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## Mexicanos repudian la violencia

## House's Hispanic caucus files re-districting suit in Hidalgo County

Javier Sicilia separó los pies para mantenerse firme, pero se tambaleaba de adelante hacia atrás al momento de gritar enojado, trémulo de dolor e ira frente a la Procuraduría de Justicia del estado de Morelos, con sede en Cuernavaca, la capital ubicada a 90 kilómetros al sur de la Ciudad de México, donde fue asesinado su hijo Juan Francisco.

"No voy a dar ni un paso más si no veo a los papás de los otros asesinados", dijo el poeta y escritor que convocó a una de las movilizaciones con mayor eco contra la violencia en el país en los últimos meses en protesta por la muerte de su hijo de 24 años, asfixiado con cinta adhesiva.

El acto matriz congregó a alrededor de 20,000 personas en Cuernavaca y tuvo réplica en 38 ciudades mexicanas, así como en Buenos Aires, Copenhague, Los Ángeles, Nueva York, Ottawa, París, Santiago de Chile y Vancouver.

"Ni un muerto más, queremos paz", coreaban los marchistas.

"Javier Sicilia, aquí está tu familia".

Pero el poeta se sentía solo en ese instante frente a la fiscalía estatal que acusa a expolicías, pero no ha capturado a ningún implicado en el asesinato del joven hijo del escritor y seis personas más que fueron encontradas sin vida el pasado 28 de marzo.

"Por favor, acérquense, es necesario que vean nuestra fuerza", dijo girando la cabeza, entrecerrando los ojos, como si ajustara la lente de

un telescopio. "Papás vengan, los de Gabo, los de Julio... las otras

jerres y hombres; jóvenes y viejos vestidos de blanco, entre elegantes

dolor de miles de congregados, aunque pocos como ella dieran la cara: "Ya basta. Mañana pueden ser tus hijos", se leía.



Detrás de ella, Sicilia caminaba lento, a veces contraía el rostro para contener el llanto mientras dejaba caer los brazos en los hombros a algún amigo, algún conocido, algún conciudadano.

Poco antes de llegar al Congreso; lo abrazó Abraham Fajio, padre de uno de los niños que murió calcinado por la negligencia de las autoridades de la guardería ABC, en Hermosillo, Sonora.

—Nos tocó, Abraham, ¿qué vamos a hacer?

¿Qué se pueden decir mutuamente los padres de dos hijos perdidos de manera indirecta por un mal gobierno?

—¡Adelante!, coincidir.

Entonces arremetieron con consignas por igual contra narcotraficantes y gobernantes, como si fueran un solo mal, la causa de la muerte de miles de mexicanos: "Pinches narcos, jueguen limpio", se escuchaba.

Ya en el centro de Cuernavaca, Sicilia se dobló a algunas lágrimas en el templete donde era orador y donde amigos de sus hijos cantaban canciones en su memoria. Recordó que se había reunido temprano en el día con el presidente Felipe Calderón, quien prometió ayuda para esclarecer el asesinato, pero él fue más allá para hablar en nombre de las otras víctimas que no tienen voz.

víctimas".

Entonces una voz le hizo eco. "Aquí estoy". Era Alba Luna, una mujer de 52 años, canosa y demacrada, cuyo hijo fue asesinado en julio de 2010 en el municipio de Temixco, sin que la policía se acercara a preguntar siquiera una vez para indagar las causas.

"Si matan a un perro en la carretera, le hacen más caso que si muere alguien aquí", dijo indignada.

La gallardía de esa mujer inyectó levantó el ánimo de Sicilia: había alguien más que perdía el miedo.

"Si no pueden, renuncien", dijo Sicilia para continuar la marcha hacia el Zócalo de la ciudad y abandonar así la procuraduría de justicia, seguido por un mar de mu-

y sencillos atuendos.

Todos víctimas indirectos de la inseguridad del estado y de todo el país, donde han muerto casi 36,000 personas en situaciones relacionadas con el crimen organizado, entre ellos varios inocentes.

Javier Villavicencio, un estudiante de 19 años, aseguró como ejemplo que él es un afectado porque la presencia de sicarios y narcotraficantes la siente en su propia escuela, en fiestas y tardecadas. "El ambiente es muy tenso, como si en cualquier momento fuera a pasar algo". Y sabe que algunos allegados fueron reclutados.

En tanto, Elba Luna tomó entre sus manos una manta de dos metros de largo cuyo texto resumía el

Claiming the census figures used in 2011 redistricting plans severely undercut Latinos, the Mexican-American Legislative Caucus filed suit in Hidalgo County against the state's Republican leaders to prevent them from using the "defective data" to draw political boundaries for state and congressional seats.

The caucus, representing 34 Texas state representatives, claims the 2010 census process and procedures resulted in an undercount of between 4 percent and 8 percent among Hispanics in border counties. In the suit — filed Tuesday against Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Joe Straus — MALC says using census data that undervalue the Latino population to redistrict state and federal seats restricts the voice of Latino voters.

"We cannot conduct valid redistricting when a substantial number of Latino residents have not been counted," said state Rep. Veronica Gonzales, D-McAllen, who sits on MALC's executive committee. "With an accurate count, it is likely that Hidalgo County would have easily gained another representative, thereby strengthening our power in Austin."

The lawsuit landed in Hidalgo County's 139th state District Court when it was filed Tuesday by San Antonio-based attorney Jose Garza. Garza, who represents MALC and is separately preparing a case against the U.S. Census Bureau on behalf of Hidalgo County commissioners, said Hidalgo County was viewed as a favorable jurisdiction because it is an epicenter of complaints against the process used by the bureau to count colonias.

Hidalgo County officials are pursuing potential litigation against the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Cabinet Department that oversees the census, contending it missed as many as 200,000 residents here alone off the county's official population of 774,000. Neighboring Cameron County is considering joining the county's claims that sending census workers door-to-door in impoverished colonias — rather than use the traditional process of mailing each home a form — prevented an accurate count in those neighborhoods.

But Garza said failing to account for Hispanics missed by census workers when redrawing boundaries for state and federal seats will dilute the ability of Texas' booming minority population to elect candidates of choice. Only about 19 percent of the state's congressional seats — or six out of 32 — are held by Hispanics even though the demographic group represents 38 percent of the state's total population.

Garza said the redistricting talk has focused on ensuring Hispanics can win at least half of the four congressional seats apportioned to Texas because it added 4.3 million residents in the past decade.

"What they're talking about is zero to two" seats that can be won by Hispanics, Garza said. "We wouldn't have gotten any of (the four congressional seats) without Latinos."

Already, signs of a redistricting fight are brewing among Texas Republicans. Politico reported this week that Rep. Lamar Smith and Rep. Joe Barton are in a dust-up over how to redraw the state's congressional lines to account for the four new seats.

Smith has favored a bipartisan plan that evenly splits the seats between Republican and Democrats as he's met with U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, the redistricting point man for the state's Democratic delegation, Politico reported. A plan that equally favors both parties would allow Hispanic hopefuls who are generally Democratic to launch bids for the seats.

But Gov. Rick Perry has sided with Barton, who wants to see at least three of the seats go to Republicans.

State Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer, D-San Antonio, the chairman of MALC, said it's hypocritical to deny minority participation in government when minority population accounts for the four seats both parties are fighting over.

"Like it or, minority growth made up 89% of all population in the last decade," Martinez Fischer said in a statement. "Respectfully, the Governor and Representative Barton need a reality check and a crash course in demography...and MALC will be more than happy to accommodate them."

## Tea Party Senators Target Birthright Citizenship for Immigrant Children

A posse of Tea Party Republicans in the U.S. Senate this week opened a new front in the crusade against birthright citizenship with draft legislation that would bar children of illegal immigrants from becoming citizens.

Sens. David Vitter of Louisiana, Rand Paul of Kentucky, Mike Lee of Utah and Jerry Moran of Kansas say their bill requires the federal government to limit automatic citizenship to children born to at least one parent who is a citizen, legal resident, or member of the military.

The senators say a misinterpretation of the Constitution, which grants birthright citizenship under the 14th Amendment, has led to tens of thousands of "anchor babies" — children of illegal immigrants or foreign tourists, born in the U.S., who can in turn sponsor legal residency for their parents and extended families.

"It's astounding that the U.S. government allows individuals to exploit the loopholes of our immigration system in this manner," said Vitter during debate on the Senate floor. "It's obvious that Congress has the authority and the obligation to put an end to it."

released last year.

Republicans say a change to the law would also effectively end "birth tourism," or the practice of foreign women traveling to the U.S. with the express purpose of giving birth here so that their children would automatically have American citizenship. A nascent industry of travel agencies and hotel chains has emerged, seeking to profit from the business.

"It is a reprehensible practice," said Vitter. But immigration advocates say the assault on birthright citizenship discriminates against children, who have no say in the matter, and is nothing more than a political ploy to rally the conservative base.

"There's no evidence that birth tourism is a widespread problem," said Michele Waslin, a senior policy analyst with the Immigration Policy Center. "There are ways to dealing with that issue without such sweeping changes. This is like using a

sledgehammer, not a scalpel."

Changing Birthright Citizenship Of the 4.2 million live births in the United States in 2006, the most recent data gathered by the National Center for Health Statistics, only 7,670 were children born to mothers who said they do not live here.

Some of those mothers could be "baby tourists," experts say, but many could be foreign college students, diplomatic staff, or vacationers. The government does not track the reasons non-resident mothers are in the United States at the time of the birth or their citizenship.

The Republican senators' draft legislation released this week takes a different tact to the birthright citizenship issue than Vitter and

Paul pursued earlier this year when they unveiled a plan to change the Constitution itself.

But with two thirds of both chambers of Congress and three-fourths of all the states needed to amend the document, the change was deemed highly unlikely to pass.

Waslin said the latest attempt to change application of the 14th Amendment in practice is also unlikely to pass muster in either Congress or the courts.

"The Supreme Court has upheld birthright citizenship several times," she said, "and the leading constitutional scholars agree you would have to change the Constitution, not just the Immigration and Nationality Act as they're trying to do here."



