Male's expectations of their female partner's roles

Lorena Tejeda
MALES' EXPECTATIONS OF THEIR FEMALE PARTNER'S ROLES

A Project
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University,
San Bernardino

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Social Work

by
Lorena Tejeda
June 2002
MALES' EXPECTATIONS OF THEIR FEMALE PARTNER'S ROLES

A Project
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University,
San Bernardino

by
Lorena Tejeda
June 2002

Approved by:

Dr. Trang Hoang
Faculty Supervisor
Social Work

Dr. Rosemary McCaslin,
M.S.W. Research Coordinator
ABSTRACT

The study was intended to explore if acculturation affects Mexican immigrant males’ expectations of their partner/spouse. The study aimed to include those who are acculturated and those who are unacculturated, but the sample showed only 2 participants who scored in the acculturated category. Thus, the study sample included 51 participants, those who are acculturated and those who are bicultural. For the sample, there was not a significant relationship between acculturation rate and males’ expectations. However, the author found important trends about male’s involvement with their children, financial decision-making, and level of expectations from their partner/spouse’s roles. An overview of these trends is discussed.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank all the members of my family who helped me reach my goal of completing the program. I thank my husband for his support. Thanks to my parents who helped me in so many ways. I also want to thank my mother in law and my brother in laws who supported me in many ways. All the members of my family contributed to my success. I don’t think that I could have made it with out my family’s support. Lastly, I want to thank my friends who helped me when I need it them.
DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to my husband and my children.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT ........................................................................ iii

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ....................................................... iv

LIST OF TABLES .............................................................. vii

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

Problem Statement .............................................................. 1

Policy Context .................................................................. 3

Practice Context .............................................................. 3

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction ..................................................................... 6

History of the Roles of Mexican Immigrants ......................... 6

Human Behavior in the Social Environment
Theories Guiding Conceptualization ................................. 8

Immigration Status Effects on Gender Role
Changes ........................................................................ 12

CHAPTER THREE: METHODS

Introduction ..................................................................... 15

Study Design .................................................................... 15

Sampling .......................................................................... 16

Data Collection and Instruments ....................................... 17

Procedures ....................................................................... 19

Protection of Human Subjects ........................................... 20

Data Analysis ................................................................... 21

Summary .......................................................................... 22

CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS ................................................. 23

CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION ............................................... 29
Recommendations ........................................ 30
APPENDIX A: DATA EXTRACTION INSTRUMENTS .......... 33
APPENDIX B: INFORMED CONSENT .......................... 42
APPENDIX C: DEBRIEFING STATEMENT ..................... 45
REFERENCES .................................................. 48
LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Males Who Care for Children at Home ............ 25
Table 2. Males Who do Chores at Home ....................... 26
Table 3. Spouse Who do House Chores ......................... 26
Table 4. Level of Work Wanted from Spouse ............... 28
CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

Problem Statement

The U.S. Hispanic population is expected to increase by nearly 40 percent from 1990 to 2000. By 2010, the U.S. Hispanic ethnic population should number 38.5 million, according to the Census Bureau (Webster, 1994). Within these figures the number of Mexican immigrants (legal and illegal) is very large due to the proximity of Mexico to the United States. As this population increases, their needs for social services may also increase.

For many years, literature that has been written about Latinos has used the word "machismo" to describe a male's role. Females are described as being submissive and not having much power when it comes to decision-making. However, more recent studies are showing that the concept of machismo is changing (Perilla, 1999).

It is necessary to carry out studies to help social workers understand how gender roles may change among generations to avoid stereotypes. A fuller understanding of the complexity of family roles and responsibilities would make service providers more sensitive and responsive for specific needs, and issues. Therefore, results of this...
study may help social workers develop more effective strategies and programs to help this particular population (Mexican immigrants). This study may also provide social workers with a fuller understanding of the roles of male Mexican immigrants within a family to provide counseling since some studies have found high and premature treatment termination rates for ethnic and racial minorities (Arroyo, 1996). This can be attributed to social workers not being aware of the needs of minorities, thus leading to early termination. A better understanding of the family dynamics of Mexican immigrants may reduce this trend of termination. This study may also make a contribution to social work in terms of raising awareness of Mexican immigrants' experiences and changes in their expectations. The result may be an increased use of social services and better understanding of family dynamics.

The purpose of the study is to explore if there are gender roles and expectation of roles with more acculturation. The study will concentrate on first generation immigrants. Furthermore, it will also explore to what extent gender roles change in terms of how they divide their family responsibilities and work chores at home.
Policy Context

According to the immigration law one can be either a citizen or an alien. Citizens are those individuals who were born in the United States, who derived citizenship from a parent, or who acquired citizenship through the process of naturalization. Those who are immigrants and are here illegally are classified as aliens. Immigrants are also those individuals who have been granted permanent or conditional residence status based on specific familial relationships recognized by the law, such as the spouse of a U.S. citizen (Louie, 1998).

