

ORIGINAL

African Heritage in the New World: Exploring Afro-descendant Influence in Latin America

Legado africano en el nuevo mundo: una mirada a la influencia cultural de los pueblos afrodescendientes en América Latina

Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza¹  

¹Universidad de Ciencias y Artes de América Latina. Lima, Perú.

Cite as: Rodriguez-Barboza JR. African Heritage in the New World: Exploring Afro-descendant Influence in Latin America. Southern perspective / Perspectiva austral. 2025; 3:196. <https://doi.org/10.56294/pa2025196>

Submitted: 08-05-2024

Revised: 22-11-2024

Accepted: 01-05-2025

Published: 02-05-2025

Editor: Salil Bharany 

Corresponding author: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza 

ABSTRACT

This study delves into the profound African influence on Latin American culture, unveiling its indelible imprint on music, dance, spirituality, and culinary traditions. The primary objective is to illuminate the historically underappreciated contributions of Afro-descendant communities, thereby enriching the academic corpus and fostering broader recognition of their cultural heritage. Employing a qualitative methodology within a socio-critical paradigm, the research is grounded in a comprehensive literature review, ensuring a nuanced understanding of the cultural amalgamation and its socio-economic ramifications. Findings highlight the vibrant integration of African heritage across various societal spheres, yet also underscore significant gaps in literature, particularly in recognizing contributions beyond the cultural domain. The study concludes that while the rich African legacy in Latin America is undeniable, its full spectrum and depth are yet to be fully acknowledged. It calls for a more inclusive narrative that transcends conventional cultural domains, extending into realms of education, policy, and socio-economic development. Future research should address these lacunae, fostering a more inclusive and equitable representation of Afro-descendant influences in the fabric of Latin American culture.

Keywords: Afro-Descendant Influence; Latin American Culture; Cultural Fusion; Cultural Integration; Afro-Descendant Contributions.

RESUMEN

Este estudio explora la profunda influencia africana en la cultura latinoamericana, revelando su huella indeleble en la música, la danza, la espiritualidad y las tradiciones culinarias. El objetivo principal es visibilizar las contribuciones históricamente subvaloradas de las comunidades afrodescendientes, enriqueciendo así el corpus académico y promoviendo un mayor reconocimiento de su legado cultural. A través de una metodología cualitativa enmarcada en un paradigma socio-crítico, la investigación se sustenta en una revisión exhaustiva de la literatura, lo que permite una comprensión matizada del mestizaje cultural y sus repercusiones socioeconómicas. Los hallazgos evidencian la vibrante integración del legado africano en diversas esferas sociales, aunque también señalan notables vacíos en la literatura, especialmente en lo relativo al reconocimiento de aportes más allá del ámbito cultural. Se concluye que, si bien la riqueza del legado africano en América Latina es incuestionable, su amplitud y profundidad aún no han sido plenamente reconocidas. El estudio aboga por una narrativa más inclusiva que trascienda los marcos culturales convencionales, incorporando dimensiones como la educación, las políticas públicas y el desarrollo socioeconómico. Se recomienda que futuras investigaciones aborden estas lagunas, fomentando una representación más equitativa e inclusiva de las influencias afrodescendientes en el entramado cultural latinoamericano.

Palabras clave: Influencia Afrodescendiente; Cultura Latinoamericana; Fusión Cultural; Integración Cultural; Aportes Afrodescendientes.

INTRODUCTION

The African presence in Latin America, from colonial times to the present, manifests in multiple cultural, social, and economic dimensions.⁽¹⁾ The vibrant music, distinctive artistic expressions, unique religious practices, and enriched culinary patterns are testimony to this profound influence. However, despite its evident integration into the Latin American social fabric, the African contribution is often not recognized to its full extent, remaining in the shadows of more dominant narratives.

This disregard for African roots in Latin American culture not only distorts the understanding of regional identity but also poses a problem of cultural recognition and appreciation. The lack of visibility and the systematic marginalization of Afro-descendant communities have led to an incomplete narrative of Latin American history and culture, leaving a gap in the academic and social understanding of the region.⁽²⁾

In response to this gap, recent studies have begun to shed light on the magnitude of African influence. The richness and diversity of Afro-descendant contributions, challenging established narratives and paving the way for a more inclusive and nuanced understanding of Latin American culture.^(3,4,5) However, there is still much to discover and recognize in this field of study.

In this context, the present research aims to delve into the African influence in Latin American culture, with the objective of unraveling and giving visibility to these historically underestimated contributions. The central question guiding this study is: How is the African influence manifested and perceived in the various aspects of Latin American culture, and how can its recognition contribute to a more complete understanding of the identity and cultural diversity in the region? With this goal, the study seeks not only to contribute to the existing academic corpus but also to promote a broader and deeper recognition of the rich African heritage in Latin America.

METHOD

This study adopts a qualitative approach under a sociocritical paradigm, privileging a profound understanding of Afro-descendant influences in Latin American culture through meticulous and contextualized bibliographic review. This methodology is consciously selected to explore the complexities and nuances inherent in the cultural, social, and economic interaction of Afro-descendant communities in the region. By focusing on a bibliographic review, this work does not incorporate a sample of direct participants but immerses itself in a wide range of academic literature, reports, articles, and historical records that provide a holistic and updated view of the topic.

The bibliographic review is carried out with a critical and analytical approach, identifying, evaluating, and synthesizing the most relevant and recent works in the field of study. This approach not only allows for understanding existing contributions and ongoing debates but also identifying the gaps and limitations present in current literature. In doing so, it seeks to construct a coherent and comprehensive narrative that reflects the richness and complexity of Afro-descendant heritage in Latin America, recognizing its impact on multiple spheres of society.

The underlying sociocritical theoretical framework in this methodological approach emphasizes the importance of understanding the dynamics of power, resistance, and social transformation inherent in cultural interaction. This paradigm provides valuable analytical tools to unravel how historical narratives, media representations, and public policies have influenced and sometimes distorted the perception and valuation of Afro-descendant heritage in the region. By adopting this perspective, the study aspires to contribute not only to academic knowledge but also to foster greater awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity and social inclusion in Latin America.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Following the methodology proposed by authors like ⁽³⁹⁻⁴²⁾ an exhaustive bibliographic review was conducted, selecting relevant literature that reflects the richness and diversity of Afro-descendant contributions. This methodology allows for a profound understanding of complex cultural interactions without the need for a sample of participants, focusing on analyzing texts and publications to construct a coherent and well-founded narrative.

