

[Barry University](#)
[Institutional Repository](#)

[Theses and Dissertations](#)

2016

Differences in Acculturation and Gender on Involvement in Sexual
Risk Behaviors among Hispanic Adolescents

Esther Garcia

Differences in Acculturation and Gender on Involvement in Sexual Risk Behaviors among
Hispanic Adolescents

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Barry University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the completion of the Honors Program

by

Esther Garcia

May, 2016

Barry University
Honors Program

Honors Thesis Written by

Esther Garcia

Approved by:

Dr. Sabrina E. Des Rosiers
Chair, Thesis Supervisory Committee

Dr. Guillermo Wated
Thesis Supervisory Committee Member

Dr. Deena Grant
Honors Program Faculty Member

Dr. Karen Miles
External Member

Garcia, Esther
Differences in Acculturation and Gender on Involvement in Sexual Risk Behaviors among
Hispanic Adolescents

(Bachelors of Science in Psychology)
March/2016

Abstract of a senior honors thesis at Barry University
Thesis supervised by Dr. Sabrina Des Rosiers

Number of pages in text: 15

Recent studies show that Hispanic adolescents are more likely to engage in sexual risk behaviors (SRB). As a result, cases of sexually transmitted infections (STI's) are higher compared to their White non-Hispanic peers. The current literature indicate that adolescents who are oriented toward an acculturation process that emphasize receiving culture (i.e., Americanism) are more likely to be involved in sexual risk behaviors (SRB). Recent studies also show that involvement in risky sexual behaviors vary by gender among Hispanic adolescents. Therefore, the aim of the current study was to identify differences by gender and acculturation orientation (i.e., Hispanicism and Americanism) on involvement in SRB in a sample of Hispanic adolescents. The study used a 2x2 factorial ANOVA to examine the main and interaction effects of both acculturation levels and gender on SRB. Main and interaction effects between acculturation and gender on SRB were not observed in the current study. Descriptive results indicated that female adolescents with an American orientation to acculturation reported higher mean levels in the number of sexual risk behaviors in the past 90 days. Findings suggest the practical significance of gender and acculturation which accounted for a small amount of the variability in sexual risk behaviors among Hispanic adolescents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who has made this accomplishment possible.

Firstly I want to give all the glory to God, because I know that if it weren't for His mercy and grace I would not be looking forward to graduating with a Bachelor's in Psychology. I am so grateful for all His blessings through this journey. He has never let me go. I want to thank my Honors thesis advisor and mentor Dr. Sabrina Des Rosiers. She saw potential in me ever since the first class I had with her in my freshman year. She exposed me to so many great and different opportunities and experiences that have further increased my knowledge and love for Psychology. Thank you for having patience and taking the time to show me how fun and exciting Research Psychology really is.

I also want to specially thank Dr. Pawena Sirimangkala for her great enthusiasm in motivating us to reach our goals as students. Although we sometimes got carried away in the logistics of our research projects, she always reminded us to value the humanity within each person and to seek to help those around us through these projects. I also want to thank Dr. Guillermo Wated for introducing me to Research Psychology and taking the time to support me in this great journey.

I want to thank Dr. Karen Miles and Dr. Deena Grant for their support and taking the time to be part of this special project.

I also want to thank my wonderful husband Alejandro for all his love and support through sleepless nights ridden with homework, difficult courses, and very long papers. I don't know how I would have managed if he were not by my side.

Lastly I want to thank my parents, my brother and sister-in-law, and everyone who through some way or another has helped to push me to do my best and work hard understanding that dreams do come true as long as you are willing to fight for what you believe.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vii
PROBLEM STATEMENT.....	1
Prevalence of Sexual Risk Behaviors among Hispanic Adolescents.....	2
LITERATURE REVIEW.....	3
Socio-cultural Influences: Acculturation	3
Gender Differences.....	4
THE CURRENT STUDY.....	5
Rationale.....	5
Hypothesis.....	6
METHODS.....	7
Participants.....	7
MEASURES.....	7
RESULTS.....	8
Descriptive Statistics.....	8
Hypothesis Testing	8
DISCUSSION.....	10
Acculturation and Gender.....	10
Gender and Sexual Risk Behavior.....	11
Limitations.....	12
Conclusion and Implications.....	12

Directions for Future Research.....	13
REFERENCES.....	14
Appendix A: Demographics Questionnaire.....	17
Appendix B: The Bicultural Involvement Questionnaire.....	18
Appendix C: The Sexual Behavior Instrument.....	20

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1. Average age of sexual initiation among adolescents..... 2

TABLE 2. Prevalence rates of reported cases of STDs 3

TABLE 3. Prevalence rates among Hispanic adolescents 3

TABLE 4. Definitions of the different levels of acculturation orientations..... 7

TABLE 5. Nationalities of student sample in Miami..... 9

TABLE 6. Nationalities of student sample in Los Angeles..... 9

TABLE 7. Average frequency of involvement in sexual risk behaviors..... 12

Problem Statement

Adolescence is the period of the lifespan which begins at the age of 10, introducing the child into early adolescence, later transitioning into mid-adolescence, and ending at the age of 18 with late adolescence. This period of the lifespan has been shown to be a critical point in development as it is characterized by events that prepare the individual for adult roles. In effect, during the adolescent years the individual struggles to put away his or her childish ways and continues to develop into the adult he or she will be one day (Christie, 2005). Such a crucial struggle is shaped by biological and psychological factors, the most central being pubertal development. As the adolescent enters puberty, both boys and girls experience hormonal changes that bring about overall body growth and maturation of sexual characteristics. These changes provoke an increase in sexual drives. Nevertheless, hormonal changes are not the only influential factors associated with likelihood of sexual initiation. Rather, adolescents' engagement in sexual activities are influenced by many factors such as early pubertal timing, self-esteem, demographic characteristics, as well as social influences including beliefs, attitudes and social norms (Halpern, 2006). Among Hispanic adolescents a number of studies have indicated that sexual behaviors are influenced by other factors in addition to the normative developmental course of sexual behavior. For example (Kulis, 2012) indicated that girls who were more acculturated, that is those who endorsed with greater degree American values, practices and behaviors were more likely to report higher levels of sexual risk behaviors. Another factor that may impact Hispanic adolescent development is their involvement in sexual risk behaviors.

