

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY  
OF THE  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

A Staff Report to the Commissioners  
April 28, 1967

## INTRODUCTION

\* The 1960 United States Census of Population reported that 1,426,538 white persons of Spanish-surname then resided in the State of California. Almost half of this number have parents both of whom were born in the United States. Approximately 20 percent of the Spanish-surname persons in California were not born in the United States, its territories and possessions. The Spanish-surname population in 1960 represented 9.1 percent of the total population of California, while the Negro group constituted 5.6 percent of the population of California. During the decade 1950 to 1960 the Spanish-surname population in California grew by 88.1 percent compared with a 48.5 percent increase in total population for the State. The Foundation for Mexican-American Studies, Inc., of Los Angeles has indicated that the Spanish-surname population will increase in California to 2,681,891 by 1970. This projection is based on minimal estimate.

In the San Francisco-Oakland metropolitan area (hereafter referred to as the Bay Area, which includes the five counties of San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Contra Costa, and Alameda), the 1960 Census reported there were 177,239 white persons of Spanish-surname. This figure represents 12.4 percent of the total number of Spanish-surname persons living

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\* Census Tract information - Californians of Spanish-Surname,  
Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Fair Employment  
Practices - State of California, 1964.

in the State of California and it is 6.4 percent of the total population of the Bay Area.

The San Jose metropolitan area will also be discussed in this report. Except for Los Angeles County, Santa Clara County has the highest number of Spanish-surnamed persons of any county in the State. The San Jose area has 77,755 persons with Spanish-surnames. This is 5.5 percent of the State Spanish-surname population and 12.1 percent of that metropolitan area. The breakdown of white persons with Spanish-surnames in the two areas is shown in the following chart based on the 1960 census figures.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent of Spanish Surname in Population</u>	<u>Native Born</u>	<u>Total Foreign Born</u>	<u>Total Born in Mexico</u>	<u>Total Population</u>
1	Santa Clara	77,755	12.1	66,715	11,040	7,778	642,315
2	Alameda	67,866	7.5	57,788	10,078	5,216	908,209
3	San Fernando	51,602	7.0	35,059	16,543	6,020	740,316
4	Contra Costa	28,854	6.1	20,743	4,111	2,891	409,030
5	San Mateo	19,722	4.4	16,486	3,236	1,631	444,384
6	Marin	5,634	3.8	4,960	674	122	146,820

The sex ratios in the areas indicate that for every 100 Spanish-surnamed females in the Bay Area there are 104.8 males with Spanish surnames, whereas in the San Jose Area the ratio is 103.3 males to every 100 females. The ratio of male to female is higher than that of the general population, and is significant in evaluating the employment needs of this community.

The Spanish-speaking people in the Bay Area have a median age of 25.6 years compared to the median age of the Anglo community of 33.3 years. The San Jose Area indicates a very young Spanish-speaking population with a median age of 19.9 years compared to the Anglo group which has a 27.8 average age.

It has been estimated by persons familiar with the community that in San Francisco the Spanish-speaking population consists of about 1/3 Nicaraguans, about 1/3 El Salvadorians, slightly less than 1/3 Mexicans, and the remainder from other Latin American countries and the Caribbean. In the other countries in the Bay Area, the majority of the Spanish-speaking persons are of Mexican descent. The increase in the Spanish-speaking population over a 10-year period indicates dramatic growth for the San Francisco-Oakland Area as well as the San Jose Metropolitan Area.

	1950 Spanish-surnamed <u>Population</u>	1960 Spanish-surnamed <u>Population</u>
San Francisco- Oakland	94,683	177,239
San Jose	35,306	77,755

In the Bay Area there were 82,556 more Spanish-speaking persons in 1960 than there were in 1950 and in the San Jose Area there has been an increase of 42,449 persons.

In San Francisco, the Spanish-American population is concentrated in an area referred to locally as the "Mission District," while in Oakland more than half of the persons of Mexican origin or ancestry live in the area known as "Fruitvale" and an adjacent area known as the "Flats." Preliminary results from a 1966 sample census done by the Oakland Inter-agency Project indicates that there are 23,729 persons of Spanish surname in that city.