Literature review

This study delves into the depth of African roots that, intertwined with history,⁽⁶⁾ have shaped a rich and diverse identity, often underestimated in conventional narratives. The exploration begins by recognizing

the cultural amalgam that has emerged from the interaction between African, indigenous, and European communities. This complex web, woven over centuries, reveals a tapestry of practices, beliefs, and artistic expressions that defy superficial understanding. By unraveling this cultural richness, the study not only seeks to illuminate African contributions in the region but also to recalibrate the lens through which Latin American cultural heritage is observed and valued.

On this academic journey, we navigate through an intersection of theories and perspectives, placing special emphasis on the resistance, adaptability, and creativity of Afro-descendant communities. The African diaspora,⁽⁴⁾ with its resilient spirit and rich cultural heritage, emerges not only as a subject of passive influence but as an active agent that has sculpted and enriched Latin American culture in multiple dimensions. This exploration goes beyond superficiality, seeking to unearth and highlight the profound cultural currents that have been marginalized or ignored, thus providing well-deserved recognition to a heritage that is integral, not only to Latin America but to the global cultural heritage.

Afro-descendant Cultural Influence

Music and Dance: Rhythms that Tell Stories

Music and dance represent the most tangible and vibrant forms of African influence in Latin American culture.⁽⁷⁾ Rhythms like salsa in Cuba, samba in Brazil, and cumbia in Colombia are clear examples of this cultural fusion.⁽⁸⁾ These musical genres not only serve as entertainment but also function as a living chronicle of the history, struggle, and resistance of the African diaspora.⁽⁹⁾ Instruments such as drums and maracas, with their roots in Africa, have provided the rhythmic foundation that defines these genres, while bodily expression in dance reflects African ancestral traditions.⁽¹⁰⁾

Afro-descendant music and dance in countries like Cuba, Brazil, and Colombia are not merely artistic expressions; they are the vibrant heartbeat of a heritage deeply woven into the cultural fabric of these nations.⁽¹¹⁾ In Cuba, son and rumba are more than musical genres; they are living narratives that tell stories of resistance and celebration, resonating with the echoes of African ancestors.⁽¹²⁾ Afro-Cuban rhythms, born from the fusion of cultures, not only move bodies in dance but also move hearts, keeping alive the connection with a shared past.



Figure 1. Representatives of Afro-American Music

Note: Amadito Valdés (percussion), Antonio Leal (trombone), and Raúl Gutiérrez (baritone saxophone) performing with Afro-Cuban All Stars in São Paulo, Brazil⁽¹³⁾

In Brazil, samba is not just a dance or rhythm; it is a cultural institution that encapsulates the essence of Brazilian diversity.⁽¹⁴⁾ Originating from African traditions and shaped by the Brazilian experience, samba is a thread that weaves communities together, celebrating Afro-Brazilian identity in every beat.⁽¹⁵⁾ Similarly, capoeira, with its blend of dance, martial art, and music, is an expression of resistance and freedom, narrating a story of struggle and survival through agile movements and evocative music.⁽¹⁶⁾

In Colombia, cumbia and vallenato resonate not only on the coasts but throughout the country, celebrating the fusion of African, indigenous, and European influences.⁽¹⁷⁾ Cumbia, with its powerful drums and hypnotic dance, is a testament to the history and resilience of the Afro-Colombian communities, a vibrant reminder of how music and dance can be unifying forces, overcoming differences and weaving a narrative of unity and belonging.⁽¹⁸⁾

In 1974, one of the most representative musical groups of Latin America performed a concert in a stadium located in Zaire, Africa. The group, “Fania All Stars”, shared their culture, music, and acknowledged the invaluable legacy of their predecessors by sharing their culture, rhythm, and African flavor across generations.⁽¹⁹⁾



Figure 2. World-renowned salsa singers giving a concert in Zaire, Africa

In these countries, Afro-descendant music and dance are much more than cultural manifestations; they are the echo of a history that refuses to be forgotten, the celebration of an identity that transcends borders, and a living tribute to the strength and creativity of African peoples. Recognizing and celebrating these expressions is not just about honoring a cultural legacy; it is about strengthening intercultural dialogue and the social fabric of the region, demonstrating that music and dance, in their universality, have the power to unite, heal, and tell stories that deserve to be heard and remembered.

Religion and Spirituality: A Fusion of Beliefs

Religion and spirituality in Latin America cannot be fully understood without acknowledging the religious syncretism that has occurred among African, indigenous, and European beliefs.⁽²⁰⁾ Religious practices such as Santería in Cuba,⁽²¹⁾ Candomblé in Brazil,⁽²²⁾ and Vodou in Haiti⁽²³⁾ are examples of how African traditions and rituals have mixed and adapted to local contexts and Christian influences. These religions are not only a testament to cultural resistance and adaptability but also offer a unique view of the African worldview and its interpretation of the spiritual world.

The fusion of beliefs in countries such as Cuba, Brazil, and Haiti is an eloquent testimony of how African spirituality has shaped and defined crucial aspects of cultural identity in Latin America. In Cuba, Santería, with its origins in the religious practices of the Yoruba brought from Africa,⁽²⁴⁾ is not just a religion; it is a pillar of Cuban cultural identity. The rituals of Santería, with their deities (orishas) and profound symbolism, reflect an intricate relationship between the spiritual and everyday world. This syncretic religion, which has survived despite oppression and discrimination, is a testament to resistance, adaptation, and the ongoing search for spiritual meaning and community connection.



Figure 3. The Convergence of Two Cultures: Afro-Bolivian and Aymara

In Brazil and Haiti, Candomblé and Vodou epitomize the profound African influence on religious diversity, blending spirituality with cultural identity and resistance. Candomblé, with its roots in African traditions from the Yoruba, Fon, and Bantu people,⁽²⁵⁾ it not only integrates elements of Catholicism but also serves as a platform for Afro-Brazilian cultural affirmation and resistance. Haitian Vodou, is deeply interwoven with the nation's identity,⁽²⁶⁾ transcends common misconceptions to present a complex belief system that honors ancestors, celebrates life, and promotes harmony with the spiritual realm. These religions, emblematic of Afro-descendant resilience and adaptation, are not merely systems of belief but vital cultural conduits preserving historical wisdom, strengthening community bonds, and underscoring the enduring human quest for spiritual connection. Acknowledging and valuing these traditions not only recognizes an essential cultural heritage but also highlights the vibrancy and complexity of human spirituality and its capacity to empower communities across generations.

