Latino identity in Allende's historical novels

Abstract
In her article "Latino Identity in Allende's Historical Novels" Olga Ries analyzes the concept of individual and group identity found in five historical novels by Isabel Allende. Ries argues that while Allende's protagonists come from different backgrounds and different epochs, they share a process of psychological transformation and that affects their identity formation. The result is the formation of a transnational "Hispanic" identity, group as well as individual. In Ries's reading of Allende's texts, transnational Hispanic identity is based simultaneously on the Mexican/Hispanic concept of mestizaje and on the US-American concepts of the "melting pot" and the "American Dream."

Recommended Citation

This text has been double-blind peer reviewed by 2+1 experts in the field.

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Latin identity is as complicated as the history of America. But what does Latino (or Hispanic) really mean? Are the terms synonymous? But, the term Latin American in the historical context was created to denote people in the Western Hemisphere or newly founded by Europeans) world that spoke languages derived from Latin as opposed to Dutch or English. So this would explain the inclusion of Brazil (Portuguese), but why the exclusion of Haiti(French)?

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**Latino Identity in Allende's Historical Novels**

Olga Ries, University Diego Portales

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