

Annotation #1

The article, *The Making of Indigeneity, Curriculum History, and the Limits of Diversity* by Ligia Lopez explores the problematic approach of indigenous studies in the country of Guatemala. This Latin American state has long been seen as one of the most linguistically and culturally diverse places in the Hispanic world, but its ongoing colonial legacy is still clearly seen in the country's history curriculum. The author points out how the mindset of the superior European Spanish colonizer is still widespread across the general population, and phrases derogatory towards the "Indians" are heard every day. But the solutions of well-meaning Guatemalans that wish to change the current situation is challenged by Lopez, noting both the multicultural and Indigenism movement are not approaches coming from the indigenous themselves, rather they are histories and systems of compliance to the state written by non-indigenous historians. The approach that Lopez suggested is an ongoing and incomplete one, but most importantly, she advocates for the "You Tell Me Your History" method, where the history of the indigenous Guatemalans will be taught as an ongoing, changing process, not confined to the artificial borders created from the colonial era.

I believe that Lopez has good intentions to create a conversation about the need for improvement for the history curriculum in Guatemala, but I noticed that the article pointed out the problems, listed various outdated beliefs and records of the Guatemalan indigenous population, but did not offer any true solutions in the end. While I agree almost entirely with the article's content, it did not offer me too much assistance in coming up with ideas for solving diversity within the history department in academia. However, the most helpful information I took from this article is the fact that this problem exists outside of the Western world, and even in 2nd or 3rd world nations. So this article is a reflection not only written for the Guatemalan population, but its lesson can be learned by the US as well.

López, L. (L. (2017). The making Of Indigeneity, Curriculum history, and the limits of diversity.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315392424>