Gastronomy: Flavors of a Shared Identity

The African influence in Latin American cuisine reflects adaptation and creativity.⁽²⁷⁾ Ingredients like bananas, coconuts, cocoa, and numerous spices introduced by Africans have become fundamental in the diets of various Latin American countries. Dishes such as mole in Mexico,⁽²⁸⁾ feijoada in Brazil, and sancocho in the Caribbean are examples of how African heritage has intertwined with indigenous and European culinary traditions to create a rich palette of flavors that define regional gastronomy.

Afro-descendant gastronomy in Latin America is a rich culinary tapestry that tells stories of fusion, adaptation, and creativity.⁽²⁹⁾ In countries like Brazil, Colombia, and the Caribbean, African flavors and culinary techniques have amalgamated with indigenous and European ingredients, resulting in a unique cuisine that is both an expression of identity and a bridge between cultures. In Brazil, dishes like feijoada, often considered the national dish, embody this culinary synergy. Its roots date back to the time of slavery,⁽³⁰⁾ when African slaves prepared this nutritious stew with the meat remnants granted to them, mixing them with black beans.⁽³¹⁾ Today, feijoada is a symbol of Brazilian national identity, celebrating African contributions to the country's cultural and gastronomic wealth.

Across Latin America and the Caribbean, African culinary influences manifest vibrantly, weaving a rich tapestry of flavors and traditions that underscore the depth of cultural integration and creativity. In Colombia, especially along the Pacific and Caribbean coasts, dishes like sancocho, coconut rice, and fried fish embody the resilience and richness of Afro-Colombian heritage, transforming simple ingredients into complex, flavorful meals that narrate the community's history and creativity.⁽³²⁾ Similarly, the Caribbean's culinary scene is a testament to the dynamic interplay of diverse cultural legacies, with African heritage significantly shaping dishes like jerk, mofongo, and callaloo, turning meals into celebrations of diversity and innovation. In Peru, the subtlety of African influence merges seamlessly with the local culinary identity, particularly along the coast. Dishes such as Tacu Tacu and Anticuchos exemplify the adaptability and ingenuity of African descendants, enriching Peru's gastronomy with flavors that speak to a history of integration, resistance, and celebration. Together, these culinary expressions not only enhance the region's gastronomic landscape but also pay homage to the enduring impact of African culture, demonstrating its essential role in the formation and evolution of these rich and diverse culinary traditions.

Afro-descendant gastronomy in Latin America is, therefore, a mirror of its social and cultural history: a narrative of resistance, adaptation, and celebration. Each dish tells a story, each flavor carries the memory of a journey, and each bite is a tribute to the resilience and creativity of the peoples who have contributed to shaping the rich and diverse culinary tapestry of the region. By recognizing and celebrating these flavors, we honor not just a culinary tradition but also nourish the understanding and appreciation of the complex history of exchange and fusion that defines Latin American identity.

Theoretical Perspectives

Theories of Cultural Syncretism: Understanding Fusion

Theories of cultural syncretism are fundamental for understanding how different cultures can merge and give rise to new identities and cultural expressions. These theoretical approaches allow the analysis of how African, European, and indigenous traditions not only coexist but also interact, mutually influence each other, and evolve. Syncretism is not only seen in religion and spirituality but also in music, art⁽³³⁾ and cuisine, offering a holistic view of the cultural amalgam that characterizes Latin America.

Cultural syncretism in Latin America represents a vivid illustration of how indigenous, European, and African influences merge, creating unique cultural expressions that challenge the concept of immutable cultures. This phenomenon facilitates the emergence of new identities and forms of expression, emphasizing the dynamic and fluid nature of culture.⁽³⁴⁾ Theories of cultural syncretism,⁽³⁵⁾ offer insights into the complexities of cultural identities, showcasing their adaptability and the ongoing process of hybridization. This is particularly evident in areas such as music, dance, religion, and gastronomy, where the fusion of diverse traditions reflects the

richness of cultural interaction and the capacity of communities to generate both unique and universal forms of expression. Embracing these theories not only reveals the depth of Latin America's cultural heritage but also underscores the importance of understanding cultural transformation to appreciate diversity, promote dialogue, and foster mutual respect in a globalized world.⁽³⁶⁾

African Diaspora Studies: Recognizing Dispersion and Influence

African diaspora studies focus on the dispersion of African peoples across the Atlantic and how their presence and cultural practices have influenced and transformed the societies in which they have settled. These studies not only highlight the resilience and adaptability of Afro-descendant communities but also challenge hegemonic narratives that have marginalized or invisibilized their contributions to history and culture.

African diaspora studies address the historical dispersion of African peoples across the world and their enduring influence on contemporary societies, especially in Latin America.⁽³⁷⁾ This academic field focuses not only on migration routes and settlement patterns of Afro-descendant communities but also on how they have preserved, adapted, and reinvented their cultural traditions in new contexts. Recognizing the African diaspora involves understanding how African influences have shaped fundamental aspects of Latin American cultures, from music and gastronomy to religious practices and social structures.

In the realm of diaspora studies, the resilience and agency of Afro-descendant communities are highlighted, as they have historically faced adversity and marginalization. By examining the contributions of these communities to the societies in which they have integrated, a panorama of enriching cultural exchange and resistance against oppression and exclusion is revealed. The African diaspora is therefore not only studied as a phenomenon of movement and dispersion but also as a dynamic process of cultural interaction, adaptation, and creativity, which has had a profound and lasting impact on the cultural and social development of Latin America.

Delving into African diaspora studies allows the unveiling of layers of history and culture that have often been invisibilized or underestimated. This approach offers a more complete and nuanced perspective of Latin American history and culture and fosters a broader recognition of the diversity and richness that characterize the region. By doing so, tribute is not only paid to African heritage but also promotes a more inclusive and respectful dialogue about identity, belonging, and cultural diversity in an increasingly interconnected world.

Gaps in the Literature

Incomplete Recognition: The Need for a More Inclusive Narrative

Despite significant advances in understanding African influence in Latin America, notable gaps still exist in the literature.⁽³⁸⁾ Many aspects of African contribution, especially in less-studied areas such as influence in science, technology, and education, remain underexplored. This lack of complete recognition perpetuates a partial view of Latin American history and culture, underestimating the true breadth and depth of African influence.