Policies change every day affecting Mexican immigrants as well as other Latinos. Due to misconceptions and political control, this vulnerable population like other minorities has been the target for many politicians and groups that are against immigration. For example, one common misconception regarding minority immigrants is that they consume more than they contribute, thus raising the cost of programs such as welfare. The changes in policies such as proposition 187 affect immigrant’s living conditions in many ways that in turn affects their roles.

Practice Context

Smart (1995) noted that “Discrimination against Hispanics is widespread in the U.S. Ignorance, suspicion,
myth and misinformation still persist.” It is likely for Latinos and other ethnic minorities to encounter unfair and prejudiced treatment in employment, education, housing, an other human services (Smart, 1995).

The NASW code of ethics states that social workers have an obligation to assist those who are vulnerable. In this case, Mexican immigrants belong to this population because of all the obstacles that they have to face to survive in the United States. According to a recent study, there are significant ethnic differences on ratings of the client’s prognosis with treatment and ability to empathize with the client (Arroyo, 1996). When a guise was used to represent a Hispanic and an Anglo American female client, the researcher found that the Hispanic guise was associated with a poorer prognosis and the therapists conveyed less empathy than he did with the non-Hispanic guise (Arroyo, 1996).

In addition, in terms of practice this research may be very helpful to school social workers. This is because awareness of how immigrant couples share child rearing responsibilities may help the worker when counseling a family, a child, or determining what type of services the family needs. CPS workers may also benefit from the findings of this study. It would give them a better
understanding of how often male immigrants spend time with their children and how decisions are made within the family.

Research Question: Do males' expectations of their female partner's role change with acculturation.
CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

The next sections will give an overview of the literature that has been written in the past regarding Latino gender roles. In addition, it will give information to gain an understanding of how acculturation can affect individual's gender roles. The following section will point out how the legal status of Mexican immigrants affects the service delivery for this population.

History of the Roles of Mexican Immigrants

Traditionally, among Latinos, the father has been the decision-maker and has had a great deal of power because he is considered to have lot of wisdom and knowledge. The mother in contrast has been the moderator, the interceder who is well respected by her children because she is a vital part of the family. Women are in charge of child rearing. They are also supposed to be abnegate and sacrifice themselves for others when it comes to care (Perilla, 1999). However, in both Latin America and the United States, family roles are undergoing some important changes. Perilla (1999) points out that responsibilities
are changing, becoming somewhat more egalitarian. Among Latinos there are those who are taking a different focus on the meaning of the culture.

Among young couples, it is more likely that the decisions would be made jointly. The spouse regarded as a companion and household chores are shared (Hrisch, 1999).

It is important to consider how men are coping with these changes. According to Hrisch (1999), some younger men in her study say that “living as bachelors in the United States has taken away the shame of grabbing a broom or heating a tortilla—but it did not do so for their fathers.” This means that it was embarrassing for their parents to help with house chores because women were expected to do them.

There have been studies that look at Latinos and gender roles. However many of them have focused on the issue of machismo. “Rather than looking at the sending community as the cultural and social control group in order to foreground the changes that accompany migration, we should explore how sending communities themselves are changing” (Hirsch, 1999).
According to Smart (1995), the process of acculturation gives us an explanation of how immigrants may deal with changing from one cultural context to another. There are different definitions for acculturation. For the purpose of this study, the following definition from Smart (1995) will be used. "Acculturation is a process whereby individuals learn about the rules for behavior and characteristics of a certain group of people. The term also refers to the way of life of people and includes the tools or methods with which they extract a livelihood from their environment. It includes the web of social relations, understandings, and customs, and rules or attitudes about supreme beings" (Smart, 1995).

Berry (1997), states that there are four types of acculturation. Assimilation happens when individuals do not wish to maintain their cultural identity and seek daily interaction with other cultures. It may be easier for Mexican immigrants to accept changes in gender roles when this method of acculturation is used (Berry, 1997).

Separation happens when individuals place a value in holding onto their original culture, and at the same time
wish to avoid interaction with others. In this case, one may not notice a significant change in gender roles because the individual is not willing to learn about other cultural values.

Integration happens when there is an interest in both cultures, maintaining one's culture while in daily interaction with other groups. Here, there is some degree of cultural integrity maintained, while at the same time seeking to participate as an integral part of the larger social network. In this case there may be a significant effect on gender role changes due to the willingness of the individual to seek to participate in the new culture.

Marginalization happens when there is little possibility of, or interest in cultural maintenance and little interest in having relations with others. In this case the effects on gender roles would depend on whether marginalization is voluntary or forced (Berry, 1997).

Gender roles may be affected by the approach to acculturation that an individual chooses. For Mexican American men in particular, trying to integrate into the American life and maintain their Mexican culture may cause stress. Accepting gender role changes may be very hard because of the close proximity to relations and cultures. There may be pressure coming from those who just
arrived to the U.S. and have strong Mexican cultural values (Gowen and Trevinos, 1998). Studies have shown that males now get more involved in family issues than they used to be, but females are still more likely to experience greater stress than males over their dual roles as parents and partners.

