

# **Mentoring Mexican-American College Women: A Study of the Role of Race/Ethnicity in Shaping Mentoring Relationships and Experiences**

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## **Abstract**

Research indicates that mentoring has a positive impact on one's career and educational trajectory and is noted as one of the most critical resources for academic success. Specifically, mentoring has been shown to be relevant for the career experiences and advancement of individuals from particular groups, such as women and members of marginalized racial and ethnic groups. Furthermore, some studies also suggest that mentoring relationships, in which mentors and mentees share similar attributes, such as racial or ethnic identification, may contribute to more positive mentoring experiences. But do such findings also apply to the mentoring relationships and experiences of college students? This qualitative study examines the mentoring relationships and experiences of Mexican-American young college women. Through in-depth interviews, this study explores if and how shared racial/ethnic identification in a mentoring relationship shapes the educational experiences of young Mexican American women currently enrolled in college.