One of the major concerns of the Spanish-American persons in California is the fact that most surveys, reports, and other publications--both governmental and private, do not deal with Spanish Americans, despite the fact that they are the largest minority group in the State of California.

Facts and data pertaining to this ethnic group are scattered and fragmented, with reports that are available being of individual projects and isolated problem areas. It is believed by the community that public agencies have little awareness of the Spanish-speaking people in local research. It does not appear that local colleges and universities have done significant research on this large segment of the population. Dr. Ernesto Galarza, in his 1966 report entitled "Economic Development by Mexican Americans in Oakland, California (Social Science Research & Development Corporation)" states as follows:

The urban districts that are most in need of renewal are precisely those with obvious economic and social handicaps. Here, it would seem, there is also the greatest need for information about the people who live in such neighborhoods. But this information is

a need which has not been met. The annals of the poor, so it has been noted, are notoriously short and simple. Those of the Mexican Americans in Oakland particularly are brief. A preliminary inquiry showed only three published reports on the Mexican Americans in Oakland between 1943 and 1964. Further search may identify other sources, such as academic thesis produced by students of the University of California. But thinness and obsolescence of the data suggest that Oakland knows little about the Mexican-American neighborhood targets against which the city is massing its planning artillery."

One possible reason for the absence of studies and research is the difficulty in identifying and classifying the "Spanish" minority group. Many of the people speak only Spanish and are new arrivals in this country, whereas others speak only English and their families have been in this country for many generations. Attempts to classify the Spanish-American population have been by name and/or ancestry.

Both methods of classification have their shortcomings. The use of the term "Mexican American" to describe this population is ambiguous because all other Latins are excluded; the use of the term "Spanish surname" excludes all those who have married non-Spanish-surnamed persons. Another possible reason for the dearth of information on Spanish Americans is that their problems and even their existence as a minority group has until recently been generally ignored.

The problems faced by Spanish-American groups in the Bay Area are similar to those they confront throughout the Southwest. These are lack of citizenship, failure of school systems to cope with cultural and language differences, difficulty in obtaining employment above menial level, prejudice

on the part of the majority population toward a group viewed as foreign and problems incidental to poverty, i.e., lack of adequate housing, poor police-community relations, and the inability of the public and private agencies to understand and properly service a bilingual and bicultural community.

In San Francisco, an additional problem faced by many persons with professional and technical training, primarily immigrants from Central and South America, is an inability to work at the level for which they are trained because of lack of citizenship, knowledge of English language, and licensing requirements.

#### AREAS OF CONCERN

##### Education

One of the major concerns of the Spanish-American community is that the educational system is not meeting the specific needs of children from the Spanish language and cultural environment. The Spanish-surname community has the lowest median educational achievement level of any ethnic group in California. In the Bay Area, the median school years completed in 1960 by all persons 25 years old and over for the total population was 12.1 years for males and 12.2 years for females. On the other hand, the median school years completed by white persons with Spanish surnames was 9.6 years for males and 9.8 years for females. This compares unfavorably with nonwhite persons in the Bay Area. Nonwhite males have completed an average of 10.0 years and nonwhite females 10.7 years.

\* Census Tract Information

In the Bay Area 15.7 percent of the Spanish-speaking people had less than 4 years of school, according to 1960 census tract data. In San Jose 25.4 percent of this population were in the category of 4 years or less of school. A large percentage of this ethnic population lacks the basic ability to read and write thus hindering their potential for obtaining employment.

The California State Department of Education has recently (1967) completed a study entitled "Racial and Ethnic Survey of California Public Schools." The relevant counties showed the following:

<u>County</u>	<u>Number of Spanish Surname Students</u>	<u>Percent of Total Enrollment Spanish Surname</u>
Santa Clara	38,182	15.52
Alameda	21,088	9.93
San Francisco	11,135	12.19
Contra Costa	8,468	6.00
San Mateo	7,190	6.10
Marin	758	1.74

According to this census, 57 percent of the Spanish-surname students in districts with more than 50,000 enrollment attend "minority schools."

The Department defined a minority school as one which fails to come within 15 percent of matching the proportion of minority students in the school district as a whole.