## West Texas Local Hero Gives Inspiration to the students at Cavazos Middle School

MARINE CPL ANTHONY VILLARREAL TALKED ABOUT HIS SERVICE AND THE ATTACK THAT CHANGED HIS LIFE

LUBBOCK, TX—Wounded warrior, Marine Cpl. Anthony Villarreal spoke at Cavazos Middle School about his service to the country and the attack that burned the majority of his body and left his right arm in need of a prosthetic.

Cavazos Middle School is joining with the West Texas Home Builders Association and Operation Finally Home to help build a new home for the local hero that will be showcased in this year's highly anticipated Parade of Homes. The school is raising funds to purchase a specific item to be included in the home that will be donated mortgage free to the Villarreal family during the Parade this June.

President of the WTHBA, Robert Wood and Parade Chairman and Air Force veteran Larry Driskill will both join Villarreal at today's speaking engagement.

Parade of Homes Chairman and local builder Larry Driskill was proud to stand with his fellow veteran in the presentation. "When we learned of the Operation Finally Home projects, it seemed a natural fit that we partner with them as part of our 2011 Parade of Homes. I know that the students today will benefit from his story of sacrifice and courage. I am so pleased that they want to play a part in this building project by giving back to this fine young man who gave so much for all of us."

Robert Wood, owner of Robert Wood Homes and President of the West Texas Home Builders Association added, "The builders, sub-contractors and vendors of our organization have generous hearts and we knew they would step up to the plate to honor this marine. Having students and schools partner with us as well is humbling and proves the generosity and pride of the citizens of Lubbock. Cpl. Villarreal paid for this mortgage on the battle field, and we are proud to honor him by giving him a fresh start here at home."

The Villarreal home is located at 5201 Lehigh St. where members of the West Texas Home Builders Association are already hard at work to have the home ready for this year's Parade of Homes. Cpl. Villarreal, a 2004 Coronado High School graduate, suffered severe burn trauma resulting in the loss of part of his right arm and fingers from his left hand when a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle in Afghanistan.



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# Commentaries - Opinions

## ¿Es Lo Demográfico o Son Tácticas Engañosas?

José de la Isla-Hispanic Link News Service

¿Recuerdas cuando la "disonancia cognoscitiva" estaba de moda para explicar por qué las cosas no encajaban? Son los mareos que te dan al oír ideas conflictivas simultáneamente. Dicen los expertos que estamos impulsados por naturaleza a reducir la disonancia y que esto podrá ocurrir con cambiar de actitud, creencia y acción.

Así es el mareo que me da al ver que muchos se precipitan e interpretan las cifras para los hispanos en el Censo 2010 como si fueran adivinos. Algunos comentaristas (con frecuencia partidarios, añadiría) rápidamente señalan que los demócratas son más fuertes ahora que nunca y que están en desventaja los republicanos, quizá por décadas, si logran alguna vez recuperarse.

La publicación del Censo 2010 suscitó el cloqueo de los analistas sobre el que una de cada seis personas en los Estados Unidos es latina. El veintitrés por ciento de los niños estadounidenses menores de 18 años es hispano.

Ya que casi seis millones de latinos llegaron a la edad de votar en la última década, el potencial del voto latino sólo aumentará en un futuro previsible. Y los defensores de partidos, partidarios y miembros de la clase política comenzaron una nueva ronda de especulaciones sobre cómo irá a categorizarse el voto.

Estas especulaciones me parecen a mí un poco como ir a hacerse a la medida un traje pero adrede obligar al sastrero a usar las medidas que uno quisiera tener en vez de las que calzan el cuerpo que se tiene. Así, el censo es un espejo que refleja, pero no es un cumplimiento de los deseos. También es una advertencia a los republicanos referente a la manera de conformar una estrategia generalizada y no evangelizar a números crecientes de grupos marginales antes que el partido republicano se convierta en una banda de creencias marginales.

El conteo del censo 2010 nos dice, fundamentalmente, que se talará aproximadamente 10 nuevos distritos de elección al Congreso con mayorías hispanas en varios estados en crecimiento. Esto causará que otros estados entreguen un número igual de escaños en el Congreso, resultando en menos influencia en el colegio electoral del 2012 para estos últimos.

El codeo que va a poner intenso. Por ejemplo, el presidente Obama, quien en el 2008 se llevara los estados de batalla — Nevada, Nuevo México, Colorado y la Florida — proyecta Latino Decisions, un grupo que rastrea a votantes, podrá verse perjudicado al recibir 58 menos votos del colegio electoral en el 2012 que en el 2008. El conteo final dependerá de los resultados en aquellos baluartes que no van por Obama,

como Carolina del Norte, Virginia, Indiana, Ohio y el segundo distrito de la Cámara en Nebraska, que posiblemente vayan hacia el partido republicano en el 2012.

Tampoco son terreno seguro, necesariamente, los estados de alto crecimiento a favor de Obama en el 2008, Nuevo México y Nevada. En el 2010, eligieron a gobernadores hispanos republicanos. Y la Florida, que llevara Obama en el 2008, eligió a un senador latino republicano. Según el escenario que acepte uno, los números se acercan peligrosamente a los 270 necesarios para la reelección. Esto podrá ser la explicación de por qué Obama anunció su campaña por reelección el 4 de abril, mucho antes que cualquier competidor republicano, con un potencial asombroso de hasta mil millones de dólares en gastos de campaña.

En realidad, el voto latino se ha vuelto tan elemental que estima el analista Matt Barreto que, con una elección competitiva estatal, los latinos tienen la capacidad de influenciar los resultados electorales en 24 estados.

Esto no es poca cosa en términos electorales. Se pensaría que los políticos y los partidos de alto riesgo pondrían como absoluta prioridad para su agenda los temas que coinciden con los intereses hispanos, tales como la reforma migratoria, la ley para la educación DREAM, normas profesionales más rigurosas para las escuelas públicas, métodos para poner a todos los que tengan créditos universitarios a completar sus programas y un programa de reforma de la financiación de viviendas que funcione como parte de su propia recuperación política.

Sin embargo, la retórica ofensiva, hasta criminal, sale sin ser repudiada por los dirigentes republicanos a nivel nacional. Y son ya demasiados los demócratas que se sienten cómodos con que el voto latino no tiene a dónde ir sino a ellos. No obstante, los demócratas traidores y republicanos que no responden fundamentalmente quieren reclamar un bloque de votantes sin pagar el alquiler. Somos testigos del asentamiento cual estrategia política y lo que no tiene sentido.

La consonancia, a diferencia de la disonancia cognoscitiva, ocurre cuando una persona tiene consistencia en el pensamiento, el discurso y las acciones. Eso es lo que falta — un vínculo coherente entre la política, las políticas de gobierno, y los resultados — para justificar el soporte político.

Carencia de ello se llama disonancia cognoscitiva. (José de la Isla, *columnista de distribución nacional con los servicios de noticias Hispanic Link y Scripps Howard, ha sido reconocido durante dos años consecutivos por New America Media. El título de su próximo libro a publicarse es: "Our Man on the Ground". Sus libros previos incluyen, "DAY NIGHT LIFE DEATH HOPE" (2009) y "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (2003), disponibles en joseisla2@yahoo.com.*) ©2011

## BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP AND THE 14TH AMENDMENT

By James C. Ho - Hispanic Link News Service

A coalition of state legislators, motivated by concerns about illegal immigration, is endorsing state-level legislation to deny the privileges of U.S. citizenship to the U.S.-born children of undocumented persons.

This effort to rewrite U.S. citizenship law from state to state is unconstitutional — and curious. Opponents of illegal immigration cannot claim to champion the rule of law and then, in the same breath, propose policies that violate our Constitution.

In the aftermath of the Civil War, members of the 39th Congress proposed amending the Constitution to reverse the Supreme Court's notorious 1857 *Dred Scott v. Sandford* ruling denying citizenship to slaves. The result is the first sentence of the 14th Amendment: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States."

The plain meaning of this language is clear. A foreign national living in the United States is "subject to the jurisdiction thereof" because he is legally required to obey U.S. law. (By contrast, a foreign diplomat who travels here on behalf of a foreign sovereign enjoys diplomatic immunity from — and thus is not subject to the jurisdiction of — U.S. law.)

During congressional debates, both proponents and opponents of the citizenship clause agreed with this interpretation of the 14th Amendment. For example, Pennsylvania Senator Edgar Cowan opposed the clause precisely because it would extend birthright citizenship to the U.S.-born children of Chinese laborers and other noncitizens who "owe [the U.S.] no allegiance [and] who pretend to owe none."

Tellingly, Cowan's racially charged opposition was met with the following response from California Sen. John Conness: "The proposition before us . . . relates simply in that respect to the children begotten of Chinese parents in California, and it is proposed to declare that they shall be citizens. . . . I am in favor of doing so. . . . We are entirely ready to accept the provision proposed in this constitutional amendment."

Supreme Court precedent further reinforces this view of the 14th Amendment. In 1898, the court held that a U.S.-born child of Chinese immigrants was entitled to citizenship. In *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, it held that the "14th Amendment affirms the ancient and fundamental rule of citizenship by birth within the territory . . . including all children here born of resident aliens."

The court reiterated this view in *Plyler v. Doe* (1982). The majority held — and the dissent agreed — that the 14th Amendment extends to anyone "who is subject to the laws of a state," including the U.S.-born children of illegal aliens. Likewise, in *INS v. Rios-Pineda* (1985), the court again unanimously agreed that a child born to an undocumented immigrant was in fact a U.S. citizen.

Opponents of birthright citizenship say that they want nothing more than a chance to relitigate the meaning of the 14th Amendment. But if that is so, state legislation is a poor strategy. Determining U.S. citizenship is the unique province of the federal government. It does not take a constitutional expert to appreciate that we cannot have 50 different state laws governing who is a U.S. citizen. As a result, courts may very well strike down these state laws without even invoking the 14th Amendment. The entire enterprise appears doomed to failure.

Many Americans have sincere concerns about the rule of law. But there are many tools available to combat illegal immigration. Surely we can do so without wasting taxpayer funds on a losing court battle, reopening the scars of the Civil War, and offending our Constitution and the rule of law.

(James C. Ho is the former solicitor general of Texas and a partner with the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. This column, originally published in *The Wall Street Journal*, is reprinted with permission of the author.)