The scholarly landscape on Afro-descendant influence in Latin America, while extensive, reveals considerable voids that obscure a full appreciation of this intricate cultural legacy. Notably, the focus has predominantly been on the more visible domains of music, dance, and religion, sidelining critical contributions to science, technology, education, and political philosophy. This selective recognition contributes to a narrative that inadequately captures the breadth and richness of African impact on the region. There's a pressing need for narratives that not only extol Afro-descendant achievements in cultural and artistic fields but also duly acknowledge their profound influences across all societal facets. Such an expanded perspective would enrich understanding of African heritage in Latin America, illustrating its pivotal role in shaping the region's cultural identity and its broader socio-economic and political evolution. Bridging these literature gaps transcends academic endeavor; it's a social and cultural necessity aiming for a more comprehensive and respectful acknowledgement of Latin America's diversity. It calls for an inclusive dialogue that accurately reflects the contributions of all communities, ensuring the region's history, identity, and prospective paths genuinely represent its diverse cultural tapestry.

Towards Greater Inclusion and Recognition

Addressing these gaps in the literature is not only crucial for a more comprehensive academic understanding but also fundamental for the validation and empowerment of Afro-descendant communities in Latin America.^(39,40,41,42) Expanding the research focus to include a broader range of cultural, social, and economic contributions can provide a richer and more nuanced narrative, promoting greater inclusion and recognition of cultural diversity in the region.

The enhancement of Afro-descendant recognition in Latin America calls for a concerted effort to revise and expand historical and cultural narratives⁽⁴³⁾ articulates and moves beyond mere academic rectification to a broader societal reevaluation of Afro-descendant contributions. This endeavor necessitates a comprehensive approach, incorporating education, public policy, cultural initiatives, and media engagement. Integrating Afro-

descendant history and culture into educational curricula,⁽⁴⁴⁾ alongside implementing policies for equitable representation and supporting cultural expressions that showcase Afro-descendant diversity, are critical steps towards a more inclusive understanding of the region's heritage. Such efforts not only enrich the collective comprehension of Latin America's historical and contemporary landscape but also lay the groundwork for a future where all community voices are equally recognized and valued.

Socioeconomic Impact of Afro-descendant Heritage

In the intricate tapestry of Latin America's socioeconomic history, Afro-descendant communities have been fundamental yet often invisible agents of development and transformation. Their contribution transcends the cultural realm, permeating the economy⁽⁴⁵⁾ and the social structure of the region. In countries like Brazil, Colombia, and Cuba, African heritage is manifested in agriculture, where techniques and crops brought from Africa have adapted and thrived, enriching local biodiversity and cuisine. Similarly, in crafts and trade, Afro-descendant communities have woven networks of knowledge and skill, creating unique products that are expressions of identity and sources of economic sustenance. However, this legacy is often marginalized in the dominant narratives of progress and development, obscuring the true breadth of Afro-descendant influence in the region's socioeconomic life.

Latin America's economic history cannot be fully told without acknowledging the integral role Afro-descendant communities have played in shaping local and regional markets.⁽⁴⁶⁾ From the street markets of Salvador de Bahia to the fishing ports of the Caribbean, the African presence has been a driver of innovation and growth. However, this influence goes beyond the tangible contribution to products and services; it is a testament to resistance and adaptability. Despite facing structural barriers and discrimination, Afro-descendant communities have forged spaces of economic opportunity, demonstrating an extraordinary capacity to adapt and thrive in adverse circumstances. These narratives of tenacity and perseverance are essential for understanding the socioeconomic dynamics of the region, yet they are often relegated to the shadows of the prevailing economic narrative.

Moving towards full recognition of the socioeconomic contribution of Afro-descendant communities in Latin America involves not only a reassessment of history but also a commitment to economic and social justice in the present and future. It means dismantling barriers that still limit access to economic, educational, and social opportunities, and building a society where the contribution of all groups is recognized, valued, and celebrated.⁽⁴⁷⁾ The richness of African heritage in Latin America is not measured solely in cultural and artistic terms; its true magnitude lies in the tenacity, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit of its communities, which have played a fundamental role in shaping the region as we know it today. Recognizing and valuing this influence is essential for constructing a more inclusive and just narrative of Latin America's history and socioeconomic development.

Resistance and Afro-descendant Social Movements

The resistance and social movements of Afro-descendants in Latin America are vibrant chapters of history that narrate the struggle for dignity, equality, and justice. These stories, spanning from the times of slavery to the modern era, are testimonies of the unwavering will of Afro-descendant communities to assert their place and rights in societies that have frequently denied them recognition and opportunities.⁽⁴⁸⁾ In countries like Brazil, with its Black Movement, or Colombia, where Afro-descendant groups have fought for the protection of their territories and culture, resistance is not just a response to oppression but an affirmation of identity, a demand for recognition, and a call for change.

These movements have taken various forms, from cultural resistance and peaceful demonstrations to political participation and legal activism. They have been instrumental in redefining citizenship and fighting for a more inclusive and representative democracy.⁽⁴⁹⁾ The history of these movements is intertwined with global struggles for civil and human rights, resonating with the voices of those who, in different parts of the world, have challenged systems of oppression and discrimination. However, despite their significant impact, these stories of resistance and activism have often remained on the margins of the dominant historical narrative, limiting the understanding of their true influence in building more just and equitable societies.

Recognizing and valuing the history and impact of Afro-descendant social movements is crucial for understanding the social and political dynamics of Latin America.⁽⁵⁰⁾ It is also a critical step toward reconciling with a past marked by injustice and toward building a future where all voices are heard and respected. Afro-descendant movements have not only shaped the political and social landscape of the region⁽⁵¹⁾ but have also enriched its culture, art, and worldview. Honoring these movements is honoring a struggle for dignity and equality that continues to inspire and guide the path toward more inclusive and just societies.

Political Influence and Afro-descendant Leadership

The role of political influence and Afro-descendant leadership in Latin America is an essential chapter, albeit often underestimated, in the construction of democracy and shaping inclusive public policies in the

region.⁽⁵²⁾ Throughout history, Afro-descendant leaders have played crucial roles in the fight for social justice, equal rights, and political representation. However, the full extent of their impact has rarely been recognized in traditional accounts of Latin American politics. In countries like Brazil, where figures such as Benedita da Silva and João Alberto Silveira Freitas have achieved significant milestones in politics, and in Colombia, where leaders like Piedad Córdoba have challenged established structures, Afro-descendant influence in the political sphere is a testament to a commitment to social transformation and the defense of the rights of marginalized communities.

