

Dominant-Minority Relations in 1964

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines how American diversity, as a result of a variation of immigrant populations, leads to specific types of relationships between minority and dominant groups in American society. In addition, to a general discussion about dominant-minority group relations, there is an emphasis on the Spanish speaking community in America. In order to understand dominant-minority relations, Samora examines these relationships through a pluralist lens, in which pluralism is disaggregated into cultural and social or structural pluralism. Samora suggests in this piece that when assessing minority incorporation in American society, through a cultural pluralism view, that minorities emerge more acculturated to the dominant group than is perceived. With regards to, social pluralism, he states that hostility and conflict arise among the dominant and minority group. This is a result of the limitations imposed by social pluralism on goals and aspirations of the minority groups; especially among Spanish speaking minorities. This paper concludes that cultural pluralism paints a picture of minority assimilation, while social pluralism displays another reality with regards to dominant-minority relations.