your woman's touch in the public art spaces?

[Applause]

>> [Foreign language]. I am honored, honored to be here. This is amazing. Patty, thank you for that wonderful introduction. I am honored to be here with these distinguished inspiring accomplished women. I admire and respect you all deeply. I'd like to start actually to speak to my younger self and you young'uns out there who are the future. You are defining the future. And as a young, to my younger self, I found that I had struggles with reading, a very, I had severe dyslexia. I would have to read things three, five times before I was able to absorb any lecture, any book, any reading, any material, any statistics, math, science, anything. They put me in remedial classes. It did

something to my, you know, it did something to me inside. And however, it also developed my sense of perseverance. I didn't realize that I had this complete, this incredible drive to try hard every day. I was also fortunate to be raised by a very loving and nurturing family. And our family, we were very supportive, and they had a lot of passion. And they always encouraged us to think big. And so I feel very fortunate for that. And my daddy was always saying [foreign language]. And in this care here [foreign language]. He would always say that. I had three sisters and no brothers, and my brothers would say oh my God, another daughter. Yes! As a youth, I, we didn't have, we had, I had a humble beginning. And but I always had dreams of doing good things to help people as much as I possibly could, but I didn't really kind of know how to do it. And I found that my perseverance and my drive to work hard put me in this place where I am now. Now, for me, as my not so younger side, in this area of thinking big and try to persevere to do the right thing and help others, my husband and I became acquainted with the university and developed a wonderful relationship and rapport. And we developed the Judy Rodriguez Watson Program where we do provide public art. If when you drive off the campus, if you look to your right and make a right-hand turn on Campus Drive, you'll see the pillars that we have, these beautiful ceramic pillars that are about maybe six by six and about 20 feet tall. They were a design that was developed by the art department under the umbrella of Dr. Richard Johnson. And it was remarkable in that the students, the master students, worked with the professors, and they went through a curricula to develop these pieces. And but it also not only gave them an education and how to create art. They went through the process of designing the work, going through a semester of that. And then the next semester showing us maquettes of what they liked to do. Then we went through an art jury. So it was quite a process. And so out there is a lot of blood, sweat and tears from these wonderful students. And so I hope you get a chance to look at those. Also in the city, we have these wonderful spheres that the master students created and along with a few other things that I'm kind of proud of and hopefully you'll get a chance to see. Additionally, Patty mentioned that we developed the Watson Literacy Center. That is one of the areas that I'm most passionate and thrilled to be a part of. As I mentioned, dyslexia was a very difficult issue for me. And with this program, we help children from K through 12 in their reading. They have one on one exposure, and they've, some of the kids have grown. When they start the program, they advance one, two and three grades up going through this process, which is extraordinary, and I'm very proud of them. Now, I, in relaying these stories to you, I hope that I can impart to you and inspire, considering the challenges that you may have, to, you know, roll up your sleeve, [foreign language], work hard, think big and just go for it. And I am optimistic about, you know, seeing these kids out here, and especially just within the last few weeks watching these kids in Florida. And then the Me Too Movement. There's a revolution going around, that's happening all, that's affecting the entire world. And I see, you know, particularly as it relates to the Me Too Movement, I see women are really thinking about what they're saying and how they're interacting with other people. I see respect, a different sort of respect. It's tangible what's going on now. And I, and then also to see women with women, how we're working together and trying to raise each other up instead of the other way around. And it's wonderful to see, and it's wonderful to see it this movement, this revolution affect the entire world. Thank you for the honor of being here. Thank you

for allowing me to speak. In closing, I'd like to express my sincere honor in being able to speak here, and I think you very much for having me.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Dr. Judy Rodriguez Watson for sharing. Your contributions in the beautiful arts throughout our campus and city as well as the Literacy Center. I was mentioning to her earlier that through the Federal Work Study Program that I administer here on campus, we employ approximately 50 Cal State students to support the Literacy Center, and it has been very successful for the last ten years. So thank you.

>> Ten year anniversary.

