

The Journal of Social and Personal Relationships is seeking manuscript submissions for a Special Issue on “Strengths-Based Examinations of Latinx Youths’ Interpersonal Relationships and Socioemotional Well-being” to be guest co-edited by Melissa Delgado (University of Arizona), Rajni Nair (Arizona State University), Lucía Alcalá (California State University, Fullerton), and Rayni Thomas (University of Arizona).

Background and Aims: National reports indicate that Latinx youth and individuals comprise a rapidly growing proportion of the U.S. Population. Further, U.S. and international Latinx populations remain underrepresented within the literature. When these samples are included in current scholarship, it is often to document and produce a shared understanding of the risk factors that contribute to educational, psychosocial, and health disparities of this population; less work has focused on highlighting assets, particularly strength-based components stemming from Latinx youths’ family, school, and peer relationships. This is particularly surprising given work that documents interpersonal and familial relationships may be particularly salient to the Latinx population in the context of cultural values that emphasize interdependence and family relationships. There is evidence to show that high levels of social capital, support, and intimacy in school, family and peer relationships are linked to youths’ positive adjustment and may mitigate the impact of risk experiences. Yet, less is known about (a) which facets of family, school, and peer relationships are linked to positive adjustment for Latinx youth and (b) how facets of family, school, and peer relationships may buffer or operate as protective factors in links between Latinx youths’ exposure to risk and their overall adjustment. Importantly, this type of work is needed to acknowledge the agency and resilience found within Latinx communities and families and to be intentionally inclusive of subgroups that have been excluded or neglected by academia (e.g., Indigenous, Afro-Latinx).

We are particularly interested in empirical investigations of diverse and understudied Latinx groups (e.g., Indigenous, Afro-Latinx, and international samples) and underrepresented samples (e.g., mixed documentation status families and undocumented youth). We encourage submissions that include a range of innovative methods and statistical analytic techniques, including longitudinal or panel designs, dyadic modeling, cross-national studies, daily diary designs, qualitative methods, participatory action research, person-centered approaches, and mixed methods research designs that illuminate the dynamics among multiple sources of influence. Studies using a wide range of assessments and measurement approaches (e.g., multiple reporters, social network analysis, observations, focus groups, in-depth interviews) are also appreciated. Brief reports and theoretical papers will not be considered.

Age range:

- We are most interested in school-aged youth, broadly 3rd grade to high school-aged youth.
- We will not be considering college-aged/emerging adult samples, unless the study includes longitudinal data starting at earlier years and that span into this general developmental stage.

Sample Topic Ideas

- Familial relationships (broadly defined, including parental, grandparental, sibling, and marital/couple) and Latinx youths' adjustment
- The influence of documentation status (e.g., parent-status, mixed-status families) on youths' socioemotional well-being
- School-based relationships (e.g., teachers, advisors, peers) on youth's academic and socioemotional well-being
- Youths' community, volunteering, and/or civic engagement relationships and adjustment
- Peer relationships and socioemotional well-being
- Youths' interpersonal relationships and racial-ethnic identities (e.g., Indigenous, Afro-Latinx)
- Youths' interpersonal relationships and gender/sexual identities

Letters of Intent

Please include the following:

- Tentative title
- Author(s) affiliations and contact information for the corresponding author
- Brief Justification (200 words or less) of how the proposed submission contributes to the aim of the Special Issue
- Brief Description (500 words or less) of content of manuscript (introduction, significance, method and results)
- Deadline to submit LOI: March 1, 2021
- Letters of intent should be emailed to latinx.youth.special.issue@gmail.com .

April 1, 2021: Date by which authors will be informed by as to whether or not they are invited to submit a full manuscript.

June 1, 2021: This manuscript will be due by this date, as submitted to the JSPR submission system (<https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/SPR>) and sent out for peer review.

February to July (range) 2022: Dates by which we anticipate that the special issue will be published.

- Brief Reports and Theoretical Papers will not be considered.

It is important for us to let you know that the invitation to submit a full manuscript does not guarantee final publication in the special issue. Submissions will undergo editorial screening and then peer-review, and, depending on the peer reviews, authors will have the chance to revise their manuscripts. An accepted paper, however, cannot be guaranteed.