In order to understand how gender roles change among Mexican immigrants, it may be important to understand the implications of the discrepancy when the roles are developed in one cultural context and then attempt to live in a new one (Berry, 1997). Smart states that acculturation can be stressful for immigrants due to the re-evaluation of their role within the new culture in addition to their sense of not belonging. According to Smart (1995), immigrants who cling to their identity very strongly may experience high levels of stress and report lower self-esteem. Stressor events are those conditions, or the anticipation of such conditions, that are seen by the individual as causing a significant loss to the self or to the identity of ones' self. Women are also affected by stress due to the change in gender roles. This is due to the loss of familiar roles in the Hispanic culture. Latinas face difficulties in changing gender roles from the more fixed and specific roles in the native Hispanic
culture to the more open and unspecified roles that are possible for women in the North American culture.

Role theory will guide this study. Role theory is concerned with how individuals learn and enact the genetic quality of the behaviors and the goals and motives of that behavior. It emphasizes the social determinants of behavior, by focusing on contemporaneous conflicting role expectations and role performance as major sources of psychological distress. Role theory assumes that role behavior is learned through such processes as modeling, identification, and reinforcement (Turner, 548).

Using the role theory to understand Mexican immigrant couples, one assumes that there are complementary roles that may be different from other cultures. Most men are considered the breadwinners while females may complement this role by taking care of the family. When couples migrate to the United States, expectations of partner’s roles may change depending on their situation. For example, a woman who joins the work force sometimes end up having a double shift, one at home and one outside of the home. When she can’t handle such pressure, she may end up changing her expectations of her partner. Her partner may also recognize this double shift and change his expectations. It both persons’ expectations of their
partner change to fit each other’s needs, this can result in a satisfactory role relationship and one can assume that role complementary exist. It is worth clarifying that not all Mexican immigrant women end up with a double shift because in fact some males have always shared responsibilities in an egalitarian way, therefore parallel roles where responsibilities are shared equally do exist among Latinos.

Role discontinuity is a useful term in understanding that couples may experience stress when expected to take on a new role with which they are not familiar. Turner (1986) talks about the support required to facilitate transition from one role to a dissimilar one. Mexican male immigrants may experience stress because they are not familiar with the new roles such as contributing with household responsibilities, child rearing or having an egalitarian role. In addition, male immigrants may end up moving to a community where most men are not willing to detach from their cultural values, therefore offering or receiving little support during the transition.

Immigration Status Effects on Gender Role Changes

One may assume that for Mexican immigrants their legal status may have an effect on how gender roles
change. There may be more pressure for an immigrant who is not a legal resident or citizen to adhere to the laws of the United States. For example, if an individual has a pattern of using physical force to resolve issues, he/she may come to the U.S and realize that domestic violence is not accepted in this society. Due to their legal status, they may not want to draw much attention to themselves for the risk of being deported. In the case of Mexican males who hold strong cultural values, they may feel a loss of control over their partner when they get here.

Another way in which the immigrant status can affect role changes is when there is economic hardship that may prevent a husband from performing the idealized men’s role of bread winner due to their illegal status. In the last decades the American economy has changed. The new technology has replaced many positions that immigrants once filled. At present it is harder to attain a position that pays enough to maintain a whole family unless one has a certain level of education or training. This is a barrier for some Mexican immigrants because until recently illegal immigrants could not attain an education or training without paying a tremendous amount of money unless they were legal residents or citizens.
In the United States people may qualify for unemployment or social services when they lose their jobs. Their legal status for some immigrants is a factor that determines if they are able to claim unemployment or not. The social services are also limited for those who are in the U.S. illegally. When a situation arises and the male is not able to provide for the family or is not able to apply for such services, the spouse may then be forced to join the work force full-time and fill the role of breadwinner therefore switching roles with her partner.
CHAPTER THREE

METHODS

Introduction

Chapter three explains about the design of the project. It gives an overview of how the data was gathered, who were the participants and what techniques were used to recruit participants. In addition, it indicates what procedures were used to collect the data and how human subjects would be protected.

Study Design

Much research has been done on Latinos, but this research concentrated specifically on Mexican immigrants. The research explored how acculturation may affect males' expectations towards the roles of female partners. Qualitative and quantitative approach methods were used for this study. The quantitative approach yielded important information regarding percentages of participants who participate in household chores, who takes care of children, and their levels of expectation from their partner/spouse. The qualitative approach was useful to provide an in-depth understanding of the role expectations of the participants.
Sampling

Data was obtained from a sample of 54 Mexican immigrant males who were currently living with their female partners. There were four interviews conducted and 54 surveys collected. The relationship of the respondents and their partner did not have to be official. One of the requirements for participation was that the couple should be living together on a daily basis. The data was collected over a 10-week period.