## Derecho a La Ciudadanía Por Nacimiento y La Enmienda 14

James C. Ho - Hispanic Link News Service

Una coalición de legisladores estatales, motivados por sus inquietudes referente a la inmigración ilegal, está respaldando legislación a nivel estatal para negar los privilegios de la ciudadanía estadounidense a los hijos de personas indocumentadas nacidos en los Estados Unidos.

Este esfuerzo por volver a redactar la ley de ciudadanía estadounidense de estado en estado no cumple con la Constitución — y resulta curioso. Los que se oponen a la inmigración ilegal no pueden alardearse de ser campeones del estado de derecho, para luego sin pausa proponer políticas que infringen lo establecido en nuestra Constitución.

A continuación de la guerra civil estadounidense, unos miembros del Congreso 39 propusieron enmendar la Constitución para revertir el infame fallo del Tribunal Supremo en el caso de 1857, *Dred Scott vs Sanford*, el que niega la ciudadanía a los esclavos. El resultado es la primera oración de la Enmienda 14: "Toda persona nacida o naturalizada en los Estados Unidos, y sujeta por ello a tal jurisdicción, es ciudadana de los Estados Unidos".

Es claro el sentido del lenguaje sencillo de la enmienda. Un nacional extranjero que viva en los Estados Unidos está "sujeto" a tal jurisdicción" porque está obligado legalmente a acatar a las leyes estadounidenses. (Como contraste, un diplomático extranjero que viaje aquí por parte de un gobierno extranjero goza de inmunidad diplomática — y por ende no está sujeto a la jurisdicción de las leyes estadounidenses.)

Durante los debates en el Congreso 39, ambos los promotores como los detractores de la cláusula sobre la ciudadanía concordaron sobre esta interpretación de la Enmienda 14. Por ejemplo, el senador por Pennsylvania, Edgar Cowan, se opuso a la cláusula precisamente porque cubriría con el derecho a la ciudadanía a los hijos nacidos en EE.UU. de obreros chinos y otros que no eran ciudadanos quienes "no le deben lealtad alguna [a EE.UU.] [y] quienes no pretenden deber lealtad alguna".

Significativamente, esta oposición tan cargada de racismo de Cowan suscitó la siguiente respuesta del senador por California, John Conness: "La propuesta que tenemos delante . . . sencillamente relata en aquel aspecto a los hijos nacidos de padres chinos en California, y propone que sean ciudadanos. . . Yo estoy a

favor de declararlo así. . . Estamos por entero dispuestos a aceptar la provisión propuesta por esta enmienda a la Constitución".

Precedentes derivados del Tribunal Supremo refuerzan aun más esta interpretación de la Enmienda 14. En 1898, el tribunal mantuvo que un hijo de inmigrantes chinos nacido en EE.UU. tenía derecho a la ciudadanía. En el caso *Estados Unidos vs. Wong Kim Ark*, mantuvo que la "Enmienda 14 afirma la antigua y fundamental regla de ciudadanía por nacimiento dentro del territorio . . . incluyendo a todo hijo nacido aquí de extranjeros residentes".

El tribunal volvió a reiterar esta perspectiva en el caso *Plyler vs. Doe* (1982). Una mayoría mantuvo — y la disensión concordó — que la Enmienda 14 se extiende a cualquier persona "sujeta a las leyes de un estado", incluyendo a los hijos nacidos en EE.UU. de extranjeros ilegales. De la misma forma, en el caso *INS (Servicio de Naturalización) vs. Ríos-Pineda* (1985), de nuevo el tribunal concordó unánime que un hijo nacido de un inmigrante indocumentado es en realidad ciudadano estadounidense.

Los opositores del derecho a la ciudadanía por nacimiento dicen que no quieren más que la oportunidad de volver a litigar el sentido de la Enmienda 14. Pero si éste es el caso, la estrategia de comenzar por legislación estatal es débil.

La determinación de la ciudadanía estadounidense es jurisdicción específica al gobierno federal. No se requiere ser experto en la Constitución para apreciar que no podemos tener 50 diferentes leyes estatales que gobiernen quién es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos. Como resultado, bien podrán ser demadadas estas leyes estatales sin siquiera invocar la Enmienda 14. El emprendimiento por entero está condenado al fracaso.

Muchos estadounidenses tienen serias preocupaciones referentes al estado de derecho. Pero existen muchas herramientas para combatir la inmigración ilegal. Sin duda podemos hacerlo sin desperdiciar los fondos de los contribuyentes con una batalla jurídica condenada al fracaso, y sin volver a arrancar las cicatrices de la guerra civil, ni ofender nuestra Constitución y nuestro estado de derecho.

(James C. Ho fue Subsecretario de Justicia del estado de Texas y socio del bufete de abogados Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Esta columna, impresa originalmente en el *Wall Street Journal*, se publica con permiso del autor.) ©2011

## Is It Demography or Bait and Switch?

By José de la Isla - Hispanic Link News Service

HOUSTON — Remember when "cognitive dissonance" was in vogue to explain why things didn't square? It's that queasiness you get from hearing conflicting ideas simultaneously. Experts say we are naturally moved to reduce dissonance and that might happen by changing attitudes, beliefs and actions.

That's one of the feelings I get as I see many jumping the gun and reading into the 2010 Census's Hispanic numbers as if they are fortune tellers. Some commentators (often partisans, I might add) are quick to point out that Democrats are now stronger than ever and Republicans are disadvantaged, maybe for decades, if they recover at all.

The release of the 2010 census got political analysts clucking about how one out of six people in the United States is Latino. Twenty-three percent of U.S. children under age 18 are Hispanic.

Given that nearly six million Latinos became eligible to vote in the past decade, the Latino voting potential will only increase for the foreseeable future. And party advocates, partisans and members of the political class began a new round of speculation about how the voting will sort out.

The speculation seems to me a little like going to get a custom-tailored suit made but deliberately having the tailor use measurements one wants to have instead to the body shape we actually possess. Like that, the census is a mirror that reflects, but it is not wish fulfillment. It is also a head's up to Republicans about how to shape a mainstream strategy instead of evangelizing to increasing numbers of fringe groups before the GOP mainstream becomes a bevy of marginal beliefs.

The 2010 census tally basically tells us that roughly 10 new congressional districts with Hispanic majorities will be carved out in various growth states. This will cause other states to surrender a like number of congressional seats, with the losing states having less electoral-college influence in 2012.

The jockeying is going to get intense. For example, President Obama, who won the battleground states of Nevada, New Mexico, Colorado and Florida in 2008, is projected by Latino Decisions, a voter tracking group, to be in jeopardy of receiving 58 fewer electoral votes in 2012 than he did in 2008. The final count will depend on outcomes in such non-Obama strongholds like North Carolina,

Virginia, Indiana, Ohio and the 2nd House district in Nebraska, which are possible Republican pick-ups in 2012.

Nor are the high-growth Obama states of New Mexico and Nevada necessarily safe ground. In 2010, they elected Hispanic Republican governors. And Florida, which Obama carried in 2008, elected a Latino Republican U.S. senator. Depending on which scenario one accepts, the numbers come perilously close to the 270 needed for re-election. That might explain why Obama announced his re-election campaign on April 4, well ahead of any major Republican contender, with a staggering potential of up to \$1 billion in campaign spending.

In fact, the Latino vote has become so elemental that analyst Matt Barreto estimates, given a competitive statewide election, Latinos have the capacity to influence electoral outcomes in 24 states.

This is not electoral chump change. One would think that high-stakes politicians and parties would place topmost on their agenda issues that coincide with Hispanic interests such as immigration reform, the education DREAM Act, more rigorous professional public-school standards, methods to put everyone with college credits completing their programs and home-finance reform program that works as part of their own political recovery.

Yet, offensive, even criminal, rhetoric goes mostly unrepudiated by national Republican leaders. And far too many Democrats are comfy that the Latino vote has nowhere to go but to them. Yet double-crossing Democrats and responsive Republicans basically want lay claim to a bloc of votes but not pay rent. We are witnessing squatting as a political strategy and what doesn't make sense.

Consonance, unlike cognitive dissonance, is when a person is consistent in thinking, talking and doing. That's what is lacking — a coherent link between politics, policy and outcomes — to justify political support.

Lack of it is called cognitive dissonance. (José de la Isla, a nationally syndicated columnist for Hispanic Link and Scripps Howard news services, has been recognized for two consecutive years for his commentaries by New America Media. His forthcoming book is "Our Man on the Ground." Previous books include "DAY NIGHT LIFE DEATH HOPE" (2009) and "The Rise of Hispanic

### Letters to the EDITOR

Send Mail to: [eleditor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eleditor@sbcglobal.net)

## U.S. Experimentation on Unwitting Victims

When, in the course of humanity, has a person or persons been endowed with constitutional or divine rights which empowers them to conduct experiments on unwitting human beings?

Do prisoners, mental patients and poor blacks lose their humanity because they have committed crimes, have diminished or altered mental states, or because they have a different skin color and live in poverty?

At what point do government doctors have the right to override and violate the concept of "first do no harm," make healthy people sick and then withhold available cures?

Does prominence in the medical field grant doctors a "Frankenstein License" in the name of science? And where does the buck stop? Does it stop with criminal medical minds or does it stop with the government which condones the felonious activities?

All of the above disquieting questions came to mind, as I continued to read the Associated Press article, "Past medical testing on humans revealed." However, this is not the first time that I have learned that supposedly the "best government on earth" has been responsible for experimentations on humans.

There have been radiation exposure military experiments on American soldiers and civilian hospital patients. Chemical Warfare Services has also conducted its own experiments on unwitting subjects.

Patients in VA hospitals have been used as guinea pigs for experiments. Only the term "experiment" has been changed to "investigations" or "observations" whenever reporting medical findings.

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has administered intravenous doses of radioactive substances to human subjects. In 1947, the CIA conducted a study of LSD, on humans, as a potential weapon. Furthermore, the Department of Defense has detonated nuclear weapons in desert areas and monitored downwind residents for medical problems and mortality rates.

In a 1950 biological attack experiment to determine how susceptible an American city would be, the U.S. Navy sprayed a cloud of bacteria from ships to monitor effects on the population. At one time and without informing parents, more than 1500 six-month-old Black and Hispanic babies in Los Angeles were administered an experimental and unlicensed measles vaccine.