Armando Rodriguez, chief of the Department's Bureau of Inter-group Relations who conducted the survey, commented:

In large districts, most students regardless of their racial or ethnic background attend racially imbalanced schools. It is worth noting that while Mexican-American students comprise 13.6 percent of California's public school population, they comprise less than one percent of its college student population.

Questions have been raised by interested citizens as to what positive action is being taken by the State Colleges and Universities to insure a higher enrollment of Spanish-surnamed students. It has been alleged that very few Spanish-surnamed students are aided by Federal grant and loan programs.

Educational approaches, classroom techniques, and community institutions (such as the PTA) which succeed with the middle-class Anglo child are not necessarily successful with the Spanish-speaking child. The extent of the cultural conflict between home and school is shown in an empirical study conducted in 1966 concerning the effects of the Federal Head Start Program on the Mexican-American child. The research, conducted by the Foundation for Mexican-American Studies under contract with the United States Office of Economic Opportunity, showed that in 24 out of 30 attitudinal areas Head Start teachers and parents of Mexican-American children displayed markedly different opinions about the education and behavior of these children.

Thus it is difficult for the Mexican-American child placed in a monolingual setting such as the public schools provide to adjust to the new environment. This study further indicates that, with rare exception, the

schools have failed to compensate for that part of the Spanish-speaking child's cultural make-up which is different from Anglo-urban.

Teachers do not understand these cultural differences and are not made aware of its relevance to the learning process. They tend to conclude, according to EMAS Head Start research, that "all children are alike."

Dr. Julian Samora, University of Notre Dame, stated at the Workshop on Careers for Youth and the Mexican-American Community in January 1963:

If it is true that the schools reflect the norms and values of the community, then perhaps it is equally true that its prejudices are also reflected, through acts of commission as well as omission. Few school systems can, or do, gear their curricula to the needs of this segment of the population. Few know, empirically, what the needs are....

How many teachers of American history in the Southwest begin with the Pilgrim Fathers rather than by developing the cultural and historical heritage of the area, leading to the Pilgrim Fathers? The basic question being raised is this: Is there anything about the Spanish speaking in the Southwest that is important and desirable and that could be used by the school system to bring recognition and higher status to members of that group in the eyes of their peers and the community? The answer, of course, is "yes." Do school systems take advantage of these cultural-historical experiences and contributions? Aside from a few instances, the answer, unfortunately, is "no."

It has been estimated that 50 percent of the Spanish-speaking students in California drop out of school by the eighth grade. Although no figures are available for the Bay Area, it is a fair assumption that

the dropout rate in the Bay Area is considerably higher for Spanish Americans than for the rest of the population. A factor which may contribute to the high dropout rate and low educational attainment level in San Francisco is the small number of persons employed from this group in the school system.

A 1965 survey showed that in San Francisco, where Spanish-speaking persons comprise 7 percent of the population, only 45 of the 4,147 board of education professional personnel were Spanish speaking. This is .94 percent of the total. Of 229 principals and assistant principals only one was Spanish speaking. Of 3,478 teachers in the school system only 33, or less than one percent, were Spanish speaking. There were no Spanish-speaking persons in an administrative/supervisory capacity in the central office and no administrators or instructors in the junior colleges which are under control of the board of education.

In February of 1967, a group of Spanish-American persons picketed the school board office in San Francisco alleging discrimination in the employment of professional personnel and a failure of the board to develop programs to meet the unique needs of the Spanish-American students. The school board promised to meet with representatives of the group to discuss their grievances. A prepared statement was presented to the board outlining their grievances and demands.

One of the major complaints of the demonstrators was that the school system was unable to cope with the language problem. They charged that

little is done to help incoming students with language problems learn to speak English. Americanization classes, where students speaking foreign languages are taught English before going to a regular school, are given only to junior high and high school grades. They further charged that the approach in the lower grades was to let students remain in the class and, as long as they behaved and did not disrupt the class, they were passed with a grade of "D" even though they could not speak English. They called for comprehensive educational projects to be developed in the Mission District to coordinate educational needs from pre-school children through adult education. They also called for recruitment program to hire more minority group members as teachers and to upgrade existing personnel into administrative and supervisory posts. They demanded the employment of community teachers in every school--persons who would visit the homes of students with difficulties and try to help them work out their problems. They requested, in addition, compensatory education programs in every school and a teacher's aid in every classroom of every school in the Mission District.