[Applause]

Okay. Next, to my left, I would like to introduce Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark. Ellen Clark was a professor emerita bilingual education at the University of Texas San Antonio. You hold a PhD in curriculum instruction, a master's in, I'm going to put my glasses on, bicultural bilingual studies and a bachelor's in elementary education and early childhood education. You have embarked on dozens of successful creative multicultural educational cooperative learning, collaborative literature base and curricular focus projects, programs, interventions throughout your career. You have received numerous awards, distinctions and hall of fame inductions. I have a two-part question for you, okay. So the first part, Dr. Clark, what are some of the challenges and benefits you have experienced as a Chicana Latina university professor and pioneer? And then the next part of the question is what can and should be done to create more Latina school teachers, counselors, more Latinas in master's and doctorate programs, more Latina tenured [inaudible] college and university professors and institutional leaders across the pipeline?

[Applause]

>> [Foreign language]. So good to be here and absolutely delightful. I'm sorry all the young people left but great to see everybody that is still here. [Foreign language]. It's always nice to see an environment that's different than mine in San Antonio, Texas, where I was born and I'm going to die. [Foreign language]. So what I want to tell you, I'm going to answer the second question first. How do we increase the pipeline for teachers, counselors, tenure track professor and that is to have more people that look like us teaching at universities. More people that look like us in positions of power to hire people like us. And more people at the president's level to give vision or to articulate the vision of the communities so that more people are represented. Why do I say that? My area of research is identity. So one thing I've learned over my 40 years as a professor at UT is that identity is a singular factor that will make students successful. If it's an elementary school, middle school, high school and at the university [inaudible]. So identity is based upon who am I in terms of my ethnic identity. And I learned this from some other guy from California, Almada Peria [phonetic] from Stanford who set me

off on this quest when he said in order to learn, you have to know who you are. And I always thought it was the other way around. But long story short, in all my years of research, I have found out --

[Foreign Language]

So what are my challenges? And I thought I don't need to tell you my challenges. We heard them all this morning. The number of us is what? This much. The number of college presidents is 2.9. In Texas, we only have one Latina, one Latina as a president of a university. So those are the dismal facts. I hate to deal in that, but then I learn, so gracias [foreign language]. I learned that today our stories are important. We do have to share our stories. I'm going to be 77. So one thing that I have learned is that I stood on shoulders and I, as short as I am, I am the shoulders for you to stand on. And you will be the shoulders for the next group that comes around. So what were my challenges? Well, I got a PhD late in life back in the 70s. There was no university around in San Antonio, so I would have to drive on a weekly basis to Austin, Texas, to UT Austin. That's two hours away, so I'd drive in the morning, come back at night. The crockpot was my best friend as were my parents because they helped me take care of my two daughters. And so the challenges were many. I remember going to defend my dissertation. My committee was all what? White males. So I invited a White female because that was the only other, there was no Latinas there. Just to sit in and just to listen to my defense. So one of the old, old White males asked me a question. [Foreign language] I can answer. I can answer anything. But you know, and she said something very important earlier. I thought about it and I said okay, do I do this? You know, I can talk it. Or is this a trick? Is this a trick question? And believe it or not it was what? A trick question. So my White female professor says Bernie, you know there's no answer to that question. But you know what that taught me? It taught me one thing. I will never, ever do that to a doctoral student going up to defend a dissertation. But it also told me another thing. He was saying, I don't want you in my circle. That was it. I applied for a job. What happens? Don't get it, dah, dah, dah, dah. Long story short, I file suit against University of Texas system along with two other people. And of course, won in our favor. Except that I was not too smart. I could have gone for three years' salary, and I thought it's the principle of the thing. So I told my two other colleagues, we're going to do \$1,000 a year. So we ended up winning \$3,000. Oh well, it paid for my daughter's wedding. That was, you know, that was good enough. The other thing that I found out through that lesson of having to file suit is that there's an institutional culture. So what I'm telling you that you that are going to be PhDs, and I hope that everybody in this room will be one, there's room for all of us and more than what's in this room. So even if it's not an idea you've had, you'd better daggum quickly think I might be ready to be a university professor. So the institutional culture is one that we have to learn what it is. So when I finally get a tenure track position, ten years after my PhD I'm told you have to write a book. And I'm going wait a minute. I hadn't heard that one before. I thought we had to write referee journals. And this morning you heard Julie say it took three referee journals. Well in my institution, thinking they were tier one, it was 12 articles a year. So the dean who told me you don't need to write articles, write a book. Books don't count. So advice for you that are young PhD students, don't write books until you retire like I

