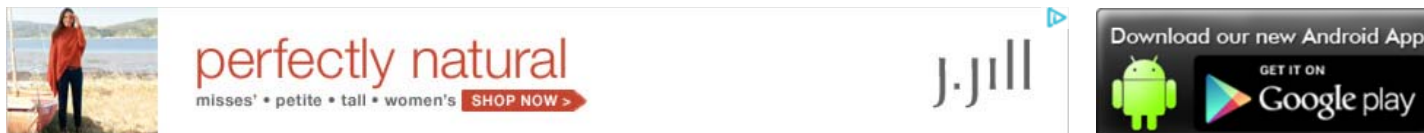




September 28, 2012

[HOME](#) ▾ [POLITICS](#) ▾ [BUSINESS](#) ▾ [AMERICAS](#) ▾ [HEALTH](#) ▾ [WOMEN](#) ▾ [CULINARY](#) ▾ [ENTERTAINMENT](#) ▾ [SPORTS](#) ▾ [LIFESTYLE](#) ▾


Hate speech in media negatively impacts public health

Posted on September 27, 2012

By Hope Gillette

Health



Conservative radio tends to spread anti-immigration and anti-Latino sentiment, says the NHMC. (Shutterstock photo)

John and Ken Show.

Alex Nogales, NHMC President and CEO, said in [a statement](#) that the findings revealed conservative talk radio tends to have a social network built around the guests and the show. “This **social network targets vulnerable groups** in content that is spread across affiliated social media websites. The result is an echo-chamber of voices, both online and off, that promotes hatred against ethnic, racial, religious groups and the LGBT community on social media web sites.”

The study found the social media around such talk shows often included **anti-immigration and anti-Islamic sentiments**; referred to immigrants as “illegal” and law breaking; linked Islam with terrorism; and focused on immigration as the most-discussed topic out of 88 identified during an 18 month period.

In addition to the encouragement conservative talk shows give to hate speech, [another report from NHMC](#) revealed a national poll which showed how **media portrayals of Latinos and immigrants directly promoted negative stereotypes**.

“We unite behind this issue as this new poll data shows the propensity of media images—negative or positive—to impact people’s opinions about our communities,” Nogales said in the statement, adding he felt the media did a disservice to the public regarding misleading Latino information.

The NHMC poll also found that:

- People exposed to negative media coverage held the most hostile views toward Latinos and

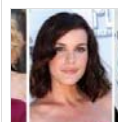
Hate speech in the media not only fuels negative stereotypes toward immigrants and Latinos, it may also **negatively impact an individual’s health**, according to a series of reports issued by the [National Hispanic Media Coalition](#) (NHMC).

The [first report](#), *Social Networks for Hate Speech*, by UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, focused on whether or not conservative talk radio had a negative impact when it came to hate speech directed at religious groups, ethnic groups and racial groups. The research investigated topics, guests and content from The Rush Limbaugh Show, The Glenn Beck Program, The Sean Hannity Show, The Savage Nation and The

Special Reports

[Face the Facts](#)

Popular on VOXXI



These are the hottest hair color trends for fall 2012



Apple IOS 6 moves toward a Google-free future



Fake Facebook likes purged, Shakira, Lady Gaga biggest losers



Right now Eli is better than Peyton Manning



Pattie Mallette, Justin Bieber’s mom, writes of painful past

VOXXI Videos

immigration.

ABOUT VOXXI

USE OUR STORIES

CONTRIBUTE

CONTACT US

CAREERS

RSS CONTENT FEEDS

PRESS ROOM

• Negative portrayals of Latinos in the media are common, and the non-Hispanic population tends to believe them.

• Non-Hispanics frequently identify Latinos in news and movies.

• The phrase "illegal alien" received a negative response from the public.

• Even people with generally positive feelings toward Latinos admitted negative opinions when exposed to negative media.

Terms of Use | Privacy Policy

• Conservative talk radio show followers were up-to-date on anti-immigration and anti-Latino regulations, but knew little about the ethnic group beyond that information.

• Seventeen percent of the polled participants felt the majority of U.S. Latinos were undocumented.



perfectly natural
misses' • petite • tall • women's SHOP NOW >



According to a [third study](#), by UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center and supported by NHMC, entitled "Using Biological Markers To Measure Stress In Listeners Of Commercial Talk Radio," **hate speech increases the amount of a stress-related hormone, salivary cortisol**, which has the potential for [negative health impact over time](#), including the development of cancer and other inflammatory diseases.



People who listen to hate speech experience an increase in a stress-related hormone which may cause negative health issues in the future (Shutterstock photo)

The research indicated that listeners of a radio segment with high prevalence of hate speech, experienced clinical anxiety and in turn had higher levels of the stress hormone, regardless of their race, ethnicity, ideological alignment with the speaker, or their level of previous knowledge on the topic. The study suggested more research and larger samples were needed to explore this issue further.

"The findings that we release today reinforce something that we have known all along—that **hate speech can be harmful to the people who listen to it**," said [a statement](#) from Nogales. "While the impact of hate speech against targeted groups, such as Latinos, has always been easy to imagine, this study demonstrates that the harm is not isolated to targeted groups and that it could, in fact, even [harm the physical health of those that are ideologically aligned](#) with the haters."

Public health

Hot Topics

[Monsanto corn: What you need to know about the health risks](#)
1 comment · 1 hour ago

[Bagel head: Newest trend in body modification, but is it safe?](#)
2 comments · 3 hours ago

[Lady Gaga: "Bulimia and anorexia since I was 15"](#)
1 comment · 4 hours ago

Recommended

[Login](#) You need to be logged into Facebook to see your friends' recommendations.

[A Texas town wants to ban undocumented immigrants from renting houses](#)
2 people recommended this.

[Kennedy Center awards turns its back on Latinos](#)
3 people recommended this.

[New American Alliance: American Latinos in business, politics](#)
One person recommended this.

Facebook social plugin

0 comments

0 Stars



Leave a message...

Discussion

Community

”

ALSO ON VOXXI

What's this? x

Lady Gaga: "Bulimia and anorexia since I was 15"

1 comment • 5 hours ago



amber — omg no way :(ha ha

Envy and arrogance may finish Cristiano Ronaldo's career

22 comments • 20 days ago



hakeem — There was nothing good to take away from this article other than your loathe and hate for a very spe...

Bagel head: Newest trend in body modification, but is it safe?

2 comments • 6 hours ago



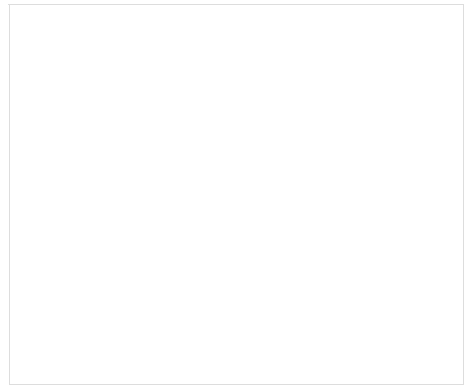
SharpndPensel — LOL Bagel head.

Democratic National Convention lacks Latino luster

16 comments • 24 days ago



Lola — This is the problem though. You're characterizing Latina/os in the most stereotypical fashion—as Ca...



Use our stories



Original stories by VOXXI are available under a [Creative Commons License](#). Permissions beyond the scope of this license are available at <http://www.voxxi.com/creative-commons>.