

Title

300 word abstract

3-5 pages for extended abstract

The first large wave of Mexican immigration to the United States unfolded as the nation advanced Americanization campaigns, “with all hands on deck.” While most Americanization efforts took place in the industrial ethnic enclaves in the East Coast and Midwest, California, which was rapidly developing then, emerged as the Americanization model for the nation (Gullet, 1995; Sanchez, 1990; others) when it became the only state to legislate Americanization programs with the 1915 Home Teachers Act. This was an adult Americanization program targeting immigrant mothers. [Quotes here as to why immigrant women]. While immigrants in California were ethnically and racially diverse when the Home Teachers Act was enacted, immigrants became increasingly of Mexican-origin into the 1920s. Today, scholars concur that Americanization efforts failed to assimilate Mexican immigrants (cite) pointing out X, Y, Z. **We extend this work, showing how the architects of the Home Teachers Act contributed to the “Mexican problem” narrative and reinforced the racial formation of the Mexican-origin group.**