Prevalence of Sexual Risk Behaviors among Hispanic Adolescents

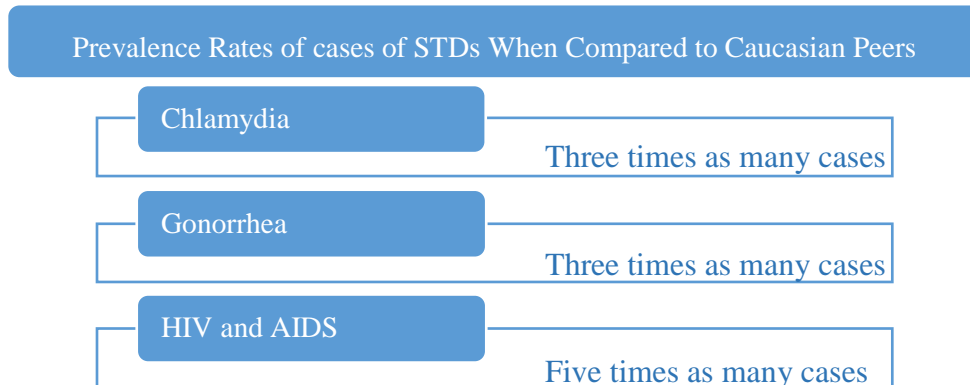
In the United States, engagement in sexual activities tends to occur around 16 years of age and sexual initiation after the age of 16 is generally not associated with psychological distress. However, adolescents of minority backgrounds are more likely to have an average age of initiation much earlier compared to their Caucasian counterparts. For example, in a recent survey, 3.9% of White students reported having sexual intercourse before the age of 13 as compared to 7.1% of Hispanics who reported having been sexually active before the age of 13 (Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey, 2011).

Table 1. Average age of sexual initiation among Hispanic and Caucasian adolescents.

Average Age of Sexual Initiation	
Caucasian Adolescents	16 years old
Hispanic Adolescents	13 years old

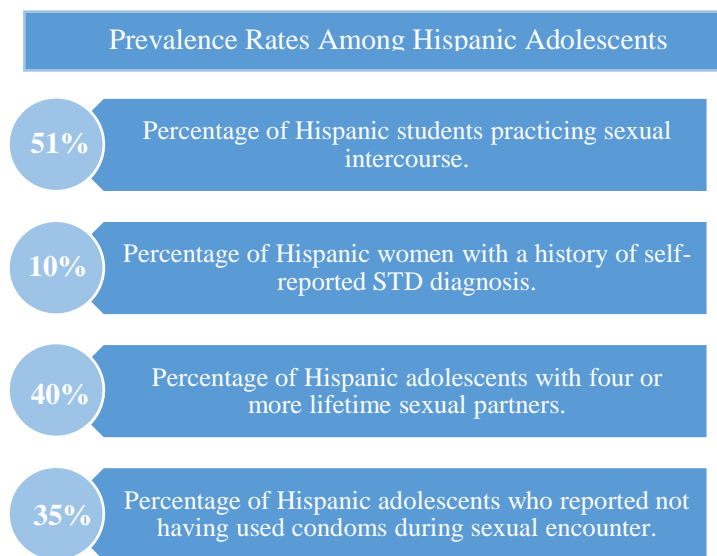
Exposure to sexual activities at such an early age is not only associated to psychological distress but increases a teenager’s vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancies (CDC, 2011). Latinas contracted chlamydia and gonorrhea at two to three times the rate of white females (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007), and in 2006 their rate of HIV and AIDS cases per 100,000 was more than five times that of white females.

Table 2. Prevalence rates of reported cases of STDs among Hispanic adolescents when compared to their Caucasian counterparts.



A national school-based survey revealed 51.0% of Hispanic students reported having had sexual intercourse compared with 43.0% of that white students (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2006). In addition, one in ten young Hispanic women reported having a history of self-reported STD diagnosis. Approximately four in ten had had four or more lifetime sexual partners, and 35% did not use condoms during recent sexual encounter.

Table 3. Prevalence rates among Hispanic adolescents.



Given the negative outcomes associated with earlier sexual initiation among Hispanic youth, research has emphasized other determinants including social and individual influences of sexual debut in addition to hormonal changes that are brought about by pubertal development.

Literature Review

Socio-cultural Influences: Acculturation

As previously discussed social influences can increase an adolescent's vulnerability to involvement in early sexual activities. In general, social norms, such as peer's favorable attitudes toward sexual activity, was related to sexual initiation. This pattern of association has been shown to be true for adolescents of diverse background (Sieving, 2006). For Hispanic adolescents, an additional socio-cultural experience related to sexual activity is pattern of acculturation. An acculturation orientation of assimilation has been linked with the development of problem behaviors like sexual risk-taking behaviors among Hispanic adolescents (Guilamo-Ramos, Jaccard, Peña, & Goldberg, 2005). Recent studies have shown that assimilation in foreign-born adolescents leads to negative behaviors such as increase in substance use, including alcohol and other drug use (Guilamo-Ramos et al., 2005; Greenman & Xie, 2007) and sexual risk taking behaviors (Guilamo-Ramos, Bouris, Jaccard, Lesesne, Gonzalez, & Kalogerogiannis, 2009). Hispanic women from English speaking homes were more likely to have a history of self-reported STD diagnosis and to exhibit sexual risk behaviors than the Hispanic women who did not speak English at home and were foreign-born. This finding further suggests that a higher level of acculturation (determined by the use of English at home) may be a predictor of sexual risk behaviors (Lee & Hahm 2010). Among Hispanic adolescents, the immigrant paradox hypothesis which indicates that assimilated children of immigrants experience more negative developmental outcomes (Garcia-Coll & Marks, 2011) has been used to explain negative

outcomes among Hispanic youth. In fact, Hispanic adolescents who adopted American ethnic identifications and practices were more likely to engage in unprotected and sexual promiscuity (Schwartz, Unger, Des Rosiers, Huang, Baezconde-Garbanati, Lorenzo-Blanco et al., 2012). These differences in levels of acculturation can further be studied by researching gender differences in adolescents. In this way we can further understand the different relationships between acculturation and sexual risk behaviors in the light of gender differences.