One has to inquire, "Did the U.S. government learn these apparently impressive cruel and evil tactics from the Nazi scientists pardoned and recruited to work on top secret government projects? (Everyone knows how Nazis loved to experiment.) Or, does government sees evil as a partner believing it is for the common good if all?

Just how many more unrevealed experiments have been conducted or are being conducted will probably be revealed in future years in order to minimize their impact and protests.

Nothing, however, will ever justify these inhumane, godless and criminal experiments. The Presidential Bioethics Commission investigating these crimes should recommend that persons responsible be held accountable and be prosecuted whether they are dead or alive and regardless of their prominence and medical contributions. In the meantime, a U.S. Hall of Shame (or of Victims) is needed where all of these crimes and injustices may be documented, scrutinized and made translucent.

And yes, I understand the U.S. has performed many good deeds; but, does that expunge the wrongs it has also perpetrated? And yes, God wills us not to dwell in the past; however, neither does He wants us to be stupid nor foolish. How else can we prevent the sins, crimes and injustices of the past from reoccurring if we do not first acknowledge that they were ever committed? Besides, introspection is good for the soul.

Running the risk of being invited to leave the country once again by those who think the U.S. government can do nothing wrong (as long as they are not the unsuspecting victims), I conclude by asking, "What sort of government do we really have?" Is it "government of the people, by the people, for the people and against the people?"

## Over a Third of America's Adults Cannot Pass U.S. Citizenship Test

by Dr. Harold W. Pease

Two years ago the nation was astounded to learn from a survey conducted of high school seniors in Oklahoma that 23% could not identify the first president of the United States. But wait, their parents apparently aren't too bright either.

In a survey conducted earlier this year by *Newsweek* magazine of a random sampling of 1,000 adult Americans, summarized by Andrew Romano, 29% could not identify the name of the current vice president of the United States—Joe Biden. Nine percent could not correctly answer, "What Ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?"—The Pacific. Eighty percent did not know "who was president during World War I"—Woodrow Wilson, and 40% did not know who we fought in World War II—Germany, Italy and Japan. With respect to individuals, 59% could not identify what Susan B. Anthony did—women's rights activist, and 23% were ignorant of what Martin Luther King Jr. did—civil rights activist (*Newsweek*, How dumb Are We? By Andrew Romano, March 28, 2011, pp. 56-63).

It gets worse. Seventy-three percent did not know what the main concern of the United States was during the Cold War—the spread of communism. The Cold War ended in 1989 only 22 years ago so most adults lived through it. This makes the ignorance here even more blatant and inexcusable.

Their most startling conclusion is that 38% of American adults would not qualify to be citizens of their own country were they required to pass the same test for U.S. citizenship required of noncitizens.

For me, what the sampling showed of our ignorance of the Constitution was especially appalling. Knowledge of it, and its imposed limitations on the federal government, are absolutely critical to preserving our liberty. So how did the adults do? Amazingly, a third could not identify the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence—July 4th, 1776, and 23rds, 65%, could not identify what happened at the Constitutional Convention—the writing of the Constitution. Only 74% of adults could identify the first three words of the Constitution—"We The People." Sadly, 61% did not know how long a U.S. senator served—six years, and 81% could not identify a single power of the federal government noted in the Constitution. May our Founders and others, who risked their lives for this freedom, forgive us for our ignorance.

Unbelievably, 27% did not know who was in charge of the executive branch of the government—the president, nor did 42% know who would next be in charge should both the president and vice president be unable to serve—the Speaker of the House. A whopping 63% did not know the number of justices on the Supreme Court—nine. Seventy percent were unable to answer, "What is the supreme law of the land?"—The Constitution.

With respect to the difficult three-year struggle to get passage of the U.S. Constitution, 88% could not identify even one of the three authors of *The Federalist Papers* making ratification possible—James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, or John Jay. Forty-three percent did not know what we call the first 10 amendments to the Constitution—the Bill of Rights, and 94% did not know how many amendments the Constitution has—27. Some 67% amazingly could not identify the economic system in the United States—free enterprise.

The study concluded that we are "imperiled by our ignorance." How can anyone reason otherwise? As a nation are we constitutionally illiterate? Too bad the study was not done on the 535 members of congress or on the executive branch. Would we find a third of them not qualified to be citizens of their own country as well? Given their neglect in preserving this document as designed by the Founders, I think so.

Dr. Harold Pease is an expert on the *United States Constitution*. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He has taught history and political science from this perspective for over 25 years at Taft College.

# El Editor

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# Kids College 2011

South Plains College will host our annual Kids College at 9 a.m. Friday (April 1) in the Texan Dome.

Children from all Levelland ABC kindergarten classes, Levelland Christian, Whitharal ISD and Sundown ISD kindergartener classes will visit the campus and participate in five activities in various departments on campus.

The youngsters will eat sack lunches at 11:35 a.m. in the Student Center.

Among the activities planned for the youths will be Weird Science Magic Show in the Chem-



istry Department, SPC Animal Zoo, Creative Arts Performance and a visit by Terrible Tex, the SPC mascot.

For more information, call Kathryn Perez, coordinator of New Student Programs, at (806) 716-2115.

## First Latino to Serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

By a vote of 86-0, yesterday afternoon the Senate confirmed President Obama's nomination of Jimmie V. Reyna to serve as a Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (CAFC). Mr. Reyna will be the first Latino to serve on the CAFC. The CAFC has nationwide jurisdiction of appeals arising from federal district courts, the Court of International Trade, the U.S. Court of Claims, and a variety of agencies involving a number of subject matter areas, including international trade, government contracts, patents, trademarks, and certain money claims against the United States government. Mr. Reyna is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Williams Mullen. He is a Vice President on the firm's board of directors and directs the firm's International Trade and Customs Practice Group. Mr. Reyna is a former National President of the HNBA.

confirmation sends to the Latino community and the entire legal profession."

Mr. Reyna's record stands as a model of a life of hard work, dedication, and service to the bar and society. A native of Clovis, New Mexico, Mr. Reyna was



(ABA) and the HNBA, culminating with his service as HNBA National President (2006-2007). As HNBA President, he strengthened the organization by establishing "La Promesa en el Derecho" (the Promise in the Law), a guide and program directed to Latino youth and designed to instill trust and confidence in U.S. government and legal institutions. In addition, he established the HNBA's substantive law structure of Sections and Committees; he implemented the "Breakfast at the HNBA" series; he created and established the Office of HNBA Historian; he created and implemented HNBA Legislative Day; he established the HNBA's first formal LGBT Committee; and he founded and served as Senior Editor-in-Chief of the HNBA Journal of Law and Policy. He established an incredible record of service with the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, an umbrella organization serving 30 national Latino organizations. His service in the ABA has included the ABA Presidential Commission on Diversity, as a founder and Director of the U.S.-Mexico Law Institute; and as a leader within the ABA Section on International Law. For over ten years, Mr. Reyna has been a director of Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children, of Maryland. He has mentored many lawyers and law students over his 30-year career, many of whom serve throughout America in exceptional careers. In 2009, the Government of Mexico honored Mr. Reyna with its Ohtli Award, one of its highest honors, in recognition of his contributions to opening pathways for the Mexican-American and Latino communities in the United States.

born to parents of modest means. He attended the University of Rochester, the University of New Mexico School of Law, and began his career as a litigator in Albuquerque where he handled insurance defense, domestic relations, civil rights, tort, and criminal defense matters. In 1986, he and his wife, Dolores, moved their family to the Washington, D.C. area, driven to meet the needs of the eldest of their sons who is autistic. In Washington, Mr. Reyna began to build the distinguished career in international trade law that underlies his nomination to the bench.

Mr. Reyna has a solid record of service to the legal profession and the community. He served on numerous leadership positions in the American Bar Association

Mr. Reyna is a recognized expert in international trade, trade policy and customs matters. He has over three decades of legal experience and 24 years as an international trade practitioner. The Senate today recognized that Mr. Reyna is extraordinarily well-qualified to serve on the CAFC bench. He is a noted and prolific author on trade topics and has earned a stellar reputation as a practitioner, scholar, advocate and humanitarian.

Diana Sen, HNBA National President, noted that "this is a great day for America for it has gained the service and commitment of a great lawyer and leader. The HNBA is proud that Mr. Reyna has been confirmed to the CAFC, and we all take a moment to reflect on the positive message the

## Preocupan intentos de infiltrar a EEUU por fronteras

Estados Unidos está preocupado porque extranjeros de "interés especial" entren a su territorio por las fronteras terrestres de Canadá o México, advirtió hoy el director de la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI), Rober Mueller.

No obstante, señaló que han detectado que algunos extranjeros procedentes de la lista de países terroristas del Departamento de Estado no han llegado a Estados Unidos con fines ilegales sino en



busca de asilo político.

Ante un subcomité de gastos de la Cámara de Representantes, Mueller declinó precisar si ha habido intentos concretos de terroristas potenciales de cruzar sus fronteras y sólo dijo que tienen información de Inteligencia de que al menos lo ha discutido.

"Tenemos Inteligencia que sugiere que han habido discusiones sobre operativos procedentes de Pakistán o de Somalia o Yemen para usar la frontera sur y entrar a los Estados Unidos", sostuvo Mueller.

El funcionario federal dijo al respecto que existe en Estados Unidos una preocupación general porque extranjeros que calificó como de "interés especial" ingresen a su territorio ya sea por México o Canadá.

Por otra parte, el director del FBI destacó el apoyo que se presta a México en su lucha contra los cárteles de las drogas y la delincuencia organizada.

"Estamos dando apoyo sustancial, especialmente en (materia de) inteligencia, a nuestras contrapartes en México y la expectativa de todos es que veremos reducciones de la violencia más adelante", enfatizó.

Definió que en el vecino país existen "facciones guerrilleras a toda escala que usan el homicidio como un mecanismo de represalia para proteger el territorio que han contribuido sustancialmente al número de muertes en México".

Mueller, al igual que otros funcionarios, han sido citados a comparecer ante el Congreso en relación con la petición del presupuesto federal para el año fiscal 2012.

# ¿Que Pasa?

## SOFTBALL UMPIRE & SCOREKEEPER TRAINING

Earn extra money year round as an adult softball league umpire or scorekeeper! The Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting separate training for softball umpires and scorekeepers. Training will be held in groups of five over the coming weeks as interested individuals register. Anyone interested in umpiring or scorekeeping for the City of Lubbock is required to attend. Training is required for both veteran and new participants, and is free.