On March 19, 1967, a legislative conference was called in Sacramento to attempt to frame the problems of the Spanish-speaking people in California. Many in attendance were from the Bay Area and San Jose. The Education Workshop developed the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, that it is the sense of this body that funds be appropriated by the legislature of the State of California for the establishment of pre-kindergarten classes that are especially geared to meet the unique needs and the interests of the Mexican-American child.

2. Resolved, that it is the sense of this body that this conference go on record as supporting Short Bill (SB-53) for its provisions that will allow subject-matter to be presented in the classroom in a language other than English.
3. Resolved, that it is the sense of this body that funds be appropriated by the legislature of the State of California for the development and aggressive implementation of a recruitment of programs throughout the State of California to seek, educate, and obtain certificated teaching personnel from the Mexican-American community.
4. Resolved, that it is the sense of this body that funds be appropriated by the legislature of the State of California to develop a program for hiring and preparing teachers' aides from the local Mexican-American community.
5. Resolved, that it is the sense of this body that funds be appropriated by the legislature of the State of California so that orientation classes now in operation in the public school system of this State can be expanded to reach all levels of, and all the public schools of the State of California that have a 5 percent or higher percentage of Mexican-American students in the student body; and so that teachers charged with these classes will be required to show proof of the qualifications needed to present such a course.
6. Resolved, that the State of California allocate funds for revision of educational curriculum only with the following provisions:
  - a. That the curriculum must be functional (taking the child where he is) and geared to the unique and diverse needs of the Mexican-American learner and not the developmental needs of the academic discipline.
  - b. That the curriculum for the Mexican-American learner should be of such a nature that it attempts to order in a constructive way many of the negative circumstances and acute concerns (frustration of self-esteem powerlessness, etc.) that surround his existence.

- c. That the local school districts should provide their teachers with meaningful, decision-making channels for adopting the curriculum to the diverse needs and interests of their Mexican-American students.
7. Resolved, that the State of California be mandated to require that teacher-training programs of the institutions of higher learning utilize the resources of the Mexican-American communities as a continual and integral part of the Teacher-Training Process.
  8. Resolved, that the State of California launch an intensive investigation of the statewide testing programs in order to update and/or devise new educational testing instruments to include the needs and interests of the Mexican-American learner.
  9. Resolved, that all achievement test scores, at all educational levels--elementary through senior high school--may be made available to the general public.
  10. Resolved, that the State of California, together with all local school districts, plan and implement an effective racial and ethnic balancing of the student population.
  11. Resolved, that all campuses of the University of California and all State Colleges begin immediately an active and comprehensive recruitment of Mexican-American, Spanish-speaking, and other minority group students with the recruitment team from each campus to include at least one Mexican-American staff member.

#### Language and Citizenship

While no figures are available as to the number of persons in the Bay Area who can speak only Spanish, reports range from several hundred to many thousands. There is, in addition, a much larger percentage who speak some English, but for whom Spanish remains their first language. Figures are not available, moreover, of the number of Spanish-American persons in the Bay Area who are not United States citizens.

Those who are not United States citizens are unable to work for local, State, and Federal governmental agencies or government contractors. Most are able to obtain employment only in low paying, menial work. Some employers, to maintain a source of cheap labor, exploit this inability to speak or understand English by employing Spanish-speaking supervisors who discourage Spanish-speaking employees from learning English.

Those who are unable to speak English also have serious problems in dealing with governmental agencies (which employ few Spanish-speaking persons). Often they are unable to obtain welfare assistance without long delay or obtain other governmental services because no one in the service office to which they must go can speak Spanish. This also leads to difficulties with police because they are unable to communicate with police when stopped. Spanish-American leaders charge that governmental agencies seem to take the position that it is the responsibility of the individual and not of the agency to provide interpreters. They speak of visiting social workers requesting a neighborhood child to interpret for them on problems of family planning and similar problems.

