Family Conflict & Latina/o Youth Depressive Symptoms, Hopelessness, Suicidality, & Life Satisfaction: An Examination of Gender Role Values

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### INTRODUCTION

**BACKGROUND**
- Research over the past several years has identified Latina/o adolescents as having the highest prevalence of suicidality compared to other ethnic/racial groups.
- Hispanic youth reported the highest prevalence of seriously considering attempting suicide (18.95%) compared to their white (16.2%) and black (14.5%) peers (CDC, 2013).
- Family conflict is a noted stressor related to worse mental health outcomes. It has been suggested that gender role values may moderate this relationship (Vega, 2015).
- Holding traditional gender role values may have a risk or protective effect on mental health. The experience of distress due to family conflict may differ depending on what values one holds in regards to both gender and family (Cupito et al., 2015; Piña-Watson et al., 2013).

**LATINA/O GENDER ROLE VALUES**

**Latina Women**
- **Marianismo** – Multidimensional traditional values of woman in the Latina/o culture. It includes the following dimensions which are not dependent upon one another.
  - Family Pillar
  - Spiritual Pillar
  - Virtuous & Chaste
  - Self-Silencing
  - Subordinate to Others

**Latino Men**
- **Machismo** – One of the dimensions of Latino male gender role values. It includes beliefs such as the
  - physical, dominant, aggressive, sexual virility, gender role values. It includes beliefs such as the
  - virtual and expected role on mental health. The experience of distress due to family conflict may differ depending on what values one holds in regards to both gender and family (Cupito et al., 2015; Piña-Watson et al., 2013).

**Methods**

**PARTICIPANTS**
- 524 Mexican American Adolescents
- Ages: 14-20 years (M = 16.23, SD = 1.10)
- Gender: 46.9% boys, 53.1% girls
- **Generation**: Majority 2nd generation (40.7%)

**INSTRUMENTS**

- **Marianism (Marianismo Beliefs Scale-Adolescent; Piña-Watson et al., 2014)**
- **Machismo and Caballerismo (Machismo Measure; Arciniega et al., 2000)**
- **Family Conflict (Parent Conflict Likelihood Scale; Lee et al., 2000)**
- **Depressive Symptoms (Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale-20; Radloff, 1977)**
- **Hopelessness (Hopelessness Scale for Children; Kaufman et al., 1986)**
- **Suicidality (Three items asking about ideation, plans, and attempts in the last 12 months in response forms)**
- **Life Satisfaction (brief Multidimensional Students’ Life Satisfaction Scale; Seligson et al., 2003)**

**PROCEDURE**
- Incentives given (gift card drawings)
- Paper-and-pencil self-report questionnaire.
- 30 minutes to complete

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**Data Analysis Plan**

**SEPARATE MODELS FOR BOYS & GIRLS**

- **3 hierarchical linear regressions were performed for the continuous mental health outcome variables (depressive symptoms, hopelessness, life satisfaction)**
- **3 hierarchical logistic regressions were performed for the dichotomous outcomes variables (suicidal ideation, plans, and attempts)**
- **3 steps per analysis: Step 1: Family Conflict; Step 2: Gender Role Values; Step 3: Interaction Terms**

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**References**