Gender Differences

Children develop gender-based beliefs which are reflected in their gender roles. They adopt this gender identity early in life and it follows through to adulthood. These gender differences play a very important in the development of adolescents. Girls and boys behave differently according to the behavior that is appropriate to their gender within their society (Hetherington, 2003). Gender differences play a major role in an adolescent's involvement in sexually risk behaviors. Research has shown that males are more sexually permissive than females (Oliver, 1993). Also a meta-analytic study concluded that males reported their sexual debut at a younger age than females and although the sexual initiation age has steadily decreased over the years, females' age of initiation has decreased at a more rapid rate when compared to males (Petersen, 2011). Many research studies have shown that gender differences also influence the acculturation process of adolescents. A study conducted in Phoenix, Arizona surveyed a sample of Mexican-American adolescents to the relationship between gender roles, acculturation and substance use. The results of the study showed that male adolescents who were less assimilated were involved in greater substance use, while females who were less assimilated were involved in lesser substance use. Also females who were more assimilated were involved in greater substance use, while males who are less assimilated are involved in lesser substance use

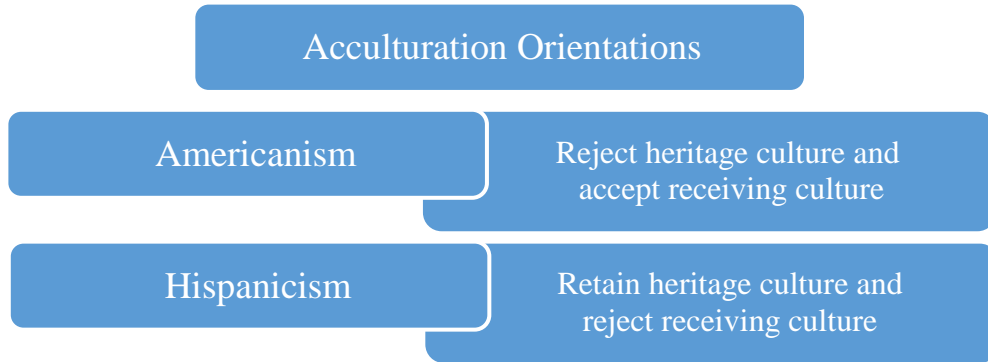
(Kulis, 2012). Current research indicated that gender may be very important in the acculturation process of adolescents. Furthermore the adolescent acculturation orientation that is orientation to heritage culture compared to orientation toward receiving culture (i.e., American culture) is associated with adolescents' involvement in sexual risk behaviors. Few research studies have investigated the effect of acculturation orientations and gender on sexual risk behaviors among recently immigrated Hispanic adolescents. As a consequence the primary purpose of this study was to evaluate differences in acculturation and gender on sexual risk behaviors.

The Current Study

Rationale

The current study was designed on the basis of empirical findings and the conceptual definition of acculturation that show that acculturation is the process by which contact with a new culture leads to a change in the lifestyle, beliefs, practices and behaviors of an individual after exposure to the new culture (Berry, 1997). Recent studies have indicated that immigrants may form different acculturation orientations. According to Berry (1980), an assimilated orientation (Americanism) refers to the adolescent rejecting the heritage culture (Hispanic) and acquiring the receiving culture (American) and a separated orientation (Hispanicism) whereby the adolescent rejects the receiving culture (American) and retain their heritage culture (Hispanic).

Table 4. Definitions of the different levels of acculturation orientations.



This study examined whether Hispanic adolescents that recently immigrated to the United States differ on acculturation orientations (i.e., Hispanicism or Americanism). Also how these differences and the differences in gender interact and influence involvement sexual risk behaviors. The current literature mentioned above indicates that adolescents who report higher level of endorsement of Americanism, that is, those who report to have acquired the behaviors, values and customs of the receiving culture are more likely to be involved in risky behaviors (Greenman, 2007) whereas those who retain Hispanic values, practices and behaviors are least likely to engage in sexual risk behaviors. The examination of differences in acculturation and gender on sexual risk behaviors will provide information for the development of interventions for recently immigrated adolescents who are sexually active.

Hypotheses

Based on current evidence that adolescents differ in their orientation toward acculturation that is, adolescents who are orientated to the receiving culture (Americanism) are more likely to report higher levels of involvement in risky behaviors compared to those who report retention of heritage (Hispanic) culture. A main effect of acculturation on sexual risk behaviors was tested.

Main effects: Specifically it was expected that stronger endorsement of American culture (Americanism) would contribute to higher levels of involvement in sexual risk behaviors. Furthermore, based on studies that report gender differences in engagement in sexual risk behaviors, a main effect of gender was also expected. Specifically, male adolescents would report more involvement in sexual risk behaviors compared to their female counterparts.

Interaction effects: It was hypothesized that the effect of acculturation (Hispanicism, Americanism) on sexual risk behaviors would depend on the levels of gender (male, female). Specifically, it was predicted that more assimilated female adolescents (i.e., higher on Americanism) would report higher levels of involvement in sexual risk behaviors compared to less assimilated (higher Hispanic culture retention- Hispanicism) female adolescents. Interaction effects for males and acculturation levels were not expected because current literature more strongly supports a main effect of acculturation on involvement in sexual risk behaviors among adolescents.

