

SERD 03-31-2008 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Gargi Roysircar, Corey Gifford, Wendy Vincent, Francis Berry-Worcester, Amanda Blanchard, Krista Duffy, Mary Quinn, Brian Denietolis

SERD members briefly checked in about members' qualifying exam

- Members of SERD who took the qualifying exam explained their experience of the Intervention section of the test.
- All members who took the qualifying examination passed. Congratulations!

Articles (Amanda Blanchard's presentation)

Casas, J.M., & Pytluk, S.D. (1995). *Hispanic Identity Development. Implications for Research and Practice* (p. 155-180). Thousand Oaks, CA, US: Sage Publications, Inc.

- Increasing attention to Hispanic population in social sciences literature
- Researchers failure to define accurately and/or describe the Hispanic samples used in their studies w/o specifying the diverse subgroups
- Hispanic population varies by: nationality, racial makeup, mean and median age, length of time in US, experiences w/ racism, immigrant/citizen status, education, labor status, income, perceived power, etc.
- This journal uses the term *Hispanic* to include people originating from: Mexico, the countries of Central America, Spanish-Speaking countries of South America, the Spanish speaking countries of the Caribbean, and Puerto Rico
- **Ethnic Identity**
 - Difference between enculturation & acculturation:
 - **Enculturation (ethnic socialization)**- socialization process by which developing individuals acquire the host of cultural and psychological qualities that are necessary to function as a member of one's group. A dynamic and constantly developing socialization process. Persons of all cultures experience enculturation.
 - **Acculturation**-the product of culture learning that occurs as a result of contact between the members of 2 or more culturally distinct groups.
 - With respect to the Hispanic population, because of a variety of demographic and social variables, one should expect a great deal of variance in reference to their identification as members of their generic ethnic group as well as their cultural distinctiveness. Research tends to ignore this, however, recognizing variance is crucial.

- One would expect Hispanic children socialized in a traditional Hispanic family to develop preferences for learning cooperatively as well as for maintaining a high level of respect for their elders, particularly their teachers.
- Other cultural values/beliefs that children might hold:
 - *Familismo*: giving particular importance to one's immediate as well as extended family
 - *Patriarchal family structure*: subscribing to traditional masculine and feminine values and behaviors
 - *Respecto*: respecting individual's for their age and accumulated life experiences
 - *Religiosity*: strong belief in higher being
- Belief in folk healing when in crisis, and a tendency to not separate physical from emotional well being!!!
- The more the Hispanic environments, the greater the likelihood that the acculturation process will have a weaker impact. The reverse will be true for Hispanics living and working in predominantly non-Hispanic/White environments.
- A negative/prejudiced view of Hispanics can create internal conflicts for a child or adolescent who is beginning to own his or her ethnic identity.

Josefina: talked about contacts in Mexico

- Josefina has established relationships with two contacts at the university in Tabasco
 - Both contacts are university professors
 - One of the contacts also works in a psychiatric hospital
- These professors have agreed to connect us with local stakeholders, like schools, community organizations, and non-governmental organizations in Villahermosa.

Proposal:

- In October 2008, Boston College's Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture will host their 8th Annual Diversity Challenge conference
- This year's conference is calling for proposals that examine the interactions between race, culture and trauma.
- Brian Denietolis, along with other SERD/Shakti members, is in the process of drafting a proposal, which will be submitted to Boston College by April 21, 2008.
- If accepted, Shakti members will offer a symposium that presents Disaster Shakti's approach to disaster response work, one that integrates the use of culture-centered

interventions, training of volunteer relief workers, and a shift in focus from individual psychotherapy to community support

- Good luck Shakti members!
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Important upcoming events:

- Nicole Spanakis will be defending her dissertation on Monday, April 7th at 7:30am
- Dana Caruso will also be defending her dissertation on Monday, April 7th at 3:30
- Good luck Nicole and Dana!

Respectfully submitted by:

Brian M. Denietolis
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SERD 02-11-08 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Gargi Roysircar, Josefina Irigoyen, Corey Gifford, Brian Denietolis, Michael Brodeur, Ron Miatoka, Emily Pimpinella, Wendy Vincent

Introductions to new members

- Welcome Ron Miatoka!
- Emily stated her connections to SERD:
 - **Research assistant**
 - **others**
- Josefina discussed the roundtable
 - Has to do with issues of multiculturalism and diversity in psychology and education
 - Smaller conference, but it's so student friendly
 - Everyone there is open to talking to students
 - Josefina will present about women of color, and the common barriers they face
- Michael
 - Talked about his research with Gargi over the years
 - His dissertation is coming out of his work with Gargi in New Orleans
 - He also stated that he enjoys the interpersonal aspects of SERD
- Gargi discussed their proposal
 - **Ben: help seeking strategies of Muslim students**
 - **Fran: Assessment competencies of school psychologists**
 - **Barb: Transgendered**

Gargi's Mississippi project

- **Gargi met with the director of the American Red Cross of this unit**
- **They talked about Antioch providing workshops**
- **Maybe governer of Keene may be one of our key stakeholders, as well as the preseident of the school**
 - **The president actually want to take part of this**

- Gargi was invited to be the Key-note speaker in New Zealand, and give a workshop on self-care and her disaster work

Ron

- Ron has experience in Intelligence operations for the Navy
- He also has experience in community mental health, and private practice (UAP)
- Has been at UAP since last year
- He is a second-generation Japanese-American Clinical Psychologist
 - Gargi and Ron shared stories about discrimination
 - Talked about not being accepted by either culture, which raises the question, "Where do you belong?"

We talked about our experiences in the field

- Brian shared about...
- Gargi shared about her mothers comment
 - "I have four votes; one for Hillary, and three for my daughters"
- We lamented about 'what a waste of money'
 - Millions of dollars wasted in election
- Some of us have wondered about why we go through all of this hype with the primaries.... Why can't we have one general election?
 - If we could choose our candidates and have one election
- But democracy is expensive
 - You need money to survive;

Corey: Mexico Trip

- She talked about literature
 - She's found about 6-8 articles, and she's wondering if SERD members are willing to take an article and write a summary of them
- Corey will schedule with Brian about which dates we'll discuss which articles
- Corey will also send an email to SERD, asking them to pick an article

Josefina: Mexico connections

- **Looking into air-fare**
 - **Josefina's parents are willing to drive Shakti to Monterre; from there we would fly to Villahermosa**
- **Josefina has also attempted to contact the universities and government officers down there**
 - **She's also contacting the Mexican Red Cross**

Respectfully submitted by:

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