

FOIA MARKER

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UCSD [University of California at San Diego] - Quotes by Latinos

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Quote from **Ernesto Nieto**, President and founder of the National Hispanic Institute, community organizer and leader.

--Houston, TX

“In our view, there is no legitimate reason to separate youth by class, by color, or by conditions over which they have no control. Our job is clear: stimulate vision building; change ways of thinking, provide youth with nurturing environments where they can succeed; become role models that practice collaboration and build trust with others; extend them our admiration and respect; give them arenas to test out their ideas; encourage them to make new friends, pursue big plans, make big dreams come true. And finally, recognize them over and over for their successes, their achievements and accomplishments, no matter how big or small.”

with direct reference to the Latino community. . .

“We believe in the power of the mind, that in today’s youth exists the potential for significant breakthroughs in science, technology, medicine, and other disciplines. As a community with a long record of limited economic resources, we can ill afford to deny any of our young people the opportunity for success. We have learned to see thier failures as our failures, their successes as our successes.”

From César Chávez:

“As poor people and immigrants, all of us [Americans and Mexicans] have brought to this country some very important things of the spirit. . . We must never forget that the human element is the most important thing we have -- if we get away from this, we are certain to fall.”

“Fighting for social justice, it seems to me, is one of the profoundest ways in which man can say yes to man’s dignity, and that really means sacrifices.”

From **Ignacio L. López**, journalist and publisher for *El Espectador*, a Spanish language weekly in the San Gabriel Valley of So. California.

“People are human beings. As such they have more similarities than they have differences. Nevertheless, we are the creatures of our culture and our environment. We are the children of our habits. And the beauty and the strength of our American lies not in being alike but in our differences.”

“Respect and pride for one’s heritage is essential in order to feel proud in being an American”

“The time has come -- indeed it had to come -- for ‘one world’ in our home communities. It is the time for friendliness and courtesy, for the merging of viewpoints and differing customs, for the sharing of civic responsibilities and problems. Not as newcomers, but as co-workers over many decades of community history, the descendants [*sic*] of Spain and México, bearers of a great cultural heritage, come to take their place in civic life. They are ready to help bear its burdens and rejoice in its triumphs.”