Methods

Participants

This study used archival data. The sample consisted of a total of 239 adolescents from Miami and Los Angeles. They were randomly selected from a pool of students that were in or entering 9th grade. Their ages ranged from 14 to 17 ($M = 14.51$, $SD = .88$). A slight majority (53%) of the students identified themselves as males. The nationality of the participants in Miami was Cuban (61%), Dominican Republic (8%), Honduras (6%), Colombia (6%), and other (19%). The nationality of the participants in Los Angeles was Mexican (70%), El Salvador (9%), Guatemala (6%), and other (15%). These students had been in the United States for an average of one year.

Table 5. Nationalities of student sample in Miami.

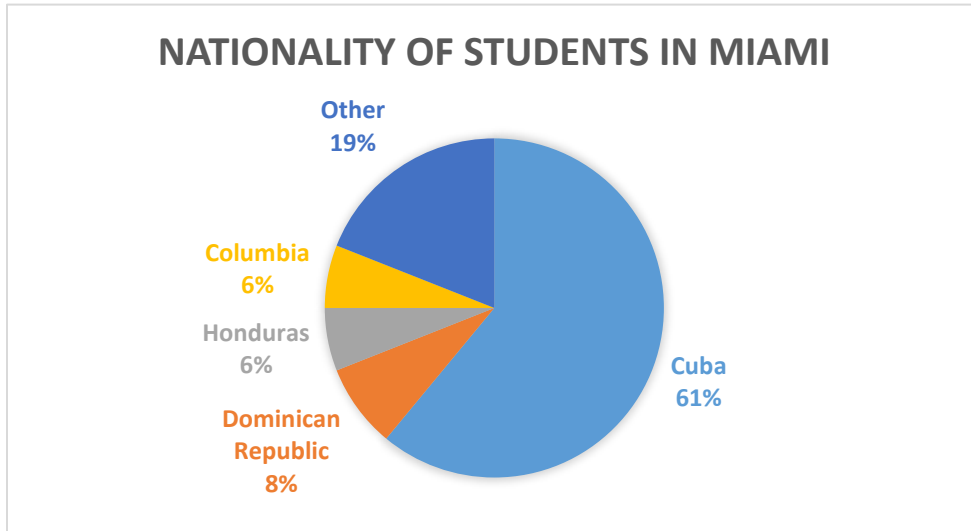
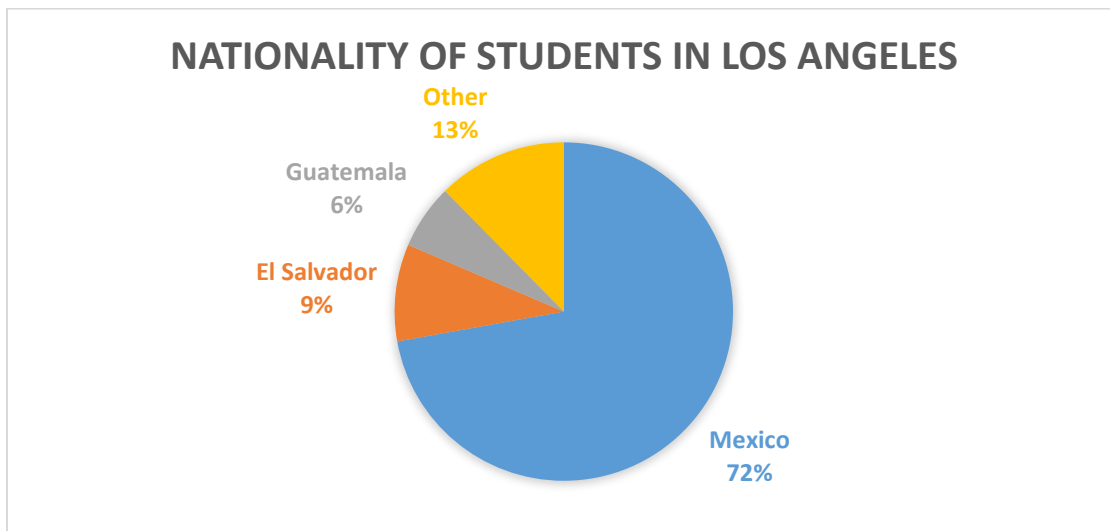


Table 6. Nationalities of student sample in Los Angeles.



Measures

The Bicultural Involvement Questionnaire (Szapocznik et al., 1980), was used to measure acculturation orientations. The scale includes 24 items, 12 assessing American cultural practices and 12 assessing Hispanic cultural practices. This scale has been shown to be valid and reliable

for measuring the practices of Hispanics' involvement in either culture ($\alpha = .82$), (Schmitt, 2005).

The Sexual Behavior Instrument (Jemmott et al., 1998) was used to measure participants' involvement in sexual risk behaviors. The participants were asked to report their frequency of involvement in risky sexual behaviors in their previous 90 days. Specifically, adolescents were asked if they had engaged in oral, vaginal, and anal sex; unprotected oral, anal, or vaginal sex; and number of sexual partners. A number of studies have indicated that sexual activity prior to age 16 is associated with greater degree of psychological distress among adolescents. Because the mean age of the sample was 14.51 years, sexual activity at this age is also considered to be risky (e.g., Dillon et al., 2010). This questionnaire has been shown to be reliable and valid ($\alpha = .94$).

Results

Data Analytic Approach

A 2X2 factorial ANOVA was used to test the hypothesis because it allows for an identification of differences in two different independent variables that have been shown to contribute to involvement in SRB among Hispanic youth. Another reason for selecting a 2X2 factorial ANOVA approach to data analysis was to identify independently the main effect of acculturation orientation and gender as well as the interaction of acculturation orientation and gender on the dependent variable, which was operationalized as the number of sexual risk behaviors the adolescent reported in the last 90 days.

