

Hispanic Neuropsychology:

A Contradiction in Terms

Antonio E. Puente

and

Stephanie Heller

University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Presented at the 96th annual meeting of the American
Psychological Association, August 12, 1988, in Atlanta, Georgia.

- I. Minorities, Ethnics, and Hispanics
 - A. Defining Minority Groups
 - 1. Traditional = Black
 - 2. Operational = Race, Ethnic
 - B. Race and Ethnics in U.S.
 - 1. R = White, Black, and Indian
 - 2. E = Hispanics (religion & customs)
 - C. Why Hispanics?
 - 1. Present = 5 - 10% of entire population
 - 2. 2000 = > blacks
 - 3. 2020 = > 50% of entire population
 - 4. ? Estimates = e.g., Illegal aliens
 - 5. ? Prosections = e.g., Childbirth rates

- II. Psychological Knowledge and Hispanic Culture
 - A. Traditional
 - 1. Cross-Cultural
 - 2. Clinical
 - a. Psychopathology
 - b. Acculturation
 - c. Psychometric Assessment
 - B. Bernal and Padilla
 - 1. Psychological Knowledge = Hispanic population (growth)

- III. Clinical, Neuropsychology
 - A. Growth Patterns
 - 1. Organizations - INS, NAN, Division 40
 - 2. Books
 - 3. Journals
 - B. Major Issues
 - 1. Rehabilitation/treatment
 - 2. Assessment
 - a. Differential Diagnosis
 - b. Deficit Analyses
 - c. Instruments
 - C. Assumptions
 - 1. Limit Role of Individual Differences
 - 2. Reasons for Limited Interest
 - a. Measure Brain not Function
 - b. Brain not sensitive to ID variables
 - 3. Faults
 - a. Sex, Handedness, Age, Education (critical level LNNB)
 - b. Other Variables - medication, etc.
 - Culture and Ethnicity

- IV. Data Base
 - A. Goals
 - 1. Literature; Scientific and Clinical
 - 2. Personnel; Scientific and Clinical
 - B. Procedures
 - 1. Review of Literature
 - 2. Personal Experience
 - 3. Survey

- C. Literature Review
 - 1. Method
 - a. Psychological Abstracts
 - b. Journals
 - c. Books
 - d. Computer Searches
 - 2. Results
 - a. Number = down, Limited
 - b. Authors = Padilla, ? --> MD
 - c. Universities = Spain, C/Latin America, U.S.
 - d. Tests = WAIS (older and varied version
Bender (not scoring)
Luria (not LNNB))
 - 3. Limitations of Unstandardized Translations
 - a. Efficacy of Translation
 - b. Norms
 - c. Ethics
- D. Survey
 - 1. Methods
 - a. INS, NAN, 40 (Mailing Labels)
 - b. Division 40 Mail Survey
 - 2. Results
 - a. Approximately 5-10 practicing
 - b. only 1 in academic setting
 - c. no more than 5 identified as in program
- E. Personal
 - 1. Argentina
 - a. 0
 - 2. Puerto Rico
 - a. San Juan
 - b. WAIS and Bender
 - 3. Spain
 - a. Barcelona; Madrid; Salamanca; Granada
 - b. Behavioral Neurology
 - 4. Mexico
 - a. Mexico City
 - b. Ostrosky and brain transplants

- V. Critical Issues
 - A. Religion
 - B. Gender
 - 1. Machismo
 - 2. Marianismo
 - C. Culture
 - 1. Family
 - 2. Marriage
 - D. Linguistic
 - E. Personality

- VI. Summary
 - A. Limitations of Existing Research
 - B. Limitations of Existing Approaches
 - C. Limitations of Present and Future Personnel

VII. Alternatives and Solutions

- A. Awareness
 - 1. Neuropsychology is affected by Individual Difference variables
 - 2. Hispanics = Dominant force, now and in the future
- B. Research
 - 1. U.S.
 - 2. Collaboration with spanish speaking colleagues
- C. Training
 - 1. U.S. - recruitment and retention of faculty and students
 - 2. Abroad - introduction
- D. Policy
 - 1. MFP/APA
 - 2. Neuroscience/APA
 - 3. Division 40

VIII. Closing Remarks

- A. Problem
- B. Solution

① write what persons / groups
in US vs non US
in Mexico vs PR vs Cuban

② write editor - are there any projects
being reviewed