Once an individual has completed the required training, they must pay dues to the West Texas USSSA and Texas Amateur Athletic Federation before beginning actual umpiring. Umpires are paid \$14 per game, and scorekeepers are paid \$9 per game.

Parks and Recreation hosts three sessions of Adult Softball Leagues during the year with over one-hundred teams per session. For more information or to register for training, contact O.J. Williams at 806-775-2672.

## CERTIFIED POOL OPERATOR'S CLASS

The City of Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department is offering the Certified Pool Operator's (CPO) class for all individuals that operate or own a commercial, public, semi-public or residential swimming pool. This course is required by the State of Texas for all commercial or public pools. Topics covered during this two-day training include pool chemistry, testing, treatment, filtration, maintenance, equipment, and government requirements. Class dates are April 13-14, May 5-6, May 16-17, and June 6-7. Participants must be able to attend both days from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., and pass a written test at the end of the course. The cost is \$325 per person, which includes a course book. The CPO certification is good for five years. Register with Parks and Recreation at 1010 9th Street, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 806-775-2670.

## SPC BYRON MARTIN ATC WILL HOST BILINGUAL WORKSHOP FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

South Plains College will host Opening Doors/Abriendo Puertas for prospective students and their parents from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday (April 8) at the SPC Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center, 3201 Ave. Q.

The event will feature hands-on workshops in both English and Spanish designed to help students prepare for college. Students and their parents will learn about admissions, financial aid, testing and career choices.

Students attending the event will have the opportunity to win many door prizes including Accuplacer testing waivers and three \$1,000 scholarships.

For more information, contact Kathryn Perez at (806) 716-2115 or email kperez@southplainscollege.edu or Maria Strong at (806) 716-2562 or email her at mstrong@southplainscollege.edu.

## WATER RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Water restrictions went into effect April 1st in order to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of the day. The City continues to allow watering between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Water use between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. is restricted in order to minimize evaporation. The restrictions are part of the City's irrigation ordinance, which applies from April 1st to September 30th each year, and are designed to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of day.

Exceptions are allowed for newly planted grass or landscaping, soaker hoses, and watering by hand.

The City continues to allow watering two days per week with up to one and a half inches of water for each area of the yard. Citizens can help stop the waste of water by eliminating significant runoff while watering lawns and gardens.

To report violations, please call the Water Hotline at 775-3952.

## THE VOLUNTEER CENTER PRESENTS A GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

The Volunteer Center of Lubbock will host The Basics of Grant Writing workshop Tuesday, April 19, 2011 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Volunteer Center Conference Room, 1706 23rd Street.

With roughly 1.5 million nonprofits nationwide vying for grant monies, the workshop will focus on how to write a winning grant proposal. It will target community nonprofits, beginning grant writers, and those who wish to review their basic grant writing skills.

The deadline to register for the workshop is April 12, 2011. Cost is \$50 per person for Agency Partners; \$65 per person for non-Agency Partners. To register, fill out a registration form, available at www.volunteerlubbock.org (click EVENTS), and mail or fax it to the Volunteer Center of Lubbock.

## DO YOU WANT TO COMMUNICATE IN SPANISH?

Come to Copper Rawlings Community Center and improve your communication skills in Spanish. Learn as children learn with no grammar, no rules, in a nonstressful environment. April 16, 23 & 30 all Saturdays; and May 7, 14, 21 & 28 all Saturdays for youth 13-18 yrs old and adults 19 yrs and older. The time for youth are 10-11 am and adults 9-11 am. The cost for this is \$10 per month and the sessions will be held at 213 40th Street.

## DO YOU WANT TO COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH?

Come to Copper Rawlings Community Center and improve your communication skills in English. Learn as children learn with no grammar, no rules, in a nonstressful environment. April 16, 23 & 30 all Saturdays; and May 7, 14, 21 & 28 all Saturdays for adults 19 yrs and older. The session for adults 9-11 am. The cost for this is \$10 per month and the sessions will be held at 213 40th Street.

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Enjoy an evening out without worry, as St John Neumann Venture Crew #159 provides an evening of activities for kids - potty trained through 12 years old. Crew is Red Cross certified. Rates vary depending on number of children. St John Neumann gym, 6-11 p.m. on

Fridays: April 15 & May 20. For more information pick up activity/rate sheet at SJN or beatriceperez@gmail.com

# ¿QUE PASA? Let us know!

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Número del Juego	Nombre del Juego / Probabilidades	\$	Cierre Oficial del Juego	Último Día para Validar
1288	Gifts Galore Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.86	\$2	07/04/11	04/10/11
1243	24 Karat Cash Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.73	\$2	15/04/11	12/10/11
1290	Winter Bucks Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.84	\$10	15/04/11	12/10/11
1229	Crazy Wild 5's Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.87	\$5	28/04/11	25/10/11
1164	Monthly Bonus Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.94	\$5	02/05/11	29/10/11
1272	Veterans Cash Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.46	\$2	01/06/11	28/11/11
1282	Ruby Red 5's Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.00	\$5	01/06/11	28/11/11
1284	Winter Green Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.32	\$7	01/06/11	28/11/11
1294	Triple Win Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.85	\$1	01/06/11	28/11/11

Para detalles de las probabilidades de los juegos y más información, visite [lottery.org](http://lottery.org) o llame al 1-800-37LOTTO. Debe ser mayor de 18 para comprar boletos de lotería. La Lotería de Texas beneficia la educación en Texas. © 2011 Texas Lottery Commission. Todos los derechos reservados.

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## 5 Things To Know About Reina del Sur Star Kate del Castillo

Kate del Castillo may not be a household name in the U.S. just yet – unless you speak Spanish at home.

by Mary-Louise Parker) in season 5 of Weeds. She ended up floating facedown in a pool after Nancy's son took a croquet

While the actress has portrayed a variety of shady characters, she's a do-gooder in real life. In 2009, del Castillo



The Mexican actress is the star of Telemundo's hugely popular – and surprisingly edgy – telenovela La Reina del Sur, which translates to "Queen of the South," a racy soap about an innocent Mexican woman who becomes the powerful leader of a drug cartel.

The Spanish-language series has beat out major networks ABC, NBC and CBS in ratings for its timeslot and del Castillo's performance as Teresa Mendoza is generating a lot of buzz.

Here are five things you should know about the sultry star:

1. You may recognize her from that infamous pool scene in Weeds

La Reina del Sur isn't the first time del Castillo, 38, has played a powerful Mexican criminal. The actress portrayed Pilar Zuazo, who threatened to kill the family of Nancy (played

mallet to her head.

2. She's a telenovela queen  
The actress feels right at home on the set of soap operas since that's where she first rose to fame. Del Castillo's breakout role was in the highly popular Muchachitas and she went on to star in nine other soaps, which have aired in more than 100 countries worldwide. "It's just drama, drama, drama and that's what a telenovela is about," she recently told E! Online.

3. Acting runs in the family  
Her father, Eric del Castillo, is a popular Mexican matinee idol and Kate got her start acting alongside her dad as a child. Del Castillo landed her first film role at the age of six. Her husband, Aaron Diaz, is also an actor, as well as a singer and model. The two married in Las Vegas in 2009.

4. She's not like the bad girl she plays on TV

was appointed Ambassador for the Mexican Commission on Human Rights and the following year she helped launch the Blue Heart campaign in order to raise awareness and fight human trafficking.

5. She doesn't think she has a Hollywood body  
Although del Castillo has graced the cover of many magazines, including Spanish-language versions of GQ, InStyle and PEOPLE en Español, who named her one of their "50 Most Beautiful," she still doesn't think she has an A-list figure. "I see here in Hollywood, 'Oh my God, they are like so thin,'" del Castillo told E! Online. "I could never be like that. I will never be a star in Hollywood."

We beg to differ. Reina del Sur airs Monday through Friday (10 p.m. ET) on Telemundo.

## 'Drama y luz' ilumina a Maná



De la pérdida de la madre y la hermana del músico Fher Olvera, y de la constatación de que "en la vida no se puede controlar todo", ha surgido Drama y luz, el álbum en el que mayor nivel de exigencia ha puesto la banda de rock Maná, que ayer presentó en Madrid con un mensaje de agradecimiento a España.

"Estamos muy contentos con España, ha sido un sueño", dijeron en una rueda de prensa en la Casa de América de la capital los integrantes de la que es probablemente la banda más importante de México, compuesta por el propio Olvera y por Juan Calleros (bajo), Álex González (percusión) y Sergio Vallín (guitarra).

La elaboración de Drama y luz requirió cuatro años y medio, casi el doble de tiempo que cualquiera de sus precedentes trabajos, y llega después de Amar es combatir (2006).

Ese espacio en blanco generó cierta sensación de "inseguridad" y una necesidad de hacer "el mejor disco posible" en compensación, según reveló Fher, voz y guitarra, quien dijo que compusieron hasta un total de 50 temas y reconoció que "nunca había trabajado tanto en las letras".

Al final son doce las canciones escogidas, empezando por el single de presentación, Lluvia al corazón. Tienen cabida temas como el racismo que sintieron en una estancia en Miami, pero también el surrealismo de El espejo, el romanticismo de El verdadero amor perdona o el recuerdo de un ser querido, Vuela libre paloma.

"La vida me pegó una cachetada", confesó el cantante sobre la muerte de su madre, con la que viajó a Houston para ofrecerle el mejor tratamiento posible pero que falleció víctima de un cáncer que la mermó completamente. "Me di cuenta de que no todo lo que pasa en la vida lo puedo controlar", dijo.

"Su cuerpo no podía con esta enfermedad y nosotros seguimos insistiendo en tenerla arriba. Surgió entonces la idea de dejarla en paz y que se fuera libre, porque en algún punto la alcanzaría", explicó sobre el origen de esta canción.

De ese mensaje de "dolor y esperanza" surgió el disco que es, según afirman los integrantes de Maná, como Latinoamérica, "que es golpeada y se levanta continuamente".

A este respecto, tras censurar la guerra que sacude Libia, destacaron que "eso puede pasar en todas partes" y señalaron que, de hecho, "hay dictadores en Latinoamérica".