Descriptive Statistics

The sample of students showed more orientation towards their heritage culture ($M = 56.87$, $SD = 15.06$) than the receiving culture ($M = 47.68$, $SD = 16.16$). Most adolescents identified as being Hispanic (58%). The students who identified as being American were 41.8%.

Their reported levels of involvement in sexual risk behaviors was low , although there was much variability in the amount of times engaged in sexual risk behaviors ($M = 8.37$, $SD = 17.13$), range: 0 - 90.

Hypothesis Testing

A Two-way factorial ANOVA was conducted to evaluate differences in acculturation and gender on sexual risk behaviors.

Acculturation Main Effect Hypothesis: Stronger endorsement of American culture (Americanism) will contribute to higher levels of involvement in sexual risk behaviors.

Results did not support the hypothesis that acculturation orientation would have a main effect such that stronger endorsement of American culture on higher frequency of involvement in sexual risk behaviors, $F(1, 235) = 0.114$, $p = .736$.

Gender Main effect Hypothesis: Gender differences will contribute to higher involvement in sexual risk behaviors. That is males will report greater involvement in sexual risk behavior.

A main effect of gender was not observed such that male and female Hispanic adolescents did not differ in involvement in sexual risk behaviors, $F(1, 235) = 1.093$, $p = .297$.

Acculturation and Gender Interaction Effect Hypothesis: The effect of acculturation orientation (Hispanicism, Americanism) on involvement in sexual risk behaviors will depend on the adolescent gender (i.e., on whether the adolescent is male or female).

Table 1 summarizes the average frequency of involvement in sexual risk behaviors according to acculturation orientation and gender. Standard errors are reported to show the variability of the reported frequencies of involvement in sexual risk behavior and to account for the possible error within the data set. Results did not support an interaction effect such that the interaction between acculturation and gender did not have an effect on involvement in sexual risk behaviors among

Hispanic adolescents in this study. $F(1, 235) = 2.942, p = .088$. The independent variables acculturation orientations and gender accounted for 1% of the variability in sexual risk behaviors, $\eta^2 = .01$.

Table 7. Average frequency of involvement in sexual risk behaviors according to acculturation orientation and gender

Gender	Acculturation	
	Hispanic	American
Male	$M = 9.612, SE = 2.153$	$M = 8.052, SE = 2.314$
Female	$M = 6.403, SE = 2.077$	$M = 12.833, SE = 2.719$

Discussion

The current study has examined whether the interaction between acculturation orientations and gender had an effect on involvement in sexual risk behaviors among Hispanic youth. It was hypothesized that differences in acculturation orientations and gender would contribute to involvement in sexual risk behaviors

Acculturation and Gender

Although significant results were not observed in the current study, it appears that acculturation and gender may have some practical significance in that they accounted for a small proportion of the variability in sexual risk behaviors in this sample of adolescents. That is, it is possible that depending on acculturation orientation and gender, involvement in sexual risk behaviors may vary. Results showed that female adolescents who identified as American

reported on average twice as much involvement in sexual risk behaviors than the female adolescents who identified as Hispanic. These results suggest the importance of identifying the multiple factors that comprise acculturation orientation and gender roles among Hispanic adolescents. The way Hispanic immigrants assimilate, hence change their behavior, identifications, and values to fit the receiving culture, may have positive or negative outcomes depending on the traditions of the heritage culture and the receiving culture (Kulis, 2012). One should also take into account that these values comprise traditional and cultural gender roles which influence both men and women's behavior in different ways. For example research done on substance use among recent immigrants showed that levels of acculturation mediated the amount of substance use for both men and women. Hispanic men who had not assimilated into the American culture reported higher levels of alcohol use when compared to Hispanic men that have assimilated. On the other hand, Hispanic women who had not assimilated reported lower levels of alcohol use when compared to Hispanic women that had assimilated. This difference in behavior based on gender and acculturation orientation may highlight differences in gender roles and expectation displayed in the Hispanic cultures generally. Alcohol consumption among men is seen as something normal and even praised, while alcohol consumption among women is greatly looked down upon (Kulis, 2012). When these men and women enter a new culture they assimilate according to the behavior and values of the receiving culture.

Gender and Sexual Risk Behavior

Although the sample used in the current study was composed of adolescents whose average age was 14 years old, meaning they were generally very young, their involvement in sexual risk behaviors is out of the norm given that normative sexual initiation happens at around 16 years old (Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey, 2011). In the current study early sexual

initiation of the adolescents and their involvement in sexual behaviors are risk factors that may increase the likelihood of maladaptive developmental outcomes.

Limitations

Two limitations must be considered when interpreting the results. The independent variables used in the study, acculturation orientation and gender accounted for 1% of the variability in sexual risk behaviors. This means that there may be other factors not directly tested in this study that may have an effect on involvement in sexual risk behaviors among Hispanic adolescents

The second limitation of this study is regarding the low level of frequency of involvement in sexual risk behaviors. Most adolescents in this study reported infrequent involvement in sexual risk behaviors and few adolescents reported higher mean levels of involvement in sexual risk behaviors. This finding suggest differences in severity of the behavior. The ANOVA tested mean differences between groups in involvement in sexual risk behavior, therefore the severity of risky behaviors reported by some adolescents may have been missed.

Conclusion and Implications

The main focus of this study was to identify the differences in acculturation and gender on sexual risk behaviors among Hispanic adolescents. Specifically the interaction between acculturation levels and gender differences was examined in efforts of understanding how both of these factors influence involvement in sexual risk behaviors. Despite the fact significant differences were not observed, the small amount of variability indicated by the 1% effect size suggest that the identification of these differences have some practical significance. These adolescents face the question of whether to keep their heritage culture or reject their heritage culture for the newly introduced culture. This is a decision that may affect their vulnerability for

involvement in risky situations. When seeking whether to promote an acculturation orientation towards the receiving culture among immigrant youth one should understand the complex relationship between acculturation, gender, and sexual risk behaviors. In fact, it should not focus on replacing values and identities with the values and identity of the receiving culture, but instead one should discern among the different values that each culture has to offer and promote healthy values among the immigrant youth.

