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Decline and Disparity: The Case of Spanish Language Newspapers in the U.S.

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DECLINE AND DISPARITY: THE CASE OF SPANISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS IN THE U.S.

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This study explores the differences in content, availability and bias found between English and Spanish language newspapers nationally with an added emphasis on how The Pantagraph and La Raza, the prominent English and Spanish newspapers available in Bloomington, Illinois, compare with these findings. The overall history and decline of print media is investigated alongside the social and linguistic consequences of this phenomenon, including acculturation, language maintenance, and language shift. These outcomes broaden the knowledge gap, especially in health and political issues, between the majority and Hispanic minority populations. From this study, possible remedies for the decline and disparity characteristics of Spanish language newspapers will be unveiled.