El lienzo en blanco que abordaron con este disco lo llenaron con nuevos colores o, como han dicho ellos, "con nuevos ingredientes", como la inclusión en algunos temas de la esencia de una orquesta sinfónica, de armónicas en otros... Además, según contó Álex "El Animal" González, la mayoría de las canciones se grabaron en cintas analógicas, "lo que ofrece muchos graves".

"No es una fábrica de chorizo", dijo González sobre cómo entiendo Maná la elaboración de sus discos. "El dinero que hemos ganado lo hemos usado en nuestra música", defendió sobre el proceso "artesanal" que siguen en su creación, frente a un mundo en el que, criticó, "todo suena chiquito, en MP3, metálico y comprimido".

Maná iniciará la gira de su nuevo disco en junio con una producción "increíble" que, en este caso, correrá a cargo del español Luis Pastor, que ya ha trabajado anteriormente con Alejandro Sanz y Miguel Bosé.

Sobre España dijeron que tocar allí "es alucinante. Hay presión", y agradecieron el recibimiento que han experimentado siempre en la que han llamado "la puerta de Europa. Aquí no puede cualquiera vender su chicharrón", dijeron sobre su buena acogida.

Cada gira de Maná se prolonga durante casi dos años, señal a su vez de su éxito comercial, con 22 millones de discos vendidos en todo el mundo, además de los tres premios Grammy y los cinco Grammy Latinos que atesoran entre otros galardones.

Con estos avales, Maná no mostró interés en "globalizarse" más y subrayó que ellos no tienen intención de cantar en inglés como Shakira.

## Mike Catherwood:

### "I Don't Think There's Anybody Trying to Keep the Brown Man Down"

Dancing with the Stars castoff Mike Catherwood is rumored to be on the shortlist to replace Regis Philbin as Kelly Ripa's co-host on Live With Regis & Kelly, so we asked Catherwood if he's been offered the gig. "As far as I know there's no truth to the rumors, even though they have been thrown around a lot," said the 32-year-old host of LoveLine. "I would certainly love to do it. But I haven't had any formal offers."

If Catherwood does replace Regis on the show, he will become the only Latino host on all of daytime television—and the funny Mexicano says he's ready to add some Latin flavor to morning TV. "I think it needs to happen, right?" said Catherwood. "I'm hoping for full support from Latina Magazine so that I can get [the job]!"

We asked Catherwood why he thinks Latinos are so under represented on daytime television and the radio personality said it's probably just a matter of circumstance. "I don't think there's anybody out there trying



to keep the brown man down," he said. "With the little exposure I've been getting, it doesn't seem like there's a whole lot of racism—sexism, on the other hand, is pretty rampant," he noted.

Asked what he'll bring to Regis & Kelly if he does get offered the gig, Catherwood said it comes down to relatability. "I'm not a special guy and I never have been," he said. "I've just kind of bounced around in the world and I've never really had any extreme talent that had brought me to the top. I'm like a lot of dudes out there, I was convinced at age 20 that I never would amount to anything, but I kept plugging away and have been fortunate enough to end up here. So if anything I can bring that sense of that everyman perspective that a lot of the time isn't exposed on major media sources."

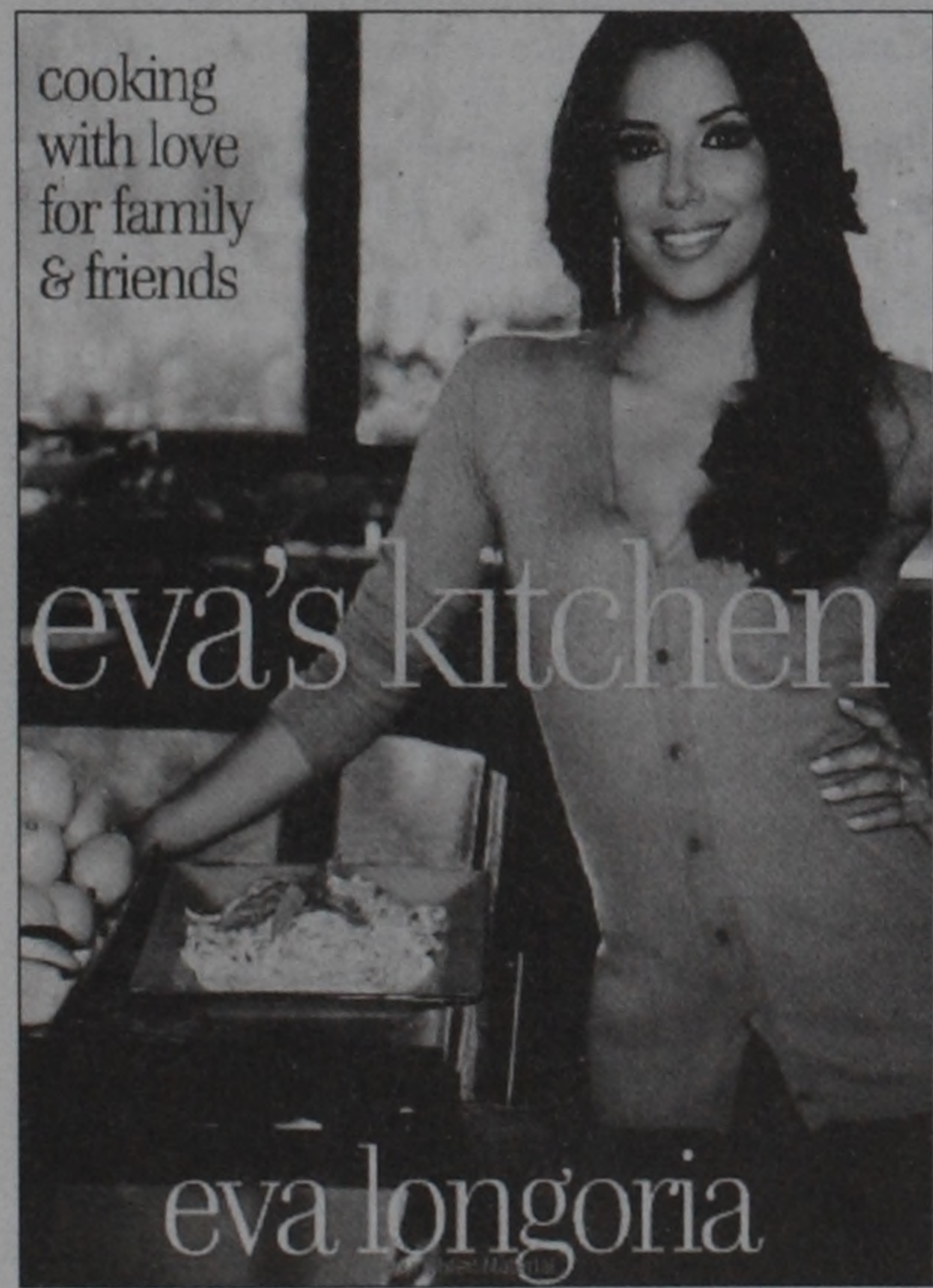
## Actress Eva Longoria Promotes Cookbook in New York

A smiling Eva Longoria signed at a New York bookstore copies of her first book, "Eva's Kitchen," which includes her 100 favorite recipes and attracted fans clearly surprised by the actress's culinary talents.

Some of the dishes are family recipes and, according to the actress, she loves cooking for

and with her hair swept back in a ponytail, Longoria arrived at the bookstore Monday 15 minutes ahead of schedule and greeted with a smile everyone who came to buy her book.

Some bought several copies as gifts for friends and family, since purchases of up to 10 books per person were allowed.



The event attracted a host of New Yorkers, tourists and Latinos of all ages who wouldn't miss the chance to meet "Gabriela Solis" of "Desperate Housewives," nothing like the actress who plays the part because the fictional character

who jumped at the unexpected chance of taking her photo with their mobile phones.

The book, published in English and Spanish, includes photos of the star at home in her kitchen along with shots of her family and friends, stories of her growing up on a ranch in Texas, tales of her travels and anecdotes about moments she shares at home with those close to her.

The 36-year-old actress, whose boyfriend is singer Eduardo Cruz, brother of actress Penelope Cruz, came to the book signing with her mother Eva Mirales, whose picture many fans also wanted to take.


friends when she's at home. Dressed in a white top and black jacket with leather appliques and military buttons

is known to disdain household tasks.

Longoria's appearance also attracted shoppers at the mall

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# Hay 'Terrible' para rato

# Adams dominates to give Texas A&M women first title

En su actitud hay compromiso y en su cuerpo huellas del trabajo. Es otro Érik Morales, el que ya volvió y no el que parecía que regresaba sin seguridad ni convicción.

Dice que se "mató" trabajando lo físico para su combate ante Marcos "Chino" Maidana el 9 de abril en Las Vegas.

Ayer, de paso por Los Ángeles, fue a recibir la bendición de los seguidores mexicanos en la tradicional Placita Olvera. Algo que cada vez más parece un ritual de todos los peleadores mexicanos cuando están bajo riesgo y antes de ir al ring.

"Ya está hecho el trabajo. Queda mantenernos esta semana y después de la preparación no tengo duda de que estoy listo para esta pelea ante un gran peleador como Maidana", afirmó el "Terrible".

Un desafío peligroso ante un peleador de gran vigencia como este noqueador argentino y una duda que le llegó desde el mismo público de manera cruda y frontal.

¿No cree que arriesga demasiado ante un peleador tan duro como Maidana?

"Sé la clase de boxeador que es Maidana. Es joven, fuerte y pega duro, pero yo le apuesto a mi experiencia y a mi boxeo a lo que lleve él. Tomamos la pelea porque creo que le puedo ganar", afirmó el tijuaneño frente al público y ante el riesgo, porque habían anunciado a Maidana y a Óscar de la Hoya, pero no llegaron.

Descarta las opiniones de los que creen que no tiene opción en el boxeo de estos años, ya porque ha recibido muchos golpes o por su edad.

"Me siento bien y eso es lo más importante. Me he preparado y no hay pretextos. Lo de los años no veo que sea un problema. Margarito tiene 33 y Márquez tiene 37 y nadie les niega nada".

"Yo acabo de cumplir 34 años y siento que puedo dar mucho todavía", reitera.

Ya había anunciado escuetamente que en este regreso en el que ya lleva cuatro combates pretende extender su carrera hasta 2013.