am. Write refereed journals. And so if it's 12 of them a year now, it's going to be a lot more by the time you get out there. So learn what that institutional culture is. Know what the answers are so that you can pave your own way and also look to see what people like me, the shoulders you're standing on, learn from their track. The other is if you're told that is not legitimate research, give me a break baby. Anything is legitimate research. And what I found out that the most important research was [foreign language]. So what were the elements that were striking us? And those are the things that we needed to study. So very short, learn the institutional culture, get a PhD, find mentors. Mentors are the ones that are going to help you even though nobody else looks like you. So of course, I was the only Latina in my whole department, in my whole college, for a long, long time. But that's okay. Because one thing I found out is I know who I am.

[Foreign Language]

[Applause]

And I have a crown, I have a crown to prove it. And I've written, you know, seven textbooks, over 300 referee journals. I'm A-one, you know type one. But my most popular, most read books are the ones on cultural studies that Michael Moneda [phonetic] reads and everybody's learning from him. So my next book next time I see you I'll be [foreign language] because my next book in 2019 is going to be on [foreign language]. Did you know that there's seven, 2,000 names for [foreign language], 2,000 names. So there's more than just [foreign language]. There's also [foreign language] in case you didn't know. And you think I'm kidding. I'm having the most fun researching my [foreign language]. So be on the lookout for that one.

[Applause]

But you know what, it's going to have an impact because I'm taking the cultural wealth, and think of this, the cultural wealth of our community and documenting it. So that's your purpose for new PhDs, for you that are going to be teachers, is to know that you must develop the [inaudible] in your students for success. The other is that I'm a yaya. A yaya is Chinese for grandmother. It's Greek for grandmother, and it's my name. So, I have two daughters, both of them engineers. And they were .5% of the Latina engineers when they finished school. And of course they made a hell of a lot more money than I did as a tenured professor. I have four granddaughters, like you said, [foreign language] except for my husband and our two dalmatians. But my four granddaughters, the oldest one, I mean hold on to your hat, I can brag, right, I can brag. She is getting her PhD in nuclear fusion engineering at MIT. You can clap.

[Applause]

And that's the other thing I learned about stories is that we have to brag. I have another one who is at Princeton and getting her engineering degree. And then I have a 15 year old that's going to end up in engineering. And then I have one just like me. She's in humanities. So it makes it all well worthwhile. But what I do know is that my daughters

