HOW DO WE KNOW IF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVING LATINOS AND IMMIGRANTS?

CATHOLIC IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION INITIATIVE CONFERENCE
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INTENT VS. IMPACT

• We all want the Church to help immigrants
• Those involved see the Church helping immigrants
  • Anecdotal evidence vs. data
• How do we know if reality matches our ideal?
ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

1. Local service
   • Spanish mass
   • Culturally specific services
   • Relative to local population size

2. National service
   • Prioritization of issues
     • USCCB statements
   • Relative to national population

Problem: no data available
LOCAL SERVICE

Three locations:

• San Antonio, TX
• Diocese of Yakima, WA
• Seattle, WA

Does a larger population make Spanish mass or Latino services more likely?

Does having a Latino priest or deacon make Spanish mass or Latino services more likely?
Probability of Spanish Mass by Latino Population Density and Latino Minister

- Priest
- Non-Latino Minister
- Latino Minister
Probability of Cultural Services by Population Density and Latino Minister
LOCAL SERVICE

CONCLUSION:

• Churches very good at providing mass
• Churches not very good at providing other services
• Latino ministers make a significant difference
  • Particularly when Latinos not dominant
NATIONAL SERVICE: USCCB

Does the National Church body prioritize Immigrant and Latino issues?

General Assembly Meetings Agendas, 2011-2014
  • n=140
Presidential Address, 2011-2014
  • n=4
USCCB news release, 2010-2014
  • n=1038

Total items: 1182
## FINDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Analysis</th>
<th>“Immigration”</th>
<th>“Latino/Hispanic”</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Assembly Items, 2011-14 (N=140)</td>
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<td>Presidential Address, 2011-2014 (N=4)</td>
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<td>USCCB News Release, 2010-2014 (N=1038)</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td><strong>Total: 1182</strong></td>
<td><strong>62 (5.2%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 (0.3%)</strong></td>
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<td>Domestic Issues: 410</td>
<td>(15.1%)</td>
<td>(0.9%)</td>
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NATIONAL SERVICE: CONCLUSIONS

• Immigrants prioritized
• Discussions limited to policy – not parishes
• Latino incorporation and inclusion not a priority
INTENT VS. IMPACT

• We all want the Church to help immigrants
• Those involved see the Church helping immigrants
  • Anecdotal evidence vs. data
• How do we know if reality matches our ideal?

• Good intentions are a great start
• Need research to measure impact
• Bring actions in closer alignment with stated goals
THANK YOU!