The sample was chosen because of the need to understand Mexican immigrants' views of role expectations. This is due to the fact that most of the research on gender roles has been done on Latinos in general. In addition, research on Latino gender roles has concentrated on the concept of machismo, ignoring that there are other factors and social dynamics that may trigger changes in role expectations when Latinos integrate into a new community/culture, in this case the United States. Furthermore, past research has explored the roles of Latinos, but there has not been much exploration of how the sending communities of Mexican immigrants change their views regarding gender roles once they acculturate.

The study used non-probability sampling techniques to recruit participants at church. A convenience sample
technique was used, based on the availability of participants that attended church on the dates that the data was collected. Subjects were chosen based on the characteristics of being a Mexican immigrant, having a female partner, and living together with a partner on a daily basis. A purposive sampling technique was also used to recruit participants for the interviews. At the time the participants filled out the questionnaires, they were asked if they wanted to be interviewed.

Data Collection and Instruments

The primary data collection consisted of surveys (see appendix A). The survey consisted of demographic questions: age, level of education, occupational status, how long they have been married and questions regarding child rearing, child care, house chores and decision making. An bidimentional acculturation scale (developed by Marin, G. and Gamba R., 1996) was also used. The scale consisted of 24 items. The acculturation level was determined as follows: The 24 items were divided into two groups of 12 items each, one for a Hispanic domain and one for non-Hispanic domain. The means of the two domains were calculated and then compared to determine the acculturation level. Two point five was the cut off point.
A 2.5 or higher for both domains indicated biculturalism. A 2.5 or higher for the Hispanic domain and less than 2.5 for the non-Hispanic indicated non acculturated. And a 2.5 or higher for the non-Hispanic domain and less than 2.5 for the Hispanic domain indicated acculturation. The questions for the acculturation scale were close ended and the rest of the survey contained close and open-ended questions. Scale and nominal levels of measurement were used for the variables.

The researcher contacted six churches of different religions. Three churches were catholic, one Baptist, one catholic protestant, and one was Seventh day Adventist. Out of the six churches, the researcher received a response from five: three Catholic, the Catholic protestant, and the Baptist church. The pastor from the Catholic protestant church informed the researcher that they only had a couple of Mexican immigrant families who attended service, therefore it was not possible to collect data from that church. The pastor from the Baptist church informed the researcher that they had a small number of families attending service, however they invited the researcher to go after the Sunday service and it was possible to collect the data. Three Catholic churches
returned the call and also invited the researcher to collect data.

General topics that were discussed during the face to face interviews included background from their native land regarding role expectations, how the participant’s role was different now from when they were in Mexico, if their spouse/partner worked, why did she join the work force and how they make decisions at home with their partners. All of the questions for the interview were open ended (see appendix A).

Procedures

At the end of church services, there was an announcement made inviting people to participate in the study. Surveys were distributed to participants after mass/service. An informed consent (see appendix B) was included with the survey. The participants completed the survey within 20 minutes. They were not identified by name. During the time of distribution of surveys, the participants were asked if they would consent to be interviewed. Those who agreed to be interviewed wrote their first name on a separate sheet of paper. A debriefing statement (see appendix C) was given to the participants after they turned in their surveys. After the
surveys were analyzed, the participants were contacted via telephone. Face to face interviews were administered to further explore individual's expectations of their partners' roles. The interviews consisted of open-ended questions.

The researcher conducted four interviews. They were scheduled at the convenience of the participants. The interviews took place at the participants' homes to provide a comfortable atmosphere for them. During the interviews, the interviewer took notes on the information provided by the participants to be analyzed. The interviews were conducted within a 5-week period. The interviews took 30 minutes.

Protection of Human Subjects

Each participant was asked to read and sign an informed consent before completing the survey and before the interview was conducted. At no time was any respondent's name reported along with his responses. All the surveys and notes taken by the interviewer were kept in a locked cabinet and were discarded upon completion of the project. The researcher protected the data from the time that it was collected by carrying them in a locked box. All data was reported in-group form only. It was not
recorded in any way other than notes taken by the interviewer during the interview process. At the time of distribution of the surveys, the participants were asked if they wanted to be interviewed. Each survey had a blank page for participants to write only their first name and phone number if they agreed to be interviewed.

Each participant was given a debriefing statement (Appendix C) at the conclusion of the interview along with a list of resources to contact for information and assistance with issues that may have been discussed during the interview or if they decided to withdraw from the study.

Data Analysis

The data set was analyzed as an entire sample. Descriptive statistics were used to describe the sample population demographics: age range, percentages of males with different levels of expectations, hour they work, and year of arrival to U.S. The data was also analyzed to measure the level of acculturation of participants. The levels of acculturation were correlated with the dependent variables to find if there were any significant relationships.
Summary

This chapter discussed the study designs that were used in this study and the rationale for using such methods. It also described how data was collected and what instruments were used to accomplish the goal. Protection of human subject and data analysis was also discussed on this chapter.
CHAPTER FOUR
RESULTS

The content of results examined for this research study include: demographic characteristics of the participants, findings from correlations, and some of the content of the interviews.

Research question: Do male immigrant's expectations of their partner's role change with acculturation?