Directions for Future Research

More studies focusing on the interaction effects of acculturation and gender on the involvement in sexual risk behaviors are encouraged, since the results of the current study indicated acculturation may be interacting with the gender of the adolescents on involvement in sexual risk behaviors. Also, studies should seek to use data analytic approaches that separate out the adolescents that report greater severity compared those that report lower levels of involvement.

References

- Boden, J. M., & Horwood, L. J. (2006). Self-esteem, risky sexual behavior, and pregnancy in a New Zealand birth cohort. *Archives of Sexual Behavior, 35*(5), 549-560.
doi:10.1007/s10508-006-9060-4
- Berry, J. W. (1980). *Acculturation as varieties of adaptation*. In A. M. Padilla (Ed.), *Acculturation: Theory, models and some new findings* (pp.9–25). Boulder, CO: Westview.
- Berry, J. W. (1997). Immigration, acculturation, and adaptation. *Applied Psychology: An International Review, 46*, 5–34.
- Berry, J. W., Phinney, J. S., Sam, D. L., & Vedder, P. (2006). *Immigrant youth in cultural transition: Acculturation, identity and adaptation across national contexts*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (2011). HIV among Latinos. Retrieved April 8th, 2014 from <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/latinos/index.htm>.
- Christie, D., Viner, R. (2005). Adolescent development. *British Medical Journal, 330* (7486): 301–4.
- Chang, Y., & Halgunseth, L. (2015). Early adolescents' psychosocial adjustment and weight status change: the moderating roles of gender, ethnicity, and acculturation. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence, 44*(4), 870-886.
- Dillon, F.R., De La Rosa, M., Schwartz, S.J., Rojas, P., Duan, R., Malow, R.M. (2010). U.S. Latina age of sexual debut: long-term associations and implications for HIV and drug abuse prevention. *AIDS Care 22*, 431–440.

- Ennis, S. R., Rios-Vargas, M., & Albert, N. G. (2011). The Hispanic population, 2010 (Census brief C2010BR-4). *Washington: U.S. Census Bureau.*
- Guilamo-Ramos, V., Jaccard, J., Peña, J., & Goldberg, V. (2005). Acculturation-related variables, sexual initiation, and subsequent sexual behavior among Puerto Rican, Mexican, and Cuban Youth. *Health Psychology, 24*, 88–95.
- Guilamo-Ramos, V., Bouris, A., Jaccard, J., Lesesne, C. A., Gonzalez, B., & Kalogerogiannis, K. (2009). Family mediators of acculturation and adolescent sexual behavior in Latino youth. *Journal of Primary Prevention, 30*, 395–419.
- Garcia-Coll, C. & Marks, K. (2011). The Immigrant Paradox in Children and Adolescents: Is Becoming American a Developmental Risk? *Washington, D.C. American Psychological Association.*
- Greenman E, Xie Y. (2008). Is assimilation theory dead? The effect of assimilation on adolescent well-being. *Social Science Research, 37*, 109-137.
- Halper, C., Waler, M., Spriggs, A. (2006). Adolescent predictors of emerging adult sexual patterns. *Journal of Adolescent Health*
- Hetherington, M., & Parke, R. (2003). *Child Psychology: A Contemporary Viewpoint* (5th ed.). McGraw-Hill Global Education Holdings.
- Jemmott III, J.B., Jemmott, L.S., Fong, G.T., (1998). Abstinence and safer sex HIV risk-reduction interventions for African American adolescents: a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of the American Medical Association, 279*, 1529–1536.
- Kulis S, Marsiglia FF, & Nagoshi JL. (2012). Gender roles and substance use among Mexican American adolescents: a relationship moderated by acculturation? *Substance Use & Misuse, 47*, 214-229.

- Lee, J., & Hahm, H. C. (2010). Acculturation and sexual risk behaviors among Latina adolescents transitioning to young adulthood. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 39 (4), 414-427.
- National Center for Prevention Services (U.S.) (1990). Surveillance and Information Systems Branch, & Center for Prevention Services (U.S.). *Division of STD/HIV Prevention. Surveillance and Information Systems Branch. Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance.*
- Petersen, J. (2011). Gender Differences in Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors: A Review of Meta-Analytic Results and Large Datasets. *Journal of Sex Research*, 48(2-3), 149-165.
doi:10.1080/00224499.2011.551851
- Oliver, M. B., & Hyde, J. S. (1993). Gender differences in sexuality: A meta-analysis. *Psychological Bulletin*, 114, 29–51.
- Schwartz, S. J., Unger, J. B., Des Rosiers, S. E., Huang, S., Baezconde-Garbanati, L., Lorenzo-Blanco, E., Villamar, J. A., Soto, D. W., Pattarroyo, M., & Szapocznik, J. (2012). Substance use and sexual behavior among recent Hispanic immigrant adolescents: Effects of parent-adolescent differential acculturation and communication. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 125S, S26-S34.
- Sieving, R., Eisenberg, M., Pettingell, S., & Skay, C. (2006) Friends' influence on adolescents' first sexual intercourse. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health.*
- Supple, A. (2011). Dimensionality and validity of the Rosenberg self-esteem scale for use with Latino adolescents. *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*, 33(1), 39-53.
doi:10.1177/0739986310387275

Szapocznik, J., Kurtines, W., Fernandez, T., (1980). Bicultural involvement and adjustment in Hispanic-American youths. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*. 4, 353–365

Appendix A

IRB Letter of Approval

The data used in this study was archival data. The use of this data was approved by the IRB in previous studies. The following letter displays the approval for the use of the data used in this study.

