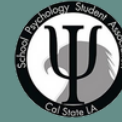


MAKING CONNECTIONS IN MEXICAN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY



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Challenges in American School System

- **School enrollment barriers:** difficulties with documentation, medical clearance, & having parental presence
- Students have to adjust to a new cultural setting with added academic pressures while **developing a sense of belonging**
 - **Increased depressive symptoms** may be attributed to economic hardship, discrimination, & negative perceptions of school safety
- **Language barriers & lack of culturally-relevant resources** can contribute to a feeling of community otherness

Fostering Relationships

- **Consultation & Collaboration**
 - Engage with students' families & their community
 - & with practitioners & stakeholders in their home county
- Strive to be aware of & understand school psychology & special education **practices of students' home country**
- Mexico's School Psychology program at **Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México**
 - Program emphasizes family, school, & community collaboration

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Model

- **Multiple cultures** of an immigrant student
- The **pressure of fitting in**
- Cultural **Assimilation**
- **Parentification** of children
- Importance of **social groups**
How can we support?
- **Understanding** immigrant culture
- **Positive** school climate
- **Resource centers** in communities

Future Implications

- **Social Justice:** includes both **redistribution & recognition**
- Work jointly with other personnel to create **a culture of change** for immigrant students
 - Individuals at all levels must implement strategies for inclusion
 - A sense of **school connectedness** is a protective factor to negative outcomes for all students

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