The sample of this study consisted of 54 participants. One case had many missing data, thus was dropped. Two other cases were taken out for statistical purposes leaving 51 cases. The participant's ages ranged from 23 to 57. Twenty five percent of the participants were 23-30 years of age, 49% were from 31-40 years and 26% were 40 and above. In terms of year of arrival, 28% arrived between the years 1971-1980, 43% arrived between 1981-1990, and 23% arrived between 1990 and 1999. When asked how long they have lived with their spouses 49% of the respondents reported 1-10 years, 33% responded 11-20 years and 24% responded more than 21 years. The hours worked reported by participants are the following: 12% reported that they work part time (20 hours average), 47% reported that they work an average of 20-40 hours, and 39%
reported that they work more than 40 hrs (some of them work up to 84hrs per week). Thirty nine percent of the respondents reported that the partner/spouse works at least part time and 59% reported that their partner/spouse does not work.

The purpose of the study was to target two groups of people, acculturated and unacculturated. Unfortunately, the data collected showed only two unacculturated participants and the rest were acculturated and bicultural. Those cases were dropped from the sample. For this reason the findings can only be based on acculturated and bicultural participants.

Data analysis included univariate frequencies for the demographics and bivariate analysis (cross tabs and chi-squares) for the independent and dependent variables.

Acculturation was not found to be significant factor in respondents’ caring for their children at home. This may be due to the fact that only one respondent out of the whole sample answered “no” to the question. However, 99% of the acculturated group and 100% of the bicultural participants reported that they take care at their children (see table 1). Sixty percent of them reported that they take care of their children from 30-40hrs per week. This is an important finding taking in account that
all the participants work, and they are still spending a significant number of hours with their children.

Table 1. Males Who Care for Children at Home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Males who care children home</th>
<th>ACC acculturated</th>
<th>ACC bicultural</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>yes</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acculturation was not a significant factor in respondents decisions to do chores at home. However, it was interesting to compare it to the participant’s responses regarding spouses who do chores at home. For the acculturated group, 100% of the acculturated group and 99% of the bicultural participants reported that their wives do house chores, but 15% of the acculturated group and 6% of the bicultural group reported that they don’t do chores at home (see tables 2 & 3). I was able to interview one of the participants who reported that he does not do home chores. He reported that his wife works full time. When he was asked why his wife joined the work force he stated that he has a good income but she was bored at home. He was asked the number of hours that he works and he works
12 hours per day in comparison to his wife who works eight hours a day. When asked why he does not do chores at home he stated that “She has always done it, we never talked about sharing chores at home.” He also stated that their not sharing chores at home may be due to the way that they were raised since he comes from a rural area and she comes from an urban area. Another participant who was interviewed reported that he does not do chores at home because he is a supervisor and has to work long hours. This participant reported that his wife does not work.

Table 2. Males Who do Chores at Home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACC acculturated</th>
<th>bicultural</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males who do chores at home</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>no</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Spouse Who do House Chores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACC acculturated</th>
<th>bicultural</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spouse Who do House Chores</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>no</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There was no significance between acculturation and respondents who do activities with children. However, the cross tabs still show some interesting information about the amount of work that the participants do at home. The cross tab for the participants show that 57% of the acculturated participants and 56% of the bicultural participants do more than three activities at home. When looking at the cross tabs for number of hours participants work it shows that 50% of the participants reported that they work at least part time and 40% reported that they work more than 40hrs per week. This is an interesting finding about Hispanics because it shows that participants are very actively involved with their children even when they have to work long hours.

Acculturation was not found to be a significant factor in participants' financial decision making. However, 77% of the respondents answered that both, they and their spouse/partner make financial decisions, 16% reported that their spouse/partner makes the financial decisions and only 8% reported that they make the financial decisions by themselves.

Ninety percent of the bicultural group and 87% of the acculturated group reported that they would like their spouse/partner to do the same or less than she does now.
(see table 4). The researcher was able to interview a respondent who stated that he would like his wife to do less than she does now. He stated that he works 50-60hrs a week and his wife works 40 hours per week. He stated "I would like to have more time to help my wife more with the house chores so she can do less, but I work long hours."

Table 4. Level of Work Wanted from Spouse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crosstab Count</th>
<th>ACC</th>
<th>Bicultural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of work wanted</strong></td>
<td>acculturated</td>
<td>bicultural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than she does now</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than she does now</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The same she does now</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>35</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Included in Chapter Four was a presentation of the results of the analysis of the data gathered from the surveys and the face-to-face interviews.
CHAPTER FIVE
DISCUSSION

The purpose of the study was to examine the expectations of 2 groups of Mexican immigrant males, those who are acculturated and those who are unacculturated. Unfortunately, only 2 participants scored in the unacculturated range. Given the small number of cases, these cases were dropped from the sample. For this reason, data analysis only included participants who scored in the acculturated and bicultural categories.

