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Language Attitudes of Bloomington-Normal ESL Students

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Poster Presentation P35

LANGUAGE ATTITUDES OF BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL ESL STUDENTS

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This is a study of twenty adult Mexican-American English as a second language (ESL) learners of the Bloomington-Normal, Illinois community. The purpose of this investigation is to examine the relationship between the ESL students' English proficiency and their attitudes toward the English language and US culture. Data was collected using a questionnaire and coincides with the findings of Oller, Baca, and Vigil (1977) that as ESL students become more proficient in English, they also appear to become less positive toward the English language and US culture. The results of this study can be used to analyze the role language attitudes play in the process of becoming fluent in a second language.

Oller, J., Baca, L., & Vigil, F. (1977). Attitudes and attained proficiency in ESL: A sociolinguistic study of Mexican Americans in the Southwest. *TESOL Quarterly*, 11(2), 173-183.