Agenda Setting With Data & Facts
In order to identify a Latino agenda – we must be able to count Latinos and gather accurate data on their circumstances…
Overview

1. Latinos and the Criminal Justice System

2. COVID-19 Health Impacts on Latinos

3. The Economic Downturn and Latino Households

4. Being Counted in the Census

5. Latinos and November 2020 Elections

- Before we can unpack an agenda, we have to first make sure Latinos are being counted, and included in policy analysis, data reporting, measurement and statistics.

- In some jurisdictions across the U.S. the category “Hispanic/Latino” does not exist in state/local data collection.

- In the early 2000s, and following the negative example of the French Republic, racial conservatives sponsored Prop 54—the Racial Privacy Initiative—that would have forbidden data collection and reporting by Race/Ethnicity.

  What you don’t know you can’t fix...

- The absence of data by race makes identifying and addressing disparities impossible.
COVID-19

1. How and why are Latino communities experiencing higher rates of contracting covid-19 and higher death rates? In Los Angeles, a Latino is now twice as likely as an Anglo to contract COVID.

2. Working class and immigrant communities face higher rates of unemployment, higher rates of losing their health care.

3. Because of citizenship requirements, millions of Latino families were not eligible for a federal stimulus check or unemployment insurance. This included tax-paying immigrants with citizen spouses and children.

45% of Latino immigrant households reported they received no stimulus check.
Criminal Justice


2. Determine the extent to which city, county, or state law enforcement collaborating with DHS, ICE, CBP, notwithstanding local and state policies.

3. Estimate the net loss of productive capacity and vote share to the Latino community from the school-to-prison pipeline and its downstream effects.

4. How do law enforcement and the courts make services available in Spanish?

75% of Latinos say they support the protest movement Black Lives Matter
1. Accurate Census data is critical to studying almost every other policy issue in America and distribution of funds in our communities.

2. Efforts to add a citizenship question were struck down as too political and without justification.

3. Still, preliminary data suggests Latino communities are witnessing lower response rates today.

69% of Latinos who are worried about the Census said they believe the Fed Govt will share their Census data with ICE.
Election 2020

1. Polling place closures, long lines, and a global pandemic could result in anxiety and lower voter turnout this November.

2. What are states doing to encourage broader use of vote-by-mail? Are they being inclusive of Latinos? To what extent is resistance to VBM targeted at suppressing Latino vote?

3. Growth of the Latino eligible voting population has put states like Arizona, and maybe even Texas in play as battlegrounds.

4. The exclusion of Latinos from the CA Citizen’s Redistricting Commission (so far) make clear that the struggle is never irretrievably “won”!

73% of Latinos are worried they might be exposed to covid-19 when voting in-person
STRUCTURE DISADVANTAGE IN CARES AND UI SAFETY NETS

• CARES ACT Support denied to unauthorized immigrants.

• CARES ACT support also denied to any household where at least one taxpayer is using an ITIN;

• This means thousands of US Citizen spouses and children received $0.

• UI payments similarly restricted, at a time when unemployment in Los Angeles and elsewhere are approaching post-depression records.
• Covid-19, Census, Election – Three massive policy issues where data on Latinos is critical!

• When we talk about creating a Latino agenda, we should try to situate the discussion with accurate data.

• The Luskin School firmly believes in EVIDENCE-BASED policy-making.

• Sometimes the data on our community is missing – we must push for more inclusive data on Latinos.

• Relying on facts and trends, allows us to focus on patterns of inclusion or exclusion, and dismiss rumors, myths and anecdotes.
Thank you!

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