The church service where the data was collected is always conducted in Spanish. Of the whole sample there were only 2 unaculturated persons. This finding indicate that Mexican immigrants (within this sample) became acculturated but still participate in activities where they can speak their native language.

The hours that respondents are spending with their children indicate that males are sharing child-rearing responsibilities with their spouse/partners. In addition, the findings also indicate that the respondents are spending a considerable amount of time with their children. This finding supports the literature that states
that attitudes regarding roles are changing to a more egalitarian stance.

The findings regarding level of expectation and from the interview indicate that participants within this sample are willing to share all the responsibilities and may not expect their partner/spouse to take on a larger load of responsibilities than they themselves take on.

One of the limitations that needed to be considered is that the data was collected from participants who are active members of Catholic and Baptist churches. This means that the results can only be applied to active church members in this population. However, findings are still pertinent since a large number of Mexican immigrants are Catholic. The other limitation is that participants may have migrated from different geographic parts of Mexico. It has to be recognized that there are subcultures within cultures. Because they come from different, geographic areas of Mexico, their roles may already be somewhat different especially if some came from urban and others from rural areas.

Recommendations

It is necessary to conduct more research where an unacculturated group can be included to analyze if
acculturation is a significant factor in males' level of expectation. Studying this group in particular is important because their situation is different from that of other Hispanic immigrants. It is different in that they may retain their cultural values longer than other Hispanic immigrant groups. This is because they can go back and forth to their native country more often than other immigrants because Mexico is so close to the United States.

Another reason why it is important to conduct more research with this population is because the trends of this research indicate that male immigrants (within this sample) are spending a considerable amount of time with their children. Learning about male immigrant’s role within the family can help social service workers when working with families.

For future studies it would be important to ask participants if they come from a rural or urban area since that may also be a factor which affects expectations as suggested by one of the participants of the study.

Social workers interested in doing research on Mexican immigrant’s roles may need to include participants from the general population to be able to generalize the results. In addition to collecting surveys at church, the
researcher may want to collect surveys from the participants' work place. Another option would be to get a list and randomly select names to mail surveys, even though it may take longer to collect the data.

The researcher also recommends including women in the sample of future studies. Including women can be useful because it would be interesting to compare the males' expectations to the expectations of females. Comparing expectations among males and females may give us a better understanding of the differences and similarities in expectations among Mexican immigrant couples.

In conclusion, although the independent variable was not found to be significant, the findings indicated that male immigrants of this sample are actively helping their spouse/partner with house chores and taking care of their children. The study has its limitation, but it can be used for future reference for other studies.

Included in Chapter Five was a presentation of the conclusions gleamed as a result of completing the project. Further, the recommendations extracted from the project are presented.
APPENDIX A

DATA EXTRACTION INSTRUMENTS
Bidimensional Acculturation Scale (Quest. 1-24)

Use the following answers for questions 1-6.

4-almost always
3-often
2-sometimes
1-almost never

1. How often do you speak English? _____
2. How often do you speak in English with your friends? ______
3. How often do you think in English? _____
4. How often do you speak Spanish? ______
5. How often do you speak in Spanish with your friends? ______
6. How often do you think in Spanish? ______

Use the following answers for questions 7-18.

4-very well
3-well
2-poor
1-very poor

7. How well do you speak English?____
8. How well do you read in English?___
9. How well do you understand television programs in English?___
10. How well do you understand radio programs in English?___
11. How well do you write in English?___
12. How well do you understand music in English?___
13. How well do you speak Spanish?___
14. How well do you read in Spanish?___
15. How well do you understand television programs in Spanish?

16. How well do you understand radio programs in Spanish?

17. How well do you write in Spanish?

18. How well do you understand music in Spanish?

Use the following answers for questions 19-24.

19. How often do you watch television programs in English?

20. How often do you listen to radio programs in English?

21. How often do you listen to music in English?

22. How often do you watch television programs in Spanish?

23. How often do you listen to radio programs in Spanish?

24. How often do you listen to music in Spanish?

DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS (25-37)

25. What year were you born in?

26. What year did you arrive in the U.S.?

27. How long have you lived with your partner/spouse?

28. How many hours do you work per week?

29. Does your partner/spouse work? Yes No

29a. How many hours per week does she work?

30. Who makes decisions about child rearing in your home?

31. Who makes the financial decisions in your home?

32. Does anyone other than yourself or your partner/spouse help with childcare? Yes No

33. Do you take care of the children when you are at home? Yes No
33a. How many hours per week do you take care of your children?____

33b. Check the activities that you perform when you are at home with the children.
   ______ read books with children
   ______ change their diapers
   ______ play with the children
   ______ others (specify) _______________________

34. Does your partner/spouse take care of the children when she is at home? Yes_ No____
   34a. On average, how many hrs per week does your partner/spouse take care of the children? ___
   34b. Check those activities that your partner/spouse does when she cares of children?
       ______ read books to children
       ______ change their diapers
       ______ play with the children
       ______ other (specify) _______________________

35. Do you perform household chores when you are at home? Yes____ No____
   35a. Check those chores that you perform in your home.
       ______ wash the clothes
       ______ clean house
       ______ cook _____ other (specify) _______________________

36. Does your partner/spouse perform household chores when she is at home? Yes_ No____
   36a. Check those chores that she does when she is home?
       ______ wash the clothes
       ______ clean house
       ______ cook
       ______ other (specify) _________________________________

37. Would you like you partner/spouse to do
       _____ more than she now does
       _____ less than she now does
       _____ the same that she does now
SURVEY (Spanish version)

Escala de aculturamiento

Para responder preguntas 1-6 use las respuestas siguientes.