Failure to obtain citizenship also excludes such persons from participating in the political process. Leaders in the community are concerned about the large numbers of such persons, because it eliminates an important potential leverage in dealing with local, State, and Federal governments.

Employment

Closely tied to the problems of education is the concern of the Spanish-American community with employment. The Spanish-American community lags behind the total community in median income and consistently has a higher unemployment rate than the total community. It is, however, in a better position than nonwhites, even though it has a lower median education level than nonwhites. For example, the 1960 Census shows that in the Bay Area 4.8 percent of white males were unemployed and 5.2 percent of white females were unemployed while the unemployment rate for the Spanish surname was 7.1 percent for males and 11 percent for females. For the nonwhite, however, the unemployment rate for males was 11.3 percent and for females it was 11 percent.

In the San Jose Area the unemployment for the white male was 4.4 percent and for the white female, 7.6 percent. The Spanish-surname female had a 22.6 percent unemployment rate while the male had an unemployment rate of 9.3 percent. The nonwhite female had a 7.1 percent unemployment rate compared to the nonwhite male rate of 4.0 percent.

In 1959, in San Francisco, the median family income for the total population was \$6,717; for the Spanish-surname group it was \$5,921. This compares with the median family income for nonwhite persons of \$5,305. In Alameda County, the median family income for nonwhites was \$5,080 while that of the white Spanish-surname was more than \$1,200 higher (\$6,282). The median family income for the total population in Alameda County in 1959 was \$6,766.



According to the 1960 Census, in the Bay Area close to 50 percent of all Spanish-surname employed persons 14 years old and over were involved in two industries: manufacturing (32.4 percent) and the wholesale and retail trade (17.4 percent). The percent of Spanish-surname population engaged in wholesale and retail trade was almost the same as the percentage of the total white population. Only 21.8 percent of the total white population, however, was engaged in manufacturing, compared with the 32.4 percent of the Spanish-surname group. On the other hand, 14.1 percent of the white population was engaged in professional and related services while only 7 percent of the Spanish-surname population was engaged in these occupations. It is interesting to note that 12.5 percent of the nonwhite population was engaged in professional and related services.

The Spanish-speaking person has many factors working against him in the employment field:

1. His education is limited. (Agencies created to work with the "hard-core" unemployable are turning away applicants for such reasons as "they lack a fourth-grade education.")
2. He has little or no understanding of the English language.
3. He doesn't have United States citizenship.
4. He has no marketable skill. (Because of Items 1, 2, and 3 above, he is told that he doesn't "qualify" for on-the-job training programs which supposedly were created and designed to assist him.)

5. His skin is dark. (Our society is still very color-conscious. In places where a fair-complexioned Mexican American may be accepted for employment, one with darker skin may be turned away.)
6. Testing procedures used by industry tend to discriminate against persons of different cultural backgrounds.

Ironically, our testing systems serve to eliminate those who most need and want to train for new occupations.

The Spanish-American community is concerned with testing procedures utilized by most companies and government agencies as prerequisites to employment. They believe that such tests do not accurately measure the basic skills required to perform the job for which the test is given and, therefore, regard the tests as one of many impediments to the employment of minority group members.

For many reasons, on-the-job training programs and adult education classes are of major concern to the Spanish-American community. In Oakland, for example, a diminished grant in 1966 for the federally supported East Bay Skill Center resulted in cutbacks in the length of the basic education courses. This was regarded as a serious blow to the Spanish-American community. To many Spanish Americans, learning English in the basic elementary courses is of greater importance than the training programs in particular skills.

Many people are concerned about the fact that even Federal agencies lack the knowledge to cope with the problems of the Spanish speaking. The employment rate among government agencies is very low as pertains to this group. The feeling among the community leadership is that the Federal Government has done little to insist that their agencies hire Spanish-speaking people.

The Federal Government, which is supposed to help all people, is as guilty as private industry in its discriminatory hiring practices involving the Spanish-speaking people in the Bay Area. We intend to let the Federal Government know our displeasure with these practices. \*

The above statement is an example of the feelings among Spanish-speaking leadership in the Bay Area.

