

# Changing Paradigms in Chicano Studies: Ethnography, Oppositional Ethnography, and Ethnobiography

Rafael Chabrán

Occasional Paper No. 31

December 1997

## ABSTRACT

In the course of this presentation I will talk about my family's work in the area of Chicano Studies, notably that of my brother, Richard, and my sister, Angie. In no way should any of this be taken as any kind of an exemplar - that is not what this is about. It is, however, about us (Latinos) studying ourselves as academics and what Angie, has called "the need for Chicano scholars to engage in oppositional ethnography."

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rafael Chabrán is Associate Professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and Faculty Master of Johnson House at Whittier College in California. Before coming to Whittier College, he was employed at Louisiana State University. His areas of substantive research can be divided into four principal areas: The Life and Works of Miguel de Unamuno; the Life and Works of Dr. Francisco Hernández, The Interrelations between Science and Literature; and Chicano/Latino Studies. Chabrán has been teaching Ethnic Studies and Chicano-Latino Studies, especially literature, since 1972 when he first began teaching. In 1993 the publishing house Marshall Cavendish approached Chabrán and his brother, Richard, to undertake the publication of the Latino Encyclopedia. The work was published last January.