Barry University

Division of Academic Affairs

Institutional Review Board
11300 NE 2nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33161
P: 305.899.3020 or 1.800.756.6000, ext. 3020
F: 305.899.3026
www.barry.edu

Research with Human Subjects Protocol Review

Date: April 21, 2015
Protocol Number: 150407
Title: Staying True to Your Roots: Relationship between assimilation, self-esteem, and sexual risks behaviors among Hispanic youth

Meeting Date: April 15, 2015
Researcher Name: Ms. Esther Garcia
Address: 980 W. 77th Street Apt. E
Hialeah, FL 33014
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sabrina Des Rosiers
Psychology

Dear Ms. Garcia:

On behalf of the Barry University Institutional Review Board (IRB), I have verified that the specific changes requested by the IRB have been made. Therefore, I have granted final approval for this study as exempt from further review.

As principal investigator of this protocol, it is your responsibility to make sure that this study is conducted as approved by the IRB. Any modifications to the protocol or consent form, initiated by you or by the sponsor, will require prior approval, which you may request by completing a protocol modification form.

It is a condition of this approval that you report promptly to the IRB any serious, unanticipated adverse events experienced by participants in the course of this research, whether or not they are directly related to the study protocol. These adverse events include, but may not be limited to, any experience that is fatal or immediately life-threatening, is permanently disabling, requires (or prolongs) inpatient hospitalization, or is a congenital anomaly cancer or overdose.

The approval granted expires on May 7, 2015. Should you wish to maintain this protocol in an active status beyond that date, you will need to provide the IRB with and IRB Application for Continuing Review (Progress Report) summarizing study results to date.



If you have questions about these procedures, or need any additional assistance from the IRB, please call the IRB point of contact, Mrs. Barbara Cook at (305)899-3020 or send an e-mail to LBachelor@mail.barry.edu . Finally, please review your professional liability insurance to make sure your coverage includes the activities in this study.

Sincerely,



Linda Bacheller, Psy.D., J.D.
Chair, Institutional Review Board
Barry University
Box Psychology
11300 NE 2nd Avenue
Miami Shores, FL 33161

Cc: Dr. Sabrina Des Rosiers

Appendix B
Demographics Questionnaire

<p>In what country were you born? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿En que país naciste? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>United States; Cuba; Nicaragua; Honduras; Puerto Rico; Colombia; Mexico; Venezuela; Dominican Republic; Costa Rica; El Salvador; Panama; Peru; Guatemala; Argentina; Ecuador; Bolivia; Uruguay; Paraguay; Chile; Other (Specify);</p>	<p>Estados Unidos; Cuba; Nicaragua; Honduras; Puerto Rico; Colombia; Mexico; Venezuela; Republica Domicana; Costa Rica; El Salvador; Panama; Peru; Guatemala; Argentina; Ecuador; Bolivia; Uruguay; Paraguay; Chile; Otro (Especificar);</p>
<p>How would you describe your nationality, race, or ethnic background? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Como tu describirías tu nacionalidad, tu raza u origen étnico? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>"American; Cuban; Nicaraguan; Honduran; Puerto Rican; Colombian; Mexican; Venezuelan; Dominican; Costa Rican; Salvadorian; Panamanian; Peruvian; Guatemalan; Argentinian; Ecuadorian; Bolivian; Uruguayan; Paraguayan; Chilean; Other (Specify);"</p>	<p>"Americano(a); Cubano(a); Nicaragiense; Hondureño(a); Puertorriqueño(a); Colombiano(a); Mexicano(a); Venezolano(a); Dominicano(a); Costarisense; Salvadoreño(a); Panameño(a); Peruano(a); Guatemalteco(a); Argentino(a); Ecuatoriano(a); Boliviano(a); Uruguayo(a); Praguayo(a); Chileno(a); Otro (Especificar);"</p>

Appendix C

The Bicultural Involvement Questionnaire

<p>I feel that I am both a member of my heritage culture and an American. (Choose one)</p>	<p>Yo siento que soy un miembro de mi herencia cultural y americano a la vez. (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;</p>	<p>Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo</p>
<p>I am simply a member of my heritage culture living in the United States. (Choose one)</p>	<p>Yo simplemente soy un miembro de mi herencia cultural viviendo en los Estados Unidos. (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;</p>	<p>Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo</p>
<p>I keep my heritage and American cultures separate. (Choose one)</p>	<p>Yo mantengo mi herencia y la cultura Americana separadas. (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;</p>	<p>Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo</p>
<p>I feel part of a combined culture including both my heritage culture and American culture. (Choose one)</p>	<p>Yo me siento parte de culturas combinadas, incluyendo ambas, mi herencia cultural y la cultura Americana. (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;</p>	<p>Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo</p>
<p>I am conflicted between American ways of doing things and my heritage culture's way of doing things. (Choose one)</p>	<p>Yo estoy en conflicto entre las formas americanas de hacer las cosas y la de mi herencia cultural de hacer las cosas. (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;</p>	<p>Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo</p>

I don't feel trapped between my heritage and American cultures. (Choose one)	Yo no me siento atrapado(a) entre mi herencia y la cultura Americana. (Escoja uno)	Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;	Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo
I feel that my heritage and American identities are quite compatible. (Choose one)	Yo siento que mi herencia y la identidad americana son bastante compatibles. (Escoja uno)	Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;	Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo
I feel like someone moving between two cultures – my heritage culture and American culture. (Choose one)	Yo me siento como alguien que puede moverse entre 2 culturas – mi herencia cultural y la cultura Americana. (Escoja uno)	Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;	Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo
I am always a good listener, even when I'm tired or upset. (Choose one)	Yo siempre escucho, aunque este cansado o enojado. (Escoja uno)	Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;	Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo
I feel caught between my heritage and American cultures. (Choose one)	Yo me siento atrapado entre mi herencia y la cultura Americana. (Escoja uno)	Strongly Disagree; Disagree; In the Middle/Not sure; Agree; Strongly agree;	Fuertemente en desacuerdo; En desacuerdo; En el medio/No estoy seguro; De acuerdo; Fuertemente de acuerdo