Recognizing and strengthening the political influence and leadership of Afro-descendants is crucial for advancing toward more inclusive and representative societies. It involves not only celebrating the achievements and impact of these leaders but also addressing systemic barriers that continue to limit the full participation of Afro-descendant communities in political life. Through a renewed commitment to equality, justice, and inclusion, Latin America can continue to progress in building a region where every voice matters and every story is part of the national fabric.

Afro-descendant Artistic and Literary Expressions

The influence of Afro-descendant artistic and literary expressions in Latin America is a vibrant and emotive reflection of a rich cultural heritage that has left an indelible mark on the region. From poetry to painting and from narrative to music, Afro-descendant artists and writers have used their works as a means to explore identity, resistance, history, and everyday life, offering unique perspectives and enriching the cultural heritage of Latin America.⁽⁵³⁾ In countries like Cuba, where the poetry of Nicolás Guillén resonates with Afro-Cuban rhythms and themes of social equality, or in Brazil, where the literature of Machado de Assis breaks racial and class barriers, the artistic and literary contributions of Afro-descendants have been fundamental in shaping national consciousness and promoting a more inclusive and diverse cultural dialogue.

These artistic and literary expressions are not only testimonies of the creativity and resilience of Afro-descendant communities but also powerful tools for social and political change. Through their works, artists and writers have challenged stereotypes, questioned historical narratives, and offered new ways of understanding and appreciating the cultural diversity of the region. Their creations are windows into lived experiences, shared dreams, and collective struggles, offering a richer and more nuanced narrative of what it means to be Latin American.

However, despite their impact and relevance, Afro-descendant artistic and literary expressions have often been marginalized or underrepresented in cultural and academic canons.⁽⁵⁴⁾ Fully recognizing and valuing these contributions is essential for understanding the complexity and richness of Latin American culture. It involves not only celebrating diversity and creativity but also committing to creating inclusive spaces where all voices are heard, and all stories are valued. By doing so, the cultural fabric of the region is strengthened, and progress is made toward a more just, equitable, and representative society.

Afro-descendant Identity and Representation in the Media

The representation of Afro-descendant communities in the media of Latin America is a barometer of how cultural diversity is perceived and valued in the region. How these groups are portrayed in cinema, television, press, and digital platforms profoundly impacts the construction of collective identity and the fight against stereotypes and prejudices. Although significant advances have been made in recent years, with increased visibility of Afro-descendant characters, stories, and creators, challenges persist regarding the quality and depth of this representation. Often, the media tends to perpetuate reductionist or stereotypical narratives, marginalizing the richness and complexity of Afro-descendant experiences and limiting their impact on the cultural imagination.⁽⁵⁵⁾

Addressing Afro-descendant representation in the media is a crucial step toward a more inclusive and equitable society. It's not just about filling quotas or meeting superficial diversity demands but about recognizing and celebrating the plurality of voices and experiences that make up the cultural richness of Latin America. In doing so, a media landscape is contributed to that reflects the true diversity of the region, promoting a broader and deeper dialogue about identity, belonging, and social change.

Disparities in the Health of Afro-descendants in Latin America

The health of Afro-descendant communities in Latin America reflects the deeply entrenched disparities and inequalities in the region.^(56,57) These communities often face significant barriers to accessing quality healthcare, including economic limitations, discrimination, and inadequate representation in health policies and programs, as seen in Colombia.^(58,59) Furthermore, factors such as geographical distance to medical centers, a shortage of culturally competent healthcare professionals, and a lack of sensitivity towards traditional health practices and conceptions exacerbate the situation in Brazil.⁽⁶⁰⁾ This reality not only results in a higher prevalence of certain health conditions in these populations but also underscores the urgent need to address health from an inclusive

and comprehensive perspective. Recognizing and acting upon these disparities is crucial to ensure that the right to health becomes a reality for everyone and to build health systems that respect and celebrate the cultural diversity and specific needs of each community. ^(61,62,63)

Contemporary Challenges and Future Perspectives

The contemporary challenges faced by Afro-descendant communities in Latin America are multifaceted, reflecting a complex interplay of historical, socioeconomic, and political factors. Currently, these communities continue to struggle against discrimination, inequality in access to education, limited economic opportunities, and insufficient representation in decision-making spaces. ⁽⁶⁴⁾ These challenges are not only remnants of a past of marginalization but are also indicative of persistent structural barriers that require concerted attention and action to overcome.

Education emerges as a critical area where the fight for equality and inclusion is particularly relevant. Access to quality education is essential to break cycles of poverty and to empower Afro-descendant communities, allowing them to claim their place in society and contribute fully to the development of the region. ⁽⁶⁵⁾ Looking towards the future, building a fairer and more inclusive Latin America requires deep reflection and active commitment to social transformation. This involves not only recognizing and addressing current challenges but also anticipating and adapting to the changes and demands of an ever-evolving world. Promoting the active participation of Afro-descendant communities in all aspects of social, economic, and political life is crucial. Doing so ensures that the voices and experiences of these communities are not only heard but are also an integral part of shaping a shared future marked by equality, dignity, and justice for all.

The bibliographic review, following Cassiani⁽⁴³⁾ approach, focused on identifying and synthesizing the most relevant sources, paying special attention to areas less explored in the current literature. ^(38,39,40,41,42,43,44) The inclusion of a wide range of cultural, social, and economic contributions, ⁽²⁵⁾ provides a holistic and updated understanding of Afro-descendant influence, highlighting both its positive aspects and areas that require further attention and exploration in future research.

The study's results reveal an encouraging panorama of Afro-descendant influence in Latin American culture. Authors like ^(1,2,3) have highlighted the importance of music, dance, religious practices, and culinary patterns as testimonies of African influence in the region. The synthesis of these sources shows how African heritage has been integrated into the social and cultural fabric of Latin America, significantly enriching it.

However, areas were also identified that require further attention in future research. The reviewed literature indicates that while significant advances have been made in recognizing Afro-descendant influence in areas such as the arts and religion, other areas such as science, technology, and education have not yet been explored in-depth. ^(38, 43) Moreover, the need to address the disparities and inequalities faced by Afro-descendant communities, particularly in terms of access to health, education, and political representation, was highlighted. ^(56,57,64)

Finally, this study has provided a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of Afro-descendant influence in Latin America, based on a rich and diverse bibliographic review. However, it also recognizes the need to continue exploring and deepening this area of study to promote a more complete and representative understanding of African heritage and its contributions to Latin American culture.