(1) Casi nunca
(2) Algunas veces
(3) Frecuentemente
(4) Casi siempre

1. ¿Con qué frecuencia habla usted inglés?
2. ¿Con qué frecuencia habla usted inglés con sus amigos?
3. ¿Con qué frecuencia piensa usted en inglés?
4. ¿Con qué frecuencia habla usted en español?
5. ¿Con qué frecuencia habla usted en español con sus amigos?
6. ¿Con qué frecuencia piensa usted en español?

Para responder preguntas 13-24, use las respuestas siguientes.

(1) muy mal
(2) no muy bien
(3) bien
(4) muy bien

7. ¿Qué tan bien habla usted inglés?
8. ¿Qué tan bien lee usted inglés?
9. ¿Qué tan bien entiende usted los programas de televisión en inglés?
10. ¿Qué tan bien entiende usted los programas de radio en inglés?
11. ¿Qué tan bien escribe usted en inglés?
12. ¿Qué tan bien entiende usted música en inglés?
13. ¿Qué tan bien habla usted español?___
14. ¿Qué tan bien lee usted en español?___
15. ¿Qué tan bien entiende usted los programas de televisión español?___
16. ¿Qué tan bien entiende usted los programas de radio en español?___
17. ¿Qué tan bien escribe usted español?___
18. ¿Qué tan bien entiende usted música en español?___

Para responder las preguntas 19-24 use las siguientes respuestas:

(1) Casi nunca
(2) Algunas veces
(3) Frequentemente
(4) Casi siempre

19. ¿Con qué frecuencia ve usted programas de televisión en inglés?___
20. ¿Con qué frecuencia escucha usted programas de radio en inglés?___
21. ¿Con qué frecuencia escucha usted música en inglés?___
22. ¿Con qué frecuencia ve usted programas de televisión en español?___
23. ¿Con qué frecuencia escucha usted programas de radio en español?___
24. ¿Con qué frecuencia escucha usted música en español?___

Preguntas demográficas

25. ¿En qué año nació? ______
26. ¿En qué año llegó a los Estados Unidos? ______
27. ¿Cuántos tiempo tiene viviendo con su pareja/esposa?___
28. ¿Cuántas horas trabaja usted por semana? _____
29. ¿Trabaja su pareja/esposa? Si ___ No ___

29a. ¿Cuántas Horas? _____

30. ¿En su casa, quien toma las decisiones de cómo criar a sus hijos? _____

31. ¿En su casa, quien toma decisiones de cómo gastar el dinero? _____

32. ¿Hay algún adulto que ayude con los niños aparte de su pareja/esposa? ___ ¿Quiénes son? _____

33. ¿Cuida a sus hijos/as cuando está usted en su casa? Si ___ No ___

33a. ¿Cuántas horas por semana cuida usted a sus hijos? _____

33b. ¿Marque todas las actividades que hace cuando cuida/esta con sus hijos.
   _____ Leerles Libros
   _____ Cambiar pañales
   _____ Jugar con los niños
   _____ Platicar con ellos
   _____ Otra cosa (especifique) ____________________________

34. ¿Cuando su esposa/pareja está en casa, cuida ella los niños? Si ___ No ___

34a. ¿Cuántas horas por semana cuida su esposa/pareja a sus hijos? _____

34b. ¿Marque todas las actividades que su pareja hace cuando cuida/esta con sus hijos.

   _____ Leerles Libros
   _____ Cambiar pañales
   _____ Jugar con ellos
   _____ Otra cosa (especifique) ____________________________
35. ¿Hace usted trabajos domésticos en casa? Si__ No__

35a. Marque lo que aplique.

____ Lavar ropa
____ Llover la casa
____ Cosinar
____ Otra cosa: Especifique__________________________

36. ¿Cuando su pareja/esposa está en casa, ella hace trabajos domésticos? Si__ No__

36a. Marque los trabajos de la casa que ella hace.

____ Lavar ropa
____ Llover la casa
____ Cosinar
____ otra cosa: Especifique ________________________

37. ¿Desearia usted que su esposa pudiera hacer.