and my granddaughters would not be here if it wasn't for me, if it wasn't for my mother, if it wasn't for my grandmother, my grandmothers that I never met but heard about. But I also know that they're products of public school education, good public school education, of good teachers who understood creativity and the development of inquisitive thinking and that they're products of being Mexico Americanas, or as I tell [inaudible] Chicana. [Foreign language] with a small m, not a bit M. Because I'm not born in Mexico. And I am a Latina. So you need to be able, this is what I tell my granddaughters. You need to be able to articulate who you are. Somebody says where are you from? Honey, that question means you're not from here. So you say what you know. You do not take a label given to you by somebody else, but you learn all the labels and you select the labels that describe you. So gracias [foreign language] and have a, I am looking forward, forward, forward to seeing what all of you are going to become. And remember, you don't have to reinvent the tire, the wheel, you don't have to reinvent the wheel. You can call of us here, for we are the shoulders, and we are the ones that will support you. Gracias.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Dr. Clark. I'm looking so forward to your [foreign language], your next book on [foreign language]. I am the proud owner of an autographed edition of her [foreign language] book, [foreign language] highly recommended. Okay, next I would like to introduce Lilian Esther Hernandez. You have served as the regional executive director for the Parent Institute for Quality Education, also known as PIQE for many years and responsible for establishing and maintaining working relationships with local university presidents, community leaders, foundations, corporations, school superintendents, principals and other representatives. You have been instrumental in successfully leading, sustaining and expanding parent leadership programs, serving multiple communities and in multiple languages. You also, you are also both an immigrant and a church pastor with a tremendous passion for helping others and have worked to empower women to overcome obstacles. Being that you work to empower women to overcome obstacles and work with Latina mothers both serving as the primary care provider in the family all at different [inaudible] and educational levels. Madrina Lilian, with respect to various factors related to parental involvement and knowledge of schooling, tell us about some of the activities and barriers in greater parental involvement experience by Latina mother's role with respect to instilling the value and importance of education and expectations of higher education, be a parent child or parent school relationships.

[Applause]

>> [Foreign language]. First of all, and I want to say thank you to Dr. Murillo because in 2015 I had the opportunity to become the madrina along with Padrino Jorge Haynes. And it is for me an honor to be here this afternoon along with these beautiful ladies who really and truly represent the Latina Mujer. Right? Right? Yes. I am an immigrant lady. I cannot say that I'm a first generation because my two boys are first generation. So I came to this country with my degree under my arm knowing a little bit of English with an

English accent. But I always says this that not because I speak with accent that means that I think with accent. But the accent is there. It comes out. But then I hear someone says, and who in California doesn't have an accent? Right? So first of all, I would like to acknowledge that a Latina mother, a Latina woman is someone that treasures in her heart what is known as the American dream. By the way, the American dream is not only American because with the Latinas, with the Hispanic womans from [foreign language], you know, we have come to this country, and we have come with that dream that also we believe that that dream is ours. Our mothers did. Our aunts did. Our [foreign language] did. So our friends [inaudible]. I strongly believe that our kids could do better because then we as parents, you know, the Latina mamas, the ones that have to come to this country, the ones that immigrated to this country and did not know how to navigate the school system. Which is very hard for those of us that came to this country not knowing how the school system functioned. Let me tell you, it's like a humongous monster. It's complex. It's intimidating. Right? There are so many obstacles in the way for mothers or for a familial Latina who just arrived to this country. But when we, the ones that already experienced some of the years and we learn the necessary tools, we are the ones that could help other mothers to help their children to succeed in life. I don't know many mothers who do not value education. I don't know many mothers who do not encourage their children to, by saying [foreign language] be good, behave. Or mothers who will say, and this is constant in our Latino household --

[Foreign Language]

Am I correct?

>> Yes.

>> Right. Those are phrases that very common in the Latina families. Well let me tell you this. And this is being working for PIQE for so many years. I have discovered this that once parents come to the PIQE program and they learn all they need to know, then those parents they understand, you know, how the school system functions. What is FAFSA? What is the college admission requirement? What is the difference between the SAT and the SATs? What are the difference between the different universities system, community college that UC via private colleges? How's the parents have the necessary tools. Those mothers become empowered and start telling the students, you know, their kids, you can do it. Because at that time, parents have the necessary information to push students. I wanted to say two things tonight, this afternoon. With the Latina [inaudible] culture, we are bilingual. Some of us, like these beautiful ladies, don't carry accent. Some of you might have slightly accent. Other ones, you know, mid accent. But some of us very strong accent, right. But once a mother is empowered, once a mother knows, you know, that it doesn't have the fear of the unknown, that mother is able, capable to tell their children, you know, take advantage because there are opportunities for you. The second thing, and I want to end with this to all of you is that the Latina mothers that already know the knowledge should help other mothers to help their children to succeed in life. It is amazing to see mothers that works two, three jobs that get up at early in the morning, and they come late home. They're providers, but