CONCLUSIONS

This study has unveiled the depth and richness of Afro-descendant influence in Latin American culture, highlighting its fundamental role in shaping the region's music, dance, religion, spirituality, and gastronomy. The research, based on an exhaustive bibliographic review and a critical analysis of the literature, has allowed not only for recognizing the diversity and creativity of Afro-descendant communities but also for understanding how these have influenced and transformed Latin American society. Authors like have provided valuable insights that help appreciate the complexity of this cultural influence, underscoring the need for greater inclusion and recognition of Afro-descendant contributions in the historical and cultural narrative of Latin America.

However, a significant gap was also identified in the existing literature, mainly concerning the representation and valuation of Afro-descendant contributions in less explored fields such as science, technology, and education. The review has highlighted the need for a more inclusive and nuanced narrative that not only celebrates cultural and artistic contributions but also recognizes and values the impact of Afro-descendant communities in all facets of society. Authors like suggest that expanding the research focus and integrating multidisciplinary perspectives are crucial to providing a more holistic and complete understanding of Afro-descendant influence in Latin America.

With all the above stated, while this study has contributed to shedding light on the rich African heritage in Latin American culture, it has also highlighted the need for ongoing commitment to research and critical reflection. Future studies should address the identified gaps, broadening the understanding of the impact of Afro-descendant communities and promoting a narrative that more accurately and fairly reflects the diversity

and richness of Latin American culture. By doing so, we can move towards a more inclusive and representative society, where every voice is heard, and every story is valued.

REFERENCES

1. Sánchez JA. Sobre el carácter de pueblo en los afrodescendientes. Aportes para la Declaración de Derechos de los Pueblos Afrodescendientes. 2023. <http://biblioteca-repositorio.clacso.edu.ar:8080/bitstream/CLACSO/248378/1/Derechos-afrodescendientes.pdf#page=25>
2. Anaya HC. Color de piel humilde, color de piel privilegiado: Elites y blancura en América Latina. Nueva Sociedad. 2023;(303):50-63. <https://www.proquest.com/openview/8057b03be74f90445be70e9cdddabbf/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=27984>
3. Sanclemente SGG. El valor humano y la diversidad cultural de la población afrodescendiente en El Cantón Esmeraldas, Ecuador. Revista Latinoamericana Ogmios. 2022;2(5):389-408. <https://idicap.com/ojs/index.php/ogmios/article/view/92>
4. Épse Kesse CAN. Afrodescendencia y encuentro de civilizaciones. Revue NZASSA. 2023:79-89. <https://www.nzassa-revue.net/admin/img/paper/7.%20CHIY%C3%89%20Adjoa%20Nathalie%20%C3%A9pse%20KESSE.pdf>
5. Álvarez MLO. Se formó el bembé/Bater o bembé: la influencia africana en el léxico y en las expresiones idiomáticas del español de Cuba y el portugués de Brasil. In: De aquí a Lima. Estudios fraseológicos del español de España e Hispanoamérica. Edizioni Ca Foscari; 2020. p. 139-152. <https://www.edizionicafoscari.unive.it/media/pdf/books/978-88-6969-441-7/978-88-6969-441-7-ch-08.pdf>
6. Fernández García M, Milano AM, Torres P. Dilemas actuales de la historia intelectual latinoamericana: Una conversación con Elías Palti y Jorge Myers. Revista Intercambios. La letra del encuentro. 2023;8(1):14-32.
7. Fonseca Espinosa A. El tópico de la negritud en la música latinoamericana: autores y géneros musicales. 2023. <https://digibuo.uniovi.es/dspace/handle/10651/68532>
8. González C. Del disco Siembra al sencillo “La gozadera”: el mito mestizo de la integración latinoamericana. Contrapulso. 2023;5(1):16-30. <https://contrapulso.uahurtado.cl/index.php/cp/article/view/196>
9. Mocková N. Voces americanas en la música de Mercedes Sosa. El Español por el Mundo. 2023;(5). <https://elespanolporelmundo.eu/index.php/epm/article/view/105>
10. Lasso FA. Melodías de Colombia y Latinoamérica: Un recorrido entre cuerdas y arcos. Repositorio Universidad Pedagógica Nacional. 2023. <http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12209/18425>
11. Milian WJ. Aportes del ejercicio de la música popular y tradicional en violinistas de Cuba y Colombia. Maestría en Interpretación y Pedagogía Instrumental. 2023. <https://repositorio.unal.edu.co/handle/unal/85044>
12. Salinas Herrera LJ. Ancestralidad africana. Ritmo y oralidad en Toques de Son Colorá. Letras (Lima). 2023;94(139):144-155. http://www.scielo.org.pe/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S2071-50722023000100011
13. Bulacio RÁ. Músicos chilenos de jazz migrante durante el periodo de la dictadura (1973-1989): el caso del saxofonista Raúl Gutiérrez Villanueva. In: Redes transatlánticas: intelectuales y artistas entre América Latina y Europa durante la Guerra Fría. Iberoamericana Vervuert; 2023. p. 267-282. https://www.iberoamericana-vervuert.es/capitulos/9783968694665_011.pdf
14. de Arruda Campos AL, da Hora JF, de Sousa RL. Etnomusicologia, diversidade e inovação: os africanos e seus descendentes na música brasileira. Revista História: Debates y Tendências. 2023;23(3):164-179. <https://seer.upf.br/index.php/rhdt/article/view/15140>
15. Gil de Muro MT. Mujeres y tambores: música, religión y género en el candomblé. 2023. <https://ridaa.unq.edu.ar/handle/20.500.11807/4194>
16. Rebouças ES, de Sousa Gomes W. História da Capoeira e a sua contribuição na educação. Encontro de Educação Histórica e Diversidade. 2023;2:58-62. <https://www.anais.ueg.br/index.php/EEHD/article/view/16011>