Appendix D

The Sexual Behavior Instrument

Have you ever had vaginal, anal, or oral sex? (Choose one)	¿Has tenido alguna vez sexo vaginal, anal u oral? (Escoja uno)	Yes; No	Si; No
When you first had vaginal, anal, or oral sex, how old were you?	¿Qué edad tu tenias cuando por primera vez tuviste sexo vaginal, anal u oral?		
In your lifetime, with how many men have you had vaginal, anal, or oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero for none)	¿En toda tu vida, con cuántos HOMBRES/MUCHACHOS has tenido sexo vaginal, anal u oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		
With how many of these men have you had only oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero for none)	¿Con cuántos de estos HOMBRES/MUCHACHOS has tenido solo sexo oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		
In your lifetime, with how many women have you had vaginal, anal, or oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero for none)	¿En toda tu vida, con cuantas MUJERES/MUCHACHAS has tenido sexo vaginal, anal u oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		
With how many of these women have you had only oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero for none)	¿Con cuantas de estas MUJERES / MUCHACHAS has tenido solo sexo oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		

<p>Have you ever had vaginal or anal sex without using a condom? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Alguna vez has tenido sexo vaginal o anal sin usar un condón? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>
<p>Have you ever had oral sex without using a condom? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Alguna vez has tenido sexo oral sin usar un condón? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>
<p>Have you ever been under the influence of alcohol before having sex? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Alguna vez has estado bajo la influencia del alcohol antes de tener sexo? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>
<p>Have you ever been under the influence of illegal drugs while having sex? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Alguna vez has estado bajo la influencia de drogas ilegales mientras estás teniendo sexo? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>

Have you ever been under the influence of non-medical use medications (e.g., medications that were not prescribed or medications that were prescribed, but taken in amounts larger to what was prescribed) while having sex? (Choose one)	¿Alguna vez has estado bajo la influencia de algún medicamento sin receta médica, o de algún medicamento que fue recetado, pero que usaste más de lo recetado por el médico, mientras tenías sexo? (Escoja uno)	Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;	Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;
The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you or your partner use a condom? (Choose one)	¿La última vez que tuviste contacto sexual, tú ó tu compañero(a) usaron un condón? (Escoja uno)	Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;	Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;
The last time you had sexual intercourse, were you high on alcohol or drugs? (Choose one)	¿La última vez que tuviste contacto sexual estabas drogado(a) o borracho(a)? (Escoja uno)	Yes; No	Si; No
The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you have a couple of drinks and/or any drugs before having sexual intercourse? (Choose one)	¿La última vez que tuviste contacto sexual tomaste tragos o usaste drogas antes de tener sexo? (Escoja uno)	Yes; No	Si; No
In the past 3 months, have you had vaginal, anal, or oral sex? (Choose one)	¿En los últimos 3 meses, has tenido sexo vaginal, anal u oral? (Escoja uno)	Yes; No	Si; No

In the past 3 months, with how many men have you had vaginal, anal, or oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero for none)	¿En los últimos 3 meses, con cuantos hombres/muchachos has tenido sexo vaginal, anal u oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)	Yes; No	Si; No
With how many of these men have you had only oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero if none)	¿Con cuantos de esto hombres/muchachos has tenido solo sexo oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		
In the past 3 months, with how many women have you had vaginal, anal, or oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero if none)	¿En los últimos 3 meses, con cuántas mujeres/muchachas has tenido sexo vaginal, anal u oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		
With how many of these women have you had only oral sex? (Please enter a number or enter zero if none)	¿Con cuántas de estas mujeres/muchachas has tenido solamente sexo oral? (Por favor responde con un numero o pon '0' por ninguno)		
In the past 3 months, about how often have you had vaginal or anal sex without using a condom? (Choose one)	¿En los últimos 3 meses, que tanto has tenido sexo vaginal o anal sin usar un condón? (Escoja uno)	Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;	Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;

<p>In the past 3 months, about how often have you had oral sex only without using a condom? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿En los últimos 3 meses, que tan a menudo has tenido sexo oral sin usar un condón? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>
<p>During the past 3 months, have you been under the influence of alcohol before having sex? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Durante los últimos 3 meses, has estado bajo la influencia del alcohol antes de tener sexo? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>
<p>During the past 3 months, have you been under the influence of illegal drugs while having sex? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Durante los últimos 3 meses, has estado bajo la influencia de drogas ilegales mientras tenias sexo? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>

<p>During the past 3 months, have you been under the influence of non-medical use medications (e.g., medications that were not prescribed or medications that were prescribed, but taken in amounts larger to what was prescribed) while having sex? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Durante los últimos 3 meses, mientras tenias sexo, has estado bajo la influencia de medicamentos no recetados por el médico, o has usado medicamentos con receta mas de lo recetado por el médico? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Never; Less than half of the time; About half of the time; Not always, but more than half of the time; Always;</p>	<p>Nunca; Menos de la mitad de las veces; Como la mitad de las veces; No siempre, pero mas de la mitad de las veces; Siempre;</p>
<p>Has a doctor or other health care professional ever told you that you had a sexually transmitted disease (STD)? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿Alguna vez te ha dicho el médico u otra persona de la salud que tienes una infección transmitida sexualmente? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Yes; No</p>	<p>Si; No</p>
<p>In the past 3 months, has a doctor or other health care professional told you that you had had a sexually transmitted disease (STD)? (Choose one)</p>	<p>¿En los 3 últimos meses, te ha dicho el médico u otra persona de la salud que tienes una infección transmitida sexualmente? (Escoja uno)</p>	<p>Yes; No</p>	<p>Si; No</p>