they have this message for their kids. [Foreign language]. We came to this country because we heard this is the land of opportunities. But when parents are empowered, when they have the necessary tools, then they can take advantage of every single opportunity that is available out there. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Lilian. And I love your beautiful accent. I wish I had it. Okay, lastly, I would like to introduce the Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes. Your volunteer work and leadership in the community started long before you became an attorney and long before holding your current elected seat as member of California assembly. You received your law degree from Loyola Law School, and not long after, became the first Latina to open her own law office in the Inland Empire. As a young girl, you struggled alongside your family working every summer in the fields picking onions, grapes, working hard to earn money to pay for school, clothes and supplies. You have credited those early experiences for providing the strong work ethic that defines you today and help to appreciate the work of so many others who even today must work long and hard hours to support their families. Your life, career and passion are defined as helping others less fortunate and being a service to those who have needed protection and assistance. You have assisted injured workers including workers' compensation and personal injury, unselfishly dedicating much time, treasures and talent and helping the indigenous. As we know, Latinas face formidable structural barriers to entry and success in labor market and workforce. And we are also incredibly entrepreneurial as the number of rate of Latino-owned businesses has increased eight times that of men-owned business. Yet progress has been extremely slow and Latinas are faring much more poorly than their counterparts from other ethnic racial groups still earning less than 60 cents for every dollar. They also have the least access to healthcare of any group of women and are still more likely to live in poverty as single head of households. Madrina Eloise, what are some of the initiatives currently challenging the status quo either in labor movements or among state level leaders and helping women and Latinas better achieve economic security and social mobility?

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Patricia. Wow, what a group of women. My goodness. Amazing. Just absolutely love this. One of the things that I think all the women have in common, and as I was listening to the stories, many of the stories I already knew, but some were new stories to me. What was amazing to me is that every one of the women here, we all had a dream. We wanted to do something. We wanted to be somebody. But not just for ourselves. It was to be able to help the next group that would come after us. It was to teach the younger women, the students. It was to teach the parents. It was to be able to do the philanthropical work, to file the lawsuits that would win. Now Trini did not mention, but Trini, weren't you the first woman at Santa Fe? She sure was. It was all men there. She told you there were no bathrooms for women. That's because she was the first woman to work at Santa Fe. Yes.

[Applause]

Now what's special about the fact that we're all madrinas is that if we're the madrinas of LEAD, that means we're all comadres [phonetic]. Please meet all of my best friends, my comadres. Most of you know what a comadre is. Well I will tell you that some of the things that we are trying to do since arriving for me in the state assembly is making sure that the laws that we pass and the comments that are made in that state capitol reflect our values. Some of the areas that are of greatest importance are early childhood education. If we know that a child's brain is developed and those early years are the most important, it seems so simple to me. Invest the money so that we can get that education for the children. If we say that by third grade if a child is not reading at third grade level, there's a greater chance that that child is going to end up in the pipeline to the prison system. Invest the money so that by third grade, every child is reading at third grade level. These seem like such simple solutions, and yet we're still arguing about them. We're still talking about, we're still trying to convince our colleagues about making sure that when we put together our budget that it includes that money that is needed for those areas. We shouldn't have to be doing that. But that is what we're doing.

Community colleges, as some of you may know, I started at a community college. I did have a full ride to USC from high school, but my dad being my dad, and I love him dearly, said majita, [foreign language] where are you going to live? In the dorms, dad, in Los Angeles. No majita, you're not leaving the house unless you're married or you're going to the convent. So I did go to San Bernardino Valley College, and I got my AA degree in two years. I was on a mission. Worked up to three jobs while I was going to Valley. Then told my dad okay dad, here's my AA. That's as far as I can go. They're holding my scholarship. I'm going to USC [foreign language]. And of course, he cried, I cried. But there I went on to USC. Was a resident advisor at USC and worked really hard. Worked another two jobs in addition to being a resident advisor. Got through that and then on to law school. Now my roommate in law school, I was smart, my roommate worked in financial aid. So I said Rebecca, tell me about all the scholarships available. And she would tell me about all the scholarships. And there were many organizations looking for Latinas and Latinos because there were so few of us. And sometimes that's what we have to do. I tell students, go to Harvard. Go to Yale. They don't have Latinos there. When I was at USC, they offered me, again, a full ride because I wanted to go to law school. They said you can go, get your MBA and your law degree in four years, and I said, leave home again? My dad would never let me. So I didn't. I don't regret it. Because staying here in my community, this is the community I love. Plus I met my husband, Frank. This is --