"Pase lo que pase, quiero ir hasta 2013, que es cuando cumpliré 20 años de carrera, entonces ahí sí quiero terminar con todo", afirmó.

Claro que para pelear tres años

más primero deberá solventar la cita ante Maidana, algo que trae por dentro un segundo reto, y es estar listo para dar 140 libras.

¿Cómo viene el peso para esta pelea?

"Muy bien, en 140 libras me siento muy a gusto y ya no tengo que sufrir como aquellas épocas cuando había que hacer 130-135 y era tan difícil y sufría tanto", recordó.

Sabe Érik Morales que para ser de nuevo el "Terrible" necesita de una victoria grande y que ante el rival del sábado la oportunidad tiene nombre y hay riesgos que asumir.

¿Ha pensado en que puede perder?

"No pienso en que voy a ganar. Pero si pierdo nada pasa; yo tengo todo por ganar, porque con una victoria el sábado estoy en camino de un título mundial. Y sería el primer mexicano en ganar cuatro títulos mundiales", respondió.

Con lo que pegan usted y Maidana todo supone una pelea corta o un final por KO. ¿Usted lo ve así?

"Lo que creo es que una vez en el ring, y con lo que he recorrido, hay las respuestas para resolver lo que se presente".

"Él se ha caído y se ha parado, pero antes otros rivales... vamos a ver", asegura lleno de optimismo.

Ha reemplazado la ansiedad por la sensatez.

Cuida más las palabras y sí, su físico luce impecable, todo enmarcado dentro de un compromiso irrompible.

Érik Morales sabe que este combate es un parteaguas en este punto de su carrera.

Es consciente de que una victoria lo dispara de nuevo hacia las carteleras grandes de millones en las que no miran cuántos años tiene sino cuánto factura.

Y también sabe que si pierde puede ser el momento de enfilarse hacia el retiro definitivo.

Erik "Terrible" Morales y Marcos "Chino" Maidana traen la pelea principal de la cartelera "Héroes en Acción" promocionada por Golden Boy Promotions.

En ella también estarán Robert "Gosh" Guerrero ante Michael Katsidis y Paulie Malignaggi contra José Miguel Cotto.

La cartelera se verá el 9 de abril en el sistema HBO de pago por evento.

Scoring at will, grabbing boards and making a key steal, Danielle Adams saved her best game for the biggest stage and gave Texas A&M its first national championship.

Adams scored 22 of her 30 points in a dominating second half and answered the Fighting Irish basket for basket Tuesday night to help the Aggies bring a title to the former all-male military academy with a thrilling 76-70 victory over Notre Dame.

"I knew they couldn't stop me inside so that's what I did, I took it inside," said Adams, who became the school's first All-American just a week ago.

Texas A&M's Gary Blair enjoys the moment of cutting down the nets after his first title as coach. (US Presswire)

No one was happier than Gary Blair, the outspoken A&M coach who hadn't been in the Final Four since 1998 when he was with Arkansas. Blair bluntly said it was a good thing that top powers like Connecticut, Tennessee and Stanford weren't in the title game.

"We don't give up," Blair said. "We might not play the prettiest game in the world but it's good for women's basketball to see a Texas A&M and a Notre Dame in this game."

And then his Aggies went out and proved him right in front of a pro-Irish crowd.

Tyra White added 18 points for A&M, including a huge 3-pointer as the shot clock buzzer sounded to put the Aggies up 73-68 with 1:07 left. She and her teammates then staved off a final, frantic push by the Fighting Irish and their sensational young star guard, Skylar Diggins.

The Aggies are a national championship newcomer and bullied their way through the tournament to get to the top. Like Notre Dame, they vanquished their conference rival on the way, beating Baylor in the Dallas regional final after losing to the Lady Bears three times during the season.

Adams, who struggled badly against Baylor, was up to the

task and then some against Notre Dame, scoring the second-most points ever in a championship game (Sheryl Swoopes had 47 in 1993).

"We did not find an answer for her," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "We had a plan. We just weren't able to stop her. ... She's just a great player. She's got a big body and we couldn't get around her."

Diggins and Devereaux Peters. The Irish scored nine of the next 11 points to tie the game at 66 on Diggins' jumper with 3:56 left.

Blair went right to Adams on the next two possessions and she delivered, hitting back-to-back layups. Adams hit nine of her first 10 shots in the second half.

After Peters' putback cut it

2003. The man with the sharp tongue, quick wit and deep Southern drawl found himself at home recruiting Texas' best players, and teaming up with others in the athletic department to sell the school.

Winning the title Tuesday night will certainly help.

The Aggies (33-5) have been riding a relentless defense that

didn't allow more than 50 points until Stanford scored 62 in the semifinals. Fortunately for the Aggies, a lay-up with 3.3 seconds left was enough to lift them over the top-seeded Cardinal.

Notre Dame was trying to win its first national championship since 2001. The Irish had an impressive tournament run led by Diggins. She led the Irish in their back-to-back victories

over two Tennessee and Connecticut.

And with the Lady Vols and Huskies both gone -- only the fifth time since 1995 that neither was in the title game -- Diggins and the Irish tried to seize the moment and take out the Aggies.

But Diggins and Peters weren't enough in a matchup of No. 2 seeds.

This was the only the second time no top seed made the title game and the first since No. 3 seed North Carolina beat No. 4 Louisiana Tech in 1994.

The Irish were trying to become the first team to win in their home state since Stanford won in Los Angeles in 1992.

There definitely was a home feel for Notre Dame with two-thirds of the 17,473 people in the arena wearing green and gold.

So much was made this season of UConn's record winning streak and their quest for a third straight national championship that would have cemented Maya Moore's place as the top women's player ever.

Diggins and the Irish ruined those plans in the semifinals, beating the Huskies for the first time in four meetings this season. They fell short of the ultimate prize Tuesday night.



Both teams reached the championship by knocking off two No. 1 seeds. Notre Dame eliminated Tennessee in the regional final, then swept past Connecticut in Sunday night's national semifinals, the first time one team has taken down those two women's basketball icons in the same tournament.

A&M also had two impressive wins to get here. After beating Baylor, the Aggies edged Stanford on Sunday night.

It was the first title game without a No. 1 seed, since 1994 and only the second overall. It also was the first final without either Connecticut or Tennessee since Maryland beat Duke in overtime for the 2006 championship.

And it turned out to be a good one.

After a back-and-forth first half, and with the Aggies trailing 48-43 early in the second half, Adams simply took over.

The 6-foot-1 center scored 10 of the next 13 points for the Aggies to give them a 56-53 lead midway through the second half. Texas A&M then extended the advantage to 64-57 behind the two Sydneys -- Carter and Colson.

But Notre Dame wouldn't give up, battling back behind

to 70-68, White hit the huge 3. Diggins had two free throws with 40.7 seconds left, and the Irish had one last chance after a turnover by the Aggies with 29 seconds remaining.

McGraw called her final timeout, but Diggins turned it over in front of the bench. White hit two free throws to seal the win.

Diggins finished with 23 points and Peters added 21 and 11 rebounds for Notre Dame (31-8).

Diggins, fighting back tears, said the Irish couldn't handle A&M's pressure.

"We turned it over too much. I don't know if it was nerves or what," she said. "We just didn't handle the pressure."

Indeed, the night belonged to the Aggies.

It hasn't been easy changing attitudes at a university that began as an all-male military school. Some alumni opposed the decision to begin admitting women in 1963, and school administrators didn't always see the advantage of funding men's and women's sports equally when Title IX passed in 1972.

By 1994, A&M had earned its first NCAA tournament bid and immediately reached the regional semifinals, but the program's reputation remained stagnant until Blair arrived in

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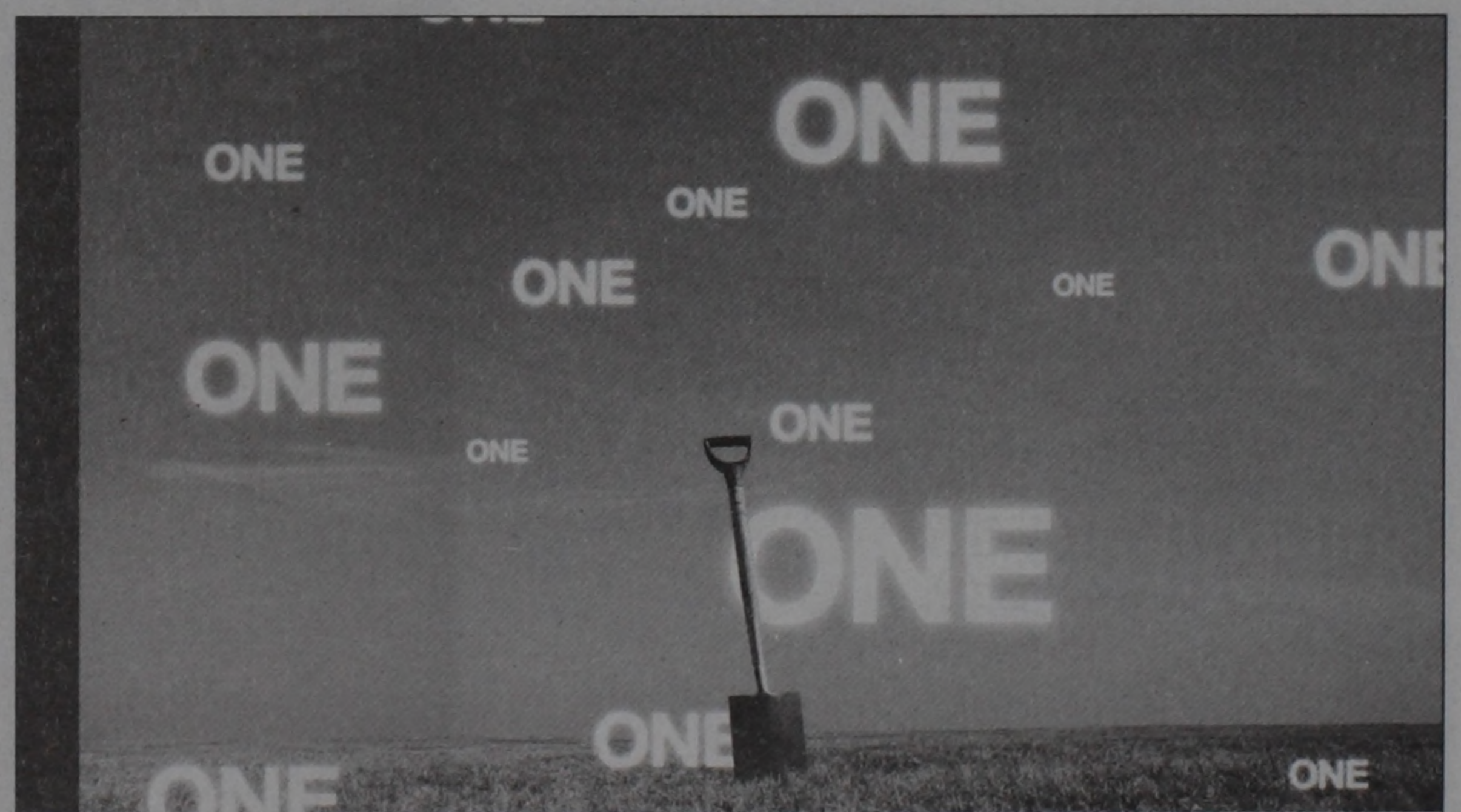
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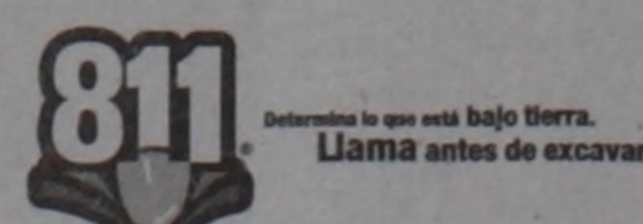