In the Bay Area, Spanish Americans are under-represented in both Federal and local governmental employment. Of 12,681 permanent employees under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Civil Service Commission, only 319, or 1.91 percent, are Spanish speaking. Of 1,635 uniform firemen only 23, all of whom are firemen-entrants, are Spanish speaking. (There are 1,211 persons in the firemen-entrants category.) Of 1,722 uniform policemen, only 22 are Spanish speaking, of whom 19 are policemen-entrants. (There are 1,253 persons in the police-entrants category.)

A greater percentage of Spanish-American persons in the Bay Area

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\* Staff Interview - April 17, 1966, Oakland, California.

are employed by the Federal Government than by the City of San Francisco, but Spanish Americans still are under-represented when compared with their percentage of the total population. They are concentrated, moreover, in the lower levels of both blue and white-collar categories. In contrast to the Spanish Americans, Negroes make up a much larger percentage of Federal employment than their percentage of the population in the Bay Area, although they also are concentrated at the lower-level jobs.

In 1967, in a move unusual for Spanish Americans, direct action was taken to protest the employment policies of two Federal agencies. These were the Post Offices in San Francisco and Oakland and the Alameda Naval Air Station. They picketed the post offices protesting the lack of Spanish-American employees. At the Naval Air Station, in one of the rare instances of cooperation, persons from Mexican-American groups and Negro civil rights groups jointly picketed in protest against the promotion policy of the Station.

It is alleged by members of the Spanish-American community that, of more than 10,000 persons working in Bay Area Post Offices, only 152 are Spanish American. These figures do not coincide with those furnished by the Civil Service Commission for 1966, but this is what the community believes. It also is alleged that during the last year the Bay Area Post Offices have hired between 3,500 and 4,000 new employees and out of that group only 26 were Spanish Americans. They allege that in both the Oakland and San Francisco offices there are no Spanish-American managers. A common

complaint in the Spanish-American community is that after the Hunter's Point riot in 1966 the San Francisco Post Office hired approximately 750 persons without requiring them to take the normal examination and not one of those hired was a Spanish American.

With respect to the Alameda Naval Air Station, the complaint was that minority groups were not receiving the promotions to which they are entitled. The main contention of the minority groups seems to be that supervisors, by assigning their favorites to details and designating them as supervisors in their absence, effectively groom these persons to become supervisors, thus barring most minority group persons from promotions.

#### Housing

The 1960 United States Census showed that in California more than 40 percent of all white Spanish-surnamed families consisted of at least five persons. The total of all white families of more than five persons constituted less than 23 percent of the total number of white families. Large families and low income are generally reported by Spanish-American spokesmen as the major factors which make it difficult for them to obtain adequate housing.

Many Spanish Americans believe that they are subjected to discrimination in housing because they are Spanish Americans, but they believe that the degree of discrimination is not of the same magnitude as that faced by Negroes. Such discrimination is said to be more prevalent with respect to rentals than to sales property. In San Leandro, for example, where virtually no Negroes live, there are over 6,000 Spanish-surnamed residents. It has been reported that the darker in skin-color the Spanish American is and the greater his difficulties with the English language, the more likely he is to face housing discrimination

The 1960 Census showed that in the Bay Area 16.6 percent of all housing units occupied by white Spanish-surnamed families were substandard compared to 8.9 percent of the remaining white-occupied housing units. The variance between the Spanish-surnamed occupied housing units and the remaining white-occupied housing units is even greater when the percentage of overcrowding is compared. Of the former, 16.5 percent live in overcrowded housing units while only 5.3 percent of the latter live in such units. In the San Jose Area, 29.3 percent of the Spanish-surname housing units were overcrowded compared to 6.4 percent of the Anglo housing units and 18.3 percent of those occupied by nonwhites.