____ Mas de lo que hace actualmente.
____ Menos de lo que hace actualmente.
____ Lo mismo que hace
Interview Sample

1. How is your role as a partner different in the United States form when you were living in Mexico?

2. What are some of the main reasons for which your partner joined the work force?

3. Now that your partner works, how are things different at home form when she didn’t work?

4. How do you and your partner come to an agreement about financial decisions?

5. What kind of chores do you complete at home and how often?

6. When you take care of your children what type of family activities do you guys get involved on?

Interview (Spanish)

1. Es su papel de pareja/esposo diferente en Estados Unidos que en México?

2. Cuales son algunas de las rezones principales por las cuales trabaja su pareja/esposa?

3. La situacion ha cambiado en casa desde que su pareja/esposa trabaja?

4. Como hacen las decisions usted y su pareja/esposa pare gastar el dinero?
APPENDIX B

INFORMED CONSENT
INFORMED CONSENT

The study you are about to participate in is designated to explore how the roles of Mexican immigrants change upon their arrival to the United States. You will be asked to complete a questionnaire that will take about ten minutes to complete. You will also be asked if you wish to be interviewed and if you do to write your first name and phone number in the blank sheet of paper attached to the questionnaire. This is to protect your confidentiality. This study will be conducted by Lorena Tejeda (MSW student) from Fall 2001 to the Spring of 2002, under the supervision of Dr. Hoang. This project has been approved by the Department of Social Work Sub-Committee of the CSUSB institutional review board.

Please be assured that any information obtained by you will be held in confidence by the researcher. If you are interviewed, you will not be recorded in any other way, other than notes taken by the researcher during the interview process. The surveys and notes from interviews will be held in locked files to be destroyed upon completion of the study. All data will be reported in group form only. Your name will be separated from the data to assure confidentiality. At the conclusion of the study, the results will be available to you in the library at California State University, San Bernardino. The researcher will also provide a two page summary of the research results in Spanish and English to the priest to make it available to those who are interested.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the study, you may contact Dr. Hoang at (909)880-5559. By placing an x on the line below, you acknowledge that you have been informed of and understand the nature and purpose of this study, and freely consent participation. You acknowledge that you are over the age of eighteen years. You may stop filing out the questionnaire at any time, and if interviewed you may end the interview at any time that you desire without penalty. Thank you for taking the time to participate.

________________________________________
Date
Informed Consent (Spanish)

Forma de consentimiento

El estudio en el que participara esta designado a explorar como cambia el papel de la pareja al llegar a los Estados Unidos. Se le pedira que llene un cuestionario que le tomara aproximadamente diez minutos. Tambien se le pedira si estaria dispuesto a ser entrevistado, si asi fuera por favor escriban su primer nombre (sin apellido) y su numero de telefono en la hoja adjunta al cuestionario. Este estudio sera conducido por Lorena Tejeda (estudiante del programa de Maestria en Trabajo social) apartir del otono del 2001 y hasta la primavera del 2002 bajo la supervicion de la Doctora Hoang. Este proyecto ha sido aprovado por el departamento de trabajo Social y el Sub-comite del Consejo de Aprobacion Institucional de la Universidad de San Bernardino California.

Cualquier informacion que usted pueda proveer se mantendra confidencial. Si sele entrevistara, la unica manera de tomar su informacion sera por medio de notas que se tamaran durante la entrevista. Las encuestas y notas de las entrevistas se mantendran en archivos cerrados con candado y seran destruidas al terminar el estudio. Su forma de consentimiento sera separada de la informacion para asegurar su confidencialidad. Al finalizar el estudio, los resultados estaran disponibles en la biblioteca de la Universidad de San Bernardino o pueden recoger una copia de los resultados en la paroquia despues de Junio 25, 2002. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre este estudio, puede llamar a la Dra. Hoang al (909)880-3359. Al poner una X en la forma, ud. Esta reconociendo que ha sido informado sobre el proposito de este estudio y que acepta participar. Tambien reconoce que es mayor de 18 anos de edad. La participacion en este estudio es totalmente voluntaria. Si en algun momento desea no seguir participando puede hacerlo sin ningun problema.

_________________________________________ Fecha
APPENDIX C

DEBRIEFING STATEMENT
DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

Thank you for participating in this study of male's expectations of their female partner's role. Previous research has focused on researching the Latino population. This study is focusing specifically in Mexican immigrants to understand how their roles change upon arrival to this country.

If participating in this study raises issues that may require further discussion, please contact Dr. Hoang at the Department of Social Work, California State University, San Bernardino, at (909) 880-7245.

If you have been interviewed and want to withdraw from the study at any time, please contact Dr. Hoang at the phone number on this page.
Debriefing statement (Spanish)

Declaracion de agradecimiento

Gracias por participar en este estudio sobre lo que los esposos esperan de sus parejas. Anteriormente el enfoque de las investigaciones se ha concentrado en la población latina en general. Este estudio está enfocado específicamente en los inmigrantes Mexicanos y cómo cambia su papel de pareja al llegar a este país.

Si el participar en este estudio trae algún tipo de preguntas, por favor llame a la Doctora Hoang en el Departamento de Trabajo Social en la Universidad Estatal San Bernardino. Puede dejar un mensaje en español si lo desea. Tel (909) 880-7245.
REFERENCES