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# Latino Weight Boom on the Horizon

If we consulted the health statistics kept by the rich countries



club, the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, the OECD, we might not be too surprised to find that the United States has the highest rate of obesity, at 30.6 percent. What country, would you guess, is number two? It's Mexico, with an adult obesity rate of 23 percent.

That's a new development on a couple of levels. It's a sign of Mexico's economic progress that the country is a member of the OECD. It is perhaps a symptom of that new found wealth that Mexicans are digging their graves with their knives and forks almost as fast as their NAFTA neighbors next door. The old verities about American obesity and immigrant health – that newcomers arrived slim and became fat after taking on the American way of eating – are falling by the wayside as obesity rates creep higher in "sending" countries.

A program I host on HTN TV, Destination Casa Blanca, took a look at obesity and Latinos in the United States. A stunning number of Latinos in the United States, from the Caribbean, Central America, and South America are obese or overweight, and their U.S.-born children are growing up with weight problems. On the first anniversary of Michelle Obama's Let's Move program, we asked, are the numbers moving in the right direction?

The short answer is ... sorta. The rate of increase in weight problems has slowed. Schools are taking gradual steps toward improving the meals they serve, and including more physical education in the required curriculum. But the trends that push on weight problems have not changed: increasingly sedentary youth, the easy availability of highly caloric food, less walking and biking to school.

Pick up the paper, and you'll see all kinds of solutions. Student market gardens have sprung up around the country. Cooking classes for kids seek to teach new food habits and deliver basic information on nutrition and healthy eating. However those programs are still pilots and experiments in most places, small-scale and low-impact in too many places. Away from the bib lettuce and kale is the real world of school systems struggling to keep unit costs for feeding students low. This results in chicken tenders, french fries, pizzas and soda.

Maria Gomez, executive director of Mary's Center in Washington D.C., pointed out the association of a little more weight with success and affluence was one barrier to slimming down. Grandparents are happy to

see fat babies. People new to the country who may have been food insecure back home, suddenly find they have access to more meat, more cheese, more cooking oil. More of everything, more often.

Sin taxing soft drinks is smothered in the cradle every time it's suggested.

Watch closely as a long list of industry-sponsored organizations channel consumer anger at any attempts to create disincentives to drinking highly sweetened drinks. Notice also, the outraged housewife loading groceries on the checkout counter is never obese in the anti-tax commercials. Neither are her kids.

In China, 20 million people died from famine from 1959 to 1961. The number of obese Chinese grows 30 to 50 percent every year. Granted, that growth rate is based on a very small base. The vast majority of the country's people are still what an American would call "thin." But the lifestyle changes rocking China promise that rate of increase will continue, until the base isn't so small any more.

Americans are already where the rest of the world is heading. It will be interesting to see if this country can start to solve the problem as the rest of the world realizes a sizable majority has a weight problem. At a time when the U.S. is wrestling with how to cover tens of millions currently uninsured and underinsured, the coming Latino weight boom is a particular challenge. Latinos in the United States face rapidly growing obesity and come from the demographic group with the lowest rates of health insurance.

The growing waistlines, and the growing Latino presence, will offer special challenges to an overburdened health system, as they loom larger in high-cost age cohorts. Today the largest single age group among Latinos is 0-5 years of age. A few decades down the road waits high rates of diabetes, hypertension, and other obesity-related conditions that could drive up the whole nation's health care bill. Saving a few pounds now will save a lot more dollars later.

In the countries with fast-growing economies in Latin America, Asia, and Eastern Europe, millions are following Americans into massive waistlines and big threats to national health. One peculiar wrinkle sees food companies providing more and more fattening food, in more places, during more hours of the day, while the governments of these same countries run public service announcements over radio and television urging people to eat less and exercise. The public is in the middle and, for the moment, hearing the food company's flashy advertising more clearly than it hears the bitter pill of exercise and healthy eating. Look out world –obesity is going to become one of the most frightening health crises of the 21st century.

# Students risk deportation in plea to lift higher education ban

Today, undocumented youth from around the nation are joined by allies in demanding that colleges and universities refuse implementation of bans on higher education. In October of 2010 the Georgia Board of Regents joined South Carolina, Alabama, North Carolina and other states in banning undocumented youth from attending college. The ban in Georgia will go into full effect this coming fall. According to the Migrant Policy Institute over 74,000 undocumented youth reside in the state of Georgia.



"We feel that the time for us to stand up has come. I am not only doing this for my friends who are in the same situation, but also for my mom who did everything she could to give me a better life," says Georgina Perez, 21, one of the undocumented youth, brought here, from Mexico, at the age of 3. Georgina went on to say, "I feel scared not knowing what might happen to me today, but I also know that if I do not take action then my future will remain uncertain for much longer."

If arrested all 8 undocumented youth could face deportation proceedings. According to organizers, the participants all refuse to leave until Georgia State University's president agrees to not comply with the ban on higher education. "Graduating from high school is bittersweet for me because I know I won't be able to attend the same schools as my friends," said undocumented student Dulce,

18. Dulce has been living in Georgia since she was just two years old.

"It took me five years to complete a two year degree, I can no longer wait at home for some change to come at the federal level" said Maria Marroquin, an undocumented student from Pennsylvania. "We are being shut out of universities, criminalized and deported in states around the country. The time is always right to fight for our civil rights."

Taking a stand, despite knowing the risks, is the only alternative the undocumented youth see. Last year,

Viridiana Martinez, along with two others, lead a 13-day hunger strike outside the offices of Sen. Kay Hagan, "remaining in the shadows is no longer an option. Through my own story, I have regained my dignity and through action, I will bring light to what would otherwise remain unexposed."

For these students it is now time for those who say they support them or those who stand against them to choose a side, decide if they will fight to educate or deport talented young people such as themselves.

"Young people have always been at the forefront of the civil rights movement," stated David Ramirez, an undocumented youth from Chicago, Illinois. "If you claim to stand with us, fight with us. Help us defend our dignity and worth as members of American society. I've decided whose side I am on and I've chosen to act. I ask you now to do the same."

# The Authority of Jesus Questioned

By Sal Hernandez



Revelations continued

Then I saw an angel come down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the abyss and a heavy chain. He seized the dragon, the ancient serpent, which is the Devil or Satan, and tied it up for a thousand years and threw it into the abyss, which he locked over it and sealed, so that it could no longer lead the nations astray until the thousand years are completed. After this, it is to be released for a short time. Then I saw thrones; those who sat on them were entrusted with judgment. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, and who had not worshiped the beast or its image nor had accepted its mark on their foreheads or hands. They came to life and they reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were over. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over these; they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for (the) thousand years. When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison. He will go out to deceive the nations at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. They invaded the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the holy ones and the beloved city. But fire came down from heaven and consumed them. The Devil who had led them astray was thrown into the pool of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet were. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

We see here how many Protestants and many non-denominational churches get it wrong in saying the end of the world was going to happen as well as so many today. So many people at one point were saying that the end of the world was to take place a certain year or a certain date several and many years ago. Remember here recently, so many went out to stock up on material things, so many started to go to their church of choice but when that date came, they went back into the way of life they used to live. My question to everyone is this: if you do not know the date or the hour you are going to die, why are you waiting to come to Christ to live life, a holy life with Him and for Him? So many have had it wrong and so many have it wrong today, so please do not listen to any of those idiots who say the world will end on this date or this year or just simply that the world is going to end. You should be prepared now. If not, then you need to get to that point.

Here we see that from the reign of King David was a thousand years to the time of Jesus. What happened during that time of Jesus? The devil knew his time was short and he went about scaring everyone, misleading them to a life of death. Jesus dies and is resurrected and thus the devil's time is up. Those who were waiting in Purgatory for the coming of the Messiah, finally get to enter in the kingdom of Heaven. They get to take their place and they get to rule with our Lord. When the Lord comes again to judge and make that final judgment, it is connected with all that He has done and is doing because He is the First and the Last. He is the Lord our God who is, who was and who is to come.

"Next I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death. Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.)"

Here John is now writing about those whose name is found in the book of the living which are those who are baptized and persevere until the end of time. We notice that there is no more after this judgment; that what he is envisioning now is the final judgment. Everything disappears because God is so great and nothing can nor ever will stand in His way. Final judgment is for all of us and we must be prepared; but it is not so that we can simply be prepared for ourselves but more so that we can be ready for Him and for others as well, for if God so loved the world to send His only Son, so too we must be ready to be sent and to embrace our cross to the point of death. Not everyone has to go through such a life for we see that in John who did not have to die a martyr but we do see that in the other disciples but more so in the One that we all follow, which is Jesus. We do what we do in the Church because Jesus instructed us to do things a certain way. For those who have abandoned His Church, well, just like Judas, they are traitors.

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