The shortage of adequate housing for Spanish Americans, particularly low-income housing, is the major reason Spanish American residents of the Mission District of San Francisco have united to oppose redevelopment of that area. They fear that redevelopment will result in large amounts of low-income housing being razed and that no such housing will be built to take its place. The result, they fear, is that they will be forced to move to other areas of San Francisco or even out of the city where they may not find adequate housing which they can afford. It now appears that redevelopment will soon take place but the people of the Mission District are attempting to obtain some control over the redevelopment planning. In the Residential Segregation Study conducted at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) under the Mexican-American Study Project, the city of San Jose had a segregation index of 43.0; Oakland 41.5; and San Francisco 38.1. This index indicates that the higher the number the sharper the separation between the Spanish and Anglo communities.

The table on the following page indicates the index results in all of the cities studied in California.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Segregation Index</u>
1	San Bernardino	67.9
2	Riverside	64.9
3	Los Angeles	57.4
4	Bakersfield	53.7
5	Stockton	52.6
6	Ontario	50.6
7	Fresno	49.0
8	Santa Barbara	46.5
9	San Diego	43.6
10	San Jose	43.0
11	Oakland	41.5
12	San Francisco	38.1
13	Sacramento	30.2

It is without question that minority people have inferior housing. Dr. Fred E. Case, acting director of the University of California's (Los Angeles) real estate research program, confirmed recently that minority group families pay more, yet live in less desirable quarters, than do other families in equivalent income brackets. Conditions are getting worse, he stated, He further added that government agencies are ineffective in protecting minority groups from rent gouging. \*

\* Los Angeles Times, February 1967



Organizations in Spanish-speaking Communities

Organizations in Spanish-speaking communities in the Bay Area are of four types: religious, political, social, and community organizations. Since most Spanish-speaking persons are Catholic, a significant number of organizations exist within or are closely allied with individual Catholic churches. The primary concern of these organizations is religious education. Allied to this primary function are social services and community improvement projects primarily designed for the benefit of members of the respective Parishes. Most of these organizations are not concerned with or involved in issues affecting the broader community. There are some beginning attempts by these groups to resolve themselves in political education and civic participation.

The major organizations in Spanish-speaking communities relevant to civil rights and general community issues are political in nature. The Mexican-American Political Association (MAPA) is the major organization of this type in the Bay Area and throughout the State of California. Although membership is predominantly Mexican American, in some communities such as San Francisco, there are many other Spanish-speaking persons involved.

There are several chapters of this organization to be found in the Bay Area. MAPA is primarily concerned with political issues which affect the Mexican and Spanish-speaking communities. It endorses and supports

candidates for political office, conducts political education and voter registration campaigns, and some of its leaders are involved in broader civil rights campaigns in the community. It also maintains a full-time legislative representative in Sacramento.

Although other political organizations exist in the Bay Area, the only such organization of significance is the Mission Council on Redevelopment (MCOR). It is composed of delegates from approximately 60 groups in the Mission District of San Francisco and was formed in 1965 as a vehicle for preventing redevelopment of the Mission District without meaningful citizen participation. Although MCOR was created for an ad hoc purpose, it has left an indelible mark by creating an awareness of the results of organization structure and the importance of community organization.

There are few privately funded community service organizations in the Bay Area. There are, however, many community service organizations which are funded by and closely related to various Office of Economic Opportunity Community Action Programs. The Community Service Organization (CSO), a national organization with Chapters throughout the Southwest, receives OEO assistance in several Bay Area communities.

Many knowledgeable persons believe that much of the potential leadership for private organization efforts have become involved on Boards and staff positions of Community Action Programs, such as the Mission Target Area of the San Francisco Economic Opportunity Council and the Spanish Speaking Foundation in the Fruitvale section of Oakland.

Many Mexican-American leaders allege that social service organizations such as the CSO are denied Community Chest support in many communities in the Bay Area. This is an area of contention because of the fact that they see similarity between the type of program carried on by CSO and the program of the Urban League, which receives Community Chest support.

In the San Francisco Bay Area there are many social clubs which frequently draw their membership from persons on the basis of their national origin or ancestry. There are clubs with membership of Nicaraguans, El Salvadorians, Puerto Ricans, Costa Ricans, the South American countries, and Mexico.

ABC Ch 7 863-00757

NBC Ch 4 421-1100

Ch 5 776-5100

Chron 421-1111

Σ Kam, 781-242x



Rod Cherry