[Applause]

So what are some of the things we've done? Community colleges, thank to my colleague Miguel Santiago, the first year of community college is now going to be free. The governor signed that this last year. I'm very pleased to tell you that I had introduced legislation that would provide \$5 million for our bilingual education for our teachers. Because many of them had to get recertified. And there were many who were doing the job of a bilingual teacher but weren't getting paid. Because they didn't have the

certification. Well I found out while I was up in Sacramento is that in addition to having your bill going, it's on it's way going through committees, you also have the option of requesting a budget item. Okay. How do I do that? We put in a request for \$5 million, lo and behold, guess what the governor signed, a budget that included my \$5 million for bilingual education teaching.

[Applause]

I also introduced last year a bill that would provide equity plans for our LGBTQ and our homeless students. We do have equity plans at community colleges for other protected groups, but those are two groups that had not had any protection. That went through the committees. You know, you have to go through the whole process. And the governor signed that bill as well.

[Applause]

This year, my poor staff, they worked so hard. I was told that we can introduce a total of 50 bills in two years. Seems like nobody's going to do that. My first year I did 19. And of my 19 bills, nine of those were signed by the governor into law. In addition to that, we also had a number of house resolutions that the governor signed. This year, I have introduced 26 bills. I'm very proud of all of my bills. They're all like my babies. And we're going to work them through all the way to the end. One of those has to do with student financial aid, helping our dreamers make sure that they are applying for the FAFSA application. Making sure that they know every option available to them when it comes to funding. Specifically, with the California Dream Act application and others like that. I've also joined as a joint author with my colleague Jose Medina from Riverside. He has introduced a bill that will require that ethnic studies be taught in the high school as a required course. Yes.

[Applause]

But Judy, I really appreciate that you talked about the Me Too Movement. We're in the middle of all of this. And I have the distinct honor of having been appointed by the speaker of the assembly to sit on the joint committee on sexual harassment with our senators, our assembly members. There's a group of eight of us who will now, we've been taking testimony, and we will be putting together the policies and procedures for the state of California employees regarding sexual harassment. I'm very proud that I get to be part of that as well.

[Applause]

So while I've been taking, we've been listening to all this testimony, I realized that if you have been sexually harassed, you have only one year to file your claim. And for many, especially women, some people tell me well, Eloise there are also men that are also sexually harassed. That is true. Eighty-seven percent of those who are sexually harassed are women. So oftentimes we talk about the women. So the bill that I

introduced will provide not one year but three years to file your lawsuit or file your claim for sexual harassment.

[Applause]