17. Wade P. Música, raza y nación: música tropical en Colombia. Universidad de los Andes; 2023.
18. Olave-Soler S. Afirmación cultural y música popular como mecanismos de reivindicación afrocolombianos. *Nuevo Mundo Mundos Nuevos*. 2023. <https://journals.openedition.org/nuevomundo/91179>
19. Centro Cultural Cubano en New York. FANIA ALL-STARS: 'LIVE IN AFRICA'. 2018 Apr 11. <https://www.cubanculturalcenter.org/events/2018/04/6926/>
20. Borges C. Hacia una educación religiosa intercultural. *Notas Echusíacas. APRENDER-Caderno de Filosofia e Psicologia da Educação*. 2023;(29):67-78. <https://periodicos2.uesb.br/index.php/aprender/article/view/12334>
21. Massó Soler PD, Massó Bizet C. Los hijos blancos de los dioses negros. *Blanquitud, negritud y religiosidad popular en Cuba*. *Tabula Rasa*. 2023;(45):75-88. http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?pid=S1794-24892023000100075&script=sci_arttext
22. Saldívar JM. Etnografías de la santería e ifá cubanas en escenarios latinoamericanos. *Cultura y religión*. 2023;17. https://www.scielo.cl/scielo.php?pid=S0718-47272023000100202&script=sci_arttext
23. Rivera CFO. Migración haitiana en Chile y horizonte de aspiración inestable: el vudú y la construcción de comunidad en el pasado, presente, y futuro. *REMHU: Revista Interdisciplinar da Mobilidade Humana*. 2023;31:185-199. <https://www.scielo.br/j/remhu/a/r7hPg45gYqMJyK5JLWtntg>
24. Sierra HEL. Espiritualidad Ifá-Orisha de tradición afrocaribeña Yoruba/Lukumí. In: *Educación religiosa en América Latina y el Caribe: reflexiones y voces plurales para caminos pedagógicos interculturales*. 2023. <https://repositorio.una.ac.cr/handle/11056/26080>
25. Gaia R, da Silva Vitória A, Roque AT. Candomblé no Brasil: resistência negra na diáspora africana. *Paco e Littera*; 2023.
26. Aguilar H, Sandoval G, Gissi N. Haitianos evangélicos en Santiago de Chile: convivencia, fronteras étnicas y religiosidad migrante (2018-2022). *Revista de Estudios Sociales*. 2024;(87):61-77. <https://revistas.uniandes.edu.co/index.php/res/article/view/8139>
27. Hård M. Creating "Creole" Cuisine in Latin America: Home Cooks Reinvent Batánes. In: *Microhistories of Technology: Making the World*. Cham: Springer International Publishing; 2023. p. 129-156. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-22813-1_6
28. Rodríguez GIG, Campos-Medel EM. La identidad simbólica afromexicana desde su gastronomía: un acercamiento a su patrimonio cultural. *Turismo y Patrimonio*. 2023;(21):133-150. <http://ojs.revistaturismoypatrimonio.com/index.php/typ/article/view/turpatrim.2023.n21.08>
29. Fuentes JM, Herrera AB, Sarmiento JJ, Cardona JR, Garcia YB, Fúnez LE. Alimentos autóctonos; Contribución de los pueblos ancestrales y afrodescendientes a la gastronomía de Honduras. *Ciencia Latina Revista Científica Multidisciplinar*. 2023;7(5):4389-4409. <https://www.ciencialatina.org/index.php/cienciala/article/view/8041>
30. Araújo Queiroz G, Mendonça Menezes SDS. Comida de rua como cultura de R-existência: dos tabuleiros do século XVIII ao século XXI. *Historia y MEMORIA*. 2023;(27):211-238. http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?pid=S2027-51372023000200211&script=sci_arttext&tlng=pt
31. da Silva Gianotti C. História Da Cultura Africana No Brasil. *Unificada: Revista Multidisciplinar da FAUESP*. 2023;5(2):5-11. <http://revista.faesps.com.br/index.php/Unificada/article/view/325>
32. Granja Velasco L. Saberes ancestrales, La historia de vida de un pescador afrocolombiano [Doctoral dissertation]. Corporación Universitaria Minuto de Dios-UNIMINUTO; 2023. <https://repository.uniminuto.edu/handle/10656/18171>
33. Meoño Guzmán S. Entretejiendo las heridas coloniales presentes en los modelos pedagógicos en la

enseñanza de las artes en América Latina [Master's thesis]. Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica; 2023. <https://repositorio.una.ac.cr/handle/11056/26518>

34. Schmidt-Welle F. Espacios entretejidos, textos entrelazados. Transferencias culturales y situación poscolonial en América Latina. In: Producción de saberes y transferencias culturales: América Latina en contexto transregional. Iberoamericana Vervuert; 2023. p. 83-100. https://www.iberoamericana-vervuert.es/capitulos/9783968694733_003.pdf

35. Mejía Herrera ML, Salinas Ramos CM. América Latina: entre la transculturación y la interculturalidad. Conrado. 2023;19(92):155-164. http://scielo.sld.cu/scielo.php?pid=S1990-86442023000300155&script=sci_arttext&tlng=pt

36. Molano JGS, de Almeida RO. Projeções Antropofágicas Para Ensinos Interculturais de Ciências nas Margens Urbanas da América Latina. Revista Brasileira de Pesquisa em Educação em Ciências. 2023;e46647-29. <https://periodicos.ufmg.br/index.php/rbpec/article/view/46647>

37. Mazo Vásquez CD, Mosquera Lozano LP, Pérez Giraldo DA. Discriminación racial: un acercamiento a las voces de las mujeres afrocolombianas del trabajo doméstico en Medellín. Repositorio Universidad de Antioquia; 2023. <https://bibliotecadigital.udea.edu.co/handle/10495/34618>

38. Sow N. La presencia de la cultura africana en la literatura en español: de los orígenes históricos a la actualidad. 2021.

39. Sambo U, Doho AW, Sule B. Impacts of Xenophobia and Nativism on Pan-Africanism in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. J Afr Hist Cult Arts. 2023;3(1):29-42. <https://doi.org/10.57040/jahca.v3i1.376>

40. De Oliveira TC, Secolin R, Lopes-Cendes I. A review of ancestrality and admixture in Latin America and the Caribbean focusing on Native American and African descendant populations. Front Genet. 2023;14:1091269. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fgene.2023.1091269/full>

41. Dixon K, Caldwell KL. Afro-social movements and the struggle for racial equality in Latin America. In: The Oxford Handbook of Latin American Social Movements. 2023. p. 370-383.

42. Abidde SO, Hall MR, Da Cruz JDA, editors. Xenophobia and Nativism in Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Taylor & Francis; 2023.

