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*Title:* Equality, Immigrants and the Latino Experience

My research focuses on the representation of Latino immigrants in mainstream American media as according to the five phases of media coverage identified by Wilson, Gutierrez and Chao. Like the representation of other minority groups, most present-day images of Latinos in American media are based on enduring negative stereotypes of Latin ethnicities. In the news, Latinos are more likely to be framed as criminals than whites and are rarely portrayed as victims. In reality, most Latinos are determined individuals who pull their weight in order to support their families and work hard everyday in an attempt to better their lives.

My presentation will illustrate the efforts of bloggers and documentarians who work to raise awareness of the harmful stereotypes of Latino immigrants despite the lived realities of their hard work they do and the legal and social obstacles faced immigrants on a daily basis. Following, I will demonstrate my Public Service Announcement that speaks to the benefits of immigrants in America. As a form of media activism, this PSA is a work-in-progress that I seek feedback from conference participants.