I'm really proud to be part of this freshman class in the state assembly. In this class we added five Latinas. We doubled the number of Latinas in the state assembly this last term. And the best part of it personally is that I'm a freshman. I'm part of the freshman class. And the truth is, it's been a long time since I've been a freshman. So I absolutely love being part of that freshman class. And because of my 35 years of experience as an attorney, there's so much more that I get to bring in. Now I have younger colleagues, much younger, they get to bring in a different experience. We all bring something to the table. If you're younger, you get to bring those experiences that you're experiencing right this minute. So your opinion is very, very valuable. If you're older, you've had other experiences, you get to bring that to the table. It's the diversity that is key to anything that we do for the state of California, so I'm very proud to be part of that diversity. But that diversity even at 10, it accounts for only 8% of the entire state legislature that are Latinas. We have no state senators now. We did at one time have up to four state senators. We have zero right now. We do have a few who are running, and we're really looking forward to having them win so that we can include them as part of our troop. Now, I will tell you also that having the voice of our millennials and generation X, or generation Z, what is it? Z? X? All of it. One of the seminars we put together was dream big i.e. And this was specifically for our millennials, for the younger people. We wanted them to tell us because sometimes as we get older, you know, we understand the institutional rules and, you know, we work within the rules. But by having the younger people come, no borders, they have no limits. And they came up with some magnificent ideas. And I will tell you that one of those, I'm really proud of what they did. And so because our county supervisor, Josie Gonzales, is a supervisor in my district. Senator Connie Leyva is a senator in my district. It's one of those projects that now the three of us are working with the community to make sure that that comes to fruition. It's those partnerships that count so, so much. I want to end today by sharing with you one of the things that, it's a privilege that I get to have, and that is that as a state assembly member, I get to speak for the state of, Sacramento I was going to say. I get to speak for the state of California. I get to speak for the state assembly. I get to introduce resolutions that all of my colleagues get to vote on. And oftentimes, many of them get to speak on. So on March 7th, I introduced assembly concurrent resolution 194 which declares the last week of, the last week of March as LEAD week. And I'm very proud to share copies of this. We did bring extra copies.

[Applause]

So I thank you so much for the invitation. [Foreign language]. Thank you so much for the invitation to be here with you. It's such a pleasure to be here with you to share just a little of what I've learned. And I've got to tell you, I'm looking forward to having all of you up in Sacramento. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Wow. I'm honored. This is a panel of a wealth of information that they shared with me, with all of us today. Before we, we're going to take a couple of questions from the audience in a few minutes. But I just wanted to share that it has been an extremely great honor to stand within these beautiful Latina women. Normally, well, along with Enrique and [inaudible] too, for his long term LEAD committee members of which usually I'm in the background, in the background with Rob telling them, basically telling Enrique what to do. But normally when I do this, I was a little, I was a little scared and frightened. But like I said, it gives me great honor to be among these women and all their accomplishments that they have done. And I'm proud to stand and sit among you.

[Applause]

Okay, so next, we're going to take a couple of questions from the audiences before conclusions this afternoon.

>> Barbara Babcock. Judy, I love you to death. And of course, Judy, Josie. Assembly Member Eloise Reyes, you must talk about what you did for our fine arts commission and for our city with the Rosa Parks statue. It made such a difference. I thank you. And tell us what you did.

>> Thank you so much, Barbara. The city of San Bernardino, very specifically the Black Culture Foundation, for about ten years, has been trying to raise money for a Rosa Parks statue at the state building. The state building was already named after Rosa Parks. And so they called, a number of people reached out, and they asked if I could help them provide the funding. We found out how much was still needed. And just as I lobbied for my 5 million in the budget for the bilingual education training, I also put that amount, the amount that was needed for the Rosa Parks statue, and the governor signed it. So we got the rest of the funding. We got the statue. It is now, we had the unveiling just a few months ago. It was one of the biggest events in our community with over 3,000 people in attendance. I was very proud of that. Thank you for bringing it up, Barbara. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> We have time for another question.

>> Hello, my name is Marina Hemenez [phonetic]. I work with the San Bernardino County Superintendent's of Schools Office. About a month ago I was attending a conference in San Diego. One of the speakers really asked this question or made this statement, and it really had me thinking. And I wanted to see who would like to respond to this. It was diversity is being invited to the dance, but inclusion is actually being invited to dance. Would anybody like to, what does that mean to you? How can we overcome? How can we be included in that choreography?

>> Have you ever been to a wedding or to a party where everybody gets up and dances?

>> Yes [inaudible].

>> That's right and you look around and you're waiting for someone to take you out. Sometimes you just go out and you invite somebody else, some of your comrades to go out and dance with you.

>> Thank you. Anybody else?

>> I think that's the answer.

>> Okay. Thank you.

>> The answer is you ask someone to dance, or you make someone dance.

[Applause]

>> Okay. We have time for one more question.