43. Cassiani Herrera A. Inclusión en América Latina: elementos culturales e identidad afrodescendiente. Etnoeducación, Maestras Afrodescendientes, Comunidades Indígenas en el Caribe Colombiano. 2021. Disponible en: <https://repositorio.cecar.edu.co/handle/cecar/3271>

44. Mejía-Estrada JD. Después del multiculturalismo: logros y desafíos de la población afrodescendiente en América Latina y el Caribe. CS. 2023;(40):354-359. Disponible en: http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?pid=S2011-03242023000200354&script=sci_arttext

45. Carabalí I, Folleco I, Morales A, Padilla M. Diagnóstico de la situación socioeconómica de las mujeres afroecuatorianas en el territorio ancestral de Imbabura y Carchi. Quito: CONAMUNE/Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung; 2021. Disponible en: <https://ecuador.fes.de/news-list/e/default-1792dbccea>

46. Leal C. Paisajes de libertad: el Pacífico colombiano después de la esclavitud. Ediciones Uniandes; 2020.

47. Yara Baptista JL. Estereotipos raciales en niños y niñas de grado primero de básica primaria y sus implicaciones en los procesos identitarios culturales. 2023. Disponible en: <https://repositorio.unbosque.edu.co/handle/20.500.12495/11196>

48. Rosset PM, Barbosa LP. Autonomía y los movimientos sociales del campo en América Latina: un debate urgente. Aposta Rev Cienc Soc. 2021;89:8-31. Disponible en: <http://www.apostadigital.com/revistav3/hemeroteca/prosset.pdf>

49. Dürre RA. Identidad y resistencia. Rev Acad. 2022;(34):62-87. Disponible en: <http://revistas.academia>

cl/index.php/academia/article/view/2380

50. Gatica Ríos EL. Feminismo y resistencia: mujeres migrantes latinoamericanas/caribeñas y afrodescendientes chilenas activistas por el derecho a habitar. 2021. Disponible en: <https://repositorio.uchile.cl/handle/2250/186433>

51. Soler Castillo S. Movimientos sociales, narrativas y emociones. El caso de lideresas comunitarias afrodescendientes en el departamento del Chocó (Colombia). *El Ágora USB*. 2022;22(2):550-566. Disponible en: http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?pid=S1657-80312022000200550&script=sci_arttext

52. Bettin Calle MJ. Los derechos de las comunidades afrodescendientes en América Latina: el paso de la vulnerabilidad al reconocimiento con un enfoque de género. 2023. Disponible en: <https://repository.ces.edu.co/handle/10946/7940>

53. Oliva Oliva ME. Rodrigo Viqueira. Negrismo, vanguardia y folklore. Representación de los afrodescendientes en la obra de Ildefonso Pereda Valdés (1925-1935). *Rev Chilena Lit*. 2020;(101):515-517. Disponible en: https://www.scielo.cl/scielo.php?pid=S0718-22952020000100515&script=sci_arttext

54. Carini S. La retórica en la voz poética afrodescendiente: valoración de la forma en su expresión poética. *Centroamericana*. 2022;32(1):83-109. Disponible en: <https://publicatt.unicatt.it/handle/10807/226168>

55. ILEX Acción Jurídica. Abuso policial y discriminación racial hacia afrodescendientes: estudio de caso en las localidades de Usme y Kennedy de Bogotá, D.C. 2022.

56. CEPAL, N. International Decade for People of African Descent: brief review of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Latin America and the Caribbean. 2023. Disponible en: <https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/48818-international-decade-people-african-descent-brief-review-impact-covid>

57. Agudelo C. Afrodescendientes, de la crisis estructural a la pandemia de COVID-19. *Rev Controversia*. 2021;216. Disponible en: <https://revistacontroversia.com/index.php/controversia/article/view/1223>

58. CONPA (Consejo Nacional de Paz Afrocolombiano). Directrices para responder al COVID-19 para el pueblo y comunidades afrodescendientes en Colombia. 2020. Disponible en: <https://convergenciagnoa.org/directrices-para-responder-al-covid-19-para-el-pueblo-y-comunidades-afrodescendientes-en-colombia/>

59. Figueroa J, Valencia IH. Hacia una mirada interseccional en el manejo de la crisis: análisis del impacto de la pandemia en jóvenes afrodescendientes del Pacífico colombiano. *Policy Paper*. 2022;6.

60. Brazil, Ministry of Health. Mortalidade proporcional por grupos de causas em mulheres no Brasil em 2010 e 2019. *Boletim Epidemiológico*. 2021;52(29).

61. Lima M. Desigualdades raciais e de gênero aumentam a mortalidade por Covid-19, mesmo dentro da mesma ocupação. *Boletim No. 34, Solidary Research Network*. 2021 Sep 20. Disponible en: <https://redpesquisasolidaria.org/boletins/boletim-34-boletins/desigualdades-raciais-e-de-genero-aumentam-a-mortalidade-por-covid-19-mesmo-dentro-da-mesma-ocupacao/>

62. Muniz B, et al. Brasil registra duas vezes mais pessoas brancas vacinadas que negras. 2021 Mar 15. Disponible en: <https://apublica.org/2021/03/brasil-registra-duas-vezes-mais-pessoas-brancas-vacinadas-que-negras/#Link3>

63. Murillo P. La pandemia y la discriminación racial contra afrodescendientes. *Razón Pública*. 2020 Jun 8. Disponible en: <https://razonpublica.com/la-pandemia-la-discriminacion-racial-afrodescendientes/>

64. Sequeira F. Entre el conflicto y la pandemia: desafíos del arte contemporáneo latinoamericano. *ESCENA*. 2021;297-318. Disponible en: <https://revistas.ucr.ac.cr/index.php/escena/article/view/45334>

65. Manzanero JRL. Juventudes en América Latina y el Caribe en perspectiva: panorama de la situación, desafíos e intervenciones promisorias. *Ciência & Saúde Coletiva*. 2021;26:2565-2573. Disponible en: <https://www.scielo.br/j/csc/a/s4rGVVm5hK5dCS4pVCbhj7H>

RESEARCH ETHICS

This manuscript is a bibliographic review, and no human or animal subjects were involved in the research. Therefore, no ethical approval or consent was required for this work. The study adheres to the ethical standards for academic research and focuses on the analysis of existing literature.

FINANCING

The author declares that no financial support was received from any public, private, or non-profit organization for the development of this research.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author declares that there are no conflicts of interest related to the content, authorship, or publication of this manuscript.

AUTHORSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Conceptualization: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.

Research: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.

Data curation: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.

Formal analysis: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.

Methodology: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.

Writing - original draft: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.

Writing - review and editing: Jhonny Richard Rodriguez-Barboza.