>> I want to speak on behalf of the men that are scared to get up here.

>> All right.

>> First off, I want to thank you for honoring my mother who's no longer with us. But just the fact that she's here with us. I'm going to cry. My question is for the [foreign language]. How, or anyone who wants to answer the question. How, as men, can we continue to support our women in all the work that they do by being [inaudible]. I have my own, you know, thoughts about it, but I want to hear your thoughts about how we can continue to be allies. Not only allies but activists in the current movement but in general. How can we support you and women in general?

>> Well I was just going to tell you I think you can answer that question in terms of what men can do. But having worked with, as we all have had experiences, that this has not been part of our socialization sometimes. I had students who would have to study locked up in the bathroom. Or husbands who would tear up the books because they didn't want them to study. So I guess the answer to your question is that men should speak with men and teach men what that, how they can support the women in the family. I think someone this morning, I learned a lot on this session. I loved somebody said that the man is the head of the household, and I was groaning. I thought, what the hell does that mean? You know. And then she said because women are the center of the home. So I think you men, it's your responsibility to do this now. We have so many years done now. We need to take care of ourselves and take care of other women. And to ensure that the women who do have husbands who understand take that message to

other men who will listen to the men. That's a very simplistic answer. That's my answer. [Foreign language] all that stuff. So somebody else I'm sure has a better answer.

[Applause]

>> Second answer.

>> All right. Let's see how we approach this. I believe that the male gender in the modern society must continue to be a man. To be a man and to be the man. It is imperative that we recognize, especially within our culture and other cultures, that we honor and respect the men in our lives. If we are to enable a balance to take place in today's world, the male must be strong enough, must be man enough to understand that his place is sacred. It is important as the head of the family. And the man must be kind and must be understanding and must be faithful to good positive character values. And the fact that the men have to quit running away and leaving their children behind and that there has to be a line drawn in every society, in every culture. And it is that we will respect each other, and we will honor each other. And that when love isn't as healthy as it should be, you go back to that respect. You go back to honoring. And it's not about how much you can cuss someone out or how much you can put someone down, whether it's a man to a woman or a woman to a man. It's how much can you learn to understand that life is extremely difficult. And that it is by having an open mind and an open heart and standing still when the storm comes around, because there are many, many storms. The problem is that in the midst of those storms, people forget to hang on, and they let go. And they let their children go. And they let their women go. And all of that has forced women to become as competitive and as driven in order to be able to get our children ahead. That barn door and that horse left a long time ago ladies and gentlemen. I love the fact that you asked this question. We now, we as women need to remind all good men, all men, even the bad ones, because they're out there, honey. You know that. But if you want a good woman, you've got to be a good man. And God is always first. Thank you.

>> Thank you. Enrique?

>> You know, one of the things, when we were in the protest for our DACA students because of what number 45 had done. And we were all, you know, doing all the protests. One of my DACA students came to me and said the best way you all can help is to allow us to be the spokespeople. Don't pretend to speak for us. And I think the answer would hold true for the women. That women are strong. We can do anything. And as you try to take a role with the women, just remember that the women can lead and sometimes, oftentimes, will lead. So just like my DACA students tell me, don't pretend to speak for me. And I would say the same thing.

[Applause]

[Inaudible]

>> We're good? We're good? Okay.

>> We're good.

>> Make sure everything's good. Friends and colleagues, it's time for us to sign off now. Today we're happy to report that we've stood strong once again, our ninth year. And we've exceeded even our own expectations. Thank you to each and every one of you, especially those who stayed to the end. Of course, our media folks, and we're still online, right, we're still online. Today was yet another grain of sand [foreign language]. Right. So at this point, I want to remind all the lead planners, lead volunteers, any padrinos [phonetic] that are out there, friends and colleagues, to join us for our annual group picture. So we can take our picture up here. And then we'll turn it over to our, to Aaron and Jeanette so to sign off there. [Foreign language] for now. [Foreign language].

[Applause]

END – 01:41:53